

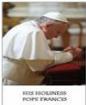
A Catholic School for All

Our Mission Statement

Trinity is a Catholic learning community devoted to the common good.

Parental Bulletin – Friday 12th February 2021

Let Us Pray: The Pope's Prayer Intention for February: Violence Against Women



Let Us Pray
We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.
Amen

Head of School – MR SHIRES (email: jshires@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

As this half term comes to an end, I wanted to send you my sincere thanks for all the hard work and support you have given the school during this very challenging time. Your willingness to encourage your children to log onto live lessons has meant that online attendance has now exceeded 90% for Trinity compared to the national average reported to be approximately between 60% to 70%. The use of MS Teams has enabled us to continue to deliver the curriculum to the vast majority of our students.

This half term the staff and students have shown bags of resilience, one of our core values, to ensure students received and engaged in high quality live lessons. I wanted to share with you a message that was sent by a student to all staff this week which I feel encapsulates what the school has achieved during this half term and the positive relationships that exist between staff and students.

"Dear everyone, I would just like to say a massive thanks from me for all your hard work and amazing lessons you have prepared for us this isn't the best of times at the moment but you are all still making the online lesson fun even though were not in the classroom. I hope you have an amazing very well rested break thanks for all the amazing lessons you have given us hope to be back at school soon enjoy your break."

New Website launch week beginning 15th February

Some more positive news is the launch of our new website. We hope that you find it much easier to navigate than the previous one. It was especially pleasing to be able to reinstate the title "Sixth form" on the menu bar at the top. This will contain all the latest information and guidance for the roll out of our Sixth Form provision launch dates after half term. Mr Alton will have oversight of the Sixth Form's continuing development moving forward.

School Reopening

The Government set an opening date of the 8th March and pledged to give schools two weeks' notice in order to be ready for the return of students onsite. Hopefully, they will keep this promise and we will be able to confirm these plans next week along with another pledged announcement regarding teacher assessed grades for Year 11 students.

Have a restful half term especially whilst we await anticipate what the next half term will bring.

Catholic Life - MRS RAYMENT - Lay Chaplain (email: erayment@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

We've made it to half term! Well done to all the students and staff on managing so well in these extraordinary times. Our Chaplaincy team had our first MS Teams meeting this week and whilst it was a very strange experience I was so thankful to the 20 young people who joined me in discussing our proposed fundraising efforts during Lent. They were full of great ideas for raising money for our chosen charity St Chad's Sanctuary. After half term we will be putting these plans into action and asking staff and parents to support this charity which is close to our hearts here at Trinity. As it stands the charity, which provides much needed aid to Asylum Seekers and Refugees in the heart of Birmingham, is in much need of financial support to keep operating. You can find out more about the work they do by visiting the website: <http://www.stchadssanctuary.com>.

This week our liturgy celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. I provided a little background information and shared with students and staff our hope for 2022 when the Birmingham Diocesan schools will have the opportunity once again to take part in the Brum2Lourdes Pilgrimage.

With Ash Wednesday falling in the half term this year we won't be having our usual school service but there are plenty of Masses taking place during the day in the parish. If you would like to have a family walk, Trinity Chaplaincy and the youth ministry team in the parish have put together a Stations of the Cross around Leamington town centre. You can download the map and reflections from the parish website: <https://www.catholicleamington.org.uk/youth-ministry-home.html>

We would like to put together a collage of photographs of families and individuals who have walked the route so that a virtual version can be shared with parishioners who cannot make the walk themselves. We have a number of elderly or shielding members of our community who would appreciate making the journey through those of us who can. If you would like to send me a photograph or even a short video, you can do so at the email address above.

May God bless you and your families as you spend half term together and lets pray that we can all meet again in school at some point next half term!

Senior Assistant Principal (Inclusion and Pastoral Care) - MR ALTON (email: malton@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

Sixth Form

I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to lead on the coordination and planning for the opening of Trinity Sixth Form in September 2021. We're committed to offering the very best further education to all of our Year 11 students who all have the opportunity to be part of an exciting and ambitious future for the school as a whole.

