



## THE PALMER CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Part of The Good Shepherd Catholic Trust

December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

This month we enter the season of Advent. Students and staff have been preparing, through our actions and deeds, for the birth of Our Lord. Students continue to demonstrate our commitment to fundraise for various charities, including our annual Christmas hampers, Shoe Box Appeal and Christmas cards and decorations sale. Our RE department's theme this year will be 'celebrating a universal Christmas'. They will also be hosting a Christmas poster competition 'Jesus is the Reason for the Season' for years 7 and 8. I am very proud of all our students for their efforts and thank you for your continued support.

### Christmas Events

Christmas Jumper Day – Years 7 and 8 – We will be holding a Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December in aid of our chosen advent charities. Students wishing to take part can wear a Christmas jumper under their blazers and donate £1. Please note this is **not** a non-uniform day.

Christmas Carol Service – We warmly invite you to join us for our annual Christmas Carol Service on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm in Palmer Hall. This is a real family occasion and light refreshments will be available after the service. There will be no charge for refreshments, however, should you wish to make a donation, any monies raised will go to our chosen advent charities. As always, there will be an appearance from a 'special guest' for our younger visitors.

Christmas Liturgies – Christmas Services will be held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December at St Cedd's Church as follows:

Years 10, 11 and 6<sup>th</sup> Form @ 8.40am (students to meet at the Church)

Years 7, 8 and 9 @ 2.15pm (students will be escorted to the Church by staff and dismissed from Church)

Non-Uniform Day – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December will be a non-uniform day and students will be asked to donate £1, which will be collected by the students' form tutors. Students who do not bring £1 should attend in full uniform. All monies received will be in aid of our chosen advent charities. We will also be holding our annual Talent Shows on this day with the Lower School show during period 2 and the Upper School show during period 3.

### Staff Update

We say goodbye to the following staff who will be leaving us at Christmas:

Mrs McKie (née Bandhoo) – English Teacher

Mrs Ali – English Teacher

Ms McCoy – Music Teacher

We welcome the following staff who will join us in the Spring term:

Ms Peo – English Teacher

Mr Vanstone – English Teacher

Ms Kahn – Music Teacher

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**Headteacher: Mr P Downey**

### **Diary Dates**

Please note that Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December is the last day of term and the academy will close at 12.45pm. There will be a staff inset day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and the academy will be closed to students. All students will be expected to return to the academy by 8.40am on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, prepared and ready to start the Spring term.

### **Term Dates**

I enclose the term dates for the next academic year from September 2023 to July 2024. These are also available on the website.

I wish you and all your family a very happy, holy Christmas.

With every best wish for the season,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P Downey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke underneath the name.

Mr P Downey  
Headteacher