



11<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Autumn Term Week 10 Headteacher Update**

It is hard to believe that we are already starting the third week of our second half term. I want to begin by thanking all parents and carers for their continued support. A special thank you to those parents who attended our Year 7 Parent Tutor Evening. A reminder to please complete the Year 7 Parent Tutor Evening questionnaire which has been sent by Mr Maidment. I am pleased to pass on that 90% of families were represented. The parent-school partnership is extremely important for us all at St James'.

Today, we will join together as a school family to commemorate Remembrance Day. Remembrance Day honours those who serve to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life. We remember the sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, we pay tribute to the special contribution of families and of the emergency services and we acknowledge innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict and acts of terrorism. The whole school will join together for a short service of remembrance and to observe 2 minutes of silence during which some of our children will play the Last Post.

On Thursday this week we welcome our class of 2024 back to school for the final time for Prize Evening. This is a formal end to their time at St James' where there will be prize winners for individual subjects, overarching awards and children will be able to collect their examination certificates. I know you will join me in congratulating our leavers on their achievements and continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they journey through the next stages of their educational or working lives.

In the Gospel yesterday, I was drawn to the words: *"This poor widow has put in more than all."* Jesus highlights the quiet, profound generosity of the widow who, though she has little, gives all she has. Her small offering is not measured by its amount but by the depth of her heart. At St James', we are blessed to see this spirit of giving in our children, staff, and wider community. Whether it's through small acts of kindness, dedication to studies, or the extra mile taken to support one another, these acts, often unseen, hold immense value. It reminds us that our worth is not measured by grand gestures but by the love and commitment we put into everything we do. As we continue to encourage generosity, let us be inspired by the widow's example, knowing that each act of giving, no matter how small, makes a significant impact.

Have a great week and if you need anything this week, please do not hesitate to get in touch  
[headteacherpa@stjamescheadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjamescheadle.co.uk).

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex  
Headteacher