Our Ethos and Values

At Trinity Sixth Form our central purpose is to help our students realise their academic potential. Based on the core values of Aspiration, Resilience, Respect and our virtue of Integrity, we believe every young person can succeed and we devote ourselves to improving student achievement, through high-quality teaching and student support. Our students are challenged to achieve through high expectations within our Catholic learning community. We aim at all times to build aspiration, to inspire and to motivate our students so they have the opportunity for greater choice in life.

Our Vision

We aim to be the best Sixth Form provider in the local area and we aim to develop our students to both have the qualification and the wider skills required to be truly successful in modern society.

Our Courses

We are committed to delivering a wide range of study programmes that are carefully coordinated within pre-graduate and pre-professional pathways. Whatever our students choose to study, you can be assured that they will be taught by a team of highly trained dedicated professionals who have a passion for developing students in order to achieve their very best.

Our Enrichment Programme

Our partnership with the South Warwickshire and Worcester consortium Sixth Form providers results in a wide-ranging enrichment and development programme. Being part of Trinity Sixth Form will provide an opportunity to for our students to engage in:

- Duke of Edinburgh programmes
- National Citizen Service (NCS) summer experiences
- The VESPA (Vision, Effort, Systems, Practice, Attitude) programme
- Skill development programmes which focus on:
 - Presentation skill development
 - Lateral thinking
 - Independent research
 - Critical thinking and problem solving
 - Resilience and resourcefulness

The Next Steps

Event	Date
Sixth Form Subject Taster Day	Wednesday 3rd March
Application window opens	Thursday 4th March
Application window closes	Thursday 18th March
Sixth Form Interviews	Friday 19th March – Friday 26th March

Word of the Week – Week Beginning: 22nd February 2021



Week beginning: 22nd February 2021:
Pan – all, of everything, involving all (Greek word root)

Key Dates: 4th January to 1st April 2021 (Spring Term)

- **February Half Term: Monday 15th to Friday 19th February 2021**

Free School Meals Information

To check eligibility for Free School Meals:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>

Further support:

If you urgently need support, please contact Mr Marr via email: smarr@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk.

Please check any emails sent by Mr Marr about Free School Meals and contact reception to update any contact numbers or email addresses.

Learning Support – MRS PRICE (email: jprice@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

The SEND Team in Learning Support and Peter's Place are continuing to adapt the support we are delivering to students during lockdown. The regular contact the Teaching Assistant key workers are making, has also led to more students with SEN&D, to attend school for specific support sessions in the last two weeks.

Year 11 Exam Access Arrangements will be completed this week by the SENCo and Exams Officer.

HLTAs and TAs will continue to make weekly contact to support students on the SEN register during lockdown and we have set two dates for a dedicated SEND Department Parents' Consultation day. This will be set up on the same system as Parents' Evening and invites will be sent out nearer the time with support from our IT technicians to allow you to book an appointments with a member of the SEND team. The dates are: 24th March 2021 and 9th June 2021 (9:30am - 3:30pm).

Inclusion Manager and Deputy Safeguarding Lead – MISS CROSSMAN (email: lcrossman@tcs.lourdes.org.uk)

The government's one-off COVID Winter Grant launched in December and is available to the end of March 2021 to help vulnerable residents who are struggling to afford food and utility bills (heating, cooking, lighting) and water for household purposes (including drinking, washing, cooking, central heating, sewerage and sanitary purposes), or other related essentials.

More information about the COVID Winter Grant is available online at www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-winter-grant-scheme.

Head of Year 7 - MR PETTLE (email: mpettle@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

As we bring to a close a rather unusual (or "new normal") half-term, I want to take the opportunity to say "thank you". I love my job, that goes without saying, though unfortunately at times I have to take on the role of "bearer of bad news". Making contact because students aren't working. Delivering sanctions for poor behaviour. Dealing with students who are going through difficult experiences. That is the nature of a pastoral role, but I wouldn't change it for the world because my job allows me to see, and champion, the incredible successes of the young people in our year group. So, my first "Thank You" must go to all of our Year 7 students. Their commitment to learning and engagement with remote lessons is the first part in the foundation of their secondary journey. Their achievements now (like the 100% attendance we have seen in the last few weeks) will ensure a bright and successful future in whichever path they choose to pursue. So, my *EduLink* messages when they aren't working, or phone calls home when they aren't logging on aren't my way of "having a go", they are because I know what their potential is, and I want each and every one of them to realise that potential!

