



## THE PALMER CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Part of The Good Shepherd Catholic Trust

November 2024

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 'Advent Past Present and Future'. I am very proud of all our students for their efforts and thank you for your continued support.

### **Christmas Events**

Music Concert – this year, our new Music Teacher, Mr Chapman, will be organising a music concert on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm where students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their musical talents.

Student Christmas lunch - our traditional Christmas Lunch will take place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Please note that this will be the only cooked food option available on this day.

Christmas Jumper Day – We will be holding a Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December in aid of Save the Children. 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.

Non-Uniform Day – Tuesday 17<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.

Christmas Carol Service – We warmly invite you to join us for our annual Christmas Carol Service on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm. 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.

### **Staff Update**

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

Mr Gillin – Head of Science

Also Ms Nelligan, Assistant Head KS3 will be going on maternity leave

### **Diary Dates**

Please note the following:

- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – last day of term and the academy will close at 12.30pm.
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Staff inset day – the academy will be closed to students.
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – All students will be expected to return to the academy by 8.40am, prepared and ready to start the Spring term.

### **Term Dates**

I enclose the term dates for the next academic year from September 2025 to July 2026. 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 line extending from the end of the name.

Mr P Downey  
Headteacher