



St. Joseph's Roman Catholic High School

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Headteacher: Mr R. Woods | **Deputy Headteachers:** Mr M. Graham, Mrs J Morgan | **Chair of Governors:** Mrs P. Jones

Registered Charity Number: 1075795 | **Facebook/Twitter:** StJosephsRCHS

Lent Newsletter - March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

As we enter the season of Lent together, we begin our path towards Easter as the time of change and renewal in our Church calendar. All pupils took part in Ash Wednesday services to mark the beginning of our 40 days of prayer, fasting and good works, with fundraising activities to support the Diocesan 'St Joseph's Penny' appeal now well underway offering yet again many fantastic ideas to support and promote this most worthy of causes. As we journey through Lent together, pupils will also be participating in our interactive Lenten 'Prayer Labyrinth' following the Stations of the Cross in the Sports Hall and will also partake in the 'Journey to Sanctuary' experience which follows the story of a child refugee through a range of interactive activities during RE lessons.

Our Year 11 students have begun the final countdown towards their GCSEs with secondary 'mock' examinations just completed, alongside revision classes and planned booster sessions over the weeks ahead. Year 10s have been applying for school prefect positions and the honourable positions of Head Boy and Head Girl. They are also making preparations for their work experience placements later in the summer term.

Year 9 pupils and parents have received full written reports and are now focused on GCSE option choices having attended Parents' Evening in preparation for the up and coming guidance meetings with members of the School Leadership Team. Year 9 pupils also attended a Careers event at the Macron Stadium last week and were praised by the external organisers and school staff who attended for their positive behaviour and attitude. Year 8 pupils will soon take part in their Respect Day and Year 7s have been involved in the 'Reach for the Future' event over the last 6 weeks focusing on work relating learning, developing resilience and overcoming challenges.





We also look forward to welcoming Year 6 pupils and families as they begin the formal transition to St Joseph's this week with two Welcome Evenings for prospective pupils and parents, pupils who in the summer term will enjoy two days of taster lessons here at school with an opportunity to meet their Form Tutors and to celebrate together in prayer and worship.

The end of the Lenten season also brings a time of personal change for myself as I move on from St Joseph's to take up a new position as Headteacher of another Catholic school near Chester after Easter. I would very much like to take this opportunity to thank you as parents and carers for the never ending support and dedication you show here at St Joseph's. I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to serve this wonderful community for the last four years and I truly believe that the commitment and devotion shown by the exceptional team of staff and governors in partnership with yourselves as parents is an example for all within Catholic education...as our recent Section 48 report commented – *“St Joseph's is a Gospel inspired and united place of learning providing a living testimony to the mission of the Church in education”*.

I would like to offer Mr McCabe, your new Headteacher from 1st May, every good wish as he takes up post, and offer the entire community of St Joseph's every continued success for many years to come.

Yours sincerely

Richard Woods
Headteacher