

JG/BAP
13th July 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of the academic year, my first as Headteacher at St Michael's, and I welcome this opportunity to thank you for your support and cooperation during what has been a truly amazing year for me. When I wrote to you in September, I explained that I had been tasked to take the school to Outstanding and this quickly became the shared vision across the school community, with everybody working towards the same explicit goals. I feel privileged to lead a team of staff who consistently demonstrate an unflinching commitment to the young people in our care and it has been a pleasure to witness the growing pride that students have taken in their appearance, their school and their achievements.

This school year has been extremely busy with many successes. The Christmas and Easter services brought the whole school together; developing a stronger sense of community and spiritual development. It was a delight to welcome hundreds of people through the doors to the Winter Fair, which has become a hugely popular annual event, raising money for Birmingham Children's Hospital and, for the 4th year running, Student Voice at St Michael's has been awarded with a 100 Heroes Award by the hospital. Sell-out productions by school included *Scrooge* and the Fusion Academy show: *Spotlight*. We have seen several very successful trips and visits take place throughout the year, including a World War One living history experience at Staffordshire Regiment Museum and the "World of STEM" (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) exhibition at Thinktank in Birmingham. This week has been Aspirations Week for our Year 10 students, with visits to local universities, visiting speakers and confidence building activities, prior to taking up their work experience placements next week. Year 11 students are looking forward to their Prom at WBA Conference & Banqueting Suite tomorrow evening and we wish them every success when they collect their results in August.

As we look forward to next year, we will continue to work together to support your children to achieve their full potential, providing opportunities for them to flourish within and beyond the classroom. May I thank you again for your support for what we are trying to achieve in raising standards and expectations for all students, to create independent, skilled,

Headteacher: **Mrs J Gray, MSc, NPQH**

St Michael's Church of England High School • Rowley Learning Campus • Curral Road • Rowley Regis • West Midlands • B65 9AN
Telephone: **0121 561 6881** • Fax: 0121 561 6882 • email: contact.staff@st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk

problem-solving learners who are well-prepared for the next phase of their education and the world of work.

Enclosed are the dates for the next academic year. We finish school at 1.00pm on Friday 21st July; students return on Tuesday 5th September. In order for our new Year 7 students to be welcomed to the school and settled into their form groups, students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 should arrive in school by 9.40am. The bell for registration will sound at 9.45am.

May I wish you all a very enjoyable summer and look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming years to secure the best possible future for your child.

Yours sincerely,

J Gray (Mrs)
Headteacher

School Term Dates 2017-2018

Staff Training days (School Closures)

- Monday 4th September 2017
- Tuesday 2nd January 2018
- Thursday 29th March 2018
- Thursday 19th and Friday 20th July 2018

Autumn term 2017

- Term starts: Tuesday 5th September 2017
- Half term holiday: Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October 2017
- Term ends: Wednesday 20th December 2017
- Christmas holiday: Thursday 21st December 2017 to Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Spring term 2018

- Term starts: Wednesday 3rd January 2018
- Half term holiday: Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2018
- Term ends: Wednesday 28th March 2018
- Easter holiday: Thursday 29th March 2018 to Friday 13th April 2018

Summer term 2018

- Term starts: Monday 16th April 2018
- Bank holiday: Monday 7th May 2018
- Half term holiday: Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June 2018
- Term ends: Wednesday 18th July 2018
- Summer holiday: From Thursday 19th July 2018

May I remind you that the government's stance on taking children out of school during term time makes it clear to parents that they are expected to maintain their children in school throughout term time. We are therefore required not to authorise any holidays, which does mean a fine would be incurred if your child was to be taken out of school for holiday purposes.