

Next Week- Week 1

Attendance reporting procedures - to speed up the process of recording morning daily absence, late arrivals and appointments, and ensure we have accurate records of symptoms, we are now asking parents to report children's absence by 0830 each morning using our [online google form here](#) which can also be found on the school website. This form can also be used to report future absence e.g. dentist appointments.

Covid Flow Chart - please see the [flowchart](#) which summarises simply how attendance works should you have Covid symptoms.

Canopies



(Year 7 playground above)

A total of 5 canopied seating areas have been constructed on playgrounds around the school creating much needed all-weather space for students to enjoy.

Staggered return/on-site testing in January

You may be aware that the government recently announced that schools are expected to carry out on-site testing for COVID-19 when students return to school after the Christmas break. To facilitate this we will once again be asking you to complete a consent form and staggering the start times of students returning in January. We will confirm the arrangements and provide more detail next week, but in summary the **draft** timetable for return can be seen below:

Wednesday 5th January 2022

- 8.30 - 10.30 Year 7
- 10.30 - 12.30 Year 11
- 12.30 - 3.20 Sixth Form

Thursday 6th January 2022

- 8.30 - 10.30 Year 8
- 10.30 - 12.00 Year 9
- 12.00 - 3.20 Year 10

Key Dates

- 6 Dec: Y13 Trial Exams begin
- 21 Dec: Last day of term, 12.30 finish for students
- 21 Dec: Christmas Jumper Day, non-uniform (Christmas Jumper optional)

Communications

- [Y11 Enterprise and Marketing Exam](#)
- [End of Y11 Trial Exams](#)

Attendance

Forms with the highest attendance, w/e 25 Nov:

- 7H1 99.2%
- 8C2 97.6%
- 9H2 95%
- 10H2 97.2%

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
18202	16066	15096	15733
1 st	2 nd	4 th	3 rd
03/12/2021			

Vacancies

- [ICT Support Technician Apprentice](#)
- [Premises Site Assistant Temporary Contract](#)
- [Premises Assistant Permanent Full Time](#)
- [Teaching Assistant 18hrs](#)
- [Foreign Language Assistant](#)
- [Aspire2Fitness Gym Manager](#)
- [Aspire2Fitness Fitness Instructor](#)
- [Aspire2Fitness Gym Administrator \(casual post\)](#)
- [Cover Supervisor](#)

Well done to Year 11 who have completed their trial exams today. Good luck to Year 13 who begin theirs on Monday!

Food Pantry

There are 4 food pantries in Berkhamsted and Northchurch; these are places to go if families are struggling to buy food/hygiene/cleaning products, free of charge. The pantries are all used daily, especially around Christmas, with finances stretched for so many families. Form tutors will be collecting donations for the pantries next week. Please click [here](#) for the list of items you can donate.

Coats: Due to covid restrictions the students are outside at break and lunch unless we have heavy rain; please make sure your child has a warm, waterproof coat every day.

Careers in Graphic Design

On Monday 20 December, Alex Chaplin, Head of Design at Dixons Carphone, will be joining us to deliver a careers talk on graphic design/media and working in the creative industries. This is an incredible opportunity for students who are passionate about design and art to get an insight into different studio roles; how a creative responds to a brief; and the essential skills and qualities needed to succeed. This event is open to students in Years 11, 10 and 9. Please note that each hour session is limited to the first 40 students who register. Registration is now open using this [form](#). You will receive an email confirmation if your child has been successful in securing a place for this event, or whether they are on a waiting list.

Berkhamsted Advent Windows

Each evening from 1-24th December Berkhamsted residents unveil a festive-themed window which is then lit up every subsequent night until 5th January. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Herts Music Service

Herts music service have [three surveys](#) for parents/carers, students and Music teachers to complete to help them provide the best service they can. Every student and music teacher that completes a survey will be entered into a prize draw to **win a free music workshop** for their school. The deadline to complete the short survey is 15 January.

Safeguarding

A tobacco-based product known as 'snus' is becoming an increasing concern across the country, resulting in some young people being hospitalised. 'Snus' is usually found in small pouches, resembling tiny tea bags, and contains high levels of nicotine. It is generally consumed by placing the bag between the gum and upper lip. This is a product that must not be brought onto the school site.

From The ASA Thank You

On Sunday the ASA held its chocolate and bottle tombola as part of the Festival of Light celebrations and, due to your huge generosity, made nearly **£1800** which is a brilliant result and will be reinvested back into the school.

Bags 2 School

On Wednesday we had our Bags 2 School donations collected; once again, the amount of donations was exceptional and we now await our collection to be sorted and weighed, at which point we will receive our payment. We will let you know how much we raised when we are informed.

Santa Sleigh

On Thursday a group of hardy volunteers supported the Round Table Santa Sleigh collections and again we shall receive our share of the total collections probably in the new year. We will also keep you informed of what is made from this activity.

Wreath Making

Thank you for your Wreath Making Kit orders - we had a fantastic response with nearly 60 wreaths ordered. Please ensure you have made your payments - you should have received an email with payment and collection details.

Christmas Hampers

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation for our hampers, your generosity is hugely appreciated and is allowing us to make some lovely hampers which are well worth winning.

[Please don't forget to buy your tickets to be in with a chance of winning.](#)

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston

This week, we've been refreshing some of our favourite resources to make them more fun and appealing for your children to use:

- [How Resilient Am I?](#)
- [Who is there for me?](#)
- [My Oracy Profile](#)
- [Reflecting on Your Presentation.](#)
- [CV for Primary Aged Children](#)

Upcoming webinars and new resources:

- [Mood Thermometer](#)
- Eating disorders expert, **Dr Sophie Nesbitt**, debunks common myths and answers frequently asked questions in this [webinar](#)
- Six [free and fantastic, evidence-based resources](#) that you can use to help boost your children's body image.
- [Podcast on memory and learning](#) (with the fabulous Dr Duncan Astle),
- [Interview with lawyer Maria Strauss](#) about schools' responses to Ofsted's report into sexual abuse in schools
- [Video about the university application process.](#)

Finally, we've been asked to spread the word about a fantastic research project looking at the impact of the pandemic on young people with a diagnosis of ASD and/or ADHD. If you'd like to find out more, or take part in this study, click [here](#). If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the researcher: Hayley.moore@nottingham.ac.uk