



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

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Principal: Mr D Smith

28th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to begin with a reminder that students will not attend school on Friday 6th December 2024 as the school is closed for a staff training day.

Christmas is Coming!

As we approach the final few weeks of a busy term, we are preparing for some special events. Following last year's successful service, the Walsall Civic Service will now take place as a Civic Carol Service in St. Matthew's Church on Sunday 8th December beginning at 10.45a.m. Our OAP Christmas Party will take place on Monday 9th December.

Foodbank Appeal

This year we are again appealing for donations for the local foodbank, current food bank shortages include: tinned meat, tinned fruit, tinned puddings, cooking sauces (like pasta sauce), jam, shower gel, shampoo, UHT milk, fruit juice and mashed or tinned potatoes. Donations can be given to Mrs Homer between now and Wednesday 18th December.

Christmas Dinner

The school canteen will be serving Christmas lunch to students and staff on Wednesday 18th December, the cost is £3.73. The full cost will be covered for students on Free School Meals who choose this option on the day.

End of Term Fundraisers

Students have asked to organise a number of fundraising activities during the last week of term:
Wednesday 18th December – Talent Show (organised by Sixth Form)
Friday 20th December – Non-uniform day

Parents/Carers' Evenings

The opportunity to meet with your child's teachers will be coming up for Years 7 to 11 in the Spring Term. Please note the dates as we can only send invitations to book appoints for one evening at a time so this will appear relatively close to the evening itself.

Thursday 9th January 2025 – Year 11
Thursday 16th January 2025 – Year 9 Options Evening
Thursday 23rd January 2025 – Year 9
Thursday 6th February 2025 – Year 8
Thursday 6th March 2025 – Year 10
Thursday 20th March 2025 – Year 7



Christmas Services at St. Matthew's

There are a number of services taking place in St. Matthew's over the coming weeks and everyone associated with Blue Coat is more than welcome to attend. The services are as follows:

Sunday 22nd December

10.45a.m. Nativity Service

6.30p.m. Carol Service

Christmas Eve

5:00p.m. Christingle Service

11:15p.m. Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

8:45a.m. Holy Communion

10:45a.m. All Age Communion

1.00p.m. Asian Congregation

Details of some other events are available on the St. Matthew's website:

<https://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/services/#christmas>

End of Term Arrangements

School ends for all students on Friday 20th December 2024. This is a non-uniform day with a minimum donation of £1 which will be collected during the last week of term.

Dismissal on the last day of term will be at approximately 12.00pm. A lunch service will be available as normal but at an earlier time on the last day of term.

We return to school at the normal time on Monday 6th January 2025.

Thank you for your support this term to ensure that your child looks smart each day. If you are buying new school shoes for your child over the Christmas break please ensure they are plain black with no logos and definitely no training shoes or plimsolls. With the winter weather, it is also important that your child is warm. I would ask that if you are buying a new school outer coat, it is in line with the Academy's uniform policy and should be plain navy blue or black, without patterns or logos. Please refer to the uniform policy on the school website regarding uniform expectations, and I would draw particular attention to the expectations regarding piercings and hair styles.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to you for the support you have given to your child over the first term of this academic year. On behalf of Blue Coat's governors and staff, I would like to wish you a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Yours faithfully,



D. Smith
Principal