

Dear Parents/Carers

Last Friday Year 11 had an assembly about the National Citizen Service, a fantastic opportunity available to them this summer - a three week experience of adventure, skills and making a difference. It costs £1400 to fund each place on the course, but this is heavily subsidised by the Government, so it only costs the young people £50 (£35 if they sign up in the next three weeks). St James' is a 'Champion School' for NCS, having contributed the largest group of participants out of all Stockport schools in recent years. I have not met a young person yet who hasn't enjoyed their NCS experience, as it is great way to build confidence, develop skills, meet new friends and add to your CV. You can find out more at <http://www.ncsyves.co.uk/>

Next Tuesday, 6th February, we are welcoming RISE Theatre, a professional Christian theatre company, to St James'. They will be performing 'Romero - Heartbeat of El Salvador' to Year 7 & 8 pupils. They are also visiting other local Catholic Primary and Secondary schools next week, as well as performing at St Peter's Church in Hazel Grove on Sunday evening, 4th February. All are welcome to join the parish community as RISE Theatre give a performance of 'Happiness'- a quirky, inspirational performance, suitable for all ages. Doors open 7.00pm for performance 7.30 - 8.45pm. Bring your family and friends. Donations on the door towards the costs of the event.

May I please remind parents / carers of Year 11 students that **Year 11 Parents' Evening** is this **Thursday 1st February** and I look forward to seeing as many of you here as possible. As you know, the work of the PTA is highly valued by the school, but unfortunately, because of a lack of volunteers, they are struggling to complete some of their traditional services, like providing tea and coffee at parents' evenings. If you would like to volunteer, please do contact the school reception and your name and details will be passed on to the PTA.

Finally, we have received another complaint from a resident on Leafield Drive, entitled 'Disrespectful People' and saying that in all likelihood his complaint will 'fall on deaf ears'. This particular resident came home from work at 2.55pm last Monday to find a car parked outside his house and a car double parked over the road from his property, so that he was unable to park on the road or enter his driveway. He also makes the very valid point that if the Emergency Services were to try and access the road, then they wouldn't be able to. Once again, therefore, please be careful and considerate, to avoid accidents, but also to show courtesy to local residents and pedestrians' right of way.

Thank you for your continued support, and 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

Lord, you walk with us every moment of every day,
a secret presence that holds us together.

You remember each of us,
every moment of every day.

May we remember you today,
talk to you often about what is happening,
and act as we know you want us to.

Amen

SCHOOL BUSES

We have been notified that Grange Road in Bramhall will be closed from Monday 29th January for 2 weeks to allow sewer repair works to be carried out. This will affect school services 807, 815 and 887 to St James' Catholic High School which will be unable to serve Grange Road, Ringmore Road, Dean Moor Road and Bramhall Moor Lane.

The morning journeys on services 815 and 887 will operate via the normal route to Bramhall Moor Lane, then continue to the roundabout at the end and turn right onto Bridge Lane, then turn left onto Bramhall Lane South at Bramhall Green roundabout to return to the normal route. The afternoon journeys on services 807 and 815 will follow the same diversion in the opposite direction.

Services 807, 815 and 887 should be able to return to the normal route from Monday 12th February.

Any queries, please contact:

Joseph Grzesiak

Assistant Service Planning Officer

Transport for Greater Manchester

2 Piccadilly Place, Manchester M1 3BG

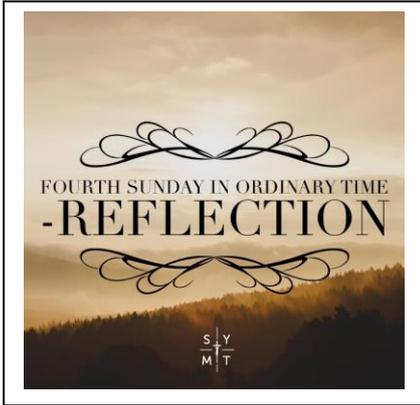
Direct line 0161 244 1736, Extension 701736

Office fax 0161 244 1310

www.tfgm.com

GOSPEL REFLECTION SHREWSBURY YOUTH MISSION TEAM

Mark 1:21-28



We hear in the Gospel how Jesus casts out an evil spirit and how the crowd were amazed at his authority. First they were amazed at his teaching. Then a man who was possessed by an impure spirit said “what do you want from us Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” The crowd were already amazed at Jesus’s teaching before he cast the unclean spirit out, when they witnessed Jesus commanding the unclean spirit to leave the man, they knew he had the authority over unclean spirits and the crowd quickly told others about what they had witnessed.

