



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
SEMPER FIDELIS

*“May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else,  
just as ours does for you.” (1 Thessalonians 3:12)*

Friday, 22 October 2021

Dear parent(s)/carer(s) and students

My sincere apologies that I did not write to you all a fortnight ago. In that time I do hope that you have remained well but also hope that as we end this first half term of 2021-22 you have something nice planned with your families for the half term holiday.

So much continues to take place on a daily and weekly basis to enhance the school experience for your children and this week we were delighted to welcome One Life Music (<https://www.onelifemusic.co.uk/>) who led our Year 7 in a retreat on the theme of “Belonging”. Students spent time with Dan and Emily in prayer and song, exploring their relationship with each other, God and the whole school community. It was a wonderful morning of faith in action and building their sense of belonging within the Hagley family.

This week we said farewell to our wonderful receptionist, Lauren, who has moved on to pastures new. Many of you will have spoken with Lauren over the past 3 years and I know will have received a wonderful warm welcome and greeting when doing so and will miss her friendly face/voice when you call, or pop in. She goes with our best wishes for a bright and successful future.

#### **COVID 19 vaccinations for 12-15 year olds**

We have now received a confirmed date for vaccinations for COVID for students aged 12 - 15 years. This will take place in school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November for all consenting students. Accompanied with this letter and via this [link](#) you will find a letter from the Clinical Director of Vaccination UK at the NHS outlining the vaccination process and with a link to the e-consent form which I have also included below:

<https://midlands.schoolvaccination.uk/covid/2021/Worcestershire>

Please note that consent must be in place by Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 if you wish your child to receive the vaccine.

This [link](#) will also take you to an information leaflet from Public Health England that should answer any queries you may have.

#### **COVID 19 cases and control measures**

We have all seen the news about rising cases of COVID across the country and this is also true across our region with children being disproportionately affected. With this in mind please do continue to test twice weekly using the lateral flow test kits that we have sent home. It is easy to become complacent and forget about this key action in minimising the spread of infection and I urge the whole Hagley community to continue with this home testing process. We will send more test kits home after half term to last throughout November.

Hagley Catholic High School  
Brake Lane, Hagley,  
Worcestershire, DY8 2XL

Tel: 01562 883 193  
[www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk)  
Principal: Mr J Hodgson

### **Open Morning and Sixth Form Open Evening**

Since I last wrote we have hosted these two very significant events in our school calendar. My thanks goes to all the students (well over 100) who volunteered their time to come and support Open Morning and showcase the wonderful educational and enrichment opportunities that they are in receipt of. And to the members of the Sixth Form Committee and student body who joined us last night to support and promote the Sixth Form provision in place for students exploring opportunities for September 2022. All in all we have had over 500 families through our doors this month to see what we have on offer.

For those making decisions for admission in 2022 please do remember that 31<sup>st</sup> October is the deadline for Year 7 applications and the Sixth Form application window is now open via the school website.

### **Trips and Visits**

Since we came back in September it has been wonderful to be able to plan and offer trips and visits again. On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October Year 11 students spent a morning/afternoon at Herefordshire and Worcestershire Fire Station in Kidderminster attending the Dying to Drive workshops, drawing their attention to the dangers around driving so they are well prepared in the years to come as they look forward to learning to drive.

In the Spring Term Year 7 students will all embark on a visit to Harvington Hall, synonymous with our patron St Nicholas Owen and students in Key Stage 3 have been invited to take part in the weekend retreat to The Briars in November. We have also launched our Year 7 residential to Blenheim Woods next July and very soon Mr Behan will launch the Year 8 outward bounds trip to the Gower too.

However, sadly I have to inform you that despite our best intentions we will not be able to run our skiing trip to Austria or our Year 10 trip to Sicily this academic year. Restrictions around insurance, linked to COVID, for foreign travel for school trips have just made these two trips impossible. We do hope that our planned trip to France for Year 9 might still be possible though.

### **Pupil Premium Promise and Free School Meals**

As part of our commitment to support our most disadvantaged families we have published our pupil premium promise on our website this week, having recently had it approved by Governors. You can find it [here](#). If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals and thus entitled to PP support do review the promise to see how we might be able to help. If you have any queries about the Pupil Premium you can contact Ms N Hackett (Asst Principal and PP lead).

Please also be aware that Free School Meal vouchers will be sent out today for qualifying families to redeem over the half term holiday.

### **Transport**

I am well aware that the transport has not always been as reliable as we might have hoped this past 6 weeks but thank you for your understanding of this. Our train route is currently only running 4 trains per hour instead of the usual 6. This is due to a loss of drivers during the pandemic and a backlog in training of new drivers and the understandable recruitment issues that all sectors are struggling with. I am reassured by WMR that they very much hope to return to 6 trains an hour as soon as possible, and as soon as I have this information I shall let you know.

With regards to the school bus service operated by Thandi this has now reduced to a three bus service for the rest of the year. This is not a reduction in student capacity and all picks are still catered for. I can also announce that in the academic year 2022-23 (i.e. from next September) the cost of a school bus pass will reduce by £140 for one year in the first instance for all passengers.

## **Arbor Management Information System**

In January we will be moving to a new Management Information System call Arbor. This will have some impact for parent(s)/carer(s) as this system will be used for all future communications with you by email and SMS. In addition, there will be a parent portal/APP for you to use and this will provide you with access to your child's timetable, attendance and copies of school reports and much more. We will continue to use ClassCharts for house points, behaviour points and detentions but other features in ClassCharts will cease.

More information on this roll out and how you access the portal/APP will come out to you in due course.

## **Sporting Success**

You wont be surprised to read that one of the things I have enjoyed seeing around school in the past 6 weeks is the full return of school sport, including extra-curricular clubs and competitive fixtures against other schools. It is clear to me that the students have enjoyed this too. The girls have been at the forefront of this competition and success and since I last wrote the U13, U14 and U15 netball teams are undefeated.

The Year 7 girls football team won their first competitive fixture in the West Midlands County Cup defeating Sandwell Academy 3-2, coming from 2 goals down to win and go on to play in the next round after half term. So my congratulations go to Anayah, Emilia, Isla, Caitlin, Tia, Ava, Tajenae, Ava-Mae, Katie, Codie, Lucy, Lacie, Poppy, Isla (who scored a hat trick) and Esme (who was named player of the match). I am sure you join me in wishing them good luck for round 2.

Finally, last night our Under 16 girls netball team won the Dudley Borough Netball Tournament held here at Hagley. It was a closely fought tournament involving schools from right across the Dudley Borough. The girls played Holy Trinity in the final and were outstanding, completing a comprehensive win in the end. I was delighted that I was able to watch the final and my public congratulations go to our amazing girls who embody everything that is great at Hagley, well done to Grace, Gabbi, Luciana, Abigail, Millie, Dani, Roisin, Georgia and Corrine.

I look forward to reporting on the boys success next half term.

Finally, please be aware that school will be fully closed over half term with no availability via the phone lines or email. All students return on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November at the normal times.

With every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Hodgson

*Principal*

Twitter: @Principal\_HCHS

Email: [jhodgson@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:jhodgson@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk)

## **Forthcoming Events and Calendared items:**

- COVID 19 vaccinations 04.11.21
- Remembrance Day 11.11.21 - Live virtual service
- Y11 PPEs 15.11.21
- Y13 Parents Evening 18.11.21
- Y13 PPEs 29.11.21
- Winter Music Concert 25.11.21