

Dear Parents/Carers

As some of you may know, our Year 8 & 10 football teams have had a fantastic season so far, and last Thursday saw both teams win their respective Stockport League Cup finals at Stockport Sports' Village, Woodley. Year 10 are playing in the semi-finals of the Stockport Cup this afternoon, and Year 8 are in the Stockport Cup final tomorrow, Tuesday 24th April. Congratulations to both teams, and good luck for this week!

This Thursday is Year 10 Parents' Evening and I hope to see as many of you here as possible. Thursday 3rd May, is Year 9 Options Evening. A letter was sent to all Year 9 parents and carers at the end of February, and information has been available on the school website <http://www.stjamescatholichighschool.org.uk/learning-progress/curriculum-overview/>. The information includes a copy of the letter, a presentation and a draft options booklet. The presentation explains the options process in more detail, and will be shown on a continuous loop throughout the course of the evening, however we do recommend that you take the opportunity to view this presentation and read the information about each subject in the options booklet in advance of options evening.

Finally, the PTA is operating its second-hand uniform sale again, to take place after the New Intake Evening on Wednesday 4th July. If you do have any good quality, spare uniform could you please hand it into the school reception by Friday 29th June. This uniform sale has been a great success over the last couple of years, and it not only benefits the school in terms of funds raised, but also those families who purchase the clothes.

Thank you for your continued support. If you wish to discuss any aspect of life here at St James', please do not hesitate to contact me at headteacher@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk

Tim Beesley, Headteacher

Prayer

Lord of life, we pray for all who bring
your joy as a light to those in darkness,
for those who bring your peace to
those enslaved by fear,
for those who bring your love to those
in need of comfort.
Lord of joy, peace and love,
help us to make you known through
our lives.

Amen

JOB VACANCY

FOOD TECHNICIAN
Temporary maternity cover

APT & C Scale 3 point 14 (£17,681 - £18,672)
(Pro rata - term time only)
12 hours per week
(Hours to be worked over 5 days between the hours of 09:00am
and 3:15pm, times/days can be negotiated)

Please see the school website for further details or contact
michelle.mccumesky@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk

CAREERS

14-19 Services are holding sector days in the Apprenticeships Store throughout May half term. Each day will focus on a different sector and we think it would be beneficial for your students to gain a greater knowledge of apprenticeships.

A wide range of Further Education establishments, Apprenticeship training providers and specialist support services will be available to talk through all the options for young people post-16.

Week Commencing: **Monday 28th- Friday 1st May 2018**

Time: **10am - 4pm**

Venue: **The Apprenticeships Store, 4-6, Grand Central, Stockport, Manchester SK1 3TA**

Sector days consist of:

Monday – BANK HOLIDAY (CLOSED)

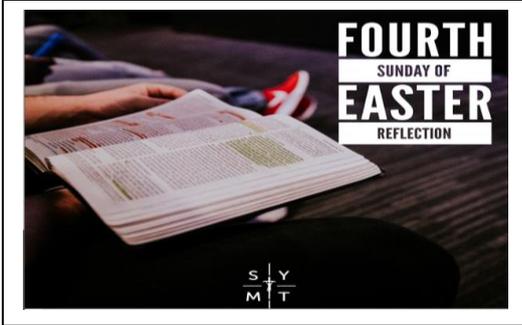
Tuesday – Business Administration

Wednesday – IT, Digital Media

Thursday – Engineering and Construction

Friday – Health and Social Care

Mrs Grainger – Teacher in Charge of Work Related Learning



This Sunday's Gospel contains one of the seven 'I am' statements from Jesus. These are used to reveal more about His nature to us; this particular scripture explains that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. For us in the 21st Century, this analogy may not seem as relevant to us as others, I know I have never looked after sheep or even met a shepherd.

However many of those listening to Jesus would have been shepherds or at least known about this vital occupation of the time. There is still much we can learn about Jesus from this passage, especially His desire to show us sacrificial love.

We hear in the first verse: 'I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.' At the time Jesus was speaking to the people, they would have known that a shepherd's whole life revolved around his sheep. In a similar way, we mean everything to Jesus (just like in the parable of the lost sheep, Matt 18:12-14) He is willing to do anything for us, even die on the Cross 'of His own accord'.

This leads us to the next part of the passage where Jesus says 'I know my sheep and my sheep know me- just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.' I love this verse as it tells us that Jesus know us as much as He knows His Father in Heaven. He loves me as I am part of this relationship. This verse also presents me with an invitation: if I am to be a true follower of Jesus then I must know Him as intimately as He knows me. It encourages me to go deeper in my understanding of Jesus and grow in my relationship with Him.

This week we pray for all followers of Jesus, that we may allow Him to care for us and follow Him as our Good Shepherd.

