



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

July 2018

Dear parents / carers,

As we approach the end of another busy year I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have given both to your child and to the school.

Key Events

The achievements of this year have been immense. We have continued to develop The Cass Way which was put together by students and staff based within the biblical scripture *"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"* Luke 6:31. The Cass Way is core to our values and our ethos of respect and support for one another. In relation to this students and staff have worked to embed this work, most recently through our anti-bullying week.

There have been more events too numerous to mention. Here are some examples:

- We have embraced various international days and themes events such as Science Week, Mental Health Awareness, Careers events and International Women's Day, and we have raised awareness and donations for many causes including World Book Day, The Whitechapel Mission and Sports Relief to name a few. In addition, this July we hosted the Stepney Family Fun Day for the first time.
- We have visited and received groups from schools in France, Taiwan and South Korea. We have also taken groups to Spain and France, to the Cass Mountain Centre in Wales, universities across England including Cambridge and multiple events in London from the British Film Institute to the theatre productions in the West End.
- In terms of sport, students have participated in numerous borough and national competitions and the successes are impressive. In the Tower Hamlets Athletics Championships at Mile End Year 8 and 9 girls were placed 2nd, with Tamika Edwards and Abigail Haddow both being selected for the London Schools Athletics Competition where Tamika finished 3rd overall in the 200m race. In the Tower Hamlets Indoor Athletics Competition at Lee Valley, Year 9 girls were placed 2nd out of 13 schools. In the Borough boys' football championships the most impressive performances were from the Year 7 team, placed 3rd, and the Year 9 team, who lost the final and came a close 2nd. In hockey, the year 7 team came 3rd in the Borough and the U14 team qualified for the London Youth Games as one of the top 8 teams in London. Furthermore this U14 team were runners up in the England hockey festival and three students were a part of the team which won the East of England League 8 championships with Tower Hamlets Hockey Club. It has also been a successful year in athletics for the school. The Year 7s came 4th out of 11 teams in the Borough Championships, with Alex Jianoran (also selected for the London Youth Games), Fred Poku-Prempeh, Danny Rob and Edison Rhodes all selected to represent Tower Hamlets in the London Schools Athletics Championships. These are just some of the amazing achievements this year in the PE department.
- Our music department continues to impress with performances at the Kenton Day Service, Founder's Day at St. Botolph's in Aldgate, the Stepney Partnership Music Concert, the Carol Service at St Dunstan's Church, the Lord Mayor's Show and the THAMES Secondary Schools' Showcase as well as many students taking their ABRSM (Royal Schools of Music) examinations.

It has been a very eventful year for our school community and we will continue to update you with key events throughout the next academic year via our parents' weekly e-bulletin and the termly newsletter. I would also like to encourage you all to follow us on our Facebook and Twitter accounts @SJCRschool for regular updates on all school events.

School uniform – Reminder

As you know our school uniform is changing from September. All year groups are moving to the uniform with the exception of the new Year 11 – the final year to wear the old style. Letters have gone out to all parents providing the information needed to prepare for September. A full list of our school uniform can be found on our website – www.sjcr.net .

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life. Children who frequently miss school often fall behind and there is a strong link between good school attendance and achieving good results. For example, only 12% of pupils with below 80% school attendance achieve five or more GCSEs at grades 9-5 including English and Maths, compared to 68% for pupils with attendance greater than 95%.

Good attendance at school shows potential employers that a young person is reliable. Furthermore, young people who are frequently absent from school are more likely to become involved in, or be a victim of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Did you know?

- 90% Attendance means that a student is missing half a day of school a week.
- 95% Attendance means that a student will miss two weeks of school in a year.
- 93% Attendance or better gives a student a 73% chance of achieving 5 GCSEs, Grades A-C, whatever their ability.
- The Local Authority will become involved where a student's attendance falls below the required standard.
- There are 190 school days in a year leaving 175 in which to take a holiday.

Our school has high levels of attendance; however those students who are failing to reach these high standards will be a focus for us in the coming academic year.

Children sometimes have to miss school because of illness or if they have long term medical issues. If this is the case, parents should contact school the same day to let us know the reason that the child is not in school. Please be familiar with our school processes for reporting absence which can be found on the school website.

School Leavers

We have said goodbye to our year 11 and 13 students, who eagerly await their examination results in the summer. The traditional boat parties were well attended and successful events, and we look forward to welcoming a large number of our Year 11 students back into the Sixth Form next year.

Furthermore, we have a number of colleagues leaving at the end of this academic year. These are:

- Matthew Brotherhood
- Martyn Cooper
- Desheeta Gunnasaya
- Jahidur Rahman
- Nazira Uddin
- Jerry Spillane
- Towhid Hamid
- Nick Casey
- Leena Hussain
- Fran Cervi
- Nicolette Wall
- Elliot Green

On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to thank them for their contribution to school life and wish each of them continued happiness and success.

End of Year/ Start of Academic Year Arrangements

This school year will end on Friday 19th July 2019. Pupils will follow their normal lessons for periods one and two, and from 11.15am until 11.30am there will be a staggered dismissal.

The new school year will begin with registration day for students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 on Tuesday 3rd September 2019. All students should attend school in full uniform at the following times.

11.45 – 12.45 – Year 8 in the Sports Hall

12.45 – 13.45 – Year 9 in the Sports Hall

11.45 – 12.45 – Year 10 in the Great Hall

12.45 – 13.35 – Year 11 in the Great Hall

Following the registration day students will attend school on Wednesday 4th September 2019 with a start time of 8.40am for the new Year 7 and 11.00am for all students in Years 8-11.

Details for the start of Year 12 and 13 are shared in a letter from the Sixth Form team.

I would like to wish all of our school community a restful and enjoyable summer, and look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Woods
Headteacher