

2nd December 2019

End of term letter – Autumn 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the final few weeks of this term, I'd like to wish you a Merry Christmas and ensure that you are aware of our end-of-term events and arrangements.

Community Christmas Fair - December 6th 4:30 – 6:30

We'll be marking the festive season with our Community Christmas Fair on Friday 6th December between 4:30 and 6:30pm, gates will be open from 4pm. There will be an exciting range of activities including stalls, live music, sports and some surprise animal visitors! There are also some great prizes on offer in our raffle and tombola. Could you be the lucky winner of the £150 John Lewis Christmas Hamper which was donated by our governors?

Entry is by donation and we are raising funds for Bede, Compass School Enrichments and Time and Talents.

A warm welcome awaits!

Key Stage 4 Parents' Evening – December 11th 4:00 – 7:00 pm

All parents and carers of year 10 and 11 pupils are invited to attend our Key Stage 4 Parents' Evening. We have revamped the format of parents' evening to include a range of engagement opportunities including careers advice, advice sessions for parents and opportunities to meet with post 16 providers as well as your child's teachers at this important stage. We look forward to 100% attendance at this event.

Christmas Holiday Dates

- School will close for the Christmas holiday on Thursday 19th December at 12:10 pm.
- Year 11 Students return to school on Monday 6th January
- Year 7-10 Students return to school on Tuesday 7th January 2019 at 8.40 am.

School Lockdown

We are mindful of the tragic events of Friday 29th November at London Bridge and were it not for a staff training day, the school would have been placed on lockdown at the advice of the police. Please read the [lockdown letter](#) sent 30th April available on our website. This provides valuable information on what happens during a lockdown and what is required of parents.

Attendance Matters

Are you planning a family trip for the holidays? At this time, many of you may be planning holidays or visits to friends and family. As you think about your arrangements, we want to stress the importance of sending your child to school every day. We want to ensure there are no spikes in your child's absence either before or after the Christmas holiday. We know that just a few missed days here and there add up to too much lost learning time and put your child behind in school. It also sends the wrong message to your child about the importance of attendance.

Our teachers will be teaching, and our students will be learning, right up until the holiday starts and the first day back. This Christmas, ensure your child has the gift of education and the habit of excellent attendance.

Requests for holidays during school time are always declined and referred to the Education Welfare Officer for action.

Student Christmas Lunch

Each year we have a festive lunch with all the trimmings! This year the Christmas lunch is taking place on Friday 13th December. The cost of the Christmas lunch is subsidised by the school, and so is the same price as a normal meal (and free for students who are eligible).

Spotlight on Rewards

Compass Coins

We look forward to announcing the house with the most Compass Coins in our end of term assembly on the 19th December. The winning house will be in for a chance of being house champions and holding the Compass Shield.

Attendance and Punctuality Rewards

A number of rewards are planned for the coming weeks to celebrate that fantastic attendance we have seen from our students. Students have worked hard to maintain excellent attendance and have made significant improvements in both attendance and punctuality to school.

Particular congratulations to the students that have achieved 100% attendance. This is no mean feat and we are very proud of them and their families who have worked hard to make this possible.

Celebration Assembly

We will celebrate the successes of this term in an assembly with all members of the Compass Community on Thursday 19th December. This will be followed by a celebration within learning families before students are dismissed for the Christmas Holidays.

Good Causes

Christmas Jumper Day will take place on Friday 13th December. Your child can wear a Christmas jumper of their choice (alongside their uniform) if they bring a donation of £1 for Save the Children. We hope everybody participates to raise as much money as possible for such a good cause!

School Communication

Every week we send our Compass Community bulletin for parents and carers by email. Please ensure that we have the correct email address for you, so that you can be sure to be kept aware of the exciting events and important notices shared by the school. A copy is also uploaded to the parent area of the school website, along with copies of letters home to parents.

We are also now on [Facebook](#). Please like, follow and share our page. Also look out for the Christmas edition of Our Journey which promises to be packed with stories and pictures from a fantastic Autumn term at Compass.

I wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and the very best for 2020.

Yours faithfully,



Marcus Huntley
Principal