

# head'sherald

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

## VOLUME 14 DATE 16TH DECEMBER 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

We are now at the end of an incredibly busy term and both the students and staff need a well-deserved rest. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your on-going support. The relationship we have with you is very important and we really value it.

### **January 2023 – Climate for Learning and Standards reset.**

When we return we are having a climate for learning and standards reset. It is always important to ensure everyone in our school community knows and understands the rules and the everyday expectations. We are as always very understanding regarding certain situations and work with our young people. However, I need everyone to be very clear on what is and what is not acceptable and the consequences that will be in place if these basic reasonable requests are not followed. More detailed information will be coming out regarding this.

However, I do want to address a few standards issues now. Just a reminder that black leggings are NOT permitted under any circumstance and a student will be isolated and have to attend after school detentions if they are wearing them. There are far too many excuses and or reasons for why a student needs to wear these currently. This rule is not negotiable. The uniform expectations are really clear and when you decide to be a student at Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School, you are signing up to adhere to the uniform policy. Also, if school trousers are not an appropriate school style, then these are not permitted. If in doubt please check with me personally.

False eyelashes, false nails, gel nails etc are not permitted. If a student is wearing them then they will be isolated and have to attend after school detentions until this is rectified. The rules are clear and again are non-negotiable.

Please do not have any facial piercings during the Christmas break, as these will have to be removed. The guidance in the handbook is very clear and has not changed. Plasters are not acceptable to cover up the piercings. Any jewellery worn will be confiscated and then returned at the end of the day. Again, there are no excuses.

Non-uniform clothing is not permitted and will be confiscated on entry to school. The students have been excellent on the whole remembering this and have even benefited from my 'warming service' where they automatically pass me their hoodies etc on entry for me to place on my radiator in my office, so they are nice and warm to walk home in at the end of the day.

Trainers or shoes with any sports logo are not permitted and again there are too many excuses as to why there is a need to wear them. Students must have the correct footwear or they again will face the consequences or have to wear the shoes we give them.

All students must have a bag, fully stocked pencil case, scientific calculator, ISP and reading book. All students used to be brilliant at this, but now some students are making the wrong choices, which means they are not ready for learning. We are now moving back to checking all these standards on entry to the school. If a student does not have the correct equipment etc. then there is an automatic standards detention that day.

Our school is all about 'High Expectations High Aspirations, High Standards – you will succeed' Everything I have referred to is nothing new. It is just that sometimes students can get a little complacent and they will push the boundaries. However, we are not accepting 'the push'. We are always kind and reasonable with any request and would really appreciate your full support. The vast majority of students are excellent all the time day in day out and it is really not fair on those students who do follow the rules every day, if some students decide they do not want to.

### **Year 11 Mock Exam Results**

Year 11 have just completed their Mock exams with our teaching staff assessing and marking the papers. Teachers have been told not to release grades to students. We are having a formal **Mock Results assembly on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January**. We will be emailing parents a copy of their child's mock results shortly after the Mock Results assembly on the Friday afternoon.

### **Year 11 Parents' Evening**

Year 11 Parents' evening which will be held in school on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January**, allowing parents to discuss their child's Mock Exam results with subject teachers in detail. Booking for this parents' evening is now live on SchoolCloud. Appointments are available from 15.30-19.00. This is perhaps the most important Parents' evening of a child's secondary education. On return from Christmas, Year 11 students will only have 15 school weeks left until the GCSE exams begin. I would recommend parents make bookings for this evening as soon as they are able to do so.

### **Year 11 Period 6**

Mr Koltan has sent communication to all Year 11 Parents and visited all Year 11 Form rooms this week regarding Period 6. When school re-opens after the Christmas break in January **we will be extending the school day for our Year 11 students as we did last year with a Period 6 lesson**. On a Tuesday to Thursday there will be a day dedicated to a 'Subject area' where students will attend a study session for the dedicated subject. At the end of Period 5 the students will be brought to the canteen for refreshments before they start work again. The session will run from 15.15-16.00 Tuesday to Thursday.

The reason we are not using a Monday is that is our staff attend department meetings and the day we have Parents' Evenings etc. and we don't want any clashes where staff are not available for your child. On Friday, students may be required to attend vocational/BTEC catch-up work or complete practical/folder work in GCSE Design and technology. If students are needed the Head of Department or Teacher will let Miss K Dowling and Mr Koltan know and

we will remind those students personally to attend the catch-up session. The Friday sessions also run from 15.15-16.00.

### Period 6 Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
No session Students finish school at 3pm	<b>Period 6 Science</b>	<b>Period 6 Humanities</b>	<b>Period 6 Languages &amp; DT</b>	<b>Vocational Catch-up</b>
	Science (Science Team)	History (NHO)	Spanish (OWA)	BTEC/Vocational *Requested students*
	Computer Science (BGO)	History (JLI)	Spanish (RCL)	DT* (ARN/JPE) *Requested students*
	Art (SJC) *Requested students*	Geography (MHE)	Spanish (SWO)	Sport*/Dance*/Drama* (CBU) *Requested students*
		Geography (HBA)	DT (ARN)	
		Sport (RHU) *Requested students*	Hospitality (SLL)*Requested students*	
		Enterprise (DSU) *Requested students*	I-Med (BGO) *Requested students*	
			Art (JGU) *Requested students*	

### Year 10 DT

The Year 10 students were extremely proud to take home their quality products from their GCSE DT classes. Students utilised an array of tools and skills to manufacture their Christmas decorations and couldn't wait to have them on display at home. A total of 40 houses were made in our DT workshop.

Congratulations and Merry Christmas to all students

From Mr Robinson and Miss Perkins



Year 10 Design Technology Graphic Design students have completed their first project, a Mood Lantern, they are very proud of their achievements and were delighted to take them home.

The students based their work on a designer of their choice, they used both hand drawing and CAD to develop their designs and utilised the laser cutter for the manufacture.



### **Music in the Community and Primary School**



We began by performing in Grappenhall Heyes Primary School to a packed hall of students and teachers on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December. The Brass Trio, Flute Quartet and Botelertonix along with two vocal soloists performed a range of music with a Christmas theme. The audience



thoroughly enjoyed the performances and said how amazing and talented our students were. They went on to say that the performances had really got them into the festive mood.

On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December we visited three local residential homes and performed our Christmas pieces to many of the residents. This was a very special day as it is the first time the students and older people have had the chance to celebrate Christmas together for a few years due to the pandemic. A wonderful day was had by everyone involved and some of the residents even joined in with our performances. Students took time to speak to some residents before and after the performances.

Upon returning to school, the students performed at the start of the Christmas Fayre and set a festive mood as students entered the hall to enjoy the many attractions.

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December took us to St Elphin's Parish Church for the annual Community Christmas Carol Evening. Over thirty of our students performed during the evening along with students from Brook Acre, St Elphin's and Meadowside Primary Schools. This evening is a very special community event and it was wonderful to see everyone coming together again. We heard a fantastic range of Christmas pieces like Carol of the Bells by the Flute Quartet, Once in Royal David's City by the Brass Trio, Winter Wonderland, Somewhere Only We Know by the Botelertonix. It was on a Starry Night and He is Born by St Elphin's Choir, Merry Meadowsiders, Sparkle and Shine and Frosty the Snowman by Brook Acre. Mrs Scott- Herron and Neve Boswell from Year 10 performed a wonderful duet of 'O Holy Night' during the evening too.

The final performance was on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December for our Community Christmas Party. Over thirty students performed to our senior citizen guests whilst they had their festive food, fun and Bingo. Our Year 11 Hospitality students hosted the event, prepared the food and waited on tables. The whole event was supported by our wonderful PSB.

## **CREST Award**

Students in year 8 have completed their CREST discovery award after taking part in a 5 hour STEM project. They enjoyed the project so much they hope to extend this to the bronze CREST award which is given for completing 10 hours of work on a STEM project linked to helping us in everyday life.



## Warrington Wolves Charitable Foundation

Congratulations to Harriet Hayes (Year 11) and Charlotte Hayes (Year 9) who have spent a lot of time recently collecting selection boxes for local children who will find Christmas difficult this year.

It was Harriet's own idea, and with the help of her peers they managed to raise at least 450 selection boxes, which were spread across Warrington Foodbank, Warrington Hospital & Green Lane Special School. We are so proud of the girls' efforts and think they should be commended for what they have done!

Harriet and Charlotte are part of the young volunteering group, WireZ, and spend most of their free time helping at weekly sessions for people with disabilities including Crafts, Music, Drama, Rugby & Social Club! Warrington Wolves Charitable Foundation said "They are an absolute credit to Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School and always represent themselves incredibly well."

If any students would be interested in volunteering with the WireZ, they are always looking for new members. So please let us know.



## **Sport**

### **Year 9 Football Team**

The Year 9 Football Team have had a very successful year. The team has managed to stay and compete strongly in the top division of the Warrington Schools League system, most notably gaining 1-0 win away at Bridgewater recently. Over 20 students have represented the team this year, showing the depth and desire that students in this Year group have.

The team has also had major success on a County level. The team has reached the quarter-final of the Cheshire Schools Cup, an enormous accomplishment having beaten some notorious schools along the way. Their next match will take place in the New Year and the team is confident and excited for what lies ahead.

Great work, keep it up!

Please can I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing the students on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 8.10 for Year 11 and 8.25 for Year 7-10. Please make sure you are on time and ready for the exciting New Year ahead.

With very best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beverley Scott-Herron'. The signature is stylized with a large 'B' and 'H'.

Beverley Scott –Herron  
**Headteacher**