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

Friday, 20th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I am absolutely delighted to be able to share the fantastic news that Painsley's Key Stage 4 progress score for 2023 has been validated as +0.72. This equates to our students achieving nearly three quarters of a grade higher in each qualification on average, compared to similar pupils across the country and places us 'well above average' and indeed, the second highest score across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. Once again, I congratulate the students on their outstanding achievements and the staff for their dedicated professionalism to support all students. Our Key Stage 5 results are equally as impressive. As this cohort did not sit examinations at the end of Key Stage 4, there are no progress scores for Key Stage 5. You can see Painsley's results on www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk.

Our Year 11 art and photography students visited the art exhibitions in Liverpool this week and our Year 10 & 11 PE students took part in a residential.

In the final week of this half-term, our students will all take part in a pastoral/citizenship session based on RSHE and all students will all take part in an oracy day, considering the importance of oracy to support learning.

As we approach the end of the first half-term, you will receive our full newsletter next week which will give you an insight into learning in all department areas. I hope you enjoy reading about all we have been doing this half-term.

I would like to remind all parents of our overarching educational principle: '*We believe that exceptional communication skills enhance the spiritual development, the life chances and opportunities of all in the community'*. Parents are reminded of our communication charter. The charter sets out what we strive to achieve for all our parents, but also indicates what we expect from our parents. We welcome feedback on anything you feel we are doing well, but also any areas where we still have work to do.

Parents	**Key points**
General ethos	**Relevant Painsley MAC Values:** **People Really Matter!** The very best learning opportunities for our pupils An outstanding partnership with parents that is built on trust and respect *Associated Gospel value: dignity and compassion* *Associated Catholic Social Teaching: dignity of work and rights of the workers*

The Painsley Catholic Academy.
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Relationships	We aim to develop a partnership with all of our parents. We believe in your child and will do all we can to work with you. This is something that happens continually. All staff, from the Principal down, are happy to meet you at a mutually convenient time.
Advice and guidance	We provide practical strategies to support learning at home so parents work in partnership with us in terms of their child's spiritual, social and academic development.
Communications	We tailor school communications to encourage positive communication about your child's learning throughout the year. We will not simply give you information, but we aim to actively seek out information from you about your child.
Your child's learning	Your survey responses tell us that you do not always feel that you are being updated about what your child is learning in class. Therefore, as a MAC family, we will be trialling strategies to keep you regularly informed about what your child is learning in class so you can have discussions about the subject content. Please do let us know your thoughts about the strategies/any possible suggestions.
Parents' evenings	Parents' evenings are a positive experience that build on the belief that your child can succeed. We offer practical advice for what your child needs to do to develop work/approach to school life.
Additional support	Parents know their child best. Therefore, we ask that parents contact school if there are any issues of concern and we will give additional support as necessary. We all want the best for your child.
Reports	We time reports so they are meaningful and inform you of the way forward. We will be honest about any barriers in terms of your child's progress and will offer solutions to these, working in partnership with you.
Policies	We will always consider (and, where appropriate, involve) parents when drafting policies. We aim to make policies accessible and easy to understand.
Emails	We will respond to emails within **3 working days**. If a matter is **urgent**, please contact reception and we will **speak to you that day**. We ask that parents refrain from emailing staff outside the hours of 8.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday.
Understanding	Any relationship is built on understanding. We are limited by law regarding our decisions on certain points, such as holidays in term time. Please respect the legal frameworks we operate in.
Attendance	We will work with you to ensure that your child attends school regularly and arrives on time. This is because your child will quickly fall behind if they are not present or are late. We have busy, fun days! If there are any barriers to your child attending school, please let us know.

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Praise	We appreciate any positive feedback and recognition of our actions. Please do let us know any positive feedback via email: tellus@painsley.staffs.sch.uk
Resolutions/ Complaints	Sadly, there are times when relationships can be strained. Therefore, we have an easy-to-follow resolution and complaints procedure. If a parent is unhappy with any aspect of the school, please follow the policy and we will work together to resolve the issue. For general recommendations on improvements, please email: tellus@painsley.staffs.sch.uk
Phone calls	Reception staff will ensure that **parents receive a call back on the day** of an incoming call. If this cannot be the case, parents will be called to inform them when the call will be made. If the matter is urgent, a senior member of staff will either take the call immediately or contact you back on the same day.
Induction	All pupils and their families are entitled to a full induction programme consisting of at least an initial meeting and a tour of the school, along with sessions in school to ensure you feel fully supported and are happy with your child's education.
Pupil wellbeing	If you notice any changes in your child at home, please let us know. We will not tolerate any form of bullying at school and will work with you to ensure your child is not at any harm. Sometimes, a child behaves differently at home compared to in school, so it is important you contact us. We care very much about your child. We will also regularly signpost you to services that the local authority offers.
Staff wellbeing	Staff work very hard to support your child. We ask, in a spirit of positive relationships with our Catholic school, that staff are treated with respect at all times, and we will do the same with you.
Positive behaviour	We strive for a consistent approach to behaviour between parents and the school, for example, by sharing expectations with parents. Working in partnership provides for a much better understanding between us and benefits your child.
Invites to school	We warmly welcome you to visit school throughout the year, including the opportunity to visit lessons and understand the strategies we use to maximise learning.
Changes to circumstances at home	We understand the pressures of life, including relationship breakdowns, financial difficulties and other challenges we face. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any support or just a friendly person to talk to!
Surveys	We will carry out an annual survey in order to understand how parents feel about communication with the school and follow up any areas in partnership with parents.
Parishes	We will work with you and the parish so that your child has the opportunity to embrace the word of God.

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In the gospel on Sunday (Matthew 22:34 – 40), we are reminded of the greatest commandment – to love God and love your neighbour as yourself. Each and every day we strive to fulfil the greatest commandment in college.

God Bless

R. A. Waugh

Mrs Waugh

The Golden Thread Teaching School Hub
Music Education Hub GOLD AWARD
Anti Bullying Pledge School
IAG Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Quality Mark
Investor in People
WAS Wellbeing Award for Schools 2019-2022
MATHS HUBS NORTH MIDS
Arts Council England
Artsmark Silver Award Awarded by Arts Council England
Behaviour HUBS
Improving Health and Well Being Staffordshire Healthy Schools
Science
Maths & Computing
ict
Dyslexia friendly
UCL Proud to be a Language Hub School
World Class Schools
360 degree safe
Online Safety Mark Accredited Safer Online

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