

Sunday, 14 June 2026

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

I hope you are all keeping well and that half term was a good break, if you got one, for you and your families. Either way I am sure you enjoyed the wonderful weather which after the last fortnight seems an eternity ago.

I had the joy and privilege to spend half term in Lourdes, my first visit in 36 years, and my humble thanks goes to all families who made donations to our fund that helped to sponsor the students on their pilgrimage. More on Lourdes later.

This half term our Virtues and Values focus is on being **Attentive and Discerning** and I spoken with all students in Years 7 to 10 at the start of our final half term and challenged them all to ensure they take time to listen to their own experience and that of others and be aware of how those around them, and the Lord Himself, are calling them to live and act. Consequently, they are called to be more discerning in the decisions they make and the impact these decisions have on every one of us.

Summer Term 2 Virtue and Value
Attentive and Discerning

Growing to be **attentive** to your experience, the experiences of others and to your vocation and calling.

And being **discerning** about the choices you make and the effects of those choices on yourself but also on those around you.



I am also delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Live Simply Award by CAFOD for the work of our Lay Chaplain, Liam Thomas, and our Chaplaincy members. They have worked tirelessly over the last few years to demonstrate how our community at Hagley is living more simply and in solidarity with the world's poorest communities. Congratulations to them all!

The last fortnight has been a busy time for students in examinations. Y11 and 13 students continue to demonstrate high levels of commitment and dedication to their studies and examination attainment, and I know they will be delighted when they conclude this coming week. Meanwhile Year 12 have also completed their end of year PPEs this week and Year 10 are now halfway through their own first round of PPEs, with core subject examinations this coming week too.

Please continue your support for them all with your prayers and thoughts.

Elsewhere Year 10 have been applying to become Prefects with interviews taking place last week for the position of Senior Prefects, who will take on greater leadership responsibility for their own teams next year. Some 50+ Year 7 students headed off to the NEC last Thursday for the Big Bang Fair to explore all things Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

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Principal: Mr J Hodgson

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026

Students, staff and wider members of the Hagley family had the most joyful and uplifting week in Lourdes over half term. We really were blessed to be called to serve as “*Christ centred Pilgrims of Hope*” alongside other students, staff and volunteers from schools and parishes across the Archdiocese of Birmingham.



Our pilgrimage to Lourdes was an unforgettable week of faith, service, and teamwork — all carried out in a rather oppressive 32°C heat! Work started as soon as we arrived at Birmingham airport and it was a privilege to lead the group of both students and staff who rose magnificently to the challenge, helping our assisted pilgrims experience Lourdes. From serving breakfast and accompanying pilgrims to Masses, shopping trips, and visits to the blessed water, to praying the Rosary together at the Grotto, they approached every task with kindness, patience, and enthusiasm.

While there were a few discussions about whether pushing wheelchairs uphill counted as an Olympic sport, the students never wavered in their commitment to serving others. We took the intentions of the wider Hagley community to the grotto and held prayer services for individual needs. We were delighted that our school Chaplain, Fr Philip, could join us. I agreed wholeheartedly with his comment to the congregation at Our Lady and All Saints the

Sunday after we returned saying that the students and staff “had never worked so hard in their lives.” I was immensely proud of the Hagley Pilgrims - whose hard work, compassion, and willingness to answer the call to serve truly reflected the spirit of Lourdes. *Mrs McCole*

A really powerful and humbling experience. I’m still buzzing from the power and love of Lourdes and really enjoy telling stories about how peaceful and beautiful it is (even in 35-degree heat). It was a privilege to work with staff and students assisting the pilgrims throughout the week. I hope to return in 2027. *Mr Sommerville*





