

December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas is a time for celebration and reflection and as we draw to the end of another great term, our thoughts turn to the achievements of this year and the endless possibilities for next year.

Over the last few years, we have had to learn to adapt to different ways of living, working, learning and keeping ourselves and loved ones safe. I am so very proud of our students, they have been so resilient and risen to every challenge and continue to do so.

Raising Money at Christmas

On Monday 2nd December, the students had a non-uniform day. The chosen charity was 'Children in Need'. On 10th December, our students and staff wore their Christmas jumpers to raise money for the charity 'Save the Children Fund'. I am delighted to announce that the combined amount the school raised was £560. A big thank you to staff and students who took part and helped to organise these events.

The Enfield Foodbank

For the last week of term, w/c 13th December, we are supporting the North Enfield Foodbank. Every day people in the UK go hungry for many reasons, but just a small box of food can make a big difference. Foodbanks provide emergency food to people in crisis and their need is increasingly important during the winter period. North Enfield Foodbank is part of The Trussell Trust's network of foodbanks that work to tackle food poverty and hunger across the UK. Our collection for December includes food for Christmas i.e. Christmas puddings, packets of stuffing, cranberry sauce, non-alcoholic drinks, savoury snacks, advent calendars, boxes of chocolates, tinned meat including turkey, chicken or ham, gravy granules and any other Christmas items.

Christmas Celebrations

As part of our Christmas celebrations, our form time has been focused on the 'true meaning of Christmas'. Students have written speeches on 'what Christmas means to them' and what they believe to be the 'true meaning of Christmas'. This year, we have recorded a drama production of Narnia; 'A message of Hope'. This includes bible readings and a solo sung by a Year 8 student, incorporating students from other year groups. Our students worked really hard in helping to make our Christmas 'Narnia' story happen. Students were expecting to be able to perform in person, but at the last minute it was changed to an online performance. We are so proud of the students involved and their ability to adapt; we hope you truly enjoy it.

You can watch this production by following the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EljF1WPdPo8>

School Trips

Trips will return next year and we will endeavour to take the students to see 'Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' at some time early in the New Year. We also hope to be arranging more theatre trips to see other shows in the near future.

A Reminder for Information on Covid19

Public Health England have been updating schools regularly on how we can best protect ourselves over this last week or so.

It is advised, although not legally required, that in indoor settings, you should still continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you may come into contact with other people you do not normally meet. For the safety of our students and staff, we are trying to encourage the members of our school community to wear face coverings in communal areas around school. Please note that your child is to wear a black face covering in school.

If your child has symptoms of Covid, you can book a PCR test for them. Please visit <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

You can book online without symptoms because you have been advised to do so by the Local Council.

The children do not need to isolate whilst waiting for their PCR results, but getting tested with a PCR will help identify any other cases that may be in the class and avoid any further restrictions on learning. At this stage we continue to utilise face-to-face learning and we expect students to be in school.

Public Health Enfield has advised that there is good availability at the testing sites in Enfield and you can find the details of those here:

<https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/your-council/enfield-response-to-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-in-enfield/>

Please ensure you book a test - do not turn up without an appointment. In the event of any positive results please contact the school by emailing covid@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk or by calling 0208 804 1906.

We will continue to keep a close eye on the situation and take advice from Public Health accordingly.

End of Term Arrangements and Return to School in January, 2022

- Our last day of term is **Friday, 17th December**.
- The students will leave the premises between **12.00pm and 12.30pm**.

Return to School After Christmas

- Students will return to school for testing as per the schedule attached on Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th January. Lessons will be uploaded online via their class subject Google Classroom pages for those year groups not in school for testing/normal timetabled lessons as follows:

Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 – testing and uploaded online lessons via Google Classroom on Wednesday 5th January. Return to school as normal on Thursday 6th January.

Year 7, 8 and 9 – uploaded lessons via Google Classroom on Wednesday 5th January, testing and uploaded lessons on Thursday 6th January. Return to school as normal on Friday 7th January.

Please note: due to staff training on Wednesday 5th January, online lessons will commence on this day from period 3 onwards. Students should access this via Google Classroom, complete tasks set and submit to their teacher as normal.

May I take this opportunity to wish all of you and your extended families God's blessings for Christmas and the New Year.



Mrs Day, Headteacher
BA (Hons), NPQH