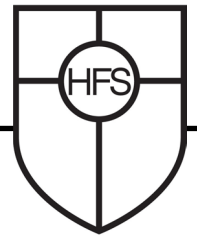


The Holy Family

Catholic School

a voluntary academy



Our Ref: SMA/DK

13 September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Now that we have all been back in school for almost a week, I wanted to contact you to say how impressed the entire staff team have been with the start the students have made. Year 7 are doing a great job of navigating their way around the school building quickly and sensibly and all other year groups have returned with a great attitude. It is fantastic to have everyone back in school as a community after the long summer break.

Queen Elizabeth II Funeral Arrangements

We were all saddened to hear about the death of Her Majesty last week, and we are praying as a community for the repose of her soul during the period of national mourning, as well as flying the Union Flag outside the school at half-mast, as a mark of respect. As you will be aware, the late Queen's funeral will take place on Monday, 19 September and this day has been deemed a Bank Holiday. As such **school will be closed next Monday**. We will open as normal for all students next Tuesday morning at 8.35 am.

Academy Conversion

You may be aware that the school joined The Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust over the summer. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to work more closely as a family of schools. Andrew Morley, the CEO of the Trust has asked me to pass on the following message to you:

'I am delighted to inform you that at the start of this academic term, The Holy Family Catholic School became a member of the Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust.

The Trust comprises 17 primary schools and The Holy Family Catholic School. The fundamental aim of the Trust is to ensure that, our school communities, families, staff and most of all our children and young people, have a first-class Catholic education. Our school will have a key role in the Family of Schools. As a part of the Trust, we will have the opportunity to build on our already strong links with our primary schools in Keighley

On behalf of the Trust Board, I want to reassure you all that the Trust is committed to supporting the Leadership Team of Holy Family to ensure all students fulfil their potential in all aspects of their school life. The Trust will work with us to ensure teaching is of the highest standard so that students achieve well throughout their time at school.

We are now all members of the Blessed Christopher Wharton Trust. I would ask all of us to support the Trust in every way possible.'

Medical Appointments

Can I please ask that all non-urgent medical appointments are made outside of the school day where possible to ensure that your child(ren)s learning is not negatively impacted. Where there is no alternative but to make an appointment during the school day, please let the attendance team at the school know as soon as possible and provide a copy of the appointment card, letter or text message which shows details of the appointment for our records.

School Events – Half Term 1

- **School Photographs** will be being taken on Tuesday 20 September. Individual photographs of years 7, 11,12 & 13 will be taken on this date.
- **Year 6 Open Evening** will take place on Thursday 22 September 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm. We are looking forward to welcoming prospective students, parents and carers to see everything the school has to offer. In order for us to have a chance to prepare the school, **we will close to all students at 12.15 pm on Thursday 22 September**. The usual buses will be available at the earlier time. If you would like your child to remain in school until 2.50 pm as normal, please contact us and we will make arrangements.
- **HF6th Open Evening** will take place on Thursday 13 October 5.30pm – 7.30pm. This is an opportunity for students currently in Year 11 at Holy Family and also at other local schools to visit us and speak to staff regarding all aspects of life in our Sixth Form.

Parking/Road Safety

If you are collecting your child(ren) by car at the end of the school day, can I please ask that you adhere to the speed limit and road markings outside the school. You will have seen how busy it is between 2.50 pm-3.00 pm in particular and while staff do routinely supervise students leaving school, your support in this matter would help in ensuring that all are safe as they leave for the day.

And finally....

Please keep a regular check on our school website for up-to-date information on the day-to-day life of the school. In particular, I would like to draw your attention to the Safeguarding information on the website. There is Safeguarding tab under the Parents and Students sections of the site. This section contains information which may be useful for people facing challenges at what continues to be a difficult time for many. There is also an option to report any concerns you may have. This facility is monitored during evenings and weekends as well as during the school day. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need to.

We also make regular use of social media to share information regarding what is happening in the school. We have a school Twitter feed: **@THFCS_Official**, and a school Facebook page; **@HolyFamilyCatholicSchoolKeighley**. Thank you to those of you who already follow us on social media and please consider doing so if you don't already.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this letter and in anticipation of your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely



S Mather
Headteacher

