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WOODSIDE  
ACADEMY

# The Woodside Way

Volume 11 – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first issue of the half-termly Woodside Way.

The new academic year is well underway and children are settling in to their class routines and knuckling down to their learning.

Across the school, we have welcomed 35 new children and their families to the Woodside community. We understand that it can take time to get to know us and how things work at Woodside. Our message to all parents and carers is that our work in partnership with you is crucial to your child's learning and the progress that they will make whether that is in their academic learning or in their personal development. We are always ready to listen to your views and learn from your expertise and knowledge.

During the summer holidays, we received the assessment and examination results for our Y11-Y13 learners. Despite the challenges of disrupted education last year and thanks to the hard work of the young people, teachers and parents, all of the children gained qualifications in English, Maths, Science, PSE and a vocational BTEC. Each year we review the qualifications on offer to ensure that in addition to the core subjects, we give choices which suit the children's preferences and abilities. This year we are introducing a new Maths and English qualification to ensure that all learners will continue to have the best opportunities to achieve.

One focus across the whole school for 2021-2022 is to improve and enhance opportunities for reading. We have also invested in a new reading scheme which will be available online for reading at home. There are more details in the article inside this issue.

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With the speech and language therapy team, we are also ramping up our use of Signalong and this is another way which you can support your child in their learning and their independence. After the half term break we will be offering demonstrations of Signalong signs via the school YouTube page. We also have staff and pupil Signalong champions for each phase. Their job is to encourage the use of sign across the school and help us all to use the signs correctly. If there is sufficient interest in parent training, then we may be able to run a parent training course after Christmas.

Recently, Oxleas NHS have generously donated 100 iPads which were no longer compatible with Oxleas' systems. These will make a great difference to the children's learning, especially as we are able to add a range of communication and learning apps to the devices. We appreciate all that NHS workers have contributed to all of our lives and we are very grateful indeed for the iPads.

The half term break is coming up. I know that the children and the Woodside team will welcome a few day's rest. Children will return to a full day on Wednesday 3rd November but I am looking forward to seeing you in school for your appointments for the Progress Review Day on Tuesday 2nd November. This is an opportunity for you to spend time with the teacher focusing in on important areas of learning for your child so that together we be sure that we are making the very most of the educational opportunities her at Woodside.

*Kathryn Freame*  
Head Teacher



Woodside were lucky enough to have participated in the mini-London marathon this week using our daily mile track. We have seen some outstanding individual and whole school achievements and we could not be prouder of our students showing such enthusiasm and determination at the end of the first term back. Thank-you to all the students for being fantastic and staff who helped, and thank you also to all of our families for their generous support.

*Mr Foy*  
Learning Mentor

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### 14-19 Phase Coffee Afternoon



On Tuesday 5th October the 14-19 Phase hosted a coffee afternoon for parents/carers of our year 11, 12 and 13 students. We invited guest speakers from Shooters Hill College and Bexley College to give a presentation on the provision offered by their establishments to support our students in continuing their education outside of Woodside Academy.

The event was very well attended by our parents and carers and the content of the afternoon proved to be relevant and of interest. This was largely reflected by the positive feedback that we received from the parent and carers after the event.

The presentation largely focused on the support that both establishments can offer and a brief insight into the current courses.

To support transition for our students the school careers team will be working with both colleges to arrange for our students to visit each campus to give them a taste of college life.

The careers team in school are also planning, in the near future, to host such an event to inform parents and carers what the school has to offer as part of its Post 16 provision.

### West End comes to Woodside

On 14th October Hairspray star Lizzie Bea visited Woodside to run musical theatre workshops in the senior school. One of the students wrote her a letter which is included here;

*"To Lizzie Bea,*

*I would like to start by thanking you for coming to Woodside. It was a real honour. I'm not just speaking for myself but I know that everyone loved seeing you and dancing and singing. We all had so much fun.*

*Also just want to say thank you so much for signing my jumper and book it means a lot.*

*Hopefully we will see you again soon. Thanks again."*



We are hoping to book another session with Lizzie so that the younger children also have the chance to work with her.



