

St Joseph's Catholic Academy

A Leading Edge Technology & Applied Learning College

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Headteacher: Mr P Mitchell

Chair of Governors: Mrs G Kilgour

March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of another term I would like once again to thank you for your continued support in ensuring that our high standards are maintained. The relationship between families and school cannot be underestimated and this year has continued to be even more critical as we have worked together to support our students during the continued Covid-19 pandemic. I particularly want to thank families who have worked with us to enable all pupils to make a successful return to school after a prolonged period of remote learning. I am sure you will share my sentiment in hoping that we never have to close the school again for our pupils.

After the Easter break, we enter a key time for all our pupils but particularly those in Years 11 and 13 as they continue to work on their portfolio of evidence for the Centre Assessed Grades. Centre Assessed Grades are required this year as a result of the cancellation of the formal public examination season.

I'd like to take this opportunity to share with you information about the activities and events taking place in school in the lead up to Easter as well as sharing some key messages:

Holy Week Activities:

- To prepare students during the season of Lent all students have been taking part in virtual daily Lenten liturgies led by our Chaplain Mr Morales. This will continue during Holy Week.
- In addition, students are being encouraged to support those in our local and national community by contributing tinned/packet food items to Hebburn Helps - each Bubble has its own donation station.

Easter Spirituality Day: on the final day of term Thursday 1st April all students will take part in our spirituality day where we dropdown lessons in order to fully focus on celebrating the Easter season and the end of Holy Week together as a community. The day is led by our Curriculum Leader for Religious Education Mr Young and involves lots of fun and engaging activities to deepen our students' understanding of the true meaning of Easter.

End of Term Messages:

Uniform:

-A reminder that during the lead up to the Easter break our high expectations regarding uniform remain in place and that students are **not permitted** to wear make-up or nail varnish or false/acrylic nails; no jewellery; extreme haircuts/styles are also not permitted (hair should be no shorter than a number 2). See our school website for our full uniform policy: <http://www.stjosephs.uk.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Uniform-Policy-converted-1.pdf>

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Student Support

Resources are available for students during the Easter break online via:

<https://www.kooth.com>

Young Minds Website:

http://www.youngminds.org.uk/for_children_young_people

- **Final Day early finish:** Please note that the school term ends on Thursday 1st April 2021 and that students will be dismissed to make their own way home at 12.10pm. School buses will be available as usual at 12.10pm.
- **The new term begins:** Monday, 19th April 2021.

Finally, on behalf of all staff and Governors, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy and holy Easter break.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Mitchell', written over a horizontal line.

Mr P Mitchell
Headteacher