



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS



“By your endurance you will gain your lives.” Luke 21:19

Friday, 14 November 2025

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

The first fortnight of the new half term has been a challenge for everyone, not least because of the foul weather we have had to endure this week and for Year 11 who embarked on their Autumn Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) on Monday. Today's scripture, taken from this Sunday's Gospel, was my inspiration though and CAFOD's weekly reflection resonated with me and was the basis of my prayer with Year 8 and 9 this morning.

It reminds us all that the challenges before us are never more than we can endure and many face far greater challenges on a daily basis than us, so some awful weather and examinations should never divert us from our path to be **“Christ-centred Pilgrims of Hope”**.



This week we also stopped to reflect on those that endured and continue to endure war, and the pain, sorrow and suffering it brings. Students gathered across the school site for Remembrance Services and joined in sacred silence for 2 minutes at 11am.

Hagley students also proudly attended services with their cadet groups across the region on Remembrance Sunday and it's a privilege to share these photos with you of Hagley students in service and remembrance.



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Weekly Reflection

“I am reminded that faith isn't about having an easy path. Jesus doesn't promise us a life without struggle, but he does promise that if we keep going and if we remain faithful, we will find new life with him.

I often think of our brothers and sisters around the world who show great resilience and courage as they carry heavy burdens today - such as families affected by conflict or those rebuilding after devastating earthquakes. This challenges me to remember that faith is not just about my own journey, but about standing with others who are enduring such difficult circumstances.

When life feels heavy, this passage reminds us to hold on with hope. Jesus shows us that even in difficult times, God is close and gives us the strength to carry on.

Living out this hope means more than waiting for things to change - it means choosing to act with love. It means supporting one another, near and far, and seeking justice and dignity for all people. In doing so, we share in Christ's promise of new life and help to bring his hope into the world today.”

Minibus accident anniversary

This coming week we will once again join in remembrance and prayer at the anniversary of the Hagley minibus accident.

Mass on Tuesday morning will be offered in remembrance and adoration in the school chapel will be held all day. Visitors are welcome to join us for Mass and to come for adoration too and should sign in at Reception if you come to join us.

Catholic Life and Mission “kind hearts...a hunger for justice”

A reminder that our Reverse Advent Appeal is in full swing and we are taking in donations for Fr Hudson’s Caritas and the homeless on the streets of Birmingham. Students should pass their/your donations to their tutors.

This week in worship “Christ-centred pilgrims of hope”

Year 9 Celebration of the Word.

This week Year 9 classes have visited the chapel to pray as a community together. We focussed on what we can do to help others achieve their personal best. Some of us took time to reflect on our place in the Hagley family both in class and the wider life of our school whilst others prayed for family at home. We asked St Nicholas Owen to be with us and pray for our strength as we go out in our mission to support the whole of God’s family.

Year 7: Hats, scarves, and gloves

Year 8: Shower gel / soap / shampoo

Year 9: Baby wipes / deodorant

Year 10: Toothbrush and toothpaste

Year 11: Chocolate / breakfast bars (no nuts)

Year 12/13: Tinned food and sanitary products

6th Form Mass for All souls

On Tuesday the 6th Form Community joined together for a joyful celebration of Mass. It was a Mass where we were able to take time to reflect on the life of St Martin of Tours, how he was tasked with building places to teach the Gospel and educating people to proclaim what they believe. Fr Philip also helped us to learn that the tasks of St Martin have now become our own, that we should also help others to spread the Good News both in their actions and in their words.

Sacred Silence

On Tuesday, the whole school in different areas showed their respect to the many soldiers that fought in the war, by having two minutes of silence and listening to The Last Post. We do this every year on the 11th of November, Remembrance Day. Many of us also wear poppies during this time period, these are usually bought from charities that support ex-soldiers and also the soldiers fighting for us now. The pupils were respectful during this time, as we are also taught, earlier on, the importance of remembrance day and how big of an impact the War had on many, including some students who lost family members to the war.

