

The Heads Up



April 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's hard to believe that Lent is almost over and the Easter Holidays are upon us. School will close today, **Thursday 29th March** and reopen to all students on **Monday 16th April** at **8.45am**. Please check the school website for details of this and other holidays. Next year's holiday dates are available now. School will also close on **Monday 7th May** for Bank Holiday.

This term has been very long and our focus has been on preparing our students for their exams. But we have not ignored the fundamental reason why we are a Catholic school and we have also been preparing our children for Easter and Christ's resurrection.

I am pleased that the break is upon us because quite frankly I'm skint. Every day I arrive with a pocket of change only to be cajoled into buying raffle tickets or doughnuts to support the Lenten Charity activities. I have to say the pupils have excelled themselves this year.



Parents also note that we have improved security at the school site. After the holiday if you are coming to school after 8.45am and before 3.10pm then you will need to ring the bell at the outer school control gate and make yourself known to the staff. This is a small inconvenience but if it keeps us all safer it is a good thing.

The school production of We Will Rock You took place on Friday 16th March. The pupils excelled themselves with their performance. Well done to producer Jack Hanley one of our Y13 students



New Head Teacher

The new Head Teacher of Archbishop Ilsley will be Miss H. Burrows, she will begin her headship officially on September 1st 2018. I am sure that you like me, will want to wish her all the best in her new role. Many of you will know her as a teacher already at Archbishop Ilsley.

Earlier this year I took the decision to retire from teaching. I will be stepping down as Head Teacher this summer. I have been teaching at Archbishop Ilsley since April 1981. I have taught many of the parents and even some of the grandparents who have pupils at Archbishop Ilsley; so perhaps it's time to move on and try something different. I thank all of you for your support over those 37 years.

Year 11

Some results from our Y11 PPE's were encouraging. There is still much to be done. There is no substitute for hard work. There is a full programme of revision classes taking place over the Easter break.

Farewell to:

Mr D. Bayliss who has been promoted to Head of RS at Holy Trinity School.

Mrs. L. Curran who has been promoted to Assistant Director of English at a school in Coventry.

Thank you for your service. You will be missed.

Parking

Can I remind all parents that parking at or near school is at a premium. Parents should not block the drives of our neighbours nor park on yellow lines or opposite the buses. Parking on the school site is not allowed at the end of the school day unless permission has been given by the Head teacher.

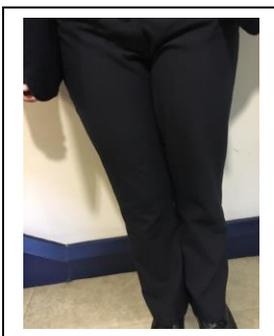
The safety of our students is paramount and it is far better to park a little further away to help the safety of all.

Litter

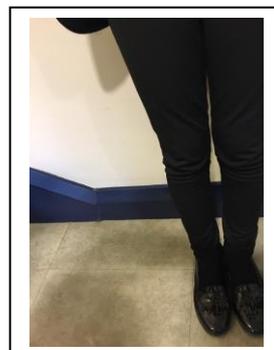
I am concerned about the amount of litter amazed at what some of our pupils eat on the way to school. Farm Foods is going a roaring trade in Jaffa Cakes and 2L bottles of Cola. Can I remind you that the school canteen is open before school serving healthier options? It has been proven that young people who eat a breakfast and walk to school perform better in their exams. Encourage your child to do both.

Uniform

We have recently sent out letters to parents/carers regarding this and a copy of the letter is also available on the school website-under parent hub. The standard of uniform at school remains very good. But we are always challenging pupils. Pupils should not be wearing jewellery apart from stud earrings. Its good to see girls wearing trousers but I want to make it clear that tailored trousers are acceptable but leggings are not. The pictures below show what is acceptable and what is not. Do not be offended if your child is challenged over this matter.



YES



NO

Finally

Can I wish you a happy, holy and safe Easter.

