Bishop Vaughan Catholic School

18 June 2020

To our newest members of the Bishop Vaughan community -

For that is what you are: whether you are reading this as a pupil, a parent or a carer, you are now a part of our very special community which, as you will soon discover, is a close-knit one. Even those who left us many years ago - for our school in now fifty four years old! – remain part of the Bishop Vaughan family. May I extend a very warm welcome to you, then, on behalf of all within it?

These are certainly strange times and one of the difficulties that we all face at the moment is that we are not yet able to see members of our family outside our household, except in very limited circumstances. That does not make our families any less close, however, in the ways that matter. We might be physically distanced from grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, but we remain connected with them in the ways that matter. Indeed, we are all now finding *new* ways to connect with one another and I am sure that lots of your relatives may be using Facetime, Skype and Zoom for the very first time at the moment. As your 'Bishop Vaughan' family then, we too are trying to overcome the challenges of being unable to run our usual transition events so that we can 'spend some time with you' in a different way.

This pack is intended to give you an idea of what to expect in September and to help you learn a little bit more about life at Bishop Vaughan Catholic School. We hope that, by completing some of the activities within it, you will allow *us* the opportunity to learn more about *you* too. Our journey with you will be for the next seven years, in most cases, and we want to do everything we can to support you throughout it and to make sure that it is a happy, fun, exciting journey, where you are supported to emerge at the other side of it as a confident, talented and well-qualified young person, able to pursue whatever dreams and ambitions you have. We aim to nurture you spiritually, morally and culturally alongside your family, and to build on the support you have received throughout primary school. We can do this best when we know about you – what you enjoy, what your hopes and dreams are, what questions you have as you embark on your secondary school education. We look forward, then, to you letting us know more about you in the ways suggested in this pack.

Whilst we will not be able to hold our usual transition days, Welcome Mass or school production this term, all of which offer an opportunity to see you and your families, we remain excited to welcome you in September and we look forward to these sorts of events and celebrations as soon as circumstances allow. Until then, your teachers, support staff, future friends in the school and the Governors join me in sending you their very best wishes. You are all in our prayers, as family members always are –

Yours faithfully,

EPole

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