



St Martha's

From the Headmaster

December 2016

Dear parents,

I write at the end of another busy but exhilarating term. I am delighted with how things have gone: the sense of academic purpose has been present throughout and much has been achieved during this first term of the academic year. We have also managed to achieve an impressive number of extracurricular activities and as you read this our skiers will be preparing to depart for Austria which is our second international trip of this academic year. I am incredibly grateful to the pupils and students for their energy and commitment, whilst also commending the staff for their eye catching combination of professional expertise and enthusiasm. I am finally also grateful to you as parents and families of the current pupils and students of St Martha's; the support of the parental body is a great strength of the school and I feel fortunate every day to be part of this wonderful community.

Regarding all of these achievements, I would encourage you all to download the St Martha's App to ensure you remain up to date concerning events and successes at our school. I know that Mrs Waldon, our Marketing and Communications Officer would welcome feedback on this and the way we communicate with you all. She can be contacted on WaldonJ@saint-marthas.org.uk Our website and App are the best ways to keep up to date with all the news from the school. Life at St Martha's is always full and busy, so these two are constantly being refreshed and updated. To make sure that you do not miss out anything going on, you can also follow the various twitter accounts including @StMarthas, @Stmarthas_sport, @StMarthas_PA, StMarthas_M and of course @stmarthas_head! So if you are not following us on social media make it a New Year resolution to do so in 2017!

This has been a difficult term for many of us getting to grips with the death of my PA and former pupil Fran Watts. I have ensured that all messages have been passed onto her family and I know that they have appreciated reading these. Many of you are aware that Mrs Marianne Naismith is now my PA and she has had to balance this role with admissions for this term but I am delighted to announce that Miss Claire McDonough will be joining St Martha's in January as our new admissions officer. Also joining in January will be Mrs Shameen Akhtar who will be our new Head of Humanities and Geography teacher. We are delighted that Miss Patrice Chappell will be remaining with us for a little longer next term to help with the transition.

Mr Matthew Burke, BA (Hons), PGCE, Ad Dip Ed, NPQH

Independent Catholic School for Girls

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 @stmarthas_head

Registered Charity No. 233809





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Some work will be completed over the Christmas break with the staff room getting a revamp and more lighting being updated around in the Science Centre and in the Bethany building. We have been very fortunate to have embarked upon an intensive programme of refurbishment and enhancing our facilities in recent years and this has been thanks to the support and guidance of the Sisters who act as Trustees and the Board of Governors who have provided not only continuity in recent years but also expertise and strategic thinking. As St Martha's continues to develop in the future with enhanced facilities and education provision for all our pupils and students, I thank you all for your support, encouragement and patience as we continue to transform St Martha's from a good school to a great school where we all feel we belong.

I wish you all a very holy and Happy Christmas and I look forward with excitement to the New Year of 2017 and all that it will bring to the St Martha's family

Best wishes

Mr Matthew Burke, BA (Hons), PGCE, Ad Dip Ed, NPQH

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