



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS

"I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full". (John 10:10)

Friday, 05 July 2024

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

This will be my penultimate letter of this academic year and I always find that, as I write, it is hard to believe that 37 weeks have passed, and the summer break is nearly here. It has been a year of wonderful achievements across the school. School absence is reducing, Y11 forecasts grades are the best ever, charitable work has raised over £5000, numbers on roll are increasing and the recent parents/carers survey was overwhelmingly positive about our provision.

As we come to the end of the year I want to thank all parents/carers for the continued support you offer us and the collaboration that we have to ensure that, as our mission statement says, we are always striving "to achieve our personal best by living and learning in Christ".

Catholic Life

Monsignor Timothy Menezes, Dean of St. Chad's Cathedral and friend of Hagley will be ordained as Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham on 16th July alongside Canon Richard Walker.

Monsignor Tim has been a long-time friend and supporter of Hagley and Emmaus MAC, regularly joining us for Mass, staff retreats, training days and the Emmaus Pyramid Concerts.

As he, and Canon Richard Walker, prepare to take on their new roles please join your prayers with those of the whole Diocese by finding time to pray the Novena that I have shared here.

*A Novena for
Bishop-Elect Monsignor Timothy Menezes and
Bishop-Elect Canon Richard Walker
as they Prepare for their Episcopal Ordination on 16 July 2024*

Loving God, we thank you and praise you for giving the sacrament of Holy Orders to your Church. You have blessed us with many loving bishops to care for your Church throughout the world.

We ask you to pour out your grace on Monsignor Timothy and Canon Richard as they prepare for their Episcopal Ordination.

Give them the Spirit of joy to lift them, the Spirit of hope to inspire them, the Spirit of love to surround them and the Spirit of truth to guide them.

*Grant, O Father, that these, your servants,
whom you have chosen for the office of Bishop may shepherd your holy flock.*

Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for them.

St. Chad, Pray for them.

St. John Henry Newman, Pray for them.

Blessed Dominic Barberi, Pray for them.

St. Timothy, Pray for them.

St. Richard, Pray for them.

All holy men and women saints of God, Pray for them.

Enrichment week

This week has been enrichment week in school with Year 7 experiencing outward bounds activities at Kinver Camp, Year 9 involved in workshops with Loudmouth Theatre and Medical Mavericks, and Year 10 on Work Experience. Year 8, of course, had their enrichment a couple of weeks ago on residential at Oakerwood.

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Year 7 Kinver Camp



Today half of Year 7 are at Kinver with Head for the Hill Adventure Camps enjoying their day of outward bounds that the other half of the year enjoyed on Monday. This is the second year of this new venture and once again is a fabulous addition to our enrichment calendar.

Year 8 Oakerwood Residential



Year 8 students enjoyed a fabulous weekend 3 weeks ago on outward bounds residential at Oakerwood. So much fun was had by all, with activities including high ropes, obstacle courses, team building, lake swimming, paint balling and much more. These trips offer amazing enrichment and personal development for our students and wouldn't be possible without dedicated staff giving up their personal time.

Year 9 workshops

Year 9 had two workshop this week. The first was a visit from Loudmouth Theatre in Education who were with us all day and involved all students in a workshop called "Calling it Out" focusing on harmful behaviours, misogyny, harassment and assault. While on Thursday the team from Medical Mavericks joined us with every student joining an interactive workshop around careers in health and science and were able try keyhole surgery, take blood samples from Andy the phlebotomy arm, use ultrasound and take a picture of the inside of their eye to explore. Students had a fabulous day exploring this area of work related learning.

Year 10 Work Experience

160+ Year 10 students have been on placement this week for their annual work experience. We have had some excellent feedback from employers and students about their placements and we are delighted that we are able to offer this very worthwhile experience. Students who weren't able to procure a placement have been in school this week following a programme of work-related learning and experience including a CV workshop, mock interviews with the DWP and a Higher Education talk with Worcester University, as well as supporting Year 6 Induction Day, site management and the resources department.



Year 11 Prom

This year's Prom for our Class of 2024 was held at West Midlands Safari Park and a change of venue did not disappoint as Mrs Palmer, the Prom Committee and her team of volunteers put on a fabulous evening of food, photographs, live music and dancing. It was amazing to see everyone dressed up in their finery and a great celebration, to end the year, was had by all.



