



St. Antony's Catholic College

in partnership with Loreto Grammar School

Friday 7th September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome back your son/daughter to a new year at St Antony's Catholic College. We have had an extremely positive start to the term and our students have come back looking smart in the correct uniform and displaying an excellent attitude to learning. We are looking forward to yet another very positive year and hope that our parents will become even more involved with the school. We are planning to start a PTA this academic year and will be in touch again with some more information about this.

I am delighted to report that this year's GCSE results are the best ever (please see enclosed). This is the culmination of year on year improvements in every area of the school which have been as a result of a concerted effort from students, staff, parents and governors. We look forward to improving on these results in the future.

As explained in my end of term letter, we are making some changes in the Art and Design Technology department which we believe will improve the efficient and effective delivery of practical lessons. These changes involve asking for a small contribution to materials at the start of every year and, for Food Technology only, a weekly contribution for each practical lesson. Details are given below.

KS3 Art & Design Technology - To support us in delivering a creative and exciting curriculum across KS3, we will be requesting a £5 contribution for Art & Design Technology (including Food Technology) across the year. These contributions will enable us to continue making high quality products that your child can take home and enjoy for years to come.

KS3 Food Technology - In light of the changes to the curriculum for the teaching of food preparation and nutrition, we are changing the way we manage ingredients in Food Technology lessons. To ensure all students are able to complete practical lessons, an additional £1 contribution will be required for each practical lesson, which will cover the cost of ingredients and appropriate containers. Students will continue to study Food Technology for one of the three school terms, with a maximum of 12 practical sessions over the term.

Y10 Art, Textiles, Graphics & Engineering students - At GCSE, your child will need a wide range of equipment and materials to enable them to create their portfolio of evidence in Art & Technology. In order for us to continue to offer a personalised and creative experience for all students at GCSE, we will require a contribution of £10. This will cover all sketchbooks, a carry folder and any other relevant materials required across the year.

Could all monies be brought in to the main school office by Friday 14th September 2018 please.

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs J. Beever Associate Headteacher: Mrs F. Wright

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For the first time, St Antony's are operating without homework planners and using only Show My Homework to communicate with students and parents regarding homework. All form tutors have PIN codes for students and we require all students to ensure that they have logged onto the SMHW system and use it regularly. Should you need a reminder of your PIN please contact the office so that we can ensure that this gets to you. Mrs Dunning and Mrs Harris can help with PINs as can class teachers. A very small number of students were identified as unable to access the internet to use SMHW - provision has been made for this. SMHW has other options too, such as the timetable tab, to help with bag packing each evening, so it is very useful for good organisation. We hope that you will help to ensure that this system is effective by ensuring your child makes full use of SMHW and we hope that it also supports you to monitor and support your child with their homework.

We are keen for all our students to get involved in extra-curricular activities and are proud to be able to offer students in Years 8-11 the opportunity to be part of the Combined Cadet Force. If your child is interested in this, please ask them to see Mr Parker. They can also participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. If this is something they would be interested in, please ask them to see Mr Johnson.

Our Open Evening takes place this year on Wednesday 19th September 2018. So that we can make sure the school looks its best, we need to close early for cleaning. The students, therefore, will leave at 12:45pm, following lunch and afternoon registration. Please encourage any parents you may know with children in Year 6 or Year 5 to come along from 4pm-7pm that evening. I hope you'd agree that St Antony's would be a good choice for them to make!

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your partnership with us in your son/daughter's education and I look forward to another busy, productive and happy year ahead.

With kind regards,



Mrs F Wright
Headteacher