

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to the information in the recent newsletter I would like to inform you of the arrangements for the end of term. We are disappointed not to be able to celebrate in our usual style and with our usual traditions – both formal and informal – this year. However, we are doing our best to replicate as many as possible virtually and safely.

### **End of Term Arrangements**

#### **a) Friday 11 December**

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. Year 7-11 students can come in non-uniform wearing a Christmas jumper. Students are welcome to customise a plain jumper to make it look festive rather than buy a Christmas jumper if they prefer! All money raised will go to Save the Children. A donation of £1 (or more if you are able) should be made via ParentPay please.

#### **b) During the week**

There will be assemblies for each year group during the week in the Sports Hall or Main Hall so that bubbles can be maintained in a socially distanced way.

#### **c) Thursday 17 December – Last Day of Term**

- Students should come to school in full school uniform.
- Year 13 and 12 will enjoy a Christmas breakfast in their year group bubbles in the school hall during Period 1 and 2 respectively.
- Students in Years 7-11 will have normal lessons for periods 1 and 2.
- Year 12 and 13 students should attend their lessons as normal, including those at St George's, and at KSHS as follows:
  - Period 1 Carre's, KSHS and St George's.
  - Period 2 Carre's and St George's.
- 11.15am Longer break so that all students can access The Chill
- At 12noon students will go to form rooms where they will enjoy various activities

#### **d) End of school**

The school day will end at 12.45pm for all three secondary schools in the town. Buses will collect students from their usual stops at 1pm and all students should make their way home. Senior staff will supervise any students who are unable to get home in school until 3.30pm. The library will not be available after school on this day.

Please let us know if your child needs to be supervised until 3.30pm. We must have this information in advance in order to plan supervision levels and safety arrangements. The deadline to let us know you would like us to supervise your child is Monday 14 December at 3pm. Please be reminded that all buses depart from 1pm. There are no school buses later in the day.

**Summer Exams 2021**

Yesterday the Government released updated information on the extra measures it is planning to put in place to boost fairness and support students ahead of next summer's exams and assessments.

The Secretary of State for Education announced that students sitting exams and other assessments next year will benefit from a package of exceptional measures to make them as fair as possible and manage the disruption caused by coronavirus (COVID-19). Building on the 3 week delay to exams to free up extra teaching time announced in October, the new measures include:

- more generous grading than usual, in line with national outcomes from 2020, so students this year are not disadvantaged;
- students receiving advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE, AS and A levels to focus revision;
- exam aids, for example formula sheets, provided in some exams giving students more confidence and reducing the amount of information they need to memorise;
- additional exams to give students a second chance to sit a paper if the main exams or assessments are missed due to illness or self-isolation;
- a new expert group to look at differential learning and monitor the variation in the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak on students across the country.

The government will set out further detail on this process, and on adaptations to exams, in the New Year.

The following links [guidance to support the summer 2021 exams](#) and [accountabilities](#) provide further clarity for schools, colleges, parents and students. We will keep you updated as we learn more in the New Year

### **Lost Property**

We have a lot of unnamed student property currently in school which students have waylaid over the last few weeks/months. Could you please check if your son/daughter has anything missing and ask them to go to the main office to check. At the end of the next week all the lost property will be sent to a Christmas charity.

### **Cars on Site**

Please could I remind parents that they are not to bring cars onto the school site to deliver or collect their child(ren), even in inclement weather, as this is a risk to all the other students and staff. Please park in local car parks/supermarkets and meet your child(ren) there.

Finally I would like to thank those parents who are continually supportive of the school as we work hard to educate your sons and daughters in these very difficult times.

**N M Law**  
Headteacher