



11th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As we near the end of another term, I am glad to be able to share that students have, once again, been engaging in many different activities during this Lenten season as we prepare for Easter together. Reconciliation services have taken place for RE classes in the Chapel and our fundraising for the Diocesan charity of Caritas has also been a focus for us all - I have been amazed by how many creative and inspiring ideas students and their Form Teachers have devised in response to our Form Patron challenge set six weeks ago. Our term will end with our whole school virtual Lenten services, where we will reflect upon Jesus' Passion together through words, music and drama. We very much hope to be returning to 'in person' prayer and worship when we mark the end of the academic year together in July.

It has also been a real pleasure to see many more opportunities opening up for the students this term and this will continue at a pace throughout the rest of the year. Alongside the many regular weekly clubs and activities, the Year 10 residential retreats will be taking place, the school ski trip for next year is planned, both Year 11 and Year 13 Proms are being prepared, the school production of Bugsy Malone is re-scheduled for July and we are taking the whole of Year 8 to the theatre to watch Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat in June. You can keep up to date with school life via our weekly newsletter which can be accessed here on our [school website](#).

Our Year 11 and 13 students have begun the final countdown to their GCSE and A-Level studies with examinations beginning during the next half-term. There will be many mixed emotions as they reach this watershed in their education and life's journey so far. Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to attend the revision events here in school, and to Mrs Azakli, Mr Bradley and the team of Form Tutors who are continuing to guide and encourage students on this 'final lap' of their studies and revision. Details of our celebratory Masses for Year 11 and 13 families will be given to all parents and carers and we very much hope you are able to attend.

For your information, our next Parent Focus Group is scheduled for Wednesday 11th May from 6pm to 7pm and will focus our Pastoral Curriculum here at St Nicholas. Pastoral support for your children remains a key strength of our school community and our curriculum supports their learning and formation across such subjects as online safety, relationships and sex education, Careers, Citizenship as well as personal, social and health education. As always we would welcome your feedback and suggestions in relation to any of these matters and please email admin@st-nicholas.cheshire.sch.uk if you would like to attend in May.



Within our Christian tradition, Easter is always a time of renewal and faith in the future - it very much feels that way in school at this moment in time. As we begin to respond to the governments' *'Next steps for Living with COVID-19'* strategy, I can share that this term has been one of the most challenging since the pandemic started in regards to staff and student absence, and once again your children have responded so positively to all that is asked of them. Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding and we look forward to this Easter season with hope, belief and renewed determination in all that we do.

I very much hope you are able to participate in your parish Holy Week services this week and details of Easter Triduum liturgies can be found in this week's newsletter, which will be sent to parents and carers on Wednesday.

The summer Pentecost term will begin for students on **Wednesday 27th April** and until then may I wish you all a relaxing and peace filled Easter Holiday.

Yours sincerely

Mr Richard Woods
Headteacher

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