



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
SEMPER FIDELIS

*"Their sound has gone out to all the earth and their words to the ends of the world." Psalm 19*

02 July 2021

Dear Parent(s), Carer(s) and students

It has felt like the longest fortnight since I last wrote to you and to think that in just over a two-week's time we will be break up for the summer holidays is hard to imagine. Of course in that time we will also hope for a release on restrictions and the hope of a bright summer.

On Tuesday of this week we celebrated the Solemnity of St Peter and Paul with Mass for Year 12, that was beamed virtually to every classroom for all other years. I do long for the day when we can bring the whole school back together for such occasions but until then I am grateful for the wonders of technology.

Archbishop Bernard Longley has shared with us the Prayer for the Diocesan Vision and in his last pastoral letter outlined this vision, you can read more about it at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/vision>

**Prayer for the Diocesan Vision**  
Spirit of God, descend on me this day.  
Grant me the Spirit of joy to lift me,  
the Spirit of hope to inspire me,  
the Spirit of love to surround me and  
the Spirit of truth to enlighten my path.  
Holy Spirit, I pray for a new outpouring of  
your grace,  
so that I may grow in worship of your name,  
in love of you in my prayer  
and in my actions towards others.

Come Holy Spirit into my life to guide me.  
Strengthen and defend me,  
so that I may be drawn ever closer to you.  
Help me this day and always  
to be a channel of grace in all I say and do  
and invite others into relationship with you.  
Amen.

Tomorrow some of our Year 7 students will be making their confirmation, while others will do so on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Please do keep all our Confirmandi in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith.

### COVID 19

Since I last wrote we have sadly had an awful lot of disruption to school life due to COVID 19 and I would like to thank all the families who have been impacted by this for their understanding and for being so supportive and positive all at the same time.

In an effort to do all we can to mitigate against the spread we have returned to wearing face coverings on site in indoor communal areas and all other control measures remain the same as before.

For those with home testing kits **please** do continue to routinely test twice a week. All kits have now been sent home and there will be no more deliveries this term. Year 8 will be given theirs on their return next week. The Government has advised that testing during the summer does not need to take place and I await further advice on plans for September. As ever as soon as I have any updates, I will let you know.

Please also be reminded that if your child is placed in isolation, they must remain so for the full duration

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of their isolation period, regardless of any negative test they might get from an LFD home test.

Please continue to be vigilant of the symptoms of COVID (temperature, cough, loss of smell or taste) and do not send your child(ren) to school if they have even the slightest signs, including the ancillary symptoms of headaches, nausea, sore throat, fatigue, chills, aches and sore throat. In such circumstances please book a PCR test and do not send your child to school while awaiting the results.

### **Transport**

On Monday, the tender presentations for the transport contract take place and I will have some further information out to you subsequently.

### **Year 10 and 12 Pre-Public Exams 1 (PPEs)**

PPE season 1 ends today for Year 12, as it did on Tuesday for Year 10. The exams have gone extremely well, and the focus, attitude and maturity demonstrated by a group of students with little of no experience of such exams has been exemplary.

The next round of PPEs will be in November, with a final set in February/March 2022, and specific dates will come out in due course.

### **GDPR Consent**

Since my last letter a GDPR consent has been sent out to you. Thank you to those of you who have already returned these. If you have not yet, please do so before the end of next week.

### **GCSE and A Level Results Days**

We will be holding results days in school this summer for Years 11 and 13, on 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021 respectively. Results will be distributed from the school hall from 8.30am on both days and more specific details will come out separately to relevant families.

### **Drayton Manor and Summer Enrichment**

Next Wednesday Year 12 are off for a day of thrill seeking fun at Drayton Manor Theme Park and the planned days for Years 7 to 10 are still going ahead on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July. On these days students must be at school promptly in order to get away sharply and maximise the time at the park and the return time remains circa 6.15pm.

Fortunately, we are able to hold our annual summer sports day, and this takes place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. All students should be in the PE kit on this day.

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July while the respective year groups are at Drayton Manor there will be days of fun in school too, with planned volleyball and dodge ball tournaments, as well as a field full of inflatables for the students to enjoy. On these days students in school should wear their PE kits while those going to Drayton Manor can wear their own clothes.

School then breaks up for the summer on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021.

### **Student Successes**

This week I was delighted to learn that Anna in Year 12 has won a prestigious competition at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge to conduct an independent study into how the works of TS Eliot are pertinent in a post pandemic society. This is an extremely high honour, that is well-earned and deserved by Anna.

### Pyramid Concert 2021

Due to the pandemic we were not able to hold our annual Pyramid Concert this year. However, it has not stopped us continuing our music and performance work with our feeder and MAC primaries. Mr Mallinson has continued to visit schools throughout the year and with all our Year 6 primary school children create a virtual concert which will be published on our You Tube channel on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021.



Finally, it leaves me to wish you all a lovely weekend, one that, if like mine, will revolve around the Saturday's match against Ukraine and hopefully plenty to celebrate afterwards. "It's coming home!!"

With every good, wish prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely

Principal

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