

## **Headteacher's Update – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023**



Dear Parents/Carers

### **Bella Greer**

All of us at Saint Bede's are heartbroken at Bella's tragic passing. Although Bella only recently joined the school during the summer term, she quickly became a 'Bede' and a highly valued member of our school family. The outpouring of love for Bella and grief at her loss that has been seen in school over the last few days is testament to this.

We are supporting our staff and pupils through this very difficult period in a variety of ways. Our chapel is open during break and lunchtime for quiet prayer and reflection, and a Book of Condolence has been opened. This morning, our weekly Mass was offered for Bella. Pupils who have been particularly affected by the circumstances are being offered the support of Adey, our Learning Mentor, and we have arranged additional capacity from the various external agencies who provide us with counselling and other wellbeing support. If you feel your child requires any extra support, please do let us know and encourage your child to speak to their Form Tutor or any other member of staff.

We have reminded pupils that we must all show kindness and compassion at this time. It is more important than ever that we keep Christ at the centre of everything we do, and "love one another, as I have loved you." This includes how we conduct ourselves in school, but also in the wider community and, in particular, online. The way in which the school community has come together in recent days has been extremely moving and uplifting to see, reflecting the very best of 'Being a Bede.'

In the days and weeks to come we will think about how we will remember Bella and celebrate her life, with the support of Bella's family. Our love, thoughts and prayers continue to be with them during this desperately sad time.

### **Year 7 Parent Information Evening**

Our Year 7 Parent Information Evening will be going ahead tomorrow as planned, beginning at 6.30pm in the school hall. A letter is being issued separately today with further details.

### **Half-term**

Saint Bede's will close for the half-term break at 3.15pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October. My next bulletin will be issued on the same day. School will re-open for all year groups on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Thank you for all your support and kind messages over recent days, which have been greatly appreciated by all of us.

Mr P Marsden  
Headteacher