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Friday, 11 July 2025

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

This will be my last letter of this academic year and when I sit down to write this one, I am continually surprised that another school year has passed by.

It has been the most wonderful year for Hagley Catholic High School, and we have all played our part in this, students, parents, carers, staff, Governors and our wider Emmaus family and colleagues. It is this partnership and collaboration that makes Hagley a truly special place to work, learn and be associated with, and it is this I am most proud of and privileged to lead.

This year we have seen rising attendance by our student body, an increase in clubs and trips and participation in these, a significantly broader personal development programme, investment in teacher development and therefore practice in the classroom, a community that has embraced our year as Pilgrims of Hope and once again acted in solidarity with Catholic Social Teaching to put the needs of others first.

The 2025 Jubilee has the motto 'Pilgrims of Hope', and the logo shows people coming from the four corners of the earth in solidarity.

# Pope Francis wrote:

"Pilgrimage is, of course, a fundamental element of every Jubilee event. Setting out on a journey is traditionally associated with our human quest for meaning in life. A pilgrimage on foot is a great aid for rediscovering the value of silence, effort and simplicity of life. In the coming year, pilgrims of hope will surely travel the ancient and more modern routes in order to experience the Jubilee to the full."

On Tuesday and Wednesday of the last week of term, Years 7 and 8 will be completing a Pilgrims of Hope Walk where they will have the opportunity to reflect on being Pilgrims of Hope, Debt Justice and Blessed Carlo Acutis. The walk will take place during lesson time with their subject teachers. After the Pilgrimage, and throughout the week, students will have the opportunity to buy ice lollies to raise money for the Lourdes Pilgrimage before they go back to class and write their pledge as Pilgrims of Hope.



PILGRIN



Before the end of term, we are also asking for donations of shoes/trainers and school shoes that are too small/worn out. They can be any size, any style, any condition. These will be taken to the Gambia and sent directly to those who need them. It does not matter if there are holes in the shoes or they are worn out, some of the shoes will go to people who work on rubbish dump sites and do not have shoes, other shoes will go to someone who



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Part of the Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Company

Private Limited Company of Charitable Status within the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154 runs a second-hand shop so they can be self-sustained, others will go to families linked to schools and clinics that Project Gambia supports. Please send any shoes into school for the attention of Mr Thomas in the Chapel or Mrs McCole in IG1.

# **Enrichment and oportunity**

The last fortnight has been a celebration of enrichment and opportunity with so much going on, hopefully something for everyone and more next week with our Pilgrims of Hope Walks, a theatre in Education Workshop for Year 8 on Monday, our final Duke of Edinburgh expedition of the year, Year 12 Work Experience and Sports Day on Thursday. Here's just a flavour of some of what went on in the last fortnight.

# Year 7 Adventure Days at Kinver Camp

For the third year running, Year 7 students took part in an unforgettable outdoor experience at Kinver Camp. The year group was split in half, with one group attending on Monday and the other on Thursday. Both days were packed with adventure, challenge, and plenty of opportunities to step out of their comfort zones and try something new.

On arrival, pupils were divided into small activity groups of around ten and rotated through a range of outdoor challenges throughout the day. Working in these smaller teams gave everyone the chance to support each other, develop new skills, and grow in confidence in a fun, encouraging environment.

Each group took part in activities such as abseiling, climbing, and soaring through the air on the zip wire. They also had the chance to learn fire-starting techniques using flint and steel, explore the woodland through orienteering, and test their aim in archery. The dry weather made for ideal conditions, and students approached every activity with enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

Students encouraged each other, showed real resilience, and made the most of every opportunity.

The Kinver Camp experience was more than just an outdoor trip—it was a chance for Year 7 to build friendships, grow in confidence, and create lasting memories. Staff were incredibly proud of how well the pupils represented the school, showing maturity, teamwork, and positivity throughout the day.

# Year 8 do Challenge Academy

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July some 140 Year 8 students visited Challenge Academy at Baggeridge Country Park. The students had a fantastic day of team building challenges and high rope adventures. It was wonderful to see them fostering existing friendships as well as building new ones. The students were amazing, giving everything a go, even those who didn't think they had a head for heights pushed themselves out of their comfort zones to step up a level on the high ropes or bounce along the nets. Throughout the day they encouraged and supported one another and were a credit to the school and to their families.















#### **Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions**

A big congratulations to all year 10 and 12 students who have successfully completed their Bronze or Silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition, and those who are going next week (who I am sure will be amazing)! Their teamwork, determination, and adventurous spirit were truly inspiring as they navigated challenging routes, camped outdoors, and supported one another throughout the journey. Completing this expedition is a fantastic achievement that highlights their resilience and ability to overcome obstacles in the great outdoors. Well done to everyone for pushing your limits and making unforgettable memories along the way!





# Sixth Formers in New York



33 students and staff returned this afternoon from their 5-day trip to New York City. What a fabulous few days they have had visiting the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, 9/11 Museum, the Empire State Building, the United Nations, Times Square, Grand Central Station and so much more. Everyone has had the most amazing time, and this is a fabulous new opportunity to add to our annual trip offer for Sixth Formers.







#### Y13 Prom



After a busy few months of demanding work and exams, Year 13 had a wonderful night celebrating at their Leaver's Ball at the Stone Manor on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025. It was a fabulous night for all who attended with a wonderful three course meal, prizes, and awards and then a disco to dance the night away to, and boy did they dance.



We are so incredibly proud of their achievements and the two years of study in

Hagley Sixth Form that they have produced and the dedication to work, community and charity that they have displayed. Just something else that makes Hagley Sixth form such a wonderful place to study. We wish them all the best for the future.

# Year 5 Emmaus Feeders Sports Day

Year 5 students from Emmaus primary schools that feed Hagley came together for an exciting and competitive MAC Sports Afternoon held at Hagley on Wednesday. The event featured a range of sports including Boccia, Indoor Football, Rounders, Tennis, Trampolining and Tri-Athletics, giving every child a chance to showcase their skills across different disciplines.

The atmosphere was vibrant and full of energy as the young athletes demonstrated great teamwork and sportsmanship. Despite tough competition from all schools, Our Lady and St Hubert's emerged as the overall winners, impressing everyone with their outstanding performance across all events.

The Emmaus Sports Afternoon was not only a fantastic opportunity for pupils to engage in healthy competition but also a celebration of enthusiasm and dedication in school sports.

School	Boccia	Football	Rounders	Tennis	Trampolining	Tri- Athletics	Total	Final position
Our Lady of Fatima	1 <sup>st</sup> place 20 points	1 <sup>st</sup> place 20 points	8 <sup>th</sup> place 6 points	L1: 4 <sup>th</sup> place 4 points	Competition Winner 10 points	6 <sup>th</sup> place 10 points	70	2 <sup>nd</sup> Plac
St Ambrose	Joint 3 <sup>rd</sup> place 15 points	Joint 5 <sup>th</sup> place 10 points	6 <sup>th</sup> place 10 points	L1: 2 <sup>nd</sup> place 8 points	Competition Winner 10 points	8 <sup>th</sup> place 6 points	59	5 <sup>th</sup> Plac
St Francis Xavier	2 <sup>nd</sup> place 18 points	8 <sup>th</sup> place 6 points	1 <sup>st</sup> place 20 points	L1: 5 <sup>th</sup> place 2 points	Competition Winner 10 points	9 <sup>th</sup> place 4 points	60	4 <sup>th</sup> Place
St Gregory's		2 <sup>nd</sup> place 18 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> place 18 points	L2: Joint 3 <sup>rd</sup> place 5 points		7 <sup>th</sup> place 8 points	49	6 <sup>th</sup> plac
St Joseph's		Joint 9th place 3 points	9 <sup>th</sup> place 4 points	L1: 1* place 10 points		1 <sup>st</sup> place 20 points	37	9 <sup>th</sup> plac
St Mary's	Joint 5 <sup>th</sup> place 10 points	4 <sup>th</sup> place 14 points	Joint 3rd place 15 points	L2: 2 <sup>nd</sup> place 8 points		3 <sup>rd</sup> place 16 points	63	3 <sup>rd</sup> Plac
St. Philip's	Joint 3 <sup>rd</sup> place 15 points	Joint 5 <sup>th</sup> place 10 points	10 <sup>th</sup> place 2 points	L2: 5 <sup>th</sup> place 2 points		5 <sup>th</sup> place 12 points	41	7 <sup>th</sup> plac
St. Wulstan's		Joint 9 <sup>th</sup> place 3 points	5 <sup>th</sup> place 12 points	L2: 1 <sup>st</sup> place 10 points		4 <sup>th</sup> place 14 points	39	8 <sup>th</sup> plac
Our Lady and St Hubert's A	Joint 5 <sup>th</sup> place 10 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> place 16 points	Joint 3 <sup>rd</sup> place 15 points	L1: 3 <sup>rd</sup> place 6 points	Competition Winner 10 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> place 18 points	75	1 <sup>st</sup> plac
Our Lady and St Hubert's B		Joint 5 <sup>th</sup> place 10 points	7 <sup>th</sup> place 8 points	L2: Joint 3 <sup>rd</sup> place 5 points			23	10 <sup>th</sup> place

#### **Transition 2025**

After a very 'warm' welcome evening to greet parents, carers and our new Yr7 students to Hagley on Monday 30th July it was wonderful to welcome the students for the 1st of our 3 Transition Days on Wednesday 2nd - Friday 4th July 2025.

Although it can be a time of both nervousness and excitement, from the moment they arrived all students behaved beautifully and with a positive, resilient, and enthusiastic attitude. They were all a credit to their parents/carers, as well as to their primary schools. It was wonderful that many early friendships were being formed, marking a positive start to their time at Hagley. Over the course of the three days, they spent their time in their Tutor Groups doing a variety of activities, 'taster lessons,' and starting to learn how to become 'secondary ready' and understand our culture of being a POWERful Hagley student.

On Thursday morning we were able to all meet again as an entire year group with a beautiful and uplifting Mass, led by Father Phillip and our Lay Chaplain, Mr Thomas. All students acted with reverence; it was joy to see such smiles on their faces during our collective worship. We also had lots of opportunities to get used to what will be daily line up under the canopy and it was great to see each morning less nervousness and certainly more excitement.



We closed the three days on Friday afternoon with a Celebration Assembly, where all students were awarded a certificate for their successful transition. We also shared "shout-outs" from teaching staff and our Year 7 Transition Ambassadors who were absolutely amazing. Well done to Wulstan who over the three Transition Days topped the House Point Challenge! All house points awarded will be added to Arbor for when the children start in September.

We wish all the students a wonderful last couple of weeks of primary school and to treasure these moments as they close this chapter in their education, ready to join our Hagley family in September. *Mrs Imrie* 

#### Year 10 Work Experience

Work experience is an important part of our Careers curriculum here at Hagley. It provides an opportunity for students to gain an insight into the world of work and the skills they need to develop to reach their future goals.

Our Year 10 cohort have undertaken a very successful work experience week, with a record 96% of students taking part in a wide variety of placements. These included theatres, The British Army, manufacturing companies, animal sanctuaries, hospitals, construction companies, schools and many more. One student even completed their work experience in a lab in Switzerland!



the students themselves, and our fabulous students should be very proud of themselves as they have been described as 'amazing', 'hardworking,' 'independent' and that 'it is truly refreshing to see a young man with such high aspirations'. The feeling has clearly been mutual as our students have said how much they enjoyed the week and that not only did they 'want to go back' but that it was 'the best week of my life'. In fact, at least two of our students have now gained Saturday jobs with their work experience employers as their employers said, 'we will miss them... we didn't want them to leave.' Congratulations

We have had incredibly positive feedback from employers and



to all our year 10 students who took part and a massive thank you to the employers.

We are now looking forward to the current Year 9 cohort's opportunity to have a great work experience week in Year 10! The dates are 29th June to 3rd July 2026 for anyone who would like to start planning now.

# Worcester Women's Rapids Sign Hagley Student



I was delighted to find out this week that Caitlin in Year 10 has signed for Worcester Women's Rapids and will make her first team debut in the Vitality Blast Fixture at New Road, Worcester this Sunday. I am sure everyone will join me in wishing her well this weekend.

