

Dear Parent/Carer

Weekly newsletter: Friday 3 December 2021

End of term

As we enter December, a reminder that term ends at **3.05 p.m. on Thursday 16 December**. We finish on the Thursday rather than the Friday as the 17th of December has been allocated as our additional day off for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in June.

Face coverings

This week we have seen the reintroduction to face coverings in school. Pupils have been very receptive to the requirement to wear them once again. If you believe your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, please contact their Head of Year and we will issue an exemption card if applicable. Many thanks for your continued support.

In addition to this new measure, we continue to have a number of preventative measures in place to reduce the transmission of Covid-19 in school. We promote good hygiene including regular washing of hands, regular cleaning across the school site and windows open for ventilation. This week, we have allowed pupils to wear outside coats in the classroom because, despite the heating being on, we face the challenges of being in Winter. Can I encourage pupils to 'layer up' by perhaps having a white vest/cotton T shirt under their school shirts. Whilst we will allow coats during particularly cold days, hoodies and other branded jumpers are not allowed.

Could we also ask that you continue to test your child twice weekly – ideally on a Sunday and Wednesday evening. Test kits are available for collection by pupils at break and lunchtimes from student reception.

Christmas lunches

Next week we will be serving our Christmas lunches for each year group. If you have not yet booked a Christmas lunch, please ask your child to see their House Tutor no later than Monday 6 December.

Christmas Concert

The Christmas Concert will be going ahead on Wednesday, but due to the new covid guidelines, we will now have a reduced 'invited' audience. We want to thank you for your understanding with this change. Letters have been given to all the performers about the ticket allocation and we hope to welcome a full house in the Spring term to celebrate the many talents of our pupils.

Commitment | Creativity | Community

Acting Principal: Mr J Cowper
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SEND

Attached to this bulletin is the Assessment Pathway newsletter which includes workshop dates on Behaviour, Sleep and Sensory issues and Family Connect dates for parents to attend a one-off session following diagnosis for their child / young person. Also included are the details of local activities and support networks.

Lancaster On Ice are holding a Disability Friendly session for families who have children / young people / adults with additional needs <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/unique-skating-sessions-2021-tickets-210962844547>:

Tuesday 7th December 5pm – 7pm

Enjoy skating in the magical setting of Dalton Square in the evening at the Tuesday session which give families that extra time that we know it can sometimes take to get used to new things.

Adult: £11

Children (under 16): £8

50% of ticket sales for these two evenings will go to Unique Kidz and Co.

New book – A Parent’s Guide to Autism Diagnosis. What to expect and how to support your child. This book is packed full of useful hints and tips with case studies and strategies throughout.

A Parent's Guide to Autism Diagnosis: What to Expect and How to Support Your Child by Amazon Learn more:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1787754243/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_dp_B7F72CFKZHGK1PQ9R
paperback £14.45 or Kindle edition £10.04

Mental Health and Wellbeing

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/christmas-and-mental-health/christmas-coping-tips/>

The link above will take you to Mind’s website which focuses on how the period around Christmas and new year might affect your mental health. It gives tips on how to cope and suggestions for supporting someone else.

Youth Parliament

Registrations are now being taken for young people wishing to stand as a Member of Youth Parliament (MYP). Our MYPs play a vital role in raising concerns for young people within their constituency and representing them at County meetings.

Young people can register their interest to become an MYP through this link:

<https://britishyouthcouncil.typeform.com/to/e0fbH6?typeform-source=com.google.android.gm>

To find out more information about what it takes to be an MYP, please take time to access the information in the links below:

<https://youtu.be/gfofXHkHuOE>

<https://www.byc.org.uk/uk/uk-youth-parliament/elections>

Pupils have until the **10th of December** to register. Good luck

Sports update

Our Year 10 football team continue on their unbeaten run in the English Schools Cup. They were victorious against Corpus Christie from Preston. The game was won on penalties after a hard fought score line of 2-2 in normal time. Once again, it was fabulous team effort although **Oliver R** and **Bobby D** both had stand out performances. We have been drawn against Moorlands school, Clitheroe, in the 3rd round.

Year 7 B team came second in a local football tournament. Although they did not lose a game, they were pipped to the top spot by OLCC on goal difference. Congratulations to all pupils who represented the school with such passion and commitment.

Household support fund

Lancaster City Council Community Connectors have now commenced the administration and delivery of a one-off fund from the Department for Work and Pensions which has been distributed to county and unitary authorities.

Lancashire County Council have allocated £360,000 to Lancaster City Council to administer across the district to those facing financial hardship.

The Household Support Fund is available to help those in our district who are struggling financially this winter. Through an application, support can be provided to residents of the Lancaster district to help pay for:

- increasing energy charges and water rates
- household appliances
- housing costs (not mortgage or rent costs)
- and an offer for an 8-week food voucher membership scheme for food, toiletries, blankets & clothes and which can provide around £25-£30 a week

Online applications opened on Monday 22nd November 2021 and can be accessed via the following link on the Lancaster City Council website: <https://www.lancaster.gov.uk/hsf>

Should you have any concerns or require support in accessing the fund, alternatively you can attend one of the Fund's planned mobile events or call the fund administration on 01524 582000 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

Should you require support in placing an application to the fund, contact the school with your requirements and we will be happy to help you.

Morecambe Bay Foodbank- Reverse Advent Calendar

As a school we will once again be supporting the Morecambe Bay Foodbank with collections in school.

Information has been given to pupils this week during form time.

Many thanks in advance for your support.



Praise

Congratulation to Lune house for receiving the most praise points this week.

1. Clougha
2. Storey
3. Lune
4. Halton

Special congratulations to the following pupils who received the most praise points this week:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Quaneisha Y	Maggie A	Tyler M-M	Misti L	Bobby H
Anna P	Kayla D	Jacob R	Gui S	Jack M
Lexi-Leigh S	Jodie M	Stanley B	Zain E	Sam S
Nawaf F	Arley D	Paul G	Euan H	Joe B
Freya P	Lucy K	Jack H	Charlie M	Alfie A

In addition, well done to the following pupils:

Well done to **Felix Y** Y7 on a fantastic ukulele lesson in music.

Congratulations to **Gabriel R.S** Y9 for passing his grade 3 flute exam.

Congratulations to the following year 10 students who have completed the Peace project. They have shown resilience, determination and kindness throughout and should be very proud of their own development and achievements with this project.

Amber B
Amber N
Ashley W
Jay R
Millie J
Evalyn G
Scarlett M
Mia R

This week's pupil praise for Food Technology goes **Toby H-I**, Y9, for his outstanding contributions to practical lessons. He is a valuable member of the class who works well and who makes sure the task is completed. Well done.

Well done to **Daniel B**, Y10, for his contributions in business studies. He is growing in both confidence and understanding. Excellent effort, keep it up!

Bailee-Mae M, Y9, for her verbal contributions. Seeing her sharing ideas in lessons this week has been fantastic!

Marlon O'F, **Jakub K** and **Sam H** in Y11 for superb homework focusing on transactional writing practice.

Attendance

Top form attendance during this week:

Year 7: Storey 2
Year 8: Storey
Year 9: Halton 2
Year 10: Clougha
Year 11: Lune

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Cowper
Acting Principal