



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

31st March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Spring Term Week 12 Headteacher Update

I hope all the mothers, grandmothers, and mother figures in our school family had a wonderful Mother's Day yesterday. It is a special time to recognise and appreciate the love, care, and sacrifices they make every day. May they continue to be blessed with strength, joy, and the gratitude of those they nurture and support.

As we approach the final stretch before the Easter holiday, I wanted to take a moment to remind all parents/carers, but especially those with children in Year 11, that there are less than two weeks remaining. It's imperative that our Year 11 children are well underway with their revision plans, ensuring they are fully prepared for the upcoming GCSE exams. Some of our children have already completed their first "real" GCSE examination in various subjects, including Food and Nutrition and Art, marking the beginning of a significant period. Encouraging your children to stay focused, organised, and committed to their studies during these crucial weeks will undoubtedly contribute to their success. Thank you for your ongoing support.

A reminder that on Thursday next week, 10th April, we have our Year 7 Parents' Evening taking place via School Cloud. Mr Maidment has already written to you, if you have a child in Year 7, with full details of how to book appointments in advance of this evening. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Maidment directly.

A reminder that we are now in the third week of our 20 Days of Lent Attendance Challenge to promote and celebrate excellent school attendance. From Monday 17th March to Friday 11th April, any child who achieves 100% attendance will be entered into a prize draw. One family from each year group will win a £50 supermarket voucher to help with the cost of their Easter roast dinner. The prize draw will take place on Friday 11th April, and vouchers will be awarded to the winning children on the same day. Let's make every school day count.

In yesterday's Gospel, we heard the powerful words of the father in the Parable of the Prodigal Son: *"Your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found"*. This story is a reminder of God's boundless mercy and the joy of reconciliation. As we journey through Lent, it is a time to reflect on our own lives, to seek forgiveness where needed, and to open our hearts to God's love. In our school family, we encourage one another to grow in faith, to show compassion, and to recognise the dignity in every person. Just as the father in the parable welcomed his son home with open arms, we are called to create a place where everyone feels valued, supported, and uplifted.

Thank you for your continued support. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to get in touch at headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher