

Headteacher: Mrs Donna Mitchell

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Friday, 04 March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a very productive start to this half term. Our students have been busy in all aspects of school life.

#### Catholic Life

This week saw the start of Lent, with two wonderful celebrations contemplating the themes of 'Pray; Fast; Give', to start our time leading up to Easter. Our Year 11 student leaders did a fantastic job leading our liturgies, reading and distributing ashes, giving example of the importance of self-reflection at this time to the rest of the school community.



Around the world, there are 200 million children whose lives are at risk from malnutrition, and as we are keen to express our faith in a tangible way, each Lent we raise money for CAFOD in order to support the work they do in the developing world. Friday, 11 March is **Family Fast Day** where we are encouraging staff and students to purchase **soup and a roll** instead of their usual lunch. Through having a little less, we hope that we might in a small way show our understanding of those in need. Donations should be made via ParentPay instead of the usual school dinner money.

Years 7 & 8 will also be taking part in the National CAFOD Big Assembly at 9:30 on the 11<sup>th</sup> March, where they will have an opportunity to meet 4-year-old Lombeh in Sierra Leone, and to find out how they can help stamp out hunger this Lent.

As well as donations to CAFOD, we are, as always; keen to help those closer to home. Therefore, we are also supporting our local **Selby Food Bank** and we ask that students bring into school this coming week items that can help families in our community who are struggling to pay their bills and who do not have enough to eat.



If you are able, please donate; rice, cereals, pasta, sauces, tinned fish or meat, tinned fruit and vegetables and cartons of orange juice. These should be handed to your child's form tutor, and we will arrange delivery to the Food Bank.

### **Year 9 Options Evening**

It was lovely to see parents and carers 'in person' for our Y9 options evening. We also welcomed some ex-students to help on the night, a big thankyou to Neve, Molly and Tiffany for their support.

Staff have been very impressed with the mature attitude of our Year 9 students as they make these decisions. If anyone could not make the evening but would like to speak to someone about the process, please email Mr Walter at enquiry@holyfamilycarlton.org.

## **World Book Day**

We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March with lots of different activities. Teachers have been sharing which books they are currently reading with students. This helps our students to understand that reading is a lifelong activity and not just for one day!

Pupils throughout the school have received a voucher for £1 off any book/audiobook OR they can exchange it for a free book (the token shows which books are available) at most bookstores.

In true 'Willy Wonka' style, there were five Golden Tickets hidden across Year 7 and Year 8 form rooms. Year 7 and 8 tutors asked their classes to look under their chairs in the morning to find them; the 5 lucky winners all received a prize.

Years 7, 8 and 9 had the opportunity to 'find' certain characters from novels throughout the day; many thanks to staff for taking part. The first 10 to return a completed sheet won a prize.

## 'Holy Family Community News'

More and more students are getting involved in our 'news team'. They have been practicing filming this week and will be sharing regular news reports with our community. We are really excited about this project and our students are amazing!

Finally, this week, we continue to pray for the people of Ukraine and the refugees who have been forced to flee their homes. Our students have been invited to take a moment during their break or lunch to say a prayer and light a candle in our chapel.

# 'Never underestimate the power of other people's love and prayer.' Tony Snow

Have a lovely weekend; you are always in my thoughts and prayers.

Yours faithfully,

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Mrs D Mitchell Headteacher

