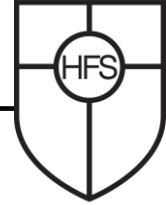


The Holy Family

Catholic School



Our Ref: SMA/DK

25 October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As school finishes for the half-term break, I wanted to write to thank you for your support throughout the first half-term of the school year.

I am delighted with the way that the vast majority of students have returned to school with such a positive attitude and the way in which Year 7 have managed to find their way around the building so quickly. I am also very impressed to see a large number of students taking advantage of our extra-curricular offer this half-term. Hopefully, we will see even bigger numbers after the holiday. Enclosed with this letter is our Half-Term 1 Newsletter which sets out information regarding what has been happening in the school during the first half-term. Please take a few minutes to read this.

Thank you to those of you who continue to ensure that your child(ren) attends school every day wearing full and correct uniform. We continue to strive to ensure that all students are correctly dressed as per the uniform policy which is available on the school website and thank you for your support with this.

Please can I ask that you remind your child(ren) of the importance of being punctual to school and to lessons throughout the school day. Students are required to be on site at 8.35 am each morning to ensure they arrive at their form room/assembly on time. We are monitoring punctuality closely and would very much value your support in helping us to improve this further.

We know that sometimes our students cannot come to school because they are really unwell - and that's the right thing to do for them and other students. Medical advice is clear however that children with mild illness will often be well enough to attend - for example if they have a cough, or cold, without a temperature. The NHS guidance [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/health-a-z/illnesses/child-illnesses/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/) is designed to support parents in their decision making about mild illness. Please refer to this guidance when considering whether your child(ren) needs to miss learning due to illness.

We have lots of useful information regarding all aspects of school life on our website. In particular, there is a Safeguarding tab under the Parents and Students sections on 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 will be monitored over the half-term holiday. 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 X 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.

Following the half-term holiday, school will re-open for a training day for staff on Monday, 4 November 2024 and all students are due to return on Tuesday, 5 November 2024. May I also remind you that as per our published holiday dates, the school is closed to students on Friday, 29 November.

I wish you and your families are safe and restful half-term break.

Yours sincerely

S Mather
Headteacher

Encs

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The Holy Family Catholic School belongs to



Blessed
Christopher Wharton
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

The Holy Family

Catholic School



In This Issue....

- YR 7 WELCOME AND FIRST HALF TERM
- ENRICHMENT
- ATTENDANCE FOCUS
- OPEN EVENING
- BRITISH VALUES
- EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Autumn Newsletter HT1 2024



Awakening minds



Achieving dreams



Serving others





Year 7 Have Arrived...!

Year 7 have made a fantastic start to life at Holy Family. They have settled in well to their new surroundings and adapted to the new situations they face.

Over the last 8 weeks they have made new friends, experienced new lessons and made excellent progress in many subject areas.

A highlight of this term has been the Year 7 Day of Welcome to Trinity University in Leeds. The students had a lovely day, taking part in team building, CAFOD sessions and reflective activities in the beautiful chapel, we even had time for a movie and a game of mob football at lunchtime.

On the final day of term, we fittingly finish with our Year 7 liturgy and a disco to celebrate how well the students have done.

Mrs Moran, Mrs Copen and all the form tutors are super proud of how well the Year 7 students have transitioned from primary to secondary school and we think they are fab!



Year 7s First Day

On their first day of Year 7, students had the opportunity to meet their new form and form tutors.

Throughout the day they were set a task to write a letter to themselves about their hopes and goals which will be returned in their leavers assembly in Year 11 and set a challenge to; 'Build it tall, build it strong!'.

Students only had 18 minutes and the following resources: 20 spaghetti sticks, 1 marshmallow, 1 roll of Sellotape, 1m of string, 2 sheets of paper and 1 pair of scissors.



How to Succeed in Year 7 Evening

On Monday 9th September, we welcomed Year 7 and their parents into school to talk to them about how to be successful as they start their secondary school journey.

Key staff spoke about the learning that takes place across the year, how Key Stage 3 POD and ClassCharts can be used and how we will celebrate achievement during the year.



THE
TOP
TEAM!

WELCOME CLASS OF 2029!

ENRICHMENT

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

It has been great to see so many students take part in activities outside of lesson time, whether that be sports, intervention or science and games clubs. We hope to see even more students next half term!



PE and Sport

So far, we've had fabulous attendance at all after school sporting clubs.

The yr10 and 11 boys' rugby squad is still training hard with Saima from Cougars, we have enough girls at netball to be running a KS4 squad and a KS3 squad and fixtures are already being arranged. Boys football has great attendance from all key stages, with badminton seeing numbers rise to around 40 boys and girls with Coach Tim.

We still need yr7 netballers and girls' footballers from all KS3 as we are hoping to put teams together to go and play other schools.



SCIENCE club



Homework Club

Homework club takes place on Wednesdays 2.50-4pm in the LRC and is open to students in all years. Students have access to computers, a printer and photocopier so they can complete any work they may have whilst being supervised.








EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES HT2



Awakening minds

Achieving dreams

Serving others

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1.15-1.50pm (Please bring a packed lunch if possible)	Library (NKO) Science Research Club – Yr9-11 P1 (JBE) 	Reading Club Library (NKO) 	Creative Writing Library (NKO) Craft Club M2 (ZNA) Yr7/8 Multi Sports Sports Hall (LHU)	Library (NKO) Word Game Club S6 (HCO)  Art Club R12 (LHU)	Library (NKO) Games Club M2 (DBU) Psychology Book Club – Yr10/11 1 st Friday of Month S6 (HCO)
After School 2.50-3.50pm	Yr10/11 Boys Rugby Sports Hall (PME/Cougars) 	Boys/Girls Football Sports Hall (JMO/SCA/KRY) Sign Language LRC (LHU) 	Netball – All Years Sports Hall (LRE) KS3 STEM CLUB P4 (Science Faculty) Homework Club LRC (KHO/LHU)	Badminton – All Years Sports Hall (LRE) 	

Please let Mrs. Oldroyd know of any new clubs you would like to see this year!



Next half term we have a **Sign Language** course running on Tuesdays 3-4pm. The cost is £28 for 7 weeks.

Students have reading lessons and access to the library.

Come and try a new activity.

Learn new skills.

Make new friends.



OPEN EVENING 2024

It was great to welcome prospective students and parents to our open evening in September to showcase our school. Several of our sixth form students were tour guides and our students were excellent supporting in different subjects and speaking to visitors. They were a real credit to the school.



We want all our students to be: **'The Holy Family Learner'**

Be Alert

Be Collaborative

Be Present



Correct Equipment

Every student in school is expected to have the following equipment...

Pencil Case

Black Pen

Red Pen

Green Pen

Pencil

Ruler



Supporting Excellent Attendance

95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

BE SMART BE THERE!

Percentages based on 190 academic days

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN?

- Students to arrive on time, every day by 8.35am.
- Contact school to report an absence as soon as possible on the first day.
- Where possible make medical appointments out of school hours.
- Where possible let the school know in advance of any planned absences e.g. hospital appointments.
- Know the school holiday dates (school website).

The NHS guidance Is my child too ill for school? - NHS (www.nhs.uk) is designed to support parents in their decision making about mild illness.

Student Illness

If students are not feeling 100% with a cough or cold, without a temperature, please send them to school.

NEWS IN PICTURES

Dowson Food Machinery and Expressed Steel Panels visits as part of Bradford Manufacturing Week.



Welcome aboard



It was a pleasure to host our Yr10 'Welcome Aboard' evening as they start their GCSE courses.

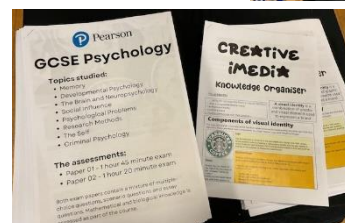
This was an opportunity for students and parents to meet faculty leaders and key staff and collect revision materials to support them to achieve to the best of their ability.

Keighley College Apprenticeship Panel Visit



Students had the opportunity to attend an Apprenticeship Panel Event at Keighley College. Apprenticeships and managers from different companies gave talks on how they progressed from leaving school to where they are now. Students were able to ask questions and to meet them after the event, and the businesses had different stalls so students could pick up leaflets and obtain free merchandise from the different companies. Students then enjoyed a tour round the college.

The day was very eventful and gave the students an insight into a college environment and for them to realise what it would be like to work for a company. This has encouraged them to do well at school ready for their future goals.



Year 10 work experience will take place on the 14-18 July 2025. Students need to be looking for their own placements in an area they would like to work in.

It has been great to see 'Stars of the Week' celebrated in assemblies this term.



Next half term, there will be rewards assemblies for PAZ results, Class Charts points, attendance and punctuality.



IF YOU PUT IN THE
TIME+
EFFORT
YOU WILL SEE THE
RESULTS



Students have had assemblies this half term which focus on their own personal development, British Values and Respect.

We want students at Holy Family to be safe and feel safe, with students' behaviour and language challenged when it doesn't meet our expectations and virtue of 'Respect'.

#chooserespect



PSHE @ Holy Family

Year 7 have kicked their learning off exploring the core virtue of 'Respect' and how to manage friendships and bullying.

Year 8 have looked at addressing extremism and discrimination. Looking at belonging; protected characteristics and reporting discrimination and values and managing disagreement constructively.

Year 9 have built on previous knowledge looking at 'Combatting Crime'. This unit highlights the importance that each individual member of society has, to help prevent, protect, and support one another in order to keep people safe. With a specific focus on knife crime and organised crime, Year 9 have produced posters, supporting the #KnifeFree campaign.

Year 10 have also been studying the same theme, looking at Understanding the Law. These lessons have been designed to allow students to explore their legal rights and responsibilities as they approach adulthood. Students are encouraged to consider the new situations they may find themselves in as a result of their increasing independence and be able to navigate these situations respectfully and safely. They are introduced to laws that protect against discrimination and support equality, as well as offences relating to public order.

During their form time PSHE sessions, Year 11 have been looking at Life Beyond School, in particular Financial Management. Exploring the difference between credit and debt, how to understand pay slips and their employment rights.

