

Dear Parents/Carers

Our Year 11 students begin the long season of GCSE exams today. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families during this time, and also with those other pupils who are sitting exams over the next few weeks. Each student has been given their personalised Programme of Study, so they know exactly where they should be and when they should be there! If you have any questions about the Programme of Study or the exams please contact Mrs Livesey at patricia.livesey@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk. I sent a letter home last week about the online computer game, Fortnite, expressing our concerns that it is have a negative impact on students' revision, homework and sleep patterns. The letter is also included in this newsletter.

All Year 9 students have now had their options interview with a senior member of staff, to discuss the process. The final completed options forms must be returned to school **between** Monday 21st and Friday 25th May. If you have any questions or concerns about the options process, please do not hesitate to contact our Deputy Headteacher, Mr Brophy at huw.brophy@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk.

Congratulations to the overall winners of the inaugural St James' Day tournament - 'C'. They were awarded their trophy this morning. On Wednesday there is an Athletics meeting at Woodbank Park for Years 8 -10, leaving school at 1:30pm, and the Year 10 Catholic Schools' Rounders Competition is today, leaving school at 1.45 pm, with the Year 9 competition tomorrow We wish all our competing students the very best. As always, if you ever wish to contact me about any issue, please do not hesitate to email me at headteacher@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk.

Tim Beesley
Headteacher

PRAYER

Most high, glorious God,
enlighten the shadows of my heart,
and grant unto me a right faith,
a certain hope and perfect charity,
sense and understanding,
so that I may accomplish your holy and true
command
Amen

A prayer from St Francis of Assisi

FRANCE VISIT 2018

Just a reminder that the Information Evening for France will take place on 5th June at 7pm when we will be collecting Passports and EHIC cards, please ensure these are available for this date.

Thank you

Mrs Pickles
Director of Faculty: MFL



VACANCY

Technology Technician (to work in Technology, Art and Textiles) 27.5 hours per week (term time only) but applicants looking for less hours are welcome to apply. Further details on the school website

www.stjamescatholichighschool.org.uk or please contact Michelle McCumesky michelle.mccumesky@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk

E-SAFETY UPDATE

Esports are video games played competitively by two or more opponents – increasingly by professional gamers for monetary gain in front of audiences both on and offline. They are organised competitions based around multiplayer games of strategy, combat or sport, with rules, referees and spectators.

We have added a guide for parents to the E-Safety section on our website which covers the following:

What are esports?

How can I ensure my child can't access inappropriate games?

How do I know if the games my child watches online are age-appropriate?

How do I know if my child is addicted to gaming?

Are there tools to help me to manage my child's gaming?

How can I stop my child running up bills whilst gaming?

Mrs Rarity



Sunday's Gospel reading presents me with both a challenge and consolation.

Jesus prays 'As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.' Christ is sending us out, to bring His Good News to everyone. However we know that this message is not always wanted, or well received; Jesus even says that the world has hated us.

Living out our faith in our current society isn't always easy; sometimes we are mocked or misunderstood. Jesus tells us that this is because we are 'not of this world', our home is in Heaven with Him. He goes on to say that we shouldn't shy away or remove ourselves from society but prays that our Father in Heaven will protect us from any evil.

This seems like a big challenge, so what's the consolation here? Although being Christian might be tough sometimes Jesus has given us 'a full measure of joy'. When it feels as though it is too difficult to be a young Catholic today we can remind ourselves that Jesus has already 'overcome the world' and His joy remains with us.

