

St Anne's Church of England Academy Hollin Lane, Middleton Greater Manchester M24 6XN

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To All Parents and Carers

30 November 2023

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

#### **Ofsted Monitoring Visit**

A successful Ofsted monitoring visit took place here at St Anne's on 4 October 2023. We achieved the best possible outcome from this monitoring visit which is that, 'leaders have made progress to improve the school, but more work is necessary for the school to become Good.' This visit was not a full Ofsted inspection so it doesn't affect the current judgement, but it does provide interim reassurance to all stakeholders including parents, carers, governors, staff and students, that we are on the right track towards reaching an Ofsted rating of Good.

Ofsted have published a letter following the monitoring visit which can be seen on our website at <u>Ofsted-Monitoring-Report-STA-04.10.2023.pdf (stannesacademy.org.uk)</u>. Thank you to all our parents and carers for your ongoing support in helping our students to achieve their best at school.

#### Literacy Update

Students in all Year groups have made the most of the new extended Form Time with additional Form Reading. Although the extra 10 minutes a day doesn't sound like a lot, it has meant that 5 Forms have managed to complete their first Form Reader, two months ahead of last year! This is a great achievement as we continue to expose our students to more diverse and challenging texts.

For the first time this year, Year 11 and Year 10 Forms have also started exploring non-fiction texts as part of their Form Reading time. This supports their understanding of key texts that they will need as part of their GCSE courses.

In November, a rapid expansion of Reading Intervention was launched, meaning that over 100 additional students are receiving help to bolster their Reading Ages and help them to close any gaps. From the intervention groups that were already running from September, it has been a pleasure to see so many students making rapid progress and finding reading in lessons much easier, due to their increased Reading Ages from Intervention. Well done to all that have taken part!

During the Year 11 College Application exam period, our fantastic Student Librarians have endeavoured to keep the school up-to-date with their Reading for Pleasure by visiting Forms each morning with the Mobile Form Library. This has continued Library borrowing whilst the Library is closed to provide for exam spaces.

#### **Student Rewards**

Well done to our students for their continued efforts and hard work in lessons. In particular, well done to those who have managed to achieve a bronze SCHOLAR award this term. It is pleasing to see so many students being

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recognised for their exceptional efforts. As part of our recognition, we will be rewarding students in the termly Achievement Assemblies. These will take place in the last week of term and will be an opportunity to celebrate and share the achievements across each year group.

Keep up the hard work and efforts!

### **Academy Christmas Celebrations**

Year 7 students will be participating in the annual Christmas Service at St Leonard's Parish Church in Middleton on the afternoon of Monday 18 December 2023. Year 7 parents are welcome to attend this service.

Our student Faith Leaders will be serving a Christmas meal on Wednesday 20 December 2023 to our community Pensioners' group at 16:30 as part of their Love Thy Neighbour project activities. Further details regarding these activities will follow to relevant parents and carers.

Christmas Lunch for the whole school will also take place on **Tuesday 19 December 2023** and will be free of charge to everyone. This will also be Christmas Jumper Day when students may wear a Christmas jumper or one other festive item of clothing. Apart from the jumper or other item, such as socks or a scarf, students must wear full uniform. Students are asked to donate £1 to our chosen charity, Alzheimer's Society, on Christmas Jumper Day.

### **Closure for Christmas on Friday 22 December 2023**

We will offer a 'grab and go' lunch service to all students on the last day of term on a pre-order basis only. Students who normally pay for their meals will need to pay as usual so please ensure that your child has enough funds on their lunch account.

The Academy will then close for the Christmas break slightly earlier than normal, as in previous years on the last day of the Autumn Term. Students in Years 7 to 10 inclusive will be dismissed at 12:00 noon. Year 11 will be dismissed earlier at 10:30 following their College Application examination results event that morning. Parents and carers of Year 11 students have been invited to attend this event between 09:00 and 09:30, after which students will participate in a Year 11 Achievement Assembly from 09:30 to 10:30.

### Message from the Chaplain at Christmas

For many people, Christmas is a season we look forward to. The buzz of shopping centres; the excitement of giving and receiving gifts; family gatherings full of stories and re-connection; Christmas carols everywhere you go; plenty of good food and refreshments to enjoy. Amidst the bustle and celebration of Christmas this year, I hope you will remember that the true meaning of Christmas is not about the lights, food, gifts and tinsel. It's about peace, love, and joy for all. Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God Bless.

### Term Dates 2024/25

For your information, term dates for next academic year are attached to this letter as Appendix 1.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year when they arrive and we look forward to seeing all our students safely back in school and ready to learn at 08:25 on Monday 8 January 2024.

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Yours sincerely,

Mr C Heyes Headteacher

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🛞 www.stannesacademy.org.uk 📔 @StAnnesCEAcademy 😏 @StAnnesAcademy



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# Academy Term Dates 2024/25

## Appendix 1

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### Key:

School Day - open
School Holiday – school closed
Bank Holiday – school closed
Inset Day – school closed for students

Note: Two further INSET dates have yet to be confirmed.

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