



M ● issue 4
September 2017

Bonds

THE
McAULEY
Catholic High School
and Sixth Form
DONCASTER

M. 14 September 2017

Happy new year from a happy new head! Welcome to our first newsletter of this academic year which has begun with a really positive start.

We received the incredible news that we had been successful in our £1.1 million bid to have all the roofs replaced on the lower school site. The work has begun and will continue through until next Spring. This will be the first phase in developing our facilities over the next five years.

A number of new approaches are also worth mentioning with a particular thank you to our parents for their support with these.

The renewed emphasis on best behaviours including 'Dressed for Success' has been noticed by all. Students look really smart! They have pleasantly surprised us all by the way they have embraced the mobile phone policy. Behaviour for learning has markedly improved.

But these really are only the nuts and bolts; the foundations of creating an essential component in the structure to learning.

We started the year with a review of our approach to teaching and learning. I firmly believe that the best teachers are the most creative; who look for the best ways to inspire their students; students feel that these staff go the extra mile for them, trust them and will be taken on an exciting learning journey with them.

Our education regime demands, quite rightly in some respects, that schools are highly accountable. Amongst and despite all this we must find and steer our way through this as a Catholic Secondary school, keeping a clear focus on the children.

As such all staff including parish priests and our primary heads have been invited to a 'Visioning day' on October 27th where we can take stock of our current position and begin to explore and articulate the kind of Catholic secondary school we are all working to create.

Obviously, parents have a role to play in this too, therefore, I have reserved 12 places for parents/carers to attend the event. If you would like to attend then please do not hesitate to contact me at the school via headsmail.

I will also be holding a Parents Focus Group on Wednesday 18th October from 6-7pm. The aim is that I meet with a group of around 15 parents representing all year groups to discuss some of the initiatives and plans for this year. Again, please email me should you wish to be part of this group.

I have had thoroughly enjoyable four weeks! The students are super friendly and never fail to bring a smile to my face. My staff have stormed the first month. They worked hard to produce a great Open Evening for Year 6 last week and preparations are under way for Year 12 Evening on October 5th.

The bonds that tie students, staff, parents and parishes together are carefully made and endure beyond the limitations of school years.

They are family bonds and I am proud to be part of the McAuley family.



John Rooney
Head teacher