

Friday 12th December 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Winter Concert

We enjoyed a wonderful Winter Concert last night. A big thank you to Mr Smith and Ms Gao for putting together such a special evening. Our first mass Year 7 choir performance which will hopefully be a lasting Chelsea Academy tradition was a success. We are committed to all students studying music to at least the end of KS3 - and not all secondary schools can say that.

Sixth Form Save the Children Christmas jumper day and bake sale

On Friday 12th December, our Sixth Form led two events to support our nominated charity, Save the Children. They raised funds by wearing a Christmas or festive jumper and ran a bake sale. They raised over £280 which will go towards helping children all over the world to get the food, healthcare and education they need. If you would like to support our fundraising efforts you can donate online [here](#)

Community Christmas Dinner

We were privileged to host this on Wednesday for fifty or so older members of our local community. Big thanks go to Ms. Marshall and her fabulous band of student helpers. One of our Academy priorities is to engage more widely with our local community so this was a perfect example of that. We are already starting to plan our Academy Iftar in the spring.

Festive events next week

Next week is our last of the term before the Christmas holidays and as you hopefully are aware, we have some Christmas fun planned for students. There will be celebration assemblies running throughout the week recognising students' achievements this term. Students in Years 7 - 10 will also have the opportunity to purchase a Christmas lunch (dates in the table below). This will be the only lunch on offer for the year group that day (although they may of course bring their own lunch). Students in different year groups who are NOT having their Christmas lunch will be able to choose options from the Grab and Go selection. Students who receive free school meals will receive a Christmas lunch as usual. Students may also choose to wear a Christmas jumper or similar festive item on their Christmas lunch day. However with the exception of the jumper it is otherwise normal Academy uniform.

Year 11 Mock results and Progress evening

Year 11 have had an excellent Autumn term in which we have been really impressed by their focus and resilience. Last week, their mock exams began in which students sit assessments in all of their subjects in the exam hall. Whilst this can be daunting, it does give students the experience of this more formal setting which makes the summer GCSEs less stressful.

The year group will receive their results shortly before Progress Evening in January during a special assembly. That Progress Evening, on 15th January 2026, will allow you and your young person to discuss next steps in order to achieve the best set of GCSE results possible.

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

This Christmas there are over 60 organisations across Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea offering free activities and free, healthy meals to children and young people aged 4-16 years, who are in receipt of benefits-related Free School Meals. Activities are available for an average of 4 hours per day and include sports camps, music, dance, arts & crafts, adventure play, youth clubs, offsite trips and activities for those with special educational needs and disabilities. Many activities offer free places for non-FSM families – please check with

individual organisations for more information. Visit the HAF page to see what activities are available and to book a place: <https://ourcity.org.uk/haf-programme>

Financial advice and support for RBKC residents

The Kensington and Chelsea Foundation has a fund called Winter Warmth that pays fuel bills for residents in need and another called Cash First, which issues fairly modest amounts of cash to people in financial crisis. I have attached a flyer with all the referral information if you or someone you know would benefit from it. You will get specialist advice and support, which can help families manage debt/finance or address housing issues amongst other things. This is often a really challenging time of year in terms of finances and there is help available.

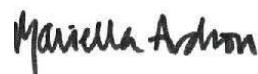
School Uniform Direct holiday opening times

This is the last week and final weekend for shopping in-store before the Christmas break. The uniform shop will be closed from Monday 15th December and will re-open on Monday 29th December. The last date of dispatch for online orders will be Tuesday 16th December. If you need to return or exchange any products please do not send any items after Friday 12th December as they will not be able to accept any returns until the 28th December. This does not affect their 30 day returns policy and will be extended for any customers that have ordered in the last 14 days.

A reminder that the Academy is closed on **Monday 5th January** to students and will reopen to students on Tuesday 6th January for the start of the Spring Term. Next week will see the second Anchor and Flourish of the year being sent to you, so keep an eye out for that.

It's been an exhilarating term to date and I know like you and your family we are all looking forward to the break that starts next Friday. Have a peaceful weekend if you can!

Yours faithfully,



Mariella Ardon
Principal

Upcoming useful dates:

Mon 15th Dec	Tues 16th Dec	Weds 17th Dec	Thurs 18th Dec	Fri 19th Dec
Year 10 Celebration Assembly	Year 9 Celebration Assembly Year 12 & 13 Celebration Assembly	Year 8 Celebration Assembly	Year 7 Celebration Assembly	Collective Worship at St Luke's
Year 10 Christmas Lunch	Year 9 Christmas Lunch	Year 8 Christmas Lunch	Year 7 Christmas Lunch	Students dismissed from 12.00pm
			Year 11 Last day	