



St Michael's Catholic College

Llewellyn Street, Bermondsey, London SE16 4UN

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Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran

Vice Principal: Mr Conor Mahon

Acting Associate Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed

15th December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearing the end of a very busy term during which all students and staff have worked exceedingly hard, both in lessons and across the college, to contribute to a successful start to the academic year. This term, we have launched a new house system that has provided the students with a number of opportunities to demonstrate their faith in action by raising money for the CCS Crisis fund for children and families in Southwark. The house system has been embraced wholeheartedly by students and staff; creating an even greater sense of community as students work together across year groups to represent their house and share their talents, participating in a wide range of events including a Spelling bee, Bake off challenge, House Sing off and Christmas card competition. Students have also had many other opportunities this term to complement their academic studies and build life skills through enriching activities, details of which can be found in the most recent copy of the Link, which accompanies this letter.

Key to the success of the college are the strong relationships between staff and students, which result in students feeling valued and loved, encouraging them to believe in themselves and aspire to academic excellence. These relationships are the foundation of what I believe to be the truly authentic Catholic ethos of the college, consistently recognised and complimented by the many visitors to the college. This ethos is made possible by a team of staff who demonstrate on a daily basis, their commitment to maintaining the highest standards of achievement for your children, three of whom: Mr McCaughan, Ms Delaney and Ms Compton, will be moving onto promoted posts in January. Whilst obviously, I am delighted for them and believe that their promotions are richly deserved given their work and commitment to St Michael's over the years, their departures will be a real loss to the college. I would therefore like to publically thank them for their service to the college and in particular, Mr McCaughan, who has been at St Michael's for 17 years. During this time he has played an integral role in the leadership of the college with regard to behaviour and inclusion, championing the needs of some of our most vulnerable students and enabling them to achieve their potential by successfully completing their education. I wish all three members of staff well in their new posts and every success for the future.

We will of course be ending the term by taking time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas by holding advent services for students on Wednesday 20th December, followed by an early dismissal at 12:15pm. This final day of term is a non-uniform day and students have been asked to join in with the house Christmas jumper/outfit competition and to donate food



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for hampers which will be distributed to local pensioners in need. Term starts again for all students at 8:40am on Thursday 4th January, students are expected to attend on time and in the correct uniform, please also see the reminder letter about the college uniform included with this letter.

I would like to conclude by sharing with you an extract from a poem which will be read to students during the advent services to remind us all that the story of Jesus's birth is one of hope, joy and peace.

Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem by Dr. Maya Angelo

It is Christmas time, a halting of hate time.

*On this platform of peace, we can create a language
To translate ourselves to ourselves and to each other.*

*At this Holy Instant, we celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ
Into the great religions of the world.
We jubilate the precious advent of trust.
We shout with glorious tongues at the coming of hope.
All the earth's tribes loosen their voices
To celebrate the promise of Peace.*

*We, Angels and Mortals, Believers and Non-Believers,
Look heavenward and speak the word aloud.
Peace. We look at our world and speak the word aloud.
Peace. We look at each other, then into ourselves
And we say without shyness or apology or hesitation.*

*Peace, My Brother.
Peace, My Sister.
Peace, My Soul.*

May your Christmas be a time of hope, joy and peace and may the New Year bring you and your family all of God's wonderful blessings.

Yours Faithfully



Ms. F. Corcoran
Principal



School Uniform: Reminder

I am writing to remind you about the college rules regarding uniform especially the rules regarding coats, hats and scarves.

Recently many students have been wearing multi-coloured hats and scarves and wearing non-uniform coloured coats e.g. green or patterned/striped coats to school. The policy on uniform is that coats, hats and scarves should be plain navy, black or grey, no patterns or camouflage. Please therefore ensure that your child's coat, hat and scarf complies with this policy from 4th January 2018.

St Michael's College Uniform 2017/2018

Boys

- Grey blazer with blue trim
- Grey trousers (same shade as blazer)
- White shirt
- Clip on tie (different design for lower and upper school)
- Grey cardigan with double blue trim
- Black socks

Girls

- Grey blazer
- Grey skirt (same shade as blazer)
- White fitted blouse
- Grey cardigan with double white trim
- Black knee-length socks or plain black tights (not nylon)
- Hair bands must be black

Shoes

Formal black leather shoes with black soles, black laces (if lace ups) and all black stitching. Trainers of any type must not be worn to from or at the college.

Coats

Outdoor coats should be a plain raincoat, anorak or duffle coat grey, black or navy blue to match uniform or black (no hooded tops, logos or body warmers or other colours are allowed). Scarves should be plain grey, black or navy and hats should be plain black, navy or grey woollen (baseball caps are banned at all times). Pupils should not wear coats, hats, scarves etc. inside the school building as this will result in the garment being confiscated.

Make Up

Make-up, nail varnish, false nails or fake tan is not permitted

Jewellery

Students are not allowed jewellery of any kind apart from a wrist watch

Hair styles

Streaked, dyed or coloured hair is not permitted, nor are exaggerated hair styles. Boys must not have their hair cut lower than a grade 2 (i.e. no grade 1 haircuts) lines must not be shaved into eyebrows or hair.

School Bags

School bags must be plain black and sturdy enough to carry books and other equipment.



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