



'To grow in wisdom and grace.'

Holy Family Catholic High School Weekly Newsletter

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Friday 05 June 2020

Headteacher's Message

Welcome back to everyone for half term six. We hope all our students have settled back into a routine with their online learning programmes! Teachers have been checking how they are doing and will continue to nominate students weekly for awards for their hard work. Teachers will also be making contact over the next few weeks if we feel that they need some additional motivation and support.

Year 10 update

We have been very busy this week contacting all our parents of Y10 for initial tutorials and planning for the 'face to face' contact for Y10. There will be follow up English and maths phone calls for those who requested them next week. If you have told us that you would like some 'face to face' contact in our subject tutorials from the 15th June we will be in touch with you to finalise the 'finer details' and logistics of this next week.

Year 11 'Virtual Leaver's Assembly'

I joined our Y11 student leadership and Miss Barlow on 'zoom' this week to start arrangements for our 'virtual leavers assembly'. Thanks to everyone who is helping to prepare for this. Please see their letter on the back page.

Year 8 Options

Mr Walter will be in touch with all our Y8 students over the next week with their finalised options for next year! We will then be able to update their online learning to include 'pre-learning' for their option courses.

The Holy Family staff look forward to welcoming our Year 10 students back into school and we hope and pray that things continue to improve so that the government is able to allow more students back in the near future.

I will continue to update you all throughout the coming weeks.

Stay alert and stay safe, Mrs Mitchell

Mrs Mitchell's Message to Students

There has been a lot of negative news about the impact of school closures on the learning of young people. What they don't recognise is how amazing, resilient and hard working the large majority of you are! So, think about the positives...

- You now can use classcharts and GCSEpod very well
- You have become more organised in your learning
- You have learnt some new skills and started new hobbies
- Your ICT skills have improved!

If you think any of these positives don't apply to you, do something about it!

It is not too late so please make every second count!

Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance

Proverbs 1:5

Year 6

Transition packs are being posted to our parents of Y6 over the next week. These include an initial information booklet and some forms that need to be returned to us. We also have a page on our website under 'Our School', called 'Transition to Holy Family' where you will find Mr Wadsworth's virtual tour and further information, including all the information sent out before half term!

<http://www.holyfamilycarlton.org/transition-to-holy-family/>



gcsepod
education on demand

As we announced in our last newsletter, Holy Family School are not only second **in the regional league** for GCSEPod activity, but also in the **top 10 in the UK this week!!** Classified as an 'A' Grade school!! Well done, especially to this week's 'Top Podder's'; **Libby W; Cody C; Liberty D.**

Well done and keep up with this as it is an essential tool to develop understanding of key issues. Remember, GCSEPod is for all students, in all year groups!!

Essential Worker Provision: Our 'key school' provision will continue to run during this next half term. If you are an essential worker and now need your child to attend after half term please contact us as soon as possible. This is a legal safeguarding requirement to ensure we know who to expect each day, we cannot accept responsibility for children arriving without prior arrangement. We can then also ensure the correct staffing ratios. Please contact the school email address: enquiry@holyfamilycarlton.org

Chaplaincy

Message from Mr Walter, Assistant Headteacher

The Most Holy Trinity

This weekend we celebrate one of the fundamental mysteries of Christianity: The Most Holy Trinity; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. This is God in equality of relationship, the love of the God of three persons, living in perfect unity with each other. It is in demonstrating this loving and living relationship that God shows us himself and invites us to share a relationship of love with him.

I always consider Trinity Sunday to be a fitting time to celebrate relationships, the Trinity being the most perfect relationship. It is a good time to reflect on our own relationships with family and friends. During these difficult days of confinement relationships may well, at times, have become strained. It is important to remember that relationships are very important to us and we must do our very best to nurture them. At times, we are called to forgive or ask for forgiveness. Let us all try to build on the relationships that we have, be it family, friends or indeed anyone we hold dear to us.

As humans we find the doctrine of The Trinity very difficult to understand. A friend once told me not to try and understand the Trinity but to look out for the times we experience the same perfection in our lives. As humans, some concepts are just totally beyond our understanding however, we do experience a glimpse of the Trinity; think of a time when you felt totally safe and loved, wholly consumed by the love of another person. Maybe it was a time when you were being held in the arms of a parent or grandparent. It is at a time, when we have these feelings that the Trinity is gently brushing against us giving us a glimpse of itself. This God of surprises is reminding us how perfect relationships are capable of being.