Year 7 Update from Mrs Imrie

Year 7 have returned from their half term break fully refreshed and ready to be POWERful learners. In the last newsletter they had achieved collectively almost 19,000 house points, this is now a massive 22,138 by Thursday lunchtime. Alongside this is that more than twenty-six students have individually gained more than 150 and three students have smashed the 200 barrier. What an achievement!

It is also important to note that the number of behaviour points within the year group remain low and, with over 98 achieving zero! I was also delighted to tell Year 7 this morning that not 1 student had a detention today. Again, another achievement that testifies to how wonderfully Year 7 have settled in and have responded to our call to be a Hagley POWERful learner.

Since we returned in Character, Culture and Formation lessons we have looked at the importance of friendships, living in a diverse society and on Monday this week Year 7 amazed us with their odd socks for Anti-Bullying week.

There has been much excitement in form also this week with the much anticipated first inter-house competition next week, with 5-a-side football being the first competition. We look forward to this taking place next Tuesday after school in the Sports Hall.

Book Buzz Year 7 “a thirst for knowledge”

Our Year 7 students are excited to have received their BookBuzz books this week! Each student has picked a book to keep and enjoy - chosen by them, for them. All Year 7 have been challenged to take part in an exciting competition linked to this once they have finished reading it. Students can choose whether they enter:

1. A text transformation - changing the perspective of the book or adding a new scene.
2. A review - an engaging overview of the text and your thoughts.
3. A model - to be displayed in our school library.



We have prizes for each category and a prize for the form with the most entries. Why not ask your child about their choice and spend some time reading together or chatting about their book? Sharing stories at home is a great way to build a love of reading, spark conversations and support their learning. Let's keep the BookBuzz excitement going - happy reading everyone!

More details have been sent home to Year 7 parents/carers with students also having the details on TEAMS.

The Voice “Questioning minds and a thirst for knowledge”



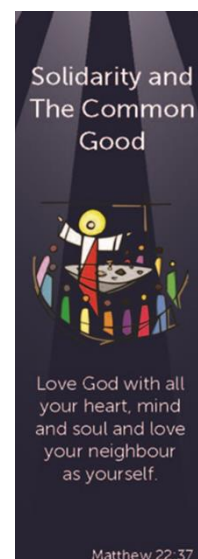
The Voice have been playing an active role in reviewing areas of school life during their meetings. As part of planning for next year and looking at the impact of the Embedding Formative Assessment the Voice have been working with Mrs Smith to review the process to date. During the meeting students were asked to review, and feedback on different techniques teachers have been using in their daily teaching practice. The feedback was collated and presented to the staff during their focus groups.

We have also been working Mrs Mouzer. The Voice were responsible for feeding back ideas and reviewing schemes that we are currently using for our RSE programme in preparation for the new framework of study.

Staff commented on the focus and commitment of the students who represent the school voice.

Anti-bullying awareness week “kind hearts ... a hunger for justice”

On Monday many of our students donned their odd socks to raise awareness for Anti-bullying Awareness Week. This year's theme is 'The Power of Good'. Key Stage 3 students attended an assembly last week with me on this theme and its intrinsic link to the Catholic Social Teaching of Solidarity and working for the Common Good, while Character, Culture and Formation lessons for KS3 focussed on the power of kind words and actions.



House Points

Anselm	14202
Gregory	14196
Wulstan	13764
Kenelm	13748
Bede	13091
Chad	12940

Our House Point drive continues with nearly 6,000 awarded this half term already.

Anselm remain at the top while Wulstan and Kenelm have switched places, as have Bede and Chad.

Please do continue to check your child's House Point log in Arbor so you can praise them too.

Winter Music Concert 2025

Our annual Winter Music Concert is on Wednesday 26th November 2025 and Mr Mallinson, Mr Smith and I are delighted to invite you to join us. All ensembles will be performing pieces they have rehearsed this term and a "fun packed time is guaranteed for all."

Tickets are £2 each and are available for purchase from the school through Arbor.