Lourdes for me was a turning point in my religious life as it is so moving and special to be surrounded by so many who follow the same faith as you while having such original and interesting personal lives which, especially from the APs, was an absolute wonder to have conversations about. I think for me the impact was just how special helping those who are less able is. Even when clearing honey covered tables or pushing a heavy wheelchair up a hill with the sun beating down on your neck, you can still feel the joy of giving the AP's a chance to enjoy these delightful experiences as Jesus told us to help our brother's and sister's. I would recommend it not as holiday or a way to explore the French cuisine but as a great lesson that by putting others above you and helping those who need it you are achieving one of the greatest gifts God gave us and at the same time partaking in so many religious activities such as banner carrying and blessings of holy water which all add up to the sacred importance and surreal uniqueness that is Sanctuaire Notre-Dame de Lourdes. I hope you find this short advice useful, and I hope this pilgrimage remains as open and impactful as my experience had been for anyone planning on going next year or in the future. I'm sure there many more stories yet to make at Lourdes. *Reuben (Y12)*



Jesus,
"Light from light, true God from true God.
Bernadette told us: "I saw a small young lady enveloped in light who looked at me and smiled".
This light of your Immaculate Mother is the reflection of your Light,
You the conqueror of evil, sin and death! You, the Risen Christ!
Today I place my candle in this burner.
Today or later it will burn in your presence.

May it illuminate my joy, my gratitude, my thanksgiving,
your forgiveness and your immense mercy.
May it clear my doubts, extinguish my pain, my hurt,
my suffering, my lost cause!
It also symbolises my most secret thoughts, wishes and desires.

May the storms of life not extinguish the flame of love!
May I become like Him burning with love for You
and for my brothers and sisters!
You, who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.
Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us!
Saint Bernadette, pray for us!



Our fundraising for Lourdes 2027 now begins again in earnest and thank you in advance to everyone who supports Hagley in sending students to Lourdes to offer this most humbling and important service.

Year 7 Update from Mrs Imrie

Just before half term I launched a fantastic opportunity for Year 7s to support with Year 6 Transition. Students were invited to apply for the role of Transition Ambassador by submitting a 90 second video telling me why they should be considered. This is a role that we introduced last year when we went from 1 to 3 days of Transition for Year 6 at the start of July. Therefore, the current Year 7s were the first to benefit from this role. It is a clear testament to last year's Transition Ambassadors and how they supported transition but also to how well Year 7 have settled into life at Hagley. I have been absolutely blown away that almost 60 students have applied for this role, and I can honestly say I have been amazed at the time and effort they all put into their applications. Many thanks to you at home for your support with this also. Students will be informed next week but everyone has also been given 10 Head of Year Housepoints!

The Year 7 Enrichment Trip is just a couple of weeks away and I will be sending home further details in due course but it looks set to be a great day with Anslem, Bede and Chad going on Wednesday 1st July and Gregory, Kenelm and Wulstan off on Friday 3rd July. Please note however that this is within school hours.

It was lovely this week to have students see me to show me their speeches written in English about reasons for and against wearing school uniform. Some fantastic use of persuasive writing language devices were used and although clearly very persuasive I don't think they will win their argument not to wear uniform!

Year 7 Form Tutors and I have been driving Year 7 hard in the last couple of weeks with regards to behaviour and uniform standards, to ensure that are ready to transition to Year 8. I am pleased to report that they have responded positively!

It is great to hear of some continued success out of school for Year 7. A few weeks back our very own talented musician Flynn McGuiness performed his first solo gig at an Open Mic night in Stourbridge and was well supported by some of his friends from school. Congratulations also to Imogen Foley who recently passed her Grade 4 Electric Guitar exam and to Anna Mayne who has been accepted onto the Ballet Britain Associates Scheme 2026/27. Just last night I also heard the great news that Jack Cruise-Jones has passed his Grade 3 in his recent Street Dance exam. I am sure you will all agree what wonderful achievements these are. Good luck also to Sophie Parsons who this weekend is auditioning for a role in the 'Steps' musical on the West End!



Please do continue to let me know of any achievements outside of school, it is great to hear and share.

News from Year 8

This week, Year 8 students engaged thoughtfully in an assembly focused on the challenges many families face due to the rising cost of living. They listened attentively and showed great maturity in reflecting on how these issues affect people in our local community and beyond. Following the assembly, Year 8 have been asked to support a collection of non-perishable food items for a local family and our community food bank. Suggested items include tinned foods (such as beans, soup, vegetables, fruit or tuna), pasta, rice, dried noodles, cereal, long-life milk, tea and coffee, sugar, biscuits or crackers, cooking sauces, and spreads like peanut butter or jam. These items are easy to store and will make a meaningful contribution. If each student is able to bring in just one item by Friday 19th June, it would make a significant difference to those in need.

