

Newsletter 10.12.21

It has been lovely this week to see students performing once again in our music concert and performing arts show. Both events showcased the array of talent we have at Glossopdale and it's been such a long time since our students have had the opportunity to perform to an audience, although you would never have guessed it as they were magnificent. Thank you to all parents, carers, family and friends that came to support both shows and a huge thank you to the staff that put many hours into rehearsals after school.

Here's our weekly roundup of information and forthcoming events.

Face Masks

Please ensure that your child has a plain black or blue mask each day, which they need to wear in communal areas in school until further notice. Please can you also take time to talk with your children about the importance of wearing face masks on public transport. Everyone aged 11 or over must wear a face covering on buses, trains and in shops. Thank you and your children for doing your bit in keeping everyone's families safe.

Covid testing

Home testing continues to be one of the most important measures in reducing the spread of Covid-19. Students should test twice weekly using the LFD tests that we provide for them, informing school of a positive LFD or PCR test via the email address covidpositivetest@glossopdale.school.

Covid Testing 10th + 11th January/Staggered Return

The government has requested that secondary school students receive an on-site COVID-19 test when they return after the Christmas holidays in January. We will have a staggered start to the year in order to test all students; please see details below.

- Monday 10th January: Years 7,10,11,12 and 13 will be tested at school and then return home. They will resume their normal timetables on Tuesday 11th January.
- Tuesday 11th January: Years 8 and 9 will be tested at school and then return home. They will resume their normal timetables on Wednesday 12th January.

Further details on the times and procedures will follow before the Christmas holidays.

Social Media and E-safety

I am afraid that we have had some issues raised recently regarding students' use of social media. Our primary concern is that we keep our students safe. One way we can do this is by making sure that both students and parents are as knowledgeable as possible about social media and can actively make safe and sensible choices. Attached is some information to help you; please look through this with your children. We appreciate your support in this incredibly important matter.

Parent Survey

Thank you to all parents who have completed our survey. It's incredibly useful to us to have the views of as many parents as possible. Your responses help us to improve our systems and provision for your children. If you have not yet responded and can spare 5 minutes, we would really appreciate your time

[Parent Survey December 2021](#)

Rewards Events

All our students who have displayed excellence and consistently good behaviour in the current school year will be rewarded with a School Christmas Cinema experience in the week leading up to the final day of December 22nd. They will be in the theatre to enjoy some popcorn, snacks and a well-loved Christmas movie for a 90 minute break from all their hard work! Well done to everyone who has earned their place!

Christmas Jumper Day/End of Term

Following on from our hugely successful Children In Need Fundraiser, we would like to offer students the opportunity to wear their Christmas jumpers and/or their trainers on the last day - Wednesday 22nd December - in exchange for a small donation of £1 or more. This will go towards the 'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper Day charity.

Sixth Form Applications for September 2022

Applications for the Sixth Form are live on our website. Year 11 students who are considering studying vocational and 'A' Level courses next year should apply now and the deadline for on time applications is December 17th. All applicants will be interviewed over the coming weeks to discuss their subject choices and future pathways. Applications can be found [here](#)

Sixth Form Presentation Evening

Due to the recent government announcement, we have unfortunately decided to postpone our Sixth Form Presentation Evening which was due to take place on Tuesday 21st December. Inviting in past students who have been studying at universities across the country would pose a risk to all and, as such, we have postponed this event until later in the new year. We're very sorry not to see them all but look forward to celebrating with them in 2022.

Year 7 and 9 Reports

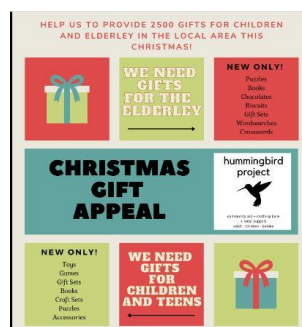
The Year 7 and 9 reports have been delayed until next week. Thank you for your patience with this.

UCAS Applications

Please be aware that the deadline for students applying to universities in September 2022 is Friday 10th December. Any application received after this date may not meet the UCAS deadline of the 15th January as due to our late return after Christmas this year.

Christmas Appeal Launch

We will be supporting the Hummingbird Project, as we did last year, in their efforts to improve Christmas for local elderly people and families in crisis. If you are able, it would be great if you could donate items such as toys, games, books, chocolates, toiletries for children up to (and including) teenage years. Or, items for the elderly such as books, gift sets, crosswords etc. This is also announced to students in this week's assembly on Social Conscience which observes that over 4.3 million children (or 9 in a class of 30) will be living in poverty right now. Any contributions should be passed to tutors, Year Managers or Leaders, or Mrs Gilbert via visitor reception and will be gratefully received.



Cancelled Events

Sadly in response to the increasing risk of infection the new Covid variant brings, we have taken the decision to cancel the Year 13 certificate evening and the Carol Service that were due to take place next week and the week after. We do not want to put either staff or families at risk of catching Covid, particularly when we are so close to Christmas.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 22nd December: End of term **12.30pm**

Monday 10th January: start of Term 3 - staggered return to allow for Covid testing (see above)

Thursday 20th January: Year 11 Parents' Evening

Thursday 3rd February: Year 9 Parents' Evening

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Best wishes from all at Glossopdale School and Sixth Form