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.” 2 Corinthians 13:14

Remote Learning

Please know that we are only too aware, how challenging it is for families to ensure that the children keep learning during the school closure and we continue to reflect on what we can do to streamline this for you. We are currently drawing up plans for how we will set work for the final part of the academic year and will be mindful about how best to do this to ensure it is manageable for families.

The options process is being finalised for year 8 students and, with this in mind, we are planning for some bespoke learning for these students in the coming weeks which will focus on the subject choices that have been made for year 9. All year 8 parents/carers will be contacted shortly with the outcome of this process and confirmation of the subjects that have been allocated.

A message to year 10. In a little under a year’s time you will be sitting your GCSE examinations. We could never have imagined that you would have to rely on remote learning for over a third of this academic year. It is essential that you make full use of all the work that has been set on GCSE Pod and class charts. Maybe try the stretch and challenge activities set by your teacher if you have not already done so. What is vitally important is that you now begin to think about how the next twelve months are going to evolve for you. Please do try to make full use of every learning opportunity that is placed at your disposal. And, when we can all be together again you will be in really good position to continue the face to face learning that we are all used to. Mr Walter



The image below is one of the magnificent mosaics in the Rosary Basilica in Lourdes. It shows the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and Mary the Mother of God. And with the descent of the Holy Spirit come the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgement, Courage, Understanding, Piety and Fear of the Lord. Wisdom is the highest gift of the Holy Spirit because through wisdom, we come to value properly those things which we believe through faith. And our school motto recognises this:

“To Grow In Wisdom and Grace”

Last Sunday we celebrated the great feast of Pentecost. The end of the Easter season. It was this Easter season we were preparing for in March, during Lent, when we had to close our school. Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. It celebrates that day when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples who were hiding in a room. Jesus came and stood among them; Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” And when he had said this he breathed on them and said “Receive the Holy Spirit.” John 20:19, 22

The three person Godhead is now complete. God revealed His Son at Christmas and the third person of the Trinity, The Holy Spirit, is revealed at Pentecost thus, we have the Trinity now revealed in full in next Sunday’s celebration in the Catholic Church; Trinity Sunday.

'Together we step out in faith, knowing that Christ is with us and united as a holy family.'

Messages from Student Leadership Team

Dear Year 11s,

We hope you are keeping well during these unprecedented times. As a Student Leadership Team, we would like to tell you about a few things relevant to yourselves regarding leavers hoodies, our leavers assembly and a chance to reunite.

Firstly, its great news to all of us to hear that Leavers hoodies are still going ahead. As before, you can choose the colour and nickname on the back of your hoodie and order them through the companies own website. Deliveries will be sent directly to your home. Details for ordering will be sent out in due course and a link will be placed on the school website for ease.

Secondly, as you should all have heard our Prom at Carlton Towers has had to be cancelled. This is upsetting for us all but, as we were promised, a school reunion will occur for us all as soon as possible. At this moment in time we cannot promise what, when or where this will be, but as soon as larger gatherings can happen again we will be in contact to organise something so we can all mark the end our time at Holy Family.

Due to school closing so suddenly, we are sure many of you agree that we didn't have the chance for a proper leavers assembly that we would have liked. As a Student Leadership Team, and with help from the school, we are organising a 'virtual' leaver's assembly. For this, we would like you all to get involved by sending messages to form tutors and pictures you feel could be contributed to make this unconventional leavers assembly the best as it can be. To stop excessive amounts of photos being sent we suggest a maximum of 1 photo per person and these photos and messages should be sent through to enquiry@hollyfamilycarlton.org with a subject line of 'Y11 Assembly'. There will also only be a short window to send these in which we are setting as 8th-15th June so the assembly can then be put together shortly after.

The school already have lots of photos from our time here and staff are contributing with some lovely messages to us. Details of how to access the virtual' leavers assembly will be sent out when we have pulled everything together!

If you have any ideas or queries about anything mentioned above, don't hesitate to contact us or the school.

Stay safe and see you all soon,

Student Leadership Team