



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS



"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" Luke 1:28

Friday, 26 September 2025

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

I do hope that all your families and friends are well and please trust that you are always in our prayers at school.

Next month is one of two months devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary. October, along with May, is dedicated to the Mary as it is the month of the Holy Rosary. We will set aside time to pray the rosary together in the coming month.

One of our new set prayers is the Salve Regina, the Hail Holy Queen, and throughout October all students and staff will pray this prayer routinely. Please do find time to pray it too.

It is a famous Marian hymn and antiphon that praises the Virgin Mary as the "mother of mercy" and asks for her intercession. It is one of the four Marian antiphons and is sung during specific seasons and at the conclusion of the Rosary. It is a plea to Mary, acknowledging human suffering in this life and asking her to turn her merciful eyes toward us and show us the blessed fruit of her womb, Jesus.



This Week in Worship

Year 11 Mass

Mass today was an important time to come together to pause and reflect on how we can be better as a community. We listened to Fr Philip's homily on how the Cross is truly significant to our faith and how Jesus's suffering can relate to us today. We were also able to set targets on how we can treat others with kindness no matter what has happened before, just as Jesus treated others with kindness even in the middle of His death, we can be intentional in our actions too.

6th form Celebration of the Word

As a sixth Form, we came together in prayer to reflect on our next steps. As these are times of change and new beginnings, we were able to take a moment and discuss what we are striving for after sixth form and how to get there. From University to Apprenticeships or even gap years, it was an occasion where both Year 12 and Year 13 could reflect on the upcoming years. After our time of prayer we were able to write down our aspirations and how to achieve them so that everyone could take something away from our liturgy together. Our future is our responsibility, moments like these allow us to prioritise what is important to us, or at least what should be. *Darcy Y13*

Hagley Catholic High School
Brake Lane, Hagley,
Worcestershire, DY8 2XL

Tel: 01562 883 193
www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk
Principal: Mr J Hodgson

Chaplaincy Commissioning Mass - Thursday 18th September 2025

Today we went out on a trip to St Chad's Cathedral to celebrate a Mass for the young people in the Chaplaincy community. The Mass was very beautiful and the Bishop spoke about the impact of the young people in Chaplaincy and celebrated the work of the Lay Chaplains. The Cathedral was very beautiful and it was a wonderful way to celebrate today.



Hagley Family Mass

We would like to invite you to the Family Mass taking place in school on Wednesday 15th October at 6pm. The Mass is a celebration of our Hagley family and is open to all parents, carers, students and staff, regardless of your faith and belief. It was lovely to see so many families from all Year Groups last Year - it is a great opportunity to welcome our Year 7 students and their families.

If you intend to join the Mass, please complete the form at the link below to help us plan for the evening.

[Family Mass - Wednesday 15th October 2025 - 6 pm](#)

Lourdes Fundraising



Thank you so much to all the students and staff who contributed to our cake sale on Wednesday. Students from Year 7, 12 and 13 gave up their break and lunch time to sell cakes and raise an amazing £260 for next year's Lourdes Pilgrimage. Please see the Lourdes Newsletter for September at the end of this Newsletter for more information about last year's Pilgrimage and upcoming fundraising events. Following this week's assembly, the parents/carers of Year 12 students will receive more information about the pilgrimage in 2026 and expressions of interest are to be completed by October Half Term. If you would like to make a donation to the Lourdes Pilgrimage, you can do so via the School Shop on Arbor.

Year 7 Update from Mrs Imrie

Since our last update I am delighted to report that Year 7 have now collectively achieved a truly fantastic 8826 house points with 7 Gregory winning the last 2 weekly house point challenges! 69 students have also achieved individually 50 house points or more with 2 students almost at 100!

It has been lovely to see so many students now getting involved with some of our wide variety of extra-curricular activities and the Year 7 boys football team won their 1st match 3 - 1. This was extra impressive as it was the 'Hagley Derby' against Haybridge.

This week in our Year 7 Assembly we looked at the positives and negative about Social Media and that we should always treat one another with kindness, both on and offline.

The Year 7 Briars Residential Retreat has been launched this last week and goes live for deposits on Monday morning in Arbor. The Year 7 Tutor team and I very much look forward to welcoming you into school at the Meet the Tutor Evening next Wednesday 1st October and this will give you the chance to find out more about how our child has settled in.

