

19th October 2022

OCTOBER HALF TERM LETTER 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your families are well. It has been a very productive return to school for all Year groups and the boys have settled well back into routines and attendance is very good. Thank you for your support with that. All boys are expected to complete all of their homework on time and to a high standard so I ask that you check that your son is working hard at home, presenting his work neatly and completing all tasks set to the best of his ability. Details of homework tasks are on G4S (Go for schools) and also written in his planner. You have access to your son's attendance, punctuality, details of homework set and to his daily behaviour records on GoForSchools. All parents should now have a log-on for G4S. Please contact the school or email enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk if you need help with this.

Our 2022 GCSE results were very strong as evidenced in the recent DFE (Department for Education) provisional GCSE 2022 performance data summary report for the school. Our Progress 8 score for 2022 is +0.37 (+0.33 in 2019) compared to a Progress 8 score of 0.0 nationally. The average grade scored by our pupils across eight subjects (Attainment 8) was 5.6 which equates to a B- placing the school in the top three secondary schools in Islington along with Central Foundation and St Mary Magdalen Academy. We are very proud of what our boys, their parents and our staff have achieved by working together.

In preparation for the 2023 Public examinations, boys in Years 11 and 13 will sit their GCSE/A-Level Mock exams starting Monday, 31st October for two weeks until Friday, 11th Nov inclusive. A separate letter with details has been sent to parents along with information about the October half term revision sessions.

Year's 7-10 and Year 12 will write their AP1 assessments week beginning Monday, 28th November. Students should continue with revision of their work during half term in preparation for this assessment. Exam timetables and details will be issued after the half term break.

Please note that all pupils in Years 7-13 will finish school at 1pm this Friday (21st Oct) after having lunch.

The College will re-open to all pupils on Monday, 31st October at the usual time. Please note that Tuesday, 1st November is a Holy Day of Obligation and school will start at 10.30am for boys in Years 7/8/9/10 and 12 to give boys the opportunity to attend Mass in their local parish. **Boys in Years 11 and 13 must arrive at school by 8.25am at the latest on Tuesday, 1st November as they are sitting their Mock exams.**

In these tough economic times, please note that free school meals are available to eligible secondary school pupils. Please go to the London Borough of Islington website or select the link below;

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/help-with-childcare-costs/free-school-meals-and-uniform-grant>

Your son may be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If your family is in financial hardship and your son is in need, please email details to enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk All responses will be treated confidentially.

Our annual Remembrance Sunday Mass for past pupils who died during WW1 and WW2 will take place at 10am on Sunday, 13th November. Both you and your son(s) are very welcome to this Mass and to the wreath laying ceremony afterwards.

You are very welcome to meet with me virtually at our monthly first Friday meeting (10.00-10.30am) for parents. Our next virtual meeting will take place on Friday, 4th Nov. Please see the school website for details. I look forward to meeting you.

I wish you and your family a safe and a restful half-term break.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Paula Whyte
Headteacher