4 September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin the new Term together, I write to share with you some very sad news that many of you may already be aware of.

During the summer holidays we received the devastating news that one of our Year 7 students, Lucas Briscoe, died suddenly whilst on holiday in Spain. Lucas was a remarkable young man – full of talent, good humour, determination, compassion and care for his fellow students. He was a well-respected and much loved member of our school community who gave generously of his time across many areas of school life. He was a superb singer who performed regularly in the school choir and was the lead vocalist in the Year 7 rock band with his class-mates. He was a fantastic sportsman who represented the school at both rugby and athletics, and demonstrated fantastic leadership qualities in supporting and encouraging other students in his year group.

Since hearing of Lucas’ death, we have been in dialogue with his family, his friends and his Parish. The school choir will be supporting his Requiem Mass this coming Friday at St Vincent’s Catholic Church in Knutsford. The school will represented by myself, Mrs Dale as Lucas’ Year Leader and Mrs Galvin as his Form Tutor. We will also be holding a two minute’s silence at 10am on Friday, so that the entire school community can join in prayer with all those present at Lucas’ Requiem Mass.

We have also put in place support for students as they return to school today. I have led assemblies for all year groups and we have made the Chapel available for students at breaks and lunchtimes where we opened a book of condolence and have had prayers led by Mairie our Chaplain – this will continue for the days and weeks to come. We have also been supported by colleagues from the Local Authority and the Diocese of Shrewsbury who have been present in school today to speak with students and staff.

Going forward we will continue to offer every support needed to our students via our Learning Mentors, Mairie and our team of pastoral staff. Please contact your child’s Year Leader in the first instance should you wish to discuss any matter in relation to your own child.

Lucas will be deeply missed by staff and students alike and our prayers and our thoughts are with his mum, his dad, his family and his friends at this incredibly difficult time. Please continue to remember Lucas and his family in your prayers.

*Eternal Rest grant unto him, O Lord;*

*And let perpetual light shine upon him.*

*May He rest in peace.*

*Amen*



**Richard Woods**

Headteacher