



SBE/NJE/SBY/SSC

4 December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the close of another busy and rewarding term at St Catherine's College, we are delighted to share just how proud we are of our students. Their enthusiasm, hard work and resilience have shone through in every aspect of school life. Advent offers a perfect opportunity to celebrate their achievements and to thank you for the invaluable support you provide each day.

As we begin the Christmas season, we would like to share some information with you.

Christmas Nativity Concert

We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating the spirit of Christmas on Tuesday 9 December at 6.00pm (doors open at 5.15pm for pre-concert refreshments) in our school hall. This festive evening, brought to life by our talented Music, Dance and Drama Departments, will feature a unique and modern programme showcasing the incredible talents of our students. Tickets are just £6 (under 5s free) and available to purchase [here](#).

Festive Christmas Dinner

We are really looking forward to sharing some festive cheer with our students during our annual Christmas dinner which is taking place on the following days:

- Wednesday 10 December for Years 7 and 8*
- Thursday 11 December for Years 9, 10 and 11*

If a student chooses not to have the Christmas dinner, they will need to pre-order their food and drink and collect it from their year group's tuck shop during breaktime on both days. Alternatively, students will need to bring a packed lunch.

Last Day of Term

The last day of the term is Friday 19 December, when we will close at 12:30pm. To facilitate this earlier closure, we have amended the college day:

TIMINGS	SESSION
Tutor – Lesson 2	As per normal
11.10am – 11.40am	Extended breaktime
11.40am – 12.30pm	Lesson 3
	All students leave college at 12.30pm

Students will be able to collect their pre-ordered lunches during the extended break. We realise that the early finish may have implications for our families and have made special arrangements to support you. If you would like your child to stay in college until 3.05pm, for whatever reason, please email your child's Head of Year.

We are also excited to let you know that we will be having a *Christmas Jumper Day* on the last day of term. Students may wear a Christmas/winter themed jumper or tie, instead of their usual blazer or uniform tie. They will still be expected to wear the rest of their usual uniform on this day, i.e. college trousers/skirt, shirt and appropriate footwear. We would like to use our Christmas Jumper Day to further support Eastbourne Foodbank, so if families are able to, please make a £1.00 donation via Arbor payments at any time before 12.30pm on Friday 19 December. Alternatively, students may bring £1.00 to place in the Foodbank collection box on the day. Thank you for your generous support.

If students have outgrown their Christmas jumper, we will happily receive them in school. Clean jumpers may become part of our coat swap at the back of the café. Likewise, students may help themselves to a donated jumper if you prefer not to buy one.

Warm Space

Our café is open Monday to Friday from 8:00-8:30am for students to get a free breakfast; no booking is required. A selection of pre-loved coats is also available in this area for anyone who needs one; the students can just help themselves. Additionally, after school, students are invited to join an extracurricular activity, and they are more than welcome to stay in college, Monday - Friday until 4:15pm, to complete homework.

INSET Day

Our next INSET Day will be on Friday 30 January. The school will be closed to all students on this day.

Christmas is such a wonderful time of the year, particularly when our students open their hearts to support those who struggle or who are in need. We have been overwhelmed by their support of our recent Foodbank appeal, and our Christmas Jumper Day will provide an additional opportunity to show generosity for those families who are struggling to buy food and other essential items over the Christmas period.

Lastly, we hope that you all have a peaceful Christmas holiday and a good rest over the Christmas break. It is an opportunity to recharge batteries and enjoy time with loved ones.

We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 5 January 2026.

Kind regards and happy festive wishes



Solomon Berhane
Headteacher



Nigel Jewell
Deputy Headteacher



Shevlyn Byroo
Head of School

"Glory to God in the highest and peace to everyone on earth" Luke 2:14