

# Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mrs N Oddie BA(Hons) NPQH



*Let your  
light shine*

21 April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

## **NEWSLETTER 9 – April 2021**

Welcome back to our final term of 2021. How nice it is to have some long-awaited sunshine as Summer starts to draw near. It is a long and busy Half Term 5, particularly for our Year 11 pupils. I would like, on behalf of all our school community, to wish them well over the next five weeks. They have shown such resilience and determination since starting back in September and rightly deserve our thoughts and prayers. As we start this term, I feel encouraged with not having to change any previous planning due to new Government updates or guidance – such a pleasant change to recent starts of term! Let's hope this continues as we follow the Government's road map to brighter days.

### **Asymptomatic Covid Testing**

We continue to respectfully encourage pupils to engage in regular asymptomatic covid testing at home and pupils have been issued with LFD test kits to self-swab. We are asking pupils to carry out the test twice a week, on a Sunday and Wednesday evening. Please report any results to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit. Pupils should also share their result, whether void, positive or negative, with us to help with contact tracing. A huge thank you to all those that are engaging in this extremely worthwhile endeavour. As of last week, we had over 2200 results reported.

### **High Expectations**

As a school we set high expectations in terms of uniform, attendance, punctuality and behaviour and I make no apology for this. I truly believe that pupils will rise to these high expectations and they themselves understand why good behaviour, attendance and punctuality are so important. We understand that the last year has been difficult, for so many in various different ways. However, we must live and learn as a community and therefore our expectations have been made very clear to our family. We will continue to make our pupils aware of our high expectations in terms of appropriate use of mobile phones and social media, use of language, arriving to school on time and wearing their school uniform with pride. Please support us with this as I am sure your high expectations match our own.

### **Homework Club**

We have reinstated our popular Homework Club for all year groups. The club now runs for the two school bubbles and is available from the end of the school day to 4.30pm. This resource is free and is to support parents and pupils in completing home learning. We have missed a significant amount of time and by providing this provision we hope to ensure that pupils are supported in closing any learning gaps that may have come about in the last few months. For more information, please contact your child's Form Tutor or Mr McCreesh ([mccreeshc@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:mccreeshc@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk)).

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## Summer Examinations Years 7 to 10

In order to move forward and assess pupils' progress this year we will be holding, as normal, our Summer examinations for Years 7 to 10. These will begin on Thursday 17th June for Year 10 and Monday 21st June for Years 7 to 9. Pupils will use these next five weeks to continue to cover curriculum plans through class and homework. From May half term, all regular written homework for Years 7 to 10 will cease to allow your child to consolidate their learning through thorough revision. A topic list will be issued in the last week of this half term to support this revision.

## Rewards and Trips

As life starts to get back to some sort of normality and businesses start to open their doors, we hope to keep our promise of celebrating the endeavours and fantastic commitment our young people have put into their studies and school work over this last year. Many pupils have 'Golden Tickets' to cash in and those who haven't can still obtain one by working hard and engaging with their learning. Pupils will continue to be rewarded for their hard work, determination and good attitude to their learning. They will also be praised for their attendance and punctuality. Pupils know it is never too late to start making a difference. More information will follow in terms of our celebration plans.

## Dates for Your Diary

30th April	Mary Day
3rd May	May Bank Holiday (School closed)
4th – 7th May	Shine Week
17th June	Year 10 Summer Examinations
21st June	Year 7 – 9 Summer Examinations
24th June	Prize Giving (Provisional date – Prize Giving will take place this year in some form)
30th June	Year 10 Parents' Evening (Virtual)
7th July	Year 11 Valedictory Dinner
12th July	Year 7 – 9 reports home
16th July	School breaks for Summer (1.00pm)

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Mrs Nicola Oddie  
Headteacher