

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Re: The end of 2023 and start of 2024

Dear families

Congratulations to everyone involved in the Christmas Concert. It was inspirational to see so many first-class performances and a wonderful to end the term and 2023.

I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and as our thoughts turn to the New Year, I want to give you an early message about some of our plans for 2024.

Celebration Assemblies

With over 1000 students in the school achieving so many wonderful things each week we sometimes struggle to get to them all. From January we will be increasing the frequency of our Celebration Assemblies and all students in Years 7-11 will have two assemblies per week. Assemblies are chances to share achievements as well as the stories behind them widely and allow students to inspire each other in what they have accomplished through a combination of ambition, hard work, and tenacity.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones damage students' wellbeing and education in a number of different ways. John Mason School continues to be a mobile phone free zone. In January we will be reminding students to turn their phones off and put them in their bags before they enter the school.

Experience tells me that some students can find breaking the bond to their phone a real struggle. You can find advice [here](#) from NSPCC about keeping your child safe when on their phone.

Social times

Ensuring that all young people feel safe when on our school site is priority and this is why we have simple expectations for all students. Physical contact is not allowed. No student should be playing games involving physical contact.



Toilets are not social areas and students should not be congregating in them. We will be reminding students to keep these areas clear and available for all to use.

Uniform

The full winter uniform is detailed in our policy which can be found [here](#). Having the correct uniform ensures that students have a smooth start to the term.

Students have worked extremely hard throughout the term. It has been nice to hear some of them share their plans to spend time with family and friends and take stock of a busy year. I wish you all a peaceful break and look forward to welcoming all students back on Tuesday 9th January 2024.

Yours sincerely



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