



6th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As another academic year at St Nicholas draws to a close, there is as always, much to reflect upon and much to celebrate.

Our senior students are now enjoying their well-earned summer holiday following an intensive few months of study, revision and of course internal assessments which will inform their GCSE and A Level grades this year. We offer them every good wish and blessing for their forthcoming results days when the fruits of their labours will be rewarded.

The Pentecost Term has been another exceptionally busy time for staff, students and I'm sure parents and carers alike. Following recent guidance from the Health Protection Team, we have had to adapt many of our planned activities for students. Our Annual Prize Night is being replaced with an Awards Prizegiving service for each year group on the 7th July. We will present over 250 certificates to deserving students in year group bubbles in the school Sports Hall to recognise their achievements and successes this year.

Sports Day has not been able to progress in its usual format and in response, the PE team have organised year group football championships that are taking place in year group bubbles this week and next. Our planned external rewards trips have been replaced with rewards events in school allowing students to socialise and attend an 'afternoon at the movies' in recognition of them upholding our St Nicholas 4Rs throughout the year.

Thank you for your positive response to the invitation to undertake PCR testing at home, and as Covid cases continue to rise across the country and the Local Authority, I would ask for your continued support with regular home testing and the wearing of face coverings in school. If your child is displaying Covid symptoms then they must not come into school, but should remain at home and you should look to book a PCR test as soon as possible. All other members of the household should also remain in isolation until the results of the test are known - your household can then respond accordingly.

School Holiday Dates have already been shared with families earlier this year and are available on the school website. Since publication, all schools across the country will now close for an additional day during the 2021-22 academic year in lieu of the additional Bank Holiday marking the Queen's Jubilee during the Whit half term holidays. The Governors have identified Monday July 4th 2022 as this additional school closure day at St Nicholas.



Finally we await new guidance from the Department for Education that will follow the Education Secretary's announcements today. These details will help to inform our current plans for September and I will share full details with you once we have been able to consider and respond fully to updated guidance.

I will write to you again before the summer break, but I offer advance notice that St Nicholas will close for students at 1pm on Wednesday 21st July, with staggered departures beginning at 12.45pm and all bus routes operational as usual.

Yours sincerely

Richard Woods
Headteacher

