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## What's at the **Heart** of the St Aloysius student?



~ Mr R Mahon, Assistant Headteacher: Teaching & Learning, CPD

The heart of the Aloysius student is all about the appreciation for the community. Community is central to our ethos, to our vision and purpose as an outward looking, multicultural comprehensive school. In early November when we commemorated the soldiers who died in WW1 and WW2, Ms Rimmer, History teacher at St Aloysius of over forty years, recalled how the heart of the Aloysius student has withstood the passing of time precisely because of the appreciation for community and a regard for the individual's academic, sporting and spiritual disposition. Many old Aloysians fought and died to preserve the love of community. Their noble sacrifices embody the College's deep rooted sense of service. During the pandemic, the students of St Aloysius fought their own battles in navigating the trials and tribulations of a new normal. The remarkable heartiness of our students in facing those dystopian times was testament, once again, to the spirit that lies at the heart of the College, a spirit rooted in determination and in the pursuit of a love for the community. Our outstanding academic and sporting outcomes are indicative of the College's continued success. The heart of the Aloysius student will continue to drive a love for learning in the classrooms and on our playing fields.

Today, as we face towards the sunny uplands of a post pandemic world, when we will soon learn to strip away the masks again, to return to the hubbub of social interaction, the heart of the Aloysius community roars with a renewed confidence. In recent weeks the College has been celebrating the collective, academic, sporting and spiritual pillars of our college life: psychology students writing poems in the celebration of neurodiversity; art students sharing their observational drawings; RE students debating on the importance of marriage in a modern world; English students articulating their impassioned views on challenging and complex issues in the novel The Hate U Give; our scientists literally pulling at the heart strings in their dissection classes. We will call out to the College's sporting prowess, remind ourselves of the Islington Panthers' basketball heroics, or the mathematics masters of the weekly maths challenge. For an an insight into the heart of the Aloysius student, please follow our hearty pursuits on our social media platforms.

Our College is a proud, vibrant community. Dating back to 1879, the College possesses a valiant history. What lies at the heart of the Aloysius student, lies at the heart of the Aloysius community. There has always been a celebration of the love of learning, the love of team sport, the love of knowledge. Take a look for yourself and share in the life of our vibrant community to discover what lies at the heart of the St Aloysius student. Take a look at what is past, what is passing and what is yet to come! Indeed, the hearts campaign at St Aloysius is a reminder to every student that a love of learning; an empathetic, assertive, empowering, vivacious approach to learning is a mindset worth sharing!