

Dear Parents/Carers

Today is the PE GCSE moderation. We have been pleased with the progress made by the majority of Year 11, but exam preparation continues with the distribution of personalised revision plans on Friday, to commence on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March**. If there are any questions or concerns about the revision plans, please contact Mrs Livesey, Assistant Headteacher for Progress [patricia.livesey@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:patricia.livesey@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk). There are only **32** school days left until the start of the GCSE exams, so time should be spent constructively.

Thank you to all those parents and carers who attended Year 7 Parents' Evening last week.

It was a very busy evening, with more than 94% attendance. I had many very positive conversations with parents about how well their child has settled in at St James'. The written messages on the Governors' questionnaires were overwhelmingly positive, with some lovely comments:

- *'My child is happy and looked after and has made great progress'*
- *'It's one big family'*
- *'The pastoral and educational aspect of the school are excellent'*
- *'I feel the teachers have really taken the time to get to know my son'*
- *'Excellent communication. Wonderful family atmosphere. Excellent teaching. All staff are friendly and professional'*
- *'Ethos, staff, leadership!'*
- *'Very welcoming environment. My daughter has blossomed since starting at St James''*
- *'Firstly the staff are so good and willing to go the extra mile. Teaching level is excellent. The safety level is excellent. Thanks for the school'*
- *'Strong Catholic ethos'*
- *'All the pupils get on well, and the teachers are supportive. Think you are doing a great job'*

We do always ask if there is anything that you feel we could be doing better, and all of this feedback is then taken to the next Governors' Policy & Practice meeting. If you did specifically request feedback, someone will be in touch with you once all of the questionnaires have been analysed. I wrote to parents of Year 9 students last week to inform them that the 'snow- postponed' Parents' Evening has been rearranged for this Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> March. I look forward to seeing as many parents and carers there as possible – students must be in full uniform. The information meeting for the forthcoming Madrid trip is taking place, as planned, on Thursday at 6.00pm, in the Sports Hall. Please do remember that to avoid parking on local residential streets, there is over-spill parking available behind the school, in the yard, and over the road at Manchester Rugby Club.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, last week was National Careers Week and Form Tutors used form-time to discuss all different aspects of careers and the 'world of work' with their pupils. Mrs Grainger, our Careers Co-ordinator, distributed information, presentations and website links for them to use, and we have also introduced a Careers "drop in" every Thursday lunchtime in room 29b . If you have any questions about our careers education, or if you feel you are able to contribute to this important area of school, please contact Mrs Grainger at [helen.grainger@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:helen.grainger@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk)

The next meeting of the PTA was due to be tonight at 7.00pm, but due to the recent low turnout at meetings, it is taking place by email instead, which is a real shame. The work of the PTA is highly valued by the school, but as communicated several times before, because of a lack of volunteers they have been struggling to complete some of their traditional services, and now the meetings have become unviable for the time being. I would hope that we may be able to revisit this at some time in the near future, and that we get some new interest from parents and friends. If you would like to contribute to the PTA, please do contact the school reception and your name and details will be passed on. Thank you for your continued support, and in the meantime if you ever wish to contact me about any issue, please do not hesitate to email me at [headteacher@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk).

Tim Beesley, Headteacher

### PRAYER

Do everything calmly and peacefully.  
Do as much as you can as well as you can.  
Strive to see God in all things  
without exception and consent to his will  
joyfully.  
Do everything for God, uniting yourself to  
Him in word and deed.  
Walk very simply with the cross of the  
Lord and be at peace with yourself.

Amen

### YEAR 9 PARENTS EVENING THIS THURSDAY

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PTA WILL BE PROVIDING  
REFRESHMENTS FOR PARENTS/CARERS**



One verse of the Gospel we hear today has to be one of the most well-known Bible passages.

'For God so loved the world that He sent His only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life.' (John 3:16)

If you've ever travelled to the USA you'll have seen it written everywhere, it's on soda cups, shopping bags, billboards, being held up at football games. Many people are drawn to this passage and want to share its message of salvation with the world. One of these people is Tom Tebow, back in 2009 he was a university student, playing American football for his university team and made it to the championship final, in the US these games are very popular and get millions of viewers worldwide. Tebow had been praying with the John 3:16 passage before the game and felt God calling him to share it with the world; but he didn't just post it on Facebook or have it printed on his shirt, Tebow wrote it on his face, he played the game with the words 'John 3:16' under his eyes.

After the game there had been 94 million Google searches for 'John 3:16'! That's 94 million people who were presented with the Gospel message because of one man's courage to share the Gospel. Tebow said in an interview years later "The God that we serve is a God of miracles," he said. "I just have to be willing to step out and say, 'Here you go, God, I'm going to give you my fish and my loaves of bread and watch what He does with it.'"

Today I'm inspired by Tebow's story. I'm praying that this Lent God will continue to help us step out in faith and share His Good News with the world.

Sophie - Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team

## MIXTAPE



**"This is Manchester, we do things differently here."**

Mixtape is a new genre of musicals and it is part-party, part-gig and part-play. The show is about a compilation of music for somebody special in a specific order. The music has been especially composed for the play.

The show is in the Studios at the Royal Exchange Theatre. This show is in April 11-14<sup>th</sup> and tickets are available online <https://www.royalexchange.co.uk/whats-on-and-tickets/mixtape>. The theatre group I go to is called the Young Company in the Royal Exchange Theatre and I have been a member for 6 months. It is fun for anyone who is 14-25 and it helps with your confidence, acting and anything that is theatre related.