Finally, huge thanks for the wonderful number of Year 7 students who have volunteered their time next week for our Open Morning, a real chance to showcase our school and a real testament as to how well they have settled in and want to live out one of our Emmaus values of serving together.

Craft and Chat Club

We have had a fantastic turn out to Craft and Chat on a Thursday lunchtime, with students from Y7 to Y11 having a great time learning to knit and making bracelets. As we move into the festive season, we will also be making some seasonal decor. If you have any spare egg boxes, we will gladly use them in our projects. Any donations can please be sent in with your child and given to Mrs Leyland-Richardson in GF3 or handed in at Reception.



House Points

As a staff body we are making a real effort to award lots more House Points than in previous years. We want to routinely recognise those students that continually live out our values, rise to the challenge of their education and always give their personal best. Please do keep an eye out on Arbor for your child's House Points record.

Attendance Matters

Because of Open Morning next week is only a 4-day week for the children as school is closed on Friday, but a shortened week is no less important and as always it is vitally important that you send your child to school every day. With that in mind I am concerned about some of the early absence that has already arisen in the first 17/18 days of this term.

Exemplary attendance is **not**, and never will be, about the school chasing statistics but recognising that absence increases disadvantaged in so many ways. This includes missing learning that if not learnt, can't be recalled when assessments and public exams take place, therefore putting children behind their peers. Creating isolation from their friends and year group by missing the important social facets of school life that builds unity, community and belonging. And weakening resilience and, ironically, heightening anxiety when time is taken off because of stress or worry, something we can support you and your child with.

To that end, please remember that a cough, cold or sore throat is not sufficient to be absent from school. If your child has been sick, they can still attend the next day, only repeated vomiting and/or diarrhoea requires 48-hour absence. While Covid-19 is still around it does not necessitate absence unless accompanied by a high temperature.

I must also ask that medical appointments are only arranged in the mornings so that your child can still be in school by 9.20am or if in



the afternoon are after 2pm. Medical appointments between these times will be unauthorised unless a child leaves school after registration in the morning and returns before 1.20pm.

Restart a heart live



Next week, on Wednesday 1st October, students will take part in 'Restart a heart live'. This live stream event broadcast on YouTube is delivered by paramedics and will allow our students to take part in a short interactive session on CPR during their lesson time. Its mission is to train as many people as possible in lifesaving CPR, an essential skill that can double the chance of survival for someone experiencing an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest.

World Mental Health Day

On Friday 10th October 2025 we will be marking World Mental Health Day. This international day is dedicated to raising awareness about mental health issues, reducing stigma, and promoting efforts to support mental well-being. Students will take part in a range of in school activities on this day and we will also be fundraising for the Young Minds charity.



Open Morning - Saturday 4th October 2025

I am delighted that since we launched our Open Morning some 3 weeks ago we already have 290 families confirmed to attend and 70 spaces still available to book. Families are welcome to just turn up on the day for tours at 9.00, 9.30 and 10am but might need to be patient while those who have booked are accommodated first.

I have also now visited every Year 6 in all 10 of our feeder schools to formally invite them to the Open Morning but remember if you know anyone interested in a Year 7 place for September 2026, please do let them know. Everyone is welcome!



Apology

Finally, I must apologise for the errors in my last letter, especially to Theresa and her family who despite my rushed efforts to make changes and resend, I still named her as Catherine twice.

I think the phrase is "less haste, more speed" with my school report card reading, "must always double check work for errors".

Do take a look at our **Lourdes Newsletter** at the end of my letter and be aware of some forthcoming events below and watch out for additional communications from us inviting you to these.

Wishing you all every blessing and a wonderful weekend ahead.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson
Principal

Forthcoming Events and Calendared items

Autumn Term 1 - 2025/26

01.10.2025	Year 7 Parents Meet the Tutor Evening
03.10.2025	Staff Training Day 3 - School closed to students
04.10.2025	Open Morning 9 -12pm
15.10.2025	Family Mass in the Hall
22.10.2025	Sixth Form Open Evening
24.10.2025	Break up for half term

HAGLEY LOURDES PILGRIMAGE NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2025



WHAT IS THE PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES?

