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Friday 28 February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great start to the second half of the school year. Year 7 to Year 10 have settled into their new groups and timetables. The vast majority of Year 11 are focused and working hard towards their next mock assessments and the final examinations.

### **This week...**

**SLT Awards** – for the first week back after half term we have given senior leader awards to students who have really impressed us. Well done to these students.

<b>SLT</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Student</b>
Miss Wilkinson	Year 7	Dedication	George W
Mrs Bainbridge	Year 8	Attitude to Learning	Jacob G
Mr Wadsworth	Year 9	Resilience	Leah B
Mr Sweetman	Year 10	Spirit of Holy Family	Aiden O
Mrs Mitchell	Year 11	Headteacher Award	Enya M

### **Additional Training Day**

Many thanks for your understanding and support for last Monday's additional training day. It enabled us to do the extra planning and preparation for the changes we needed to make. These changes have enabled us to be very bespoke with our curriculum and timetable, giving additional support where needed as well as stretching and challenging our higher ability learners. It has also given us the capacity to add further support for our Year 11 students.

### **Year 8 Parents' Evening**

It was great to see parents on Thursday evening. Staff were able to feedback how well they are doing. If anyone could not make it and would like some individual feedback please contact our enquiry email.

### **Next week and beyond...**

#### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Ash Wednesday (Start of lent)**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, repentance, and spiritual preparation leading up to Easter.

During our Ash Wednesday service, students and staff will have the opportunity to receive the ashes from a staff Eucharistic minister. The minister applies the ashes in the shape of a cross on the foreheads of worshippers, often while reciting words from scripture. The ashes, typically made from the burned palm branches of the previous year's Palm Sunday, symbolize grief over sin, humility before God, and the hope found in Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season reflecting on Jesus' 40-day fast and temptation in the wilderness. Throughout Lent, as a school, we will be undertaking a range of fundraising activities in which students and families can support. The proceeds of this fundraising will be given to CAFOD and the Good Shepherd Appeal, our two chosen charities. Further details regarding how you can be involved in these will be in next week's newsletter.

### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Year 7 outreach days at Read school**

Students in Y7 have been invited to take part in an outreach day at Read School in Drax, 13 pupils are attending on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. There are still spaces on 10<sup>th</sup> March, any pupils wishing to go, please reply to the group call or speak to Mrs Bainbridge. Pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a range of lessons, including Design Technology, Food nutrition and Sports. Pupils can wear their Holy Family PE kit for the day and they will be transported to and from Read school by minibus. A member of staff from Holy Family will be with the group all day, lunch will be provided at Read and pupils will return to school, in time for school buses.

### **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March – Y11 Geography Fieldwork visit to Hornsea**

Our Year 11 Geography students visit Hornsea on Tuesday to gather information as part of their GCSE preparation fieldwork. They will be looking at coastal erosion, land use and the environmental factors in the area. Mrs Farmery is leading the trip and myself, Mr O'Donnell and Miss Deighton will be assisting!

### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Careers Fair at Read school**

There is a Careers fair at Read school for Y11 pupils on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Transport will be provided. Any Y11 pupil's wishing to attend, please speak to Mrs Bainbridge or send an email to enquiry@holyfamily.bkcat.uk

### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> – Y11 final practical Hospitality and Catering Exams**

Our Y11 Hospitality and Catering students are all prepared for their final practical. They are demonstrating all of their culinary skills including making their own bread, pasta and ice-cream! Well done to all the students involved (and to the families who have been eating all of their practice dishes).

### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March – World Book day**

We have a variety of activities planned for our students during World book day on Thursday – top secret for now!

### **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March to Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Second round of Year 11 mock examinations**

Our Year 11 students have received their mock timetables. Please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare for the final examinations in the summer.

### **A uniform plea!**

Any 'pre-loved' school uniform donations (especially ties, Y11 black jumpers and blazers) are greatly appreciated. Many thanks for all your kind donations so far.

### **Finally this week...**

Over the half term holiday we received the sad news that Dr Alan Brown had passed away. He had been diagnosed with cancer at the start of the school year. We have sent our community's condolences to his family. Our staff and Year 11 students have said prayers and lit candles in our chapel as a mark of respect. Our students and staff will miss him greatly. He will be fondly remembered for his interesting stories, knowledge and his kindness to everyone in our community. **'Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.'**

Have a lovely weekend and treasure every moment,



Mrs D. Mitchell  
Headteacher