When it comes to our own lives we find it hard to witness to others about Jesus and our own faith, especially to those without a faith. The crowd were amazed at Jesus teaching, the words he was speaking and then he used one action which was to cast the unclean spirit out of a man. While we can use words to teach people about our faith, we hear how St Francis of Assisi once famously said “preach the Gospel at all times and if necessary use words.”

So while many of us think it’s very hard to give witness to our faith using words, I feel it’s even harder to witness by our actions, not impossible though.

By our actions we can give witness to those around us, sharing Christ’s light to others.

YEAR 9 RETREATS

Don’t forget, Year 9 students have retreat days next week. The dates of these retreats are:

J and S Monday 5th February
A and C Wednesday 7th February
E and M Thursday 8th February



Students have had a letter, but if you need another, there are spares at Reception or speak to Mrs. Bennett. In order for these retreats to take place a voluntary contribution of £12.50 is required to cover costs. The deadline for payment was Friday 24th January, so if you haven’t yet sent in permission and money, please can you do so as soon as possible.

On the day students are to wear their own clothes and need to bring a packed lunch with them (a lunch will be provided for those entitled to Free School Meals). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bennett – emma.bennett@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk

GIRLS’ PE EXTRA CURRICULAR INFORMATION

Week Commencing Monday 29th January

Tuesday	Years 9 & 10 netball away at Marple return approx. 5.30pm
Wednesday	Stockport School's Cross Country Championships Meet 2.45pm return 5.45pm
	GCSE PE Years 10 & 11 girls hockey moderation away at Werneth return approx. 5.45pm

Girls’ PE

BOYS’ PE EXTRA CURRICULAR INFORMATION

Week commencing Monday 29th January

Monday	Year 7 football squad practice finish 4.15pm
Tuesday	Year 7 v Priestnall (home) finish 5pm
Wednesday	Stockport School's Cross Country Championships meet 2.45pm return 5,45pm
Thursday	Year 7 Badminton all welcome finish 4.15pm

Boys’ PE

BOYS PE

Badminton

Congratulations to our Key Stage 3 Badminton team who reached the semi-finals of the Greater Manchester Championships last week. We comfortably won our group, defeating Rivington and Blackrod School and Failsworth School in the process. In the quarter finals we beat West Hill 4-1 before facing Holy Family from Rochdale in the last four. Agonisingly we lost the deciding rubber 14-15 to be eliminated 2-3 in games.

Our 'B' Team defeated Newman College but lost to both Altrincham Grammar and Bolton School.

Cross Country

The Stockport Schools Cross Country Championships will take place this Wednesday at Marple Hall after being postponed last week. The same pupils have been selected for the teams. The Catholic School's Championships will be held on Tuesday 27th February at Heaton Park, first race at 12noon.

Mr Walker
Director of PE

#LTCAMPUK

JOIN THE SHREWSBURY YOUTH MISSION TEAM AT THE SUMMER EVENT OF THE YEAR

BRITAIN'S ONLY LIFETEEN

SUMMER CAMP

Alton Castle, Staffordshire
5TH-9TH AUGUST 2018

WHERE?
Alton Castle, Staffordshire
Transport options available

WHEN?
5th-9th August 2018

WHAT?
A week packed with high-adrenaline outdoor adventure including **archery, mountain biking, climbing** and much more. Enjoy a full day at **Alton Towers** and of course **Mass, Reconciliation, amazing music, Eucharistic Adoration** and **talks** from international speakers.

WHY?
Journey with new friends, be transformed as you pray, share and have fun together. Encounter your faith in a new way and delve deeper into what God has in store for you!

PARISH GROUPS
If you want to bring an adult volunteer Youth Leader from your Parish, your Priest or a teacher with you, please ask them to contact us!

HOW MUCH?
The cost is £265 per person, but a minimum of £185

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT WWW.SYMT.ORG.UK OR EMAIL US

BOOKINGS OPEN FROM EASTER 2018

YOUTH@DIOCESEOFSEWSBURY.ORG