



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

Station Road, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, ST10 1LH

Telephone: 01538 493777

Email: office@painsley.staffs.sch.uk

Web: www.painsley.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of the academic year, I thank the students and parents for your on-going support through a turbulent few weeks. Please be assured that we will make appropriate arrangements for students on the reward trips and those invited to the 100% attendance breakfasts.

As I'm sure you can appreciate we are planning for September and life without bubbles. Indeed, you will see on our students' timetables (which will be distributed before the summer holiday) that our rooming for September is substantially different and all students, including Year 12 and 13 will move across the site for certain lessons. We are also working on a significant plan to ensure we maintain positive outcomes from our time under the current restrictions including designated outside spaces, staggered lunch sittings, various entrance and exit routes and one way system in certain parts of the building. We will be maintaining our enhanced cleaning, ventilation and hygiene expectations. We are putting plans in place to test all students twice on return before reinstating home testing which will run until reviewed at the end of September (see details further on). I will share an updated risk assessment for September in due course and students will be informed of on-site arrangements before the summer holiday and on return. In the meantime please be assured that all current measures will remain in place up until the end of the academic year (Wednesday 21st July).

Please do refer to the attached letter which outlines changes to track and trace in schools in line with Stage 4 on the roadmap coming into force on Monday 19th July.

Whilst it has been a difficult week in school with certain bubbles self-isolating, we have still ensured the following opportunities for students;

- Year 7 computing enrichment day
- Virtual Mass for staff leaving, joined by Years 8,9,10 and 12
- Year 10 Art and photography trip
- Year 10 Geography River Dane visit
- Year 10 concerts for the future event
- Non-uniform day
- 100% attendance breakfasts for Years 9 and 10

In our final few days we will continue to support;

- Year 10 Geography River Dane visits
- Year 7 to receive full reports



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Please be aware the following important communications have or will be sent out this week;

- Year 11 results guidance
- Year 13 results guidance
- Year 7,8,9,10 set letters and timetables
- Transport letter with bus passes
- Letter regarding arrangements for return

Alongside the set letters all students (Y7-11) will be issued with their personal timetable and a year group flash. Please sew the year group flashes onto the blazer beneath the school badge. It is expected that all students will display their year group flash.

As we approach the end of term I would like to thank the staff for their tremendous commitment to the students in school. I am blessed to have such a gifted staff who live their vocation every day. I express particular thanks to the staff leaving us at the end of this academic year and I send them the best wishes of all the Painsley family as they move on to the next chapter.

Dr Green has worked in the maths department throughout the academic year as an apprentice teacher. It's not been the easiest year for anyone coming into teaching and we thank Dr Green for his service to the students and maths department and wish him well in his first teaching post.

Mrs Wood has been working part-time in the Science department since 2019 and although she won't be working in Science in September she will continue to support the students in cover lessons.

Miss Smyth has worked in the business department since 2019 and contributed to the delivery of GCSE and A level Business, BTEC business and Events Operations. She has contributed so much to Painsley – trips, enrichment, sixth form events and the spiritual life of the college. We wish Miss Smyth well as she emigrates to a much warmer climate.

Miss Grimley has worked in the PE department and Health and social care team since 2019. Miss Grimley has been desperate to reinstate the extra-curricular life so importance to the PE department. We are very grateful to Miss Grimley for organising the virtual sports day and sports challenges to maintain our fitness and spirits during lockdown. We wish Miss Grimley well as she moves to a second in department role in PE.

Ms Barnes has worked as a science technician since 2017. We thank her for support in science and allowing the students to bring the curriculum to life. We wish Ms Barnes well as she trains to be a maths teacher.

Mr P Allen has worked in the maths department since 2014. I know many student have benefitted from Mr Allen's calm and supportive manner and allowed them to gain confidence and flourish in their maths learning. In addition, Mr Allen has been a pastoral lead and supported Year 11 through the most challenging of circumstances this year. In previous years he has coached and managed the Year 11 football team winning the league in 2019. We wish Mr Allen well as he moves on to a position with maths responsibility.



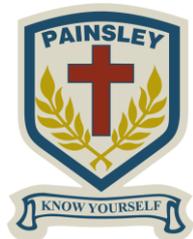
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Mrs Luke has worked at Painsley since 2008. In her time with us she has supported many students to engage with the curriculum, many of whom have been in the most challenging of circumstances. We wish Mrs Luke a long and happy retirement.

Mr P Challinor has worked at Painsley since 1995. In his time at Painsley he has been teacher of ICT, teacher of Maths, Head of ICT, Head of Year, Pastoral Lead, Assistant Principal, health and safety officer and been responsible for a range of areas whilst a member of the leadership group. We can always count on Mr Challinor for his well-reasoned and thorough approach to areas he has been responsible for. Perhaps most notably the students will miss the annual rendition of 'We Will Rock You'. We wish Mr Challinor a long and well-earned retirement.

Mr Simcox has been working on the school site since 1992. There isn't an area of the school site that Mr Simcox isn't familiar with and his work to ensure a safe and well-kept learning environment for all of our students over the last 29 years is truly appreciated. Mr Simcox has seen overseen significant changes to the site including the introduction of corridors to the additions of the labs, MFL, Pentecost and most recently the digital hub. After all the early mornings, late nights and call-outs Mr Simcox is due a long and happy retirement and rest.

In preparation for the new academic year we ask all parents to pay £30 school fund for the academic year 2021/22. This should be paid over the internet via ParentPay. Please pay by 31st August at the latest, as the start of the new term is likely to be busy. The fund itself helps to purchase new books, resources and ICT equipment for the benefit of the students and is crucial in supporting the college budget.

As a reminder, school legislation states that I am not able to grant holiday requests – in fact it is illegal for me to do so. Furthermore, holidays in term time may result in the local authority issuing parents with a financial penalty notice. Therefore, I ask you to ensure that all holidays are taken outside of term time. I know that this may seem punitive but it is the laws and I have no option but to follow it.

Please be reminded that the college uniform and expectations were sent to you in last week's letter and are available on the school website. We expect all students are in full school uniform on Thursday 2nd September 2021, the first day of the academic year.

Over the summer holiday students have been issued with some summer learning. Given the last 18 month's disruption to learning it is imperative that further gaps in learning do not develop. Additionally, we will maintain crucial communication with you during the summer holiday. This will be via text messaging and signposting you as necessary to the website/email.



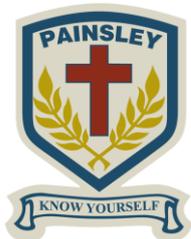
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In preparation for September Covid testing all parents will need to give consent via ParentPay – this is regardless of whether you have done this previously. A new item will show for you on ParentPay and we ask you to give your consent, which will enable us to register the students towards the end of the summer break so that our on-site testing can begin promptly in September. During the last round of testing, parents who had not given consent via ParentPay, gave consent by phone and email. However, we must insist that ParentPay is used to give us a single clear list to refer to and we thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

The Gospel this weekend could not be more appropriate (Mark 6: 30-34).

‘The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught’

He said to them, ‘come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest’. People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place. People saw them leaving and many came to know about it. They hastened there on foot from all the towns and arrived at the place before them. When Jesus disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd and he began to teach them many things.

Whilst we all need to come away and rest for a while we are mindful that we continue to be here for all in our Painsley community.

I wish you a lovely summer break, and thank you for your tremendous support throughout another turbulent year. I look forward to welcoming back all of our students on Thursday 2nd September, eager, refreshed and ready to journey together.

God Bless

R.A. Waugh
Principal



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