



# ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

17<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

## Re: Spring Term Week 10 Headteacher Update

Yesterday, a team of staff took on the Nantwich 10k to raise funds for MENTORs. Everyone completed the race at their own pace, all in support of a great cause. A huge thank you to those who have already sponsored us. If you'd still like to contribute, you can do so via the MENTORs website. For those interested, you can check out photos of our runners in action on Blue Sky.

Thank you once again to everyone who has kindly donated to our chocolate appeal. Your contributions will help make our chocolate tombola a success, raising important funds for Caritas — an organisation doing amazing work within our Diocese. If you'd still like to donate, please send your contribution in with your child to pass on to their Form Tutor. Thank you for your support.

Over the weekend, I had the privilege of attending the ASCL conference, where Headteachers, CEOs, and education leaders from across the country gathered to hear updates from key figures such as the Secretary of State for Education, Ofsted, Ofqual, and other influential organisations. It was a valuable opportunity to reflect on the ever-evolving educational landscape and consider what it means for our school community. Discussions focused heavily on changes around Ofsted inspections, curriculum development, and the impact of the proposed Children's Wellbeing Bill, all of which will shape the future of education. It was clear that schools have a crucial role in ensuring not only academic success but also the development of resilient, healthy, and well-rounded young people. The consultation on these proposed changes is still open, and I would encourage any parents or carers who wish to share their views to do so. Your feedback is incredibly valuable and can help shape the future of education for all children. As I reflected on our own school community, I felt an immense sense of pride. St James' is more than just a place of learning; it's a family where children are supported to grow academically, emotionally, and spiritually. Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us make our school the best it can be.

Yesterday, we heard in the Gospel of Luke about the Transfiguration of Jesus, where *"as Jesus was praying, the appearance of his face was altered"*. This powerful moment reminds us of the transformative power of prayer and reflection in our own lives. Just as Jesus was strengthened through prayer, we too can find strength, clarity, and peace when we take time to pause and connect with God. As we journey through Lent, let us encourage our children to embrace moments of quiet reflection, seeking growth and renewal in their hearts and actions.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another fantastic week ahead. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to get in touch at [headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk](mailto:headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk).

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex  
Headteacher