



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS

*Forming Christ centred pilgrims of hope
with kind hearts, questioning minds,
a thirst for knowledge
and a hunger for justice.*

Friday, 08 May 2026

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

This week's letter coincides with Year 13 Leavers Day and the usual cornucopia of fancy dress wear has blessed the corridors and classrooms of Hagley this morning. From Cowgirls to Top Gun Pilots, inflatable dinosaurs to super heroes, we have seen it all today.

It's a fitting end to Year 13's time at Hagley and the 7 years we have shared has been very special as I started Hagley with them in 2019.

We shall miss them greatly but know they head off into the exam season well prepared **"to achieve their personal best"** and fulfill their dreams and potential.

On Monday exam season begins in earnest for all Year 11 and 13 so please do find some time this weekend and over the next 4 ½ working weeks to routinely pray this prayer for our students sitting their public exams.

Let us pray

Loving God, we place before you today our Year 11
and Year 13 students
as they prepare to begin their exams on Monday.
Calm their hearts when they feel anxious.
Steady their minds so they can recall all they have
worked hard to learn.
Give them confidence in their abilities, resilience
when questions feel difficult,
and peace in knowing they are more than any
grade or result.
Bless their final days with us as a school
community.
Help them to recognise how far they have come,
and to trust that you walk with them into whatever
comes next.
Be with their families and with all who support
them,
and guide us to continue encouraging, reassuring,
and believing in every young person entrusted to
our care.
We place their hopes, their efforts, and their
futures into your loving hands.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



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CMAT Vision - *Forming Christ centred pilgrims of hope with a hunger for justice.*

Our new Trust remains on track to open in September 2027 when the CMACs of Emmaus, Lumen Christ and Our Lady and All Saints will join together, with all Diocesan schools across Worcestershire, South Birmingham, Chelmsley Wood and Solihull being part of the CMAT by 2028.

I am privileged to be able to announce that our new CMAT will be called **St Michael the Archangel CMAT**.

As the defender of God's people and a symbol of courage, justice and faithfulness, St Michael the Archangel reflects the Trust's commitment to protecting the dignity of every child, upholding what is good and true, and standing firm in service of the Gospel. His role as a leader among the angels mirrors the Trust's purpose: to provide strong, principled leadership, rooted in prayer, solidarity and mission, so that all schools and communities can flourish together in Christ.

St Michael the Archangel Board of Directors

Advertisements for Board members for St Michael the Archangel CMAT are now out.

This is a unique opportunity to make a real impact on Catholic education. The Diocese are looking for passionate and skilled individuals to join the Board of Directors and help guide the strategic direction of the CMAT, working alongside the CEO, Suzanne Horan, and a dedicated Executive Team.

I have included a copy of the recruitment pack with my letter for further details or you can contact Mark O'Connell at the Birmingham Diocese Education Service at academies@bdes.org.uk for more information.

The Week(s) in worship as **Christ-centred Pilgrims of Hope**

Praying the Rosary in May

"On Tuesday morning, we had a Rosary service led by Ms Hackett. She started off by talking about why we celebrate the month of May and she also spoke about the pilgrimages we can take through our faith. May is a month where we focus a lot of our attention on Mary and we dedicate this month to her. Mary would have been around about our age when she willingly said yes to being the mother of God, so the Rosary is a very special prayer. We prayed one of the sets of the Rosary which was one Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's and a Glory Be. Ms Hackett spoke of the procession at Lourdes which she experienced and talked about how magical it was. She also

used the quote from the Magnificat in the worship and spoke about how brave Mary was. It was a really nice service, and it was also really nice to learn about all the different pilgrimages we can go on and also praying the rosary." Woody



"On Tuesday, me and my year group got the opportunity to pray a decade of the rosary and learnt about Mary's sinless "yes". We were empowered to follow her example and reflect on whether there was something we were deliberately avoiding from yes to, whether it be a calling or sign from God. Ms Hackett went through a scripture about Mary and Elizabeth's meeting, and the significance about Mary's prophecy." Catherine

Leavers Mass

"Leavers Mass was a brilliant opportunity to celebrate my time at Hagley in a way that I best remember it; the faith and Catholic ethos of the school will forever be ingrained in me as a result. In coming together to partake in the Mass, we were able to draw together for a final time, reminding us of the connection every

member of the school has that knits us together, staff or student. This was a beautiful and fitting conclusion to my school career." Theresa

Year 7 Update from Mrs Imrie

Now that we are into the summer term it has been great to see Year 7 FINALLY get out onto the school field and see them all make full use of it. They are responding well to our expectations of behaviour and getting regular reminders from me at line up about this so that they get it right and don't lose their use of it!

I have been delighted with how Year 7 have settled back into their normal curriculum and timetable since the Internal Assessments and I have seen some real maturity kicking in as a year group as a whole with a real reduction in negative behaviour points.

This week we had our 1st Weekly Housepoint Challenge and huge well done to Bede and Anselm who are topping the charts!

Huge thanks for all who have signed up for the end of year Enrichment Trip to Challenge Academy, just a gentle reminder that sign up expires June 1st so a couple more weeks if you have not managed to do so as yet.

In our last update I wrote about Alicia Chorostowska in 7K running in the London mini-marathon. I am absolutely delighted to say she placed 47th out of almost 350 people. What a wonderful achievement!

It has been great to hear of other sporting success outside of school. Olivia Gordon and Mirella Deeming both in 7A came back into school last week buzzing after a successful football tournament at Butlins. The girls words summed up their experience:



"Overall it was a brilliant experience. So much fun with our friends and nice to be away from home. We played games on the Saturday and Sunday smashing each one. There were some brilliant teams there from all over the country we ended up coming fourth which was brilliant for our team but if we had managed to win one more game we could've won the cup."

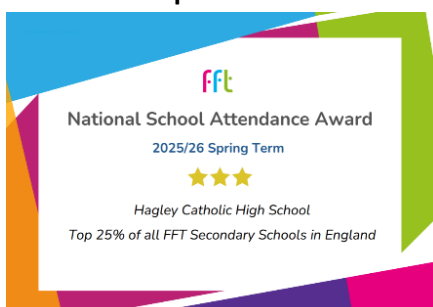
Whilst the girls were there they bumped into a fellow Year 7 Hagley Student and were keen to tell us that he and his Tivdale team came 2nd in their tournament. Huge well done to Alex Gallagher-Smith and his team!



Hugh Haynes 7K and Cian Shannon 7B last weekend were chosen to represent their rugby club, Bromsgrove Rugby, at The Tigers Challenge, the biggest junior rugby festival of its kind in the UK, last weekend and the boys have both come back very proud of their success and narrowly missing out on top spots!

Huge well done all, please do continue to let me know of success outside of school, so lovely to hear to be able to celebrate!

Attendance Update



Thank you to everyone for your efforts in continuing to prioritise high attendance. It was fabulous to get national recognition this week from the Fisher Family Trust for being one of the top 25% best attending schools in the country, and is testament to everyone recognising its importance and working together to that end.

Please continue to prioritise good attendance for your child, perhaps we can make top 10% next time. *S Palmer*

Year 8 News from Mrs Palmer

I wanted to give recognition to achievements outside of school. This week, George, a wonderful young man who is very humble and quiet in school took to the skies to fulfil a dream he has held since the age of five. George enjoyed an exceptional day in the air, taking part in a challenging and highly rewarding flight experience through his involvement in Cadets. During the sortie, he demonstrated impressive confidence and skill, performing a range of aerobatic manoeuvres including loops and stall turns. In a particularly special moment, George flew over his home and 'tipped his wings', a traditional aviation gesture used to acknowledge those watching below. His flight path showed just how active and demanding the experience was, with several pauses mid-route to carry out these manoeuvres, making it a busy and exciting session. It is a fantastic example of how he is embracing every opportunity to develop his abilities and push himself beyond his comfort zone. George's achievements are all the more impressive given his modest and unassuming nature in school. We are incredibly proud to celebrate his success and to see him realising a childhood ambition with such determination and enthusiasm.



Year 8 continue to work well in lessons, and we hope they have been receiving plenty of positive and encouraging feedback following their recent assessments. They conducted themselves wonderfully during assessment week, showing maturity and focus throughout.

Attendance also remains a key priority. Although assessments are now complete, learning continues just as much as ever, and it is important that students attend school regularly so they do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities and continued progress.

PGL planning is now in full flow. I have received the list of activities that students will be taking part in, and there is lots for them to look forward to. Over the next week or so, I will be sending out a detailed kit list along with further information about the trip, so please do keep an eye out for this.

We are really looking forward to what promises to be a fantastic and memorable experience for the students.
Mrs S Palmer

Growing up in the online world: a national consultation

Technology is part of most children's lives from an early age. It can help them learn, build friendships and develop creativity. But it also brings risks, and many parents, teachers and young people have told us the current situation is not working well enough.

The government is consulting on further measures to prepare children for the future in an age of rapid technological change. [Growing up in an Online World: a national conversation](#), will consider how children and young people use digital technology in school and at home.

The consultation closes on 26 May 2026.

There is a survey available for [parents and carers](#) and for [children and young people](#), and an [online event](#) for parents and carers on Wednesday 20 May at 6pm to 7pm.

Safeguarding with a **hunger for justice**

As a school and community we will never shy away from the challenges and impact of bullying that sadly continues to exist in all societies and at times at Hagley too.

