

28th March 2023

**RE: EASTER LETTER TO PARENTS**

Dear Parents,

I hope you are keeping well. I write to wish you and your families a very Happy Easter.

It has been a very busy term with our Years 11 and 13 pupils preparing for their Public examinations starting on 15th May. All of these pupils now have their Public examinations schedules and both pupils and parents should familiarise themselves with these in the run up to the Public examination season.

I'm very pleased to share with you that 66% of our Year 13 pupils (40 out of 61 boys) have a Russell group university offer (an elite group of universities after Oxford/Cambridge) for Autumn 2023 subject to each securing his A-Level offer grades.

Easter revision in a number of subjects is being provided at the school for Years 11 and 13. Ms Kisten will write to parents with the details. This is an excellent opportunity to help our pupils secure top grades in their forthcoming examinations. Please encourage your son to balance relaxation with working hard over the Easter holidays so he is well prepared to secure top grades in his Public examinations starting on Monday, 15th May.

Year 10 students also need to begin preparations for their first GCSE Mock exam weeks beginning 5th/12th June. Parents are asked to support home revision during the holidays so that boys are not leaving preparation for their Mock 1 exam to the last minute. Boys in Years 10 and 12 also need to spend time over the Easter holidays finding a work experience placement for the week beginning 3rd July.

As the Spring term draws to a close, Years 7-9 will have a dropdown day on Friday 31st March, consisting of a number of presentations from various employers. Years 10-13 will have lessons as usual.

**School will end at 1.30pm for all pupils on Friday, 31st March as it is the final day of the Spring term.** This is a non-uniform day for all pupils to raise funds for our Lenten charities (CAFOD, The Catholic Children's Society, The Passage). Pupils are asked to contribute £1 towards these charities on Friday, 31st March.

Our food bank, sponsored by FoodBankAid, is bulging at the seams with food, Easter treats, toiletries and kitchen items for our families. Parents are invited to call into the school this week (Mon-Fri, 27th-31st March) with shopping bags and to help yourselves for the Easter holidays. No questions asked! Alternatively, your son can fill shopping bags between 3.05pm and 3.35pm any day this week. A huge 'thank you' to those who contributed so generously to the FoodBankAid fund-raising last weekend! We raised £2700.

I am delighted to share details of support for parents offered by Justina Forristal from an organisation called 'Positive Futures'. She would like to provide a regular free service to help families at the school.

Justina will be able to see 2-3 people each week at the school on Wednesday afternoons. She is able to help with job searches, concerns about debt or household bills, helping people to claim all of the benefits they are entitled to, and help with any other online or paper forms.

If you would like to book a Wednesday afternoon slot with Justina, please contact her on 07778362086 or email [positivefutures@hncp.org.uk](mailto:positivefutures@hncp.org.uk). If Wednesday afternoon doesn't suit then please contact her to make alternative arrangements.

These are some grants available that families can apply for through Justina or through the school. Please contact Justina or the school if you need help making your application.

- Children in Need Essentials grant. [https://www.familyfundservices.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/CiN\\_Guidance\\_for\\_Referrers\\_Oct21.pdf](https://www.familyfundservices.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/CiN_Guidance_for_Referrers_Oct21.pdf)  
Up to £300 per household for clothes, bedding, kitchen equipment etc.
- Lady Gould Charity. <http://www.ladygouldscharity.org/>  
Grants are in the region of £400 - £600 per application. Typically grants cover household items such as baby essentials, furniture, carpets, washing machines, fridges, cookers or clothing.

We are offering ESOL classes for parents to help them improve their English-speaking skills. This project is funded by the National Lottery. Classes will run for an hour on a weekday afternoon. Please email [enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk) and leave your name and mobile number if you are interested.

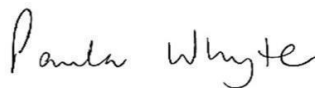
The following are a few reminders as we start the Summer term on Monday, 17th April:

- Please encourage your son to visit his barber before he returns to school. Boys should be clean shaven with tidy haircuts.
- All boys are expected to wear black shoes as part of their uniform. Trainers are to be worn for PE lessons only.
- With the warm weather returning, there is no need for boys to wear coats and hats to school in the Summer term unless it is raining.
- Your son must be on site by 8.30am at the latest. The gate closes at 8.30am and two or more lates in five school days will result in a two-hour late detention after school on Friday.
- I'd like to remind you that you can track your son's progress, attendance, homework set, punctuality and behaviour using 'Go4schools' but you'll need a log-in to do this. If you need a logon for Go4schools please contact [enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk) leaving your details.
- Please remind your son that he should not loiter around Archway travelling to and from school. He should avoid this area, if possible, by boarding his bus elsewhere. Please make sure your son has a current oyster card to travel free on the buses.
- Please help yourselves to our on-site Food Bank. There is a huge array of food including Easter treats!
- Finally, I'd like to remind you that the next first Friday parental google meeting with the Headteacher will take place on Friday, 5th May at 10.00-10.30am. You are all very welcome. Please email [enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk) if you wish to attend and you will be emailed a link to the meeting.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, we can encourage your son to make excellent progress and to secure progression onto the next stage of his educational journey. Please encourage your son to attend the Easter ceremonies at your local church and to celebrate the joy and hope of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

I hope you have a restful holiday and enjoy the peace and blessings of Easter.

Yours sincerely,



Paula Whyte  
Headteacher