



13th January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As we begin a new year, I would like to wish you all a 'Happy New Year' and to say 'Thank you' to everyone who contributed to our annual Christmas Hamper Appeal. As always, this tradition of St Matthew's was a credit to the school community, and was a true reflection of our Catholic faith in action.

We have returned to school this term, with a renewed sense of determination as we continue to improve standards across the school. I have met all students via assemblies, and reiterated the minimum expectations that I have of each of them:

- Respect your learning;
- Respect the learning of others;
- Respect anything an adult reasonably asks you to do.

Many, many of our students achieve these expectations on a daily basis. It was a privilege to award so many students with 'Bronze Achievement Awards' along with 'Student Leadership Ties' at the end of the Autumn term. Furthermore, we were delighted to welcome all students who had consistently met our expectations to a fabulous reward concert at the end of term. Well done to all students involved!

We are continuing to strive towards achieving Catholic excellence for all students. In doing so, may I remind everyone of the following:

- All students are expected to attend school every day.
- All students are expected to meet the uniform standards as outlined in the 'Expectations booklet'.
- All students who are late to school will receive a 20-minute detention at the end of the day.
- Mobile phones should not be seen or heard in school.

Please be aware that from Monday 13th January, the mobile phone ban will be extended to 3pm. If a mobile phone is confiscated between 2.40pm and 3pm it will not be able to be collected until 3.50pm.

Furthermore, I have explained to all students that if they are representing St Matthew's outside school, they will only be able to do so if they have met our minimum expectations outlined above.

Thank you for your support as we continue to raise standards further. Working together in partnership with our staff, students and families, we are ensuring each student becomes the best version of themselves.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Helen Murden
Headteacher