



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms". (Peter 4:10)

Friday, 03 May 2024

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

A highlight of this week was Year 11's final Mass together as a year group on Tuesday. It was a beautiful celebration of Mass and was an absolute pleasure to welcome some 80+ family members to celebrate Holy Eucharist with us. After Mass, Mrs Palmer spoke beautifully about her year group and the 5 years they have spent together through many ups and down, laughs and tears but always with a common sense of purpose to be our personal best, while being compassionate and kind. Mrs Palmer is the embodiment of this and a role model to us all and I want to publicly thank her for her work with the Class of 2024.

I have also been privileged to have received and had shared with me numerous messages of thanks and support from Year 11 parents and carers. My thanks goes to you too, it really is a team effort. But an effort that is not over yet with approximately 5 ½ school weeks to go and as the public exams begin in earnest next Thursday I am sure you will join your thoughts and prayers with mine for all Year 11 facing the upcoming exams.

This coming week is the last formal week in school for Year 13 and next Friday they will begin their own study leave with our usual morning of fun and revelry and, of course, the traditional fancy dress. Our best wishes and prayers go with them too and we look forward to celebrating the last 7 (or perhaps 2 for external students) years with us at their ball in July and then on results day in August.

Staff Farewell

Mrs Wood, an absolute stalwart and legend of the Hagley staff body ended her time with us this week. Mrs Wood has worked at Hagley for nearly 33 years as a teacher, Head of Modern Foreign Languages and a cover supervisor and her impact, commitment and service is beyond measure. Mrs Wood no doubt taught many of our ex-student parents too, as she did some of our current staff. One of whom was Mr Neenan, who provided the scripture for this week's letter and wrote the following:

Sharing her gifts with an inimitable passion for her subject, stepping into Mrs Wood's classroom was like crossing the Channel. Shelves adorned with empty French packaging as well as images of her house in France; for those that remember, you can imagine it took a very long time to clear out!

Mrs Wood's gift for sharing her subject knowledge was, and still is, unparalleled. Throughout her time here, she set the highest, unwavering expectation of students and of herself. Now, as a teacher of French myself (in her classroom) it still feels like very big shoes to fill. A stalwart figure in the Hagley family, on behalf of the many hundreds of students' lives she has touched, we say a very fond farewell and merci beaucoup!

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

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

SVP Group Afternoon Tea

On Wednesday 24th April, students from Hagley organised with the SVP group from [Our Lady and All Saints Catholic Church](#), an afternoon tea for local parishioners. It was a wonderful afternoon, with comments about it being 'a memorable occasion' and it was 'nice to chat with the lovely children.' Well done to the students from Years 7, 8 and 12 for providing entertainment, cakes and serving refreshments and thank you to the SVP group for organising a wonderful event.

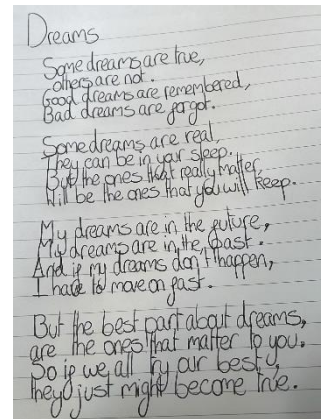
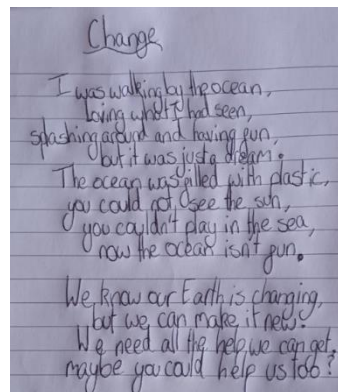


Feast of the Ascension

Next Thursday is the Feast of the Ascension, a holy day of obligation, where Catholics celebrate Jesus rising to heaven 40 days after his resurrection. There will be no Mass in school on this day due to exams and the pressure on space. However, there will be a short prayer liturgy which students will join in during form time. Please note Mass times in your local parishes. Our Lady and All Saints Church can be accessed at <https://www.olas.org.uk/>.

Student Successes

Chloe in Year 8 had a couple of days to remember last weekend. As part of our commitment to all things literacy Mrs Lawson (Head of Literacy) had been both promoting and facilitating opportunities for children at Hagley to enter the Worcestershire Poet Laureate competition. Chloe entered and got down to the final 6 across the whole county and after a mentoring session on Saturday, she performed her two poems on Sunday at the Hive in Worcester. While Chloe did not win, she is a winner in my eyes. What a fabulous achievement for Chloe and one we should all celebrate. You can read her poems below.



In recent sporting success outside of school congratulations go to Lauren Sweeney and Lexi Laise (Y8) who as integral parts of their football team, Kewford Eagles, have won their league, making them champions for the 2nd year running and on the 11th May have a chance to do the double in the cup final too. This season Lauren scored 11 goals and provided 8 assists, while Lexi had plenty of assists too from the wing in the Stourbridge & District Girls Youth League.



Huge congratulations also goes to Maks and James (Y8) who played for Bromsgrove Sporting Under 13's two weekends ago in the semi-final of the JPL National Cup. They had a resounding 5-3 victory over the reigning champions from Leeds, who were littered with premier league and La Liga academy players. We wish them both the best of luck in the final at Doncaster Rovers Stadium next Saturday.

There has been some further success in athletics on the track and in the mud, it would seem. Ruben Ray (Y10) was selected for Hereford and Worcestershire Schools Athletics Association Cross Country Team and ran up in Pontefract, West Yorkshire three weeks ago. Ruben was up against top opposition as he was a year younger than much of the competition and performed brilliantly knowing he can go again next year at the same level.



On the track Krystalia's (Y10) season has started brilliantly too and in her first track meet of the year for Birchfield Harriers she ran the 7th fastest time in the UK over the 100 metres for Intermediate girls (u17s) winning her event on the day and then winning the 200 metres too with a time that places her 22nd in the UK.

Democracy in action



We are committed at Hagley to instilling British Values into our community and many of our own virtues and values already align with the British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, and Individual Liberty. Our recent focus was Democracy, and we ran a competition to design new House badges.



All the designs were then shortlisted and put before a student vote which was run by The Voice, our Student Council. Just before Easter all students in each House had the opportunity to go to the ballot box and vote for their preferred design for their House.

Today I had the privilege to meet our winning entries and present them with their prizes of shopping vouchers. Isabelle, Mason, George, Suzie and Thomasin should be hugely proud of their successful designs and will now work with a commercial designer to realise their designs for display in the school hall.



London Marathon 2024 – A Message From Mr Trickett

On Sunday 21st April I completed the London Marathon in 4 hours 2 mins and 12 seconds!

In doing so I have managed to raise nearly £3200 for Asthma and Lung UK. I am so grateful for all the support that I received from the Hagley community including the generous donations, kind words and well wishes.

Your support really has been greatly appreciated.

Train Strikes

A reminder that we have strikes back on the railways this coming Wednesday with potential disruption on all other days too. Please do all you can to get your child into school by alternative means but if you cannot please fill in the form at this link, <https://forms.office.com/e/eQmijg62UP3>, that Mrs Griffin has already sent out and this will allow us to record your child's absence accurately and without it affecting their attendance record.

Parent/Carer Annual Survey

Thank you to the 189 responses that we have had so far in response to our Local Governing Bodies annual stakeholder survey for parents and carers. This is a fabulous response. The survey will close at the end of next week so if you still haven't completed it and would like to, please do so at this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/kZWAprgdNk>.

Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy for an Apprentice Learning Support Assistant and details of the vacancy can be found on the Apprenticeship website at this link:

[Teaching Assistant Apprentice \(findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk\)](https://findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk).

Please do share with anyone you think might be interested. The closing date is next Friday.

Enrichment and Extra-Curricular Provision

In the responses that I have had to date from the parent/carer survey there have been some families who have identified that they are not sure of our extracurricular and enrichment provision. I have been working on updating the website, which you can see at this link, to see the provision available. [HCHS - Enrichment and Extra-Curricular](#)

Wishing everyone a lovely Bank Holiday week with every prayer and blessing.

J Hodgson
Principal

Forthcoming Events and Calendared items

Summer 1:

06.05.24 - Bank Holiday

09.05.24 - GCSE and A level exams begin

10.05.24 - Y13 Study Leave commences

16.05.24 - Y10 Parents Evening

24.05.24 - Year 11 Study Leave commences

24.05.24 - Break up for half term