



16 March 2016

Dear Parent

As the spring term draws to a close, I wanted to up-date you on a number of items. Our Year 11 pupils are working very hard in the run-up to exams and we are on course to achieve our best ever results.

### **PARENT SUPPORT**

On behalf of staff may I thank you for your support in ensuring that pupils wear the correct school uniform. Members of the public do comment on the smart appearance of our young people. Please could I remind you that shoes which feature logos and also canvas shoes are not permitted footwear and ask that you ensure your child wears the correct footwear to school.

### **CONSULTATION REGARDING CHANGES TO SCHOOL BUS PASSES**

At present Lancashire County Council exercises discretion to grant transport assistance to pupils who attend faith schools, meet the distance criterion (over 3 miles from home address for pupils aged eight years of age or over -2 miles for under eights), have been admitted to the school or academy on denominational grounds and where this school is not their nearest. Parents are required to make a contribution which for the 2015/16 school year was £505 per pupil.

The Council is planning to remove this discretion from its home to school transport policy for all pupils from September 2016. This means that these pupils will no longer receive any assistance from the Council from this date. It is intended that this will apply to new starters in September 2016 and to those who are currently in receipt of the discretionary subsidy (where parents pay the contribution).

Pupils from low income families who attend their nearest school on the grounds of parental faith and meet the distance criteria will continue by law to receive transport support. The Council is undertaking consultation to allow views from all parties as to how they might be affected by this policy change. You are invited to provide views and comments about the intended change. You can respond on-line via the Council's website using this link <https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=14544262666>

Alternatively you may send responses to:- Denominational Transport Consultation, Pupil Access Team, PO Box 61, County Hall, Preston PR1 8RJ. The closing date for all responses will be midnight on Sunday 10 April 2016.

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### **PTFA SUMMER BALL**

Back by popular demand, the Blessed Trinity Ball is to be held on Friday 13 May 2016 at the Oaks Hotel Burnley. Tickets are £35 each and are available from the school office. This includes a champagne reception, a 3 course meal and entertainment. The dress code is black tie. Please come along and support the PTFA in their continued efforts to raise funds for your school.

New PTFA members are always welcome. Meetings are held in school every second Monday of the month at 7.00 pm. If you are interested in taking part in the PFTA Monthly Draw, and winning a cash prize, please ask for a registration form from the school office. The cost is £2 per month.

### **FUNDRAISING DURING LENT**

This year, as in previous years during the period of Lent, we are collecting money for Caritas through various fundraising activities. Caritas is dedicated to helping the most vulnerable children, young people and adults in our communities to transform their lives and fulfil their potential. We are also collecting for CAFOD, whose work supports some of the world's poorest. The Government has pledged to match the funds we raise for CAFOD during this period, which is a great incentive to make a real difference to the lives of people in developing countries.

### **EASTER ASSEMBLIES**

Next week is Holy Week and our Easter assemblies will take place for each year group on Thursday 24 March, when staff and pupils will reflect on the mysteries of the death and resurrection of Christ.

### **EASTER HOLIDAYS**

School will close at 12.30 pm on Thursday 24 March 2016. Buses have been arranged for the earlier finish time. Pupils will be expected to wear full school uniform on this last day of term. Summer term will begin on Monday 11 April 2016 at 8.45 am.

I hope you and your families have a happy and holy Easter break.

Yours sincerely



Richard Varey  
Headteacher