



Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Robert Smyth Academy is the school that it is because of the brilliant people in our community. We celebrate our students and their successes daily and this term teachers have awarded over 13,000 positive achievement points in recognition of their hard work: a quite incredible statistic. We have held daily 'Christmas Countdown' prize draws to add an element of fun and enjoyment to the final three weeks of term, and we will be holding Christmas Parties next week for students with the highest overall net point score (*net points = achievement points minus negative behaviour points*). This was the criteria selected by students as their preference and the fairest means of selection.

Everyday Heroes

Last year, we invited students and parents to nominate a member of staff who had gone above and beyond for them, we received **more than 250 responses** and all those messages were passed on to members of staff. It was my privilege to present these awards in front of students so that they could offer a moment of applause and appreciation. A fantastic hallmark of the qualities of our community.

Today we will again open the '**Everyday Hero**' awards to **students and parents**. Parents and students can now nominate **any member of staff** as their 'Everyday Hero' by completing a short form [here](#). Please note that the form will be closed at 12 noon on **Friday 9th December**.

In doing all these things, we do not forget the tragedy of the last week, we do it because we know that our community needs positivity, encouragement, and hope. Thank you to parents for all your messages of support.

We also recognise that this time of year will be difficult for families in our community and so we are working with local businesses and charities to ensure that we do everything that we can to support those in need. I would like to congratulate our Charitable Action in Robert Smyth (CAIRS) for coordinating the recent collection for a local food bank on behalf of our community. If you are a parent who wishes to get involved in this work, then we would be pleased to hear from you.

Key dates – reminders

- **w/b Monday 12th December:** Year 13 Trial Exam week / Year 11 A-Level Taster Lessons
- **Wednesday 14th December:** Year 11 Parents Evening 4-6.30pm (remote via School Cloud)
- **Friday 16th December:** Early finish at 1.35pm following lunch
- **Monday 19th – Friday 30th December:** CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
- **Monday 2nd January 2023:** Bank Holiday
- **Tuesday 3rd January 2023:** All students return to school

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

Yours sincerely,

D Cleary
Principal