The Birmingham Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is an annual trip where young people, volunteers, and clergy from across the diocese travel together to Lourdes in France. It's a chance to grow in faith, help others, and be part of something truly special. During the pilgrimage, you'll take part in Masses, candlelight processions, and help care for sick and elderly pilgrims. 100s of young people from across our Diocesan schools' travel as part of the youth team, working hard but also having loads of fun and making lifelong friends. It's a unique mix of service, prayer, and community—offering time to reflect, meet new people, and explore your beliefs in a supportive environment.

WHO CAN COME?

All Year 12 students are very welcome. Please speak to Mrs McCole, Ms Hackett or Mrs Kirk about signing up to the Lourdes group and click on this link to fill your expression of interest - [Lourdes application - Saturday 23rd to Saturday 30th May 2026](#)

If parents/families wish to go, they can sign up through their Parishes.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS!

CAKE SALE

Wednesday 25th September
2025

WELCOME MASS

Wednesday 15th October 2025
YEAR 7 DISCO

Date tbc – watch this space!

CHRISTMAS FAMILY MASS

Wednesday 15th December
2025

QUIZ NIGHT

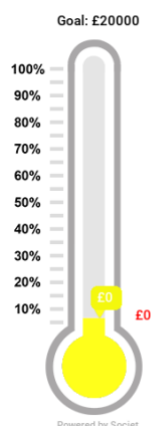
Date tbc – watch this space!

AND SO MUCH MORE TO BE
announced!

FUNDRAISING – SEPTEMBER

We are starting over! It's now a new year and we are back to zero with a goal of raising £20k. Please support us if you can!

There is also a link for donations on Arbor.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

RAFFLE PRIZES:

We will be holding lots of raffles through the year. If you can donate a prize, please send it to Mrs McCole in IG1 in school and / or contact ckirk@emmausmac.com

DONATIONS NEEDED:

Lockable cash boxes, coin organisers, coin weighing machines and coin bags would make our fundraising so much easier! If you have any you no longer use, please send them to Mrs Kirk, they would be greatly appreciated!

THANK YOU!



Training and PILGRIMAGE DATES

LOURDES TRAINING DAY

Sat 25th April 2026

BLESSING OF HANDS MASS

Sun 17th May 2026

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Sat 23rd - Sat 30th May 2026

HAGLEY LOURDES PILGRIMAGE REVIEW

OUR 2025 PILGRIMAGE

18 of our wonderful Sixth Form students accompanied by Mr Thomas, Mrs McCole and Ms Hackett made the long pilgrimage by coach to Lourdes over the May half term. It was especially fitting as 2025 was designated by the late Pope Francis as a Jubilee year "Pilgrims of Hope". Here is what some of our returning student pilgrims had to say...

Ben "Lourdes was an incredibly moving and spiritual experience for me. Spending the half term caring for the ill and elderly really humbled me and put my entire life into perspective. The atmosphere in Lourdes is unlike any other, the architecture just completely shocks you and the basilicas are perfect space to reflect. Beyond the spiritual side, I loved the warmth of the community, the amazing food, the comfortable hotel, and the lovely weather that made the whole trip even more enjoyable. This experience opened my eyes to the power of faith and allowed me to connect with the people around me as well as God. I would highly recommend the pilgrimage to next year's Year 12s. It's a chance not only to help others but to grow personally in ways you wouldn't expect."

caleb "Lourdes was a truly incredible experience that has changed me for the better. The atmosphere during Mass was uplifting, and the scenery around Lourdes was even more beautiful. I'm torn between whether the best part of the trip was hearing the organ during Mass or when we visited Lac de Lourdes for the day. Either way, I would highly recommend going."

calish "Lourdes is an amazing opportunity, not only for those who are religious but for those who are agnostic or atheist too. After attending a couple of Masses, you can recognise & feel the buzz of the community in the domain. It is especially prominent in the torchlight procession when you can see the hundreds of people gathered for one ceremony. It is astonishing."



Darcy "For me, Lourdes was more than just a school trip, I was entirely humbled by it. I don't think I'll ever have an experience quite like it. I've gained more from Lourdes than I have from a classroom."