



**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 - Second Week of Advent**

**HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE**

This is the last Parent newsletter of 2020. They will be continuing weekly in 2021 and I will be sending an end of term letter next week.

Only 4 and a half more days of school remaining! Please remember that students are finishing school on Friday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 12pm. We have sent a letter regarding the buses which can't collect at that time so that parents can make other arrangements. It is important to plan for this however as school will be closing at that time and no buses will be arriving later in the day.

You may have read announcements from the government that they have given schools an extra day off which can be taken on December 18<sup>th</sup>. This is in fact not the case. What they said was that schools can change a training day from later in the year to December 18<sup>th</sup>. We would simply be swapping Monday January 4<sup>th</sup> for Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>. It does not extend our Christmas break at all and would cause severe disruption to any plans anyone had on December 18<sup>th</sup> or January 4<sup>th</sup>. Therefore we have decided not to make any last minute changes to our calendar. Please note however that school will be fully closed including all phone lines from December 18<sup>th</sup> at 12pm until January 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.45am.

During this period of Advent it has been fantastic to see how our community has responded to the appeals for food and gifts for the less fortunate at Christmas. With over a week to go before we are finished we already have almost 3000 cans and a huge amount of presents to distribute. So many of our community will be having a much better Christmas than they otherwise would as a result of this generosity. While many people are to be congratulated on this, I want to say a special thank you to our Year 11 Student Leaders and Mrs Battaglia and Mr Hilton who have done an amazing job in sorting all of this over the past few weeks.

As we rapidly approach Christmas we will of course be looking forward more than ever to spending some time with loved ones. We will all be trying to have a Christmas as close to normal as it is possible to have this year. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and New Year with your families and loved ones. We still have 1 more week to go at school. Lessons and everything else for example uniform are exactly as they are always through to the end of Thursday. On Friday we will be having a non-uniform day. Students can wear their own clothes with no requirement for cans or donations in return. They will also be having reward assemblies on that day.

Please read the notices and have a good weekend

Mr Shields

## NOTICES

### GCSE Examinations

- Year 11 students will be sitting GCSEs examinations in all of their core subjects. Year 10 students will be sitting examinations in their two chosen Specialism subjects.
- Supporting the preparations for these GCSE examinations, will be assessments in school. In February/March 2021, the students will sit their Mock Examinations in the hall and again the student results will be shared with you via their school report. From April 2021, there will be many opportunities for students to practice exam papers. For any further information, please contact Mrs Hill.

### Physical Education

- It is essential that all students are in **correct PE kit** on the day that they have PE. Details of this can be found on the school website and on the school Facebook page.

### COVID Reminders

- Please do not send your child to school if they display any of the following symptoms or anyone in your household has had a test and is awaiting results:
  - **A high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
  - **A new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
  - **A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- **Students must bring their own face masks.** A charge of 50p is made for students who need to purchase a mask.
- School will be fully closed from December 18<sup>th</sup> to January 5<sup>th</sup> including all phone lines. If your son or daughter tests positive for COVID-19 between Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and they first displayed symptoms while in school the previous few days you can email us at [Covid19@scrchs.com](mailto:Covid19@scrchs.com). Please ensure you mention your son/ daughter's name and the date they first displayed symptoms. Someone will contact you to establish any close contacts as we would then have to contact them and inform them to self-isolate over the Christmas period.
- **Buses** – The Department of Education have updated school guidance regarding the wearing of face coverings on 1/10/20 stating: Children aged 11 and over are legally required to wear a face covering on public transport in England, unless exempt for health, age or disability reasons. Please remind your child that masks are worn at all times on their journey to and from school. Failure to comply with the TfGM transport rules may result in a bus ban.
- **School Expectations** – Our standards remain high despite everything else we have had to contend with over the last term. We would like to thank all parents who have ensured that their child has attended in correct uniform and prepared for the school day. Can we kindly ask that parents continue to support us with this after the Christmas break. Students should be in correct uniform, including school shoes, trainers are not permitted and should have all the necessary equipment,

including a school bag, with them each day. This is also a requirement on the day your child attends in PE kit. Students will be sanctioned via our 'P' system under PREP.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.**

- Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>: Non uniform day & School closes at 12pm.
- Tuesday January 5<sup>th</sup>: School re-opens to all students.