



St Michael's Catholic College

Llewellyn Street, Bermondsey, London SE16 4UN

Tel: 020 7237 6432

www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk

Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran

Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed

Acting Vice-Principal: Ms Joanna Nottage

15th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now coming to the end of another very busy and successful term. We have continued to navigate our way through a number of challenges in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic, however staff have worked hard throughout the autumn term to ensure the highest standards and care for our students and to keep the day to day running of the college as normal as possible. I would therefore like to thank them for their hard work and service to our community. I am very fortunate to work with such a committed and dedicated team who are all determined to ensure St Michael's is a successful, caring and positive place where students can thrive and achieve their potential.

I am very pleased to report that students have shown great commitment and positive attitudes to their learning across all year groups and our new Year 7 and Year 12 students have made a fantastic start to the academic year and it has been wonderful to see them being actively involved in all aspects of college life. We recognise it is important that all students are supported to achieve their academic potential whilst also being provided with opportunities to demonstrate their faith and Salesian values in action by serving others. We know we are succeeding in this regard, when in recent weeks we have seen 8 students in Year 13 preparing for Cambridge university interviews and many others getting multiple offers from Russell Group universities at the same time as our thriving student chaplaincy group have been fundraising and organising for over a hundred Christmas hampers to be distributed to senior citizens in our local area.

The college will close for the Christmas break at **12:30pm on Friday 17th December** following a Christmas Service at The Most Holy Trinity Church in Dockhead We will reopen on **Tuesday 4th January** and we have been asked by the Department of Education to organise onsite Covid-19 testing for students in all year groups at the start of the new term, which will require a staggered start to manage the testing process. Details of the dates and times for Covid tests and start times for each year group are below please ensure that your child arrives on the right date and at the right time both for their test and for face to face teaching. As I am sure you can appreciate any plans are subject to change at short notice, should new government or Department of Education guidance be announced before the start of term. Any updates will be sent out to parents and carers via Edulink as required.

In line with Department of Education guidance we will not be authorising any absence in term time and those parents and carers choosing to travel overseas during the Christmas break must ensure their child complies with any covid testing or quarantine required by the government upon their return to the UK. Staff will not be asked to set work for students whose parents/carers have chosen to travel overseas in term time.

Please also be advised that Ms Nottage, Acting Vice Principal and College Designated Safeguarding Lead has now gone on maternity leave and therefore different members of the senior leadership team will be taking on the responsibility for key areas of the college whilst she is away.



Interim changes to SLT responsibilities from January 2022:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms Rughooputh
Behaviour and Attitudes across the College: Mr Daly
Health and Safety (including Covid-19): Mr Kelly
Attendance and Punctuality: Mr Ludlow

As a result of these interim changes Mr Smith will oversee standards and behaviour in the 6th form during this time due to Ms Rughooputh taking on safeguarding responsibilities.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your support and understanding this term. We are fortunate you recognise that the college always takes decisions based on what is best for the St Michael's community as a whole, mindful of Catholic social teaching on the common good. It is apparent that we are heading towards another Christmas with Covid-19 at the forefront of the news and high case numbers in the local area. I do hope that you will be able to celebrate safely with your families and loved ones, although this may not be the return to the normal celebrations that we had been hoping for it is important to take time to remember the meaning of the Christmas story which can be summed up by this poem:

"Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

"Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

"Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

"Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

"May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

Amen!"

Robert Louis Stevenson

May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours; and may the coming year be filled with love, joy and good health.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully



Ms F. Corcoran
Principal



Please ensure your child arrives on the correct date and the correct time as detailed below.
 Please do not send your child in if they have any covid symptoms or if they are a contact of a positive case of Covid-19. If this is the case please email details to contact@stmichaels.org.uk from 4th January onwards and await a response detailing any further actions required. Consent provided by Parents/carers previously still stands, if you have changed your mind it is your responsibility to notify us via the email address above marked for the attention of myself and Mr Kelly by 4th Jan.

| Year group | Covid-19 Initial test date and time | Date of return to face to face learning | Start and finish times once face to face teaching resumes |
|------------|--|---|--|
| 13 | Tues 4th Jan 10am 13A 10.20am 13B 10.40am 13C 11am 13D | Wednesday 5 th Jan | 8:40am -3:25pm Sugar Lane Gate |
| 12 | Tues 4th Jan 11.30pm 12A 11.50am 12B 12.10pm 12C 12.30pm 12D | Wednesday 5 th Jan | 8:40am -3:25pm Front gate – Llewellyn Street |
| 11 | Tues 4th Jan 1.45pm 11BC 2.pm 11MA 2.15pm 11RU 2.30pm 11SA 2.45pm 11VI 3pm 11DA | Wednesday 5 th Jan | 8:40am- 4:30pm Sugar Lane Gate All Year 11 have compulsory study clubs to support with GCSE preparation. Intervention group finish at 5pm |
| 10 | Weds 5th Jan 9 am 10BC 9.15am 10MA 9.30am 10RU 9.45am 10SA 10 am 10VI 10.15am 10DA | Thursday 6 th Jan | 8:35am -3:20pm Back Gate |
| 9 | Weds 5th Jan 11 am 9BC 11.15am 9MA 11.30am 9RU 11.45am 9SA 12.pm 9VI 12.15pm 9DA | Thursday 6 th Jan | 8:40am - 3:25pm Back Gate |
| 8 | Weds 5th Jan 1.30pm 8BC 1.45pm 8MA 2 pm 8RU 2.15pm 8SA 2.30pm 8VI 2.45pm 8DA | Thursday 6 th Jan | 8:40am - 3:25pm Back Gate |
| 7 | Thurs 6th Jan 8.30am 7BC 8.45am 7MA 9 am 7RU 9.15am 7SA 9.30am 7VI 9.45am 7DA | Thursday 6 th Jan | Year 7 students will come in on 6 th Jan at their designated testing time then remain in school for lessons. They will be dismissed at the end of the day at their usual time - 3:20pm Sugar Lane Gate. From Fri day 7 th January start and finish times are: 8:35am- 3:20pm Sugar Lane Gate |