By John Featherstone 9C



## SWIMMING HONOURS!

Congratulations to *Connor O'Flaherty in 9C* who on 28<sup>th</sup> February became a gold honours swimmer! To achieve this Connor had to complete the following swims within 20 minutes non-stop:

10 lengths Front Crawl

10 lengths Backstroke

8 lengths Front Crawl

2 lengths Butterfly

Connor completed 40 lengths in 18 minutes which is amazing!

At the age of four Connor started swimming on Saturday mornings. He became a member of Special Needs Class One. Sale Fin's Swimming Club became the next club, and Connor joined them at the age of six, winning medals and trophies. Connor is also now a member of the Forum Swimming Club, regularly taking part in competitions and galas. Connor was born with chronic lung disease and his mum was told that swimming wouldn't be a possibility due to poor lung capacity. Connor has well and truly proved the doctors wrong and has become a top class swimmer! Everyone at St James' is very proud of his achievements.

Mrs Ridgway  
SEN Manager



## CAREERS WEEK

Following on from a successful 'Careers Week' - pupils and parents might find the following links very beneficial when choosing a career path.

<https://jobs.rbs.com/pages/school-leavers>    <https://jobs.rbs.com/pages/apprenticeships>

As part of the Careers week program the Army came and gave a talk to over 30 pupils concerning the different occupations that were available to pupils including nursing to engineering. The talk was very informative and students became more aware of what the Army was all about and what career paths were on offer to them.



**[WWW.MYKINDAFUTURE.COM](http://www.mykindafuture.com) HAVE MADE US AWARE OF A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE TV PRODUCTION INDUSTRY!**

This is a one off event at: **The Royal Liver Building, Liverpool Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April 201.** Channel 4's "C4PopUp" will be heading to **Liverpool** to talk careers in the **TV production industry** for those who are **16 or over**. Want to know more about the various roles needed to create great TV? Interested in producing, directing, editing and production management? But not sure how to get your foot in the door? This day will involve a TV production workshop where you work in a team and produce your own short film. You'll learn the basics of filming, producing, editing and presenting. Get insights from industry professionals, and the chance to hear more about **Channel 4's Production Training Scheme and Runner Apprenticeship Scheme** and speak to past trainees about their experiences.

Applications are open but not for long so its super important you get signed up ASAP. Register for free here to show your interest: <http://bit.ly/2GqibIT>

Mrs Grainger  
Teacher in Charge of Work Related Learning

**CALLING ALL YEAR 11 LINGUISTS!  
SPEAKING DROP IN SESSIONS**

A great chance to prepare for your speaking exam.  
Monday lunchtime (red week) starts Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March in room 36 with Aileen.

Tuesday after school until 3:45pm starts Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March in room 24 with Mrs Pickles

Students in 11W2 should attend speaking support with Miss Massey in room 26 on Tuesdays until 3:45pm

See you there  
The MFL Faculty

**FRANCE 2018**

Just a reminder for all those going to France, **pupils will need to have their own Passport and EHIC card and we advise that these be applied for as soon as possible**, if your son/daughter does not already have one. EHIC cards are free to obtain and can be ordered online at

<https://www.ehic.org.uk/Internet/startApplication.do>

Any queries, please get in touch, [clare.pickles@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:clare.pickles@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk)

Thank you

Mrs Pickles  
Trip Leader

**SKI TRIP EASTER 2018**

A representative from Ski & Sport will be coming into school at lunchtime on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March in room 48 for those students who are going on the ski trip, to check the equipment they have hired is suitable.

Mr Wilby  
Trip Leader



## OPEN CASTING CALL!

Modest! Management, the team behind acts such as One Direction, Little Mix, JLS, and 5 Seconds of Summer are holding open auditions for singers OR songwriters to be part of an exciting new project launching in 2018. We are seeking males and females aged between 14-18.

### WHAT TO DO NEXT:

Simply film a video of yourself\* singing and upload it to YouTube.

Snap a selfie (headshot) and email it along with a link to your video to:

**[talent@modestmanagement.com](mailto:talent@modestmanagement.com)**

(Include your full name and D.O.B and contact info)

\*If you are solely a songwriter, please feel free to send audio only.

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES**

**BY 23rd April 2018.**

**GOOD LUCK!**

**Modest!**  
[www.modestmanagement.com](http://www.modestmanagement.com)

## **GIRLS' PE EXTRA CURRICULAR INFORMATION**

### **Week commencing Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

Tuesday	Year 8 netball tournament away at Cheadle Hulme School 4pm start finish approx. 5.15pm
	Years 9 & 10 netball practice finish 4.15pm
	Years 7-11 Catholic Cross Country at Heaton Park 11am-2pm
Wednesday	Year 9 & 10 badminton match at Kingsway return 5.15pm
	Years 9 & 10 Indoor Cricket Competition at home finish approx. 5.15pm
	Years 8 & 9 Boccia competition at Werneth 9.30am-2.30pm

Girls' PE

## **BOYS' PE EXTRA CURRICULAR INFORMATION**

### **Week commencing Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

Monday	Year 8 Football match away at Blessed Thomas Halford 4pm kick off return 6pm
Tuesday	Years 7-11 Catholic Cross Country at Heaton Park 11am-2pm
	Year 9 Football away at Cheadle Hulme High School return 5.15pm
Wednesday	Years 9 & 10 Table Tennis practice 3pm-4.15pm
	Years 8 & 9 Boccia competition at Werneth 9.30am-2.30pm
Thursday	REAL MADRID TRIP MEETING 6pm Sports Hall
Friday	Year 8 Football match away at Cheadle Hulme School return 5.15pm

Boys' PE