



E-Briefing for Parents, Carers and Students

Friday 24th April

Welcome back to the Summer Pentecost Term which officially began this week on Wednesday 22nd April. We hope that this update finds you all in good health and good spirits able to enjoy some of the sunshine that we are blessed with at the moment!

Year 11 and 13 Examinations Update

The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) have released further details of the methodology they will use to calculate GCSE and A-Level grades this year. They have outlined proposals in a consultation document which is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/exceptional-arrangements-for-exam-grading-and-assessment-in-2020>

Year 11 Applications to St Nicholas Sixth Form

Next week Mr Bradley will be contacting all Year 11 students who have applied to St Nicholas Catholic Sixth Form. We will be sending out some Pre-Learning course information for all of our subjects (in case you wish to revise your subject choices), and throughout the summer Mr Bradley and individual subject teachers will be keeping in touch on a regular basis to help support all applicants through the transition from GCSE to A Levels.

Year 12 University Open Days

Usually this is the time of year where universities across the country open their doors to perspective students and is a crucial time in the decision making process, where to go and what to study. During this difficult time there are many different ways students can gather most of the information they need. Our **Unifrog online facility** still remains the most informative, interactive and personal way to research different universities and the courses they have to offer. UCAS are also compiling a list of 'Virtual Tours' for most of the universities (link below) which can be a very useful addition to the research process. If you have any further questions please contact Mr Bradley via school email who will be happy to help. Also keep an eye on our Sixth Form Twitter feed as this is updated on a regular basis with the latest information including a link to Webinar Wednesday's which was Tweeted earlier in the week.

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/open-days-and-events/virtual-tours#A>



School Twitter Page

If you're not already doing so, please do follow our school Twitter page which contains daily messages and inspiring reflections from Mairie our Chaplain. @StNicholasCHS

Pastoral Briefings

As we enter the new term, your child's Year Leader will be sending a weekly e-briefing to their year group via Ruler containing activities, information and reflections – please do take a moment to read this each week. Year Leaders have also added to Ruler some lessons on mental health and wellbeing to work through with your child as the lockdown continues.

Additional Online Learning

The Department for Education and the BBC have both provided additional resources to supplement individual school provision during this time of school closure. St Nicholas will continue to provide work each Monday at 10am but should you wish to access these supplementary resources then they can be accessed below.

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

Learning Mentor Virtual Drop-In

A reminder that we have now launched our virtual 'drop-in' service available for students. This service supports students in a range of ways focussing particularly on students' well-being and positive emotional and mental health. Any student can e-mail: Drop-in@st-nicholas.cheshire.sch.uk but they can only e-mail from their school e-mail account. Full details have been sent home via Parentpay and a copy of the letter is also available on the COVID-19 page of our school website.



Foodbank Referral System

A reminder that we have registered as a referral organisation for Mid-Cheshire Foodbank and we are able to process an on-line referral and arrange an appointment for you to collect a three day emergency food package from an agreed centre. For those who are self-isolating, a delivery can be arranged instead, subject to volunteer capacity. Please do contact us via schoolclosure@st-nicholas.cheshire.sch.uk if we can be of help in this manner. As always, our conversation and any information that we need to pass on to the Foodbank, will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

Mairie

