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Friday 8th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we end the Spring term we give thanks to our family of students, staff, parents and community for everything they do to support and care for our school. We have so many things to celebrate from this week!

Well-being Event



On Tuesday evening, we held our well-being event in school for families. On offer were stone painting, colouring, origami, music, singing, games, hot dogs, biscuits and ice-cream, bingo and a raffle!

Thanks to everyone involved in organising and supporting such a great evening.



Football



On Tuesday Nigel Martyn, ex-England and premier league goalkeeper, came into school to deliver an inspirational assembly, talk to some of our football team and give some coaching tips to our students. He brought with him some of his England caps and an FA cup medal to show our students. We really appreciated his time and inspirational advice.



Faraday Challenge

Twelve students in Year 8 have spent the day participating in the much-coveted Faraday Challenge, an annual competition that introduces students to engineering, inspiring them to consider engineering as a career. The competition helps to develop practical and employability skills, including team working, problem solving and creative thinking. With 143 heats, taking place across the country, there is plenty of competition, but as finalists in the last competition in 2019, we have full confidence in the team of scientists and engineers representing our school.



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Wellbeing Day



Today was this year's second Wellbeing Day, based around the theme of Five Ways to Wellbeing. This is where we promote healthy relationships & personal wellbeing; activity, such as music, sports, arts. We enjoyed reflection time during our Easter liturgy, learnt British Sign Language; and helped others with a Walk for Hunger and non-uniform day. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to making the day a success.

Year 7 – 'Diana Mentoring Award' Project



The Diana Mentoring Award team came into school this week to do a project with some Year 7 students. They were really impressed with the pupils' teamwork skills and organisation. Well done to all the students involved!



'Golden Ticket' Reward

Well done to all our 'Golden Ticket recipients, for earning so many Virtue Award points during this term. A great achievement which is reflected in the success these students enjoy in all aspects of their work. Pupils were rewarded with a 'Hotdog with the Head'! Well-deserved hot dogs and ice cream following a busy Wellbeing Day and busy term!

CAFOD Walk for Hunger

Forty students took part in the CAFOD Walk for Hunger, raising money for CAFOD's national campaign against hunger and malnutrition across the world. Students learned about a little girl called Lombekh who received help when she was acutely malnourished for a cost of only £12. Holy Family has taken part in this along with all the schools within our Academy Trust raising awareness and funds for CAFOD's work. We are looking forward to working more closely with CAFOD in the future.



Masses at St Mary's Church and our Preparation for Easter



Our Year 9 and Year 10 students have attended and taken part in Masses at St Mary's Church in Carlton this week as whole year groups. A wonderful way to celebrate together in our beautiful parish church after such a long time. Year 11 will celebrate Mass there, as part of their leaving celebrations and Years 7 and 8 will be doing so combined with a day looking at our community history in the summer term.

Years 7, 8 and 9 have also visited our chapel to pray the Stations of the Cross in preparation for Holy Week. Today our students have presented a poignant liturgy as we all came together as a family to pray.

Year 7 Science Poetry Competition

As part of our celebrations for World Poetry Day, the Science department ran a poetry competition for Year 7. Congratulations to our winners Finlay and Oliver.



Year 10 New College Taster Day

Year 10 were welcomed to New College, Pontefract this week. They had first-hand experience of life at the college and had the opportunity to sample a range of Level 3 and A-level courses. Feedback from the college staff was fantastic and they commented on how excellent the pupils had been throughout the day. More information about the post-16 opportunities available at New College can be found on their website <https://ncpontefract.ac.uk/>

Work Experience

We will be launching our Work Experience Programme for Year 10 after the Easter holidays. Parents are invited to watch this pre-recorded online launch event in preparation for further information when we return to school. <https://vimeo.com/645226951/ba9df50961>

Staff Farewells

We have said goodbye to Miss Agar today, we wish her all the best and thank her for her care and support for our students over her time at Holy Family.

We also thanked Mrs Barnes who has been on secondment from Our Trust for the last term, helping us to set up our community news and further develop our well-being strategy. We hope that she will keep in touch!

As we finish for our Easter break, we give thanks for each other and our Holy Family community.

We return on Monday 25th April.

May you all be blessed with happiness this Easter.

'The way to be truly happy is to be truly human, and the way to be truly human is to be truly godly.' –J.I. Packer

Yours faithfully,



Mrs D. Mitchell
Headteacher