

"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.....be it done to me according to thy word." Luke 1:28;38

Friday, 25 March 2022

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)/Students

I write to you from home today having been in isolation since last Saturday with the dreaded COVID finally catching up with me. I can't complain though, I know I did well to dodge it for 2 years. However, it is a stark reminder to me that "living with COVID" will still have an inevitable disturbance on our daily lives. To that end I would remind everyone that if your child has symptoms and does test positive they should not come to school until they have had two clear negative tests 24 hours apart from day 5 and 6 or, if not, have completed the full 10 day isolation period. With that in mind please be aware that we still have numerous LFD testing packs in school and your child can request these from reception should you need some.

Today is the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. The feast day that commemorates the visit of the archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he informed her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Pope Francis has announced that he will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary today.

"This Act of Consecration is meant to be a gesture of the universal Church, which in this dramatic moment lifts up to God, through his Mother and ours, the cry of pain of all those who suffer and implore an end to the violence, and to entrust the future of our human family to the Queen of Peace."

At Hagley we pray the Angelus every day at 12pm but did so today in dedication to this Solemnity but also in prayer and solidarity with all those suffering at this time in the Ukraine.

In this season of Lent out charitable initiates have continued with verve and compassion. On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March Year 7 completed their sponsored walk, in complete silence, and to date have raised well in excess of £1000 for their chosen charity, The British Heart Foundation. They have also made a donation of £365 from their raised funds to the Disaster Emergency Committee Ukrainian Appeal.

In school today it has very much been a day focussed on the plight of our brothers and sisters in the Ukraine and Sixth Form students, along with the Sixth Form Pastoral Team, held cake sales and had Ukrainian music and themes dominating the Sixth Form Centre. One member of staff commented that, "They had never seen such a buzz around a school event before!" Early indications should hopefully see another £1000 raised. Thanks go



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to everyone who donated cakes, especially those who had a go at Mrs Elcock's Ukrainian apple cake, Yabluchnyk.

The Beatitudes group were also selling ribbon lapels, while students in KS3 have been painting pictures of flowers in the Ukrainian colours.

## **Arbor**

81% of all parents and carers have now logged into the new Arbor portal (up a further 3% since I last wrote). Please remember this is now your only way to be updated about your child's behaviour, house points, attendance and assignments, as well as viewing academic reports. You can also update contact details and soon we will be releasing the option for supplying consent through Arbor too. Do contact school if you are having trouble logging in.

## **Year 8 Parents Evening**

Arbor is now being used for booking parent/teacher consultations and Year 8 parents/carers have been booking through Arbor for the parent/teacher consultation evening on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Booking slots are still available. Please remember the teacher will call you on your child's Teams account at your allotted time.

#### Y11 and 13 PPEs

Since I last wrote, Y11 and 13 students have completed their final PPEs and in the coming weeks final reports will be sent out reporting on these final assessments and forecasting grades for the summer. These are, of course, not fixed and in the remaining 7 weeks, till the exams begin in earnest on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022, students have plenty of time to dedicate themselves fully to their work and revision to ensure they have left no stone unturned in pursuit of their best academic achievement.

Of course, there are formal assessments already happening before then, not least in languages, applied subjects, and this week in food and nutrition, where Y11 students completed their final two course meal as part of their formal practical assessment. The students demonstrated some amazing technical food skills, concocted some fabulous menus and presented their dishes with real flare, perhaps some budding MasterChef's one day.















### **New School Uniform**

In a previous letter I advised you of changes to the school uniform from September 2022. One such change was a new school tie for every student in current Years 7 to 10. I am pleased to be able to let you know that these ties will be provided to all current students free of charge in readiness for the next academic year.

New uniform items for September 2022 will also be in stock by the end of May/beginning of June at the latest and ready to purchase then, including at school when we will be facilitating a pop up shop on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 in the gym.

## Sporting success

Finally, the sporting success has continued this past fortnight with fabulous results and performances in volleyball, netball and basketball. A huge well done to all the students involved in being crowned champions in the tournaments below:

- U13 boys and girls Volleyball Teams crowned Dudley Volleyball Champions!
- ❖ U15 boys and girls Volleyball Teams crowned Black Country Champions!
- U13 girls' netball team won Netball Memorial Tournament!, held here at Hagley.
- ❖ U15 girls' netball team won the district league crowning another undefeated season.
- ❖ U16 girls' netball team won the district league and end of season tournament in their final games at Hagley, this group of girls have only lost one game of netball in 5 years, what a wonderful achievement. A huge well done to Georgia, Gabi, Dani, Millie, Abi, Grace, Lucy, Luci, Roisin and Corrine.

It really was a great week of sport with our annual Spring Sports Day finally returning to the calendar on Wednesday. With competition across Year 7 to 10 in table tennis, badminton, indoor rowing, boys' volleyball and girls' football, it was a fabulous day of sport for all. The competition was closely fought throughout the day in all events but ultimately it was Wulstan House that came out winners this year. Well done to all the students for their excellent participation and commitment to competition and fair play.



Wishing everyone a lovely weekend, with every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Hodgson *Principal* 

# **Key dates this half term:**

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 Year 8 Parents Evening (online) Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Break up for Easter

## **Term dates 2022-23**

Autumn term 1 Monday 5 September 2022 Friday 21 October 2022 Autumn term 2 Monday 31 October 2022 Friday 16 December 2022 Friday 17 February 2023 Spring term 1 Tuesday 3 January 2023 Spring term 2 Monday 27 February 2023 Friday 31 March 2023 Summer term 1 Monday 17 April 2023 Friday 26 May 2023 Summer term 2 Monday 5 June 2023 Tuesday 25 July 2023