



16th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Spring Term Week 2 Headteacher Update

Our Year 9 Parents' Evening took place on Thursday last week with strong attendance at this virtual event. As always, thank you to all Year 9 parents who attended and submitted their feedback to the parental voice questionnaire that was sent out by Dr Guscott. In the coming weeks this information will be published on our website at the usual address <http://www.stjamesheadle.co.uk/parental-voice/>.

I am pleased to inform you that from February, St James' will be hosting the Stockport Mental Health Support Team (MHST) within school. This is a new service designed to support children who are experiencing low-level emotional difficulties, such as worry, anxiety, stress, or low mood. Stockport MHST offer various types of support including 1:1 support, group work, parenting interventions and whole school support. Olivia, one of the new Educational Mental Health Practitioner Trainees, will be based in school on Tuesdays, liaising with and accepting referrals from school staff to support the mental health and wellbeing of our children. If you need any more information about this service, or to discuss referring your child, please contact our Mental Health Lead, Miss Houghton via email l.houghton@stjamesheadle.co.uk.

This Wednesday marks the start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a time when Christians from many different traditions across the globe join together to try to heal divisions and to pray for greater unity. Although it is recognised that there are significant differences among denominations in terms of beliefs, practices and structures, and that there is still much work to do to be done to recognise Christ's vision 'that all may be one', it is also recognised that Christian congregations share common callings. As Catholics, as we think about Christian Unity, it may be helpful to reflect on Pope Francis' words: "We have to pray together as Catholics and also with other Christians, pray that the Lord gives us the gift of unity, unity among us. But how will we have unity among Christians if we are not capable of it among ourselves, as Catholics?" As we reflect on this, may we turn towards Jesus Christ and ask him to send the Holy Spirit to create unity amongst our families, friends and global community.

Have a wonderful week as the mornings begin to get lighter and the days get longer. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to get in touch headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher