



Sir John Cass's Foundation and Red Coat CofE Secondary School & Sixth Form College

We will achieve excellence and inspire generations the Cass way

Headteacher: Mr P. Woods

November 2018

Dear parents and carers,

It has been an incredibly busy half term that seems to have flown by. Students have settled into their timetables and there is a very industrious atmosphere round school as you observe our young people engaging with their learning and enrichment activities. The second half of this term is always a busy one with a number of events and mock examinations taking place.

Independent Learning

Independent learning is important because it develops creativity and intellectual curiosity. It is about students being active rather than passive in their learning. All students have an independent learning schedule which is in the school planner as well as on the website. This schedule helps to structure the work students complete outside of their lessons. All homework must be completed to a high standard and handed in on time. If a student has not got homework to complete on a particular day, they must engage in independent study for the subject listed.

Here at Sir John Cass Red Coat we are committed to fostering independent learning and, as parents, you can help us. Please encourage your children to stretch themselves, to take responsibility for their own work and, above all, encourage to your children to learn from their mistakes.

Student Voice

In the week before the half term holiday the student voice team spoke to the whole school about recent developments. They have created committees which will be working on different target areas. The projects are as follows:

- Eco-warriors – who will be working closely with Ms A Deen on sustainability and recycling.
- Teaching and Learning advisors – who will be working on feedback on classroom activities and outside lesson activities e.g. homework. They will lead on student surveys and work closely with Mr Cusack.
- Digital and Communication masters - who will be working on a student newspaper (first issue for December), supporting in delivering assemblies and helping other projects with their technological needs. This project will be supported by Ms Lording and Mr Jalil.
- Welfare and Wellbeing counsel - who are working on improving facilities e.g. printing for students, developing wider enrichment opportunities and raising awareness for mental health. Students will work with Mr Malik and Ms Jech.

Students who are interested in a project and are willing to commit time to attend meetings after school/ lunchtime are asked to contact the members of staff involved.

Please encourage your child to become involved in the wider school community. Participation in enrichment activities and student voice develops a wider skill set such as the ability to work in teams and develop interpersonal skills which help with college, university and job applications. In addition, students who contribute will work with others across the school and lead on projects that will ultimately improve the student experience and benefit all at Sir John Cass Red Coat.

Those wishing to sign up should do so at Ms Uddin's office in the second floor dining hall. The deadline for is 8th November 2018.



Sixth Form Open Evening

Our Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on Thursday 15th November and this is an opportunity for anyone interested to visit our high achieving post-16 provision. Visitors are given a tour of the Sixth Form and can attend a

presentation outlining the strong quality provision we have at Sir John Cass Red Coat for post-16 study. Please note that there will be a late start to school on Friday 16th November at 11am affecting all students.

Prize Giving – Thursday 8th November

Our annual Prize Giving Evening is a wonderful occasion when we celebrate the achievements of students across all year groups. It is attended by representatives from the Sir John Cass Foundation, The Scriveners Company, The Masons Company as well as invited parents/carers, staff and, of course, students. A number of special prizes will be awarded such as the Rose Walker Music Prize, the Shaquille Maitland-Smith Sports Award and university scholarships. Information has gone out to all those attending and I look forward to meeting a number of you there. Please note that there will be a late start to school on Friday 9th November.

Key Events for this term

As usual all key dates can be found on the school website; however in addition to the events already mentioned there are a number of important dates for your diaries coming up this half term. Please check our website and social media feeds for regular updates on events.

Parents' Coffee Morning	Thursday 8 th November (9.15-10.45am)
Year 11 examinations	Start the week beginning Monday 19 th November
Carol Service	Monday 10 th December
Year 13 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 12 th December
Last day of Autumn Term	Friday 21 st December

SJCR Social Media

I would again like to take this opportunity to encourage you all to follow the Sir John Cass Red Coat social media accounts which provide regular updates and useful information. These can be found @SJCRschool on Twitter and Facebook. There is also the E-Bulletin for parents/carers. Please contact the school if you are not already signed up and wish to be added to the email distribution list – info@sjcr.net.

Thank you as always for your support and I look forward to another successful half term for all members of our school community.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Woods
Headteacher