

# ALL SAINTS'

# CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Parent Bulletin – w/b 08/01/24

# Thought for the Week:



On Sunday, we celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany, where the Three Wise Men visited Jesus, offering him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These gifts offer great symbolism, reminding us that he is a king (gold), he is God (frankincense) and that he came to die and rise again (myrrh). We are encouraged to think this week about the gifts that we offer and the way we live these out to the full.

On 8<sup>th</sup> January, we celebrate The Baptism of the Lord. Jesus is baptised in the river Jordan, by John the Baptist, during which, 'a voice came from heaven' saying, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased' (Mark 1:11). Jesus sets an example for us to be cleansed and to begin a new life through the waters of baptism. At the beginning of this new year, we are encouraged to make resolutions and start afresh, so why not challenge yourself to invite God into your hearts more deeply and remember that those words speak to everyone, as we are all God's children, and he is indeed very proud of

## Reminders/information:

<u>All Saints' Way</u> – This week's All Saints' Way theme is Show Pride! This week students continue to have their New Year welcome back assemblies and reminders about standards and rewards. Students are also being given new Absolutes for each lesson and top ups of equipment so that students can show pride in all elements of their classwork and homework.



## <u>Uniform reminder</u> (jewellery, hair and make-up)

#### Allowed:

- One small stud per ear in the bottom lobe
- An inexpensive wristwatch
- Crucifix or Cross worn under the shirt. The Crucifix / Cross should be approximately 2cm in length and on a fine chain.
- Sikh Kara bracelet

## Not allowed:

- Facial piercings / extra ear piercings / tongue piercings
- Clear plastic retainers / covering plasters to hide piercings
- Smart watches / fit bit style watches which can carry data and allow communication
- Bracelets / necklaces / rings

#### Hair, Make-up and Nail Polish

- Hair styles should be formal and sensible. No extreme hairstyles are allowed. This is defined as a style that draws unnecessary attention e.g. unnatural colours, extreme contrast of length or colour of hair, closely shaven (grade 1), patterns (this list is not exhaustive)
- Hair accessories should be plain (no bandanas, large head bands or large accessories, coloured accessories allowed)
- Where appropriate students are permitted to wear a plain coloured hijab
- No make-up allowed for Year 7 to 9 students.
- Make-up should be discreet in Year 10 and 11
- No nail polish, false/acrylic nails, false eyelashes, lash lifts, heavy brows or shaven brows.
- No fake tan
- No Henna, body art or fake/real tattoos.

#### Punctuality

Punctuality "The Big Push" continues. We have been talking to students about the importance of being on time to school and also to each lesson. We will continue to issue instant lunch detentions to any student late to lesson without a valid reason. We are helping students to prepare for the world of work and punctuality is very important in all areas of life. Thank you for your support with this.

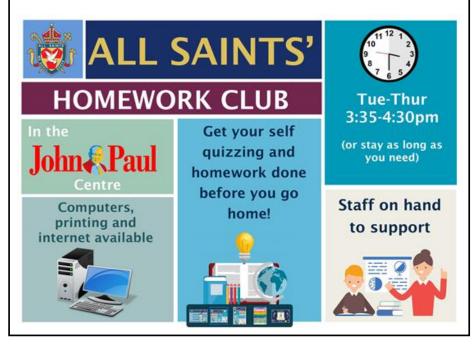
#### Rewards

Before Christmas it was an inspiration to be a part of the commendation ceremonies and seeing all of the students achieving in their academic subjects and also pastorally. Congratulations to all award winners. We are also launching our "Proud Podium". Throughout the year, students will be nominated to go to the proud podium for excellent pieces of work in curriculum subjects. They will have their photo taken if they wish with the piece of work to be displayed proudly in school and be entered to a termly prize draw (£20 voucher). Students will also be awarded 10 achievement points. We look forward to seeing the first students come to the Proud Podium next week!



#### Homework club

An update for students who attend Homework Club. This this will now be held in the John Paul Centre and will run on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday only.



#### **Chaplaincy:**

As a school, we are always here to support you spiritually. Our 'Thoughts for the Week' and daily prayer resources are provided by our De La Salle Hub chaplains, Clare and Luke, who are based at All Saints' and onsite each day. If there is ever a time when you need spiritual support as a family, particularly if journeying through a bereavement or time of personal challenge for your or your child, please don't hesitate to get in touch, as we are here for you all. Equally, if you would ever like us to pray for a specific intention, these can be offered at any time.

