



# Parent and Carer Bulletin

Issue #25 | 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026

## Dear Parents and Carers,

As we mark the first day of May, we enter an important and purposeful period in the school year. This is a time when learning becomes sharply focused, reflection deepens, and preparation for key milestones intensifies across all year groups. The summer term is always one of momentum and opportunity, and it has been encouraging to see students return to school with such positive attitudes and determination as we move into this next phase together.

Earlier this week, we were proud to host a Year 8 Mass within school. This celebration provided an important opportunity for our students to pause, reflect and come together in prayer as part of their spiritual journey. The manner in which Year 8 students conducted themselves was exemplary; they approached the Mass with maturity, reverence and a genuine sense of participation. The liturgy was led thoughtfully, with students contributing confidently through readings, singing and prayer. Events such as these are central to our Catholic identity, supporting students not only in their faith development but also in fostering values such as compassion, respect and confidence. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Canon Paul, our chaplaincy team, staff and students who worked together to make this Mass such a meaningful and successful occasion.

I would also like to thank parents and carers who attended the Year 12 Parents' Evening, which proved to be both well attended and highly productive. The evening provided valuable opportunities for open, honest and purposeful conversations between students, parents and staff about academic progress, study habits and future aspirations. Year 12 is a pivotal stage, where good habits, strong organisation and clear goals are essential for success. The support shown by families, combined with the guidance offered by staff, plays a vital role in helping students remain focused and motivated as they progress through their sixth form studies. Thank you to all staff who generously gave their time and to parents for their continued engagement and partnership.

This week also highlighted the creativity, confidence and leadership within our student body through a Live Music Night, EMS Live which was organised entirely by students. The event was a tremendous success and showcased a wide range of musical abilities across year groups and genres. What was particularly impressive was the level of responsibility students took in planning, organising and leading the event, from performance scheduling to promotion and technical arrangements. The evening was a true celebration of student talent and teamwork, and it was wonderful to see such pride taken in their work. I would like to congratulate all students involved and thank the staff who supported and encouraged them throughout the process.

Finally, I would like to share some important information regarding upcoming intervention and support for Year 11 students as they journey through their GCSE examinations. As we move further into the summer term, targeted intervention sessions will be put in place to help students consolidate knowledge, strengthen exam technique and address individual areas for improvement. These sessions are designed to provide additional support and reassurance at a demanding time. Further details, including schedules and expectations, will be shared with students and parents shortly. We encourage families to continue supporting students through this period by reinforcing the importance of attendance, structured revision routines and a healthy balance between study and wellbeing.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and commitment to the school community. I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Glenn Thompson  
Head of School



## Attendance Champions

On Monday we celebrated breakfast with Season 4 Attendance Champions!

Congratulations to the winners.

**Diamond League** - Joint 7AL2 and 7TM1 = 96.5% attendance.

**Platinum League** - Joint 8MC2 and 7J12 = 95.4% attendance.

**Gold League** - 10MC2 = 94.4% attendance.

**Silver League** - 9MC1 = 93.9% attendance.

**Bronze League** - 10MC1 = 91.4% attendance.

Ms Corcoran



## Sixth Form Updates

### Year 12 Parents' Evening and Prep Examinations

We were delighted to see such a strong turnout at our Year 12 Parents' Evening this week. It was a very successful event, with many positive and meaningful conversations taking place between staff, students, and parents. We would like to extend our sincere thanks for your continued support and engagement, which plays a vital role in your child's success.

Year 12 End of Year Examinations will take place from the week commencing 15th June and will run over a two-week period. Following the examinations, there will be a final data drop which will be shared with parents and carers. Exam timetables will be issued to students in due course.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form team.

### Year 13 Examinations Information

A letter has been sent home via the school app and email providing further information regarding the upcoming Year 13 examinations. This communication outlines key expectations and guidance to support students during the exam period. This information has also been shared directly with students.

If you have not received this letter, or if you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the Sixth Form team.

### Year 13 Liturgy

The Year 13 Liturgy will take place on Friday 22nd May at 1:00pm. This will be a special and final opportunity for students to come together as a year group to reflect on their time at English Martyrs Sixth Form.

Further details will be shared with students via Teams in due course.

**Ms Jackson**

## Sixth Form Success at EMS Live

It was a pleasure to see some of our Sixth Form students taking part in EMS Live this week, showcasing both their talents and their commitment to our wider college community. A special mention goes to Freya, who did a fantastic job organising and hosting the event, supported brilliantly by Caoimhe. Their leadership and teamwork ensured the whole event ran smoothly and created a welcoming atmosphere for everyone involved. We were also delighted to see Evan capturing the moment through his photography, as well as performing alongside Bridget, Christy and Charlotte, who all gave confident and engaging performances.

Well done to everyone who took part in the event - it was a joy to watch!

**Ms Jackson**

## MCAS to Arbor

The My Child at School app (MCAS) has now been deactivated and can no longer be used. Parents must download the Arbor app for school communications and payments.

How to log in to Arbor:

You can login using this link: <https://login.arbor.sc>. Select first time logging in and follow the steps to create your account. If you need any help completing these steps please contact the school office and we will be happy to help.

**Ms Barnfather**


## Year 11 GCSE R.E. Revision Webinar

Please find on the following page information relating to a list of webinars intended to support our year 11 students through various topics of the GCSE course.

**Ms Fairclough**


## GCSE RE REVISION WEBINARS


Year 11 – Don't Miss Out!

 Join our live online revision webinars to boost your exam confidence and understanding.


### WEBINAR DATES & TIMES


#### Foundational Catholic Theology (FCT)

 Monday 11th May


 5:00pm – 6:30pm


#### Applied Catholic Theology (ACT)


 Tuesday 19th May

 5:00pm – 6:30pm

#### Judaism

 Sunday 31st May

 4:00pm – 5:30pm

 Session Structure


Each webinar lasts 90 minutes

45 minutes per theme

(e.g. FCT: Origins & Meaning / Good & Evil)


 How the Webinars Work

 Cameras & microphones disabled

 School account required to access

 Students admitted by the presenter

 Questions asked via chat function

 Live polls used to check understanding

 Sessions will be recorded

 **A great opportunity to revise key topics, exam technique and ask questions before the GCSEs!**

|                                      | Up and coming events            |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> May                  | Start of Year 11 GCSE's         |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> May | Year 7 Retreat                  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> May                 | Year 8 Parents Evening          |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> May                 | Year 7 'Pop up' Uniform Evening |