



ST ALBAN'S RC HIGH SCHOOL
The Park, Pontypool, Torfaen, NP4 6XG

YSGOL UWCHRADD GATHOLIG SAIN ALBAN
Y Parc, Pontypwl, Torfaen, NP4 6XG

Headteacher: Michael Coady BSc.

16 December 2016

CHRISTMAS LETTER TO PARENTS

Dear Parents

We have had a very busy Christmas term again this year.

The highlight of the term was our recent Prize Giving Evening to celebrate the achievements of our students. We were delighted to welcome Mr John Harris, gold, silver and bronze medallist from the 1984 and 1988 Paralympic Games who gave a genuinely inspirational talk. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening and pictures will be on the website soon.

The Carol service held at St Alban's Church was a very special occasion. Our musicians, singers and readers, under the guidance of Mr Cook, received a great deal of praise for the very high quality of the service. They are a credit to our school.

There have been many highlights in the term including a number of student successes and these will be described in detail in our newsletter after Christmas. Particular congratulations go to our Sixth Form Mock Trial team who retained the Welsh Mock Bar Trial title for the fourth year running in Cardiff Crown Court. The team has now qualified to represent Wales and the South East at the Royal Courts of Justice for the UK National final in March 2017.

I am sure that by now you will be aware of the consultation about the Review of Post 16 Education in Torfaen. The consultation closes on Friday 23 December and the Governing Body at St Alban's encourages all parents to make their views known. The Governing Body at this stage has asked a series of questions and the Governors response to the consultation is on our website alongside the Torfaen consultation document. These documents are available to view at www.stalbans-pontypool.org.uk

Our young people have worked really hard this term, particularly our Year 11 students who have just finished their mock examinations. I think all the staff and students are ready for a well-deserved and restful break. I would also like to wish all our families a very happy and holy Christmas and a very happy New Year. Please see overleaf the times for Christmas Mass in our local parishes.

The students return to School on Tuesday 3rd January 2017 and as ever, the new term will be very busy and our young people will be involved in a great many activities. Our main school production will be 'Joseph' and it will run from the 14th to 16th February 2017. It is certain to be an excellent show so purchase your tickets early on parent pay (www.parentpay.com) to avoid disappointment. Other important dates for the term are printed on the reverse of this letter.

Very best wishes

Michael Coady
HEADTEACHER



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Local Parish Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve:

St Alban's - 7.00pm Vigil Mass
11.30pm Carols & Midnight Mass

St David's 6.00pm

Our Lady's 9.00pm

Christmas Day:

St Alban's - 7.00pm Mass at Sacred Heart & St.Felix
11.00pm Mass at St Albans

Our Lady's 9.00am

St David's 10.30am

St Alban's Spring Term Key Dates

Tuesday 3rd January – First day back

Tuesday 3rd to Friday 6th - Welsh Baccaureate (WBQ) Week - Year 10

Wednesday 4th January 2017 – External English Literature Exam

Saturday 7th to 14th January 2017 – Ski Trip

Monday 9th to 13th – Welsh Baccaureate (WBQ) Week - Year 11

- Financial Literacy Exam – Year 11

Monday 9th to 13th – Year 10 work experience

Wednesday 11th to Friday 13th – Year 7 Llangrannogg Trip

Wednesday 25th January – New 6th Form Open Evening

Monday 30th January – Year 11 Intervention & Support Evening 4-6pm

Tuesday 7th February – Year 8 Parents Evening

Wed 15th, Thurs 16th, Friday 17th - School Production 'Joseph'