Sophie
Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team

INTERNATIONAL MASS

On Sunday 20th May, Our Lady & the Apostles Church, Shaw Heath, will celebrate their annual International Mass to celebrate Pentecost. Songs from around the world will be sung during Mass, with readings and prayers in the languages spoken within the parish community. Mass will be followed by a shared table with an international taste! All are welcome to join us for this celebration

Dear Parents / Carers,

RE: FORTNITE

As many of you will be aware, the free video game, [Fortnite: Battle Royale](#), is very popular with young people at the moment. It's the game of survival that has players parachuting down onto a virtual island of a hundred combatants, and working with friends online to be the last team standing. And then they do it all again. And again. And again. There is plenty of advice available for parents, including the following website: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/parents-guide-fortnite-battle-royale>

As a school, though, we are very concerned the amount of time that students are spending on the game. We have spoken with several of our Year 11 students recently, and they have been honest in admitting that the game is having a detrimental effect on their GCSE revision. We are also certain that it is impacting negatively on the homework and sleep pattern of students in other year groups as well.

If your child is playing on an Xbox or PlayStation you can use the parental controls to limit the length of gaming sessions. It's a good idea to set definite play sessions, using some kind of timer (a stopwatch, an egg timer, or maybe ask Alexa for a countdown). You may need to have an "I've started so I'll finish" rule though, as Fortnite matches can last up to 20 minutes and if you demand they finish playing in the middle of a game, they'll leave team-mates in the lurch and lose any points they've earned during that bout. It may also be an idea if friends agree between themselves on a time period when they don't play, so that there isn't that pressure from others to join in.

We appreciate your support in this matter, and if you want to contact the school for any further advice, please contact Mrs Rarity, Director of Creative Technology, or Mrs Livesey, Assistant Headteacher for Progress.

Mr Beesley
Headteacher

PREFECTS 2018/2019

Congratulations to the prefect team for 2018-19.

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Niamh Maloret | Molly Wild |
| Ryan Nana | Eleanor Flynn |
| Patrick Garvin | Grace McIntosh |
| Jack Charnock | Jade Higham |
| Joshua Hogan | Megan Finch |
| Charles Breckell | Megan Thorley |
| Luke Donohue | Deonne Sullivan |
| Oscar Millar | Elisabeth Leach |
| Luke Knights | Sadie Egan |
| Mark Tantoy | Rebecca Hunt |
| Ron Yandoc | Kiera Goodfellow |
| Lilia Garvin | Ciara Crowley |
| Mahima Duggal | Eve Dervin |
| Erin Watson | Hannah Lynch |
| Laura Griffiths | Will Clarkson |
| Sarah Maguire | |

We are delighted to announce that our Head Girl is **Joanne Beesley** and the Head Boy is **Jacob Locke**. We have created three deputies due the strength of the field- **Heath Geddes**, **Beth McKenzie** and **Orla Grady**.

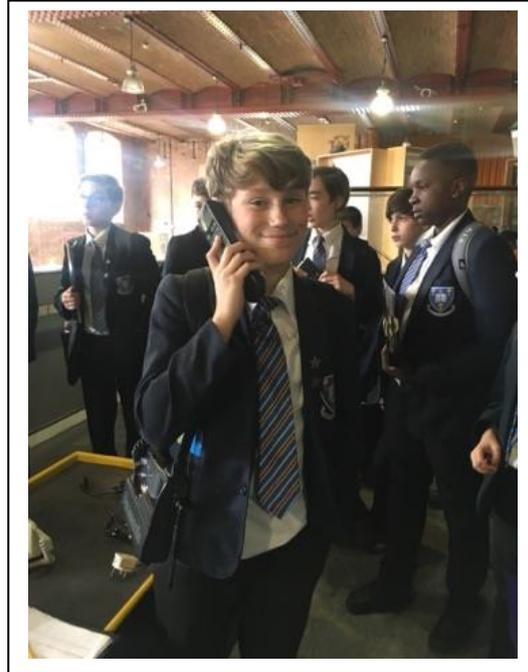


Left to right: Orla Grady, Jacob Locke, Joanne Beesley, Beth McKenzie & Heath Geddes

