

2nd December 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: End of term arrangements and opportunities

As we approach the end of the Autumn term, I wanted to share with you the opportunities and events that students and wider school community will be offered over the coming weeks.

Foodshare:

We will be conducting a Foodshare appeal from Monday 5th December through to Monday 12th December 2022. The food collected will go to Foodshare, Maidenhead: a local charity who prepare and serve meals to families in Maidenhead who are struggling to provide for themselves. The difference between the 'haves' and 'have nots' is accentuated at Christmas, so the charity tries to provide something extra in the form of festive food and treats. As it is a school break, Foodshare will also be running its 'Holiday Hunger' programme to help families who struggle with the cost of extra meals when their children are not being fed at school. So we welcome in particular any donations of Christmas treats (chocolates, biscuits, cake, tinned ham etc) plus children's snacks, fruit juice / squash, cereal bars, tinned mac cheese, ravioli, beans & sausages.

We are very aware that these are voluntary donations, so every item is gratefully received.

We are hopeful that with student, staff and parental support, the items donated will have a hugely positive impact on the families Foodshare serves.

Carol Service:

On Thursday 8th December we would like to invite families to join our Carol Service. The evening will be held at All Saints Church, starting at 7pm. This is a chance for the school community to come together and reflect on the festive period. Following the service mulled wine and mice pies will be served in the church hall. To further support our contributions to Maidenhead Foodshare the collection this year will be supporting this charity.

Christmas Lunch:

On Wednesday 14th December students will have the opportunity to enjoy a Christmas lunch served at the Hub. The price will be that of a normal main meal price which is £2.50. Students should ensure they have sufficient funds in their account if they would like to participate. In order to support the serving of the Christmas lunch there will be a more limited selection of other items available during second break.

Christmas Jumper day:

Also on Wednesday 14th December, Altwood School will once again be getting into the festive spirit for Christmas Jumper Day. Donations of £2 for any student wanting to wear a Christmas Jumper will be collected before the day, and I anticipate raising lots of money for our other charities. Students do not have to take part in the day, but those who do will be expected to make the £2 donation. Fancy dress will not be permitted, and clothes worn must meet our usual standards of expectation regarding decency. If we consider your child's choice of clothing inappropriate, we will call home to request that you bring a change of clothes for them before they participate in the school day. We do not expect families to spend money on new Christmas jumpers, so perhaps

making an existing jumper a little more festive would be a good compromise. Children who do not wish to make the donation are expected in school in full uniform.

Arrangements for Friday 16th December:

I would also like to remind you that school closes at 12.15 on Friday 16th December. The coach companies have been informed of this, so will depart at 12.25. We will be reminding all students about our expectations regarding their behaviour and conduct on their way home from school on the day we wish you and your families a safe, peaceful and happy Christmas.

Yours faithfully,

R Nehme

Mrs Nehme
Assistant Headteacher