

July 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: Farewell to 2022/23

I am writing to you at this time of year to thank you for your continued support and partnership throughout 2022/23. Strong partnerships between home and school are vital to ensure that your daughter flourishes as she progresses to a new year group or moves onto university or the world of work. Each day we encourage all students to demonstrate the Notre Dame values of our foundress, Julie Billart – through the key principles of love, hope, joy, justice, faith and truth, this is how we encourage all students to live their lives.

This has been an exceptionally busy but productive year with so much to celebrate. From sporting excellence to academic achievements, we have so much to be grateful for. Our weekly newsletters are packed full of students' achievements over the last twelve months. This includes work with external projects to tackle violence against women, debating societies, top level sporting achievements and academic excellence as students' progress onto higher education.

As we progress into the new academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff who are moving to a new school or retiring. Mr Hudspith (Teacher of Chemistry), Miss Heely (Teacher of Dance) and Mrs Bashford (Teacher of Geography) are moving to new schools. Mrs Mathison (Teacher of MFL) retires after 31 years of service at St. Julie's Catholic High School. We wish them the very best of luck on their next steps and new adventures.

From September 2023 we will welcome Miss Davies, Teacher of Psychology, Miss McCormack, Teacher of English and Miss Evans, Teacher of Dance. Miss Jackson (SENCo) and Mr Todd (Facilities Assistant) joined St. Julie's in May 2023.

Students will finish school at 1.30pm on Thursday 20 July. Summer bridging work will be set for students to complete over the summer holidays. A full copy of the academic calendar for 2023-24 can be accessed via the school website www.stjulies.org.uk or the new MCAS (My Child At School) app. Over 500 parents have now downloaded this app which provides daily communication about your daughter's attendance, punctuality, achievements and behaviour.

A Level results day will take place on Thursday 17 August followed by GCSE results day on Thursday 24 August. A separate letter has been posted home regarding the plans for both days.

All students will return to St. Julie's on Monday 4 September.

Year group	Time to report to school	Venue
7	8.30am	Dining room
8	9:30am	Chapel
9	10:30am	Chapel
10	10:30am	Dorothy Stang Theatre
11	9:30am	Dorothy Stang Theatre
Sixth Form	9:30am	Sixth Form common room

Students will receive a copy of their timetable, attend a welcome assembly and start lessons from 11am. All parents will receive a curriculum, PSHE and assessment booklet in September. This will

provide parents with information regarding curriculum coverage, knowledge development and the key topics taught in the PSHE/RSE curriculum.

In September, all students will receive a copy of the extra-curricular and super-curricular timetable. This is a vital part of school life at St. Julie's Catholic High School. We encourage as many students as possible to get involved in clubs which run during morning, lunch and after school sessions.

Key staff for September:

Pastoral

Role	Teacher	Contact details
Year 7 Progress Leader/Senior Progress Leader	Miss C Corrigan	ccorrigan@stjulies.org.uk
Year 8 Progress Leader	Ms V Homer	vhomer@stjulies.org.uk
Year 9 Progress Leader	Mrs K Monks	kmonks@stjulies.org.uk
Year 10 Progress Leader	Miss E Murphy	emurphy@stjulies.org.uk
Year 11 Progress Leader	Mrs C Mason	cmason@stjulies.org.uk
Sixth Form Progress Leader	Mrs R Lyons	rlyons@stjulies.org.uk

Curriculum

Role	Teacher	Contact details
Curriculum Leader of Maths / temporary Assistant Headteacher	Mrs L Gee	lgee@stjulies.org.uk
Curriculum Leader of Science / temporary Assistant Headteacher	Dr O McGinn	omcginn@stjulies.org.uk
Curriculum Leader of English	Mrs Greenwood	hgreenwood@stjulies.org.uk
Curriculum Leader of Humanities	Miss J Rimmer	jrimmer@stjulies.org.uk
Curriculum Leader of MFL	Mrs R Buckton	rbuckton@stjulies.org.uk
Curriculum Leader of Social Sciences	Mrs K Byrne	kbyrne@stjulies.org.uk
Curriculum Leader of Religious Education	Miss T Hyland	thyland@stjulies.org.uk
Curriculum Leader of Design & Technology	Mrs A Bell	abell@stjulies.org.uk
Curriculum Leader of Performing Arts	Miss A Douglas	adouglas@stjulies.org.uk
SENDCo	Miss S Jackson	sjackson@stjulies.org.uk

