

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **School Minster and Message Bus initiative**

I am writing to update on this new and exciting collaboration. Capital Youth is the Diocese of London's 5-year plan to boost the number of young people engaged by our church communities in evangelism and discipleship. Youth Minsters are a key part of this program and are funded through Church Commissioners Strategic Development funding. Their role within Capital Youth is to grow the numbers of young people who are part of our churches by reaching new young people themselves and then helping other churches to grow. The Diocese of London has '*planted*' a Minster within our all-through school for the next three years.

Tolu Awojobi was successful in application and will lead groups in the school that will help young people to explore their faith, work with students to establish a fresh expression of church in the school, work with the Message Trust to develop youth ministry in the local community and support the Bishop of Edmonton in developing the Edmonton Area's 'Growing Younger' priority.

#### **Message from Tolu**

*My role at SMSJ is to create spaces for students to creatively explore and express their faith in a variety of mediums that will positively impact their school lives. Following our school values and Christian ethos, I hope to make faith accessible to all students at SMSJ through a variety of clubs, arts and discussion groups. As a musical artist and youth worker I understand the importance of purpose. I believe we find our purpose through faith in Jesus, which is an incredible journey that can be immensely difficult to understand. When we take the time to express our personal experience of the balance between faith and the natural tensions of life, I believe we create moments filled with wisdom that are both hopeful and in service to those around us. I'm really looking forward to helping the students navigate this journey for themselves and helping them express it as they go.*

#### **The Message Bus**

The Message Bus is a fantastic resource that allows us to proactively create safe, engaging and exciting environments for young people to explore faith and community. When a young person steps onto a Message Bus, they are not greeted with the normal double decker interior their used to seeing but a slide, a climbing wall and all the latest game stations.

We're really excited to have the opportunity to have The Message Bus based at SMSJ for all our students to experience.

