17 December 2014

Dear Parent/Carer

First of all, may I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support this term. It has been a long one and the pupils have, as always, responded really well to the opportunities they have been presented with. They continue to represent the College with great pride and your support is a major part of our success. As we approach Christmas, our pantomime was a sell out for both nights and reflected the wonderful talents of our pupils. Our Carol Service this week, as always, has reflected the true meaning of this season, and has set the scene nicely for Christmas.

The new build is finally underway albeit with some frustrating delays which have been beyond our control. The Sixth Form Centre is now due to be completed in the summer term and will provide second to none facilities for our Sixth Form students as well as much needed extra classroom space for the whole community. As part of our continued drive to provide high quality facilities for our pupils we have submitted two bids to the Department for Education for a new Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) next to our Sports Hall as well as refurbishment of our toilet facilities. I will keep you updated on the progress of these developments. Our success in achieving 'Teaching School' status in September has meant many schools both locally and nationally visiting us and looking for support which provides fresh challenges for us. Any revenue generated by Teaching School funding streams will always be invested back into SJP for the benefit of our pupils.

When we return back from the Christmas holiday period the Government will be publishing its annual performance tables. I am pleased to report that our students have, once again, achieved well above the national average against a background of underperformance nationally.

Initial admission figures are again very healthy and it is looking likely that we will be heavily oversubscribed for September 2015. I am pleased that so many parents want SJP as their school of choice and time and time again this is in large part due to the way our pupils conduct themselves on a day to day basis. Thank you for playing your part in our ongoing mission to provide outstanding education in our area.

On Friday 19th December 2014 we finish for Christmas. The school day will be a normal one, with the exception that we will finish at 2.20pm, the end of Period 4. Pupils return on **Monday**, 5th **January 2015** at the normal time. Our 'mock examination' period for Year 11 and Sixth Form starts the first week back and I have included a copy of the time-table for those parents. Can I remind our pupils sitting public examinations next year that the two week break must have a real focus on revision and preparation.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Mr T P Quinn

Executive Head Teacher

Thom Meli