

15<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all parents and students for their support this week. The forecast is for the snow to melt over the weekend and so we should return to normal next week. Students should continue to wear sensible footwear as we expect some areas of the school to still have some snow or be extremely wet as this melts.

### **Year 11 Mocks**

Year 11 mocks have been ongoing this week and will continue into next week. Students have been really good especially having to cope with the snow day on Monday.

### **Christmas Concert**

We had our Christmas Concert on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December at All Saints Church involving students from all year groups. The students were all outstanding in the way they conducted themselves, as always. Each one of them put so much effort and time into the preparations and this was really apparent on the night. The standard of musicianship displayed was extremely impressive and remarked upon by many parents.

At the end of the concert, student of the month awards were presented for students who had showed outstanding commitment and contribution to the Music Department this term. There were so many students that could have been chosen but the following were awarded with a certificate and a lapel badge.

Year 7	Jasper Snelling
Year 8	Avin Welsh
Year 9	Aston Oakley
Year 10	George Kimberley
Year 1	Aleks Snell
Year 12	Samuel Ward
Year 13	Thomas Martyn Stephens

Mrs Chadwick would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students who regularly attend our clubs and events. Their commitment and contribution are what makes our fantastically busy music department so successful. If anyone would like to take part and join some of our groups including concert band or choir, speak to Mrs Chadwick about how to join next term or email on [sch@richardhale.co.uk](mailto:sch@richardhale.co.uk).

### **Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

The final deadline for ordering Christmas Lunch is 2.00pm tomorrow. Students who have not ordered Christmas Lunch will need to bring in a packed lunch on Tuesday as there will be no other food available.

### **Free School Meals Vouchers**

Supermarket vouchers to cover the Christmas holidays have been ordered for Free School Meals families and are due to be delivered to eligible parents, by email, from the Edenred system on 21<sup>st</sup> December.

### **Sixth Form Christmas Jumper Day**

A reminder that it is Sixth Form Christmas Jumper Day tomorrow, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Donations of £2 can be made via Wisepay for Save the Children.

### **School Access over the Christmas Break**

Please note that School will be closed from 12.30pm on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022 and will not reopen until Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

### **Burns Night – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

Burns Night tickets will go on sale in the new year, please save the date and watch this space for more information.

### **Student News**

Congratulations to Jaxon Clarke, Year 10, who recently competed at the English Badminton U15 National Championships in Coventry. He played amazingly and with great maturity, achieving, Silver - Boys singles, Silver - Boys doubles and Bronze - Mixed doubles.

### **Network Rail – planned engineering work**

Network Rail will be replacing the central spans of Nazeing New Road Bridge in Broxbourne from early January, requiring a four month road closure and changes to train services. There will be no Greater Anglia trains or replacement buses on the Hertford East line on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, Monday 16<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

### **Winter safety advice from Hertfordshire County Council**

We have been asked to pass on the safety information below for you to share with your children.

#### Stay safe in winter – the dangers of frozen waters

Over the last few days Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue have attended water and ice incidents where people have been at risk of falling through frozen lakes and rivers due to rescuing a pet or not seeing the dangers of such activities. Children and pets are particularly at risk when tempted to play on the ice formed on open water, and adults can find themselves at risk in attempting to save them.

Taking a nice walk in cold weather with your family, friends or dogs in tow can be really refreshing, just make sure you know some simple tips on how to stay safe in winter.

Areas with frozen lakes, ponds, canals and reservoirs can be beautiful places to visit during the winter months but all too often many people risk their lives by venturing onto frozen water.

Here are some useful tips to help you know what to do in an emergency.

### **Teach children not to go on the ice**

Teach children not to go onto the ice under any circumstances.

### **Don't go on the ice to rescue a dog**

Don't go onto ice or into the water to rescue a dog, move to somewhere that the dog will be able to climb out and call them towards you.

### **Keep dogs on their leads**

Keep dogs on their leads when near ice and don't throw sticks or toys onto the ice.

### **Only use well-lit areas**

Time your walks to make the most of the daylight; if you need to walk in the evening only use well-lit areas or take a route not alongside water.

### **Keep back from the edge**

When walking alongside water keep back from the edge.

Please visit the RLSS website on this link, to see useful tools on how to get your children talking about winter water safety: [Winter Water Safety | Royal Life Saving Society UK \( RLSS UK \)](#)

Ian Hawkins  
**Headteacher**

### **December 2022 Calendar**

Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Concert, All Saints Church
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 11 GCSE Mock Exams start – end 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 12 Geology Trip – Natural History Museum
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sixth Form and Staff Christmas Jumper Day
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	ABRSM Music Exams
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch Senior Presentation Evening
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Founders Day & White Gloves End of Term, school finishes 12.30

### **January 2023 Calendar**

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Term begins
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Flu immunisations Years 7 – 9 (provisional date)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 13 Mock Exams week Year 11 MFL Mock Speaking Exams week
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Holocaust Memorial Day
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Burns Night

### **Weeks**

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Week 1
	Christmas Break
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Week 2

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Week 1
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Week 2
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Week 1

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