



# ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

9<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

## Re: Spring Term Week 9 Headteacher Update

Last week we celebrated World Book Day in school. The enthusiasm from both children and staff was wonderful, with so many getting involved. A particular highlight was seeing members of staff dressed as a variety of book characters, helping to bring the joy and magic of reading to life for our children.

It was also National Careers Week, and we held a wide range of activities to help children think about their future pathways. These included:

- Staff incorporating careers discussions into lessons throughout the week
- Selected Year 8 children attending a talk from Stockport County Football Club
- All Year 9 pupils hearing from lawyer Lucie Grant about careers in law
- Year 10 PE pupils taking part in a session with Aquinas College
- Careers surveys and questionnaires being shared with staff and parents
- Children in Years 8 to 11 completing the Future Skills Questionnaire from the Careers and Enterprise Company

Our second round of Year 11 mock examinations have almost concluded. Staff are now working hard to mark, moderate and standardise the papers. It is crucial that children act on the feedback they receive, as this will be key in supporting their revision for the summer examinations.

Looking ahead, some of our Year 11 children will begin their Food and Nutrition GCSE examination on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March as part of the 2025 Summer series. Please keep these children, and the staff supporting them, in your thoughts and prayers.

Finally, in yesterday's Gospel for the Third Sunday of Lent, we hear the words from John's Gospel: *"A spring of water welling up to eternal life."* In this passage, Jesus speaks to the Samaritan woman at the well and reminds us that the things of this world may satisfy us only temporarily, but the life and hope that come from faith in God are everlasting. During this Lenten season, we are invited to reflect on what truly nourishes us and to seek the "living water" that Christ offers. It is a reminder for our school family to continue supporting one another, showing kindness, compassion and faith in our daily lives.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to another positive week ahead. If you require any support, please do not hesitate to contact [c.griffiths-davies@stjamesheadle.co.uk](mailto:c.griffiths-davies@stjamesheadle.co.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex  
Headteacher