# **Meet the Chaplains:**



#### **Clare Lund**

My journey as a Lay Chaplain for the De La Salle Hub began in April 2023 and I've been fully in post, based at All Saints' and working in the primary schools across the De La Salle Hub, since September 2023. Prior to this, I trained as a teacher and worked for the past twenty-one years as a classroom teacher and as part of the Senior Leadership Team in RE, Chaplaincy, Safeguarding and RSHE at St. Patrick's. My time working with the excellent staff, families and wider team in school, alongside my many years as a catechist in the parish of St. Philip Neri (now Our Lady and All Saints') and my time on the Briars Team years ago have all enabled me to see the great work that Christ does in each of our lives and helped me to recognise the invaluable gift of nurturing others in the formation of their faith. Working with young people and adults on prayer, ministry, finding their calling and living out their gifts is the best part of every day for me, and it is a great privilege to be part of the team at All Saints' and across the Hub, where every young person, staff member and family matter. I look forward to getting to know you all and am always here, alongside Luke, to offer any support or prayers you or your children need, so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

#### **Luke Potter**

For the past two years I have been the apprentice Lay Chaplain in The Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust which involved me working with many different schools in the trust. I came back to All Saints' last year after being a past pupil and have been fully in post since September 2023. Alongside my work as Lay Chaplain, I often photograph events for the Nottingham Diocese and work closely with the Nottingham Young Adults' group. My work in the Trust and my work on the Briars Team allowed me to find a love for giving others an opportunity to explore their faith and be who God wants them to be, just like the opportunity I was given as a pupil here. I love being part of the team in the De La Salle Hub and at All Saints' so please feel free to get in touch with me and Clare if you need any support at all. As always, we are praying for you and your families.

## **School Dinner cards:**

Please ensure that your child brings their school dinner card with them every day. Missing cards causes big delays in the canteen which can result in students getting to their next lesson late. We recommend students keep cards in their school bag rather than in blazer pockets to avoid forgetting them on PE days. If your child has lost their card then please ask them to go to the IT office for a replacement one (cost £1).

#### **PSCHE:**

Please find a list of the topics covered by each year group in PSCHE this half term. You can find more indepth information on the topics covered on the school website. If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact me on sims.l@allsaints.notts.sch.uk.

**Year 7**: Physical Health

Year 8: RSE

Year 9: Online safety Year 10: Careers

Year 11: Mental Health

Year 12 & 13: British values & Finance

# Personal Development:

Wellbeing – Please find the resource from Kooth (<u>Home - Kooth</u>) - **Supporting your child during difficult times:** a practical guide for parents and carers. This will be attached alongside this bulletin via email.

**Wellbeing reminder**: Please remember that the link on our website is: <u>Wellbeing - All Saints' Catholic</u> <u>Voluntary Academy - Mansfield</u>. In addition, if you have any questions or specific concerns regarding your child's wellbeing then please email the address: wellbeing@allsaints.notts.sch.uk.

**Careers update** – Please see the attached letter regarding Unifrog, the new platform that we are now using to support our students from year 7-13 with Careers education, information, advice and guidance.

Please also remember that you can arrange a meeting with our progress careers advisor, the next date is: 16/1/2024 = Year 11 Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

You can arrange a slot directly with Rebecca, between 4.30-7.00pm

Email: Rebecca.Darby@progress-careers.co.uk

**Careers reminder**: Please remember you can also visit our school website: <u>Careers - All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy - Mansfield</u>.

**Free School Meals** - Derbyshire County Council administers the applications for **Free School Meals** for students studying at All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy. Please use the link below to apply. <a href="https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx">https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx</a>

If your child is in receipt of **Free School Meals,** you may be able to receive support with payments for school trips and uniform. If you are unsure whether you are entitled to claim, please complete the eligibility form on the website to check.

If you experience any difficulties please let us know and we will ask Derbyshire County Council to assist.

