St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland

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31 March 2022

INFORMATION FOR ALL YEARS

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the Easter holidays, it is very encouraging to be able to report that school has enjoyed a relatively 'normal' term since our return in the New Year! Although Covid infections have impacted upon the attendance of some, we have seen a significant reduction of cases, and hope that this is a continuing trend in the summer term. It has been very encouraging to be able to host school events in-person once again, and we look forward to seeing as many parents and carers as possible in future.

End of Term

We break for Easter at 12:30pm on Friday, 1 April. We will be celebrating our Easter mass at St Mary's church from 11:15am and parents and carers are welcome to attend. School busses have been arranged to pick-up from church at 12:30pm. Any pupil who is in receipt of a Free School Meal will be able to pick this up at breaktime.

Given the late Easter date this year, assemblies will continue upon our return to reiterate the Easter message and celebrate the joy and wonder of Jesus' resurrection.

Staff return after Easter for an INSET day on Tuesday, 19 April and pupils return the day after on Wednesday, 20 April.

Free School Meals

All pupils eligible for Free School Meals assistance over the Easter holidays should by now have received their vouchers through the post or via email. If you have any concerns regarding Free School Meals, then please contact the school office to discuss further.

Uniform and Equipment Expectations

For the summer term, jumpers will no longer be a compulsory part of our school uniform, although pupils can of course continue to wear them if they so wish.

Whilst many pupils will be wearing earrings and make-up during the holidays, please can you remind your child that on our return on Wednesday, 20 April, such items will again not be allowed, and if seen will be asked to be removed / confiscated. Likewise, skirts are still expected to be knee-length and not rolled-up in any way. Finally, with the exception of individual medical cases, black shoes are required for all pupils, not black trainers.

It is very important that pupils are well-equipped for every lesson, and the holidays may be a good opportunity to check that your child has all the necessary equipment for their classes. However, I would like to make you aware that every morning, our Senior Prefects are available in Reception for pupils to buy essential stationery should the need arise.

Governor Vacancy

The Governing Body currently has vacancies for Foundation Governors. If you are a practicing Catholic and would like to consider undertaking this important role on behalf of the Archdiocese of Liverpool, further details can be found here – <u>www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/education/Foundation-Governors</u>. Initial interest can be registered by contacting the school at <u>head@lsmchs.com</u>.

Easter Bingo

It was delightful to recently hold our first Easter bingo since 2019. The event was very well attended by members of the school and local community, with the Drama Theatre completely full. Thank you for your support by helping provide a large number of Easter eggs for the night. In addition to raising funds for the school, we have also collected £700 which will go towards charities supporting Ukraine.

Astro-Turf Update

Work has recently begun on the school's Astro-turf facility. The short-term disruption will be very much worth it when, by the end of May, we hope to have a surface second to none in the local area, tested to World Rugby and FIFA standards.

As the end of term approaches, I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support, it is always appreciated. On behalf of the staff and governors, may I wish you and your family a restful, happy and Holy Easter break.

Yours sincerely,

R Thompson

Mr P Thompson Headteacher