



March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the Easter holidays, I would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support throughout what has been a busy and productive spring term.

We have held parents' evenings for most year groups, however, should you require any further assistance regarding your child's progress, please feel free to contact their Progress Leader. Our final event will be the **Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evening on 23rd April 2026**.

To help us plan for next year, we would appreciate it if you could complete our **Parents' Evening Survey**, as last year most parents and staff preferred a mix of face-to-face and virtual appointments to reduce queueing times.

[Parental feedback - towards parents evening – Fill out form](#)

With Easter approaching, we are delighted to welcome **Father Ramesh** into school to celebrate Easter Mass, fostering a shared sense of community and celebration.

As I write this letter, we are all excited for the **Alton Towers Reward Day on 26th March**, with well over **600 students qualifying**, which is a fantastic achievement. Attendance is vital to success at school and every day counts. For this reason, we have planned a variety of events across different year groups as we move towards the summer term, including **Inflatable World, Sports Day, Prom invitations, Karaoke Battle, yearly competitions, and individual prizes**. Our **Golden Ticket prize draw**, offering a **£500-equivalent prize (e.g. iPad/PlayStation)**, also continues to be very popular with students.

Please note that **school will close on Friday, 27th March 2026 at 12:20pm**. Unfortunately, our new school bus provider is unable to offer transport at this time, so alternative arrangements will be required. School will reopen on **Monday, 13th April at 8:40am**, following the **Red Week timetable**. Sandwiches will be available for all students including those who receive Free School Meals at break time only.

Year 11 students have received their **targeted GCSE Easter revision timetable**, along with letters from their teachers inviting them to relevant sessions. Students attending these sessions may wear their own clothes; however, behaviour expectations remain unchanged and all students must continue to follow the school's behaviour policy. GCSEs begin on **Friday 9th May**, with the exam season concluding on **1st July 2026**. We wish all our Year 11 students the very best of luck.

Once again, we are thrilled to see **record numbers of applications** for Saint Paul's for the next Year 7 intake, making our school oversubscribed with a substantial waiting list. We remind prospective parents to review our admissions policy, list the school as **first preference**, and ensure they have clearly identified whether their child is a **baptised Catholic**, as this significantly affects the allocation process.

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Mr M. Whiteside, Headteacher.





Saint Paul's Catholic High School



This year we received **304 first-choice applications and 540 total applications** for just **180 places**, and although appeals are possible, they are extremely **costly for the school** and, due to limited space, we cannot exceed our published admission number without compromising the quality of education we provide. We are unable to expand further despite significant efforts and requests to Manchester LA for additional investment. We continue to hold waiting lists for all year groups. If you require further guidance, please contact the school office.

As we move into the final term, it is crucial that we maintain high standards, particularly regarding our **uniform policy**, including **plain black shoes and no jewellery**. Please also remember that **mobile phones and AirPods are not permitted inside the school building**. If seen or heard, they will be confiscated.

Internal exam timetables for **Years 7, 8, 9 and 10** are attached. All students will have received a **study skills session** before Easter to help them prepare. **Year 10 Work Experience Week** begins on **22nd June 2026**, and a number of **college visits to Xaverian and Loreto** will take place throughout the summer term.

Our **Saint Peter and Saint Paul Celebration Day** will take place on **29th June 2026**. The **Spanish Trip** will run during the week of **6th July 2026**, and **Sports Day** will take place in July, subject to weather conditions. Finally, our **invitation-only Year 11 Prom** will be held on **10th July 2026**, with Mr Wilson sharing further details with invited students nearer the time.

Thank you once again for your continued support. I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Easter Blessings,

Mr M Whiteside
Headteacher

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We are His body, living and learning as one.

