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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Friday, 27th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I can't believe we have reached the end of another week…where has the time gone?

On Monday, we had a visit from the DFE and behaviour hub to validate our delivery of the behaviour hub programme. It was marvellous to hear their feedback, which included:

"The values of the school were evident in every classroom visited. Pupils were engaged and able to articulate what they were learning clearly. Relationships with their teachers were observed to be strong, trusting and with appropriate boundaries. In changeovers, pupils were self-regulating, even at pinch points. This was backed up by teachers and other staff overseeing transitions. Pupils reported that line-ups after break and lunch had led to reduced congestion in corridors and effective lesson starts. Pupils confirmed they had a comprehensive induction programme, with Year 7 pupils saying it was easy to follow the rules and routines because 'everyone does them'. Systems and routines were well embedded through all observed lessons; pupils were autonomous in how they responded to these routines."

We also welcomed our Year 4 pupils from our feeder schools to spend some time with us in the MFL department as part of their transition and equally our Year 5 students and parents continued with their transition opportunities.

On Thursday, Year 9 celebrated Mass at St Giles for the feast of St Paul. As Painsley does not have a patron saint, each year group has a saint's day and it is an opportunity to celebrate Mass together as one family and community.

It has also been important to celebrate the achievements of all our students through the rewards assemblies this week. I congratulate all the students who received certificates or were recognised for their excellent attendance or conduct. As a reminder, all students have a personal attendance target of 97%. What is your son/daughter's current attendance? Has it fallen below the 97% threshold? Good attendance has a direct link with student progress. Do you need assistance with attendance? If so, please do contact your son/daughter's Pastoral Lead.

On Wednesday, 25th January, the Year 9 Scholars Programme went to the University of Birmingham with Mr Bradbury and Mr Birch. As part of the trip, the students took part in a critical thinking study session, campus tour, student Q&A and admissions talks. This trip is to help to provide students with an insight into Russell Group universities and the opportunities available. The students will be undertaking a supra-curricular subject and will be expected to complete an assignment on the topic 'Myths versus Reality: Soldiers and Horses in the Great War'. All students participated excellently throughout the day and had a great start to the programme.

In the week ahead, we have Year 12/13 mock examinations, Year 11 science live activity for some Year 10 and 11 classes, the Intermediate maths challenge, Biometric catering photos and the Year 9 visit to the Natural History Museum.

As you will be aware, there is strike action planned this week. There will be an additional communication outlining the details of arrangements for all students.

The Painsley Catholic Academy.
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In the gospel on Sunday, we hear the Beatitudes (the blessings) Matthew 5:1-12. These are entwined in our gospel values reflected in college on a half-termly focus. Which of these qualities should we have more of and which bring us closer to Christ?

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. (Matthew 5:1-12)

God Bless

R. A. Waugh

Mrs Waugh

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