



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS

“My Soul finds rest in God, my Hope comes from him.” Psalm 62.5

Friday, 24 January 2025

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

This morning the Archdiocese of Birmingham launched the Jubilee Year of Hope across all schools in the Diocese and we were delighted to be able to join in communion with all schools at this online virtual launch.

We have been preparing for the Year of Hope in Assemblies with Jubilee years every 25 years to give Catholics the opportunity to pray and reflect on their mission. Throughout this year there will be spiritual activities focusing on the Year of Hope.

During the live stream, we heard about the Diocesan commitment to fundraising for Fr. Hudson's Caritas (FHC) and we shall, once again, make this one of our focus charities this year. Not least, this term, when Year 7 complete the annual Year 7 Sponsored Walk for FHC.

Please do support the whole Church in this journey as Pilgrims of Hope this year.

St Nicholas Owen Feast Day

Yesterday was the annual Feast Day of our Patron St Nicholas Owen. We extended our morning form time, and all students took time to reflect on the life and inspiration of our Patron while also reviewing our School Mission statement and evaluating how each part of it relates to them and how they can live it out in school and in their lives.

And at the end of the day everyone finished the day with a chocolate treat.



Who was Nicholas Owen?

- He was born in Oxford in 1562 and trained as a carpenter.
- He was a Jesuit lay brother, a group of Catholics who helped to spread the Gospel, especially after the Reformation. As a school we have adopted the Jesuit Pupil Profile Values.
- He used his skills to build secret priest holes across the country to hide priests when it was illegal to be a Catholic in the UK.
- Nicholas worked alone and during the night to avoid capture.
- He was eventually caught in 1606 and tortured for over a month. The authorities hoped to extract valuable information from him about other Catholics and the priest hiding holes but he refused to share any information and died on the rack in the Tower of London.

Reflection: What can we learn from St Nicholas Owen?

- He used his gifts as a carpenter generously to save others, at great cost to himself, showing that he was loving.
- As a Jesuit lay brother he was faith-filled and active in his beliefs.
- He was truthful as he stayed true to his faith and died for his beliefs (martyr).
- In our school prayer, we pray *“Make this school a safe refuge.”* His example should encourage us to be grateful for preserving the Catholic faith in this country.
- **Are there any more values St Nicholas Owen displayed?**



Respond

A prayer of hope

God, our loving Father, in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our call to love creation. Help us to work together to replant, repair, and renew.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Jesus, our light, in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our call to love our neighbours and to set free those who suffer. Help us to treat everyone with dignity; to be fair, forgiving and kind.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Holy Spirit, our inspiration, in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our call to grow in faith and love. Help us to hear you in scripture, to see Jesus in others, and to be united as God's global family.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Amen

Written in collaboration with Missis.

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Character, Culture and Formation

Every Tuesday morning the day starts with our Character, Culture and Formation curriculum. This covers everything from PSHE, RSE, careers and more. This week students in Year 8 received a talk from the Charity 'Everyone's invited'. Students were challenged to consider and think about stereotypes in society which may influence the way we can behave in relationships and students were educated on what unhealthy relationships may look like.



Meanwhile, Year 9 students took part in a Careers Education event as part of their preparation for making their Key Stage 4 options. Representatives from Nova Training, QinetiQ and Worcestershire Apprenticeships spoke to students about apprenticeships and debunked some myths about them. If parents/carers would like to find out more about apprenticeships you may find the parent and carer guidance on www.amazingapprenticeships.com useful.

Grease is the Word

This year's school production is less than two weeks away and the cast and staff are excitedly putting together the finishing touches on what should be the most fabulous show in true Hagley tradition.

Tickets are now on sale for all three nights on Tuesday 4th to Thursday 6th February 2025. With the show starting at 6pm in the Theatre.

We do hope that lots of you will join us for a night of musical theatre and huge talent on show. Tickets are available via Arbor Pay.



Student successes

The new term is barely 3 weeks old and already Hagley students are shining once again.

This week students were representing Wyre Forest District in a County Cross Country Event at Bromsgrove School.

All the students were typically brilliant and represented Hagley perfectly.

Special mentions go to Izabella Fereday, after being injured for the qualifier in November she was given a wild card space for the Wyre Forest. In the race Izabella was calm and collected throughout, finishing in the top half of the race despite being one of the youngest in the event.

Another special mention must go to Intermediate Boys' Team. Out of 8 Wyre Forest vests available, 5 of them were worn by Hagley students which is an amazing achievement in itself. Ruben Ray was the standout performer in this team leading the Hagley boys throughout the race, with him managing to finish in a fabulous 5th place. This means he has been selected to run in the English Schools event in March.

Finally, Will Kennedy was up against some very talented runners in the senior boy's race, finishing in 7th place. He now has the nervous wait to see if he will also be selected to attend the English Schools event.





In tennis, Lukas (Y10) continues to shine on the courts, last weekend winning an Under 18 County Tournament (3 years above his age group) at Tipton Tennis Academy with his doubles partner Joshua. While the KS4 Badminton Team put up a great performance on Tuesday night with Josh Kuruvilla the overall District Champion against competitors from OSH, Haybridge and Kinver.



Poppy in Year 10 is another Hagley superstar. She challenged herself to raise money for Guide Dogs for the Blind this January and has so far run 60 miles this month raising over £500 to date. Keep going Poppy, were so very proud of you.

And finally this week, I was delighted to have shared with me photos of one of our Year 9's with a passion for all things Cosplay at a recent Comic Con event. Gabriel has made the whole costume himself and on the back of his passion has this week met with teachers in Design Technology to set up a club in school.



Vacancies

We have new vacancies at Hagley and in Emmaus MAC Central Team. The Emmaus Finance Team are looking for a new Grade 6 Accounts Assistant while here at Hagley we have a new vacancy for September for a Teacher of English with leadership responsibility for our Whole School Literacy Strategy.

All adverts can be found on the Emmaus Vacancies page (<https://www.emmausmac.com/Page/Detail/vacancies>) and will go up next week. We are still looking to recruit a Spanish/French teacher too and this advert is live.

We are recruiting for a Grade 6 Accounts Assistant

Salary Range: Grade 6 (SCP 12-17) £27,711 to £30,060 per annum FTE

5 days per week, All Year Round, 37 hours per week – Negotiable for the right candidate

Emmaus Catholic MAC is looking to appoint a committed, enthusiastic and ambitious Grade 6 Accounts Assistant based at our Central Team Office, at the Waterside, Birney Hill.

Putting our children and young people first, always, the core purpose of the Central Team Services is to support our ten Emmaus Catholic MAC schools so that Principals and key staff can focus on driving high quality teaching and learning for all pupils, in all of our schools, to live with our MAC vision:

"Excellent Catholic education for all, in the heart of our communities: nourishing faith, nurturing talent and fostering aspiration"

The successful candidate will play a key role in delivering our MAC vision by supporting Emmaus Catholic MAC's Finance function with the day to day financial activities. Our finance team members are talented, professional, supportive, caring and ambitious to achieve success. We are looking for an equally talented and dynamic team member to strengthen further our already excellent finance provision.

If you meet the requirements of the job description and person specification and feel that you could make a positive difference to our financial services, then we can't wait to receive your application.

Closing Date: Thursday 30th January 2025

Emmaus Catholic MAC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We are an equal opportunities employer and we are committed to ensuring that all our staff and students have the opportunity to realise their full potential.

All applications must be sent to: recruitment@emmausmac.com

Applications close on 30th January 2025. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview on 30th January 2025.

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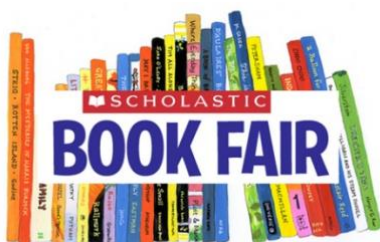


EMMAUS CATHOLIC MAC
Our journey with Christ



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

Creating a culture for Reading



We continue to work hard on driving a culture of reading at Hagley and working with children to improve their literacy levels. This takes many forms from reading in class and Mass, our Tuesday morning tutor reading programme, literacy interventions, peer reading with our trained Sixth Form reading mentors and we have recommended wider reading texts on each subject page on the curriculum section of our website for your information and hopefully enjoyment. **We also have our next Scholastic Book Sale coming up during the week beginning 3rd February.**

End of the day disruption

What an end to the day it was today. Thank you to you all for your understanding and positive response in getting everyone home safely after the disruption caused by the very last-minute notification of the train cancellations. Trains did start running again late this afternoon so lets hope everything is fine for Monday. Please do keep an eye on the Trainline app and WMR rail webpage though.

That just leaves me to wish you well for the weekend ahead.

Sent with every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson
Principal

Forthcoming Events and Calendared items

Spring 1:

- 30.01.2025 - Y12 online Parents Evening
- 04.02.2025 - School Production of Grease
- 05.02.2025 - School Production of Grease
- 06.02.2025 - School Production of Grease
- 07.02.2025 - Y7 & 8 Briars Weekend Residential
- 13.02.2025 - Y7 Online Parents Evening
- 13.02.2025 - Break up for February half term
- 14.02.2025 - KS4 Poland Trip
- 14.02.2025 - Emmaus MAC Teacher Training Day