

11.1.19

Dear Parents

On behalf of the St James and Emmanuel Academy Trust may I wish you and your family a very Happy New Year. As a Trust, in each of our schools, we will be doing all we can to work in partnership with you to provide a welcoming environment and a stimulating curriculum for your children, which enables them to thrive and fulfil their potential.

It was an absolute joy to be able to attend the Christmas nativities and carol services at all three schools and witness so many children perform so confidently to large audiences. The singing, acting and speaking that I witnessed was of an incredibly high standard and illustrated very clearly the amazing talents and skills of your children. It was also lovely to see the enjoyment and enthusiasm the children had for such performances.

This term will be incredibly busy as we work hard to best prepare our children for end of year tests, especially in Year 6 and ensure that we give the children a broad and balanced curriculum that inspires them. We also eagerly await inspections at St Wilfrid's CE and Didsbury CE this year. We are expecting an Ofsted inspection during 2019 at St Wilfrid's CE and a church school inspection (SIAMS – Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) at Didsbury CE by the end of this academic year. We are looking forward to showing the inspectors the great work, attitude and behaviour of our children and the progress they are making.

We have a number of joint school professional meetings planned, initially for all subject leaders from each school to meet together and share best practice in their subjects with each other. We have also planned a weekend meeting with our Directors to consider our vision and values and how these will shape the plans for our Trust over the next 3-5 years. I will report back on this next term.

Hope to see many of you at the school gates over the next few weeks.

Kind regards

Matt Whitehead