



20th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Spring Term Week 10 Headteacher Update

On Thursday this week our Year 7 Parents' Evening takes place via School Cloud. If you have not already made appointments with members of staff, I would encourage you to do this as a matter of urgency. Dr Guscott has already written to you if you have a child in Year 7 with full details on how to book appointments in advance of Thursday.

Last week many events took place in school. From our contribution to National Science Week with a series of events culminating in the trip for Year 9 to the DOW Chemicals plant in Cheadle to Pi Day in our Mathematics Faculty and finally over the weekend, our PE faculty led our PGL netball trip. I want to publicly thank all staff involved in these and all the other extra-curricular opportunities that they provide for our children whilst also thanking you as parents/carers for supporting.

Year 11 received their revision plans on Friday last week. We are now entering the final phase of their time with us at St James'. We are now 8 weeks away from the final examination series. However, several subjects have already begun final examinations for instance in practical subjects such as Food and Nutrition, Art and PE. It is crucial that you speak to your child about the importance of regular revision, following the revision plan provided by school and to be absolutely focused in lessons throughout their remaining time at St James'. If you require any additional support in subject areas, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher directly via email.

Finally, can I remind all parents/carers to be considerate of our neighbours when dropping off or collecting their child at school. Sadly, several neighbours have complained to the council that some parents/carers are parking across their drives, on curbs and continuing to play loud music whilst waiting for their child. The council have deployed a member of their staff to observe this and have concluded that the neighbours are correct in their observations. The council are now looking at introducing double yellow lines and are looking to arrange for parking wardens to be present at drop off and pick up times to begin to issue fines.

At the time of Jesus, to be sick in any way was seen as a punishment from God. Those who were sick; the blind, the crippled, the dumb, the lepers were outcasts and were made to feel worthless. Jesus does not let this stop him from speaking to and touching a blind man in the Gospel yesterday. Jesus reaches out to heal this man and to make him whole again. He not only gives him back his sight, he restores his dignity and allows him to return to his community and family. The blindness that Jesus cannot heal however is the narrow mindedness, jealousy and anger of the Pharisees who refuse to let go of their dislike for Jesus. Their eyes are closed and blind to seeing Jesus for who he really is. Yesterday's Gospel challenges us to look honestly at ourselves, our attitudes and our own behaviour. Often, we are very quick to see the faults, failings and shortcomings of other people. But generally, we are not so quick to notice and admit our own weaknesses. Jesus is the light of the world, but if our hearts and eyes are closed to this light, we are living in darkness. As we journey through Lent, let our prayer be that we may see the light of Christ once again.





ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Have a great week, if you need anything, please do not hesitate to get in contact
headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher



With God
all things are possible

Matthew 19:26