St Anselm's Catholic School

A Catholic Academy in the Archdiocese of Southwark
Member of the Kent Catholic Schools' Partnership

Headteacher: Mr J Rowarth
BA (Hons) NPQH

"faith seeking understanding"

28th September 2026

Dear Parents/Guardian

Re: Year 7 Retreat to Aylesford Priory– 9.00am- 3.30pm – Tuesday 13th October 2026 – Aquinas House & Bosco House

Re: Year 7 Retreat to Aylesford Priory – 9.00am – 3.30pm – Wednesday 14th October 2026 - Merici House & Stein House

As part of our mission and identity as a Catholic school and as part of the Religious Education curriculum, the RE department arranges a series of retreats to Aylesford Priory for each year group in school over the academic year.

On 13th and 14th October 2026 pupils in Year 7 will have the opportunity to reflect on the theme of 'Who am I?'. **On Tuesday 13th October 2026 Year 7 students from Aquinas & Bosco House will attend and on Wednesday 14th October 2026 students from Merici & Stein House will attend.**

The Retreat day follows the following format:

Icebreakers – Warm up games to break down personal barriers, building trust and confidence between the pupils.

Short Inputs - Delivered by the leaders and based on the theme of the day, these activities are thirty minutes in duration and provide a platform for further development by the pupils themselves. These inputs take place in small groups.

Social Time - There will be free time in which to relax and enjoy the company of others. The Priory provides a calm atmosphere with plenty of facilities. We are extremely grateful to the community at Aylesford for their co-operation.

The Liturgy – The afternoon session will be used to prepare and celebrate a service that will bring the theme of the day together. The pupils will take an active part in role plays, raps, prayers and hymns; consequently, this provides a rich and positive experience of liturgy for the pupils and staff.

Students will arrive and leave school at the usual time. Students should wear non– school uniform. They will need to bring a packed lunch. If your child is eligible for free school meals a packed lunch will be provided by the school.

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A voluntary contribution of £17.00 per pupil towards the cost of travel and the use of booked facilities at the Priory is requested per pupil. To make payment please go to the following secure website www.parentpay.com. If you have any concerns regarding the use of ParentPay, please contact parentpay@st-anselms.org.uk.

If you have any queries about the proposed trip, please do not hesitate to contact m.weston@st-anselms.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Weston
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