



Smithdon High School
Mr J Hirst
Headteacher
Downs Road, Hunstanton
Norfolk PE36 5HY
Telephone: 01485 534541
e-mail: office@smithdonhigh.org.uk
website: www.smithdonhigh.org.uk

Ref: AGi/LT

8 December 2021

Dear parents

I hope you are all well as we approach the end of this long Autumn Term and a well-deserved break for all students and staff - beginning at 3pm Friday 17 December 2021.

Celebration is the focus of our last two weeks, as always, though slightly altered by Covid19 yet again. Tonight's inaugural Careers Fair has had to be postponed and tomorrow's Christmas Concert will now be recorded behind closed doors and a link will be shared with parents to view your children's performances.

Likewise, next week's **Celebration Assemblies** for each year group will take place on Monday-Thursday mornings but these will also remain closed to parents. Students will receive their prizes and awards but certificates will be posted home so that you are still able to celebrate your child's successes with them.

With Christmas specifically in mind, our Year 7s have taken part in **Hunstanton's Christmas Tree Festival** with our recycling-themed tree and we are also proud of our successful whole school collection for the local **Food Bank** that so many of you have contributed to - and our Head Girl and a Senior Ambassador (supported by Miss Taylor and our site team) will be delivering the goods to the Reverend James Munro next week.

We also have our **Christmas lunch** next Thursday over an extended Period 4 with all year groups given a specific time slot. The cost will be £3 (subsidised for those in receipt of Free School Meals) and students have been ordering these through their tutors.

Additionally, next Friday is our **Year 7 and 8 Panto trip**, as well as **Christmas Jumper Day** - as we support the Children's Society in their annual fundraising event. Please use the online ParentPay link next week to donate a minimum of £1 for students choosing to wear a festive jumper with their uniform OR with festive decorations added to their uniform on Friday.

Return to school in January

Finally, I have to return to the **Covid measures** that we have in place. Thank you to everyone who has supported the students and on visits into school in adhering to our Covid protection measures. As you will no doubt have heard on the news, schools are required to test students once before they return to school in January. **As such we will have a staggered return in the New Year with pre-return testing appointments (in the gym like in September), as follows:**



- Students in Years 7, 8 and 11 will need to book a test with us for **WEDNESDAY 5 JANUARY** and will return to school on THURSDAY 6 JANUARY
- Students in Years 9 and 10 will need to book a test with us for **THURSDAY 6 JANUARY** and will return to school on FRIDAY 7 JANUARY

These can be booked through the normal schoolcloud parents' evening appointment service <https://smithdon.schoolcloud.co.uk/> - with 5 appointment slots every 3 minutes throughout the sessions on each day. If you have siblings that cross year group days who you would like to be tested on the Wednesday, please contact data@smithdonhigh.org.uk to arrange this.

Thank you for all your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A. Gibbins.

Mrs A Gibbins
Head of School