



# Cardiff High School

## Ysgol Uwchradd Caerdydd

Headteacher/Pennaeth  
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16 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your positive comments regarding the weekly update letters. This will be the last one for the term. We will, however, write to you towards the end of the holiday regarding any updates related to the return to school.

### **Covid-19 Update**

Whilst the decision to send pupils home following a positive diagnosis is never easy, we have been very pleased with the high level of engagement with our home learning timetables. Thank you for supporting this process and for your e mails expressing gratitude for the quality of the provision and the hard work undertaken by staff. These messages have been shared with colleagues.

You will be probably be aware that Welsh Government has made the decision to reduce the coronavirus self-isolation and quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days. This means that individuals identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive will have to self-isolate for 10 days and not 14. The self-isolation period will be the same, therefore, for those who are identified as contacts and those who have tested positive for the virus. Please be advised that as of December 10, we shall be applying the 10 day rule within our school based track and trace protocols.

Once we have been notified of a positive case, the school undertakes a rigorous track and trace exercise. Following this, families of close contacts are notified of the child's need to isolate via the Parent Pay system. If you have not already signed up for Parent Pay, please can we encourage you to do so. This will ensure that you receive any vital information as speedily as possible. The system also allows for the sending of texts to families which is very

useful, particularly if we need to send pupils home within a school day. For any queries regarding this, please contact Mrs Sarah Young on [YoungS11@hwbcymru.net](mailto:YoungS11@hwbcymru.net).

We have been pleased, on the whole, with the way in which our pupils have responded to the wearing of face coverings this term. Please may we request that your child remembers to bring at least one each day. Each pupil has now received four washable masks from the Local Authority. Should they forget, they may purchase one from reception at the subsidised price of £1.

Should your child receive a positive diagnosis for Covid-19 over the holiday period, please would you let Mrs Allison Yarrow know, so that we can update our records. [YarrowA@Hwbcymru.net](mailto:YarrowA@Hwbcymru.net)

### **Parent Pay Accounts**

Please may we politely request that you check that your child's Parent Pay account has sufficient funds for next term. We will continue to offer our full break and lunch time provision following the Christmas break.

If your child is in receipt of free school meals and is required, by the school, to self-isolate at any point next term, the Local Authority will send supermarket vouchers to your home address.

We recognise that these may be financially challenging times for a number of families. Should you require any assistance in applying for free school meals, please contact Sarah Young who will be happy to help. [YoungS11@hwbcymru.net](mailto:YoungS11@hwbcymru.net).

### **Virtual Christmas Concert**

Throughout this half term, the music department has been preparing performances in year group contact "bubbles" in order to maintain extra-curricular music provision for our pupils within the complex context of Covid-19.

Sadly, in the current climate, it has not been possible to hold our traditional "live" carol concert this year.

In a bid to maintain the tradition and to provide our pupils with an opportunity to perform for we have filmed many of our groups. These have, in turn, been edited into a short half hour concert. Whilst we remain a little disappointed that we have not been able to meet together to celebrate the festive period through music, we are delighted to be able to showcase the hard work of our pupils through a virtual platform.

The Virtual Carol Concert was launched on Monday 14 December and remains available for all to watch. A link has been shared on school social media and also on the school website for

you to join the event. This will remain active over the Christmas Holiday, enabling you to share the link so that family and friends may also enjoy the musical performances.

Within the concert, there is a link for you to contribute towards our designated charities should you wish. The donations will be shared between ***Children In Need, The Kids Cancer Charity*** and ***AP Cymru***.

### **School Newsletter**

Whilst it felt a little strange not to be sending home a hard copy of the newsletter this term, we are grateful for your positive comments. You will have seen from the articles that we have endeavoured to make school life as normal and as enjoyable as possible for our pupils in these exceptional and unsettling times. If you have not had a chance to look at this yet, it is still available on the school website.

### **School Uniform**

As the weather has certainly become colder of late, we wanted to remind you of the fact that pupils will benefit from the wearing of layers in the classrooms. Hoodies, jeans and trousers that look like jeans are not permitted. We would, therefore, encourage learners to purchase a jumper and blazer during the holiday period and also replace any trousers that are not suitable for school.

### **Mini Whiteboards**

You will recall that each pupil was issued with a mini whiteboard, pens and an eraser at the start of term. These are essential items for each lesson. Please can we ask that you remind your child to pack them each day as we head into a new term.

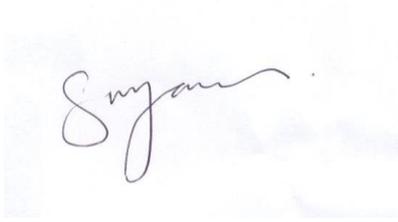
### **Sixth Form Application Process**

Due to the high level of interest, the process will remain open across the Christmas period. For any further information please contact Head of Upper School, Mrs Kath Dilks [DilksK@hwbcymru.net](mailto:DilksK@hwbcymru.net).

Please continue to use our website and follow our Twitter page throughout the holiday.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy, healthy and safe Christmas holiday.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S M Jones', is written over a light blue and white background that resembles a sky or water texture.

S M JONES

Headteacher