Leadership

Role	Teacher	Contact details
Acting Headteacher	Mrs K McCourt	kmccourt@stjulies.org.uk
Deputy Headteacher KS4/5 and Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mr C Willis	cpwillis@stjulies.org.uk
Temporary Deputy Headteacher KS3/4	Mrs K Rooney	krooney@stjulies.org.uk
Head of Upper School	Mrs A Jones	ajones@stjulies.org.uk
Head of Middle School	Miss L Gawley	lgawley@stjulies.org.uk
Temporary Head of Lower School	Mrs L Rainey	lrainey@stjulies.org.uk

Attendance

The attendance target for all students is 100%. Extensive research has been carried out on attendance and the direct correlation it has with attainment. Analysis of the performance of St Julie's students at GCSE shows that there is a very clear link between attendance and academic attainment, with the students who are never or rarely absent from school significantly outperforming those who are late on a more frequent basis. Students with 98% attendance typically achieve twice as many Grades 9-5 and Grades 9-7 as students with below 90% attendance.

Punctuality:

We expect students to be on time for school and lessons every day. The school day begins at **08:45** and students arriving after this time will receive a late mark. School opens for all students from 8:00am with a hot or cold breakfast available in the dining room.

All students engage in daily form time reading and analysis of reading age scores shows that students who arrive late, and miss out on this reading time, have significantly lower reading ages than those students who arrive on time. There is a clear correlation between higher reading age and stronger academic performance and students who arrive late are therefore jeopardising their chances of success.

With this in mind and in order to improve academic achievement it is vital that your daughter attends all lessons and for the full duration of the lesson. In order to improve this, we have reviewed all exit passes. If your daughter requires a toilet or lift pass medical evidence must be provided. If you believe your daughter has a need for either of these passes, please send the medical evidence to her progress leader via the email addresses provided.

Uniform

It is also important that your daughter attends school in the correct uniform. This sets her up for the day and promotes a good work ethic. When purchasing and sorting uniform for the next academic year:

- Jewellery is not permitted. If your daughter wants her ears/nose pierced, it is probably best to do it at the start of the summer holidays and the piercings must then be removed by the time she returns to school. Students are not permitted to wear any piercings in school. Rings, necklaces, bracelets and other such items must not be worn in school. This is non-negotiable and part of the uniform policy and students will be required to remove any such items. School cannot take any responsibility should students lose any such items.
- Shoes must be flat soled, black, leather and polishable with a closed toe. Your daughter cannot wear trainers of any kind, canvas shoes, plastic shoes, such as Melissa's, or shoes with accessories on them, such as bows.
- Hair must be always tied back.
- Hair colour must be natural.
- False nails, acrylic nails, shellac, gel nails and nail polish are not allowed in school. It must be removed before returning to school on 4th September.
- Students cannot wear make-up or false tan to school.
- If a student is wearing a coat to school, it must be **plain black or navy**. We do not allow fur in school, real or fake.
- Mobile phones - rules have been expanded to include **all connected devices** such as Air pods and Smartwatches and apply from 8.30am onwards. Air pods and phones will be confiscated if seen or heard. Smartwatches will be confiscated if suspected of being used for communication purposes.

Any issues relating to uniform and connected devices will be addressed under the school's Behaviour for Learning Policy, to which all parents and students agree to adhere when they enrol at St Julie's as part of the home-school agreement.

During the summer holidays email accounts may not be monitored daily. Urgent concerns during non-working hours must go through our website www.stjulies.org.uk feedback form, accessed via the bottom right section on the main page or via email to safeguarding@stjulies.org.uk .

Following our most recent OFSTED inspection (May 2023) which highlighted the excellent standards and expectations at St. Julie's Catholic High School. We will continue to build on this and move forward. Inspectors stated, *'Leaders expect students to follow the principles of the school's founder, which encompass respect, friendship, enjoyment and compassion. Students rise to leader's high expectations. They value the emphasis that leaders place on social and cultural learning alongside academic achievement. This helps them to develop into confident young citizens.'*

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a restful summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming your daughter back to school on Monday 4 September ready for an exciting new year ahead. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs K McCourt
Acting Headteacher