

December 2021



Dear Parent / Carer

As we approach the end of a very busy term, and on behalf of all students, staff and Governors, I would like to wish all families a very restful and enjoyable Christmas break. However, prior to the festivities I do wish to take the opportunity to inform you of some important dates, information and events.

#### Term Dates:

I remind parents that the school closes for the Christmas holiday on **Wednesday, 22 December**, at 3.10 pm and re-opens at the usual time on **Monday, 10 January 2022**.

#### Non-uniform Day:

Many thanks for your support with the recent 'Children in Need' non-uniform day which helped us raise over £1200.

Similarly, we really appreciate the volume of donations received this autumn for Teams4U shoebox appeal. There have been overflowing pallets of shoeboxes in the foyer throughout December. Many thanks to all those who have supported.

#### Face Coverings:

Many thanks for your support with encouraging your daughter/son to wear a face-covering. The Welsh Government have stipulated this temporary measure will last until the end of term and be reviewed prior to January 2022. I can confirm that there is no change to the policy for those individuals who are exempt.

The school will continue to provide face-coverings for those students who may forget them. However, at present we are providing approximately 100+ of these per day, which you will appreciate is a significant cost. Therefore, if you can support us by providing your child with a face-covering that would be appreciated.

#### Lateral Flow Testing:

Welsh Government have asked us to relay that they advise those individuals participating in lateral flow testing to continue doing so throughout the Christmas period and specifically:

**"In the new year, we encourage staff and learners over 11 years to test twice with LFD (3 or 4 days apart) in the week before returning to school or college and to then continue testing regularly twice weekly for two weeks after the start of term in January.** Individuals should use their own stock of lateral flow devices or if their setting is closed, [order from the community channel](#) if additional supplies are needed."

We shall re-open our own online order form next week as part of our regular cycle and distribute kits to pupils in school for whom an order is received. Do keep a look out for the explanatory email.

**School Closure due to bad weather/critical incidents:**

Details have previously been shared with parents / carers. However, should you require further clarification of the school's response to such circumstances, or in the event that these arrangements present potential difficulties for you. please click [here](#) to view the letter for further information.

**Benefits Support:**

The Local Authority have asked that information is shared with you in relation to financial support for families who may be in need. Details can be found [here](#).

**Careers Wales:**

The School's Careers Adviser, Mrs. Linda Palmer, is available to support you and your child when it comes to making important subject and career decisions. You will have a key role in helping your child make decisions. Please read their [newsletter](#) to see how you can access the most up to date careers information, advice and guidance.

**Christmas Concert:**

As a reminder, we shall be hosting a virtual Christmas Concert at 4.30p.m. on Tuesday, 14 December 2021 on the Microsoft Teams platform. Whilst we are sorry not to be in the Church celebrating the start of festivities once again this year, this eagerly anticipated occasion gives pupils the opportunity to perform. Do look out for the link to this event and I very much hope to see you online.

For now, best wishes and I look forward to the countdown to Christmas and then seeing all students back and eager to learn in the New Year.

Yours sincerely



Mr. S. Budgen  
Headteacher