

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 3rd December 2021



Dear Parents,

We live in such strange times. We now have a new variant of the virus and cases of COVID-19 generally remain quite high. I need, once again, to ask you to cooperate with my requests designed to keep our community as safe as possible. This is especially important as we are heading towards the festive Christmas period.

We made the decision to keep our Year 3 pupils in a separate 'bubble' to stop them mixing as much as practically possible with other year groups. This is due to a number of positive cases in this particular year group. Whilst the numbers are not high, I hope that you agree that this is a reasonable precaution. Other year groups have sporadic cases and as such do not require measures mentioned above.

We are still planning, for the time being, to go ahead with all our planned festive activities. I always felt that it is important, after two lockdowns and last year's Christmas with no festivities, that this year we should provide some events for the children and parents to enjoy. These moments are precious and irreplaceable and I genuinely want to ensure that parents and children have long lasting memories. As it stands today, we are going ahead with our Year 4 pantomime, a PTA surprise event to entertain our pupils, Amersham School pantomime, Rock Steady concert, PTA event, school visit to St. Michael's Church as well as our choir performing in the King's Church. However, we will continue to evaluate each event and assess risks associated with COVID-19. It may be that we may have to cancel or alter some events at short notice and I sincerely hope that you will understand our reasons.

Once more, I will kindly ask you to consider the following: 1) Wear face masks when picking up / dropping the children. This is, obviously, your personal choice. 2) Only one parent to pick up / drop off if possible and practical. 3) Limit visits to the office – only if absolutely necessary. 4) Keep your child at home if she / he are displaying COVID -19 symptoms and arrange for a PCR test.

We, on our part, will: 1) Continue to ensure adequate ventilation across the school. 2) Staff will wear face masks in common areas of the school (not classrooms). 3) Continue to encourage children to wash their hands regularly. 4) Revert to 'bubbles' if there are a number of confirmed cases across a year group. 5) Continue to sanitise our hands regularly.

I sincerely hope that all the above measures will help us all to stay COVID-19 free as much as possible and ensure that Christmas will be enjoyed with our nearest and dearest.

On a separate and slightly more upbeat note, our Year 6 pupils attended their annual Dodgeball tournament at Dr Challoner's High School. We are pleased to announce that both Woodside teams won in each pool. Our Year 3 children also took part in the Circuits event at Amersham School. Congratulations to all the children who attended and participated in both events! Their behaviour was exemplary and a credit to Woodside, as always.

On Wednesday, Year 6 were privileged enough to attend and listen to a live Zoom call hosted by the Jewish Museum. The children saw a live candle lighting event and learnt a song celebrating Hannukah. Hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Dorota Milner

Headteacher



From Dr Challoner's Grammar School In accordance with the School Admission Code, Dr Challoner's Grammar School Admissions Policy for 2023 is now available for public consultation. The policy is available on the [school's website](#). The consultation period is from Monday 29 November 2021 until Friday 28 January 2022. The Governing body welcomes any comments on the updated policy. Please email your comments to admissions@challoners.org, any comments must be returned by Friday 28 January 2022.

Christmas Cheer from the PTA Our PTA have been working tirelessly to bring the school community a host of events to bring us all some much-needed Christmas Cheer, and to make this festive season a happy and memorable one for everyone. So, grab your bobble hat and wallet join in the fun! It's all happening on **Friday 10th December!**

Christmas Raffle: Wow! We have some incredible prizes in the raffle this year, from a designer handbag, to vouchers, or one of the amazing class hampers. If you haven't bought any yet, or if you wish to buy more, they are still available to buy from Classlist until next Wednesday at 4pm, for **£1 per ticket**. The draw will take place on Friday 10th. Thanks to everyone who has already entered the draw - good luck!

Christmas Jumper Day: The PTA have arranged for our children to participate in the **Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day** on **Friday 10th December**. Children should wear their school uniform but with a Christmas jumper or sweatshirt over the top. *Please bring in your donations (suggested amount is £1 per child) and give it to you class teacher on the Friday.* Please click [here](#) for the flier.

Christmas Present Stall: Also on this day, children will be able to buy a range of small presents for their families from the Christmas Present Stall in school. These range from **50p to £4 per item** and will be placed in a bag that the children can choose to decorate. *Please send you child into school on Friday 10th, with a named purse or wallet (unfortunately, we cannot take responsibility for any lost money).* Please click [here](#) for the flier.

Christmas Cheer: And finally...we will also be holding an event after school on the Friday 10th December **for all our families**. This is a chance for us to come together to enjoy some Christmas music and hear our wonderful choir perform for us. This will take place in the Year 5/6 playground from **3.30-5.00pm**. As well as hot drinks, you can buy something delicious treats from our cake stall* and an item from the novelty gift stall. We think this will be a lovely way to celebrate the festive season with our school community and hope to see you there. *(We ask people to respect social distancing rules as much as possible, in the playground and at the stalls).* *Donations for the cake school can be brought to the school on Friday 10th December - please include a full list of ingredients. Please click [here](#) for the flier.

Dates for your diary

Upcoming term dates

Date	Event
7.12.21	King's Church Christmas Carol Concert (Choir only)
08.12.21	Chartwells Christmas lunch
9.12.21	Flu Immunisations
9.12.21	Year 4 Christmas play
10.12.21	PTA Children's Christmas Present Stall
10.12.21	PTA Christmas jumper day
10.12.21	Christmas Cheer Get Together, 3.30pm—5pm
13.12.21	Year 3 Egyptian Day
14.12.21	Rocksteady Concert
15.12.21	Amersham School Christmas performance
16.12.21	Whole school carol concert at a local church (children only)
22.01.22	Cross Country Lowndes Park
05.03.22	Cross Country - venue tbc

Friday 17th December: break up: at 1.30 pm

Wednesday 5th January: back to school