



# Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene Secondary

Issue No 6 | January | Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January

Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you have all enjoyed the Christmas period and were able to spend lots of quality time with your children. We have enjoyed a positive return to school last week and hope all students continue to work hard and achieve over the next short but intense term ahead.

#### **Residential Trips:**

Please continue to make payments towards your child's respective trips. Payments need to be made via School gateway and should be made in advance of the actual trip date.

#### **Year 7:**

A letter will be sent out closer to the time giving further details on your child's trip to France. Please keep an eye out for this.

#### **Year 9:**

The Parents' meeting date for the Belgium trip is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm. Please try to attend this meeting as we will be sharing information about the trip in detail. If you have not yet completed the medical form, please bring it to the meeting.

#### **Mr Greenwood:**

Please note that Mr Greenwood, Vice Principal, is on parental leave over the next term. If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please continue to contact the school office or email Miss O'Mard on [info@koinoniafederation.com](mailto:info@koinoniafederation.com).

#### **Library books:**

All students must return or renew their borrowed library books as soon as possible. For those students who are yet to access the library, I urge you to do so as soon as possible. The school has invested a large amount of money to develop our library, which now boasts a vast range of books.

#### **Year 10 Work Experience:**

Consent slips signed by Parent/Carer should be signed and returned to the school office as soon as possible. If your child is having difficulty securing a placement, they need to speak to their Family Group tutor as soon as possible.

#### **Autumn term reports**

Autumn term reports have been sent out yesterday and today. Please ensure you ask your child to share this with you. Inside the pack, you will find a letter explaining the assessment system. This report will help you understand where your child is working at and what their target grade is. If you have any questions, year 9 and 7 parents will be able to ask teachers at their respective parents' evenings this month; parents of students in year 8 and 10 can call the school office and request for subject teachers to contact them.

#### **Year 9 Parents' Evening**

Please ensure you access the online booking system to meet the relevant teachers this Thursday between 3.30 – 6.30pm. School dismissal will take place at 3pm to allow teachers to get themselves prepared for the evening.

#### **Parent Survey**

You should have received a text from the school with a link to a survey. Please complete this, as your feedback is important to us.

#### Our Memory Verse

“Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong.”

1 Corinthians 16:13

#### Dates for your Diary

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January-**  
Year 9 Parents Evening  
3:30pm-6:30pm

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February-**  
Parents meeting for Belgium  
5pm-6pm

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February-**  
Year 7 Parents Evening  
3:30pm-6:30pm

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February-**  
Year 7 France Trip (day trip)

**Message from the Chaplain Rev. Dom Hubbuck:**

*A Time of Blessing*

*Happy New Year! I hope you felt blessed over the Christmas and New Year break.*

*This month is a time of blessing for several different reasons.*

*New Year sees us blessing each other with best wishes for bright prospects and good opportunities to follow in the coming 12 months.*

*Everyone hoping that the next year will be better than the last.*

*Epiphany – the visit of the Wise Men to Jesus and the Holy Family – sees many people asking for blessings upon their homes. Some chalk the message '20+C+M+B+20' above their doors. This is a traditional blessing that reminds us of the blessings of the wise men (Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar) and how we hope to be blessed. It includes crosses that remind us that the baby Jesus is also the Jesus who died for us and rose again. It also includes CMB which is short for the Latin phrase 'bless this house'.*

*Lastly at the beginning of February we remember Candlemas - The Celebration of Jesus being presented to the Temple and being blessed as being the light of the world. In some churches we bless the candles we will use as they remind us of God sending His Light into the world.*

*My prayer is that you feel blessed by God as you begin a new year and a new decade.*

*My hope is that you find blessing in all that you do and offer blessing in all that you say.*

*And my challenge to you is that you find ways of blessing your community, church, school, families and homes.*

*May God the Father keep you in all your days.*

*May God the Son shield you in all your ways.*

*May God the Spirit bring you healing and peace.*

*May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you and pour upon you blessing and light.*

*Amen.*

Mr R Hussain  
**Principal**