

# Information Bulletin for Parents and Carers



**St. Wilfrid's  
R.C. College**

## Excellence through Faith, Learning and Support

### Faith:

#### LENT

Genesis 3:19: "...For you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We had a phenomenal amount of students and staff congregate in our chapel on Ash Wednesday, with ashes from last year's Palm Sunday being rubbed onto our foreheads. In addition to this symbolic start to Lent, many people choose to give up something for the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness. We have asked our students to give up words of hurt for Lent, replacing them with words of kindness. Please encourage your child to display extra kindness to others throughout Lent.

#### RAMADAN

Soon it will be Ramadan - a holy month of fasting, introspection and prayer for Muslims in our school community. We wish to ensure that our students that are fasting are supported and feel comfortable during the school day to conserve energy and use the school facilities as part of their faith. To give us an idea of how many students we may need to support during Ramadan, please email Mr Logan ([alogan@st-wilfrids.org](mailto:alogan@st-wilfrids.org)) with your child's name and year group.

#### YEAR 8 RETREAT

Our Year 8 retreat to the Emmaus Youth Village, Allensford, will take place on Wednesday 16 - Friday 18 March. The retreat is led by the Diocesan Youth Ministry Team and students will be supported by our pastoral team throughout the visit. More information about the retreat will be sent to the parents/carers of those that are going next week. It is essential that all consent forms have been returned. If any are still outstanding, please ensure they are sent in on Monday 7 March.

### Learning:

#### Year 11 Revision

This week, Year 11 have been given revision planners to map out their revision homework in the build up to their final examinations. They have also been given a revision goody bag to support them to make effective revision notes. Parent/Carer support on how to help your child revise effectively, can be found on our Family Learning page and our KS4 Curriculum page on our website ([Key Stage 4 - St. Wilfrid's R.C. College \(st-wilfrids.org\)](http://www.st-wilfrids.org)). Next week, our Year 11 programme will focus on how students can use their prelim feedback effectively to move forward.

#### World Book Day 2022

This week we celebrated World Book Day with a visit from a local author and wrote dystopian stories, naming our form rooms after key texts and authors, competitions, reading an excerpt from a book each lesson, receiving book tokens, and having book themed puddings at lunch time.

To support your child with reading, we have family learning videos which show you key strategies to use: [Family Learning - St. Wilfrid's R.C. College \(st-wilfrids.org\)](https://www.st-wilfrids.org/family-learning)

Linked to this, 14 of our students will be taking part in a flash-fiction writing event to mark International Women's Day on 8th March.

### **Year 10 Brilliant Club 2022**

Congratulations to our Year 10 students who graduated this week in a ceremony at Newcastle University!

## **Support:**

### **LENTEN ALMS**

The Lenten call to almsgiving means making the needs of other people our own. One of the central lessons of the cross is compassion; the heavy burdens we carry help us to appreciate the suffering in others. It is right and appropriate to support the Disasters Emergency Committee's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal, supporting people that have had to leave everything behind to flee the conflict. They are in desperate need of food, water and shelter. We will be coming up with some creative ways for students to donate in the coming weeks and there will be an option for parents/carers to support the cause via Parent Pay.

### **SAFEGUARDING: COUNTY LINES**

March 7 2022 is the beginning of County Lines Awareness Week. This term our staff has been trained to help identify signs of County Lines exploitation and where to get help.

County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organized criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line". They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store the drugs and money and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons.

This link will take you to a helpful parent/carer guide that has been produced by Northumbria Police:

<https://beta.northumbria.police.uk/media/4129/county-lines-v2-final-parent-and-carer-leaflet.pdf>

### **SCHOOL COUNSELLING SERVICES**

We have a range of counselling services available. We can support students for a variety of reasons, not limited to but including:

- Low Mood and Depression
- Worry and Anxiety
- Controlling Anger & Emotions
- Bereavement/Loss
- Bullying
- Self-Harming Behaviours
- Relationship & Family Difficulties
- Building Self Esteem
- Developing Resilience

If you would like to access this support for your child, please contact their Head of House or Sixth Form Lead.

## Key dates / upcoming events:

- Next week is **TIMETABLE WEEK 1**
- 7 March County Lines Awareness Week
- 8 March International Women's Day
- 16 - 18 March Year 8 Retreat
- 18 March National Child Exploitation Awareness Day

## Sixth Form Notices:

### Year 13 Revision

It was great to see some of our Year 13 parents/carers in person again this week at our revision and guidance evening. Please find a copy of the PowerPoint on our school website. Parent/carer support on how you can help your child prepare for their summer exams can be found on our family learning page.

[Family Learning - St. Wilfrid's R.C. College \(st-wilfrids.org\)](http://st-wilfrids.org)

### Next week in PSHE

Year 12: Careers carousel with FutureMe

Year 13: Student Finance- Northumbria University or Apprenticeships and Employment: How to write a CV