

Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mrs N Oddie BA(Hons) NPQH



*Let your
light shine*

04 March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

NEWSLETTER 7

We are already two weeks into this half term! As we continue to work at great pace, I would like to share with you current events and activities taking place across our busy school community. Since writing my last newsletter, our Brownedge family continues to grow. We welcome Mrs Duggleby to the English faculty, Mrs Almond and Mrs Ali, as Teaching Assistants, Miss Arthur as our independent Careers Advisor and Mrs Kemp and Mrs Wdowiak, who join our Site Maintenance team. We also have had information from the LEA on our new pupils joining us in September 2022. It's great news to see our growing reputation is reflected in the intake numbers – we will be oversubscribed for the third year running.

Lent

As we move into March, we enter into the holy season of Lent. Lent is the season of reflection and preparation before Easter. As a Catholic school we approach the Lenten season with great anticipation. It is a special time in our school, as part of the whole Catholic Church community, where we focus on the three pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Giving. During Lent, therefore, we will continue to raise awareness of our work for our School of Sanctuary Award and support our chosen Lenten charity – Mary's Meal. Mary's Meals focus on one aim; that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things. These life-changing meals attract hungry children into the classroom. The food fills their empty bellies so they have the energy and opportunity to learn, giving them the chance of a brighter future. More information will be given as the half term continues on all the different activities taking place across school to celebrate Lent and how we can support this truly fantastic charity.

School Mission Week

After Easter, in the week beginning 25th April, we will be celebrating a School Mission Week. During this week, we will reinvigorate and enliven our Catholic mission as a school and take time to reflect on how our school community lets God's light shine through us as we put our faith into action through our welcome, witness and worship. Each day during the week we will consider aspects linked to our mission, where we remember that when we love others, we are living as we have been called to by Christ. Keep an eye on our school Chaplaincy Instagram and Facebook pages for updates and how to get involved in our Parent and Community celebration event that is to be held during the week.

Digital Revolution

One of COVID keeps is the great advancement we made in our digital revolution as a school and in particular our use of TEAMS for home learning. All Home Learning is now set on TEAMS and pupils can complete or hand their work in vis the platform whilst receiving feedback from their teachers. As parents and carers, you should receive a weekly email informing you of their child's completion of tasks, please check your emails for this to monitor your child's progress in assignments, any questions please don't hesitate to contact us via email.

Ukraine Efforts

We are all watching the news, aghast at the images we are seeing from Ukraine. To show our support and an opportunity for us to put our faith into action, we are asking pupils and families to help where they can through donating essential items to help those in need; blankets, towels, toiletries and warm clothing. Our whole community has rallied and we have already received a great deal of support. As a community in school, we have reflected upon

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the conflict and said prayers for those in power to have wisdom and guidance in reaching a solution. We pray for peace.

Primary School Visits

We are excited to say that this half term we welcome back (at long last!) our feeder primary schools. Over the next six weeks our primary families will join us to support their transition to high school and give them some exciting opportunities to test out their baking skills as well as look at how they can be 'Guardians of the Galaxy'. It is an exciting time for our well-established primary transition programme and it's lovely to get to know the future members of our ever growing family.

Presentation

Since returning from Lockdown, it has been clear that the pride that some pupils have for the presentation of their work has dipped. Taking pride in what you do and pushing yourself to be the best you can be is a crucial element of our Attitude to Learning descriptors; our written work is an extended presentation of ourselves. Over the coming weeks we will continue to drive our 'Pride in Presentation' which we have shared with pupils and will reward them for improvement and consistent high standards. To support this drive, it is important that pupils are well equipped in school, and as a minimum pupils should have a pen, pencil, and ruler with them at all times. Please check your child's equipment stocks as they may need replenishing.

Year 11

Over the next 10 weeks our Year 11 pupils begin their final work towards their GCSE examinations. We wish them, and their families supporting them, all the very best over the forthcoming months and please do keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Key dates for Half Term 4

Again, I have included the numerous events taking place next half term to support you with your child's learning and progress.

Event	Time and Date
Year 8 Reviews to go home	7 th March
Year 8 Parents' Evening	4pm-6.30pm, 8 th March
Year 7, 9, 11 Reviews and Year 10 Reports to go home	16 th March
Year 9 Parents' Evening	4pm-6.30pm, 17 th March
Rewards Day	30 th March
Charity Afternoon	31 st March
Finish for Easter	1 st April at 1.30pm
Easter Week Liturgy	Tuesday 19 th April
Mission Week	25 th April

Kindest regards

Mrs N Oddie
Headteacher