

13th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It feels lovely to see the lighter mornings and evenings begin to arrive, but of course they are a reminder that we are more than half way through the school year!

Students are working very hard and have had some very positive assessment feedback from their teachers. Remember all data is held on Go4Schools. If you need any help with logging on to Go4Schools or Show My Homework, please contact the school office.

Years 11 and 13 are now in the lead up to their examinations. We look forward to seeing Year 11 parents at the second parents evening on Tuesday 25th February; the booking system is open now. Year 11 have had a wonderfully exciting Sixth Form Taster Day which then leads into their Sixth Form interviews on Wednesday 4th March. With the mental health of young people being incredibly important, can I ask that you help your child manage the suggested revision that you and they will have received recently. I would expect Year 11 to balance their revision in all their subjects with some relaxation and free time. We will publish a school revision schedule for GCSE's covering all subjects after half term.

It is also an important time for Year 8 as they begin their Pathways choice process. The Pathways Evening is on Thursday 12th March at 5pm.

We are excited that DofE has now officially launched. The meeting for all parents and students interested in taking part is at 5pm on Tuesday 3rd March.

St Paul's were very proud to host a visit on Tuesday 4th February from Lord Agnew and members of the CMAT Executive Board. Lord Agnew is the Under Secretary of State for Education and has a keen interest in CMATs and school finance. Lord Agnew and the visitors went on a short tour of the school with me and were very impressed with all the young people he met and classrooms he visited. He especially enjoyed visiting the Polytunnel where Mr Chapman was potting geraniums with the Year 9 RHS group! He also met our Head Boy and Head Girl along with the two Hospitality students who worked that morning and were so professional. The Hospitality Team will be visiting the Accor Hotel next term for their new training.

Our students continue to be great ambassadors for St Paul's. The choir have been rehearsing for their performance at the Carmina Burana Concert on Sunday. They have been learning the words to a series of pieces of music; the amazing part of this is that the words are in German, Latin and Old English! I am so proud of them and I know they will be fabulous on Sunday.

And now to a fundraising update! We had a lovely non uniform and stalls day last Friday and along with some donations we have received, we are now at £3,147. We are very grateful to all those who have sent us donations and ask if you can help us in any way to achieve our total of £20,000, please do! Details of how to donate can be found at the end of this letter. Coming up next term we have X Factor on Wednesday 25th March, a Live Lounge on Wednesday 26th March and after Easter we have the Fashion Show and sponsored walk. More details for these will go out after half term.

And finally some reminders:

- Holidays are not permitted during term time. We do not authorise any holidays and the EWO service will issue a Fixed Term Penalty notice to each parent if a holiday is taken
- Please can I remind you that we do have the St Paul's school skirt which must be purchased from Schoolwear Solutions in Oadby. Stretchy, pencil skirts and skinny trousers/leggings are not school uniform. We will be

doing a full uniform check during the first week back after half term so can I ask that you ensure your child is wearing the correct items of uniform upon their return to school.

As Lent starts immediately after the half term holiday, I would like to share the CAFOD Lent Prayer with you:

Lent Prayer - He heals the broken hearted

God of all wholeness

Heal our hearts

Of all that prevents us responding

To our sister and brothers

Excluded by poverty

And prevented from living a full and healthy life.

Thu Lent, may we:

Implore justice through our prayer,

Stand in solidarity through our fasting

And reach out through our giving.

Send you life-giving power

To revive the weary,

Restore the broken

And renew the face of the earth.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

With best wishes



Mrs S Conaghan
Principal

Chapel fundraising Project - Ways to donate

Direct to our bank account

Account Name	St Thomas Aquinas CMAT
Account Number	63927868
Sort Code	30-96-18
Please quote reference	PLE-Building

By Cheque

Please make cheques payable to St Thomas Aquinas CMAT, and write on the back of the cheque 'PLE – Building Project'. Please post cheques to Mrs S Conaghan, St Paul's Catholic School, Spencefield Lane, Leicester, LE5 6HN

Gift Aid

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can boost your donation by allowing us to claim an additional 25% from the HMRC on any donations made. A Gift Aid declaration form can be obtained from the school office and return to us so that we can claim the Gift Aid on your donation.