



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families are keeping well.

As we enter December, preparations are underway for a number of events which may be of interest to you and your children. On Tuesday evening (6th December) we have our annual Carol Service at 6.30pm at St Nicolas Church featuring our choir and school orchestra. This is always a wonderful way to mark the start of the Christmas season. The following week on Monday 12th December, we have a Christmas Fayre straight after school in our Sixth Form Centre to which all of our Year 7 and 8 students have been invited (unfortunately this event is for students only). Students also have the opportunity to run a stall in aid of a charity of their choice at the fayre. Please encourage your son/daughter to get involved. Also on the final week of term we have our Christmas concert. Further details will appear in next week's newsletter.

On Wednesday of this week, some of our finest mathematicians in Year 7 gathered for the Maths Olympics session. Students were initially put through their paces with 15 questions in the Speed Round to complete in less than 10 minutes. The final round was the relay round where students had to sprint to their teacher to submit an answer before being given the next question. All students had lots of fun and everyone did very well. Congratulations go to 7H1, who were the overall winners by just one point.

The end of November marked the end of Movember for a number of our male staff. Over £700 was raised for the Movember charity which tackles issues such as mental health and cancer awareness amongst men. Further details of their exploits can be found on the Able and Ambitious page of this newsletter.

In this week's sports fixtures, our Year 11 girls drew with Twycross in badminton whilst the Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 boys all beat teams from Twycross. In girls' football, our Year 7 and Year 8 teams won 2 games, drew 1 game and lost 1 game vs Etone. And finally in netball, Year 7 beat Bilton, Year 8 unfortunately lost to Bilton and Year 10 beat Twycross.

With the temperatures falling to low single figures this week, we would strongly recommend students wearing a coat to school. This needs to be plain black, please, to meet our uniform requirements. Just to clarify that students are allowed to wear their coats inside the school buildings but must take them off for lessons.

Please can I ask for your support with regards to footwear. A small number of students are wearing footwear to school which does not meet our uniform requirements. Our Uniform Policy states that footwear should be flat heeled, plain, smart black leather or leather-look formal shoes or plain, smart, ankle-height black leather or leather-look boots. Boots cannot be worn with skirts. Plain black training shoes that look like shoes and boots above ankle height are not acceptable. Further information can be found on page 12 of the Student Organiser. Thank you for your support with this.

I was delighted to speak to Devon, one of our Year 10 students, this week about his recent tour of Austria as part of the GB Under 17 American Football team. Devon is currently 14 years old and is the youngest on the team. We are so proud of you Devon, well done.

As the nights draw in and with often poor visibility in the mornings, we are concerned about the increased risks for our students who cycle to school. Please check that your son/daughter has working lights on their bike. Talk to them about the need to wear a helmet and the importance of cycling safely on their way to and from school. Thank you.

And finally, two reminders. Next Thursday evening we have our Year 11 Student Progress Evening which means that school will finish at 2.15pm for all students. Term ends on Friday 16th December with students in years 7-11 finishing school at 1.30pm and sixth form students finishing at the end of period 3.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Acting Headteacher

# Bulletin board

## WHOLE SCHOOL

### Early Closure due to Year 11 Progress Evening:

The school/college will close at 2.15pm on Thursday 8th December. This is due to the Year 11 Student Progress Evening which begins at 2.45pm.

### Thumb scans in the School canteen:

We are moving away from using fobs in the School canteen, and returning to the pre-COVID system of using thumb scans. Over the next few weeks we will be taking thumb scans for all students whose parents/carers have given consent (this was part of the New Starter Pack on school entry).

### Expectations during PE – a message from Miss Chinn, PE Subject Leader:

All pupils should bring full Higham Lane PE kit for their PE lesson. If they do not, they will be expected to borrow kit. Failure to do so will result in a consequence.

Any pupil who is unable to do PE for a medical reason should have a note from their parent/carer. They will still be expected to get changed into PE kit and take part in the lesson in a coaching or umpiring role. They will be allowed to wear a school coat if they are outside with their group. They must make sure they have a change of shoes, socks and their school PE hoodie to keep warm.

## YEAR 7, 8 and 9

### Flu Vaccinations for Years 7, 8 and 9:

Just a reminder that the Immunisation Team will be in school on Monday 23rd January 2023 to administer the flu vaccination.

If you would like your child to receive this vaccination please refer to a letter containing a unique link to an e-consent form which was emailed from school on Monday 28th November. The link will close on 11th December.

