



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية - دبي

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI

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OUR REF :

DATE : Thursday 7th December 2017

TO : Parents of students from Year One to Year Thirteen – **DECEMBER 2017 UPDATES**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's. It has indeed been a fully packed three and a half months that have brought us to a soon approaching winter break and of course to the end of 2017. Since this is a busy time for families with preparations for the festive season and travel plans we would like to remind you of some important information that you will need to guide your children through the upcoming months. We invite you to read on and perhaps update your own personal diaries with important snippets.

THURSDAY, 14TH DECEMBER 2017 : This will be the last day of school before the Winter Break and students will have their end of year class parties on this day. **As such school will end at 11:00 am on Thursday, 14th December 2017** and we would request parents of those students who do not use the STS transport to kindly make the necessary arrangements to have your child collected from school by 11:00 am. Students are allowed on this day to wear coloured clothes and as suggested by the Student Council perhaps keeping to colours of red /white / green or a combination of those colours. (Coloured Clothes Day Dress Code to be kept in mind) The School Office will close at 11:30 am on the 14th of December 2017.

WINTER BREAK : The Winter break has been scheduled from Sunday 17th December 2017 until Saturday 6th January 2018 (inclusive). Students will return to school on Sunday, 7th January 2018. The school administration office will be open until the 20th of December 2017. (**OFFICE HOURS ON FROM THE 17TH TO 20TH DECEMBER WILL BE FROM 8:00 AM UNTIL 12:00 PM**)

FIRST TERM EXAMINATIONS, JANUARY 2018: The examination timetables for all classes from Year One to Year Thirteen will be available on the school website next week along with portions for each subject and year group which can be found within the relevant department area. It is our sincere hope that the children will use some time during the winter break to prepare well for their exams so that their hard work and effort in learning shall be richly rewarded with a good performance in the first term exams.

PAYMENT OF SECOND TERM FEES:

Please refer to page 19 of the school diary for the dates for **SECOND TERM FEE PAYMENT**. However the fees of year one to ten may also be paid between the 10th and 20th of December if you wish to avoid the rush in January 2018.

FESTIVE CARE PACKAGES FOR OUR UNSUNG HEROES: As is customary every year , a vast majority of our students would like to take this opportunity to offer their gratitude to all those unsung heroes who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that our children are safe and comfortable at school. While many families will be celebrating the season's festivities, we invite our children to share a tiny bit of their pocket money to help us prepare festive care hampers for our unsung heroes. Children may bring in their little contributions until Monday, 11th December 2017.

DUBAI CARES : Our school has also been registered for the Third Dubai Cares Philanthropic Award with an aim to create a social and entrepreneurial spirit in children towards fund raising activities to provide children in developing countries the opportunity to go to school and learn. Our young students in years 1-4 have already conducted a very successful food sale for this Dubai Cares initiative and students are coming up with more ideas for fund raising activities through the year. The award is open until March 2018.

THE POETIC HEART . CONNECTING HUMANITY . 7TH EDITION 2018 : This initiative is open for students from year 8-13. The initiative by SGI Gulf is to promote peace and friendship through the medium of poetry. The theme/ topics for the poems will continue to be Peace, Universal Harmony and Environment, Tolerance with an overarching emphasis this time on the theme for this year '**BUILDING BRIDGES**'. Poems have to be submitted by email to Ms. Lise-Ann on l.pinto-smchs@smgeducation.org Please use the term POETIC HEART as the subject of your email. All poems should clearly state the full name and class of the student. The last day to submit poems is the 29th of December 2017. You may visit the website <http://www.thepoeticheart.com> for more detailed information on the poets and poetry associated with Poetic Heart during the last six years.

ONE ROOT ONE COMMUNI-TREE: We are very grateful to all those students who have been very conscious about recycling and have contributed to a school collection of over **fourteen thousand kilograms of paper**. We have been honoured to plant **SEVEN TREES** in the name of the school at a tree planting ceremony organised by the EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP on the 17th of December.

THURSDAY TIME TABLE ON Tuesday, 12th December: Since we have missed a number of Thursdays due to public holidays we would like to remind all parents that we will follow Thursday's time table on Tuesday 12th December but *please be aware that school will finish at the regular time of 1:30pm.*

THANK YOU : Our deepest gratitude to each and every member of the St. Mary's Community – Staff, students and parents . We are always grateful for your support , your warm caring ways and your faith in us.

We extend Christmas wishes for a Peaceful and Joyous Christmas to all the families celebrating Christmas and to all our students and parents, we wish you a very fulfilling Winter Break and Happy New Year and we pray that the year 2018 ahead shall be filled with God's blessings for each and every one of you. May this festive season find peace and love in every family that makes up the larger family of St. Mary's.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)

