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
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Web: www.painsley.co.uk

Dear Parent/ Carer

As we reach the end of term, I would like to thank all the staff for their dedication and commitment this term. I would like to thank the students for their efforts and determination throughout the last 13 weeks and I would like to thank you as parents for the trust you put in me and my staff and indeed the support and encouragement you have given throughout the Autumn term.

It has been a wonderful end of term with the opportunity to share in the Advent Mass, to share in the virtual concert, to participate in the non-uniform/Christmas jumper day and to share in the joys of the talent show. Whilst we have had to ensure these are virtual, it has nonetheless been a real opportunity to come together and celebrate.

At the end of term we say farewell to the staff leaving us;

Mrs C Wooldridge – Started at Painsley in September 1997 (24 years ago) as a teacher of computing/ Maths. Mrs Wooldridge became Head of Year in 2000 and Head of Maths in 2004, Director of Maths and Computing from January 2014 to Sept 2015 and became Director of Mathematics in December 2015. In her time at Painsley Mrs Wooldridge has been hugely supportive of STEM and has been the inspiration behind many STEM events. Mrs Wooldridge often brings a new or alternative approach to learning both in and out of the classroom. In Mrs Wooldridge's time Maths has become a flagship department of committed and dedicated professionals that support each other and the students significantly. As a member of the leadership group she has contributed to the strategic development of the school often giving an honest and real perspective and has led an outstanding department throughout. She has introduced numerous specification changes and opportunities for students to develop their Maths - Further Maths, Maths challenge, algebra qualifications, lectures, trips etc. including supporting the work of the Maths hub. Mrs Wooldridge has always put her staff and the students at the heart of her decision making and is highly skilled and efficient. We wish Mrs Wooldridge a long and happy retirement.

Mrs J Phillips - Started at Painsley in September 2005 Mrs Phillips has been part of a highly successful department for the last 16 years. Mrs Phillips support of the students has always been tremendous. You often see Mrs Phillips sat with the students working through mathematical problems. Mrs Phillips has taught all ages and courses and whenever I have had the privilege of observing what strikes me is the warmth and genuine interest she pays to all the students. She draws the students into their learning and ensures they take ownership of their progress. Mrs Phillips has also been a loyal and committed Emmaus tutor and every year has organised the operation Christmas Child appeal. I couldn't say how many boxes have been sent over the years, but I do know there are many children across the globe that have smiled as a result of the efforts Mrs Phillips has inspired. As Mrs Phillips moves on to a new post as second in department, we wish her well from all of us at Painsley.

Mrs E Wilcox - started at Painsley on 13/05/2019, transferring from St Giles, where she had worked since 03/05/1988. It must have been a huge change to move from St Giles to Painsley and although the process would be similar on a much, much larger scale. I know Mrs Wilcox has enjoyed her time with us at Painsley and we are very grateful for her warmth and positivity. We wish Mrs Wilcox a long and happy retirement.

The Painsley Catholic Academy.
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Mrs A Reardon-Davies - started 15/04/2013 and became Head of Music 1st September 2015 – 31st August 2018. Prior to teacher training Mrs Reardon-Davies was a professional musician and instrumental teacher, she was and still is a cellist and also plays clarinet and piano. She is an accomplished soprano singer and her contributions to the musical life of the college through the extra-curricular opportunities (Les Misérables and Annie are particular highlights), liturgical life and in her lessons are exceptional. I know Mrs Reardon-Davies will also be missed in our primary schools where she has taught music for several years. Mrs Reardon-Davies is moving on to a Director of Music post and we wish her all the best in her career, and I hope she takes with her fond memories of Painsley as she has certainly left a lasting impression on the music department and with the students here.

At the end of term, we also say farewell to **Mrs Clewlow** and **Prof Price** and wish them well in whatever they choose to do. I look forward to introducing you to and welcoming our new staff in January.

Over the Christmas break I ask you all to remain vigilant and keep testing. Students have all been given LFT testing kits to cover the Christmas period. Students should have returned their testing card for the January testing this week, but please continue to return them to school if you have not done so already. As a reminder, students cannot be tested if they have had Covid within the last 90 days. Please do update us on 4th January should you need to.

During the first week back in January we are holding a reception for last year's Year 11 and Year 13 students to collect their certificates. Any students wanting to attend must return the reply slip so we can ensure your certificates are ready and that we can maintain our Covid safety measures.

Finally, it leaves me to say, I wish you all a happy and holy Christmas.

'May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women.' (Pope Francis)

God Bless

Mrs Waugh
Principal

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