



St Mary's Catholic School

Benton Park Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE7 7PE

where everyone can succeed



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19th December, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are well.

I wanted to thank you for your continued support throughout this term. We really appreciate it. We have had a great term in school, with students continuing to work hard in lessons and contributing exceptionally well to the wider life of the school.

It has been wonderful to see such a wide array of extra-curricular opportunities on offer and so many students participating in these opportunities, making the most of their wonderful God-given gifts and talents. I hope parents and carers have enjoyed our new fortnightly **St Mary's newsletter** this term, which celebrates many of our students' achievements. You will have the latest newsletter sent to you before the Christmas break. A huge well done to our fantastic students for all of their excellent work and efforts this term.

As per our previous communication, **school closes on Friday 22nd December 2023 for Christmas**. On that day, Sixth Form students will leave school by 12.15pm and students in Years 7 to 11 will be dismissed between 1.15pm and 1.30pm, staggered by year groups, as has been our practice for many years to help ensure a smooth end to the last day of term.

All students in Years 7-13 will return to school following the Christmas break on **Tuesday 9th January 2024**.

Many visitors comment on how smart and well turned out our students are and I am very grateful to all parents and carers for your support with this. Unfortunately, in the past, we have had the odd student returning after a holiday without full uniform or dress code, or with inappropriate shoes or an extreme hairstyle. I would be grateful if everyone can ensure that all students, without exception, adhere to the school's expectations in this area. The students will be reminded about this too. Please contact your child's Head of Year if any clarification is needed of uniform and appearance expectations.

Many thanks again for your ongoing excellent support.

I wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas with your friends and families.

Very best wishes,

Miss Patterson
Headteacher

