



Dear parents and carers,

We are coming in to the last week of this term and prepare for the great Feast of Easter in under two weeks, on Sunday 9th April. This past week we had a wonderful celebration of our Cultural diversity as this coincided with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. It was magnificent to see the number of students from across all the year groups that were involved in the assemblies throughout the day. My thanks go especially to the wonderful work that the group of Year 11s did in preparing the day and ensuring that it was so successful.

My reflection this week is dedicated to you, the parents and carers of our school. CNS is blessed to have supportive families who reinforce our policies and standards. We know that the job of a parent is often a difficult one, we are also aware that formation of a child in a Catholic school is determined by many individuals as we work together as a community for the good of our children. Family is the first school, and the parents are the first teachers for children. The role of the parent is incredibly important and this is highlighted by the Church in the Declaration on Christian Education by Pope Paul VI in his encyclical Gravissimum Educationis where he notes, **“Since parents have given children their life, they are bound by the most serious obligation to educate their offspring and therefore must be recognised as the primary and principal educators... Hence the family is the first school of the social virtues that every society needs.”**

Pope Francis also comments on this subject in Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) stipulating that, **“Parents always influence the moral development of their children, for better or for worse. It follows that they should take up this essential role and carry it out consciously, enthusiastically, reasonably and appropriately.”** When you read these extracts you realise being a parent that there are high expectations and it is indeed hard work! Thank you for being great parents and being supportive to our school. You play an important role and have a positive impact on our community.

Finally, thank you for fulfilling this important role as our parents and carers. Thank you for your continued support as we work for formation of children and for

them to fulfil the school’s Mission of **‘Together towards our Lord, through learning, love and faith.’**

Andrew Bull
Headteacher

Additional INSET day – 24th April

On Monday 24th April all the school in the St Thomas Catholic Academy Trust have an additional INSET day. All the teaching staff will gather in St Joseph’s, Slough to have a day of training and input from Doug Lemov, one of the foremost thinkers and practitioners in teaching. The school will not be open on this day to students.

CNS Prayer Journey

Once again here is the [link](#) for those of you that wish to journey, in prayer, alongside the school during the coming week.

Easter Masterclasses

Mr Hegarty will share the plan for the Easter Masterclasses for the Year 11 and Year 13 students. Please do note the times that your son/daughter is expected in school during the first week of the Easter break

The Week Ahead ...

Week beginning 27th March

This is Week 1 on the timetable	
Monday 27th March	Year 11 Engineering Design Moderation BTEC Media exam all day
Tuesday 28th March	Year 11 Engineering Design Moderation Spy Missions Trip for Years 7/8 Y11 with Dr Van der Spoel Y11 2-day Art Final Exam Year 12/13 Physics trip
Wednesday 29th March	Lent Liturgies Yr 11 and 10 Drama watching Solomon Theatre performance in school Climb Quest MK trip Year 7 SEND Taster morning at Central Beds college
Thursday 30th March	Lent Liturgies Y11 2-day Art Final Exam
Friday 31st March	Last day of term assemblies Friday Forum