

January 2010

Dear Parents

OPTIONS EVENING

The pupils in Year 9 will be selecting their option preferences for GCSE this term. This is an important time for these pupils and the preferences they state will affect their future college and career opportunities. The pupils will have a variety of opportunities to gain information which will help them make their decisions.

- 1 Miss McNicholas will speak to all Year 9 pupils in the week beginning 18 January 2010, regarding the timetable for option preferences.
- 2 There will be a courses evening on **Thursday, 28 January, at 6.00pm**, where there will be a presentation for parents and pupils explaining the different courses studied at Key Stage 4 at Holy Cross. There will be an opportunity to ask Heads of Departments any questions you may have regarding examination courses and an option preferences booklet will be provided which will also contain information regarding the courses that are studied at Key Stage 4.
- 3 Pupils will undertake an options ‘dry run’ during February which will inform the combination of option blocks that we will be able to offer.
- 4 The “actual” option preference forms will be issued to pupils and explained on 5 March 2010.
- 5 Year 9 subject reports will be sent home on 15 March 2010.
- 6 The Year 9 Parents’ Evening will be on **Thursday 18 March 2010 at 4.00pm** after which option forms should be returned.
- 7 Option forms must be returned to form tutors by Monday 22 March 2010.
- 8 Pupils will be advised if they haven’t been able to do their first choice before Easter.

In addition, classroom teachers and Heads of Departments will also be happy to discuss their own subjects with pupils as and when appropriate. If you have any questions regarding this programme please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

K McNicholas
Assistant Headteacher