



## Message from Executive Headteacher, Ms Heffernan

As you will know, Ms Paula Whyte takes over the role of Headteacher from September 2020. Ms Whyte is an experienced Associate Headteacher and senior leader from an outstanding Catholic school. Ms Whyte joins the College at an exciting time in our history and brings with her extensive experience of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Westminster, twinned with her work as a trained Ofsted Inspector.

I am grateful to the staff and governors for their support over my time at St Aloysius College. The past few months have been demanding for everyone and the commitment by staff to the boys and care for them during this time is a testament to them. I leave St Aloysius College to continue my role as Headteacher at Cardinal Pole Catholic School. I will bring with me a great fondness for the boys and my gratitude to the staff for all that they have done to secure the rapid improvement to the school. Much has been achieved in this time, and I am especially grateful to Mr English and the leadership team for their support. I also wish Ms Nelson a fond farewell and all the best for the future. I am confident that St Aloysius' College will continue to flourish here in Highgate as it has for the past 140 years. I look forward to meeting the Year 11 and 13 for the exam results days to share in celebrating their achievements with them. God bless and keep all in our community safe over the summer break.

## Message from Associate Headteacher, Mr English

It has been a very unusual term, one where most teaching has taken place online. Teachers and students have shown great resilience and adaptability to ensure the continuation of learning. We also thank our parents for their vital support during this time. Our on-site provision ensured that key workers are able to continue to carry out their vital work during the Covid-19 pandemic. The wider opening of the school for year 10 and year 12, which provided a sense of normality for teachers and students, was well received and appreciated.

As you may be aware, I leave St Aloysius this year after having the privilege of serving this dynamic and vibrant Catholic community. The academic outcomes for our young people have significantly improved in recent years, placing us in the top 10% of Catholic boys schools nationally, and the appointment of Ms Whyte as the new Headteacher from September 2020 will ensure continued improvement for St Aloysius' College.

I wish to thank the staff who have risen to the challenges associated with Covid-19 and for the work they have been doing behind the scenes in preparation for the new year in September.

I wish you an enjoyable summer and best wishes for the future.

## Wider Reopening of School Site in June

It was wonderful to welcome back many of our Year 10 and 12 students for some on site sessions in June. We are delighted that students found these sessions beneficial and felt the school provided a safe learning environment. We have worked hard to implement preventative measures throughout our school site including temperature checks on entry, social distancing markers, one way systems and sanitising stations. We have been continually reviewing Government and DfE guidance and updating our risk assessment to ensure a safe school for students and staff.



## Helping Our Local Community

During the pandemic St Aloysius' College has been supporting our local community in the provision of food boxes for the families of primary school children. We thank our Caterlink and Premises staff for all their hard work to ensure Islington families have received essential food supplies over the past few months.

## Year 10 Work Experience

Unfortunately Year 10 Work Experience could not go ahead in its usual format this year. However we put together an extensive, interactive programme of webinars, virtual placements, activities & tasks to help students gain a greater understanding of industries and career pathways whilst learning vital employability skills such as CV writing and interview techniques. We are delighted students found the week so beneficial!



# SUMMER



# HIGHLIGHTS

**Year 7** It has been a challenging period requiring everyone to be creative and flexible with our approach to work and progress. We have done everything we can as a school to support our students and maintain some of our routines and expectations. I want to congratulate the Y7 boys for all their hard work in getting to grips with the new systems and submitting work. Thank you to parents for supporting the school by ensuring work was completed. We certainly could not have done this without you. It was great to speak to so many of you in our weekly phone calls. Year 7 will return in September as Year 8 students with an expectation to be role models and guides to our youngest students. One of the first things we will do in September is have a special assembly to reward and congratulate students! I wish you and your family a healthy and restful summer and look forward to seeing you in school in September.

