



St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls

11-19 Church of England Academy Founded 1699

Service Compassion Justice Perseverance

Thursday 29 October 2020

Dear Families

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

You will know about the debate in Parliament about free school meals outside term time and that the Government took the decision not to fund them. I am pleased to inform you that Lambeth Local Authority has agreed to fund meals for the half term holiday.

We were informed by Lambeth on Friday 23 October, but as you know, St Martin's was closed. We had no IT facilities on Monday and Tuesday of this week. In addition, because these vouchers are not government funded we have had to set up an account with a different organisation to the one we used in the summer. Therefore it has taken slightly longer to process given the short notice. We apologise for the delay in this, however, rest assured we are working with Wonde to process your voucher as soon as possible.

If your child is in receipt of free school meals, you will receive an email from Wonde. This is genuine and they are acting on behalf of St Martin's. Please follow the instructions in the email when you receive it. Wonde will give you the option to choose the supermarket where you can redeem your free school meal voucher for the value of £15.00. Once you have made your choice, the voucher will follow.

RETURN TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2020

We look forward to students returning after half term. I hope they had a good rest and are ready for the new half term leading to Christmas.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and I thank you in advance for ensuring your child adheres to our usual expectations, in addition to the new covid rules and routines that are in place.

A reminder that although students come to school in their PE kit on the days they have the subject, they should continue to wear their blazers and not substitute this for some other fashion item. The interpretation of what St Martin's PE kit is has been a little sketchy for some students over the last few weeks and I ask that you support us with this. We do not expect students to be walking around the school with a hoodie. They have never been part of the uniform, nor part of the PE kit. As our dress code clearly states on page 3 '*hoodies or similar must not be brought into school or worn to and from school.*' Please refer to our [uniform and dress code policy](#) on our website.

FACE COVERINGS

The wearing of face coverings is now **COMPULSORY** until further notice, unless your child is exempt. Please support us with this government directive and ensure your child has at least 2 face coverings with them kept clean in a sealable plastic bag. We have a stock of [blue badges](#) for exempt students to wear discreetly on their blazer. Please refer to the [letter](#) and [bulletin](#) sent to you before half term. Information on this can also be found on our website.

Thank you again. I have been overwhelmed by the kind messages of support from you. From September to half term was not easy, and students were feeling the impact of the restrictions. However, we start again with experience on our side, your continued support and the enthusiasm and love of learning that students have shown throughout this difficult period.

We hope to be able to engage students in some virtual Christmas festivities later this term and invite you to a virtual Christmas concert!

Best wishes

Beverley Stanislaus
Headteacher

Headteacher Mrs Beverley Stanislaus B.Ed. NPQH

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WITH LOVE AND LEARNING

