



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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7 November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

As we pass the halfway point of the Advent term, I write to share some of the 'highlights' of the first seven weeks of the 2018-19 academic year at St Nicholas and details of forthcoming events here at school.

Our Year 7 Welcome Mass was a wonderful celebration led by Fr Simon, Fr Paul and Deacon David Harrison, and the school hall was full with family and friends who gathered in prayer led by our Year 7 students.

Our Information Evenings for Years 10 and Year 11 were very well attended with curriculum information for parents, carers and students provided by Subject Leaders as well as additional tips to support home learning, revision and preparation for the new-style linear GCSE examinations. All materials are available on our school website for you to download.

Thank you for all the support given to Mini-market 2018. This was, as usual, a fantastic event on the last day of the Half Term which combined students' enterprising ideas in their Form groups with our mission to support those in need. This year we raised £2,800 which was shared between Cafod (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development), JDRF (Type 1 Diabetes research charity), Cheshire Downs Syndrome Group, St Lukes's Hospice, St John's Ambulance and Macmillan Cancer Support.

The Year 11 November Mock Examinations are very much on the horizon and I would ask that parents and carers consult the Mock Timetable and revision information that has been issued to support students through the weeks ahead so that they gain the best possible outcomes in these most important of exams. Year 11 students have also begun individual consultation meetings with our newly appointed Careers Advisor who looks to encourage and advise students on their next steps into education, employment and training.

I would also like to offer congratulations to those students from the parish of St John Vianney Northwich recently Confirmed by Bishop Mark, and also to ask every blessing for those students looking forward to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation next week from the parishes of St Joseph's Winsford and St Mary's Middlewich - we will be keeping them all in our prayers over the coming weeks.

Our recent Sixth Form Open Evening was once again a wonderful event. Students and families from St Nicholas alongside many visitors from other local schools, visited the varied subject areas offered at Post 16. In the assembly hall, myself, Mr Smith and Mr Bradley along with current students shared our vision and provision for post 16 education at St Nicholas. Our updated prospectus and





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course information booklet provides all the necessary information for prospective 6th Form applicants and is available on our school website.

Many thanks to all who attended my annual 'Meet the Headteacher' event. Our time together afforded me the opportunity to share our ongoing school improvement journey priorities, and allowed an informal 'Q and A' session which focused on a whole host of topics such as homework provision, our e-learning platform, refurbishment plans and school transport. All of the comments shared have been fed back to the Senior Leadership Team to incorporate into our School Improvement Plan for the next three years.

I would like to take this opportunity to share some up and coming 'dates for the diary' as we move towards the season of Advent together. Our termly Community Mass will take place on 25th November from 4pm at St Wilfrid's in Northwich - all are welcome as we gather together from our many different Parish communities to celebrate the feast of Christ the King and to look forward, once again, to the message of Advent as we enter a new year in the start of the Church's year. The Community Mass for Lent will be on 10th March at St Luke's in Frodsham.

Our school production of 'Sister Act' will be taking place from Wednesday 28th November through to Friday 30th November and tickets are available from Thursday 8 November via Parent Pay.

The Year 10 Parents' Evening is scheduled for Tuesday 27th November and our Year 9 Parents and Curriculum Choices Evening will take place on Wednesday 5th December with further details available from Mr Cummings and Mrs Pardoe over the coming weeks.

Our annual Christmas Carol Concert will take place this year on Wednesday 19th December and I would like to give advance notice that school will close for students at 1pm on Friday 21st December.

Finally, as winter draws ever nearer, can I please remind you that the *only* items to be worn under the school blazer should be a shirt, tie and school jumper. Hoodies are not allowed on school premises and are not to be worn at any time. Appropriate coats can of course be worn and full details are available on our website.

As always, thank you for the support you continue to offer to the St Nicholas Community.

Yours sincerely

Richard Woods
Headteacher

