



Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene Secondary

Issue No 4 | December | Monday 2nd December

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 10 trips:

Thank you to those of you who have paid a deposit. Letters for individual trips with the final price and more information on the full itinerary will be given out over the coming weeks. The remaining balance will be opened on School Gateway for you to pay.

Year 8 Barcelona trip:

A letter has been sent home today regarding a school residential to Barcelona in June 2020. Please check your email for this letter or the school website.

GCSE Options:

Our GCSE options process is now in full swing and all Year 9 students are currently being interviewed by a member of the senior management team to support them in deciding which GCSEs they wish to take. Our Year 9 options event will take place on Wednesday 4 December between 5pm-7pm. This is a very important event and we ask that all students and their parents or carers attend. Presentations will take place in the Main Hall at 5.00 and 6.00 and the event will finish at 7pm. Please arrive between 4.45 and 5.15 to allow sufficient time to find out about all GCSE options, and to speak to your son or daughter's teachers. On arrival, your child will be given their GCSE options form, which is due in on 21 January, following the Autumn report and Year 9 parents' evening (16 January).

Reading books reminder:

All SMM students are required to have a reading book with them at all times, as part of the required equipment. Our school library provides a vast range of fiction and non-fiction books for students to choose from.

Inset day:

This Friday is a staff INSET day. Students will not be in school on this day

SMM Winter Celebration:

We will be holding a Winter Celebration on the Tuesday 10th of December. This will be from 5-6pm, showcasing some of the Expressive Arts student work from Art, Music and Drama as part of a Christmas celebration. Free tickets are available to collect from school reception.

After school:

Please remind your child to go home straight away after school and not hanging around in the area nor go to the local shop. We have received reports from local police and local authorities about youth violence and anti-social behaviour around Greenwich and Charlton. I request that you monitor the time in which your children are getting home.

Jewellery:

Students are allowed to have one small, plain stud in each ear. Nose and other facial piercings are not permitted. Please note that in line with our behaviour policy, consequences may be issued if students do not follow this.

Our Memory Verse

“Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another.”
Hebrews 10:24-25

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 4th December-
Year 9 Presentation and
Options Evening 5pm- 7pm

Thursday 5th December-
Year 10 Drama performance
4pm-4.45pm

Friday 6th December-
INSET DAY

Tuesday 10th December-
Winter celebration
5pm-6pm

Friday 13th December-
Christmas Dinner and Jumper
Day

Thursday 19th December-
Final day
2pm dismissal

Message from the Chaplain Rev. D Hubbuck:

Tis the season to be...watching and waiting.

The time to be jolly is Christmas but we are only just entering Advent. Advent is a time to consider what is about to happen and prepare ourselves for God to act in a significant way. We dress the altar in purple, as we do during Lent, to signify a time of preparation and prayer.

As Mary watched and waited faithfully for God to act, as the shepherds watched over their flocks and the wise men watched and waited for a star to appear, so we have time to watch God act in our world as we wait to celebrate his birth.

Will you give yourself time to look at what God has done for you this year?

Will you allow yourself time not to rush into Christmas but to savour the time we have?

Will you watch for the ways God is acting in your life and for you to say 'Yes Lord, let it be as you have said'?

My prayer is that you will be blessed generously by God as you seek to generously bless others in your life. Enjoy Advent and have a Joy-filled Christmas.

Mr R Hussain
Principal