**Year 8** have really risen to the challenge of learning in Virtual School during this difficult time. Over 120 pieces of work were set for each student during Virtual School and the vast majority of boys worked incredibly hard to keep up with these demands. Our AP2 exams went well for most students and was a great opportunity for the boys to demonstrate how much they have learned over the year. GCSE options have now all been finalised and I hope that the boys are excited to start their new courses in September and use some of their summer break to look over material to prepare themselves for their new courses. It will be great to see everyone back in September to embark on the next exciting chapter of their lives as GCSE students! Until then, enjoy a restful and somewhat productive summer!

**Year 9** have been busy working and preparing for the end of year exams. Unfortunately the lockdown cut short the season for the football and basketball teams. Despite this, the Year 9 basketball team were awarded joint winners of the National Cup! Gaining national recognition in any field is both extremely difficult and immensely rewarding. The students and Mr Akuffo should be really proud of their achievement. Throughout the lock down period the Year 9's have consistently achieved one of the highest submission rates. They have been well

supported by the staff on the welfare and engagement teams, as well their families who have continued to adapt and assist their children. In recognition of their hard work during lockdown the following students will be awarded a prize for their commitment and engagement to learning. Best: Jaydon P 9W, Yunus A 9E, Manuel G 9G. Most Improved: Sean K 9E, Abraham S 9P, Jaydon T 9P.

**Year 10** As we are all continuing to adapt to new ways of working, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our parents for all your support and say what a fantastic job you have done with supporting your child's wellbeing and learning whilst schools remained closed. We will continue to be here for you every step of the way. Well done to our Year 10s on your resilience, dedication and maturity to your home schooling. It has been a hugely difficult time for academic progression but you have made me proud with the way in which you took it on. The really important thing to remember is why we do it. Your academic achievements are your own and no one can take that from you. Our motto for Year 11 is going to be, 'LET IT COUNT'... let us remind ourselves that everyday matters and let's make it count. As you embark on this summer holiday, please remember to make time for your studies. Do not get caught up in the 'summer slide' and forget all that you have learned.

Have a happy & blessed summer holiday and I look very forward to welcoming you back to school in September.

**Year 11** It has been an unusual end to the cohorts' time at St Aloysius. Prior to lockdown, the students had completed their final Mock Examinations in February. Noticeable progress had been seen since the November Mock and we were anticipating some impressive results and achievements from our students. Unfortunately their final year was cut short and our boys missed this final stage of their formative education. At this stage, as we reach the close of this academic year, we must look to the future as we mourn what has passed. I look forward to welcoming our students back to the 6th form College at St Aloysius and to continue to work with them. I wish everyone and their families the best of health and success with your future. All the best.

**Farewell** We would like to wish farewell to the staff that are moving on: Ms Eldridge, English teacher, Ms Singleton, Music teacher, Ms Acquah, Computer Science teacher, Mr Ahmed, Science teacher, Ms Goodhart, History teacher, Ms Bham, Maths teacher, Mr Surety, Cover teacher, Ms O Philpott, Mr C Stevens, PE teacher, Ms R Taylor, TA, Mr J George, DT Technician, Ms S Beled, TA, Mr A McNair, Maths Teacher, Ms S Hunter, TA, Ms M Ryan, TA, Ms D O'Keeffe, TA.

## UK Maths Challenge

Congratulations to our Year 8 students who participated in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge in June! A record breaking number of our students achieved Gold, Silver and Bronze awards this year! Such a fantastic nationally recognised accomplishment. Special congratulations to David Baah-Okyere for achieving 'Best in School'.



## Y9 National Basketball Champions

Huge congratulations to our Year 9 Basketball Team who have been announced as national co-champions in their age category! Our team were the only undefeated team in their league and have won the title of joint best school in the country after tournaments. Final game was cancelled due to the pandemic. St Aloysius' College and Islington Panthers Coach Will Akuffo praised the team "the boys worked really hard and showed a great commitment all season to achieve this level of success. We had high aims this season and I'm happy we were able to bring another trophy to our school."