If you are experiencing any difficulties accessing the form – please let us know and we can resend the letter with the link out to you or contact the Immunisation Team on 02476 321 550.

## Dates for your diary

### Tuesday 6th December

Carol Service at St Nicolas Church  
Post 16 Fair

### Thursday 8th December

Year 11 Progress Evening

### Wednesday 14th December

Christmas Concert

### Friday 16th December

End of term

### Monday 19th December to Monday 2nd January 2023 (Inclusive)

Christmas holidays

### Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Students return to School

Don't forget – all of our **Careers and Apprenticeship** information can be found on our website!  
[Click here](#) to view more information on a variety of exciting opportunities!

Please note: details of all these items are on the Able & Ambitious Google Classroom pages and they will also be communicated through Sharepoint where necessary.

All competition entrants will be awarded House Points for entering as well as prizes for the winners.



### All Years:

- Maths are running the Maths Advent Calendar Competition every day this month with a chance to win House Points and other prizes. The calendar is outside MA4 so students should head there for their daily challenge.
- Universities advice for KS3, KS4, KS5 and parents: Oxford University are putting on virtual webinars with lots of useful information about university for students of any age as well as their parents/carers.
- The Young Song Writers competition has been launched with some fantastic prizes, including a production session with a professional producer and a Yamaha musical instrument worth up to £1000.
- Team MFL have passed on a fascinating article by Belgian footballer Kevin De Bruyne about how anyone with ambition should learn a foreign language.

### Year 7:

- The Maths Olympics took place on Wednesday 30th November, and was brilliantly run by Mr James and his team of mathematicians. The students did lots of fun Maths challenges in their form groups and the winners, 7H1, and all the students received prizes. A great event all round!

### Year 12:

- Ancient History Essay Writing Competition, organised by Oxford University in which students can express their views on a range of sophisticated topics and win lots of book token prizes.
- Oxford University Subject Taster Days for Maths & Computer Science, History, Chemistry, French & Spanish. These face to face sessions must be booked on-line.

### Year 13:

Students can get help applying to Oxbridge with these on-line webinars.



I'd like to say a huge, personal thank you to everyone who generously donated to Movember: we eventually raised £725 which meant I had to have my head shaved! Mr Goldstraw came in to do the honours, much to the delight of the large crowd who'd gathered to see my humiliation! Well worth it though, for such an amazing cause. If you'd still like to donate to this great cause, you can either log onto [www.movember.com](http://www.movember.com) and search 'Mo Laners', or you can follow this link: <https://uk.movember.com/donate/details?teamId=2263234>.



Mr Bottrill

## Helpful Links for Parents and Carers

This link is for the FIS newsletter which includes information around money management and Warwickshire Partners Leading the Way on Inclusion.

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=ff3db6ad0c>

Parenting programmes such as understanding your teenagers brain, mental health, understanding children's behaviour to name a few. These are free and can be booked via the below link, some are virtual and others are face to face.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-children-and-families-17595309993>

Family links, the centre for emotional health offers parents step by step guides in matters such as positive praise, problem solving and internet safety.

<https://www.familylinks.org.uk/resources-for-parents>

There is also a variety of information on our website in the health and wellbeing hub

<https://www.highamlaneschool.co.uk/parents-and-students-health-and-wellbeing-hub>

# SUPPORT AND ADVICE FOR FAMILIES IN WARWICKSHIRE

No one ever said being a parent or carer was easy! There are lots of support services available in Warwickshire to support you and your family...

### THE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE

Get in touch with Warwickshire's Family Information Service for advice and guidance on a wide range of subjects including:

- Housing
- Finance
- Childcare
- Parental conflict and contact
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

☎ 01926 742274  
✉ [fis@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk)  
📱 @WarwickshireFIS 🐦 @WarksFIS

Available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.  
All enquiries will be responded to during this time.

### FAMILY SUPPORT

Get in touch with a Family Support Worker for advice and guidance on parenting and all aspects of family life.

Support can be offered through telephone calls, video calls, text messages or email to suit your needs.

☎ 01926 412412

Available Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm.  
All enquiries will be responded to during this time.

To contact your local district or borough family support team via email please visit: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/familysupport](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/familysupport) for more information.



**SCAN THE QR CODE**

Scan the QR Code to sign up to the Family Information Service newsletter for regular updates to support you and your family!

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentupdates](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentupdates)



For more information and advice for families including parenting courses, workshops and other support services go to: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies)

 **Warwickshire**  
County Council