



ST. MATTHEW'S
ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Voluntary Academy



Ref: SA/KG

20 December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

At the end of another term, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to work together to improve standards at St Matthew's.

As we approach the end of our term it is always a pleasure to look back on what has been achieved. It has certainly been busy and exciting! The end of term newsletter will showcase many of the events which have taken place in school since September. It will be available electronically and the link will be sent via Edulink this week. We hope you enjoy reading about the many wonderful things that our students have achieved and been involved in.

The end of the Autumn Term has seen two real highlights of our year in the hamper creation and our Christmas Carol Concert. Both events are significant for highlighting our school's position in the local community. They also underline our mission to show students how we can be active participants in Christ's work on Earth. A massive thank you to all parents, carers and students who donated to the hamper appeal or supported the carol concert with your attendance. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

In school, our ongoing work on rewards has been a huge success and it has been great to see so many students receiving reward tickets each day for meeting our expectations and being good role models to others. The weekly prize draws have been a source of real excitement and the reward lunches have been warmly received by all the students who have hit our key targets of 100% attendance, 0 behaviour points and 0 lates for the week. These rewards will continue in the new year and we look forward to even more students earning the right to be part of this.

On Tuesday 20th December our Year 11 students receive their PPE (mock exam) results in a special assembly. This is an important moment for them and our messaging to them is clear – this is a stepping stone to getting it right next summer, but there is no time to delay! We know that parents and carers of Year 11 students will support us in our continuing work to help them achieve their full potential.

After the Christmas break we will continue on our journey of improvement together. We will be looking to make a strong start to the term by insisting on high standards from the very first day. To help achieve this Monday 9th January will be an 'Orientation Day' during which students and form tutors will participate in various activities to make sure students are aware of what is expected of them in all aspects of school life, both in the classroom and in social spaces. We ask that to support us in this work you ensure that your son/daughter arrives to school each day on time (by 8.25am) in full school uniform. If you require any help in ensuring that your child has full uniform then please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. We are always prepared to help whenever we can.

/continued

The Autumn Term will finish at 12.30pm this Thursday 22nd December. The final day will be a lovely way to end the term, with end of year rewards assemblies and our whole school Christmas liturgy. This day is also a non-uniform day where staff and students are invited to wear Christmas jumpers. A £1 donation will be requested by everyone to raise money for the Cornerstones charity who do so much to help homeless people in the local area.

School will re-open on Monday 9th January and students of all year groups should arrive by 8.25am on this day in full school uniform.

We wish all our students, parents, carers and families in our community a relaxing and peaceful Christmas.

Thank you all for your continued support.



Mrs Murden
Headteacher