

# head'sherald

SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL, GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROAD, WARRINGTON, WA4 1JL | 01925 636414 | INFO@BOTELER.ORG.UK

## VOLUME 18 | DATE 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well. It has been a busy week but a positive one. Our Year 11 students are just completing their mock examinations and have been exemplary in their behaviour and their attitudes. Many thanks for your continued support over the changes we have had to enforce over the Omicron variant, as we are doing everything possible to keep everyone safe.

### **COVID-19 LFD Testing and Plan B Update**

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, the Prime Minister announced the implementation of Plan B. School attendance remains mandatory and all the usual rules continue to apply. Enabling children and young people to attend their education setting regularly continues to be a national priority. Face coverings should be worn by all students, staff and visitors in communal areas, unless exempt. Staff and students must also wear a face covering when travelling on public transport and should wear it on dedicated transport to and from school. If your child is exempt then we will issue them with a pass so that they are not challenged throughout the school day. You can let us know by contacting the school office on either 01925 636414 or [info@boteler.org.uk](mailto:info@boteler.org.uk) We currently have 6 positive cases taking us to a total of 76 cases since the beginning of the year. We really want all of our students to enjoy the Christmas break and not have to isolate so please ensure you test twice weekly, we recommend a Sunday and a Wednesday. I will communicate out next week about the return arrangements for January.

### **Flu vaccinations mop up – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec**

The catch-up flu session has been scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Information has been sent to Parents/Carers. Please contact us if you have not received this.

### **Year 7 STEM Day**

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December Year 7 students will be taking part in a STEM day with Mrs Potter to discover the meaning of STEM and develop important skills that will be useful across the curriculum. They will be working in teams to solve a Christmas themed problem called 'An issue with 'Elf' and safety'.

### **Services**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December is the Community Carol Service and this will be virtual. Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December is the Advent Service for the students and this will be virtual.

I have taken this decision to make them virtual because of the health and wellbeing of my wider school community. I do not want to put anyone at risk, especially with it being so close to Christmas. I have a duty of care to keep my school community safe and whilst it upsets me that these won't be 'live' I feel it is the correct decision. The virtual events will be spectacular and we will celebrate the performances with the young people.

### **Community Christmas Cheer 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December**

As we are unable to hold our Senior Citizens Community Christmas Party in school again this year, some of our students will be visiting local Care Homes and some local residents to sing Christmas Carols and bring a bit of festive spirit to the community.

### **House Competitions**

Between 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December students in PE will be competing in House competitions. Bring your best game! Points will be awarded for overall finishing position, outstanding contribution to your House as well as extra points going to students displaying 'sportsmanship' and respect. **Everyone needs to bring full PE kit and Trainers for all PE lessons.** The points are there for the taking.....

### **Christmas Dinner**

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 the kitchen will be making a Christmas dinner. Please remind your children.

### **Last day**

On the last day of term, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December, the school day ends at 12pm for all students. It is a compulsory school day for students, with Christmas festivities planned.

It is a non-uniform day and students who are FSM and require food can they please let their form tutors know and this will be made available to them before they leave.

### **Attendance Raffle**

All students who have 100% attendance from 29<sup>th</sup> of November to the 17<sup>th</sup> of December will be entered in our attendance raffle so no matter what your attendance was previously, if you have 100% in the 3 weeks period you will be entered. There will be lots of prizes to be won. These include, Amazon Tablets, Gift sets, gift vouchers, footballs, chocolate and many more. Also, everyone who achieves 100% attendance in the last 3 weeks will gain House points for their House. For further details speak to Mr Willcock.

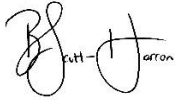
### **HAF Christmas Holiday Funding**

School holidays can be difficult for some families. The cost of extra food, childcare, and activities to keep children active and entertained, can be challenging. The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is an exciting new scheme, funded by the Department for Education, giving children in England who are eligible for free school meals the opportunity to take part in fun, enriching, school holiday activities. Places on the scheme are available free of charge to children aged 5 to 16 who receive free school meals, but children and young people of all ages and backgrounds are welcome to attend. Each local programme will provide delicious, healthy meals, allow kids to get active, help them learn new things, make friends

and have fun. If you would like to know more about the HAF programme, please email [HAF@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:HAF@warrington.gov.uk) or visit the Holiday Activities and Food programme on the link below.

[Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) Programme | warrington.gov.uk](https://warrington.gov.uk/holiday-activities-and-food-programme)

With very best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beverley Scott-Herron'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Beverley Scott –Herron  
**Headteacher**