

Parent Newsletter St Mary Magdalene Secondary

Issue No 20 | June | Thursday 10th June 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

I hope you are well and enjoying the great weather we are experiencing at the moment. You will have received a message sent earlier in the week, regarding our expectation that students will always be in correct uniform, but that blazers do not have to be worn at the moment. Students will be updated on this weekly, with uniform expectations dependent on the temperatures we experience.

You will also have received a letter from Mr Greenwood about our end of year examinations; these will take place from 23 June to 1 July. More detail about these examinations and how students can prepare is contained in these letters, and family group tutors have discussed this with students today.

Year 7 dismissal time:

From Monday 14 June, we will move the end of day dismissal time for year 7 students back to the normal time of 3.15pm. This would mean students will not miss any learning time during their final period; we are able to now do this as Year 11 students are no longer at school on a full timetable.

Parents' evenings

You are invited to attend your child's parents' evening this term. This virtual event is an important one, and provides you with an opportunity to meet each of your child's class teachers and discuss their current grades and progress. Please see the table below for the date and time of each year's parents' evening. Bookings will open from the dates shown in the final column. Each appointment will be 6 minutes in length so please ensure you are prompt to your appointment as it is virtual. Each appointment will time out at the end of the 6 minute allocation; we are aware that this is not a long time but this is due to the large volume of meetings which need to be held. These appointments will be on a first come first served basis; please bear this in mind when you are booking. Should you wish to make any changes please contact the school office.

Please visit <u>https://stmarymagdaleneschool.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/</u> to book your appointments. A short guide on how to add appointments is included with this newsletter.

Year	Date	Time	Open for booking date
Year 7	Tuesday 22 nd June	3.15pm- 6.15pm	Friday 11th June
Year 8	Thursday 1st July	3.15pm- 6.15pm	Friday 18 th June
Year 9	Tuesday 6 th July	3.15pm- 6.15pm	Friday 25 th June
Year 10	Thursday 15 th July	3.15pm- 6.15pm	Friday 2 nd July

Confiscated items

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we have noticed as a school that an increasing number of students are bringing in sweets, chocolates and energy drinks into school. As you are aware these are not permitted. This is to ensure that students are to remain focused and do not get an energy crash in lessons. For this reason, we will conducting bag and blazer pocket checks on the morning gates over the next weeks. Please note, any item which is not permitted on school premises will be confiscated.

Dates for the diary

Monday 21st June–Friday 25th June: Year 11 Celebration and Transition Week Tuesday 29 June- Year 9 DTP immunisations Friday 2nd July: INSET day – school closed to students Wednesday 7th July: Year 7 and 12 induction day – Years 7-10 carry out remote learning from home Thursday 22nd July: Last day for students Friday 23rd July: INSET day – school closed to students I was attending an online conference a few weeks ago. It was about Children and Young people's Spirituality and about different generations supporting the exploration of faith of others in the community.

I was struck by the number of elders in the Bible who are tasked with sharing wisdom and encouraging questions of the younger people around them. It made me wonder how many opportunities we offer for us to share our journey of faith with the young people we know.

One of the speakers said something very profound and so I share it with you: It is more important that we share our journeys than to just tell young people what the destination looks like. In a way – it's more beneficial that we describe how we got to an answer than just giving the total.

Imagine if we created a community that nurtures faith, encourages growth and makes questioning safe. I can imagine the Kingdom of God on earth looking like that. I hope that our school can become a place like that.

And then we would echo our school prayer – where our school would be a bit like heaven. Have a good term.

Mr R. Hussain **Principal**