

12th December 2022

Dear Parents,

**RE: END OF AUTUMN TERM/CHRISTMAS LETTER**

I hope both you and your families are keeping well.

As the end of this Autumn term draws near, we are currently in the Holy season of Advent in which we prepare for the Nativity of our Lord on Christmas Day.

I am very touched by the way in which our young people take to their hearts the real meaning of Advent. They truly live out the values of the school and social justice, embedded in the Advent Candle of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy in a world often overwhelmed by the commercialism of Christmas.

This Advent, our school community who are aware of the very real poverty that exists in our midst, exacerbated by the tough economic climate, will raise funds for the Islington food bank, for the homeless charity, The Passage, for The Catholic Children's Society and for CAFOD. This demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that learning is not always about taking exams and progress, important though these are, but also the importance of nurturing commitment to the common good and our part in securing that for all.

This term has been a very busy one as usual. Three of our Year 13 boys have secured interviews for Cambridge University (Medicine, History, Psychology) and five boys are applying to various universities to study Medicine. Additionally, a significant number of Year 13 boys have applied to Russell group universities to study a range of subjects. One of our Year 11 boys has secured a fully sponsored Sixth Form place at Highgate Public School subject to him securing top grades in his GCSE exams. Our 2022 progress 8 of +0.37 puts St Aloysius College as the 12th best Catholic (state) boy's school in the country. We are very pleased with this and we continue to work in partnership with you to secure the best possible outcomes for your son(s).

Parents of pupils on free school meals will receive an email from Edenred on December 15th with holiday food vouchers covering both October half term and the Christmas holidays to the value of £45 to spend in a range of supermarkets. These vouchers are valid for 3 months until March 15th, 2023.

We have also set up a recycled uniform facility for parents of boys in Years 7-11. Parents are welcome to help themselves to free items of uniform. Should you wish to avail yourself of this opportunity please email the school at [enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk) leaving details of your name, your son's name and date/time of when you can come into school to pick up uniform items. Highgate Public school and Channing school have both contributed very generously to our food bank drive to provide some of our families with a Christmas food hamper. These will be distributed to boys on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec 14th/15th to take home. Please remind your son that a free breakfast is available every morning in the food tech room from 7.45-8.20am. This is sponsored by Kellogg's and consists of cereals, fruit juice, toasted bagels and spreads.

**Key Dates:**

Please see below details of the important dates for the remainder of this term:

Date	Event
Thur 15th Dec 2022	Christmas dinner for pupils Yr's 7-13 in the dining hall. (Please make sure you top up your son's lunch card via parent pay).
Thur 15th Dec 2022 (4pm-5pm)	Christmas concert led by pupils in school hall. (Parents of pupils taking part are warmly invited).
Fri 16th Dec 2022	Non-school uniform day to raise funds for charity and to support the school's foodbank - (£1 per pupil) or donate a non-perishable item to the school's foodbank.
Fri 16th Dec 2022	Last day of term - Early finish for pupils Yr's 7-13 at 12pm (staggered departure). FSM pupils will be catered for at brektime.
Tue 3rd Jan 2023	Start of Spring Term - All pupils return to school at the usual time (by 8.30am) in full school uniform and fully equipped for lessons.
Thur 12th Jan 2023 (4pm-7pm)	Year 11 Parent's Evening (All year 11 parents are expected to attend).

A number of our Sixth Formers will take Public examinations in January 2023. Please encourage your son to work hard over the Christmas holiday in preparation for these important exams.

**B-TECH Business:**

Unit 2 Developing a Marketing Campaign - Part A - 11 January 2023 (afternoon exam) and Part B - 12 January 2023 (morning exam) - All Yr 12 and selected Yr 13 BTEC Business students

Unit 6 Principles of Management - 16 January 2023 (morning exam) - All Yr 13 BTEC Business students

Unit 7 Business Decision Making - 19 January 2023 (morning exam) - All Yr 13 BTEC Business students

**B-TECH Sport:**

Unit 1 - 13 January 2023 (morning exam) - All Yr 12 students

Unit 2 Fitness Training and Programming for health, sport and well-being - 11 January 2023 (morning exam) - All Yr 12 students

Unit 19 Development and provision of sport and physical activity - 18 January 2023 (morning exam) - All Yr 13 students

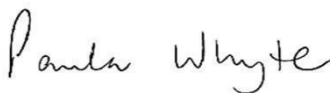
Unit 22 Investigating business in sport and the active leisure industry - 16 January 2023 (morning exam) - All Yr 13 students

Please encourage your son to attend Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to experience the real meaning of this Holy Season.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you all a safe, happy and restful Christmas holiday and every best wish for 2023.

Due to the challenging weather conditions opening hours for Tuesday December 13<sup>th</sup> are 8.30am until 12.40pm. Wednesday Dec 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup> will be normal opening hours – 8.30-3.05. Friday December 16<sup>th</sup> (last day of term) 8.30am -12.00pm.

Yours sincerely,



Paula Whyte  
Headteacher