

Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mrs N Oddie BA(Hons) NPQH

23 May 2024



Let your
light shine

Dear Parent/Carer

NEWSLETTER 10

As we are almost at the end of this half term, we start to look forward to holidays ahead of us in July and hope that the sunshine will reappear. The last few weeks have been extremely busy; filled with celebrations and preparations for the next term ahead. Our efforts recently have been with our Year 11 pupils. GCSE exams have started and our Year 11 pupils have put a huge amount of effort into their revision and preparation. We are very proud of each and every one of them and wish them all the very best over the next few weeks; please do keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Mary Day - Friday 24th May

As mentioned in my previous Newsletter, the Year 7 to 10 pupils will participate in a day of House-based sessions on Mary, our patron saint. The theme of the day will be 'The Holy Family' where pupils will look at Mary, Joseph and Jesus as a family and how we can be like a family because of them. The day will be fun-filled and give pupils an opportunity to work and learn together, participate in team building activities and tasks developed to enable them to explore their own spiritual journey. **Pupils will finish school at 2pm; should this time be an issue or if any pupil has difficulty in getting home at that time, please inform school and we can make arrangements for them to stay in school until the end of the normal school day.**

Whole School Exams – commencing 13th June for Year 10 and 17th June for Years 7, 8 and 9

Summer examinations will take place beginning on 13th June for Year 10 and 17th June for Years 7,8 and 9 and will finish on 19th June. Summer exams are a test of how much pupils know and understand from the work they have done all year. It is vital that pupils learn to revise well. To support pupils and to support you in helping your child prepare for these exams, a revision booklet for each year group has been produced. A copy of the booklet has been emailed home and a paper copy has also been given to the pupils. This booklet includes topic lists for all subjects, the exam week timetable and tips and strategies for effective revision. In preparation for this, all regular written homework will cease after half term to allow your child to consolidate their learning through revision.

Rewards and Prize Night

Heads of House are currently planning the Rewards Day for the end of the summer term to ensure that pupils are rewarded for their hard work. Heads of Faculty and Subject Teachers are also deciding who will receive prizes at our annual Prize Night. This event will be held in **Church on Thursday 27th June** and will celebrate those pupils who have shown resilience, determination and commitment. There will be more about this in my next Newsletter.

Prefects and School Leadership

In keeping with an established tradition, our Year 10 students have had the opportunity to apply to become a Prefect. We have received a huge number of applications showing what an amazing year group they are. Shortly after half term, pupils will find out if they have been selected and will be able to wear a white shirt signalling that they are part of our school leadership team. The Senior Prefect positions will be announced at our annual Prize Night on 27th June.

Year 10 - Mental Health Champions

Supporting pupils through difficult times is our most important job as a school community. The application process for our new Mental Health Champions has now closed. Thank you to all the students who applied – we were overwhelmed with the response and the successful candidates will be announced soon!

Uniform

Whilst I appreciate that pupils are ever-growing, and especially towards the end of the school year, this must not impact on our high expectations. It is usually during the final term that uniform standards begin to dip. We will

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continue to provide uniform to any pupil who does not wear their uniform correctly. Should any parent require financial support in ensuring that their child's uniform meets our high standards, please get in touch and we will do all we can to support you. Thank you for your continued support with ensuring our uniform standards remain high.

Holiday Requests and Attendance

Recently I have received a huge amount of holiday requests which, unfortunately I am unable to authorise. You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence and lateness in term time. The changes will come into effect in August and more information will be sent out to parents in the near future.

Foundation Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a foundation governor position on our governing body. Foundation governors are appointed by the Bishop, and Salford Diocese have created an information sheet, which is attached to this Newsletter, for anyone interested in applying. Being a governor is a great way to shape the direction and success of the school. At our school you would attend three full governing body meetings a year and three more as part of a sub-committee. Meetings tend to be early evening. For further information on applying please contact education@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

FSM Vouchers – May Half Term

We can confirm that approval has been granted for schools to utilise the LCC Edenred account to order May half term vouchers for benefits-eligible FSM pupils. Each eligible pupil will be issued with a £15 voucher to cover the one-week holiday period. Please contact Mr Burrows, our school Business Manager if you have any questions.

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 12 June	Year 11 Leavers Mass
13-19 June	Whole school exam week for Years 7-10
Thursday 27 June	Prize Night
Tuesday 2 July	Valedictory Dinner
Tuesday 9 July	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Weds 10 – Fri 12 July	Beauty and the Beast school production
w/c Monday 15 July	Year 10 Work experience week
Wednesday 17 July	Rewards Day
Friday 19 July	School finishes for summer

Many thanks again for your ongoing support.

Mrs N Oddie
Headteacher