## Key Stage 3

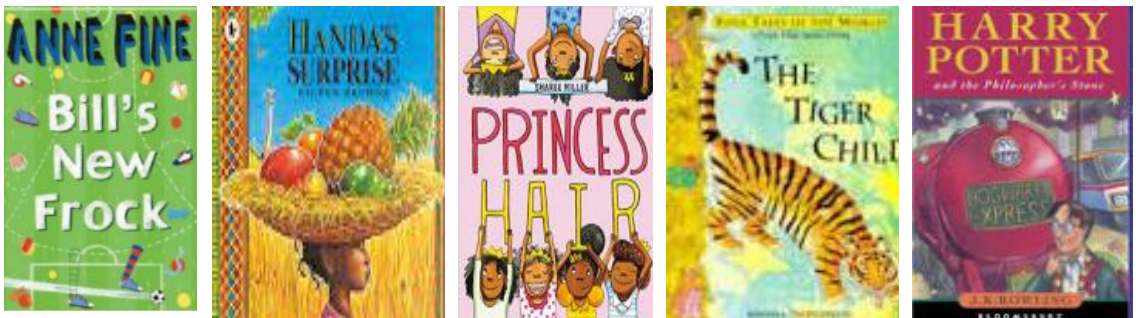
This half term, the pupils in key stage three have been learning through the holistic topic which considers 'Where do we belong', with particular focus on our community. The pupils have been developing their knowledge of respect and positive relationships, highlighted in giving thanks for food and thinking of others, and promoting black history month.

In English this term, pupils have been developing reading skills through daily lessons. Pupils have improved their writing skills through descriptive writing and narratives, as well as having regular reading lessons to increase guided reading and comprehension skills.

In Maths this half term, pupils will be learning about number and place value, developing strategies to solve problems and deepening understanding through practical opportunities. The pupils have also been increasing their understanding of telling the time and recognising the value of money.

The key stage three pupils have had amazing practical opportunities within their science lessons in the lab, classrooms and around the school grounds, including investigating fair tests when making slime, melting rocks, making tea bags and waterproof clothing. Pupils have also been learning about light and dark, making shadow puppets and understanding light sources. Within the holistic curriculum, pupils have had the opportunity to take part in PSHE and RSE learning about 'me and my family', learning ball games, team games and trampolining in PE and playing instruments in music. The pupils have been looking at their local community for history and geography, creating pop up books in DT, making delicious foods from different cultures in food technology and learning how a computer works and how to stay safe when using a computer or device in ICT. The pupils have also been learning about places of worship in the community and about Islamic religious traditions.

Some of our favourite books that we have been enjoying reading in class and learning about have included:



Some photos from our Autumn term:



**Key Stage 2**

During this term, KS2 have been learning about Houses and Homes. One of the information texts we have enjoyed reading is 'Homes from Around the World' where we looked at the different types of homes that people live in across the world. We have also enjoyed reading 'The Three Little Pigs,' and making our own simple versions of this story. In Art, we created homes by manipulating clay and using tools to make marks. We also used our understanding of different materials from science to design our own houses.

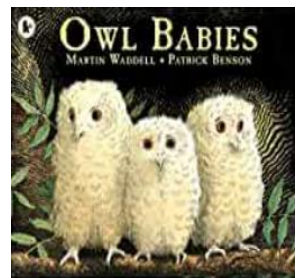
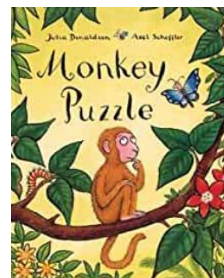
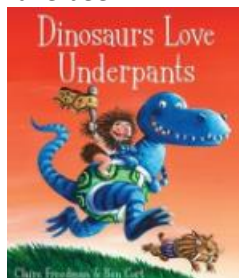


**EYFS and KS1**

In Daisy class we have been learning about families. We have been looking at our own families, how we grow and animal lifecycles. We have enjoyed this topic especially when exploring our outdoor areas, investigating colour, number, texture and shapes. We even found some insects of our own and looked at them through magnifying glasses to identify them.



Some of our favourite books have been:





### Reading at Woodside

In classes we are enjoying reading together and as individuals. Please join in by sharing books with your child and letting us know how you get on by writing in their home contact or reading record book. Teachers will be happy to provide guidance and examples of questions to be asked.

We are promoting a love of reading. We celebrate people reading by sharing photos of people enjoying reading in class. We also have photos of staff reading in unusual places. We would love to see where you enjoy looking at a book.

Classes and adults display the titles of the books we are reading so that we can share our enjoyment. We enjoy using our class reading corners and visiting the school library. In EYFS-KS1 we are currently developing a new library just for the youngest children in the school. We are excited to be starting a new reading scheme across the school. It has lots of exciting books and there is even an interactive section so you can enjoy the books together at home.

To develop story telling skills, some classes are creating their own stories from pictures. We can all make up our own versions. As a learning community we are all learning to sign- there are many ways to join in with a book.

Each class has a working vocabulary of words they are using during lessons or a topic. We are all finding ways to enrich our vocabulary by thinking of other words with a similar meaning, or even thinking about words which mean the opposite and are celebrating new vocabulary, whether it is spoken, written or signed. One class is capturing all of their new words on a tree of knowledge.





### **Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) for Woodside Academy**

Thank you to all those who responded to the questionnaire about setting up or helping out with a Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) for Woodside Academy. It was heartening to see so many responses of people willing to help with this.

