

7<sup>th</sup> December 2023

#### **Dear Parents and Carers**

We have had another good week in school and it was very good to see so many Year 9 parents at the Year 9 Options Evening.

## **Christmas Appeal**

We are now in the last stages of this. Every pupil has been invited to **bring just one** item in for a collection we are making for the Salvation Army and St. Francis' Church Christmas boxes for those in need of help and the deadline is tomorrow.

## Lockdown practice

We have now held a practice lockdown, as I mentioned in a previous letter. It went well. Pupils responded very well. We have also identified some key practical areas for improvement, which we can work on before the next practice.

### Pupils taking the bus in Park Hill Road

We have been working hard at building a much better sense of community as pupils and students queue for the buses by the Park Hill bus stop. This is very much a work in progress. A good queue is now formed each day. Much patience is needed as there can be quite a long wait between buses on some days. What I am still not impressed with is a lack of community spirit when a bus arrives after such a long wait. Head of Year Detentions are now being issued for those who refuse to queue correctly. Our next aim is to establish a better standard of self-control when there is an opportunity to board a bus, but only so many places available. I still think that we can do much better as a school community in educating our young people to be good citizens in this respect. This work will go on until the appropriate standard is reached. As I shared with pupils in a school assembly, we recently received a letter of high praise for our pupils' conduct on one of the buses. So, gradually progress is being made!

#### **Next week**

On Monday at 7pm we have our school Carol Service at St. Mildred's Church in Bingham Road, Addiscombe, a short walk away from the Addiscombe tram stop. On Tuesday it is the school Christmas Lunch. On Wednesday there is the Year 11 Parents Evening at school from 5.00-7.30pm.

# Parents' Forum: Thursday, January 18th 2024

Early next term we are holding our first Parents' Forum for a long time. The theme will be: "School is about ...", based round a series of 5 short films which have been produced collaboratively with the team from ASBO Media. Each film lasts 3-7 minutes and we will have space between them for discussion of the vital question of what we as a school are here for. The evening will be your first opportunity to meet our new Deputy Headteacher, Mr Koramoa. It will also be the occasion for the relaunching of the Archbishop Tenison's Parents' Association, as the baton is passed on from those who have sustained it through the recent pandemic. It will start at 7pm and finish by 8.30. We very much look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Parioz

Richard Parrish Headteacher