

Ellesmere Port Catholic High School – Weekly bulletin

8th June 2020

(Academic Week 34)

Week 2

'In union there is strength'.

Aesop.

Our School Prayer Dear Lord, Fill our lives with joy. Fill our lives with love. Fill our lives with peace. We give thanks to you for the gift of life. Give us the courage to live it to the full. Amen.	Our Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong Catholic Ethos• Ensuring every child is known• High expectations of everyone• Excellent leadership at all levels• Exemplary behaviour and personal standards• At the heart of the community
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MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER, MRS VILE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Firstly, we hope that you and your families are well at this time.

Although the guidance from the DfE is constantly evolving, we are now more informed about how we can ensure a safe return for students, staff and visitors to the school. I would now like to share our current plans with you which have been put in place following a robust risk assessment process.

The safety of our school community still remains our priority so we will continue to review our arrangements and adjust as necessary. We look forward to seeing our students again and wish to thank you all for your patience and support.

What has been asked of schools?

- Children of key workers and vulnerable students will continue to attend school in 'D Block'.
- Some face to face time for Years 10 and 12.
- Students to be in small groups of up to 15.

What are we doing?

- Key worker children and vulnerable students will continue to attend school.
- From **Monday 22nd June**, all Year 10 and 12 students will have blended learning involving live lessons on Zoom.
- From **Monday 22nd June**, Year 10 will be invited into school for one day a week in groups of 33, split into clusters of 11.
- Some Year 12 students will be invited into school to work in the Sixth Form study area.
- Years 7 to 9 will continue to work on 365 Teams with some live lessons. Future plans for these year groups will be shared next week.

From 22nd June...

	Form Time (Led by Pastoral Lead) <i>(Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Fri)</i>	Assembly (Led by Pastoral Lead) <i>(Every Monday)</i>	365 Teams	Zoom / Loom	Small clusters in school <i>(09:30am – 12:30pm)</i>
Year 7	✓	✓	✓		
Year 8	✓	✓	✓		
Year 9	✓	✓	✓		
Year 10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Year 12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

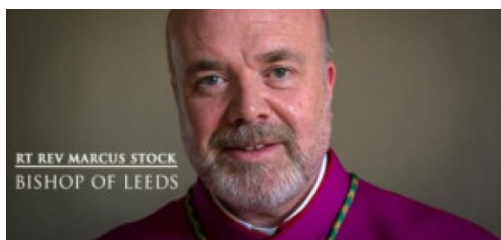
Over the past 9 weeks the Pastoral Team have worked really hard to keep in contact with our students to ensure each of them have an avenue of support if necessary. From the week beginning 15th June a more formal support mechanism will be rolled out.

Assemblies with Pastoral Leaders will take place each Monday morning using our school values to provide an inspirational and faith message of reconnection with EPCHS. Form times will be provided each morning by Pastoral Leaders again to re-establish links and routines. We want to ensure our school community feel connected to staff and peers so both assemblies and form time will take place on Zoom.

During form times the Pastoral staff will be running some inter-form competitions to engage our learners ready for the summer term.

We will issue further information next week for years 10 and 12.

MESSAGE FROM THE RT REV MARCUS STOCK, BISHOP OF LEEDS AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION SERVICE



To all teachers, parents, support staff, governors and pupils in Catholic schools

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In what has been arguably one of the most challenging periods of time in a generation, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who are working in Catholic education.

True to their vocation, the leaders, teachers and support staff in our Catholic schools and colleges have worked selflessly and outstandingly, often at great personal cost and with potential risks to themselves and their families. By keeping schools and colleges open for vulnerable pupils and children of key workers, providing home-learning resources, teaching lessons remotely, maintaining the spiritual and pastoral care of pupils, keeping in touch with families and so much more, our education workforce have rendered a great service both to the nation and to their communities in this time of need.

We should pay tribute also to the parents of pupils who, along with all of the day to day challenges they have had to face during this pandemic crisis, have exercised their role as the first educators of their children within their homes. Nevertheless, many parents are worried about the amount of school-time their children have missed and how this will impact on their development and their future.

We know too, that this crisis is disproportionately affecting the disadvantaged. Our Catholic schools have a special mission to care for the poorest and most vulnerable children and young people in society, and they have significantly more pupils from the most deprived backgrounds than other schools. It is critical therefore that every effort is made to enable more pupils to resume their education in school as soon as it is safe to do so.

Recently, the Government announced that it has commenced the very slow process of gradually lifting the restrictions which were implemented to protect the lives of all of our country's citizens. To assist headteachers and governing bodies with their planning on how to re-admit more of their pupils back to the school premises once conditions allow, the Catholic Education Service has sought to work closely with the Government to ensure that proper support and clear information is given to dioceses, religious orders, multi-academy trusts and schools. Ultimately though, the safety, health and wellbeing of both pupils and staff must be our foremost priority.

Our society will have to live with the legacy of this crisis for many months and years to come but the fortitude and resolve demonstrated by our Catholic schools' sector during this emergency has been extraordinary and is something of which we can be rightly proud.

As we face the challenges ahead of us, please do continue to pray for our schools and colleges, their leaders, teachers, parents and pupils.

With the assurance of my prayers and every blessing, I remain

Yours in the Lord

+ Marcus

MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL CHAPLAINS, PAT BARKER & ANT HUNT

Come, HOLY SPIRIT, and make us PENTECOST people.