#### Generation Juice - Huge Plastic Waste Reduction at Hagley Catholic High School



On Tuesday 15th July we will be launching some exciting new drinks options for students with our school catering team. This will greatly reduce our plastic use at Hagley and encourage reusable bottles at school. In the UK each one of us on average uses 6 plastic bottles every week. 46% of these bottles end up being landfilled, burnt or littered in land or sea, and even those that do get recycled are creating more harmful CO2 into our environment at each recycling process.

Gen Juice Drinks Hubs are being introduced at Hagley Catholic High School to enable students and staff to purchase a large variety of drinks without plastic bottle waste. These chilled drinks are mixed to order and then dispensed into your own reusable bottle. The drinks are school compliant, vegan, gluten free, without added sugar and use natural ingredients.



Students and staff can purchase tokens from counters in the school canteen during break and lunchtimes and then go to one of the Gen Juice Drinks Hubs to serve themselves using the modern touch screen. Six different drinks choices will be available, these include water flavour-fusions such as Raspberry Peach, Watermelon & Lemon Lime, together with the popular Cherry Boom and Tropical juice drinks, and other flavours like

Pineapple Coconut and Strawberry Crush. All drinks are fast-pour and chilled. The school's plastic bottle waste will be significantly reduced, and students can enjoy a variety of different flavours. Drinks prices are in line with the school canteen's current drinks offer.

To support the launch of the Gen Juice Drinks Hubs we are giving every student a clear, rPET 600ml bottle that they can use for their drinks. Students should remember to bring this bottle, or a reusable bottle of their own choice, to school every day to enjoy the new chilled drinks. This way we can all reduce plastic use and waste and offer better value chilled drinks to our students.

# **Preparation for Adulthood**

One of the programmes we run in our Learning Support Centre, The Hub, is Preparation for Adulthood. This programme supports students with additional needs to prepare for life beyond school. One of their projects this year challenged them to organise and run a charity initiative and next Thursday they are holding a charity plant and flower sale in the Hub to raise money for CAFOD. Students, please do come along to support this

# CHARITY PLANT AND FLOWER SALE

Join us at the HUB THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JULY 12–1PM Preparation For Adulthood students will raise money for the charity CAFOD as part of their Fundraising Events Project.

> Take part in 'Guess How Many Sweets are in the Jar' Prize to be won!

> > Cash only or donate online below

event, and parents/carers please encourage your children to do so with a bit of small change to buy a plant.

# Stourbridge Volleyball Club

We have a fabulous relationship with Stourbridge Volleyball Club and a strong partnership current Year 7s and future Year 7s might be interested in these opportunities over the summer and for all ages on Monday's afterschool.



	inclusive an		ity Amateur Sports Club	
The ultima	ate team spo	<i>rt,</i> Volleyball rewards	ing, movement and skill patience and dedication esilient young people.	
	We Stakeho Qualif	liated to Volleyball En ist Midlands League To older in Black Country ied and Experienced ( our current training p	eams Volleyball Coaches	
Who	What	When	Where	
Children age 7 to 11/12	Mini Volley	Wednesday 5:00 to 6:00	Redhill School Junction Road, Stourbridge	
Young People 12 to 15	Volley 3s & 4s	Monday 4:30 to 6:00	Hagley Catholic High School Brake Lane, Hagley	
Young People 15 to 17	Volley 6s	Monday 4:30 to 6:00	Hagley Catholic High School Brake Lane, Hagley	
	Competitive	Boys/Men	Redhill School Junction Road, Stourbridge	

# **End of Term Arrangements**

As we enter the final week there is still much on as already mentioned. A reminder that students can continue to wear their PE kit every day until the end of term as this hot spell continues. But a reminder that crocs are not acceptable footwear.

On Tuesday morning all students will attend end of year celebration assemblies and then on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025 we will end the year with morning services and ice creams on the fields before an early finish just before 3pm with the aim to get students on the 15.01 and 15.15 trains, the buses will be here early too.

