



15 May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families are well and have enjoyed the additional bank holidays to celebrate Easter and the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. At St Paul's, we echo the words shared at the Coronation which prayed for the King to fulfil his vocation which is to build the Kingdom of God. May we all play our part in supporting that vocation by making the world a place in which *'the poor and oppressed are freed from the chains of injustice. The blind see. The bruised and broken-hearted are healed'*.

I also wanted to take the opportunity to write to you to share some of the special things that have happened at St Paul's over the past couple of weeks and look forward to the term ahead.

Year 11 Transition Day

Our Year 11s have transitioned to their exam and intervention timetable. We marked the beginning of this transition last Thursday with a special prayer service and blessing. Candles were lit for each Form Class by a member of the class and these candles will be lit each day at the start of exams. The candles are a reminder of God's presence in each experience that we have and a reminder to lean on God's strength in all aspects of our lives. After the exams and interventions have finished in June, we will be marking our Year 11s leaving St Paul's with a Leavers' service in school and their Celebration Evening at Charlton. Please keep the Year 11, and their families who are supporting them with revision, in your thoughts and prayers.

Cultural Dress Day

Our first Cultural Dress Day took place last Thursday which was a really special day. Student and staff participation was a joy to see. Where students weren't able to dress up, they were able to partake of the diverse food provided by our restaurant (including our Year 11 who got a free pattie, which they loved). There was a fashion show attended by students who had won a raffle during which our young people walked the catwalk, shared the cultural significance of their clothing and explained how important their heritage is to them. We also raised money for charity and donations were collected for our family food bank. A huge thank you to you as parents and carers and to our staff and students for helping to make St Paul's such a special place.

High Standards and Expectations

The summer term is one that both consolidates the study of the year through assessment and also looks to the future by welcoming our Year 7 2023 to the Academy in July for their visit. It is also a time to ensure that each start to the term refocuses us on ensuring high standards of academic work and behaviour for learning. I would ask you to encourage your child to see how valuable every minute is in lessons and therefore to:

- a) **Be Respectful** at all times to staff and their peers
- b) **Be ready** to learn by having equipment and ears ready to listen, eyes focused on the Teacher
- c) **Be safe**, ensure they are at school every day, in class on time and walk corridors, mindful of others at all times



Enrichment, Extracurricular and Trips

There have been so many trips to universities, field trips for subject areas, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and daily extracurricular activities that our students have enjoyed. We have more planned as well and the continued programme for extracurricular activities can be found on the website <https://www.stpaulsacademy.org.uk/curriculum/extra-curricular>. We encourage your child to participate in at least one, if not more, extracurricular per week each term. Our sports teams are going from strength to strength as always at St Paul's and we are grateful for your support as parents and carers in enabling your child to attend fixtures and training in order for those successes to be possible.

Keeping your Children Safe

Our Safeguarding Team is here to support you. We regularly send home helpful briefings and information to help you in your role as parents and carers. Some things can be tricky to navigate as parents and carers, but our experienced safeguarding and inclusion staff are more than happy and able to give advice and signpost to additional support. Sometimes families can find themselves with difficulties they need extra support with, especially in the current economic climate. Please do ask for support - we will find a way through together. Our weekly PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education), Careers Education and RSE (Relationship and Sex Education) are also key to us supporting your child with their growth and development and empowering them to keep themselves safe and make well-informed, safe choices.

We look forward to the many events of the summer term. Please take a look at the photographs and videos of the students and staff involved in events at St Paul's and also follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/STPGreenwich>. Our young people at St Paul's have so much to share and to give, it is great for you to see that too.

Kind regards,



Mrs S Ward
Principal