Student talent and success

By now I am sure everyone knows how much I love to celebrate and share the many gifts of our students and how they excel in these outside of school. This week I am delighted to report on the achievements of Ellie-Jane in the world of dance. Ellie-Jane is a talented and dedicated dancer and has been since the age of 5 and at the end of last half term her hard work, dedication and perseverance paid off as she performed at the IDTA Nationwide Medallist of the Year in Blackpool. Representing the West Midlands, Ellie-Jane and her partner placed 3rd in Rock and Roll while Ellie-Jane placed 7th in the country and 12th in the country for freestyle dance. We are so proud of you Ellie-Jane. Keep Dancing!!!!



Autumn Term 2025 - Sports Round-Up from Mr Rich

Football

Our Year 7 and 8 boys' teams have been busy competing in the Halesowen and Stourbridge leagues, enjoying both home and away fixtures against local schools. The Tuesday night football club has been a huge success, attracting over 75 pupils from Years 7 and 8, boys and girls alike – a fantastic example of inclusivity in action. Girls' football leagues are kicking off this half term, and we're excited to see their progress.

Netball

Netball continues to shine at Hagley! Our teams have enjoyed real success in local leagues and tournaments, with weekly training and matches for all year groups. The commitment and teamwork shown by our players is outstanding.

Basketball



Basketball leagues for U14 and U16 boys and girls start this half term and will run until February. We're looking forward to seeing our teams in action and building on last year's achievements. Games are already in full swing with the boys U16 team defeating Kinver last week.



Volleyball

Hagley students now make up the majority of Stourbridge Volleyball Club's teams, and our current Year 12 and 13 players are the strongest we've ever produced. Several students are representing the Black Country at county level, and some are even competing in the men's National League – an incredible accomplishment!

Cross Country

Lots of success this week in the Cross-Country Schools event at Stourport Memorial Park with all students bar 1 (unfortunately he sustained an injury), qualifying through to the next event in January. Special mention to Izzy for finishing her race in second place!



Clubs

Inclusivity remains at the heart of PE at Hagley. We offer a wide range of lunchtime and after-school clubs, including volleyball, badminton, basketball, netball, table tennis, and trampolining. Some clubs are approaching 100 members – a testament to the enthusiasm and commitment of our students.

House Competitions

Mr Connell will be running house indoor football and basketball competitions this half term. Forms will battle it out for house points, all contributing to the overall House Cup. Let the games begin!

Charity sport

We are also aiming for some charity sporting events in the coming months to include:

Year 10 v 11 basketball

Year 12 v Year 13 volleyball

Year 8 sponsored walk

Attendance Matters

Today Mrs Mouzer and Mr Hodgson launched our **“Key Stage 3 Attendance Advent Calendar challenge”**. There are 25 school days till Christmas and from Monday every day Key Stage 3 students attend school between now and Christmas they will earn a ticket in our Advent Attendance Lottery. That's a maximum of 25 tickets available per student, the more days in school the more tickets and the more chance of winning. On the last day of term we will draw the lottery with winners in each year able to take home a £50 Love to Shop voucher, a £25 Love to Shop voucher and many other prizes too.

Attendance really does matter and good attendance gets rewarded with great attainment, stronger relationships and bonds and now the potential for a little Christmas bonus too.

In-year capacity

A reminder that we currently have some in-year capacity in Year 10, so if you know anyone looking to change schools or who has recently moved to our wide catchment area, please do let them know and point them in the direction of our admission page on the website.

<https://www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk/Page/Detail/admissions>

Wishing you all every blessing and a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson
Principal

Key dates for Autumn Term 2

18.11.2025	Minibus accident anniversary
18.11.2025	Y11 British Library Trip
20.11.2025	Y13 Parents Evening
21.11.2025	Voice Meeting (P1)
24.11.2025	Y13 PPEs begin
24.11.2025	Vaccination UK in School for flu vaccinations
26.11.2025	Y11/12 Bletchley Park Trip
26.11.2025	Music Concert
05.12.2025	Year 7 Lourdes Fundraising Disco
09.12.2025	Y11 PPE results issued
11.12.2025	Y11 Parents Evening
12.12.2025	Voice Meeting (P4)
17.12.2025	Christmas Mass and Carols
19.12.2025	Break up for Christmas