

Monday 8th December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are well and looking forward to the Christmas holiday. I am writing to share the details you need as we approach the end of term. The Autumn Term will end on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 12.10pm. The bus to Burtonwood will be leaving shortly afterwards. If your child requires a lunch before they leave, please email their Year team so they can arrange that. The Spring Term begins on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025** at 8.20am.

At the end of term, we will be saying goodbye to a few colleagues. First of all, we will be wishing one of our Cooks, Sue Smith, a very happy and long retirement. She has been feeding the students and staff at Great Sankey High School for many years – so many she can't actually remember how long! Thank you Sue for all you have done for everyone past and present! Enjoy a very long and relaxing retirement!

We will also be saying farewell to Mrs O'Brien, Deputy Headteacher, who has taken the decision to emigrate to Australia with her family in January. Katie has been a great colleague who has worked really hard for the students and staff here and I wish her and her family the best of luck Down Under! Mr Deay will step up as Interim Deputy Head next term. We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs McArthur (Languages), Mr O'Gallachoir (Science) and Mrs Harrison (Food) at the end of term. On behalf of the students, Governors, parents, carers, and staff, I would like to thank them all for their hard work and dedication during their time here and I wish them all the very best of luck. In January, we will see Mr Mahoney (Science) return to school and we will welcome Mrs Forshaw to the Languages department.

Later this week on **Friday 12th December** we will be holding a voluntary non-uniform day in support of Christmas Charity appeals. On Friday, we are asking students and staff to bring in a voluntary donation of a **food item** or a **new unwrapped gift** to support the **Warrington Youth Zone Christmas appeal**. Please have a look at the poster overleaf for guidance on suggested items to donate.

### Voluntary donations

Donations will be collected during Form Time on Friday morning, and form representatives will bring everything that is received to our foyer. Students who arrive late may drop off their donations at reception.

We would encourage as many students and staff as possible to take part and to help collect items for this worthy cause.

If a student prefers not to take part and wear their uniform, that is not a problem, but they may still make a voluntary contribution to the food bank if they so wish.

### Non-uniform guidance

- Please note that offensive slogans, crop tops, shorts are not allowed.
- Students should dress appropriately for the weather, e.g. coats if raining/cold etc.,
- Students may choose to wear Christmas jumpers if they so wish but there is no expectation to do so.
- School rules of no make-up and jewellery still applies.
- If your child is timetabled for PE that day, they should bring their school PE kit as normal.
- It is essential that all students still bring their equipment for school, so they are fully prepared for their learning

We thank you for your support in advance.



GREAT SANKEY HIGH SCHOOL  
**CHRISTMAS  
CHARITY DAY**

IN SUPPORT OF WARRINGTON YOUTH ZONES  
CHRISTMAS APPEALS

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF LAST  
YEARS CHARITY DAY WE INVITE YOU TO

**WEAR NON-UNIFORM IN EXCHANGE FOR A  
DONATION TO THE FOOD APPEAL OR GIFT APPEAL.**

**SUGGESTED FOOD ITEMS:**

**TINNED/JARRED GOODS:**

TINNED SOUP, BAKED BEANS, SPAGHETTI HOOPS, POTATOES, TOMATOES,  
CARROTS, SWEET CORN, PEAS, FRUIT, CURRY/BOLOGNESE SAUCE.

**HYGIENE PRODUCTS:**

BODY WASH, SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER, TAMPONS, SANITARY TOWELS,  
HAND WASH, DEODORANT, TOOTH PASTE, 4 PACK OF TOOTHBRUSHES

**DRY GOODS:**

RICE, PASTA, NOODLES, CEREALS, BOXES OF BISCUITS, MINCE PIES,  
CHOCOLATE BARS, TEA BAGS, COFFEE, SUGAR, LONG LIFE MILK.

**SUGGESTED GIFT ITEMS:**

SOFT TOYS  
GIFT SETS  
SPORTS EQUIPMENT  
ARTS AND CRAFTS  
SENSORY TOYS  
BOARD GAMES  
BOOKS  
WRAPPING PAPER & SELLOTAPE



**12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

After school on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** Mrs Heyes will be stepping into Christmas with a **Christmas Clubbercise** class for staff and students to raise donations to WYZ's Christmas appeal! Get your glow sticks at the ready! The class will take place in the **new sports hall at 3pm** and all students and staff are welcome. It will £1 (or a donation) on the door to enter, and participants will be led through a fun filled 30 mins dance session complete with UV lights! Please bring along your glow sticks and Christmas accessories and get yourself some exercise while getting into the Christmas spirit!



**Rewards** – Thanks to all parents for your support in getting students to attend school. The school's attendance is currently still well above the national average. Our end of year celebration assemblies will be taking place each day next week, and we will take the opportunity to recognise and reward our students' successes in terms of progress and effort within lessons, attendance, standards and expectations, involvement in our school community and demonstrating our schools' G.R.E.A.T values.

**Progress Evenings** – The dates below are in the calendar for parents and carers to meet staff during the Spring & Summer Terms to discuss their child's progress.

Year 7 – Thursday March 26th, 2026.

Year 8 – Thursday April 23rd, 2026

Year 9 – Thursday January 29th, 2026 – this will include an Options Meeting

Year 10 – Thursday February 26th, 2026

Year 12 – Thursday February 12th, 2026.

Year 13 – Thursday January 8th, 2026

**Term Dates** – Here is a reminder of our term dates for the remainder of the year.

### **Spring Term**

Open Tuesday 6 January - Close Friday 13 February

Open Monday 23 February - Close Thursday 2 April

### **Summer Term**

Open Monday 20 April - Close Friday 22 May

Open Monday 1 June - Close Friday 17 July

### **INSET Days – (school closed to students)**

Monday 5 January 2026

**Bank Holiday** Monday 4 May 2026

The term dates for 2026/27 can be found on our website here - <https://greatsankey.org/termdates>

The dates for 2027/28 will normally be shared with you in May.

**Thank a Member of Staff** – I would like to add my regular reminder that we have a page on the school website where parents, carers and students can thank a member of staff for any particular reason they wanted. Thank you to everyone who has already taken the time to do this – we have had well over 300 nominations have been made. You can access the page via this link - <https://forms.office.com/e/ykrNbMqKu2>

Thanks for your continued support as we do our best to work together to help your children achieve greatness. I hope you all manage to have a very relaxing, peaceful Christmas holiday.

Best wishes



Mr G Evans  
Headteacher