



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS



**“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”
Matthew 18:20**

Friday, 24 October 2025

Dear Parent(s), carer(s) and students,

Another half term at Hagley comes to end, one that, once again, is full of so much to be proud of and to celebrate. The students have headed home this afternoon ready for a well-deserved break from the rigour and routine of school life. But they went home with a bounce in their step, even if it was a wet one as the heavens opened bang on the bell, pleased with the work they had done, the experiences they had had and the relationships they had continued to foster.

This past fortnight, so much of what has gone on at school has been reflective of our school mission **“as God’s family”** and our trust mission to form **“Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.”**

This has been particularly evident at our Sixth Form Open Evening when we welcomed Hagley families and new families from the surrounding area to explore our flourishing Sixth Form offer with **“questioning minds and a thirst for knowledge”**. But also, in our

Family Mass last week, and then on Wednesday when the whole school united at the same time to pray a decade of the Rosary united as **“Christ-centred pilgrims”** bound in prayer and faith. Then at the end of the day today everyone united in prayer across the school focussing on a **“hunger for justice”**.

This scripture at the top of this letter could never have been more true.

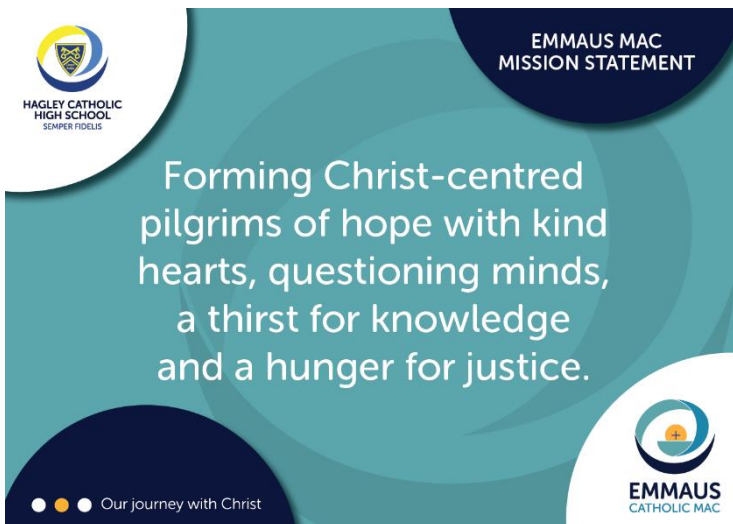
This week in worship “Christ-centred pilgrims of hope”

Year 7 Mass

Year 7 had their first full year group Mass since starting as Hagley students last week, students were a credit to themselves as they sung perfectly and provided responses with "umph". Fr Philip spoke in his Homily that whilst we strive to achieve our personal best we should not enter into a competition with others but simply remind ourselves that just by trying to be more like Christ we are doing what God called us to do. We are looking forward to many more Masses as a year group together as we continue to share our collective faith

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One Life Retreat

This Tuesday, Dan and Emily came in to lead Year 7 in sessions all about belonging. We split up in to two groups as Anselm, Bede and Chad had a chance to reflect on what we have achieved in this term so far as well as what we would like to achieve in the future as a Hagley student. Then Gregory, Kenelm and Wulstan were led in a people Bingo session by Dan so we had a chance to learn more about the people in our new Hagley Family. We then finished with a prayer together focussing on how we can make Hagley special during our time here. *Hannah W (Y7)*

Family Mass

Last week we celebrated our annual family Mass which was a chance to joyfully celebrate our time as part of the Hagley Community with our families. This opportunity was also a chance for the families to see how much we are enjoying our life here at Hagley. We had the option to lead Mass in lots of different ways from proclaiming to bringing in items during our procession, it was great to be part of the Mass. *Thomas W*

Rosary

October: The Month of the Holy Rosary

- One way to show dedication to Mary is to pray the Rosary.
- The Rosary is a beautiful way of praying and journeying through the life of Jesus who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.
- Each day is separated between the Joyful, glorious, sorrowful and Luminous mysteries.



1 Make the **Sign of the Cross** and pray the **Apostles' Creed**
2 Pray an **Our Father**
3 Pray three **Hail Marys** and one **Glory Be**
4 Announce the mystery and pray the **Our Father**
5 Pray 10 **Hail Marys** and one **Glory Be**
Repeat until you have completed the circle.
Pray the **Hail, Holy Queen**.

The Joyful Mysteries
(Monday and Wednesday)
The Annunciation
The Visitation
The Nativity
The Presentation
The Finding in the Temple

The Glorious Mysteries
(Thursday and Sunday)
The Resurrection
The Ascension
The Descent of the Holy Spirit
The Transfiguration
The Coronation

The Sorrowful Mysteries
(Tuesday and Friday)
The Agony in the Garden
The Binding at the Pillar
The Crowning of Thorns
The Carrying of the Cross
The Crucifixion

The Luminous Mysteries
(Thursday)
The Baptism of Jesus
The Wedding at Cana
The Proclamation of the Kingdom
The Transfiguration
The Giving of the Eucharist



On Wednesday, Year 9 students experienced saying one decade of the Rosary together. In the Theatre students were able to see what the rosary was like and started the day with a moment of prayer as one year group community. This helped us by strengthening our faith and start the day off in the right way. *Woody (Y9)*



The Rosary was a very reverent and respectful moment where over a thousand students prayed together as one. It felt like we were part of an ever bigger family through our faith. It was lovely to say it as a year group together.

Isobel (Y10)

Catholic Life and Mission “kind hearts ... a hunger for justice”

This week, it has been a great privilege to meet with some of our Chaplaincy Team representatives to discuss the exciting charity initiatives planned for next half term. As Pope Francis reminds us, “each and every one of us has a part to play” in living out Catholic Social Teaching and our students are doing just that.

The Chaplaincy representatives have selected which Year group will collect specific items for our reverse advent calendar appeal, these are to be handed in to Form Tutors throughout November and Advent. The donations will then be sorted by our Year 12 *Beattituders*, who will prepare care bags to be delivered to the homeless in Birmingham this December. In addition, items will be collected for Fr Hudson’s Caritas, supporting families in need across Birmingham.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support in helping our students live out their faith through service to others.

Mrs McCole, Catholic Life Lead

Year 7: Hats, scarves, and gloves

Year 8: Shower gel / soap / shampoo

Year 9: Baby wipes / deodorant

Year 10: Toothbrush and toothpaste

Year 11: Chocolate / breakfast bars (no nuts)

Year 12/13: Tinned food and sanitary products

Year 7 Update from Mrs Imrie

It is hard to believe that Year 7 have now finished their first half term here at Hagley. They continue to impress and collectively they have now achieved almost 19,000 house points, with 86 achieving over 100 and 13 students achieving a truly fantastic 150 and more!

In the last fortnight we have celebrated our first full year group Mass which was led beautifully by 7 Anselm. All students participated fully, and staff commented on it being one of the most wonderful Masses they had been involved in here at Hagley. This continued last Wednesday, with many of our Year 7s contributing to our Family Mass and it was lovely to see so many families join us.

On Tuesday we were fortunate to have Dan & Emily in school from One Life Music, and we all took part in a wonderful retreat on the theme of 'belonging,' with students being able to reflect on their 1st half term here at Hagley.

They even managed to guess the picture reveal with Dan and Mr Hodgson.

Here are a couple of comments from Year 7 about their thoughts on their retreat:

"I really enjoyed the One Life Music retreat as it helped me strengthen my relationship with God and to have more faith in him. God has a plan for us, and it was nice to see that through the music and activities." Tyler

"I had a wonderful time in the One Life Music retreat. It was full of fun, and I think it really showed what belonging means to us at Hagley - I would absolutely love Dan and Emily to come again!" Mireya

I know Year 7 are now ready for a well-deserved break, and I am sure they will continue to **SHINE** when we return for Autumn Term 2.



Year 8 News from Mrs Palmer

Year 8 have had a fabulous start to the year, with 112 students receiving one or fewer behaviour points, which is a fantastic achievement and shows their commitment to learning and excellent behaviour. Behaviour points are given when expectations are not met, so keeping these to a minimum is a clear sign that students are making positive choices and showing respect for our school values.



Alongside this, over the last three weeks, several students have been chosen for special recognition because of their fantastic attitude, effort, and contribution to school life. These students have truly stood out as amazing role models, setting a great example for others to follow. To celebrate their achievements, they enjoyed hot chocolate,

marshmallows and biscuits; a well-deserved treat for their hard work and positivity. This initiative will continue after half term, giving even more students the chance to be recognised for their outstanding behaviour and commitment to learning.

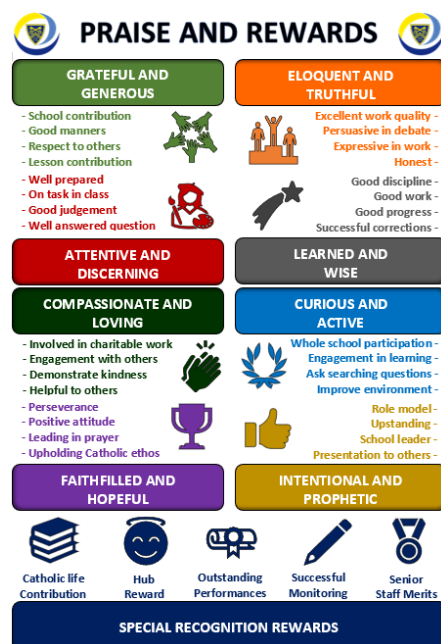
House Points

Our House Point drive continues with nearly 18,000 awarded since I last wrote to you. Students continue to **SHINE** all across the school and this positive recognition is well deserved.

It's led to a change at the top of the leaderboard too with Anselm moving to the top, and Kenelm and Chad rising a place each too.

1 st = Anselm :	12,885 points
2 nd = Gregory :	12,720 points
3 rd = Kenelm :	12,461 points
4 th = Wulstan :	12,436 points
5 th = Chad :	11,795 points
6 th = Bede :	11,726 points

Please do continue to check your child's House Point log in Arbor so you can praise them too.



Donations of clothes hangers and railing "Kind hearts"

Donations of nearly new uniform items has been fabulous, and you have been overwhelmingly generous, but we could now do with some hangers and hanging rails, there is so much. If you do have spare hangers or a hanging rail that you are considering getting rid of, please consider donating them to school.

Year 10 Work Experience "Thirst for knowledge"



Work experience has been launched with Year 10, and a parental letter was emailed home with full details on 16th October. We look forward to our Year 10's securing an array of exciting placements with employers for the week of the 29th June - 3rd July 2026.

We encourage Year 10 students to write to employers over half term to begin the process of seeking a placement. We suggest they log on to the Unifrog platform over the half term break as this is where they will log the detail of their placements.

The Voice "Questioning minds"

The Voice met this morning for their first meeting of the year, and it was my privilege to be invited along to award our new Year 7 representatives with their pin badges, congratulate them on their election and for their commitment to serve their school. Today's first meeting focussed on their aims for the year ahead, charity work for Fr Hudson's Caritas and Refugee Week, a review of formative assessment in their lessons and ideas to promote their Houses. Their next meeting is in November, and I look forward to hearing what they have come up with.



Literacy at Hagley “Thirst for knowledge”

This term Year 7 have been participating in a 500-word story competition. All Year 7 students have been challenged to write a story in under 500 words. Inspired by the BBC's annual 500 words competition, the brief was to write a story they would love to read, and their stories will be judged on characterisation, plot, originality, language and enjoyment.

All entries have been submitted to our Hagley 500 words competition. There will be prizes for our winners! We have had over 120 entries, and we have been so impressed with the creativity and enthusiasm demonstrated by the year group.