Staff leavers

As we come to the end of the academic year some staff are moving on from Hagley to new posts, challenges and retirement. Public thanks goes to Miss Smith (History), Mr Jackson (English) and Mr Smith (Science) who all joined us in the autumn on short term contracts and have added enormous value and continuity in their respective departments and we wish them well in their new schools in September.

Miss Cutler (RE) has only been with us for a year and has made a huge impact in RE. She is a very talented young teacher and leaves us for a challenge at another Worcestershire school where I know they will be very lucky to have her.

Mr Aston (Science) who joined us two years ago also leaves this summer to further his career in pastures new and we wish him well for the future. While we are also losing Mrs Ball (RE) too as she returns to Blessed Edward Oldcorne in Worcester. She will be much missed.

Mr Langford (Cover Supervisor) and Miss Arnold (Learning Support Assistant) are also leaving. Mr Langford joined us just as COVID began and has been a constant and reliable member of staff, stepping in to support learning when cover was needed. While Miss Arnold moves on to train as a teacher from September having spent two years honing her skills and experience in our learning support team. We look forward to welcoming them both back as Mr Langford will continue to support with Exam Invigilation and Miss Arnold will complete one of her teacher training placements with us.

Mr Patchett has been a long standing member of staff at Hagley. He first joined Hagley in 1994 as a teacher of science and Physics specialist and served for 10 years. He then returned in 2014 and as Head of Science led the department in a particularly turbulent time and was successful in sailing a very steady ship. Mr Patchett will have had a profound impact on numerous current students and alumni during his time at Hagley and I know many of you will join me in wishing him well as he moves into retirement.

Finally, Mr Miastowski departs Hagley again, 18 years after he left here as a student. In the last 5 years Mr Miastowski has risen to his calling to lead Catholic Life, Pastoral Care and Personal Development and has added immeasurable value in that time, leaving an indelible mark on the school. As he heads off into the charity sector to pursue a calling to support the most vulnerable in society we wish him well and thank him for all he has done.

I am sure you will join me in offering thanks and well wishes to all our leavers, sending them on their way with prayers, blessings and knowledge that they will always be part of our family.

New Staff (and not so new)

In saying farewell to some it is also great to be welcoming new staff to Hagley in September.

Mrs McCole and Mrs Oliver are joining the RE Department and bring a wealth of experience with them, while Mrs McCole will also be in charge of Catholic Life.

Mr Connell joins the PE Department as Assistant Subject Leader and Mrs Mann arrives to take on Subject Lead for Business.

We are also welcoming back Mrs Granger and Mrs Mason to the Science and English Departments respectively. While Mrs Pinder is remaining at Hagley to teach English and continue with intervention.

On Monday I very much hope to appoint a new Science Teacher and we have a vacancy for a Learning Support Assistant open at this current time, so do get in touch with Ms Hackett (nhackett@emmausmac.com) if you, or someone you know, are interested.

In the new academic year I will also be looking for a new Assistant Principal to lead Pastoral Care and Personal Development and an advert for this will go out at the beginning of September.

University of Law Essay Writing Competition

The University of Law is running an essay writing competition, where students from Year 12 and 13 (currently Year 11 and 12) can win £500 cash, along with the winning essay being printed in an academic journal: The Mental Health and Digital Technologies Journal. The deadline for the competition is 15th November 2024. This would be a brilliant summer task! To enter, you are required to:

Answer the question below and write an essay that argues the differing views across the emerging area of cyberpsychology.

'How can technology support young people's mental health and wellbeing?'

Be inquisitive, research to expand your knowledge in the area and develop key skills that will help you achieve your ambitions.

To enter and find out more information about the competition, please go to the following link: [Psychology Essay Competition | ULaw](#)



Lady of Fatima Primary School

Please add next weekend's summer Fete at Our Lady of Fatima Primary School to your diaries.

There will be tonnes of fun to be had all in support of one of our feeder primaries and I know how very welcome they will make you if you can go along.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend ahead, with every prayer and blessing.

J Hodgson
Principal

Forthcoming Events and Calendared items

18.06.24 - Sports Day

19.07.24 - Break up for Summer