PGL is just around the corner, and we hope that all students who are attending are looking forward to the trip. This week, further information and a kit list have been sent home to support preparation and ensure everyone is ready for the experience. Please note that any students who are not attending PGL should continue to attend school as normal during this time. *Mrs Palmer (Head of Year 8)*



HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL
SEMPER FIDELIS

29TH JUNE - 3RD JULY

Enrichment Week Information

Students in years 7-9 will have a week off timetable taking part in a range of enrichment activities to compliment and broaden the curriculum offer. **All students will celebrate St Peter & Paul Feast day during Monday Morning.** Please see your child's year group below to find out what activities they will be involved in throughout the week.

Students are expected to wear school uniform unless otherwise stated.



Year 7



Monday: Pilgrims of Hope Walk (*bring trainers & waterproof*) + Maths rose window challenge.

Tuesday: Dream Jobs Discovery Day including our 'Guess Who?' employee event.



Wednesday: Challenge Academy or Creative Day.

Thursday: Science Challenge Day

Friday: Challenge Academy or Creative Day.

Trips



Year 9 Barcelona

Year 9 Drayton Manor

Year 7 Challenge Academy (A, B & C forms on Wednesday, G, K, W forms on Friday)

Year 8 PGL (Monday - Wednesday or Wednesday to Friday)



All trip leaders will send specific information via email regarding any trips. If your child has not signed up for a trip there will be alternative in school activities.

Year 8



Programme for students not at PGL includes:

Monday: Critical Reading and Media podcast Project. (*Students not going to PGL at any point should bring PE kit this day*)



Tuesday: Creative Arts & Technology Day.

Wednesday: PGL changeover day or Enterprise Project.

Thursday: Creative Arts & Technology Day.

Friday: Games and Critical Reading & Media podcast project. (*Bring PE Kit*)



Year 9

Programme for students not in Barcelona:

Monday: History & Modern Languages.



Tuesday: Loudmouth Theatre production, Critical Media podcast project & University Challenge House Competition

Wednesday: Drayton Manor (own clothes) Or Enterprise project

Thursday: Games and Duke of Edinburgh taster day (*wear PE kit, bring waterproof coat*)

Friday: Vision to Vocation day - Exploring the world of work: Medical Mavericks experience, Unifrog Launch & Escape Room



Attendance Matters

Although we are now in the final five weeks of the school year, it remains extremely important that students continue to attend school regularly and maintain positive habits and routines. Learning is still very much ongoing, and every lesson plays a valuable part in building knowledge, confidence, and preparing students for the next stage of their education. We are currently in the process of speaking with some students about their attendance, exploring how we can best support them moving forward. This is, and always will be, a supportive approach. It is not a question of “why have you been off?” but rather “is there anything we can do to help?” If you feel there is any way we can support your child with attendance or routines, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Working together ensures that every student is given the best opportunity to succeed and finish the year strongly.

Mrs Palmer (Attendance Lead)

Nearly New Uniform Appeal

A reminder please that if any families have nearly new uniform items, especially of students in Year 11 who largely finish on Monday, please could you donate them to school. All students in Year 11 will be asked to donate their tie after their last exam. Thank you in advance for your support.

Mrs Wren (Student Services Manager)

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 details have been sent out regarding how to nominate yourself or someone else. If who would like to speak to Mr Hodgson or Mr Geoff Taylor-Smith (Chair of the LGB) beforehand about the role you can arrange a telephone call by contacting Mrs Chapman (Mr Hodgson’s PA) on 01562 881821.

This is a fabulous way for a parent to serve the school and the community.

Vacancies

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

They include:

- Head of Sixth Form
- A 0.5 teacher of Food and Nutrition
- A fulltime Head of Physical Education

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.



Wishing everyone a very happy weekend with every good wish and blessing.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson
Principal

PS: please see upcoming key dates and the upcoming St Mary’s Fete at Harvington on the next page as well as adverts about vacancies within the Diocese.

Key dates for Summer Term 2

15.06.26 - Y12 Higher Education and Apprenticeship Week	01.07.26 - Y6 Induction Day 1
17.06.26 - Y10 Core PPEs begin	02.07.26 - Y6 Induction Day 2
18.06.26 - Y11 Prom @ West Midlands Safari Park	02.07.26 - Y13 Ball
23.06.26 - Sixth Form UCAS Discovery Event @ NEC	03.07.26 - Y6 Induction Day 3
24.06.26 - Sixth Form Induction Day	06.07.26 - Curriculum Focus Week
24.06.26 - Awards Evening	08.07.26 - Year 5 Feeder Sports Day
26.06.26 - Inset Day 4 (NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)	10.07.26 - Y12 Summer Garden Party
29.06.26 - Feast of St Peter and Paul	13.07.26 - Y12 Work Experience
29.06.26 - Enrichment Week begins	15.07.26 - Sports Day
29.06.26 - Y10 Work Experience Week	16.07.26 - Students break up
29.06.26 - Induction Evening	17.07.26 - MAC Inset Day @ Hagley



The Priest's Garden*
St Mary's Church

Summer Fete

Saturday 4th July
1.00pm - 5.00pm

Brass Band
Books
Grand Raffle
prize draw
Bric-a-Brac
Children's Games

Cream Teas
Barbecue
Plants
Bottle
Tombola

Entry fee: Adults: £1
Children under 11 years: 50p

The Priest's Garden* St Mary's Church
Harvington Hall Lane, Harvington
nr Kidderminster DY10 4LR

**Please note: This is a private garden and pet dogs will not be admitted*



THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM

Parish Finance Officer (Payroll)

Job title: Parish Finance Officer (Payroll)

Location: Diocesan Offices, St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, with some travel to parishes as required

Terms: Permanent/Full-Time

Salary: £33,000 p.a. to £36,500 p.a. (depending on experience)

About the role: The Parish Finance Officer provides professional financial support to parishes and the Diocese, promoting strong financial stewardship, effective governance, and consistent financial practice in support of the Church's mission, in accordance with the Parish Handbook.

Working closely with clergy and parish representatives - many of whom are volunteers - the post-holder will support the development of financial capability within parishes, ensure compliance with diocesan policies, and contribute to the effective and transparent management of parish finances.

This role includes a specific responsibility for payroll services, ensuring high-quality delivery, compliance, and the development of consistent payroll practices across the Diocese.

While this role is responsible for payroll, the post-holder will work collaboratively with colleagues and may provide support across other specialist areas as required.

For further information see the job description and person specification that can be found on the Archdiocese website at [Jobs & Volunteering Opportunities | Birmingham Diocesan Trust](#)

Working for the Archdiocese, you will meet many people from different walks of life. We welcome applications from all faith/non-faith backgrounds creating a culture of respect, openness, and a commitment to embracing the diocesan vision and building positive relationships regardless of your faith/non-faith background.

Applications including a CV and supporting statement to be submitted to the HR department to julia.hale@rcaob.org.uk by 10am on Friday 12th June 2026.

Shortlisting: w/c Monday 15th June 2026

Interviews: w/c Monday 22nd June 2026



THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM

Human Resource Administrator

Job title: Human Resource Administrator

Location: Diocesan Offices (with occasional travel across the Diocese)

Terms: Permanent/Part-Time – 21 hours per week

Salary: £25,000 - £30,000 p.a. (pro -rata) (depending on experience)

About the role: The Human Resources Administrator provides efficient and effective administrative support to the Human Resources function, ensuring that HR processes are carried out accurately, consistently, and in compliance with employment legislation and organisational policies. The role supports the full employee lifecycle and acts as a first point of contact for routine HR queries.

Working closely with staff, clergy and parish representatives and volunteers, the post-holder supports the development of HR capability within the Archdiocese and parishes, ensures compliance with employment law, diocesan policies, and the development of consistent HR practices across the Diocese.

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Applications including a CV and supporting statement to be submitted to the HR department to julia.hale@rcaob.org.uk by 10am on Friday 19th June 2026.

Shortlisting: w/c Monday 22nd June 2026

Interviews: Tuesday 30th June 2026