Our Ref: SMA/DK

24 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the half-term break, I write to thank you for your continued support and to update you on a few key pieces of information.

The Holy Family

Catholic School

a voluntary academy

<u>Uniform</u>

Thank you to those of you who continue to ensure that your child(ren) attends school every day wearing full and correct uniform. We continue to strive to ensure that all students are correctly dressed as per the uniform policy which is available on the school website and thank you for your support with this. We are hopeful that the weather will continue to improve as we approach the summer months and as such have decided that students **will not be required to wear their blazer** for the last half term of this academic year. This a temporary change to our unform policy, students will be expected to be in full uniform including blazers from the beginning of the Autumn Term in September.

Punctuality

Please can I ask that you remind your child(ren) of the importance of being punctual to school and to lessons throughout the school day. Students are required to be on site at 8.35 am each morning to ensure they arrive at their form room/assembly on time. We are monitoring attendance and punctuality closely and would very much value your support in helping us to improve this further.

In order to further improve punctuality in the mornings, from the beginning of next half-term, students who are late to school in the morning will be issued with a **same day detention**. Should this affect your child(ren) you will be informed via Classcharts. The only exception to this will be for students who travel to school on the school bus which sometimes arrives at school slightly later than our published start time. I am in discussion with the bus company regarding this issue and am hopeful that it can be resolved. Until then, students who arrive late to school due to the timing of the school bus will not be sanctioned.

For the moment, we will continue to sanction students who are repeatedly late to lessons in the same way as we have been.

RAAC

Further to the update I provided in my last communication with you, I am delighted to say that work to provide a temporary kitchen will begin over the half-term holiday. Further work will then take place over the summer to install temporary classrooms which, when in place, will help us to return to our more usual routines. The Department for Education has asked me to share the following update with you:

To supplement the communication that was issued prior to the Easter break the Department for Education has continued to work closely with the Holy Family Catholic School, the Trust and the Diocese in relation to managing the issue of RAAC in the school's buildings. The provision of temporary accommodation has been defined, suitable locations within the school have been identified and specific accommodation requirements agreed. During the May half term holiday works will start, specifically ground works associated with the provision of a temporary kitchen. So as to manage pupil, staff welfare, health and safety and to not impact exams it has then been agreed with the school that works will then pause and recommence mid-July and during the summer-holidays. At this point in time the conclusion of the temporary accommodation will progress slightly beyond the start of September term, all efforts will be made to try and concluded before September starts. At the conclusion of the works four classrooms, toilet facilities, a science lab and a kitchen will be provided. The Department for Education, School, Trust and Diocese continue to work together to understand the long-term mitigation measures, further details on this will be confirmed in due course.

Safeguarding

May I remind you that there is lots of useful information regarding all aspects of school life on our website. In particular, there is a Safeguarding tab under the Parents and Students sections on the site. This section contains information which may be useful for people facing challenges at what continues to be a challenging time for many. There is also an option to report any concerns you may have. This facility will be monitored over the half-term holiday. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need to.

Social Media

We also make regular use of social media to share information regarding what is happening in the school. We have a school Twitter feed: @THFCS_Official, and a school Facebook page; @HolyFamilyCatholicSchoolKeighley. Thank you to those of you who already follow us on social media and please consider doing so if you don't already.

Following the half-term holiday, school will re-open for staff and students on Monday, 3 June 2024.

I wish you and your families are safe and restful half-term break.

Yours sincerely

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S Mather Headteacher



The Holy Family Catholic School belongs to

Blessed Christopher Wharton CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST