



4<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

## CHRISTMAS EVENTS/IMPORTANT NOTICES

As we come to the end of a long term and we look back at the past few months, we have such a lot to celebrate at the school. Our progress 8 measure of 0.37%, places us as above average in the national ranking and remaining outstanding post 16. Although I am incredibly proud of all of these achievements, what is of the greatest pleasure is the way in which 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 Christmas we have been campaigning to raise awareness of the very real poverty that exists in our midst and have raised funds for our local food and clothes banks as well as the homeless charity, The Passage. As ever I am amazed at the generosity of the school community in raising funds for these and other charities such as Hackney Foodbank, St Vincent De Paul shop in Dalston, CAFOD, Catholic Children's Society, Caritas Westminster, St Joseph's Hospice and Mary's Meals. This demonstrates the commitment of the school to ensuring that learning is not always about taking exams and progress, important though these are, but also the importance of nurturing commitment to common good and their part in securing that for all.

### Goodbyes and a Promotion

We say goodbye this term to Ms Agathangelou one of our Science Teachers, Mr O'Connor, Second in English, Ms Ashraf, Business and Mr Moran from our Geography Department. I hope you will join me in wishing them well in their new adventures. Well done to Ms Fox from the English Department who will be taking over as joint second in charge from January.

### Key Dates

Please see below details of the important dates for the remainder of the term, I would be grateful if you and your child(ren) could support these.

DATES	EVENT
W/c Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	AP1 Examination Week for Years 7-10 & Year 12
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	School closes early at the end of lunch to facilitate the data review
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Rewards and Trips Week
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Year 7 Carol Service at St Dominic's Catholic Church 4.30pm-5.30pm – All Welcome!
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Non-Uniform Day
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Student Christmas Lunch
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	School Closes at 12.30pm

### Return To School

Students will return to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the later time of 10.50am to permit assessment catch-ups for GCSE and A Level students. The GCSE and A level students will be written to separately.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you all a happy and Holy Christmas. May the joy of the Saviour be in your hearts all year long.

Yours sincerely

Ms J Heffernan  
**EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER**