

RE Ethos Report – June 2021

WEEKLY RE ETHOS REPORT – 28th June 2021

1. Catholic Life

Diocese Inspection Grading: 'Outstanding' St Peter and St Paul's Solemnity is on 29th June

We returned to face-to-face assemblies, and we have been focusing on our main values as always. In the past year, both the community feel of the school and our House system were affected significantly. In order to rebuild these, we decided that our Heads of Houses should lead on the assemblies. We also worked with PE to offer them some tutor time to prepare for Sport's Day and get the healthy pride in belonging to a House a much-needed boost. This week, our assemblies will be focusing on HUMILITY AND HOLINESS.

Deacon John Detain, who is one of three Deacons, has visited our school. From September, he is going to see us more often during regular Chaplaincy meetings, which I will write more about in future updates.

We are promoting the latest Papal Encyclical letter on the school website as well as on the noticeboard outside the Chapel's Office, and CAFOD's National Assembly was introduced by Mr. Blaho to Y9 and Y10 pupils during their assembly in the first week of Term 6.

When Mr. Blaho met with Mr. Whelan from St. Edward's in Romsey last week, they looked at the Emmaus project and wider connections. They talked about their joined work from September and collaboration within chaplaincy as well as Environmental Councils.

Mr. Blaho has approached Mr. Valjak from the RE department and Mr. Monk in the Geography department to start the Environmental Council. We are looking into getting our Council to work in Term 6 in order to be fully prepared for September.

2. Prayer Life

Diocese Inspection Grading: 'Outstanding'

'I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.' (2 Timothy 4:7)

Morning Prayer has been developed into a regular online Teams virtual prayer led by Mr. Blaho. We would like to encourage staff to come and join us for this every Friday between 8.45 – 8.50. We are hoping to be back in our Chapel from September as usual. There is a very good Application called 'Pray as you Go' which offers an excellent opportunity to pray daily, and I would like to encourage everyone to use it when possible. It is produced by the Jesuits and you can find a link to this on: https://pray-as-you-go.org/



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I am also intending for you all to have access to this app directly from our website, however many of you might prefer to download an app directly to your phones and use it as such.

The Solemnity of St Peter and Paul is on 29th June, and I would like you to log in to our online stream of the Holy Mass on: https://salisburycatholics.org/st-osmunds

Alternatively, if you prefer to join our closest Catholic Independent School's Mass at Farleigh School in Red Rice near Andover, their regular Masses are on the following link: https://www.farleighschool.com/sunday-mass.php

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK:

Dear Jesus, your saints give us wonderful examples of faith-filled discipleship despite many hardships. Help us to learn from Peter and Paul how to be an efficient and holy leader today. We make this prayer through Jesus, our Lord. AMEN

3. Religious Education

Diocese Inspection Grading: 'Outstanding'

We have recently sent our grades to be moderated by Ann Fowler, Anne Barrett, and Louise White from Clifton Diocese, who requested to see our evidence of AQA marking submission. In our own internal moderation, which we conducted during the departmental meeting, we recognised that our marking was just and correct in accordance with AQA specifications. We are delighted that the same has been officially recognised by the Diocese in their letter, which states:

'The evidence provided by your department showed that there was:

- a consistency of approach in the staff marking across all the assessment papers.
- a consistency of approach from all staff in following the marking scheme.

We thought that your students gave the most diverse and imaginative answers, confidently writing their own personal views.

We agreed with all the grades your department awarded the candidates that were sent for moderation.'

Our RE pupils in Y10 focused on Creation and Eschatology during their latest Mock examinations last week, and we shall have their marks available shortly. We will discuss the results in RE lessons with the relevant assessment for learning as expected. Pupils had 70 minutes to complete the test, and many made an outstanding effort to succeed in this.



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AQA Examination Board requested our RE marks from 5 pupils to be sent for moderation of Y11 pupils who have just left our School.

This term (Term 6), we have begun our RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) programme. Parents were notified beforehand. We are using the TenTen programme and Cinema in Education, which we also used on a smaller scale with our Y11 pupils before they left us. Parents have been given log in details and we will encourage them to use the programme with their child whenever it is convenient.

Y7-9 are also following RSE and the rationale for this is to bring in the key aspects of the teaching together in a well-balanced curriculum, which will be used as a building block for the following years. We are slightly differentiating our approaches for students with SEN.

Mr. Blaho met with the two new members of the RE department who will be joining us in September. This is an increase in staffing due to the rising number of pupils and our desire to reduce class sizes. Mrs Reynolds and Mr Inglis are exceptionally talented teachers, and we are looking forward to them joining our outstanding team.