



## GUISELEY SCHOOL

13 December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In assemblies recently, we have been awarding our Guseley School 'Crest' lapel badges to the first group of pupils who have achieved the full set of postcards. As you know, these postcards are awarded to pupils who display in their words and deeds the core values of the school. I look forward to awarding many more of these in the coming months as we continue to stress how important it is that all members of our school community uphold these values.

It was incredibly pleasing to see so many pupils supporting the 'Christmas Jumper' appeal this morning with the proceeds of their donations supporting the 'Save the Children' charity, not to mention the quite remarkable array of jumpers that were on display.

As we head into the last week before Christmas, I would like to remind parents/carers of the end of term and start of term arrangements and some other important updates.

### **Christmas Dinner**

Our catering team will be preparing Christmas dinner for students on both Tuesday 17 December and Wednesday 18 December. Pupils do not need to book but should be aware that our 'street food' offer will be more limited on those two days.

### **End of Winter Term and Start of Spring Term Arrangements**

Term therefore finishes for Christmas this coming Thursday 19 December. Pupils will be dismissed at 12:10pm. For any pupils who wish to eat in school before leaving, lunch will be available from 12:15pm. **If you would like to take advantage of this facility, please let school reception know by this coming Monday 16 December** so that we may ensure provision is arranged.

The new spring term begins for all pupils on Wednesday 08 January 2020 at 8:30am.

### **Winter Vomiting Bug/Flu**

We have been fortunate at Guseley School not to suffer the extent of illness that some of our colleagues in other schools have suffered across the city this year. Nonetheless, we have seen a number of absences amongst both pupils and staff with seasonal illness. I would like to remind parents/carers that, whilst attendance is a crucial pillar of pupil progress, those who have suffered from the winter vomiting bug or Noro-virus should not return to school for 48 hours.

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### **Training Days**

On Friday 20 December, staff will be involved in training that focuses on teaching pupils with special educational needs. All staff will be involved in conducting some specific work on auditing our SEN delivery and developing classroom strategies. We will also be receiving some expert training on ADHD and the strategies that can be employed to support pupils.

Monday 06 January and Tuesday 07 January will be an intensive two days of curriculum development as we continue the ongoing work to develop the quality of our curriculum across all key stages.

Monday 06 January 2020 was initially planned as an 'exceptional closure' day. This closure would have enabled our building contractors to complete some essential works that need to be completed whilst pupils are not in the building. The essential works will now take place on the training day that had been planned for 03 July, ensuring there is no change to our planned closures and the non-attendance days for pupils remain the same.

### **Christmas Concert**

Our Christmas concert will be on the evening of Wednesday 18 December starting at 7:00pm. This is always a highlight of the concert season and is guaranteed to get the festive juices flowing! Tickets are available on the door at £3.50 (£2 concessions). I would encourage you to attend and see the remarkable array of talent that exists within our student body.

### **PTA Raffle**

Congratulations to all who won prizes in the PTA raffle. I would like to thank both the PTA for their hard work in continuing to raise money for the school and all those local businesses who contributed prizes. I would also like to thank those pupils and parents/carers who worked hard to sell raffle tickets.

We will continue to work hard throughout next week and look forward to enjoying our traditional Christmas assemblies on Thursday 19, which will include drama and music from our pupils.

I would like to wish all parents/carers, pupils and staff a joyous Christmas break and a very happy New Year. I hope that it is both enjoyable and restful. We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Wednesday 08 January 2020.

Yours sincerely



Paul Clayton  
Head Teacher