



Notre Dame Catholic College

Established 1869

Head Teacher: Mrs Frances Harrison BSc (Hons) NPQH

180 Great Homer Street, Liverpool, L5 5AF

Tel: 0151 235 1600 Fax: 0151 207 0904 Email: ao@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk

Our Ref: FH/JB/25

12th January 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

A happy New Year to you all and a warm welcome back to school for our staff and students. It is good to see the staff and students return to school refreshed and ready to take on the challenges of what is always a busy term. I would like to take this opportunity to keep you updated on issues and events at the college.

Christmas Fayre

Before Christmas we held our first ever Christmas Fayre which was enjoyed by staff, students and some brave parents! I would like to thank all those involved in organising this event and especially the parents who attended. In all we raised a magnificent £1,732 for various charities. I am sure you will agree this is a fantastic effort and a credit to the generosity of our community.

Behaviour Policy

During the next few weeks, as part of our continuing self-review programme, we will be reviewing our behaviour policy and the way we deal with student behaviour. This area was rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted last year but we always want to do things even better if possible. As part of the review we would be very interested in your views on any changes we might make. Mrs Brennan and Mrs Leyland will be in touch over the coming weeks to let you know how you can have your input.

Uniform

As always can I remind you of our very simple uniform rules that all students should be in full uniform, including blazer and jumper, at all times. Students should also wear all black shoes, not 'trainers' or canvas shoes, and outdoor coats should be black or navy.

Key Events

The college calendar has all the key events and holidays on it and is regularly updated. This can be accessed via the college website at <http://notredameliverpool.com/calendar-2014-15-2/> but below are some forthcoming events:

Monday 11th Jan – Year 8 Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6.30pm

Monday 18th Jan – 6th Form Open Evening 6pm onwards (for students in Year 11)

Tuesday 2nd Feb – Feast Day (students will finish at 12 noon)

GCSE Changes

As you may well be aware the government has introduced considerable changes to the exam system in England and Wales. These new qualifications no longer have coursework or controlled assessments and are assessed by exams at the end of the course e.g. the end of Year 11. These new GCSEs will also be graded differently with the old A* to G being replaced by grades of 9 to 1 with 9 being the highest.

Our current Year 11 they will complete the 'old' style GCSEs.

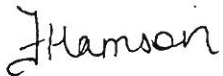
Year 10 students will sit the new GCSEs in English and Maths but 'old' style in other subjects.

Year 9 onwards most other subjects will be new GCSEs.

We are working hard to ensure our staff are fully trained and prepared to deliver the new GCSEs and that the students

Finally, can I thank you for your continued support of the college which means so much to the staff and the students.

Yours sincerely



Mrs F Harrison
Executive Headteacher