



Painsley Catholic College

Specialist Science College

Specialist Mathematics and Computing College

Principal: Mrs R Waugh BA (Hons). PGCE

CEO: Mr S G Bell, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

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Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of this half-term, it is timely to reflect on all that has been achieved by our school community, whether in school or learning remotely;

- BTEC and Applied Science students sat their exams.
- All year groups received progress reports and Year 8 received their full reports.
- Year 11 had interviews for the sixth form virtually.
- Year 10 had parents' evening virtually.
- Years 9, 10 and 11 students in selected maths groups had the opportunity to take part in the intermediate maths challenge.
- Year 9 marked their feast day of St Paul in RE lessons.
- Year 10 mentoring has been launched.
- Year 10 marked their feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes in RE lessons.
- Year 12/13 had talks from Staffordshire University on the UCAS process and student finance respectively.
- Year 11 and 13 have sat virtual mock exams.
- Rewards assemblies have been held virtually and Pastoral Leads have held weekly celebrations within their year groups.
- Year 10 have received a talk from Blesma and had opportunities to join some curriculum speakers in certain areas.
- All students have had the opportunity to take part in a walking challenge and to walk a mile in memory of Captain Sir Tom Moore.
- Students have written tea cup prayers to be sent to our parishes to share with a cuppa.
- All students have been encouraged to take part in the 60 minute switch – swapping lessons for an alternative activity away from their screens.
- Student change team and anti-bullying teams have met virtually.
- Pastoral and Citizenship sessions have taken place for Years 7 to 10 on a variety of finance related issues.
- Staff and parents have responded to the Ofqual consultation on examinations for this summer.
- All parents have been asked to participate in a parental survey in relation to remote learning.
- Lateral flow testing has continued for staff and students on site.
- Our catering teams at the main site and sixth form have been awarded the 5* food standards award.
- New flooring has been laid in the main building.
- The Digital Hub for T Levels has been completed.
- Students have continued to receive Acts of Worship and the Emmaus programme.
- Students have had the opportunity to mark Mental Health week and Safer Internet day.
- Staff and students have developed remote learning strategies and maintained an outstanding educational experience, despite all of the challenges.

I have to thank all of the staff, students and parents who have allowed our learning to continue and indeed, many aspects of our school life and community to flourish. Whilst I am sure we are all looking forward to seeing each other again soon and reforming our physical community, it is important to reflect on all that has been achieved despite our time apart.



National Teaching School designated by
National College for Teaching & Leadership



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The Painsley Catholic Academy.
A company limited by guarantee registered in
England & Wales with company number 08146661.
Registered Office Address: Station Road, Cheadle, Staffordshire ST10 1LH.



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I am delighted to share with you the news that Painsley has been designated as one of only 81 National Teaching School Hubs across the country. Painsley was formally a teaching school but teaching schools have been restructured into a number of regional hubs. Teaching School Hub means that Painsley has been selected to provide high quality professional development to teachers and leaders. It will allow us to continue our work as a local centre of excellence for teacher training.

After half-term, we await further news regarding the re-opening of schools. As always we will communicate with you as soon we are able to.

Year 8 have a virtual curriculum evening on Tuesday 23rd February. Parents will be sent a Zoom code on Tuesday which is specific to the pathway of your son/daughter. There will be an opportunity to ask general questions but more individual questions should be directed to Pastoral Leads following the presentation. Option forms and booklets will be sent to you the following day.

On Wednesday 24th February, Years 12 and 13 have a virtual parents' evening. Parents have already been sent letters explaining how to make appointments for the evening.

Years 7 to 9 will be completing assessments in class, following the timetable already distributed. These will really help students and teachers to be fully aware of any gaps in learning and will enable our teaching to be adjusted accordingly. Years 10 and 12 will receive their timetables after half-term for assessments starting on 8th March and pre-assessment information will be sent to classes. Selected year 10 students will also begin their tutoring in maths and English after half-term.

In the Gospel on Sunday, we hear the story of Jesus healing a leper (Mark 1: 40-45). In this Gospel we see the warmth of Jesus' humanity and it is a reminder to us of the need for our whole-hearted emotional involvement with those we encounter. As we are not in school for Ash Wednesday (17th February), I encourage the students to consider how they are going to mark the season of Lent. Whether it be through prayer, fasting and almsgiving or in some other way a spiritual preparation.

I wish you a relaxing and blessed half-term break.

God Bless

Mrs Waugh



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