Sophie
Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Every year, the government provides funding to school aged children who meet certain eligibility criteria to ensure that these children are given the opportunity to achieve their full potential. This is called the Pupil Premium, and applies to children eligible for Free School Meals, those who have been in care and those with a parent in the armed forces.

After reviewing our records, I am concerned that there may be pupils at St James' who meet the eligibility criteria for Pupil Premium but have not claimed this additional funding. I would like to encourage all parents and carers to check the list of eligibility criteria below, and to contact the Local Authority if you believe your child may be eligible. Any information provided to the school is treated in the strictest confidence, and I can assure you that your child will not be treated any differently should they qualify.

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

The Pupil Premium is also available to:

- Children who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted
- Children who left local authority care on a Special Guardianship Order or Child Arrangements Order (previously known as a Residence Order)
- Children of parents employed in the Armed Forces

If you think any of these conditions apply to your child, please get in touch with the Local Authority by emailing benefitsfm@stockport.gov.uk or contacting the FSM and Grants Team on 0161 217 6015. Should you have any questions, please contact our **Business Manager, Mr Bennett**, at nick.bennett@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk

At a time when school budgets are under increasing pressure, it is crucial that the school is able to access the funding available to ensure we can continue to meet the needs of all members of our school community.

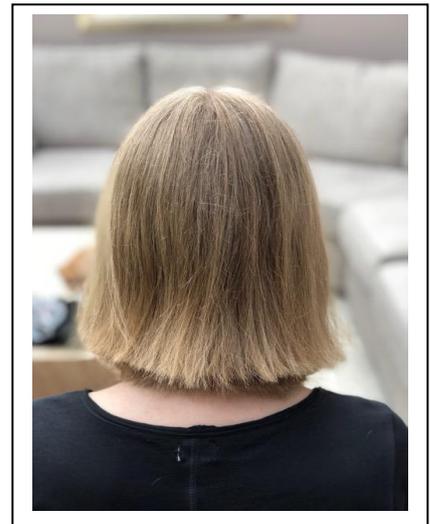
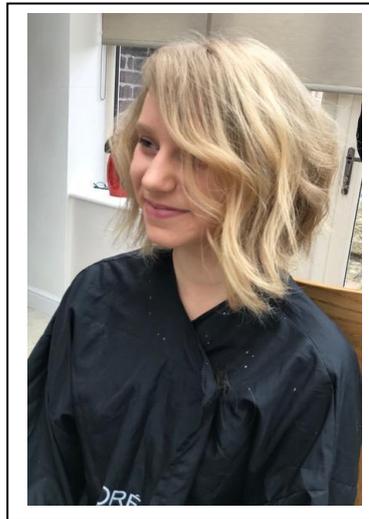
YEAR 9 CHARITY

Isabella Vita has donated her hair to "Little Princess Trust" who provide real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young adults that have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and other illnesses. She is doing this as a fundraising exercise so they not only receive the hair, they also receive a cheque. The link for her JustGiving page is: <http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Isabella-Vita>

Mrs Malins
Form Tutor

My name is Isabella and I am in Year 9. Two years ago I heard about the Little Princess Trust Charity, which makes real hair wigs for children who lose their hair through chemotherapy treatment. I cannot imagine what these people must be going through. I wanted to do something to try help at what must be a very difficult time. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your very kind donation.

Isabella Vita 9M



SPORTING SUCCESS

Lily Gilronan in 9J was in the team that won the basketball England North West 3v3 tournament over the Easter break congratulations and well done to Lily!



SWIMMING GALA

On Wednesday 18th April 3 of our students took part in a swimming gala at Hazel Grove swimming pool. Six other schools took part, the pupils swam extremely well, showing great determination and resilience. They finished joint first.

Well done to *Connor O'Flaherty, George Warren and Lyndon Finnigan*

Mrs Booth
PE teacher



GIRLS' EXTRA CURRICULAR PE INFORMATION

Week commencing Monday 23rd April

Monday	Year 8 rounders practice (astro- finish 4.15pm)
Tuesday	Year 7 rounders practice (astro- finish 4.15pm)
Thursday	Years 9/10 & 11 rounders practice (astro- finish 4.15pm)

Girls' PE

BOYS' EXTRA CURRICULAR PE INFORMATION

Week commencing Monday 23rd April

Monday	Year 10 (away) v Hazel Grove semi-final Meet 3pm - return 5.30pm KS3 Badminton practice finish 4pm
Tuesday	Year 8 Stockport Cup Final at Stockport Sports 4pm kick-off - return 6pm
Wednesday	Possible Year 10 Stockport Cup final 3.30pm kick-off at Cheadle Hulme High School

Boys' PE