Let your **wisdom** and **right judgement** guide our decisions.

Let **knowledge** and **understanding** increase our compassion.

Fill us with **wonder** and **awe** for all of creation.

Give us the **courage** to witness to our faith in our words and in our actions.

We pray also, for justice, peace and reconciliation so that we may live in a world

which recognises that there is only **one** race- the human race,

and that we may we live in harmony with each other. AMEN



NOTIFICATIONS

- It's hard to get away from the 24/7 news about coronavirus, and it's likely that children, even very young children, will have heard about it and will have some questions. They may have noticed routines changing, and school and events being cancelled. Here are five tips from our Behaviour Intervention Officer, Mr Crutchley, to help with those sometimes-tricky conversations:
 - ✓ **Be open and honest**- but think carefully about whether more information could make your child more anxious. Remind them that this is in the news because it is an extraordinary event.
 - ✓ **Fact check** - ensure the information you give them is based on the correct information. Children often hear things from friends, which may be exaggerated or not even true! This is good advice for us adults too, especially when accessing the information on social media.
 - ✓ **Reassure** your child that it is ok to feel sad, scared, worried and that some adults feel this too. Remind them that most people only get mild symptoms and will get better quickly. Encourage your child to share their feelings with you or another adult they trust. It's good to talk!
 - ✓ **Remind them of all the good things** that are going on in the world, pointing out all the amazing scientists, doctors and nurses who are working around the clock to keep us safe.

✓ Routines may have to change; fun events and classes may be cancelled. **Reassure** your children that this won't be forever and come up with new fun activities you can do in their place. Learn a language, read books together and look on the internet for fun exercise videos you can do together.

Children can become more anxious when adults around them are, so keep an eye on your own mental health and seek help and support for yourself if your own feelings become overwhelming.

Coronavirus - A book for children:

https://nosycrow.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Coronavirus_INS.pdf

- Pembroke College will be running a series of online subject sessions for Year 12 students throughout June which includes an admissions Q&A, an academic session and a Q&A with current students. Students are welcome to attend more than one if they wish and will have an opportunity to ask questions:
 - **Tuesday 9 June** – Physics / Physics and Philosophy
 - **Thursday 11 June** – Chinese
 - **Tuesday 16 June** – Philosophy (for Mathematics and Philosophy)
 - **Thursday 18 June** – Engineering
 - **Tuesday 23 June** – English

More information, including provisional timetables and a registration form, can be found [here](#). If a student's subject of interest is not listed, they can [sign up to our mailing list](#) to hear about further subject events, both this June series and during our [online open days](#) on 1 and 2 July.

- The University of Chester is offering an online Arts and Media Summer School on 7th & 8th July for students coming to the end of their first year of Level 3 study (e.g. Year 12 in A-Levels, or the end of Year 1 in College). The online sessions will give a taste of first year study at University and will showcase some of the exciting things about studying a degree across the Faculty of Arts & Humanities. The sessions will either be specifically designed to enhance subject knowledge and skills, or, will cover general advice and guidance relating to Student Finance and making a UCAS application.

The online Summer School is also designed to raise aspirations for University study and will be of particular interest to students undertaking Level 3 studies in at least one of these subjects:

- Art and Design
- Media and Journalism
- Music and Performing Arts
- Philosophy, Ethics and Religion
- English
- History and Archaeology
- Modern Languages

Those who are interested should register their interest as soon as possible:

<https://www1.chester.ac.uk/online-arts-and-humanities-summer-school>



- Chester’s Virtual Open Days

Running from 12pm – 4pm on 12th and 13th June, our virtual Open Days will give prospective students the opportunity to find out more about the University of Chester and the courses we offer through virtual lectures, academic booths and live chat with current students. Staff from student services will also be available to discuss anything from finance to learning support. The Open Days are aimed mainly at students applying to university in 2021 as well as those current Year 12 students who may still be making their decision about attending university this September. **A full guide to our virtual open day is available [here](#) and registration is open online at the following [link](#)**

- The last two winners of the Sixth Form quiz are Robyn Jarvis and James Cooper. Sixth Form quiz takes place each Wednesday 8:30pm on Zoom - link shared in Teams.
- From the DfE: The online educational resources for schools and parents to help children to learn at home during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has been updated. The list of online resources has been updated with additional resources organised by key stage. [Online education resources for home learning](#)

YEAR 7	
YEAR 8	
YEAR 9	

YEAR 10	
YEAR 11	
YEAR 12 & YEAR 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pembroke College online subject sessions for Year 12: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tuesday 9 June – Physics / Physics and Philosophy - Thursday 11 June – Chinese - Tuesday 16 June – Philosophy (for Mathematics and Philosophy) - Thursday 18 June – Engineering - Tuesday 23 June – English <p>More information, including provisional timetables and a registration form, can be found here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University of Chester is offering an online Arts and Media Summer School on 7th & 8th July The Online Summer School is also designed to raise aspirations for University study and will be of particular interest to students undertaking Level 3 studies in at least one of these subjects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Art and Design - Media and Journalism - Music and Performing Arts - Philosophy, Ethics and Religion - English - History and Archaeology - Modern Languages <p>Those who are interested should register their interest as soon as possible: https://www1.chester.ac.uk/online-arts-and-humanities-summer-school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't forget to join our Virtual Quiz on Wednesdays at 8.30pm!

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