



ST MARY'S COLLEGE

17th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have reached the final day of Term 1! There can be no doubt that it has been a long and, at times, challenging time, but Christmas Day is on the horizon bringing the opportunity to celebrate and relax.

I want to thank you for your support and for ensuring that your child attends school as much as possible-especially in these uncertain times. Being at school is imperative for youngsters' well-being, socialisation and academic progress. At St Mary's it is our absolute belief that if students are in school, they will be able to develop into the best young adults they can be. Your role as a parent or carer is not underestimated as an intrinsic part of this success.

Regarding academic progress, your child's first academic progress report for this year will be sent out shortly after Christmas. This will detail where your child is currently working at, and, for those who are in Key Stage 4 and taking final GCSEs this year, a projected number grade. We have changed the way that we report at Key Stage 3, and this will be detailed in your child's report. Should you have any questions, please contact your child's Year Team.

When we return after Christmas, school will open on Tuesday 4th January for Years 7,11,12 and 13. Years 8,9 and 10 will start on Wednesday (alongside all the other year groups). This staggered start is to allow for Lateral Flow Testing onsite, as the government has requested. Of course, the national picture may well change over the next 2 weeks, but we will keep all parents/carers fully updated.

Please find attached our Christmas SMC Newsletter which details some of the wonderful fundraising that students have done this term alongside our fantastic sporting achievements. I hope you enjoy it.

Finally, I wish all of our families a lovely Christmas. I will be celebrating with Mr Stead and our 3 boys plus the 2 cats who will no doubt be hoping to be treated to some of the turkey. If there is more than 3 hours between the last present being wrapped and the first one being opened than this will be a Stead Christmas miracle!

God Bless and Christmas wishes,

Mrs M Stead

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