



St. Malachy's College

36 Antrim Road, Belfast BT15 2AE



October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers.

As we are now fast approaching the mid-term break, I am writing to remind you of a major whole school celebration and great College tradition taking place on Friday 25 October. On this day, both staff and pupils will carry out the traditional walk from the College to St Patrick's Chapel, Donegall Street, to attend Mass at 11am in celebration of our patron St. Malachy. This is one of the most significant dates on our academic calendar, and it is the one occasion when we can bring our 1210 Malachians together as a College family to celebrate our faith, ethos and identity. Therefore, it is important that **all** pupils attend on this occasion. On our return to the College after Mass the boys will then be allowed to depart at lunch time for the mid-term break. **It is also important to note that Friday 25 October is counted as a normal school day, beginning at the usual time, and so all boys are expected to attend.** The pupils will return to the College, after the mid-term break, on Monday 4 November.

I am happy to report that our academic year is now well underway and thankfully it is proving to be productive, successful and busy for all of us who are associated with the College. The Parent Information Sessions have all taken place, extra-curricular events are in full flow and our Malachians are already producing outstanding performances in many disciplines both at team and individual levels. Before and after-school activities are proving to be very popular, and the boys are making great use of our wonderful facilities and resources. Staff are giving generously of their time outside of normal lessons to encourage our young learners to be busy and active. As well as taking note of relevant "Dates for the Diary" below, I encourage you to pay regular visits to our College website, 'like' the official College Facebook page and follow us on Instagram for all the latest news and events.

We continually analyse trends in routines which are necessary ingredients for contentment and success in College life. It is evident that the vast majority of our students follow a healthy and balanced routine, ensuring that they are prepared for and follow up on learning, and make time for exercise and leisure. Positive routine is one of our ingredients of success. I ask you to continue working with us to ensure that punctuality, attendance, uniform regulations, organisation – equipment, homework/assignment deadlines, respect and good manners are all adhered to.

I look forward to seeing **all** the Year 8 to 14 pupils together at the Mass on 25 October.

Thank you for your continued support!

Gloria Ab Intus!

Paul McBride
Principal

Dates for the diary – November – December 2024:

Year 12 Parent Teacher Meeting - Tuesday 12 November, 3pm – 5:30pm – **Pupils finish at 2:15pm**

Staff Day – Friday 15 November - Year 14 Virtual Parent Teacher Meeting – 12:30pm – 3pm

Staff Day – Friday 22 November

Year 13 Parent Teacher Meeting - Tuesday 26 November - 4pm - 6pm

Friends of St Malachy's Gala Dinner – Saturday 30 November – 7:30pm

Winter Concert – Wednesday 4 December - College Hall – 7:30pm

Winter Internal Exams – Monday 9 December – Wednesday 18 December

Staff Day – Friday 13 December **amended date.*

Senior Prizegiving Ceremony – Thursday 19 December – Please note there will be no classes on this day and only Prize Winners should attend.

Christmas Holidays – Monday 23 December – Monday 6 January inclusive

Principal: Mr Paul McBride MA, MEd, B.Mus, PGCE, PQH (NI)

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