

July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

The St Mary's Catholic College Experience Week– July 2019

As part of our Catholic Christian ethos, we take very seriously our role as educators to ensure that children leave the College with a strong sense of their own mission and calling. We want our students to leave St Mary's with a desire to serve and to become the next generation of leaders.

We call the preparation for this 'The St Mary's (SMCC) Experience' which aims to develop the academic, professional and character skills needed to be successful in life, so that all students can make the most of their abilities and interests and fulfil their true potential.

In line with the statement 'Aspire not to have more but to be more', these enrichment activities will provide our students with the opportunity to broaden their horizons through participation in new experiences, extending their learning outside of the classroom through curriculum linked projects, trips and extra-curricular activities. These experiences will also allow them to build relationships within our College Community.

The St Mary's Experience takes place throughout the College year but to enhance 'The SMCC Experience' further we will be holding 'SMCC Experience Week' at the end of the summer term. During 'Experience Week' students will be given additional opportunities to take part in workshops to develop and demonstrate their understanding of what it means 'to be more'.

The 'Experience Days' this academic year are to be held between 15th July 2019 to 18th July 2019. On these particular 'Experience Days' students will spend four days with a variety of departments working on the theme of "**Stewards of Creation**".

A key element of the 'Experience Days' will be allocated time for reflection, allowing students to not only participate in exciting and inspiring activities, but to also consider what they have learnt and how it has impacted upon them. The normal College timetable will be collapsed and students will be taking part in school based activities that enable them to develop their own character and understanding of our virtues.

The range of activities will vary depending on what has been planned for each year group.

Pupils will need to bring in full college PE kit to change into on one day of their SMCC Experience Week:

Year 7 - Wednesday 17th July

Year 8 - Tuesday 16th July

Year 9 - Monday 15th July

Year 10 – Thursday 18th July

Off-site activity Monday 15th July for Years 7 and 8

Year 7 and 8 are the only year groups undertaking an off-site activity in the local area. The off-site activity, which is different for Years 7 and 8, will take place on Monday 15th July and so pupils must wear suitable footwear which might be sturdy trainers but not flimsy footwear unsuitable for walking some distance.

As part of our pupil induction pack parents have already signed a consent form for off-site activities, so unless we hear anything different we will assume that you wish your child to be involved in all that will be on offer for them. Please update us if there is any significant change regarding your child's medical condition.

If you have any questions regarding 'The SMCC Experience Week' please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Keen via schooloffice@stmaryswallasey.com or by phoning the school office on 0151 639 7531.

Yours faithfully

Mr. A Boyle
Headteacher