# Parent and Carer Planner 2023-2024

Week beginning 8th January 2024	Year 7-10 Data Information.		
	Year 7 Reports.		
Monday 8th January (All week)	Year 11 Mock Speaking Exams for MFL		
Tuesday 16th January	Year 11 Progress Evening for Parents. In Person		
Week beginning 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Year 8 Reports		
Wednesday 31st January	Year 8 Progress Evening for Parents. In Person		
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 8 Options Afternoon		
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 8 Options Information for Parents. Online		
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 11 Drama Exam		
Thursday 8th February	Year 11 Drama Exam		
INSET Day on Friday 9th February- Students not in school.			
Students return to school on Monday 19th February.			
Wednesday 21st February (All week)	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams		
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February (All week)	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams		
Monday 4th March until 12th March	Year 12 Exams		
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7 Progress Evening for Parents. Online		
Thursday 21st March	School Show		
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	School Show		
Thursday 28th March	Year 11, 13 and 12 Data Drop		
	Year 12 Reports		
Students break up on Thursday 28th March and return to school on Monday 15th April.			
Week beginning 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 7 to 10 Data		
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April until 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 11 MFL Speaking Exams (Actual)		
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Year 10 Exams Week		
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday			
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	GCSE Exams Begin		
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 11 Drama Exam		
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May (All Week)	Year 9 Exams Week		
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 10 Progress Evening for Parents. Online		
Week beginning 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 10 Exam Results and Report		
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 13 Leavers' Mass		
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	Students break up for the Summer.		
Thursday 15th August	A LEVEL RESULTS DAY (8am – 10.30am)		
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	GCSE RESULTS DAY (9am – 10.30am)		

# <u>Unifrog – The Complete Destinations Platform</u>

Dear Parent / Caregiver,

In keeping with our commitment to provide students with outstanding careers guidance and tailored support when choosing their next steps after school and sixth form, we will now be using Unifrog; an award-winning, online destinations platform. All students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 will have access to this website, which will be shared during their PSHCE lessons.

Unifrog is the universal destinations platform and is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. Each student will have their own account where they can explore all the career and next step options available to them and find information on everything from managing their workload to writing a winning CV. Students have access to a wide variety of video and written content, and interactive quizzes and tests, including:

Section of the platform	Examples of what students can do (this platform is new for All Saints' and so we are not 100% familiar with everything listed below)	Suitable age range
Quizzes	Finding their interests, personality type, preferred work environment, and skillset.	Years 7-13
Exploring pathways	Explore careers, career sectors, subjects, sign up to free webinars, explore MOOCs and courses, and find wider reading materials.	Years 7-13
Recording what you've done	Record their in-class and extracurricular activities, record examples of their skills, and see the record of CEIAG events the school has added to their accounts.	Years 7-13
Searching for opportunities	Find scholarships, activities, and bursaries to support their HE journey. Find and compare degrees in the UK and overseas, live apprenticeships, and FE courses.	Years 10-13
Application materials / Making applications	Write their CV, cover letter, Personal Statement, and more. Track their applications and record their Post 16 / 18 intentions.	Years 11-13

Students access the platform for the first time using a sign-up code which is unique to their form group. They sign in to Unifrog using their email address and password and they can do so from any computer,

tablet or smartphone. This will be explained to students during their PSHCE lessons (Year 11 have details already and then others years will be given details on the dates below:

Y7- April 2024; Y8-January 2024 (through email as students have already had their careers lessons); Y9-June 2024; Y10- January 2024; Y11- December 2023; Y12/13 – January 2024

Students access the platform by clicking a link in their welcome email, where they create a password and can begin using the platform. They sign in to Unifrog using their email address and password and they can do so from any computer, tablet, or smartphone. We would encourage you to use the platform with your child so you can support them through the process of deciding their next step.

You can also have your own Unifrog account. You'll be able to research careers, attend webinars delivered by employers and universities to learn more about their opportunities, and compare pathways so you can support your child in making an informed decision about their next steps. The signup code you need is:

ALSCparents and you can sign up here: <a href="www.unifrog.org/code">www.unifrog.org/code</a>. This login will be valid until 22.2.2024 — I will be emailing new details once these expire. You can also sign up to Unifrog parent / carer newsletter when you first sign in to get expert advice and guidance on supporting your child with their next steps.

For more information, go to www.unifrog.org or contact flint.h@allsaints.notts.sch.uk

Yours faithfully,

Miss Flint













