

July 2021

Dear parents/carers

Welcome to the last letter of the 2020/2021 academic year. This letter contains some updates and information for your perusal in these strange times.

Plans for pupils in September

It is my hope that there will be a return to some normality in September. However, at the time of writing there is some uncertainty about the national plans and whether testing will continue in school. Therefore, the plan for re-opening is as follows:

- Wednesday 1st September: INSET day. School closed for pupils
- Thursday 2nd September: School open for Years 7 and Years 11 only
- Friday 3rd September: School open for all Year groups

The above is subject to change depending on, if any, new National guidelines. Parents have already been sent a letter regarding consent for testing which is planned to take place prior to pupils' return.

Charitable events

As a Catholic Community, we believe in supporting the vulnerable and seek to raise money for different charities. Recently we supported Guide Dogs for the Blind. I am delighted that Miss Cowans and her form 9A worked so hard to raise £110 to sponsor a guide dog called Niko. They have donated their own money, organised a football match and held a 'guess how many sweets in the jar' competition. Well done 9A, a great example of our pupils living out our SACRED Values!

Year 9 PIE pupils have created packs to keep families busy over the Summer. Food, books and fun activities have been sent out to families from our feeder primaries in Stockport. This project has been planned and budgeted for by pupils, developing vital life skills whilst also learning how great it feels to do things for others.

Pupil Leadership Team [PLT] update

Our great Year 10 pupils have had the opportunity to apply to become part of the school's Pupil Leadership Team. The quality of the application letters was incredibly high. A massive well done to all the pupils who were successful, and they were presented with their leadership ties in a special assembly. I have no doubt that they will be ambassadors for the St Anne's community and be role models for the standards we expect across the school. Again, congratulations to all our pupil leaders and I look forward to them being positive role models for the St Anne's community!

Head Boy and Head Girl

I am delighted to report that the interviews for the Head Boy and Head girl for the academic year 2021-22 have taken place. I really enjoyed interviewing the candidates and I was so proud of all the applications I received. The Head Boy and Head Girl are Haider Bhatti and Kiera Sacher. Both these pupils will be the face of St Anne's and I am sure that they will be great in their respective roles.

The Sacrament of Confirmation

In Eastertide 2021, the first cohort of candidates were due to be confirmed in Salford Diocese. Due to Covid, this was delegated from the Bishop to parish priests. Although some confirmations did take place, many were postponed. If you would like your child to be confirmed please contact your local parish so that you know how to be involved and have all the necessary details for the particular group that will be in your area. At St Anne's we want to support our young people in their sacramental journey of faith so if you are planning for your child to be confirmed, I ask that your child speaks to Mr Regan so we can play our part in preparing them for Confirmation.

For more information, please email: confirmation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Summer Safety

It is inevitable that over the next 6 weeks your child will be spending more time outdoors and possibly more time unsupervised, with their peers. It is important therefore that you have an open and frank conversation with them about how to keep themselves protected and safe. Some of the potential dangers your child needs to avoid are listed below;

- Swimming in open water, no matter how inviting it looks. Hidden currents can cause even confident swimmers to get into trouble and even water that appears shallow can suddenly become very deep.
- Too much time on social media. Children are often more confident than usual when communicating online. This can result in them saying and doing things they would not normally do. Make sure you monitor your child's social media usage and ensure they are acting in a respectful and appropriate way.
- Drugs and alcohol. Children may be exposed to harmful substances whilst out with their friends. Make sure you know who your child is with, where they are and what they are doing. Make sure they know what to do and who to call if something 'goes wrong'.

Attendance

As I write this, there are 41 pupils in our school who have 100% attendance. Whilst we recognise that due to circumstances beyond their control not every child is able to achieve 100%, nevertheless those that do deserve to be recognised. They have provided an excellent example of our Catholic SACRED Values of determination and ambition and for this they will each receive a £10 Amazon Voucher. Good attendance at School is the most important factor in your child's education. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Hibbert will be writing to you at the start of September to outline why attendance is so important and the steps we will take in school to ensure your child is getting the most out of their time at St Anne's.

Some briefs

- *Reminder to update your records:* Can I take this opportunity to remind parents to ensure that we have the most up to date records so that if we need to contact you then we have the correct details.
- *Year 11 Prom.* This took place last night. The 11 pupils celebrated their prom in style at Gorton Monastery. The young men and women that attended the event were an absolute credit to the school and looked amazing in their glamorous dresses and smart suits.
- *Standards letter:* Can I ask parents to please ensure that you read this letter so that we can get off to a great start in September. For example, please ensure that pupils do not have any piercings and ensure that the correct uniform, including shoes, are adhered to.
- St Anne's celebrated National Ice Cream Day with an Ice Cream Van visiting the school and giving away free ice creams on to our year 7 – 10 pupils on Monday 19th July. The pupils were very gracious and this building the Community bodes well for the future.

Finally, I hope that the children have a great summer and return safely to school in September, ready to work hard and learn. I am really optimistic and excited about what the future is going to bring to the St Anne's community.

Yours faithfully

S Logue

Mr S Logue
Executive Headteacher