In an external Safeguarding Audit last Friday auditors met with groups of children from across Years 7 to 10 who confidently told the auditor that bullying was extremely rare at Hagley Catholic High School but that where incidents did arise they were confident in telling a trusted member of staff and knew swift action would follow.

Regardless our quest continues and as parents/carers you might be interested in contributing to this survey being run by the University of York.

Student Successes as **pilgrims of hope**

Congratulations to our Year 10 girls' netball team, who won their annual district netball tournament yesterday evening! The girls put on a fantastic display and dominated in every game. The standard of netball throughout the tournament was extremely high, and their performance never dropped; even when rotating players into different positions.

They were a real credit to our school, not only because of the level of skill they displayed, but also because of their attitude, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the evening.

A special mention must also go to Imogen Farley, who was deservedly named Player of the Tournament. Her fantastic work rate, outstanding level of skill and ability, and some unbelievable goals throughout the evening made her a standout performer.

I couldn't be prouder of them. Well done to all the girls. *Mrs Trinham*

Rowing Success

On Bank Holiday Monday, Catherine McNabb's (Y9) dream came true by rowing on the Olympic waters of Dorney Lake for Hartpury Rowing Club! At the Junior Sculling Regatta, Catherine and her sculling partner faced a challenging 2000m time trial and secured a spot in the final. With incredible grit and determination, they delivered an outstanding performance in the final clinching a silver medal 🥈



Innovative Young Person of the Year

Huge congratulations to Kareena in Y13 who achieved the accolade of Innovative Young Person of the Year at the Inspirational Youth Awards 2026 held at the Eastside Rooms in Birmingham on 24th May 26.

Are you the parent/ carer of a bullied child?

The COPE project focuses on the experiences of parents when their child is being bullied.

We're looking for parents/ carers to participate in our study

- If you are a parent/ carer of a child who is currently being bullied in school, please consider participating in our survey.
- The survey explores your child's experiences of bullying, your experiences of working with schools to address the bullying, and the impact of the bullying on your well-being.
- The survey is anonymous and should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

Participate here:



More information:
<https://hullandthornton.ac.uk/cope-project/>

UNIVERSITY of York





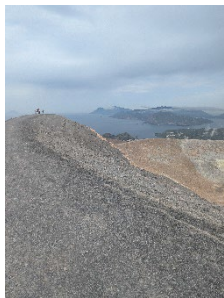
She was acknowledged as an inspiring young innovator dedicated to tackling real-world challenges affecting young people. As the founder of CIVOXa, she is developing a data-driven app to help users navigate safer routes by identifying knife crime hotspots, empowering young people to make informed decisions. She also launched The Connective, a youth-led platform connecting volunteers with community initiatives, fostering collaboration and social impact. Balancing her projects alongside A-level studies, Kareena has demonstrated exceptional creativity, resilience and leadership, using technology and community action to build safer, more connected futures.

Enrichment with *questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge* Y10 GCSE Geography Trip

After arriving in Sicily at midday last Wednesday, we first visited the sunny Alcantara Gorge, which was formed by a river cutting through volcanic rock from centuries of eruptions from Mount Etna. We explored the gorge and surrounding area with a guide, learning about volcanic activity and the citrus trees that bloom four times each year. We spent time paddling in the river, skimming stones, spotting lizards among the rocks and cacti, and enjoying pizza and arancini for lunch before heading to the hotel. After dinner, we relaxed with friends around the hotel's pool and sports courts.



On Thursday, we left the hotel early to catch the ferry from Milazzo to the island of Vulcano. With our guides, we trekked up Vulcano's Gran Cratere. Although the climb was tiring, the views across the Aeolian Islands and towards Mount Etna were incredible. Afterwards, we had free time to explore the island, buy lunch and gelato, and visit the small shops and cafés before returning to the hotel for dinner.



Friday was my favourite day because we explored Mount Etna itself. Our guides, Andrea and Eduardo, explained the volcano's history and recent eruptions while we walked across ridges and craters. We learnt how gases trapped inside volcanic rocks made them light and full of holes. Later, we travelled to Taormina, where we enjoyed lunch and explored the town's beautiful streets, filled with cafés, designer shops, souvenir stores, and amazing views of the sea from Piazza IX Aprile.

On our final day, we visited Ortigia, a picturesque island town surrounded by bright blue water. We spent the morning exploring its lively streets and classic Sicilian scenery in the sunshine. Afterwards, we visited Catania, where the impressive Basilica Cattedrale di Sant' Agata stood at the centre of the city. I especially enjoyed the atmosphere of the old town, with its street artists, handmade souvenirs, and jewellery crafted from volcanic ash.



Finally, I would like to thank all the teachers who organised and accompanied the trip: Mr Bayliffe, Mr Farley, Mrs Chapman, Miss Haigh, and Mrs Evans. They made the trip enjoyable, safe, and unforgettable and now I cannot wait to return to Sicily one day.
Emeline Nott



Spring Music Concert - Wednesday 6th May 2026

The showcase started off with two pieces by the orchestra, the muppet show theme and excerpts from how to train your dragon. The orchestra continues to grow in numbers with many thanks to Annabel for encouraging new players to join up. A healthy percussion section drove the pieces along adding extra excitement to the sound. The keyboard group brought the audience back to the 90s with a performance of "Children" by Robert Miles and the Disco classic Funky town. Our Year 8/9 band Replay treated us to a fantastic performance of "Zombie" by The Cranberries, before the Year 7 band performed their versions of "Wake me up, when September ends" and "Have a Nice Day."

The Vocal group created some lovely harmonies on The Weeknd's "Save your Tears" before a rousing couple of songs by the Irish Band, that got the audience clapping along. The drum group added some tuned percussion to great effect for their piece "Sunrise". Guitar Heroes showed how the beginner guitars have developed their skills this term by playing "Time of your Life" by Green Day, before the Year 11 band "Black Ridge" did an amazing version of "Don't bring me Down" by The Beatles. Isaac Plant's Backing Vocals and Dominic Comiskey Guitar solo were highlights of the evening.

The Country Guitar Heroes brought along 2 banjos for the occasion, and the group performed a sprightly version of "Wagon Wheel" by Darius Rucker. Revival performed the Journey classic "Don't Stop Believing" featuring the outstanding twin vocals of Chelsea Vaughan and Keon Morton Jones. The evening was rounded off by the Soul Band "Midnight Standard" performing Sunday Morning and Blame it on the Boogie. All the performers were brought back on stage for a final bow before Mr Hodgson thanked all the performers and audience for a wonderful evening.



The Music team were proud and delighted with all the students who were involved and we hope to encourage even more players in the Autumn term. *Mr Mallinson*

Enrichment Week Trips

A reminder that payment for Year 7 Challenge Academy and Y9 Drayton Manor is now live on Arbor pay.



House Point Challenge

As we move towards the end of Summer Term 1 students have been earning lots of House Points. Bede still reign top of the year total however Wulstan is not far behind. A huge well done to Anselm students who this term are hot on the toes of Bede for earning the most house points this term. Which House will win our Annual House Point challenge this year?

Special mentions to the following students who have been awarded the most House Points in each year group since the start of the summer term!

Year 7: Rupert C, Cecile, Imogen F, Robyn M, Luca O
 Year 8: Oscar G, Freya W, Cillian H, Angel M, Matilda
 Year 9: Ronan C, Will W, Woody P, Daisy G, Lexie C
 Year 10: Josh C, David E, Hannah C, Joseph T, Lily B,
 Year 11: Pirajien P, Angeline J, Esther, Chelsea V, Davyn A

	Summer Term	Year to date
Bede	2,067	29,364
Wulstan	1,499	28,592
Gregory	1,710	28,300
Kenelm	1,423	27,768
Anselm	1,849	27,921
Chad	1,353	25,359

Local Governing Body Vacancy for a *Christ centred Pilgrim of hope*

We have a vacancy on our Local Governing Body for a Parent Governor and separate correspondence will come out next week for anyone interested in taking on this role.

Vacancies

We have vacancies for September at Hagley that are now live, or will be imminently, on the Emmaus vacancies page at this link: [Emmaus CMAC - Vacancies](#) and on e-Teach, WM Jobs and other platforms.

They include:

- A fulltime teacher of Maths
- A 0.6 teacher of English (fulltime could be explored)
- A 0.6 teacher of History (fulltime could be explored)
- A 0.5 teacher of Food and Nutrition
- A fulltime Head of Physical Education
- A non-teaching Safeguarding and Inclusion Officer

Please do share far and wide and get in touch with Mr Hodgson directly via his PA at principalpa_hchs@emmausmac.com, if you are interested.



Sending you, and all our Hagley and Emmaus community, every good wish and blessing for a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson
 Principal

Key dates for Summer Term 1

08.05.26 - Y13 Leaving day (Study leave commences)
 11.05.26 - GCSE/A Level Exams begin
 11.05.26 - 1st DoE Bronze Practice Expedition
 13.05.26 - Y10 GCSE Geography Fieldwork Trip
 14.05.26 - Y10 GCSE Geography Fieldwork Trip
 14.05.26 - Y10 Parents Evening (Virtual)
 21.05.26 - 2nd DoE Bronze Practice Expedition
 21.05.26 - Y11 commence Study Leave
 22.05.26 - Break up for May half term