

**“it is not enough for children to be loved,
they must know that they are loved”**

Tuesday 23 November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that this letter finds you and your families well. As we enter the winter months and start our preparations for the Christmas season, I thought I would write to you to let you know what is happening at school over the next few weeks and share a few reminders with you.

As the nights draw in and the temperatures drop it becomes even more important that our children head straight home after school, particularly if they have attended revision sessions or after-school clubs. We are aware that children from local schools, including ours, have been barred from using the McDonalds restaurant in Clapham Junction between 3.00 -8.00 pm on weekdays to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour in that area. I would ask you to inform your child of this and remind them of the need to behave sensibly and safely when travelling to and from school and of the consequences of poor behaviour that might bring the school in to disrepute.

Our school’s attached police officer, PC Moore, recently delivered a session to parents about keeping your child safe on their way to and from school, and if you’d like more advice about this, please contact him via the school. His session also covered ‘online safety’ and again I would urge you to follow the [advice on our website](#) around keeping your child safe online and ensuring that you monitor (and where appropriate restrict) their use of social media apps. You may have seen the recent press coverage about the impact of TikTok videos on schools and I would urge you to remind your child that posting defamatory material online can lead to serious consequences.

Talking of press coverage, you will no doubt be aware that infection rates for Covid-19 remain high throughout the country. As a school community we remain committed to ensuring everyone’s safety and I would urge you to continue to test your child regularly, twice a week, and to keep them off school if they have symptoms of the virus. If your child is aged between 12-15 years, they are eligible for vaccination. Local health authorities are hosting an online event this evening, for parents who may not yet have given permission for their child to receive this. You can find out more details about this [here](#).

As we head towards the advent season, I would like to share the dates of some key events with you:

This week: PPE examinations. The first round of our in-school assessments is currently taking place. Please do encourage your child to set a regular revision timetable to help them establish the good study habits which will support them throughout their academic studies.

Tomorrow, Wednesday 24 November – Red Wednesday. Students are encouraged to wear an item of clothing which is red to show their support for people persecuted for their beliefs throughout the world. Students will be asked for a minimum donation of 50p to do so, the proceeds from which will go to support [Aid to the Church in Need](#).



Friday 3 December – The Big Sleep Out – Our annual event to raise funds and awareness of homelessness. Students wishing to join us must sign up in advance. More details are available from Ms Addai.

Thursday 9 December – Year 11 parents' evening. This will be held online. Year 11 parents wishing to have a face-to-face meeting with their child's Head of House or Form Tutor should contact the school to arrange.

Thursday 16 December – PTFA Christmas Fayre and Concert. Parents and friends of the school are warmly invited to attend an evening of festive fun, music and entertainment which starts at 5.00 pm with our Christmas Fayre and culminates in the Christmas Concert at 7.00 pm. Parents wishing to be involved with the planning of the PTFA Christmas Fayre are encouraged to contact Ms Tari. We also have our student Christmas lunch during the day on 16 December. Please ensure that your son/daughter's lunch card is topped up so that they are able to join in and purchase a special turkey lunch on that day.

Friday 17 December – End of term and Christmas Holidays. School will finish at 12.30 pm. Students will return to school at the normal time of 8.35 am on Wednesday, 5 January 2022.

As ever I would like to thank you and your family for your continued support for the school and I look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas Concert.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Dunne', written in a cursive style.

Mr. P Dunne
Headteacher