



7th October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Autumn Term Week 6 Headteacher Update

I cannot believe that we are already in October and that we only have two weeks left of this half term. A reminder that we finish at 3.10pm on Thursday 17th October.

On Thursday last week we celebrated our Year 7 Welcome Mass at Our Lady and the Apostles Church in Edgeley. It was lovely to see so many parents and families at this event supporting their child's formal induction to the St James' family. Fr Martin spoke about the journey that our children are undertaking as well as the importance of becoming the best version of themselves. We look forward to seeing the children develop and grow over the next 5 years.

As I am sure you are aware our school continues to benefit from Diocese building projects. Over the last few years these have seen us replace ceilings, install a new Food and Nutrition room, gain a new fire alarm and in the not too distant future potentially a new building. However, we are required to fund 10% of the costs. Please can I ask that you look out for the Building Fund letter which will be sent this week by Mrs Dooley, our School Business Manager and support if you can.

We welcomed our new cohort of Trainee Teachers to the family of St James' during the 4th and 5th week of this term. Mr Siwilewicz joins the Art department from Manchester Metropolitan University and will be with us until 24th January. We are also hosting three trainees from Manchester University: Miss Poveda in MFL, Miss Murray in Science and Mr Shahid in the Humanities department. Their placement is slightly shorter and they will be learning from us until 18th December. Our General Mentors are looking forward to working with them and supporting them to flourish in the classroom.

In the Gospel yesterday, Jesus reminds us, "What God has united, man must not divide." This powerful message speaks to the importance of unity and harmony in our relationships and communities. In our school, it serves as a reminder that we are all part of one shared mission; students, staff, and families, working together to support and nurture each other. Just as God calls for unity in marriage, we are called to foster unity within our school, ensuring that no divisions, misunderstandings, or conflicts tear us apart. By promoting respect, understanding, and collaboration, we create a stronger, more supportive environment where every child can thrive. Let us commit to working together as one family, united in purpose and compassion.

Have a great week if you need anything please get in touch via headteacherpa@stjamesheadle.co.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher