



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS

"Become who God created you to be and you will set the word on fire." St Catherine of Sienna

30 April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

It would be very easy to be disheartened this week after two positive cases that led to the isolation of some students, having not had a case that has impacted on the wider community of the school since November 2020. However, I refuse to let this virus destroy my spirit and I do hope that you too can find that inner strength to remain positive, it feels like we are so very close to a normal again.

I would like to publicly thank the parents and carers of those students now in isolation who reacted so swiftly and with great understanding on Monday and Wednesday of this week.

Yesterday was the feast day of St Catherine of Sienna, who ironically was born during the outbreak of the plague in Italy in 1347. Her writings and works are so influential that she is considered a Doctor of the Church and is one of the most influential and popular saints. Perhaps, like me you will find comfort and strength in her writings. She reminds us that *"Out of darkness is born light"* that *"There is nothing we can desire or want that we do not find in God"* and *"in Christ crucified you can do anything"*. Such words of wisdom provide solace, strength and guidance for us all, I hope.

COVID 19 (Testing and Control)

While it is clear to see that the national picture is improving, I must still emphasise the need for us to remain cautious and apply all the relevant control measures. To that end, can I please remind everyone that a student with COVID symptoms or ancillary symptoms must not attend school and book a PCR test at a testing site. Please note Lateral Flow Device Tests that have been sent home are not for those who are symptomatic but asymptomatic. Equally if a child does have a positive LFD home test, please advise school immediately and book a confirmatory PCR test through the NHS website at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or via 119.

In addition, we have seen a drop in the number of reported LFD test results. Please can I remind you that students registered for the home testing programme should be taking a home test twice a week, ideally Sunday and Wednesday, and the results reported via the links on our website homepage.

Parents Evenings

Last night was our last parents evening of the academic year and this time Year 10 students and their families joined teachers online via TEAMS to discuss progress, attainment, engagement and effort.

Much of the feedback I have already had is that online virtual parents evenings have been a great success. Consequently, all Emmaus MAC schools are going out to consultation on whether parents evenings should remain online in future academic years.

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To add your voice to this consultation please complete the form at this link <https://forms.office.com/r/tNQ5nbNjDD> so that you too can have your say on the future of Parents Evenings at Hagley.

Summer Enrichment Week

The last 14 months has seen so much of what is great about school lost, especially the opportunities for enrichment activities, trips, clubs and so much more. However, signs of the roadmap out of COVID restrictions being met mean that we can plan to try and offer something before the end of the academic year. With that in mind we very much hope to be able to run the following enrichment activities during the final week of the school year and more details will come in due course about them:

Tuesday 13 th July 2021	Year 7 and 8 in-school retreat with the Kenelm Youth Trust
Wednesday 14 th July 2021	Sports Day for Years 7 to 10
Monday 19 th July 2021	Year 7 and 8 Drayton Manor Trip
Tuesday 20 th July 2021	Year 9 and 10 Drayton Manor Trip

We are also working behind the scenes to reignite the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and begin to map trips, visits and residentials for 2021-22.

Transport - Bus Tender

A reminder that the transport contract for Hagley is now out for tender and therefore until such time as a new contract is awarded passes for September 2021 cannot be purchased. I will as ever keep you up to date about developments.

Finally, I am sure you do not need me to remind you that it is a Bank Holiday weekend so we will see students back to school on Tuesday. I hope you all enjoy the long weekend.

With every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely



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