



Parent and Carer Bulletin

Issue #26 | 8th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. As we continue through the summer term, there is a strong sense of focus and determination across the school. This is a particularly significant time in the academic year, where opportunities beyond the classroom sit alongside important milestones for many of our students. It has been encouraging to see the maturity and positive attitude shown by students as they approach both.

Earlier this week, we were pleased to see our Year 7 students depart for Emmaus Youth Village, where they will spend the next few days engaging in a programme centred on reflection, teamwork and personal development. This visit is a key part of our commitment to developing the whole child, providing opportunities for students to grow in confidence, strengthen friendships and explore their values outside of the traditional classroom environment. Emmaus offers a unique setting in which students can experience quiet reflection alongside fun, collaborative activities, and we know from previous years that this is often a highlight of their time in Year 7.

For many students, this trip will also be their first experience of spending several days away from home with their peers, and we are confident that they will return with increased independence and a stronger sense of belonging within the school community. We look forward to welcoming them back and hearing about their experiences. My sincere thanks go to the staff who have given their time to support and accompany the visit, ensuring that the trip is both safe and enriching, and to parents and carers for your support in making this opportunity possible.

This week also marks the start of the formal examination season, which is a crucial and demanding period for our examination year groups. Students in Year 11 and the Sixth Form have been working hard over a sustained period of time to prepare, and this is now the moment for them to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and resilience. There has been a calm and purposeful atmosphere in school, and we are proud of the way students are approaching their exams with maturity and focus.

A detailed letter has been shared with families of our year 11 students, outlining expectations during this period, and I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of full attendance throughout the examination season. Students are expected to attend school every day until their final scheduled examination, regardless of whether they have an exam on a particular day. This is essential in ensuring that they benefit from structured revision sessions, access to subject specialists and a calm, focused learning environment that supports their preparation.

Consistent attendance also helps to maintain routine, reduces anxiety and ensures that no valuable learning time is lost at this critical stage. We are committed to offering targeted support and guidance right through to the final examination, and student presence in school is a vital part of this. We ask for your continued support in reinforcing these expectations at home and in encouraging students to approach each day with commitment and discipline.

We also recognise that this can be an intense time and would encourage students to maintain a healthy balance, including appropriate rest, organisation and wellbeing support where needed. Staff remain available to offer both academic guidance and pastoral support throughout this period.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership with the school. It is greatly appreciated at such an important time of year.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Glenn Thompson
Head of School



HOLY FAMILY PARISH EVENT - May Procession, 17th May 2026

During May the Catholic Church honours Our Lady, the Mother of God and our heavenly mother. A procession to Our Lady's statue, led by those who celebrated their first Communion the previous weekend, will culminate with laying flowers before her image. All are welcome to join Canon Paul Douthwaite on Sunday 17th May at 4pm, in St Joseph's Church, Hartlepool. After the procession there will be refreshments and cake in the Parish Centre Hall. Please do come along.

English Martyrs May Rosary Group

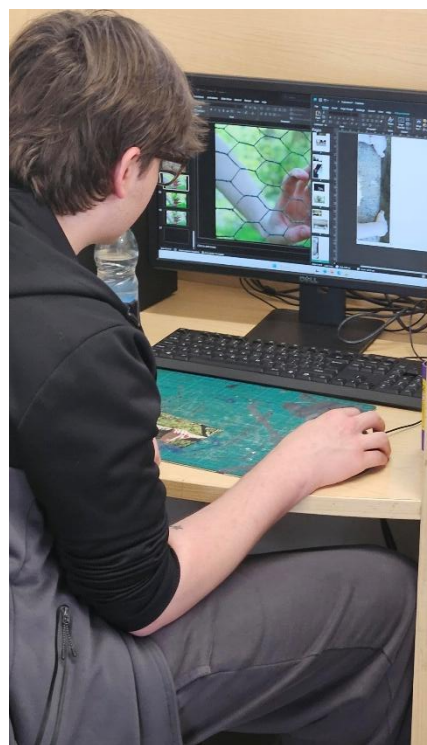
A big thank you to the students who have started attending the two-rosary groups in honour of Our Lady. Your prayers and time are highly valued.

Mr Tucker

A Level Photography Exam Commitment

The A Level Photography students have shown exceptional dedication across their 15-hour exam period. Over the duration of the exam, students worked with focus, resilience and independence, carefully planning, refining and producing high-quality outcomes under sustained exam conditions. Their commitment to developing ideas, responding to feedback and managing their time effectively is a real credit to them and reflects the hard work they have put in throughout the course.

Mr Meynell



Sixth Form Updates

Year 13 Exams - Important Information

Year 13 exams begin next week. Please ensure students are fully prepared and aware of the following arrangements:

Morning exams start at 9:00am. Students must meet in the foyer at 8:45am.

Afternoon exams start at 1:00pm. Students must meet in the foyer at 12:45pm.

All students should have now received an updated exam timetable, which includes their exam rooms and seat numbers. It is essential that students check this carefully before each exam.

Students must arrive on time for every exam, equipped with all the materials required for that subject. It is also essential that students wear their college lanyard throughout all exam sessions.

We appreciate your support in helping students approach this exam period calmly, confidently and well-prepared.

UCAS Discovery Exhibition - Teesside University

This week, a group of our Year 12 students attended the UCAS Discovery Exhibition at Teesside University. The event brought together universities from across the UK in a large marketplace-style setting, giving students the chance to speak directly with university representatives about their post-18 options.

Our students made the most of the opportunity, asking thoughtful questions and gathering valuable information to support their future decisions. Staff at the event commented on how polite, engaged and respectful they were - they were excellent representatives of EM6.

We will soon be sharing details of the upcoming Newcastle/Northumbria Open Day taking place on Friday 26th June. Information will be posted on Teams in due course.

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

History

Hardboiled History Homework

During the Easter holidays we set a Hardboiled History homework competition - to create a historical scene or figure using hardboiled eggs. Well done to Year 7 students Jack Marsden, Moyad Khokhar and Hashir Khokhar. They received post cards, prizes and achievement points. Henry VIII was a popular inspiration. Jack used his 3D printer for his entry!

Black Death History Homework

Year 7 students have been busy creating plague reports. Lucy Richardson made an impressive piece focusing on beliefs and attempted remedies, along with Maddie Gordon, Zack Gowler and Jessica Litherland.

We would also like to say well done to Year 10 History students for attending the London trip recently. You were great ambassadors for the school!

Ms Edwards


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 th May	Start of Year 11 GCSE's
6 th -8 th May	Year 7 Retreat
12 th May	Year 8 Parents Evening
13 th May	Year 7 'Pop up' Uniform Evening