



GUMLEY HOUSE

School FCJ

Founded 1841

Headteacher: Ms Caroline Braggs

St. John's Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 6XF | Tel: 020 8568 8692 | Fax: 020 8758 2674
general@gumley.hounslow.sch.uk - www.gumley.hounslow.sch.uk

December 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

As I reflect on the past term, I can't help but think that Marie Madeleine, our foundress, would be so proud of Gumley and all our achievements, successes and endeavours to encourage and develop a 'zest for life' amongst our students.

Many of you would have joined us for the Black History Celebration, Shakespeare Schools' Festival, Advent Concert and Awards Evening and would have seen your daughter exude 'courage and confidence' and beam with pride at being acknowledged for who they are and what they love, whether it be academically or personally.

Charity Days continue to be an excellent way of developing our community spirit while also reminding us to put our faith into action. I'm sure you were treated to various accounts of the Staff Carpool Karaoke, which the RE Department won, although I'm not sure including a dance should have been allowed! The Christmas Hampers as always surpassed all expectations and the gifts you've sent in will be very much appreciated by both Acton Homeless Centre and St. Mungo's. Funds raised on our Christmas Charity Day will go to the Catholic Children's Society Crisis Fund which helps families in need.

Aimee Monteith's (nee Byrne) inspirational speech at Awards' Evening encapsulated what we say to our students on a daily basis about believing in themselves, learning from setbacks and having goals and ambitions to strive for. Despite setbacks in life and not being able to join the police force, Aimee went on to become the Managing Director of Grebot Donnelly, a marketing agency.

Our Advent Liturgies facilitated by the Liturgy team and Celia our Chaplain, encouraged us to look for 'Immanuel', which means 'Christ within us', in so many different ways; from the Innkeeper in Bethlehem who was woken from his sleep to find space for a pregnant lady and her husband or feeling thankful when we have helped others in need to supporting and encouraging our friends and loved ones.

Many congratulations to Mrs Sabir (Science) and her husband on the birth of their beautiful daughter.

Sadly, we say farewell to Mrs Sidhu (Science) who is leaving to spend more time with family (although she told the students she won the lottery!), Ms Bruge (Languages) who is returning to Italy to teach there and Mr Walton (Maths) who is moving on to a new job. We wish all of them many blessings as they start a new and exciting phase in their life's journey.

We welcome the following staff who will be joining us next term: Ms Bajwa (Science), Miss Donnelly (Languages) and Mr Ahmed (Maths).

Please can you ensure that your daughter starts the New Year wearing the correct uniform! I'm sure some girls will need new skirts as they've grown since September while others may need to be reminded to remove false nails or hair extensions before returning to school after the holiday. If your daughter needs a new winter coat then please do

An Academy in the FCJ Educational Trust

A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales No: 7950851



consider buying the approved jacket from Dolphin House or Sogans. Not only is it waterproof, it's warm and covers the blazer.

It has been brought to our attention by our own students, as well as members of the public, that the behaviour of a few students on the H37 and 267 buses, whilst travelling to and from school, is inappropriate and, worst of all, brings the school into disrepute. Consequently, any students whose behaviour falls short of our expectations will be sanctioned in line with our Behaviour Policy. From January 2019, Sixth Form Prefects will be monitoring behaviour on buses and students will be asked to show these students the due respect that they deserve.

As this term comes to an end and we look forward to the Spring Term I hope year 7 continue to feel part of our Gumley community and continue to participate in the activities and opportunities offered to them. I hope year 11 will get some rest, sleep and re-energise themselves ready for the term ahead. They've worked so hard during their mock exams and deserve a well earned break. Year 13 will be focused on revising during the holiday but I also hope they spend some time with their families and enjoy the festivities. As for years 8, 9, 10 & 12, I hope they continue to remember they are Gumley students and should continue to strive for excellence in all they do.

Spring Term will start for all students on Monday 7th January 2019 at 10.40am. KS3 should go to break and KS4 should go to Tutor Time.

There is a possibility of adverse weather conditions next term so please make sure you know our expectations and procedures which are on our website.

Thank you for all your support this term, especially the Parents' Association who have worked tirelessly, as ever, on fundraising for the 'Superloo' project and on the Christmas Fayre. I hope you all bought a Christmas pudding!

Wishing you many blessings in this season of hope and the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Braggs,
Headteacher