



29<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

### END OF TERM

We approach the end of another extraordinarily demanding half term in which we have been delighted to welcome back all our students, although it has tested the resolve of you as parents/carers, our children and our staff. I wish to express our enormous thanks and gratitude for all that you continue to do and the support you have offered. I am especially grateful to the school community for the way in which it has addressed mask wearing and lateral flow testing, these are really helping to keep our community safe. It is tremendously uplifting to witness the positive responses of parents, staff and students to the return, even if I had forgotten quite how noisy the sound of a thousand voices was!

Lent began during the half term holiday and is a time in the Church's year to reflect, take stock, and look both inwardly at our own lives, and out into the world seeing everyone as our neighbour. In these recent times of struggle, we especially look to the sacrifice on the Cross as our inspiration, acknowledging those making their own sacrifice in the care of others. Despite the roll out of the vaccine and the hope lit in seeing reduced numbers of deaths and infections, it is also a time to remember those we have lost and those who are ill amongst our communities. In order to support our local community, please remember to send in your items for the Hackney Foodbank charity collection by Wednesday so these can be distributed during Easter. I hope that the messages from our Chaplains, including the Stations of the Cross and Lenten liturgies, will help you and your family to stop and reflect during Easter. Although we do not yet know what the next term holds for our schools and communities, together we will make it through.

This has also been a time of celebration at the schools with the success of one of our students, Bukky Bakray on being nominated as a BAFTA "rising star" and also the anticipated visit of Oscar Murillio, a Turner Prize winner ex-student. We also welcomed the return of Ms Connolly, Assistant Headteacher, from maternity leave and Mr Ozokolie, to the Business and Economics Department. Finally, we say goodbye to Ms Coonan from the Geography Department and Ms Burder, Head of Drama, we wish them well in their new endeavours.

In the final week of term, the arrangements are as follows:

- Maundy Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021** : 1.10pm Whole School Virtual Mass in Form. School closes at 2pm  
With staggered year group finish times.
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021** : Return to school at normal registration time of 8.35am.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Ms J Heffernan  
**HEADTEACHER**