



7th March 2025

Lent

During Collective Worship this week we focused on the theme of preparing for Lent. Pupils had pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and on Wednesday, all pupils and staff had the opportunity to receive their ashes. The pupils learnt during Collective Worship about why we pray more during Lent, the significance of abstinence from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and the importance of supporting this term's charity 'Foyle Hospice'.



Lenten Reflection

We had our first Lenten reflection before school this morning. There will be a reflection each Friday in the R.E Department from 8.50 a.m. until 9.05 a.m. for both pupils and staff members.

Year 10 Reports

Reports were issued to Year 10 pupils yesterday. Parents/guardians should use the reports along with the Choices booklet provided to pupils last week to start conversations at home about subject choices for Key Stage 4. Further information on the choices process will be issued to parents/guardians next week.



National Careers Week

National Careers Week (NCW) is a one-week celebration of careers guidance and free resources in education across the UK. The aim is to provide a focus for careers guidance activity at an important stage in the academic calendar to help support young people develop awareness and excitement about their future pathways. Our Careers Coordinator, Mr Ball, delivered to all year groups last week on the importance of considering their careers pathways at an early age.

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

Yesterday was World Book Day. In 2024, the National Literacy Trust found that only 34.6% of young people enjoyed reading in their free time - the lowest since records began in 2005. Not only is reading for pleasure important for supporting academic attainment but it is also hugely beneficial when it comes to mental wellbeing. According to research carried out by Mindlab International at the University of Sussex, reading for only six minutes reduces stress levels by 68%!



Year 12 Hoodies

Leavers Hoodies for Year 12 are now available. The cost is £25.00. Please find the link below. This will close on the morning of Tuesday 18th March.

<https://link.mfc-sports.com/teamwear/code/MU8P5I>

Staff Development Day – Tuesday 18th March

Parents/guardians are reminded that the college is closed for pupils on Tuesday 18th March for a Staff Development Day.

Gaelic Football (Girls) – U 14 yrs

We have had a very good turn out in the past number of weeks at U14 Gaelic Football training. Keep up the great work girls!



Key Dates

Monday 17th March
Tuesday 18th March
Friday 21st March
Wednesday 2nd April
Friday 4th April
Thursday 10th April
Wednesday 16th April

Public Holiday
Staff Development Day 5 (College Closed for pupils)
Lenten Reflection morning (8.50 - 9.05 a.m.)
Yr 10 PTM (9.30-12.00) and Yr 11 PTM (12.45-3.15) College closed for pupils
Year 8 Retreat
Lenten Service for KS3 pupils from 2.00 p.m.
End of Term – Full Day. Finish time: 3.35 p.m.

Final prayer

*Almighty and ever living God, you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent.
May this time be one of outward focus; seeking you in those we often ignore.
Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter.
Give us hearts hungry to serve you and those who need what we have to give.*

Amen

Yours sincerely,

Mr P. McCullagh – College Principal
BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH, NPQEL