YEAR 8 MANCHESTER FIELD TRIPS

The trip to Manchester was a chance for us to enhance our knowledge of Manchester in the Industrial Revolution. When we arrived, we went to the Town Hall which is where many important meetings and events are held. After going to that famous landmark from Manchester, we went to the 'hidden gem church' otherwise known as St Mary's church which was very interesting considering the fact that it was on a very dirty street. Afterwards, we went on a nice walk to the John Rylands library, a library that was opened on New Years Day 1900. This library was founded by a woman called Enriqueta Augustina Rylands in memory of her husband John Rylands. This was special because it allowed the poor people to read books and be educated. We then went to the Science Museum to first have a look at the contraptions used by the Victorian underaged workers in the Industrial revolution. We learned there about the different contraptions including the spinning mule and many more. We then went to the area filled with steam trains and learned about the Stephensons who created the first steam train called 'The Rocket' and realised that the Industrial Revolution had a massive impact on transport as things like cars and trains were made and introduced in that period. Finally, we kept things 'plane and simple' as we headed to the planes area. Our minds were 'soaring away' as we saw the planes made back in the 20th century. Overall, our experience in the Manchester City Centre was very different and enjoyable as we got to be out of school and learn things that we never knew before.

William Whelan 8M



YEAR 11

As Year 11 begin their exams, we as their year team, would like to wish them lots and lots of luck. We hope that they are fully prepared and have taken heed of key messages that have been given out in assemblies and during form time. Over the next few weeks, we will be giving them lots of words of encouragement and we will be around as they enter the exam hall to wish them luck as well.

They are a delightful, hard working year group and we have no doubt that they will reap the rewards of all the work that they have done to prepare.

They will all be in our prayers.

Mrs Linford

Head of Year and Form Tutors: Mr Cawley, Mr Wheelan, Miss Sweeney, Mr Wilby, Mrs Grainger, Mrs Booth and Mrs Floyd.

NCS (NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP SERVICE)

Back in February, a representative from the NCS came in to talk to the Year 11's about the upcoming programme that they could be a part of.

It is a programme aimed at 15-17 year olds who have finished school or college for the summer. The children spend 3 weeks on the course, 2 of which are residential, learning new skills and meeting new people.

It's perfect for boosting CV experience, personal statements, and UCAS forms. It's also an unforgettable experience which builds confidence and independence.

I am delighted that up to now, 34 pupils have signed up and committed to the programme, but there is still room for more. If you are thinking about it but haven't committed, have a look at www.ncsthechallenge.org for more information.

Mrs Linford

FEAST OF ST JAMES'

Congratulations to Form C who won the first ever St James' week tournament. They were rewarded for their consistency, beating Form S by the tiniest of margins. This victory was sealed by *Connor O'Flaherty (Year 9)* whose late scavenger hunt entry snatched the points for his form. The final day also saw a fantastic game of University Challenge, which was won on a tie break by J in the infamous 'battle of the Aspinall brothers.' The school council have been delighted with the enthusiasm and dedication of both players and spectators; it has been a really enjoyable week. Due to its popularity, a trophy was purchased, as modelled by the form representatives of C, and there is plenty of space on it for winners in future tournaments.

Mr Cawley



GIRLS' EXTRA CURRICULAR PE INFORMATION

Week commencing Monday 14th May

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|--------------------------------|--|
| Monday | 1.30pm meet - Year 10 Catholic Rounder's at Newman College return approx. 5.30pm |
| Tuesday | 1.30pm meet - Year 9 Catholic Rounder's at Newman College return approx. 5.30pm |
| Tuesday after school | Year 10 Rounder's tournament at Stockport School return approx. 5.30pm |
| Wednesday 2.30pm start Park | Years 8 -10 Athletics Championships at Woodbank return approx. 5.45pm |
| Thursday after school | Years 7-10 Rounder's at Bramhall return approx. 5.00pm |

Girls' PE

BOYS' EXTRA CURRICULAR PE INFORMATION

Week commencing Monday 14th May

Wednesday Years 8, 9 & 10 Stockport School's
Athletics Championships at Woodbank
Park

Meet 1.30pm return 5pm

Please note that due to the examinations taking place in the Sports Hall there will be no badminton at lunchtimes until July

Boys' PE