

Headteacher: Mr Paul Greig

December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we all begin the season of Advent I feel that the words of Pope Francis are relevant, more so than ever in the current circumstances and the right way to start off our Advent celebrations ...

We run the risk of falling into pessimism, closure and apathy. The antidote to this is to await the Lord because he is our help and our shield. Confidently waiting for the Lord allows us to find comfort and courage in the dark moments of our lives. Advent is a continuous call to hope. It reminds us that God is present in the history of humanity. He is the 'God with us', he walks beside us to support us. The Lord never abandons us...

(Angelus Address, Advent Sunday 2020 – Pope Francis)

This year has seen many challenges and I am proud to say that the school has continued with face to face learning for the vast majority of our students during the autumn term. The remote learning plan is in place in the event of students isolating or partial/whole school closure and this was sent out to parents a few weeks ago.

In the run up to the Christmas break, I would normally be writing to you to inform you of all the wonderful events taking place at school, Year 7 Disco, Christmas performance, GCSE & A Level Awards Evening etc.

Unfortunately – it won't be possible to run these this year. However, that hasn't stopped some of our wonderful staff and students being creative and creating our Building Hope Christmas Single 'Hope and Cheer' which will be available to download soon via our school website or on iTunes, further details to follow.

All money will go towards completing the school project in Bunkpurugu, Ghana. We have raised and sent over £59,000 since 2016 and have £10,000 left to raise until the school is finished.

On Tuesday 15th December at 7pm – The Lay Chaplains of the Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT would like to invite you to our Virtual Advent Liturgy which will be hosted by each of the 21 schools that form our Catholic Multi-Academy Trust. To join the Liturgy follow this link <http://shorturl.at/pzGHN> or go to our Trust Chaplaincy website - Be Inspirational - where you can also find the lyrics for Advent carols during the Liturgy! <https://www.beinspirational.co.uk/tues-15th-dec-7pm-olol-advent-liturgy/>

Please note that **Friday 18th December** is the last day of term and will be a **non –uniform day (Christmas Jumpers to be worn!)**. Donations of £1 will go to Emmanuel House which is a charity that supports the homeless in Nottingham. Payments can be made using your Squid account, the name of this is listed as 'non-uniform day 18.12.2020'

School will close early for students at 1pm on Friday 18th December 2020. School buses have been contacted and students will be able to travel home as per usual on the Friday at the earlier time. Unfortunately, those travelling on the 448 shared bus service with St Edmund Campion will not have an earlier service.



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The Becket School is part of the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Trust

We welcome our students back to school on **Monday 4th January 2021** and also the school will be closed to students on **Monday 8th February 2021** due to this being an INSET day.

Free School Meal vouchers will be claimed and distributed from the local authority for all our families whose children are in receipt of them, so that they have this support over the festive period.

Christmas 2020 might be slightly different for a lot of families this year and I hope that you manage to spend some time with those that are close to you. May I also take this opportunity to wish you a happy and holy festive season.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Paul Greig', written in a cursive style.

Paul Greig
Headteacher