



HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Brake Lane, Hagley, Worcestershire DY8 2XL

Phone: 01562 883193 Fax: 01562 881820

Website: www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk

Principal: Mr J Hodgson



Archdiocese of Birmingham

"... for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed." (1 Peter 1: 6-7)

22 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and students

As always in education much has shifted again since I last wrote but what remains constant is the need for us to stay home and stay safe. I do hope that you are coping as families as we approach the end of a third week in national lockdown and with little light ahead for a removal of restrictions.

Yesterday I took time to watch the inauguration of President Biden. As part of the ceremony it was the poem of the Inaugural poet, Amanda Gorman, that resonated with me the most. She reminded us that "there is always light, if only we are brave enough to see it, if only we are brave enough to be it". I recognise that this was pertinent to the occasion she spoke at but regardless the sentiment reminds me of our calling to be the light of Christ in the world, beacons of hope for a better tomorrow, there for one another, that we might share a better tomorrow when it comes.

Our patron, St Nicholas Owen, was also that beacon of light and hope, back in the 16th and early 17th century, to priests and Catholics persecuted for practising their faith. His work as a trained carpenter, and the use of his skills to build secret priest holes across the country, including locally at Harvington Hall, to hide and protect priests, gave Catholics hope for a better future when their faith was under such great threat.

Tomorrow is the feast day of Saint Nicholas Owen. On Tuesday we held a virtual prayer service in school to commemorate this feast, which you too can watch at this link; [St Nicholas Owen Day 2021](#).

His love for, and dedication to his faith, and his example of using his skills and talents in the protection of others remains an example to us all even today.

St Nicholas Owen – **Pray for us**

Parents Evenings

Last Thursday we held a very successful virtual Year 11 Parents Evening. Thank you so much to all parents that joined us and for the very positive feedback we received. The next online virtual parents evening is for Year 8 on Thursday 4th February 2021, and details have already been sent out to book appointments.

Remote Education and Online Learning

Further to the information and guidance I have shared previously on our remote learning provision please be aware that an updated policy is now available on the website. I have also included with this letter a helpful guide from Microsoft for parents/carers who might appreciate a little more guidance on supporting their child with the use of Teams.

Year 9 Pathways Evening and Options

Next half term is when we would typically hold an Information Evening for Year 9 students and parents/carers to launch and explain the GCSE option process. A face-to-face meeting in school will clearly

Part of Saint Nicholas Owen Catholic Multi Academy Company.

A Private Limited Company with charitable status. Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154

Registered Office: Hagley Catholic High School, Brake Lane, Hagley, Worcestershire DY8 2XL

Telephone 01562 883193 Fax: 01562 881820



not be possible this year so Mr Trickett (Assistant Principal: Curriculum) will be in touch shortly to launch our virtual pathways process.

Sixth Form Virtual Information Event and Applications 2021

We have had a large number of applications to our sixth form for September 2021 already, but the application process remains open via the website at this [link](#).

In order to continue to assist students and families in making their decision and to provide further information about the opportunities, provision, curriculum and support available at Hagley, whether you've applied or not, we will be holding a live virtual event in the coming weeks where you will be able to submit questions beforehand for us to answer live. Keep your eye out for more information to come very soon.

Increasing Data Allowances on Mobile Devices to Support Disadvantaged Children

In case you missed it in the last letter a reminder that to support disadvantaged families the Government has released a scheme to increase data allowances on mobile devices.

Schools can request mobile data increases for children and young people who:

- do not have fixed broadband at home.
- cannot afford additional data for their devices.
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education.

Children with access to a mobile phone on one of the following networks **might** be able to benefit: Three, Smarty, Virgin Mobile, EE, Tesco Mobile, Sky Mobile, O2, with other providers potentially joining the scheme.

We can make this request on your behalf and would need you to complete the form in this [link](#) to do so. If you have already completed this I have already submitted a request on your behalf.

Asymptomatic Lateral Flow Testing

This week guidance was changed by PHE and the DfE on serial testing in the event of a positive case in school. Therefore if a critical worker/vulnerable child, currently attending school does test positive then isolation protocols will need to be put in place for all close contacts of that child rather than serial testing.

Refund on WMR Season Tickets

We have been informed by West Midlands Railways that refunds are available for any season tickets purchased ahead of the Spring term. The quickest way to do this is to contact students@abellio.com, who can help arrange this. Details also on their website at www.wmr.uk/students.

Finally, it leaves me to wish you all well, stay safe and do keep in touch if we can support you further with anything.

With every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Hodgson
Principal

Twitter: @Principal_HCHS

Email: jhodgson@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk