

Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mrs N Oddie BA(Hons) NPQH



*Let your
light shine*

30 March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

NEWSLETTER 8 – Happy Easter

At the beginning of our first term back in September, I played 'Here comes the sun' by The Beatles to all pupils in each of their first assemblies of the year. It was to signify the hope we felt coming out of the challenging times we had faced during lockdown and to celebrate the life of a member of staff who had sadly passed away. How lovely it is now to finally feel the sunshine on our faces. As the sun shines in March, we look forward to Easter and to the time of hope, of new life and new beginnings it brings.

Easter closure and Term 3 opening

Our Easter holidays will start on this Friday, 1st April at 1.30pm. As Holy Week and Easter itself is still two weeks away, we will not be attending church on this last day of term. Instead, when we return on Tuesday 19th April for our final term of 2021-22, we will celebrate the Good News of Christ's resurrection through services on that day. School will start as normal at 8.50am and we look forward to welcoming the pupils back for their final term of 2021-22.

Uniform and Standards

I would like to thank parents and carers for their partnership and support in ensuring that our standards of behaviour remain high - we will continue our focus on defiance in the new term in April. It is during this final term that uniform standards begin to dip. Whilst I appreciate that pupils grow (and this is particularly noticeable in the summer sunshine!); this must not be the case and any parent who needs financial support in ensuring that their child's uniform meets our high standards, please get in touch with Mrs Dudanec and we will do all we can to support you. Trainers will not be permitted and if there are any questions about the type of school shoes that are permitted, please visit our website for images of what shoes comply with our [Uniform Policy](#).

Charity Afternoon: Thursday 31st March

We are proud of our charity fund raising spirit in Brownedge. I am very pleased to announce that on Thursday we will, once again, be able to hold our biggest annual charity event – our Lenten Charity Afternoon. Please encourage your son or daughter to play an active part in this afternoon by organising and running their charity Form stalls or by bringing in funds to spend on the activities put on by students. It will also be an own clothes day, with £1 donation to our Lenten charity Mary's Meals. Brownedge has always been about looking beyond the school gates and making a difference in the lives of those less fortunate than us and this day allows us to put our faith into action and do just that!

Ukraine

The entire Brownedge family continues to pray for the people of Ukraine who are living under immense hardship. It was fantastic to see the school community come together after our appeal for donations, with essential items arriving at school in incredibly large numbers. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to completely fill our school minibus, which Miss Mault and some pupils

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then took to a donation centre so the items could be shipped to Ukraine. We will continue to pray for those affected by this devastating crisis.

Enrichment at Brownedge

We know that not all lessons take place in the classroom and over this last term, staff have been working hard to develop pupils' personal character, offering an array of enrichment opportunities to support their wider development both spiritually, socially and academically. Numerous activities, events and trips have taken place including visits to the Sistine Chapel Exhibition, Ash Wednesday services, services of Reconciliation, an Architecture Careers Evening, Pathways Evenings, House feast days, World Book Day, leadership opportunities in our numerous Year 5 Taster Days, college master classes in Geography, Maths and Health and Social Care and so much more. To read more about the amazing opportunities on offer to our pupils and to see how they have 'let their light shine' this term take a look at our school newsletter [Shining Lights on our website](#).

Easter Holiday Vouchers and activities

We are very pleased to announce that free school meal vouchers are available over these Easter holidays. The Department for Works and Pensions Household Support Fund grant is being made available to County Councils to support those most in need this spring. Each eligible pupil will be issued with a £55 voucher to cover the Easter holiday period. The allocation is larger than would be expected for a 1-2 week holiday period, allowing recipient families the benefit of expending the additional allocation on food or essential clothing items (retailer permitting). Access to the funding will be the same as normal through the LCC Edenred. Please contact [Mr Burrows, our school Business Manager](#) if you have any questions regarding this. In addition to this, South Ribble Borough Council are running fun activities for children on free school meals during the Easter Holidays. Activities include swimming, tennis, gymnastics, boxing, kick boxing, football, arts & crafts, climbing wall, dancing, multi-sports and much more. This is available for children aged 5. To book your child's place, visit southribble.gov.uk/haf2022 or contact us at <mailto:haf@southribble.gov.uk>

School Mission Week

A week after we return from our Easter break we will be celebrating our School Mission Week. This is an exciting opportunity for our school family to reflect how we let God's light shine through us; in our daily interactions and the work we do in school and in the wider community. 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. A date for your diary is Thursday 28th April when we will be holding a Community Service for families and those in our school community to celebrate the week and its events. For more information please contact Rachael our Lay Chaplain for more details.

Thank you as always for your support this term. Hoping your Easter is happy and blessed.

Kind regards

Mrs Oddie
Headteacher