To you, our parents and carers, who are supporting our Year 7's through the trials and tribulations of remote learning. We understand the pressures that remote learning can put on a family (many of our staff are parents themselves) but we appreciate your continued support and messages of goodwill as we work together to guide your children through these unprecedented times.

To the Year 7 form tutors - Señora Baggott, Mr Coop, Miss Crossman, Mr Jones, Ms Graves and Mr Rai – who's continued support of our Year 7's (and myself!) always goes above and beyond!

So, for half-term, please do enjoy a well-deserved, well-earned break. Take advantage of the time away from the screen, re-engage with the people and things that matter to you, but most importantly, stay safe! Life is strange at the moment and times are tough for many, but rest assured that we will come through this strong and united as a whole school community. I leave you with some particularly relevant words from the Book of Chronicles: *"But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."*

Wishing you and your families a happy and peaceful half term break.

Head of Year 8 - MR DEMPSEY (email: pdempsey@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

January began with a massive challenge facing us and although it has taken a huge joint effort what we have seen is a wonderful example of teamwork, collaboration and community. In doing so we have finally arrived at half term! I have been genuinely moved by the resilience of our youngsters and you, their parents and carers, in getting us to where we are.

I believe that although the past twelve months have taken their toll in so many ways, they have also given the wider community an insight into what we see every single day - Our youngsters are resilient, caring, community spirited and a credit to us. We are very lucky to have the roles and responsibilities we do. We see the strengths and the personalities of Trinity's students being forged in real time. And I feel blessed to be given that opportunity. Vocations come in all shapes and sizes and 'service' is a beautiful and fulfilling mission.

Our Liturgy this week focussed on Lourdes and the Pilgrimage and was very much rooted in the idea of service to our most vulnerable. Watching the video of the youngsters on the pilgrimage to Lourdes was very humbling and Trinity will be participating in 2022.

I wish you all a very peaceful, restful and recuperative half term. Spring is mere weeks away and we can look towards the future with positivity and faith.

I leave you with this beautiful quotation from Hamlet on the theme of service and faith:

"This above all, to thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man."

Head of Year 9 - MR MUSSON (email: emusson@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

We hope that you are safe and well. We have just completed week twenty-one of the thirty-nine school weeks in Year 9 before beginning GCSE studies. Engagement during home learning is vital for students to continue to improve their subject knowledge across their wide and varied curriculum. I would like to congratulate all the Year 9 students who have met the challenge of engaging with online lessons this half term. Whilst under the restrictions of lockdown, students have had to draw upon their **resilience** to overcome many hurdles to meet this substantial challenge: a change of login details, a change in IT support procedure following academisation, remotely learn new software (MS Teams) and coping with lessons delivered via a challenging online environment. I would also like to congratulate the Year 9 students who have shown **respect** to their fellow students and teachers whilst learning online. So many students have innovated within their classes by supporting other students with the use of their own online channels. Students have exhibited their personal **integrity** and **aspiration** by meeting and often exceeding their teacher's basic expectations in lesson.

When speaking to the year group this week, I have advised students to turn off their school EduLink and MS Teams notifications until Sunday 21st February. I wish all students, parents and guardians a restful and relaxing break. We have advised that students look after their physical and mental health by engaging with regular exercise, eating healthy and sleeping in accordance with their circadian rhythm.

I look forward to welcoming students back after half term who have a determination to continue to succeed and are set to give their best in the build-up to choosing their options.

