16th December 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

**Re: World Class School Accreditation**

As we draw upon the end of the term and the start of the Christmas holidays, I write to share with you our exciting news which certainly feels like an early festive present... The Bishop of Llandaff has achieved World Class School Status! A number of students involved in the process of accreditation along with Miss Parry, Mr Hughes, Miss Kettlewell and I collected the award at Cambridge University last Friday evening.

The World Class Schools accreditation process is unique in that the process is led by students themselves. In October, a number of students took part in an assessment centre to undertake a range of activities, similar to BBCs ‘The Apprentice’ working alongside students in other schools. They were given the challenge of working in teams to design a ‘classroom for the future’ for University Technical College, Reading. Our students were required to carry out consumer research and design, meet with consultants to seek expert advice before creating designs, brochures, a 3D model of the space and a marketing film. Not only did the students pass this stage with flying colours, they were actually given the award for ‘The best team’ of all 25 participating schools.

The Assessment Centre was the fourth stage of the rigorous application process. Initially, our school was recommended by an existing World Class School. However, in addition to this the school’s achievement data is reviewed, as well as inspection profiles. The third stage of the process saw students conduct a self-audit of the school to identify what it is about our school which is ‘world class’. This audit involved the creation of a video ‘A week in the life of The Bishop of Llandaff’ to demonstrate how the school meets the criteria. The video can be accessed on the school’s website or via the link [https://vimeo.com/362964970](https://vimeo.com/362964970).

I am delighted for everyone associated with the school on this award. It is full recognition for the effort of every single member of the community, whether that be our amazing students; the incredibly talented teaching or support members of staff; our wonderfully supportive families and governors. However, while it is immensely rewarding to receive this quality mark it does not equate to perfection. No school is perfect and we are all striving to improve. So, please be assured that we will not suddenly think we have ‘cracked it’ or that we can relax. We will always seek to be better so that our students continue to receive an exceptional education.

I should like to pay my particular thanks to Miss Kettlewell who played a key role in this prestigious award. She worked tirelessly with a large number of students to complete each stage of the process and this award could not have been achieved without her leadership and hard work.

I hope you are able to share in this success and wish you all a happy Christmas break.

Yours sincerely,

Marc Belli
Executive Headteacher