

St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland

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May 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

This is my final letter to you before the half term ends and your child leaves St Mary's for their next steps into their future.

Activities up until 25 June

The national 'leaving' date for Year 11 pupils is officially 25 June 2021. However, to enable staff to complete their Teacher Assessed Grades for the summer, pupils at St Mary's will not be required to attend lessons after Friday 28 May. However, between 7 - 25 June, additional provision will be made to support all pupils with transition towards their further education or route towards employment.

To support the transition away from secondary school, we are providing online access for all pupils to a range of 'Life Skills' lessons. The Department for Education's Oak National Academy has created these resources. The lessons cover key skills needed by young adults in both the home and the workplace, and I would thoroughly recommend your child looking at them. These 15 lessons can be found here: [https://files.schudio.com/st-mary-s-catholic-high-school/files/Year 11 life Skills Recourses.pdf](https://files.schudio.com/st-mary-s-catholic-high-school/files/Year_11_life_Skills_Recourses.pdf)

In addition, a range of career's events has been prepared for pupils to attend in school. These include input from local colleges, universities and employers, as well as sessions on life after secondary school. Some pupils will already have been invited to attend individual career's interviews with our careers advisor, Mrs Womersley. The timetable and online booking form for these events can be found here: [https://files.schudio.com/st-mary-s-catholic-high-school/files/Year 11 Transition Activities.pdf](https://files.schudio.com/st-mary-s-catholic-high-school/files/Year_11_Transition_Activities.pdf)

It is important to note that pupils attending school for any of these sessions both book their place in advance and arrive in school uniform.

Leavers' Mass

Our traditional Leavers' Mass will be held at **2:00 pm** on **Wednesday 23 June** here at school. This mass will be celebrated by Father Jonathan and is a lovely way to celebrate leaving school as a full year group, but pupils will be reminded that we expect a respectful attitude and no "high spirits" to spoil the atmosphere. Once again, pupils attending this will be asked to attend in full uniform, as befitting the occasion.

Leavers' Celebration

It is regrettable that circumstances have once again prevented the Leavers' Prom from taking place in its usual format however, we are delighted to be able to host a less formal Leavers' Celebration at school on **Wednesday 23 June, from 7:00 till 10:00 pm**. Mrs Burns and the Year 11 team have worked incredibly hard to get such an event together, and I know she has already written to you with the details.

Result's Day

Result's day will this year be on **Thursday 12 August**. Pupils will be able to collect their results in person at school from **9:15 until 10:30am**.

Further details about how schools are awarding grades this summer can be found in this Ofqual document: https://files.schudio.com/st-mary-s-catholic-high-school/files/Year_11_21-6780_Student_guide_to_awarding_in_summer_2021_-_accessible.pdf

Any pupil unable to attend school on that day will be able to request to have their results emailed or posted to them, or collected on the day by another responsible person (e.g. a parent or older sibling). Requests for this option must be made by the pupil him or herself as they are consenting for their data to be handled in this way. Pupils must complete the examination results consent form in good time for arrangements to be made. <https://ismchs.com/learning/students/year-11-examination-results-consent-2021>

Presentation Evening

With luck, we will be able to host our annual Presentation Evening in November, to celebrate the achievements of pupils past and present. At this event, past Year 11 pupils are invited to attend and collect their exam certificates. Further details will follow in the Autumn Term, when we are clear that the night can go ahead.

And Finally

Despite the challenges that Covid-19 brought to the youngsters at St Mary's, I have constantly been in admiration of the way in which they have adapted and adjusted. Their perseverance has been an example to us all and, as headteacher of St Mary's, I could not be prouder of this year group.

Such determination does not happen by chance, and I would like to thank you for the support and encouragement you have given to both your child and the school, not only during Covid times, but throughout their five years with us.

On behalf of all the St Mary's community, our very best wishes go to each and every one of our school leavers as they embark on the next steps into their future. Everyone of them has unique talents and gifts, and it is my dearest hope that they fulfil their dreams and *Let Their Light Shine* for evermore.

Yours sincerely,



Mr P Thompson

Headteacher
St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland