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7th November 2025

## **Dear Families**

What a first week back! We were visited by the Catholic Schools' Inspection Team yesterday and today. It was an intense and extremely thorough inspection, using a very different set of criteria than the one from our previous inspection in 2019. I am very pleased by the feedback which I will share with you once I receive the official report. I am grateful to all staff and pupils for the excellent way that they conducted themselves during the inspection.

This week Year 11 enjoyed their retreat to Kintbury. Children in Charles form groups enjoyed a nonuniform day on Tuesday to mark their tutor group Saint Feast day. Our fabulous Drama department welcomed an external theatre company in on Wednesday to perform their Frantic Assembly. On Thursday, Year 12 & 13 students went off to Northampton University to find out more about going to university or applying for apprenticeships.

We had only one fixture this week. Our Year 8 girls lost against Brooklands at netball in a very tight game with the score finishing 3-2.

Our Student Leaders spoke to staff about Anti-Bullying Week which will run from 10th-14th November. They discussed how to identify the different roles when bullying occurs and how to get students to think about their role when witnessing such events. Student Leaders are asking our student body to use their 'Power for Good' and to stand up to bullying whenever they see it. They should not be an idle bystander, but take action. Student Council members will also deliver this information to the individual form groups during Anti-Bullying Week. We would like remind everyone that Monday 10<sup>th</sup> will be Odd Socks day so please encourage all to wear mismatched socks to celebrate our unique differences! Last year we set a record for participation and we are hoping to break that record yet again. These events are in line with our Catholic Social Teachings of providing for the 'Common Good' and 'Human Dignity.' We look forward to another successful Anti-Bullying Week. You can find a parent information pack on our website here.

Next week I will be out of school on Wednesday and Thursday because I will be leading a CSI inspection of a Catholic school in London. I will be available on email for parents though if there are any urgent issues. On Monday evening our Governors Resources and Personnel committee will be meeting. On Wednesday evening there is a Year 9 parents' information evening, followed by a Year 8 options parents' information evening on Thursday. Next week is 'Tomorrow's Engineers' week. On











Wednesday and Thursday, pupils will be taking part in a STEM event with Red Bull Racing. Our Careers department are delighted that on Thursday BBC Look East will be filming this. We will let you know when this is likely to be broadcast. On Friday there is a further STEM visit to Network Rail.

On Tuesday we will be marking Remembrance Day with a two minute silence and the Last Post at the end of the day. We also have a whole school Mass in the morning in which we will remember all loved ones who have died.

Our PTA AGM is on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm, all parents are welcome to attend. If you would like to find out more about the PTA this is a great opportunity to do so. The meeting will last no longer than one hour. We are looking for new committee members so, if you think this might be of interest to you please do come along.

I was delighted to hear that our catering services continued to be awarded a 5 star rating prior to the half term holiday. This is superb considering we provide lunches for a significant number of schools across Milton Keynes. We have also been notified that we have received the Gold Standard award for The National Well-being Award. This is an excellent recognition for the work our community does to support and care for each other.

I'd like to remind you that we have a British Sign Language (BSL) Beginners' Club after school (3.50 - 5.00pm in room A111) every Thursday. It is open to all Year Groups from Year 7 to 13. If your child would like to participate in this excellent club letters of permission are available from the Hearing Support Base.

As you can see, it is extremely busy next week and there are lots of exciting things happening. Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Jo-Anne Hoarty Headteacher









