



Sir John Cass's Foundation and Red Coat CofE Secondary School & Sixth Form College

We will achieve excellence and inspire generations the Cass way

Headteacher: Mr P. Woods

May 2019

Dear parents / guardians,

I would like to welcome everyone back following the Easter break and in particular students in Years 11 and 13 who will be taking their examinations in the coming weeks. Resurrection and rebirth are key themes of the Easter story and are central to the Christian faith and as such the start of a new term provides the opportunity for new resolutions and brings hope for all for growth and personal resurrection. I encourage all students to engage fully in the many opportunities at school to ensure that your full potential is achieved.

GCSE and Post 16 Examinations

Firstly, I would like to congratulate our students on their preparation for the examinations which have already started in some subjects. Support sessions are running for all subjects and all examination students must be fully engaged in their revision. We recognise that this is a highly pressured period and it is essential we do all we can to prepare and support them over the coming months.

Enrichment

The Enrichment Programme at Sir John Cass Red Coat School offers a wide range of extracurricular activities to all of our students. The importance of activities beyond academic work must not be underestimated. Extracurricular activities complement our students' studies to develop as well-rounded individuals. The enrichment programme for the summer term which lists the clubs which take place every week has been posted on our website. Copies are also available in our school reception.

Bromley Street

A reminder that Bromley Street is now a one-way road, however this is not the case for cyclists who can use both directions. Please be aware of this and discuss with your child.

Summer Uniform

During the second half of this term from June until the end of the school year the summer polo shirt may be worn. All other elements of the uniform remain the same. Please be aware that any item worn over the polo shirt must be the school blazer or sweatshirt. All uniform is available at Khalsa Schoolwear, Bethnal Green Road.

Uniform changes

I would like to remind you that from September we will have a new school uniform. The Cass Foundation has kindly agreed to provide students who are currently in Years 7-9 with the compulsory items, which are the blazer and the year group tie. Students currently in Year 10 will remain in the same uniform for their last year at Sir John Cass & Red Coat Secondary School.

Parents / carers should purchase the skirt (mid-length or full-length) / trousers in a mid-grey colour, and the white shirt to go with the uniform. If wearing a mid-length school skirt, this should be no more than 2 inches above the knee, and should be worn with black or grey knee or ankle length socks or black tights.

Students are also able to purchase the grey uniform jumper with the school logo. The school jumper is optional, and students who opt for the jumper must purchase it from our school uniform supplier. At present, for those who choose to wear headscarves these remain the same colour (navy). As usual, students will be required to wear black, sensible shoes.

Arrangements for providing the blazer and tie will follow in the coming weeks.

Stepney Partnership Fun Day

The annual Stepney Partnership Fun Day will be taking place from 3.30pm on Thursday 4th July. This is a wonderful event bringing together the Stepney family of schools including Cayley, Halley, Marion Richardson, Redlands, Smithy Street, Stephen Hawking and Stepney Green as well as Sir John Cass Red Coat. The event will take place at Sir John Cass Red Coat for the first time and we encourage you to attend. More details will be shared as we approach this date.

Online Safety – Parental support

We have been working with students across this academic year on a range of topics relating to safeguarding and online safety. With regard to supporting parents/carers, our school is part of the Parent Zone's Digital Schools and our website provides a range of guidance. We have recently added updates on how to have a conversation about online safety as well as links to national organisations providing support in areas from fraud to gaming.

Parental surveys

We regularly ask parents to complete surveys covering a range of issues. The feedback we receive is important to us and helps to shape future planning. There is a section on our website which provides feedback on how we are responding. For example, in response to recent surveys we are focusing on raising awareness of how to respond to bullying. Levels are very low, however we want to ensure that all students know how to respond and that they understand what bullying is and the impact it can have. We will be running an anti-bullying week in June as well as the national focus week in November. We are consulting the student voice group for their views on awareness raising and I will update you on our work in due course.

Key Events for this term

Key events for the coming term are listed below. Please check our website and social media feeds for regular updates on events.

Band Holiday	Monday 6 th May
Half Term Holiday	Monday 27 th -Friday 31 st May
1 day school closure for Eid	<i>to be confirmed – Tuesday 4th / Wednesday 5th June possible dates</i>
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Tuesday 11 th June
Anti-bullying week	Starts Monday 1 st July
Stepney Fun Day	Thursday 4 th July
Sports Day	Wednesday 17 th July
End of academic year	Friday 19 th July

As we mark key points in our faith community calendars with the start of the holy month of Ramadan and the conclusion of the Easter period for Christians, I would like to wish you all well and good luck to all of our students taking examinations.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Woods
Headteacher