Head of Year 10 - MR WILLIS (email: awillis@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

I'd like to draw attention to the PE challenge that has been publicised on our school Facebook page, our school Twitter account and through an Edulink message to parents by Miss Hanson. Please do engage in this challenge as a family. This past half term has probably been the most sedentary of my life! I for one have experienced head and eye ache from what appears relentless screen time and use of my laptop for lessons, meetings and communication, where in 'normal times' I would have been teaching practical lessons, moving to meetings and speaking to people face-to-face. I have also started to experience lower back pain from the many hours sat down and then attempting to train in a quick burst in my makeshift 'gym' in my garage. I know that some of our students have also experienced similar symptoms over recent weeks. Having spent most of my teaching life trying to encourage people to be active, I realise that I have not been practicing what I preach. It feels as though our balance is off. Please do take the opportunity to put aside laptops and technology over the half term break. Please try and get outside and be as active as possible and try and correct this imbalance. Hopefully this shift towards higher levels of activity and less sedentary behaviour remains, as we have all seen the need for greater public health has never been more critical.

Enjoy your break.

Head of Year 11 - MR MARR (email: smarr@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

This week I delivered a liturgy to year 11 students about Our Lady of Lourdes and Bernadette Soubirous. On 11 February 1858 in Lourdes, France, 14-year old Bernadette Soubirous was gathering firewood with her sister and a friend. She later told her mother that a 'small young lady wearing a white veil, a blue girdle and with a yellow rose on each foot' spoke to her in the cave of Massabielle, located just outside the town. The lady 'appeared' on 18 more

occasions until she finally revealed who she was, "I am the Immaculate Conception". Bernadette was called into question, and she was told to admit that it was a hoax. Bernadette remained true to her faith and repeated what she had seen on numerous occasions. Bernadette died aged 35 whilst praying the rosary as a postulant of the Sisters of Charity. Bernadette's holiness and humility, her unassuming nature, and her quiet steadfastness in the face of opposition, lend support to the validity of her claims. Lourdes is considered a special place to visit because prayers and services are believed to bring real blessings to the pilgrim. Pilgrims may visit to be cleansed of their sins and to be cured of their illnesses.

We will be planning on joining other schools in the Birmingham Archdiocese on a pilgrimage to Lourdes in May 2022 (if it is safe to do so). You can find out more information or register your interest by emailing our lay chaplain Mrs Rayment: erayment@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk.

This has been a testing half term for students, parents and teachers. I would personally like to thank you all for your support and we hope to have children back at school and in the classrooms very soon. I hope you all have a safe and relaxing half term.

Head Girl and Head Boy

After half term we will be electing two Year 11 students to be important stakeholders. Further details will be published after the half term.

MS Teams Registration and Engagement

Thank you for your support with live registration and live lessons. On Thursday 11th February 2021, we had 95.1% of Year 11 students registering with their tutor and attending live lessons. This is considerably higher than the national average and I would personally like to thank you for your support.

Year 11 IT Information

If you are having issues with your email, password or Edulink the LourdesIT help desk contact details:

Help Desk: 01527 359 999

<https://help.lourdesit.org.uk>

help@lourdesit.org.uk

7.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday All resources, assignments, live and pre-recorded lessons will no longer be available via the welearn365 platform that students currently use.

Stay safe and take care.

Foundation Programme Co-ordinator - MR LIGNIER (email: jlignier@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk)

As a very different and challenging half-term comes to a close, I would like to say a big well done to the Year 12s that have come into school and showed commitment to their studies over the past 6 weeks. Those working from home who have interacted and consistently sent work through should also be commended. The circumstances have not been easy.

Students are not in school next week, so I'm hoping a week of recuperation will fuel their minds for a return to studying on Monday 22nd February. The school will remain open to all Y12 students, so we are hoping to see you in then. As we wait on more government announcements, we are hoping that the school will fully re-open as soon as possible. We will keep everyone posted as things develop, so please keep your eye on Edulink for any updates and developments. Have a great half term, and if you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please contact me on jlignier@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk.

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance – MRS LA SPISA & MRS KITE

National Apprenticeship Week 2021

Students in Year 10 and Year 11 have been sent a presentation via Edulink regarding apprenticeships as a possible future pathway.

Year 11 – One to One Careers Guidance Meetings

One to one Careers Guidance Meetings for Year 11 students will continue after the half term break.

Our School Motto
Equal by means of God's image