



## Faith is our Foundation

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## Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful half term holiday, as the mornings and evenings start to get brighter, we look forward to the Spring and the end of the shorter days and dark mornings. During half term we started the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. A time where we ask for spiritual cleansing and think about renewing our faith and purpose. In assemblies, form time reflections and PSHE, we continue to focus on our Catholic Virtues and as we build towards Easter, we look at being more compassionate and loving. Compassionate towards other, especially those less fortunate than us and loving by our actions and words.

Our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils have started their second round of Mock examinations. The results will give us and parents a real idea of progress as we move towards the public examinations that start in early May. It may seem like a long way off, but time goes quickly, and preparation must start now to ensure success in the summer. It is a far more enjoyable summer holiday and a happy event in late August when results are received and opened. For those pupils in Year 11 attention should be given to applications to Sixth Form, college or some form of education and training post 16. Our highly trained staff are on hand to support and ensure a successful transition to the next stage in their educational journey is achieved. Our Year 13 pupils should also be in a good place in terms of post 18 study or work and any help, or advice that is required should be requested via the Sixth Form leadership team.

Our Year 9 pupils are about to select their GCSE options, with a deadline of the 1st March. Please ensure you talk to your son/daughter about their choices and think carefully about subjects they enjoy and will be successful at during years 10 and 11.

On Thursday 21st March 6.00-pm-7.45pm, we are holding our annual Careers Convention for years 8-13 pupils and parents, with over 60 universities and businesses, as well as talks on apprenticeships and from some large organisations including Tarmac, Hilton Hotels and Galldris Group. Please come and talk and investigate the opportunities for the future.







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We continue to have a focus on maintaining high standards of behaviour, conduct, punctuality and attendance. You will have seen in the news recently the discussion around school attendance, unfortunately since COVID-19 attendance levels have dipped and more children are having time off school. Can I remind you that we expect pupils to maintain a 100% attendance record and at the very least 95%. At 95% pupils will have missed 8 days of school over the year, which is nearly two weeks of learning. As a school community are attendance levels are above national average, but we want to strive to be even better and encourage all pupils to attend school every day.



Two trips took place over half term, Mr Williams took a group of Sixth Form pupils to Berlin and Poland, with a number of visits and tours of famous locations the pupils were able to really bring 'History to life. Meanwhile I took 44 pupils to northern Italy to the Aosta Valley for a week of skiing. A brilliant experience, it was fantastic to see the progress that would made during the week of skiing, the coach journey home is always a quite one with pupils extremely tired, seeing them back I school this week and talking about the experience is so enjoyable. There are still limited places of the 2025 ski trip, any interested pupils should email the main office for the attention of me.

This is an incredibly short half term with only a further four weeks until we break up for the Easter holidays. Much is to be achieved, thank you once again for all your support in making St Peter's Catholic School a thriving community.

Yours faithfully,

Mr S Shelton Headteacher



