



Newsletter Issue 158

7 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy new year and hope for the year to come. I know from conversations and communications with families that whilst many of you had a very well deserved rest and enjoyed much needed time with family, a significant number had a difficult Christmas with Covid restrictions and illness. For this reason, I hope that the return to school is a much needed and joyous occasion for many. I say this as someone with three children aged 5 and under, knowing that it will be a huge relief when they go back to school or nursery!

This coming term has much to give hope and optimism for. This week we celebrated Epiphany, marking the visit of the three Maji to the birth of Jesus and the gifts that they gave. Ofsted gave us the early gift of an inspection just before we broke up for Christmas and we hope that their report will be published in the next week and that it captures much of what it is to be a student at this school.

Our gifts that we give are not just those of knowledge and wisdom, but those things that are often unseen that will stay with us and our children for the rest of their lives. One at this time of year is the standards that we hold ourselves accountable to. This can be the little things like the presentation of work in our books, the amount of revision or time we spend on homework, and the tiny choices we make throughout each day. The choices that we make at the start of this year are the habits that will stick with us for the next 12 months and we are going to spend a lot of time making sure that we set each of our students up for a successful and fulfilling 2022.

Finally, may I thank you for your patience with the staggered start to this last week, allowing for Covid testing and flu vaccinations. We are delighted that we will have almost all of our school community back on-site next week and look forward to what the coming year has to offer.

God bless

Mr Everett
Principal



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CHAPLAINCY

Thursday 6 January was the Feast of Epiphany. This feast marks the point in the liturgical year when we remember the visit of the Magi, more commonly known as the three Kings or wise men, who came to worship the infant Jesus at Bethlehem. As this is a Holy Day of Obligation, Father Des broadcasted Mass to a number of schools within the Romero Catholic Academy, including Cardinal Wiseman,

The Chaplaincy Team also created a video exploring the Epiphany and giving some points of reflection on the gifts and what they mean for us today. Please select the following link to have a look:

<https://youtu.be/bFc7f9qvoD8>



After School Activities — PE

Includes changes for week commencing 10 January



Monday

Year 7 Badminton

Miss Holmes

Tuesday

Years 8 & 9 Girls Basketball

Guardian Ballers Coaches

Key Stage 4 Fitness Club

Miss Holmes

Wednesday

Years 8 & 9 Boys and Girls Fitness Club

Mr Forinton

Key Stage 3 Trampolining Club

Mr Blair

Thursday

Years 8 & 9 Boys Basketball

Guardian Ballers Coaches

Year 7 Boys Football Club

Mr Blair

Key Stage 3 Girls Football

Mrs North

Years 7 & 8 Netball

Ms Jefferson



Guidance for Parents and Carers on Online Sexual Harassment and Keeping Children Safe

The Government's Children's Commissioner has launched [a guide for parents and carers on online sexual harassment and how they can support children to stay safe online.](#)

"The things I wish my parents had known" draws together advice from 16 to 21 year olds on how parents should manage tricky conversations around sexual harassment and access to inappropriate content online.

A surprising but overriding message from young people is that parents should start these challenging conversations early. They suggest broaching topics before a child is given a phone or a social media account, which is often around the age of 9 or 10.



Safeguarding