

20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

**Re: End of term arrangements and opportunities**

I wanted to write to you to make you aware of a number of opportunities and events that will be on offer to students and the wider school community over the coming weeks, in the lead up to Christmas.

**Change for Change: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December we will be holding a 'change for change' day. This is an opportunity for us to support number22. 'number22' is a free confidential counselling service based in Windsor, Maidenhead and Slough who work closely with us at Altwood. They are able to provide support for staff and students and we are privileged to have such a strong relationship with this fabulous service. We want to recognise their ongoing work, and we would like students to engage in a fundraising event to raise money for this charity. The idea is very simple, on 'change for change' day we would like students to bring in any spare change they can. Sixth form students will be collecting throughout the day and all funds raised will go directly to number22, please do all you can to support this charity event.

**Christmas Lunch: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December students will have the opportunity to enjoy a Christmas lunch served at the Hub. The price will be £2.70 for which students will receive a Christmas lunch and a drink. If students would like to participate in this event, payments need to be made on Scopay by Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. This payment is separate and in addition to any funds held on students' accounts. Students entitled to free school meals will still need to request one. In order to support the serving of the Christmas lunch there will be a more limited selection of other items available during second break.

**Carol Service: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 mince pies will be served in the church hall.

**Rewards assembly: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

As part of Altwood's continuing drive to recognise and praise those students who consistently make a positive contribution to the school community, we will be holding our first Christmas rewards assembly on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Students will be rewarded for their ongoing contribution to one or more of the following areas; Academic success, Compassion and Resilience, Culture and the Arts, Service, Sporting success and Values and Ethos. As part of this new initiative students will have the opportunity to secure their Honours, Junior Colours or Half Colours with the aspiration of working towards their Full School Colours. This is an exciting addition to our rewards system which will continue to be rolled out in 2024.

**Christmas Jumper day: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, Altwood School will once again be getting into the festive spirit for Christmas Jumper Day. This will be a non-school uniform day and students are actively encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper. As normal, a contribution of £2 will be required if students wish to participate in this non-uniform day. Parliament representatives will collect the contribution before the day or payment can be made

via Scopay. 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 full school uniform.

**Arrangements for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

I would also like to remind you that school closes at 12.15 on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

I would like to thank you for your anticipated support of these various events in the coming weeks.

Yours faithfully,

*R Nehme*

Mrs R Nehme  
Assistant Headteacher