



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS

**For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."
2 Timothy 1:7**

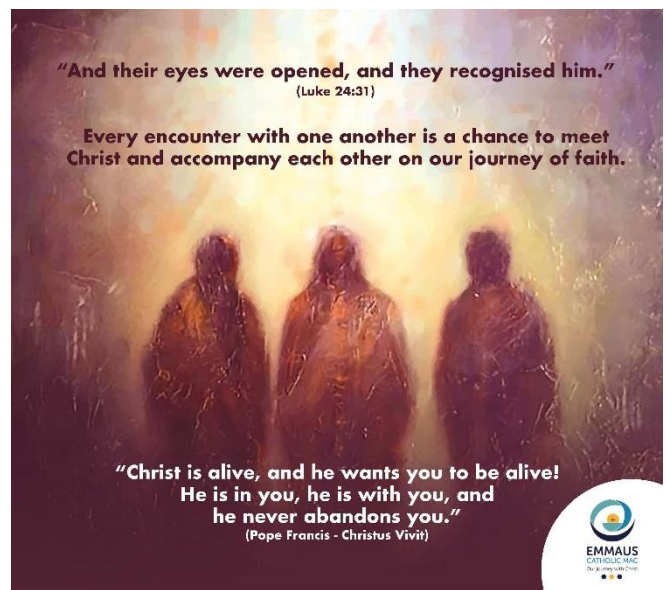
Friday, 11 October 2024

Dear Parent(s), carer(s) and students,

School has been a hive of activity since I last wrote and weeks 5 and 6 in a long half term are always the ones that can be the toughest for staff, students and parents/carers alike. But we are through it, half term is on the horizon and the students will have deserved it when it comes, as will the staff.

Over the last 12 months much of our Catholic Life work has been on "encounter and accompaniment" trying to always make sure that every contact with those we meet around school and in our communities is one in which we show the face of Christ. But to also accompany one another positively in all things, as Jesus walks alongside us too.

There have been many examples of this so far this term. Not least the Year 12 group who have been visiting a local retirement home on Wednesday afternoons to spend time with the residents and sharing our values of compassion and attentiveness with them. Or the warm welcome a local Our Lady and All Saints parishioner received when he joined Year 11 for Mass this week and was so overwhelmed by the reception he got, and the joy shared in the Mass, that he stood up and thanked the students for it.



Then yesterday we joined in solidarity with all those battling with poor mental health and took on the challenge from [@Youngminds](#) to "wear it yellow" for World Mental Health Awareness Day with students sporting a yellow ribbon and staff wearing yellow clothes.



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Brushstrokes Charity Appeal - Mrs O'Loughlin

I'd like to thank all the staff and parents that sent in donations for The Brushstrokes Charity Appeal: supporting refugees in the Sandwell area. Also a big thank you to the four Year 9 pupils who helped sort and pack the donations. Jack, Alyssa, Amelia and Oskar.

Brushstrokes were overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community.

Meet the Tutor Evening

Last Thursday we welcomed parents and carers of our new Year 7's to school to meet their child's tutor and review the first 5 weeks. It was also a chance for them to try some of our lunchtime offer, so a huge thanks to AiP for putting on a little supper for our families.

It was an extremely well attended evening, thank you to all parents/carers for your positive engagement. It was great to hear all the excellent feedback about transition and how well your children had settled in.

All other Parents/Carer Consultation Evenings will be online this year, as previously, but we will be trialling a new system to run these meetings that means we video call you, the parent/carers, directly and not through your child's TEAMS account. The system we will be using is called School Cloud and we will be in touch again about how this will work. In the meantime please be aware that Parent/Consultation Evenings for the rest of the year are as follows:

Year 7 - Thursday 13th February 2025

Year 8 - Thursday 10th April 2025

Year 9 - Thursday 20th March 2025

Year 10 - Thursday 8th May 2025

Year 11 - Thursday 12th December 2024

Year 12 - Thursday 30th January 2025

Year 13 - Thursday 21st November 2024



Lego Based Play



We are appealing for donations of Lego that families might have no further use for to support our work with some of our neurodivergent children as part of our Lego Based Play intervention.

