



4th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Autumn Term Week 9 Headteacher Update

As we enter the second week of the second half term, it is remarkable to reflect on how swiftly our first week back has passed. I hope you were able to enjoy some fireworks over the weekend or have plans to celebrate with your families tomorrow.

On Friday last week, we were blessed to gather for our second Whole School Mass of the year in celebration of All Saints' Day, led by Fr. Mark. It was a truly beautiful occasion, filled with a sense of unity and reflection as we came together as a school community. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the governors and parents who joined us; your presence added to the warmth and joy of the celebration, and we are so grateful for your continued support and involvement in these cherished school events.

We are looking forward to welcoming our Year 7 parents/carers to this year's Year 7 Parent Tutor Evening, which will take place on Thursday this week. This event will focus on how your child has settled into school life. As outlined in the letter sent home, tutors will discuss various aspects of your child's experience, including their involvement within their Form, social interactions, well-being, and other relevant elements of their school life. Please note that this meeting is not intended for discussing specific subjects or academic work; any concerns regarding individual subjects should be directed to class teachers.

This week, we will hold our annual Year 11 Retreat, and we are excited to share this meaningful experience with the students. It offers a chance for Year 11 to reflect, appreciate, and recognise the blessings in their lives as they prepare for their mock examinations and ultimately their GCSEs, with the comforting knowledge that God is always by their side. On Tuesday 5th November the Form groups 11J, 11S and 11C have their Retreat and then on Wednesday 6th November it is the turn of 11A, 11E and 11M.

As we reflect on the words from the Gospel yesterday, "You are not far from the kingdom of God," we are reminded of the potential and promise within each of our children here at St James'. This message speaks to the heart of our mission: to guide our children towards lives filled with kindness, compassion, and purpose. Each day, as they learn, grow, and support one another, they take significant steps closer to embodying the values of the Kingdom. It is our hope that through their education, they not only excel academically but also develop a strong moral foundation that inspires them to make positive contributions to our family and the world. Together, let us nurture their journey and celebrate the remarkable individuals they are becoming.

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

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher