



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
SEMPER FIDELIS

*“And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” Luke 1:38*

14 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

With all that is going on in our busy lives, both in and away from school and work, it is easy to forget that the month of May is month dedicated by the Church to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In taking time to remind ourselves of this and reflect on it, I am reminded of Mary’s steadfast resilience, faith and complete service, and such dedication is an example to us all. I am often reassured, when challenges are feeling almost too great to bear of the burdens that others have carried and yet got through, and I am not sure that there is many greater than the Holy Mother herself.

This month of Mary also saw the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, and we would like to wish a happy feast day for yesterday, to all the Our Lady of Fatima Primary school family.

In May we are called by his Holiness the Pope to pray the rosary, and this week specifically for peace. I hope you can find time as a family to try and pray just one decade of the Rosary together this weekend.

### **Collective Worship**

We were delighted to reintroduce weekly mass back in to school from Tuesday of this week. The absence of mass and the sacrament of the Eucharist has been a huge loss in school and I for one am delighted that over the coming weeks mass will return every Tuesday morning and all students will have the opportunity to attend after half term.

Hopefully, it won’t be too much longer until we can invite you, our wider family, to re-join us.

### **COVID 19 Control Measures**

I am sure you will have seen the news this week that from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 we will move into step 3 of easing of restrictions. This means that from Monday students no longer need to wear face coverings in school, this includes in lessons, and all communal spaces.

However, any student who feels they would still rather take this precaution is most welcome, and no student will be forced to remove their face covering.

Face coverings do remain mandatory on public transport and all students travelling by school bus or train must continue to have a mask with them at all times and wear it throughout the duration of their school journey.

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### **Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)**

Our RSE curriculum has begun in earnest this term, as previously advised, and students have responded really well to the inclusion of this important curriculum area in their weekly timetable.

### **IWF Campaign**

As part of our commitment to a wider relationships, health and sex education we have also launched a project this week as part of the Internet Watch Foundation campaign focussing on “self-generated sexual imagery”. This project will initially involve all girls in years 7 to 10 having focused sessions and workshops on this risks of sharing or being asked for any such imagery.

This campaign and project is particularly focused on girls because of the sharp rise nationally in 2020 cases of this imagery amongst girls.

However, parents and carers of our boys should be reassured that similar projects and curriculum content is planned for the boys too as part of their RSE curriculum.

### **Future Operational Changes as we Move Towards 21<sup>st</sup> June**

It is highly likely that this continued move out of COVID restrictions will lead to operational changes in school after half term, not least because we will have two year groups less in school, as Year 11 and 13 will not be required in school after half term.

I will write to you again before we break up to outline these changes for all students.

### **Year 10 and 12 Exams**

In the second half of the summer term Year 10 and 12 will sit their first set of Pre-Public Examinations (PPE's). These end of year one, of a two year programme of study, examinations will be an important opportunity for students to demonstrate the learning and progress they have made this past year. It will also serve to help staff understand where there are still areas of learning to recover, and subsequently map the second year of their curriculum.

The Year 10 core PPE's (RE, English, Science and Maths) will take place the week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> June and will be held under exam conditions in our exams halls. All other non-core exams will be completed between the 7<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> June in classrooms.

For Year 12, PPE's will take place week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> June, and all of these examinations will be in exam venues.

Students will receive a timetable for their year 10 core PPE's and year 12 PPE's before half term.

### **Year 10 Parent and Student Information Evening**

We are very keen to be able to hold a face to face parent and student information evening for Year 10's towards the end of the summer term. A current provisional date for your diary is Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, all COVID restrictions allowing. I will, of course, write again directly to parents/carers of Year 10 in due course with further details.

### **Parents Evenings**

The consultation on future parents evenings remains open until Monday, having received 275 responses to date. If you would still like to add your voice to this consultation, please complete the form at this link <https://forms.office.com/r/tNQ5nbNjDD>.

Finally, a reminder to all families that our school code of conduct does not permit students to be in Hagley park or village after school other than if this is their route home, and we would welcome your continued support with this.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend, with every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Hodgson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Principal

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