

Longton Hall Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent. ST3 2NJ
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Headteacher: Mr M Rayner BA(Hons) NPQH

Thursday 31st March 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are now in the midst of Lent, a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. This has been a particularly special Lenten season as we have been able to be together as a community. This has enabled us to host events such as the torchlit procession of the Stations of the cross, led by Fr. David and student representatives from our MAC. This was a powerful and prayerful evening attended by staff, students and the local community.

We continue to raise funds for our international charity CAFOD and have marked Family Fast Day and held a sponsored walk, raising £300 during Lent, as well as collecting donations for Alice Charity. We remain focussed on our prayer life throughout Lent and continue to have 'Lightfever', a time of adoration every Wednesday lunchtime and celebrate Mass every Friday lunchtime in the chapel.

As a Catholic school we have focussed this year on care for our common home and tackling climate change. With this in mind we continue to focus on 'Giving up littering for Lent' and encourage students to use the new recycling bins available across the school as we strive to live more sustainably with creation.

It is wonderful that we share this holy season of Lent alongside the holy festival of Ramadan, a time also centred on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As Ramadan begins as a school community we are aware that Fasting (sawm) during the month of Ramadan is one of the five pillars of the faith, obligatory for all Muslims and this may have an impact on students. We recognise and celebrate the spirit and values of Ramadan. During this time Muslim students may continue to access the Quiet Space in room 106 for prayer (boys 13.40pm and girls 13.55pm). A member of staff will be available to supervise this quiet space. As ever please contact your son/daughter's Head of Year or Student Support if there are any specific concerns during this time.

In this season of almsgiving those who have not yet donated to Alice Charity and wish to do so should bring their donations into their form rooms by Tuesday 5th April. We ask for donations of:

- Sanitary goods, including toothpaste and brushes, shower gels, feminine hygiene products, nappies and baby care products.
- Dried, tinned and boxed long-life products.
- Easter Eggs

CAFOD donations can also still be made on parent pay under 'Lenten Acts of Love – CAFOD Family Fast Day Donation.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Bradbury
Assistant Headteacher