



15 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I feel that we have collectively achieved something momentous getting to this point! This has been a long and challenging term for students, staff and yourselves as parents. I know so many of you have been affected by positive COVID cases and bubbles being sent home and having to isolate. The challenges faced by all have been difficult and I thank you for your patience and understanding with all of it. My thanks go to all of the staff here at St Paul's for their resilience and commitment to the students, yourselves and the school.

Year 11 deserve a special mention for getting through some of their mock exams in the last two weeks. Many have missed papers due to isolating - we have a timetable set up January to pick all of these up along with the mocks in the option subjects. Clearly with the situation we all found ourselves in last Summer, it is incredibly important all students in Year 11 get to sit a mock exam in each subject.

Well done also to Year 7 who joined St Paul's in very unusual circumstances! They are a delight to have around and a pleasure to teach. Thank you for choosing St Paul's for your son or daughter; we are blessed to have them. Well done also to Year 12 who despite interruptions to their first term due to COVID, appear to be enjoying their A Level studies and the Sixth Form. Year 13 have all completed their UCAS applications and are receiving their offers. Both year groups will sit their mock exams in January and February, timetables have gone out to Year 13 and Year 12 will be issued with their timetables after Christmas.

In the midst of what seems to be a term monopolised by COVID, we have been doing some lovely things too. All year groups have been fundraising for the stained glass window appeal including Year 10 'guess the sweets in the jar', Year 9 playing Inter form Bingo, having a sponsored silence and watching a film and Year 7 have had a movie and treats in PSHE with their tutors. They have raised a total of £745.69 this half term making a grand total for the fund so far this year of £1,505.99! A wonderful achievement! We look forward to more fundraising activities in the new term!

We have also recorded our 2020 Carol Service for you all to watch and share with your families. This is currently being edited and you will be able to view it shortly via our new website <https://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk/>

At the end of this term, we say goodbye to some staff who are leaving us. Mrs Magulike leaves us to take up a post at Beauchamp College. We thank her for all her hard work and commitment in the Science department and in the Sixth Form and wish her luck in her new job. Mr Irwin leaves us after spending a year teaching English. Mr Irwin was covering for Ms Wood who has returned from maternity leave this week. Thanks to him for doing an excellent job and we wish him well in his next position. Mr Morbey is our new Assistant Head of Sixth Form.

Reminders for next term:

- The National Online Safety App for parents is free to download. There is lots of information about the latest apps, games, devices etc. that children use and there is also access to training and updates to keep children safe from online harm and abuse. <https://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk/parents/e-safety-and-reporting>
- Dance uniforms must be worn. If your child is doing GCSE Dance, they MUST wear the St Paul's GCSE Dance T-shirt, black leggings/joggers and a black sweater (no hoodies or large logos). For Year 7 & 8 they should wear St Paul's PE kit and have clean trainers to dance in. Students should not be wearing other items of clothing for Dance lessons
- Christmas themed non uniform day is on Thursday 17th December. £1 towards CAFOD World gifts. Students who have PE may bring and wear non uniform PE kit and use the changing rooms to get changed.

- Those students entitled to Free School Meals will get a voucher issued by Edenred for the Christmas period as part of the Government scheme. Mrs Oliver has begun processing these this week.
- Aerosols are not permitted in school. They are a health and safety risk. Students found carrying and/or using an aerosol will have it confiscated and a sanction issued. Please ensure your child does not have an aerosol in their school bag or PE/Dance bag
- If you are in the unfortunate position of your child testing positive between 18th – 20th December, please email me directly on sconaghan@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk.
- Inset Day – Monday 4th January. Students return to school on Tuesday 5th January
- Inset Day – Friday 29th January. Students will work remotely from home

The Nottingham Diocese will be having a short online carol service on Friday 18 December at 6.00pm on Bishop Patrick's YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/BishopPatrickMcKinney>) with readings, music, prayers and reflections. Please join as a family and invite others to join too.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a peaceful and blessed Christmas. I hope you all enjoy some lovely family time and for those of you who have children home from university, enjoy having them back.

Best wishes



Mrs S Conaghan
Principal

