Painsley Catholic College

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Dear Parent/Carer,

It is wonderful to be back without the rain this week and it has been good to have some proper fresh air during break and lunchtimes. It is a timely reminder that students are welcome to bring a coat to school and wear it when outside of the college buildings. However, please be reminded that hoodies are not allowed to be worn to school.

We have marked the beginning of Lent in college, with all year groups reflecting on St Catherine of Sienna's phrase "Be who God created you to be and you will set the world on fire". Students reflected on the need to resist the temptations of this world, as Jesus did when he was tempted by the devil, in order for them to be who God created them to be and allow them to carry out God's work. There are lots of opportunities for prayer, fasting and almsgiving this Lent through our non-uniform day, Year 7 and 8 Parable of the Talents and Lent social actions.

Many congratulations to the Year 10 football team, who are now through to the semi-final of the English cup - a fantastic achievement in a competition boasting over 600 schools from across the country. I have been most impressed with their sportsmanship and the way they have emanated the Painsley Way throughout the competition so far.

This week, we have also seen Year 7 take part in their 'WOW' day, Years 7-10 and 12 participating in personal development and students taking part in their Lent non-uniform day for Lenten charities. Year 12 and 13 have started their mock examinations and as we enter next week, Years 7-11 will have their assessment and mocks over the coming fortnight.

Thank you to all the students and parents who have supported the enhanced mobile phone expectations following the communications before half-term and explaining to all students why this is important and necessary. If any mobile is seen or heard throughout the day, it will be confiscated and held until parents can come and collect it. It is crucial that we all work together in order to ensure our students can learn in a focused and distraction-free environment. As a reminder, it is the DfE expectation that all schools are mobile phone-free. Additionally, we have explained to students slight alterations to procedures before the college day and for wet breaks, in response to student voice.

In the Gospel on Sunday (Matthew 17:1-9), we hear the story of the Transfiguration. The disciples are shown the divinity of Christ in the Transfiguration and the awesome nature of God. Where do we see God's awe and wonder in the world today?

God Bless

R.A. Waugh

Mrs R Waugh