

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your support for your son or daughter this Advent term. It has been extremely busy with lots of teaching and learning activities, visits from the CMAT and colleagues in other schools, preparations for Advent and of course the Year 11 mock examinations.

We were so proud of all those who performed at Snowcase and thanks goes to all the staff who put the show together and the talented students who took part.



Our next big event is Aladdin and preparations are going very well. We are looking forward to welcoming our Year 6 primary feeder children up to the dress rehearsal performance on the 20th January and then opening our doors to all of you as parents and family members on the 21st and 22nd January from 7pm. Tickets are still on sale from the school office.

The PE department have gone from strength to strength with their teams this year seeing excellent results across the board. The indoor athletics team had 5 from 8 teams coming first in the whole of the East Leicester League, whilst the other 3 teams came second.

Football kicked off strong from the start of the season with all teams going through to the county rounds. Mr Chapman said they represented the school well, and made him proud.



Mrs Seaward braved the winter this year and ran the cross country team across a number of weekends throughout term 1 with many of our key students seeing some very good positions. Congratulations to Milo in Year 7 who won the cross country league for year 7 boys.



The netball squad picked up a new head coach in Miss Pinel and had very strong teams from year 7 and 2 teams in year 8. All teams progressed through to the country rounds and have truly worked hard for all of their wins.

The basketball teams all reached the county stages of the competition, winning 22 from 24 matches. This year saw the first sixth form basketball team in many years, who won all of their

matches. The year 8 girls teams beat all teams in Leicester City to come top of the City competition, and will be playing a team from the Rutland area in the next round.



The year 7 and 8 rugby had a second year of excellent results, again with no losses! We are really starting to develop some excellent Rugby teams, with record number of students attending training on Mondays with Mr Smith.

We are delighted to announce that the Accor Hotel Group have agreed to sponsor all our sports kit and the new kit will feature the Accor Hotel logo. Our teams will be wearing the new kit from next term. Photos of the teams wearing the kit with our sponsors will go on to the school website. The school website is also undergoing a makeover and the new site will be unveiled after Christmas.

The student council have been very busy this term looking at the food we serve in our restaurant. Mrs Crane our Kitchen Manager is planning to trial a few of their suggestions such as Jollof Rice, Chilli and rice, more salads and a number of vegetarian options.

Year 11 have been very well prepared for their mock examinations. Thank you to all of you for your encouragement and support of them and to their teachers for preparing them so well and offering many revision sessions. Results have been available on G4S this week. If you have any concerns about your son/daughter's performance in the examinations, please contact their subject teachers or the Head of Department.

The Bishops theme this Advent term has been Encounter. Bishop Patrick's intention is that through encounter we can become convinced that we are each loved by God. Students have been encountering Christ in many ways but especially through the Chapel services and fund raising for so many charities. Thank you for the many donations you have sent in, a great number of children and adults will benefit from the fundraising efforts this term.

We are all reminded of Jesus' key message in the Gospel story of the Sheep and the Goats "whatsoever you do to the least of these you do unto me." The Church's Liturgical Year starts with Advent and this year has been declared as the Year of the Word. We are asked to incorporate the Bible into our lives more both as an aid to prayer but also to draw on its teachings in order to guide our lives. We have had the Gideon organization come in and give Gideon Bibles to Year 7 and Year 9 will receive a copy of Matthews Gospel copies of which have been donated to all the schools in our diocese. We will be developing the use of the Bible with our students over the next two terms.

Polite Reminders

- The new mobile phone protocols have had a huge impact, thank you for all your continued support with it. Please remind your sons/daughters that phones will only be returned to a parent/carer.
- Please do not drive onto the school site before school; use the side roads near to the school to drop off your child so that they can walk into school. Similarly, please do not drive onto the school site before 3.30pm if you are picking your child up at the end of the school day. Those who still do create difficulties for the buses to move freely up and down the drive and compromise safety of staff and students as a result.
- As you may be replenishing uniform over the holidays, please can I remind you of the school rules with regards to school trousers and skirts. Leggings and skinny trousers are not appropriate uniform and should therefore not be worn. Appropriate school trousers are tailored and straight legged. The school skirt can only be purchased from our school uniform supplier – Schoolwear Solutions. Full details of the school uniform can be found under the Parent Information tab on the school website - http://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk/?page_id=100
- The Sixth Form dress code is also clear and can be found in the Sixth Form Handbook in the Sixth Form area of the school website: <http://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Sixth-Form-Handbook-2019-20.pdf>. Jeans are not permitted and all students are expected to wear a collared shirt or blouse and a jacket or blazer.

Finally, we say goodbye and thank you to some staff who are leaving us this term. Mr Joshi in Science, Miss Coggins in Art and Mrs Bamford our Examinations Officer. We welcome back Ms Eccles to RE and Mrs Knapp in Art. New staff joining us are Mr Irwin in English and Mr Sheikh in Science.

Events next half term include:

- Year 13 Mock exams 6th January – 17th January
- School Production of Aladdin 21st and 22nd January 7pm
- Year 10 Parents Evening – 23rd January 4.30pm – 7pm
- Year 8 Parents Evening – 30th January 4.30pm – 7pm
- Year 12 & 13 Parents Evening – 6th February 4.30pm – 7pm

On behalf of all the staff here at St Paul's, we hope you all have a wonderful peaceful Christmas and encounter Christ in lots of ways yourselves over the season. Term resumes for all students at 8.45am on Tuesday 7th January 2020.

With best wishes



Mrs S Conaghan
Principal