



St Mary's Catholic School

Shining together in faith, joy and love



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Dear Parent or Carer,

I hope you and your families are well. As another term comes to a close, I am writing to express my gratitude for your ongoing support. It has been a truly rewarding term, with students demonstrating remarkable dedication in their studies, both in lessons and independent study periods, and making exceptional contributions to the wider school community.

It gives me great pleasure to write to you about the amazing achievements that our Sixth Form students have achieved over the past term. Students have been consistently impressive throughout the term, putting their all into achieving in not just their academic subjects but in their extra-curricular activities, super-curricular activities, Student Leadership Scheme activities and mentoring and volunteering involvement. Our Sixth Form students always show a desire to make a positive impact on the world and on our community at St Mary's, and they have worked tirelessly to achieve their goals. As Year 13 students move towards their end of courses and public examinations, and the Year 12 students move towards their first set of mock examinations, I advise that students have a well-deserved break during Easter before starting focused examination preparation. We strive to ensure our students flourish and fulfil their academic potential. To achieve this, students must supplement their classroom learning with sufficient independent study in a structured manner.

One of the things I appreciate most about our Sixth Form students is their commitment to leading and serving others in our school community. They have volunteered to serve others in our Mentoring/Volunteering Programmes, in our Student Leadership Scheme and in many aspects of school life, organized fundraisers, and taken part in various outreach programs. In addition to our weekly charity activities our recent Lenten Fayres and Sixth Form Culture Day have raised over £500 for good causes. This year, the number of enrichment points Sixth Form students have achieved for leadership and service has increased by 35 %, with new schemes such as academic and pastoral mentoring, and intervention support. I would encourage students to immerse themselves further in Sixth Form life and take any opportunity that will allow them to develop a wider range of skills, to prepare for upcoming applications to university, apprenticeships and the workplace.

One of the aspects of the Sixth Form we are extremely proud of is our Sixth Form Dress Code. Our Dress Code ensures that our Sixth Form students lead by example, as mature young adults who are role models for our younger students. It also helps to create a purposeful, academic environment in which our students are able to achieve highly, both academically and holistically. We have high expectations for our Sixth Form students and it is so pleasing to see so many of the students follow these expectations. Unfortunately, in the past, we have had the occasional student returning after a holiday without fully following the Dress Code. In addition, students must ensure they are only wearing one ring and one pair of stud earrings as jewellery. I would be grateful if everyone can ensure that all students, without exception, adhere to the Sixth Form's expectations in this area. Please contact me if you have any questions about the Sixth Form Dress Code. The students will be reminded about this too.

Many thanks again for your ongoing excellent support. I am confident that next term will be even more successful than the last two. If you have any queries at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me through the e-mail stated on the letterhead above. In the meantime, I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable break.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Turnbull
Assistant Headteacher Sixth Form

