



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
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Principal: Mr J Hodgson



Archdiocese of Birmingham

*"And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it to me according to your word." Luke 1:38*

Friday, 18 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and students

I am so dreadfully sorry that term came to such an abrupt end yesterday. This really is the year to have every possible challenge thrown at us. However, I am reassured in the strength and togetherness of our community, that in faith, and with the love of God, we can get through and achieve anything.

This weekend will be the fourth Sunday of Advent, and the Gospel recalls the events of the annunciation, where Mary willingly, and without question gave herself to the Lord as his servant, and the Son of God took on human nature in the womb of the Blessed Virgin. The theme of this week of Advent is love, and the Gospel of John reminds us that *"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."* John 3:16

I hope and pray that the love of God is present in your homes and families this Christmas, and that you all have a happy and Holy festive season.

This week in school we have continued to try and live out the Gospel values, and the value of generous and giving has been at the heart of our work. My thanks go to Mr Miastowski, Mrs Palmer, Miss Davies, Mrs Brown, Mrs Imrie and Mr Thomas who have been out and about in the community delivering food parcels to members of our community that might not have as much as others. Once again thank you for everyone's generosity with this initiative, our work together is echoed in the Prayer of St Francis of Assisi *"It is in giving that we receive.....and are born to eternal life."*

Do remember to follow our Facebook and Twitter accounts for regular updates and pictures on all the work we do in school and the community.

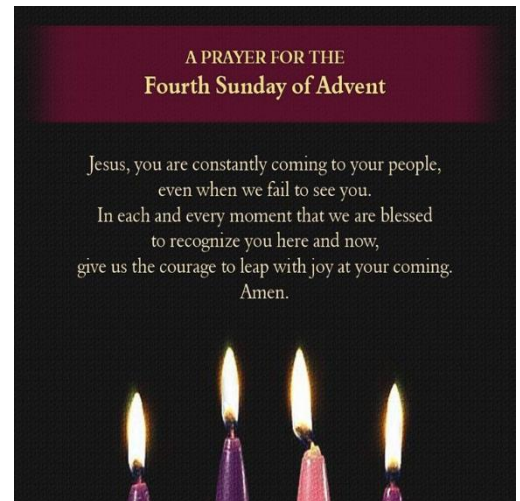
### **COVID 19**

A reminder that if your child does display COVID symptoms over the next couple of days, please do book a test. Any positive tests between now and Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December inclusive must still be reported to the school and I will be available on my email until 10am on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 for the reporting of any positive cases.

Please be aware that all other forms of communication to the school; staff emails and the school phone line, are now closed and will not be manned over the holidays but will reopen at 8am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

### **Enforced closure**

Many thanks to everyone for your understanding today in having to enact an enforced closure at such short notice. I do hope you received my handwritten letter, (it has been a while since I had to do one of



those) although this does reflect the loss of IT and communication mechanisms that we experienced yesterday that look likely to continue for a number of days yet.

### **The New Year**

Many of you will have seen the news, and the subsequent Department for Education announcement, that came through at 6.25pm yesterday evening announcing that secondary schools will return in January with a staggered start.

I will take some time to digest this information and draw up plans accordingly and be sure to let you have more details in due course, and certainly in advance of Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

When we do return in the new year, as promised, extra-curricular provision will start up again. In the first instance sport will return at lunchtimes from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021, with activities in the arts and technology following soon after. You can see a timetable at the end of this letter.

### **Free School Meals**

Any families whose children are entitled to free school meals should have received vouchers to the value of £30 per child, via email earlier this week. If you did not, we will follow this up in the new year and ensure they get sent out to you.

Finally, a huge thank you to the whole Hagley family for everything that each and everyone of us has done these past 15 weeks to ensure Hagley Catholic High School remains a place of education, enrichment, care, support and faith.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, full of hope, peace, joy and love. That everyone remains safe in their Christmas bubbles, free from this dreadful virus, and returns in the new year with hope and expectation for a fabulous 2021.

With every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Hodgson

Principal

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### **Dates for Your Diary:**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Teacher Training Day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Start of Spring term (Arrangements to be confirmed)

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Year 11 Virtual Parents Evening

## SPORT & PE CLUBS – HALF TERM 3

Lunchtime Sports Clubs					
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Table tennis club</b> (Gym/NWI) <b>Volleyball club</b> (Sports Hall/MCA)				
<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>Table tennis club</b> (Gym/SRI) <b>Badminton &amp; volleyball club</b> (Sports hall/MCA)			
<b>Wednesday</b>					<b>Table tennis club</b> (Gym/SRI) <b>Badminton, basketball &amp; volleyball club</b> (Sports hall/MBE)
<b>Thursday</b>			<b>Table tennis club</b> (Gym/NWI) <b>Basketball &amp; volleyball club</b> (Sports hall/MBE&MTR)		
<b>Friday</b>				<b>Table tennis club</b> (Gym/SRI) <b>Badminton, basketball &amp; volleyball club</b> (Sports hall/MTR)	