

Date: 7 December 2018  
Our Ref: BTG/MPE

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of another term, I would like once again, to thank you for your continued support as we strive for excellence in all aspects of school life. The relationship between school and parents/carers cannot be underestimated as together we seek to ensure the highest academic outcomes for our young people.

As the weather turns increasingly inclement, please be advised that students who choose to wear boots or wellingtons to school, must change into a pair of shoes for the duration of the school day. All boots should be left in lockers until 3.10pm.

We have our community Christmas carol service on Tuesday 18 December at St Bede's RC Church, Westoe Road, South Shields at 7.00pm and warmly welcome you all to attend this event. Refreshments and mince pies will be available.

At St Wilfrid's RC College, we believe it is important to work in partnership with parents and carers.

We have organised a series of family learning sessions at school where a member of staff or an expert in their field talks about a subject to give parents and carers more information on how they can support their children's education.

Family learning sessions aim to ensure that parents/carers are kept abreast of current educational trends, teaching methods and the ways in which children can be best helped to reach their potential.

All sessions will take place on Monday evenings from 5.30pm– 6.30pm in Nichols Hall at St Wilfrid's RC College on the following dates:

4 February 2019	British Values/PREVENT
25 February	Revision Strategies
13 May	A Child's Stages of Development (led by Nadia McSheffrey, found of the Tranquil Treehouse <a href="http://www.thetranquiltreehouse.com">www.thetranquiltreehouse.com</a> )
1 July	Open session (to respond to areas of need)

If you wish to attend one of our FREE sessions, please reserve your place by emailing [AHarrison@st-wilfrids.org](mailto:AHarrison@st-wilfrids.org). This will enable us to cater accordingly.

In November, Student Council met to discuss Online Safety, school assemblies and UK Parliament Week. Mr Henderson spoke with the students about Online Safety and the students shared their thoughts about the issue. Their feedback will be used to further develop our Online Safety strategies. Students also shared their enjoyment of our assemblies and provided useful suggestions about potential themes for the future. The Council debated at length which issue they wanted to be the focus of the UK Parliament Week referendum, which took place on 16 November 2018. After a heated discussion, the students chose "Should the school day be extended?". The result of the referendum was 7% in favour for extending the school day, and 93% not in favour. It continues to be an exciting time for the Student Council, who are fantastic representatives of their form classes

Please note that the school term ends on Friday 21 December 2018, and that students will be dismissed to make their own way home at 12.10pm. The new term begins on Monday 7 January 2019.

Finally, on behalf of all staff and Governors, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a joyous and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours faithfully

**Mr B Tapping**  
**Executive Headteacher**