

King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls, Turves Green, Birmingham, B31 4BP

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01 December 2023

Dear Parent / Guardian

# 1) Christmas Dinner

Our fantastic kitchen staff have agreed to prepare a Christmas Meal for all our pupils again this year. For Year 7s and 8s this will be on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, for Years 9 and 10 this will be on the Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December and for Year 11s it will be on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December. These festive meals will take place during Period 3 and do not require payment by parents.

## 2) Drama Club

I thoroughly enjoyed the Drama Club's Christmas Play on Thursday evening — and it was great to see so many supportive parents come to watch what these talented young people have been working on in their extra-curricular Drama.

As Drama Club participants are aware, our Drama Coach, Ms Crossley, is now starting her maternity leave. We are fortunate that we have secured the services of an excellent, experienced, Drama coach to keep the Saturday Club running (with the exception of this Saturday, when Saturday Club will not run). We will also be keeping the two-week day Drama Clubs running as well.

## 3) New Clubs on the Horizon - Squash, Boxing and Cantonese

Mr Chesterman has been working hard to further expand the extra-curricular opportunities for our pupils. In the new year we will be offering both Boxing and Squash clubs, delivered by professional coaches and free of charge for parents. Places will be limited, so please encourage your child to sign-up promptly when they are launched. We are also hopeful that we will soon be in a position to launch a Cantonese Club for our languages enthusiasts.

## 4) Attendance

You may be aware that the school is running a Christmas Attendance Rewards scheme, where children with 100% attendance (from last Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November until Christmas) will receive a £5 amazon voucher as a gift from the school, with exceptions made for medical appointments.





## 5) Homework

We will be having a real focus on improving the quality and quantity of homework in the weeks ahead. Assistant Head, Ms Elliott, will be writing to you early next week with further details. It is worth remembering that Homework Club runs every evening after school to support children to complete homework.

# 6) **Snow**

With lots of talk about possible snow, I am reasonably confident that we will escape significant snowfall this side of Christmas. However, in the event that significant snow is, at some stage, predicted by the Met Office, we will adopt a similar approach to last year and announce a later start for the day in question to allow us to make an informed closure decision before people start potentially hazardous journeys and to allow people to make journeys after peak rush hour has passed.

## 7) Year 11 Mock Exam Results

We have been busy looking at the outcomes of the Year 11 mocks, and I am really pleased to be able to share that overall we are now looking forward to the current Year 11 achieving our best ever GCSE results next summer. If you have a child in Year 11, please keep strongly encouraging them to take advantage of the boosters which run **every day after school** to continue to build upon this positive momentum. Maths boosters, for example, run every Wednesday – and can make all the difference.

Yours faithfully

Mr Neil Jones Headteacher