

Pastoral Newsletter

Mr J Wadsworth

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to introduce myself as the Pastoral Senior Lead. My aim, with the support of every member of staff at our school, is to ensure that your child is fully supported so that academic success can be achieved.

In this newsletter, I will be highlighting the ways in which your child is supported, both within and outside of school.

Three Simple Rules

This term has seen the introduction of our three simple rules; Respectful, Responsible & Safe. These are the rules that students must adhere to as part of the Holy Family Community. Below, you can see different elements of each rule, all of which have already been shared with students in several assemblies.

Respectful: In your relationships	Responsible: In your learning	Safe: In your choices & actions
Celebrate others' achievements as well as being proud of your own.	Listen to the teacher and other students' views before expressing your own.	Consider what consequences your actions may have – before you decide to speak or act.
Treat others as you want to be treated.	Plan ahead, organise and evaluate your learning.	Make healthy decisions about your well-being – physical and mental health.
Embrace diversity and equality, seeing difference as a strength in our community.	Follow instructions and accept advice or help.	Allow others to be free from threats, insults and bullying.
Respect the cultures, religions and views of others.	Come to school prepared and motivated to learn, with everything you need.	Respect others' property and the environment we learn in.
Respect others' rights to learn.	Allow others to learn free from disruption.	Think carefully when online – about your 'footprints' as well as your choices.

Behaviour Policy

Our behaviour policy has been updated; this incorporates the three simple rules with an emphasis on restorative practice and communication. Other updates include classroom actions, reasonable adjustments, after school detentions and how students are rewarded for their efforts inside and outside the classroom. The policy can be found on our school website.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones must remain out of sight and switched off during school hours. This includes break and lunchtimes. Phones must not be seen or heard. On the school site, we are a no phones school.

Any student seen using their mobile phone, for any reason, during school hours, including break and lunchtimes, will have their phone confiscated. Refusal to hand over the mobile phone will result in further sanctions.

Confiscated phones will be taken to reception where the phone will be stored and the name of the student will be recorded. In the first instance the phone may be returned to the student at the end of the school day.

We appreciate that there are sometimes life events or situations where a student may feel they need contact with home during the day. In these cases, we ask parents and carers to inform us as soon as possible and students will be allowed to use the school phone to speak to home. The mobile phone ban will remain in place.

Vaping

I would like to draw your attention to the issue of vaping and young people. Certain types of vapes are being marketed towards children due to their bright colours and flavours such as bubble gum and strawberry. E-cigarettes do contain nicotine, which is an addictive and harmful substance and the sale of these to anyone under the age of 18 is illegal.

Please note that these vapes can look at first glance like highlighter pens and could go unnoticed.

Any student caught in possession of a vape / e-cigarette on the school grounds will be firmly dealt with, in line with our behaviour policy. As a school, our first priority is to keep our students safe.

Attendance

The school day starts at 08:45 am and students are required to be in their form rooms at this time. However, there are a growing number of students who live in the local villages, who are arriving after this time. Please ensure that your child, if they are walking or cycling, allows sufficient time to arrive in school for 08.45am. Thank you.

As we approach the last three weeks of the half term, it is important that attendance remains a priority for all students. If students have 100% between Monday 28/11/22 and Friday 16/12/22, they will receive an attendance prize on the last day of term.

Appointments & Medical Information

Please contact reception as early as possible if your child is not going to be in school for any reason. If your child has an upcoming medical appointment, please email enquiry with a letter screenshot of the appointment details. Thank you.

If your child has any recent medical conditions that may require medication or school support, please contact the office with details as soon as possible. Thank you.

Online Safety

Social Media use and the impact it can have on our students, is and will continue to be a concern to both educators and parents. This [link](#) to the NSPCC page on keeping children safe online offers advice on how we can work together to ensure your child is using the internet safely.

Wellbeing

Our new Wellbeing Lead, Mrs Ferris, offers counselling and emotional support to students in school. Many students are finding the support from Mrs Ferris incredibly useful. Our in-school Mentor, Mr Phillips is in school on a Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday to offer support and guidance to targeted students.

We also have the Wellbeing in Mind Team based in school on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please use the links below to find out further information on the support that the team can offer. There are other support services available to students and, as parents, you can view these by clicking the images below. I recommend reading through some of the advice on 'Home or Out Alone', especially as we are now in the winter months with less daylight.

				
Wellbeing in Mind	Online Counselling	Anti-Bullying	Mental Health Support	NSPCC

Rewards

If a student achieves a V4 from their class teacher, this indicates that they have produced an outstanding piece of work or gone above and beyond their teacher's expectations. A student may receive a stamp in their planner and, as a parent, you are notified via the SIMs App.

Furthermore, any student who receives a V4, is automatically entered into the V4 Live Draw that takes place on a Monday morning, where they have the chance to win a £5 Amazon voucher.

Students who have produced amazing pieces of work, shown encouraging signs of improvement or have shown other Holy Family Virtues may also be nominated for a subject recognition award, where they are then invited (with a friend) for a hot chocolate on a Friday morning.

Congratulations to this week's subject recognition winners.

English – Neave M – Year 7

Technology – Jessica S – Year 11

Maths – Niamh Chiverton – Year 8

Music – Borislav D – Year 8

Science - Luca SR – Year 9

Computing – Christopher C – Year 7

RE – Ren Green – Year 10

Geography – Charlotte H – Year 7

History – Hannah M – Year 11

Art & Design – Borislav D – Year 8

PE – George H – Year 7

French – Kiera D – Year 10

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