



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

a Catholic Voluntary Academy

Newbold Road • Upper Newbold • Chesterfield • S41 8AG

Headteacher: Mrs M Dengate M.Phil

Telephone: 01246 201191

Email: enquiries@stmaryschesterfield.org.uk
www.st-maryshigh.derbyshire.sch.uk

Our ref L 1034 JR

September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 7 Retreat Wednesday 27 November – Friday 29 November 2019

We are delighted to be able to invite your child to join our annual retreat for all Year 7 pupils. Retreats are an essential part of the educational and spiritual formation of the pupils at St Mary's. They provide a first class opportunity for our young people to build relationships with each other, to experience community living and to take time out of daily life to reflect on their Christian values. The retreat is for every Year 7 pupil and enables your child to connect with and make more friends; and truly feel a member of our school family. Our aim and expectation is for every Year 7 pupil to join us on the retreat.

Our annual retreat for all Year 7 will take place from **Wednesday 27 November to Friday 29 November 2019**. Pupils will depart from St Mary's at approximately 9.15 am on Wednesday and return by 3.30 pm on Friday. Our retreat is held in a fantastic facility at the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick. It is led by Pastoral lead teachers and our chaplain Siobhan together with the School Chaplaincy Team and other accompanying staff from our school.

The total cost of the retreat will be £137.50, and this price includes all accommodation, food and transport. In accordance with the Governors' Charging Policy, the retreat has been planned on the understanding that all parents are prepared to voluntarily meet the cost. If any parent were unwilling to contribute, yet insist on their child taking part, then this visit might not take place or the cost may increase. In the case of genuine financial hardship please do not hesitate to contact Mr Slater or Miss Guerriero. If your child is currently in receipt of the Free School Meal allowance you will be entitled to a reduction in cost which will be shown on your Parent Pay account.

To secure a place for your child, please pay a **deposit of £27.50** and **confirm your consent to the behaviour policy** via Parent Pay by **Wednesday 2 October 2019**. Please also ensure that the **medical form has been returned to your child's Form Tutor by this date**. We would ask for the next instalment of **£55 to be paid by Monday 21 October** and the **final £55 to be paid by Monday 18 November**. If you have any issues regarding Parent Pay please contact Mrs Brooks in the Finance office.

We are really looking forward to taking our Year 7 pupils away on retreat. Already we can see that our new Year 7's are a wonderful group of young people and we cannot wait to have three days together to help us all get to know each other more.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Dengate
Headteacher

Mr J Slater
Head of Year 7

Miss S Guerriero
Year 7 Pupil Ambassador

Live, Love and Learn in the Light of Christ