It is proving particularly effective at the moment with some of our high need students, but we just don't have enough Lego, so if you do have any you can donate please do drop it into reception.

Open Morning and Year 6 Taster Sessions

Last Saturday's Open Morning was another huge success with some 300 families joining us to tour the school, explore our offer and feel what it is like to be part of the Hagley family. Over 200 students also joined us to proudly showcase their school, and they did the most wonderful job. My thanks go to their parents/carers that supported our event by getting them here and home again.

We also continue to run our Year 6 secondary taster sessions and since I last wrote have been delighted to welcome Year 6 pupils from St Ambrose, St Wulstan and Our Lady of Fatima with other feeder primaries due to join us in the final fortnight of the half term.

Matilda Trip



Students involved in last year's production of Matilda the Musical had a wonderful trip to London's West End two weeks ago. For many it was their first visit to a West End London Theatre and fortunately the whole day did not disappoint.

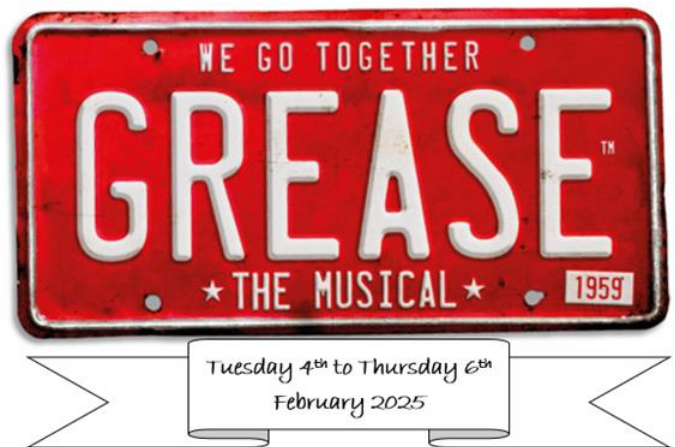
Some time to mooch around Covent Garden before the show and then an afternoon in the Cambridge Theatre watching a truly remarkable show was something dreams were made of, and students will remember this trip for a very long time.

You can see more pictures of our day out on social media including the students singing some of the songs as we travelled home.

Grease Production

This year's school production is Grease The Musical and only last week the cast was announced with Jacqueline and Edward cast as our very own "Sandy and Danny". Rehearsals are already in full swing and this year there will be three shows from Tuesday 4th to Thursday 6th February 2025.

Watch this space for ticket release and please do come and join us as we go back to the 1950's for a night of song and dance.



Working together to Improve attendance



Every student. Every day.

We continue to welcome, and encourage, your full support with high attendance and reducing unnecessary absence. We accept that sometimes children are just too unwell for school but are concerned when absence happens for minor ailments or mild colds that can be managed and should not be a barrier to the advantages that good attendance at school offers. Thank you in advance of your continued support in working with us to make a difference.

Train travel to school

Can I please remind all families of children that use the trains for school that students must be on site by 8.45am. We currently have far too many students catching the trains that get into Hagley at either 08.45 from Kidderminster or 08.51 from Stourbridge and beyond, and consequently are late for school, developing poor habits and missing a key part of our school day when we gather as year groups.

Finally, do take note of some forthcoming events that are listed at the end of this letter and please join us at the Family Mass, next Thursday in the hall at 6pm, if you can. You can tell us you are coming via this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/6ccFT6Fhgs>

Wishing you all every blessing and a wonderful weekend ahead.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson
Principal

Forthcoming Events and Calendared items

Autumn 1:

16.10.2024 - Sixth Form Taster Day

17.10.2024 - Family Mass (Evening event in the school hall)

23.10.2024 - Sixth Form Open Evening at 6.30pm

25.10.2024 - Break up for October half term



The banner features a photograph of the Hagley Sixth Form Centre building on the left, with a large blue and yellow arrow graphic pointing right on the right side. The text is overlaid on the right side of the banner.

**Sixth Form
Open
Evening**

23rd October at
6:30pm

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