



St Nicholas Catholic High School

A Business and Enterprise College

Headteacher: Mr R. Woods, BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Under the Trusteeship of the
R.C. Diocese of Shrewsbury

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Dear Parents and Carers

As I write this letter, students in Years 11 and 13 are finishing their examinations following an intense period of study and revision. They are to be congratulated on their determination and resilience in response to the increased demands contained within the new Exam Specifications and the increased number of examinations sat in many subject areas. We wish them every success for Results Day and a restful summer break.

Our new Year 7 pupils for September are taking part in their transition days this coming week and will soon be fully fledged members of the St Nicholas community. They will be participating in a variety of lessons, meeting their Form Tutors and then joining together for the Year 6 Transition Disco supported by the St Nicholas PTFA. We are also holding this year, for the first time, a 'New Parents & Carers Information Evening' on Tuesday 26 June for all students who will be starting at St Nicholas in September. This will be an opportunity for Senior Staff to share with parents what to expect in Year 7 at St Nicholas as well as the opportunity for questions and queries to be answered.

Our School Council continue their excellent work across the school. On Friday 15th June they presented at the Local Authority Safeguarding Board Conference on the important subject of Student Mental Health. They shared the excellent work that St Nicholas is currently doing to support the welfare and wellbeing of young people alongside our plans for the future. The Council also made a request for more social seating and some 'goal nets' for football at lunchtimes which are now available for students to use each day.

One significant and recurring request from the School Council has been to renew the toilets in the Crypt. I am delighted to announce that the Diocese has made available a substantial amount of money to invest in this project and their architects are currently drawing up different proposals for the school to consider.

Our Year 10 students will be invited to a 'Sixth Form Taster Day' here at St Nicholas with full details soon available to parents and carers from Mr Smith, Assistant Headteacher. Our Sixth Form continues to go from strength to strength with many new facilities available this year and the next phase of our improvements planned for this summer. Our excellent Sixth Form results last summer saw St Nicholas achieve the highest average grade and point score of any school sixth form in Cheshire West and Chester and we look forward to another set of outstanding results this August.

Forthcoming events include our annual Prize Night which is scheduled for Thursday 28th June, our Open Evening on Thursday 12th July and our Sports Presentation Evening on Wednesday 18th July. Further details of all of these events will be available through our usual channels of communication.





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Mr Smith has recently written to all parents and carers regarding school uniform matters in preparation for purchases being made for September and we will be reminding students of the importance of school uniform during assemblies over the coming weeks. Again, I would like to remind you that we choose to have a school uniform as it fosters a sense of belonging within our community, and avoids highlighting differences in affluence – we realise and recognise that we are all equal in the eyes of God who created us. Thank you for your continued support in this most important of matters.

Finally, students in Years 7 to 10, are invited this week to take part in a research project currently being undertaken by the University of Chester across local schools. The focus of the study is the effect of mobile technology use on mental fatigue in children aged 11-16 years. Your child will be bringing home a letter this week for you to confirm their participation should you wish to do so, and I hope as many students as possible are able to complete the survey, the results of which I very much look forward to receiving and sharing.

Thank you, as always, for the support you continue to offer to the St Nicholas Community.

Yours sincerely

Richard Woods
Headteacher

