

16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## WELCOME BACK LETTER FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 22-23

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your families are keeping well and that you enjoyed a restful summer break. I write to remind you that **Monday, 19th Sept is a Bank holiday** to mark the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. **The school will be closed** on Monday and will re-open at the usual time on Tuesday, 20th Sept.

His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols, celebrated a Requiem Mass for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in Westminster Cathedral two days after her death. In his homily, he gave a heartfelt tribute and highlighted four of the Queen's many qualities that will be greatly missed: faithfulness, kindness, steadfastness in adversity, and a delight in life. May her soul and the souls of the Faithful departed rest in peace.

I shared our very successful Ofsted inspection report with you in July and I have included a copy with this letter for parents who are new to the school. We may now have an opportunity to feature in 'The Good School's Guide' so it would be helpful if you could email what you like about the school to [office@goodschoolsguide.co.uk](mailto:office@goodschoolsguide.co.uk). Please share our Ofsted news and news of our Open Events for September 2023 admission with your family and friends. We are a diverse and inclusive community and invitations are welcome from all faiths and none.

- **Open Evening: 29th September – 16:00-19:30**
- **Open Saturday: 1st October – 09:00-11:30**
- **Open Mornings: 3rd-7th October – 09:15-10:30**

I am very pleased to share our 2022 A-Level and GCSE (externally marked) exam results with you. Students and staff worked hard together to overcome the challenges of A-Level preparation during the Covid pandemic to **secure 17 A\*-A grades, 54% A\*-B grades, 75% A\*-C grades and 100% A\*-E grades**. Most students secured their first preferences and have accepted places at top universities, including 30% at the prestigious Russell Group Universities.

GCSE exam results were also very strong with **34% grades 7-9 (grades A-A\*\*), 63% grades 5+ (B-) 85% grades 4+ (C), 63% grades 5+ in Mathematics and 78% grades 5+ in English**. Two boys achieved a full sweep of grade 9's and twelve boys achieved grades 7-9 in their ten GCSE subjects.

Results across subjects have improved significantly since 2019 and are well above national for both mixed schools and for boy's schools.

**Please note the following events and dates for your diary.**

- **Year 11 Parents' Evening 1: Thursday 22nd Sept – 16:00-19:00**
- **Year 10 & 12 Curriculum Evenings: Tuesday 4th Oct – 17:00-18:00**
- **Year 13 Parents' Evening 1: Thursday 6th Oct – 16:00-19:00**
- **Years 7-9 Curriculum Evenings: Thursday 20th Oct – 18:00-19:00**

The return to school following the summer holidays has been very smooth. The boys are looking very well in their new uniforms having grown over the holidays! Please remember to check your son's organisation before he leaves for school in the mornings and please also download and make use of the Go4schools parental app to track his attendance, punctuality, behaviour and homework information. Working together we can make sure that your son continues to thrive this academic year.

Our Open Evening is on **Thursday, 29th Sept from 16:00-19:30. School will finish at 12:00** for all pupils in Year's 7-13 on Thursday 29th September to allow for Open Evening Preparation. Many of our boys will be participating in the Open Evening **so school will start at 10:30 for all pupils in Years 7-13 on Fri 30th Sept.**

You are very welcome to meet with me (virtually) at our monthly first Friday meeting for parents. The next meeting will take place on Friday 7th Oct from 10:00-10:30. Please see the school website for details. I have enclosed a leaflet from the Islington Schools wellbeing service for your perusal.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Paula Whyte



Headteacher