The BBC 500 words is a national competition for 8 - 11 year-olds that celebrates their creativity. Students aged 11 had the choice to also submit their story to the national BBC competition. We have had over 50 entries submitted to the BBC. It has been so wonderful to see our new cohort embrace this challenge and share their amazing ideas! Well done Year 7, you should be so proud of your hard work.



Good luck to everyone who has entered! *Miss Haigh*

Attendance Matters

All year groups have worked really hard this half term, and we're proud of the effort shown across the school. A special congratulations to everyone who achieved 96% attendance or above, this is a fantastic achievement and helps keep learning on track.

As we move into the next half term, it's important to keep that momentum going and make sure we're in school every day. With winter approaching and coughs and colds becoming more common, please remember that most minor illnesses can be managed while still attending school. **Everyday matters**, and we're here to support families if you're unsure whether your child should attend.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support in making attendance a priority. Let's see how many of us can achieve **100% attendance** next half term!



News from the Maths Dept - “Thirst for knowledge”

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

Twenty-five Sixth Form students recently participated in the UKMT Senior Mathematics Challenge, demonstrating strong analytical and problem-solving skills. We are delighted to congratulate Leo Nott, who achieved a Silver Certificate and was awarded Best in School. In total, eight students earned Silver Certificates and four received Bronze, reflecting an impressive level of achievement across the cohort. Well done to all who took part.

Bletchley Park Workshops

Students in the Maths Department have recently taken part in two engaging code-breaking workshops as part of their preparation for the upcoming trip to Bletchley Park. Led by Mrs Eagles and Ms Holland, the sessions explored a range of cryptographic techniques including codes and ciphers, Morse code, and the use of punch tape to input messages into early computers. These workshops have provided valuable historical and mathematical context, enriching students' understanding ahead of their visit.

Free School Meals “Hunger for justice”

If your child is eligible for Free School meals, vouchers will be issued via email from Edenred at the beginning of each half term break. Each voucher will be worth £15 per child, as agreed by Worcestershire County Council.

You may also find the following information useful:

Holiday Activities Programme

[Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) Programme | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Sandwell Holiday Activities](#)

[Dudley Holiday Activities \(HAF\) | Dudley Council](#)

Household Support Fund

[Household Support Fund | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Household Support Fund | Sandwell Council](#)

[Household support fund | Dudley Council](#)

Cost of Living Support

[Cost of living support | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Sandwell Cost of Living Support | Black Country Housing Group](#)

[Cost of Living | Dudley Council](#)

In-year capacity

We currently have some in-year capacity in Year 10, so if you know anyone looking to change schools or who has recently moved to our wide catchment area, please do let them know and point them in the direction of our admission page on the website. <https://www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk/Page/Detail/admissions>

Finally, Mrs Mason departs on maternity leave today and I am sure you will join me in wishing her well.

Wishing you all every blessing, a wonderful week ahead and a very restful half term, if like the students you are getting a break too.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson
Principal

Key dates for the half term ahead

03.11.2025	Autumn 2 half term begins
04.11.2025	Voice Meeting (P3)
10.11.2025	Y11 PPEs begin
11.11.2025	Remembrance Day Services from 10.50am
13.11.2025	Worcestershire Apprenticeships Awards Night
18.11.2025	Minibus accident anniversary

18.11.2025	Y11 British Library Trip
20.11.2025	Y13 Parents Evening
21.11.2025	Voice Meeting (P1)
24.11.2025	Y13 PPEs begin
24.11.2025	Vaccination UK in School for flu vaccinations
26.11.2025	Y11/12 Bletchley Park Trip
26.11.2025	Music Concert
05.12.2025	Year 7 Lourdes Fundraising Disco
09.12.2025	Y11 PPE results issued
11.12.2025	Y11 Parents Evening
12.12.2025	Voice Meeting (P4)
17.12.2025	Christmas Mass and Carols
19.12.2025	Break up for Christmas