# Academic Year 2025/26 Arrangements

As one academic year ends, we turn to the next. School reopens on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 after the summer break **to staff only, for two days,** and then opens to our new Year 7s and 12s on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025. All other year groups return on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

# Vacancy

We have a new vacancy at Hagley that has gone live today on our website (<u>Emmaus Catholic</u> <u>Multi Academy - Vacancies</u>) and on West Midlands Jobs (<u>Student Services and Resources</u> <u>Manager job</u>).

This is a fantastic opportunity to join our Support Staff Team and help shape the future of our Student Services Department.

Please do share this far and wide and if interested contact Mrs Brown or apply following the online links.

	We are recruiting for a Student Services and Resources Manager						
	Required for 1 <sup>41</sup> September 2025 Salary Range: Grade 5 SCP 7 - 11 (The postholder will start the position at SCP9) Salary Range: Gross: £22,558.63 - £23,882.75						
	Hag ey Catholic High School av locking to appoint a new memoer of staff to lead and manage our Stueent Services and Resources Department. This new y developed role as Student Services Manager requires a riven and passionate raindicate with the reads of the print at the forefront of their practice and befets.						
Contact Us	In the role the successful candidate will act as the school's Lead First Aider, Senior Mental Health First Aider and medical administrator. They will also manage the Resources and Reprographics Department with responsibility for large scale obtocopying						
A full application pack is available from Hagley Catholic High School, by contacting	and orinting, resource and stock management in terms of paper, medical supplies and stationery, and the school shop and pre-loved uniform.						
the Principal's PA or downloading the pack from the Emmaus website:	We invite candidates who can be monstrate their ability to lead and manage excellent all round administrative and first ald support in a busy secondary education environment.						
Emell - <u>principalpa hchriðjemmeutmac.com</u> Phone - 01562 883193	The post holder will also lead and manage an Assistant First Ald and Resources Officer.						
Online - www.haglevrc.worcs.sch.uk We warely welcome visits to the school. For	The ability to communicate effectively with our students and parents/carers whilst working within our policies and guidance, using your own in tlattice and being proactive is essential.						
specific questions about the role and/or to							
request a visit, please contact	We we come applications from both Catholics and non-Catholics but expect all employees to support the Catholic ethos and values of the school						
Mrs T Brown: <u>brown@bemmausmec.com</u> Closing Date: 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2025							
Interviews: W/C 28 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Errersen taltale (EMAC in vermitted aus inguerfäng mit versnating der welfars of de Hermann verzegungste. His ganiter aus types to en talkanne Dicklaure check ander the Nervalitetate of Chinasen 4:011074.						
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#### **Staff Farewells**

At the end of this academic year, we are saying farewell to two members of staff.

Mrs Foster (Teacher of Music) has been at Hagley for 10 years as a key part of the music department and instrumental in developing music at Hagley, not least in her key support of school shows and productions and the annual Christmas Mass.

We also say a goodbye to Ms Jhamet (Assistant SENDCO) who while only being with us since November 2024 has made such a huge impact on the lives of so many of our children and their families through her work in the Hub that she will leave an indelible mark on Hagley and on the students' lives too.

I am sure you will join me in wishing them well in their lives and futures away from Hagley, they will be missed.

And so that just leaves me to say thank you to everyone for all their support and commitment to Hagley this year and in anticipation of it to come in the year ahead of us. I hope everyone reading this letter has a lovely summer wherever it takes you or with whatever it blesses you with.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson Principal

# Forthcoming Events and Calendared items

- 14.07.2025 Yr12 Work Experience week commences
- 17.07.2025 Sports Day
- 18.07.2025End of Summer Term

# Autumn Term 1 - 2025/26

- 03.09.2025 Y7 and Y12 begin Academic Year 2025/26
- 04.09.2025 Y8 to 11 and 13 begin Academic Year 2025/26
- 09.07.2025 School photos for Years 7, 9 & 11
- 17.09.2025 Year 11 Post 16 Pathways Evening for all Year 11s and their parents
- 01.10.2025 Year 7 Parents Meet the Tutor Evening
- 03.10.2025 Staff Training Day 3 School closed to students
- 04.10.2025 Open Morning 9 -12pm
- 15.10.2025 Family Mass in the Hall
- 22.10.2025 Sixth Form Open Evening