



Bellerive FCJ Catholic College

A Catholic Voluntary Academy

26th March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

END OF SPRING TERM

As you will be aware from the "dates for you diary" letter sent on 18th January, school finishes for Easter on **Friday 5th April at 3.20 pm.**

During the Easter holiday, there will be a full programme of revision classes for our pupils preparing for GCSE and A-Level examinations – a copy of the timetable of these will be on the school website and printed copies will have been given to your daughter. Please do all that you can to ensure attendance at these sessions, they will help students achieve their highest possible grades.

School starts for the summer term on Tuesday 23rd April at 8.45am.

MOBILE PHONES IN YEARS 7-11

When Bellerive changed its rules regarding mobile phones in schools (January 2018) you will recall we had said the situation would be under review, and if it did not work as hoped we would return to the previous regime of no mobile phones at all in school for Years 7-11. This is a reversal in school policy I would rather not make, but recently we have seen an upsurge in the confiscation of mobile phones, some pupils refusing to comply with the rules on confiscation and some Parents/Carers failing to support the policy we have in place.

With this in mind, I would like to remind all Parents/Carers of the rules regarding pupils bringing mobile phones into school:

- Mobile phones are allowed into school on the condition that Parents/Carers have signed the Mobile Phone Policy (there is a copy of this on the school website). If you have not signed this then your child does not have permission to have a mobile phone in school.
- The policy states that mobile phones should be completely switched off (not put on silent/vibrate) before a pupil enters the school grounds. They should then be kept in the bottom of a school bag. They should only be taken out and switched on when they have left the school grounds. If a pupil needs to contact home for any reason (including if they feel unwell) they should speak to a member of staff (usually a Head of Year/Assistant Head of Year) who will make arrangements for this if they think it is necessary.
- If a mobile phone is seen in/goes off in school it will be confiscated. Pupils who refuse to hand over a mobile phone will be directly defying a school rule (that you as a Parent/Carer have agreed to in signing the Mobile Phone Policy) and will be dealt with accordingly.
- In the first instance of confiscation, the mobile phone will be returned to the pupil on the last school day (usually a Friday) of the week in which it is confiscated (irrespective of the day in which it is confiscated) from the Sefton Park Office.
- If a mobile phone is confiscated from a pupil for a **second time at any time** throughout their Year 7-11 career it will be confiscated and Parents/Carers will need to make an appointment with a member of staff (usually a Head of Year or member of Senior Leadership Team) to have the phone returned in the presence of their daughter so that they can be reminded of school rules regarding mobile phones. Under these circumstances mobile phones will not be returned by members of our office staff.
- If a mobile phone is confiscated from a pupil for a **third time at any time** throughout their Year 7-11 career with us it will be confiscated. Parents/Carers will again need to make an appointment with a Head of Year/member of SLT to collect the phone. Again, under these circumstances mobile phones will not be returned by members of our office staff. The pupil will be given a Saturday Morning Detention. If that pupil is then found to be in breach of our rules regarding mobile phones again, they will be given a Fixed Term Exclusion for failing to heed the previous warnings given about misuse of mobile phones in school.
- Please be aware that these rules apply if your daughter gives her phone to another girl which is then confiscated.

If you as a Parent/Carer feel that you cannot support us in this school rule, please ensure your daughter is not sent into school with a mobile phone. I thank you for your support with this.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N Howlett
Headteacher

Headteacher

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