



July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

In this final newsletter of the school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in our school and local community for the very warm welcome they have given me.

It is unusual to start a headship so close to the end of term and I am thankful to my previous school for releasing me early and giving me the opportunity to get a 'head start' before September.

In the last couple of weeks, I have spent a lot of time in classrooms and around school, talking to our dedicated staff and our wonderful pupils.

Our new Deputy Head, Mr Moran, has also been able to join us for a few days to meet everyone and help us plan for 2018/19.

We are all excited for the start of the new term in September and our aim is to quickly move the school forward. We will re-establish clear procedures, ensuring high quality learning, care, guidance and support for all our pupils. We want every one of them to thrive and succeed.

We have added clarity to our uniform expectations, a copy is attached to this letter. We would particularly like to draw your attention to our expectations on skirts, trousers and shoes. We are certain that with your support that we can ensure the high standards of the Holy Family Catholic High School are met.

All of our systems are in place to ensure that expectations are high, teaching is good and students can learn.

## School Events Update

- We are very proud of our Year 10 students who have recently taken part in the Lourdes pilgrimage. They are great ambassadors for our diocese and our school.
- Our Year 10 students have been visiting different colleges in the area to look at further education opportunities. They have been a credit to the school in their participation and positive attitude.
- We welcomed our new Year 7 students and parents on our transition day. It was great to see the excellent attitude to learning from students.
- Our student leadership team have been very busy this half term demonstrating their leadership skills. They have planned and supported on our Year 6 transition day, developed our anti-bullying policy, supported in house assemblies, worked with our catering team to look at lunch choices and healthy eating plus they have planned liturgies and supported in the whole school Holy Day of Obligation Mass for St Peter and St Paul.
- Several visits have taken place this half term to Leeds and York Universities, providing our budding scientists with the opportunity of first-hand experience.
- Ski lessons are now available to all those booked on next year's ski trip to Italy.

- Our sports leaders are also great ambassadors for the school. They have planned and supported activities for local primary schools as well as organising and running events in school.

### **Goodbyes**

We are saying goodbye to some staff at the end of term.

Mrs Rees is retiring and we would like to sincerely thank her for her care, kindness and support for our students over the last year.

Our DT technician, Mr Lyons, is also retiring. We would like to thank him for his support for the school over the last 7+ years and wish him a long and happy retirement.

We also wish Miss Kirk, Miss Outhwaite and Mrs Bajaka good luck as they leave us for pastures new.

### **End of Term Arrangements**

School will close at 1pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Bus transport and taxis have been rearranged for this time.

### **Start of Term Arrangements**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September is a training day for staff.

Year 7 and Year 11 students will be back in school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September. School starts at the normal time of 8.50am.

All years will then be in on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September. School starts at the normal time of 8.50am.

On behalf of the staff and governors of the Holy Family Catholic High School, I would like to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs D. Mitchell  
Headteacher