The next steps would be to have an informal meeting, followed by an Annual General Meeting (AGM) a few weeks later. It would be great to see people for the informal meeting on Thursday 4 November from 4 - 4.45pm. This will be an opportunity to meet the other interested people and discuss the roles that will be necessary to be a successful venture.

The AGM is a requirement for any PTA and will be held at Woodside Academy on Thursday 18 November from 4-5pm. Please look out for the letters to remind you of these dates and ask if you are likely to attend.

Please note that it will not be possible to bring children along to these events.

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Now that the dark nights are drawing in, please remember to **Be Safe – Be Seen**.

## How can my child be seen more easily?



### ON DULL DAYS...

- Children can wear bright or fluorescent colours
- High-visibility tabards and other clothing can be purchased from many retailers
- Fluorescent armbands can worn over coats and other clothes
- Use bags in bright colours or with high-visibility strips

### AT NIGHT...

- Reflective clothing reflects light from car and bike headlamps
- Reflective armbands, clothes and accessories should be placed on bags and clothing, or over it
- Remember that fluorescent colours don't show up in the dark

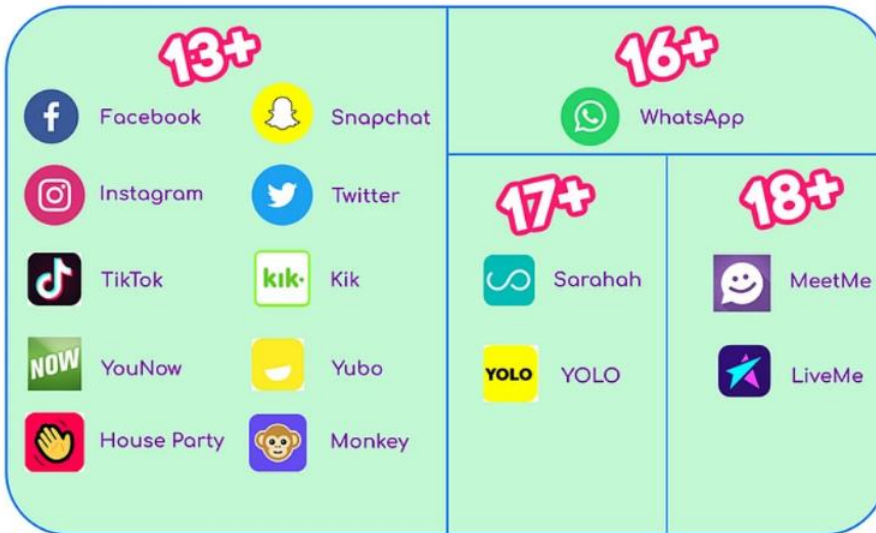
### HOW TO STAY COOL...

- For older children who may see fluorescent and reflective items as 'uncool', stickers for bags or coats can be purchased



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## Online Safety tips for parents



**Social media apps have age restrictions**, it is a parent's responsibility to make sure they only have access to apps that are age appropriate.

### Keeping your child safe online:

- It a parent's **responsibility** to keep your child safe online at home.

*As they get older 8 out of 10 teens spend most of their time online chatting to friends on social media or in games\**

\*Source: [In their own words: The digital lives of schoolchildren - Cybersurvey 2019](#)

- Make sure you and your child know how to **block abusive comments and report content** that worries them (see below).
- Teach them to **respect others online and think about comments before they post them** and discuss how easily comments made online can be misinterpreted.
- If your child, or someone else sends **threatening, abusive or offensive messages or images** via Whatsapp, Snapchat or any other social networking site, they could be **committing an offence**, and these need to be reported to the police either online (<https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime>) or telephone **101**.
- Don't allow them to meet people in real life that they've only talked to online and **remind them that some people may not be who they say they are**.
- Set up **strong parental controls** on your internet connection and **any devices** that your child uses. For help on how to set these up visit: [www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls](http://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls)

*Sending threatening, abusive, offensive messages or images is a criminal offence.*

*Met Police 2021*



## Online resources for parents and carers

### Parental controls advice:

- A set of guides highlighting safety features on popular social media services and messaging apps. [www.saferinternet.org.uk/safety-tools](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safety-tools)
- Support and information on what to do if you think your child is at risk online. [www.childnet.com/parents-help](http://www.childnet.com/parents-help)

### How to report harmful, offensive and abusive messages, images or content

- Advice for adults and young people on the reporting tools for popular games, apps and social media platforms. [www.childnet.com/how-to-make-a-report](http://www.childnet.com/how-to-make-a-report)
- **CEOP**. A police agency tackling child sexual abuse and online grooming, including an online reporting tool and advice and activities for parents and children. To make a report: [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)
- Internet Watch Foundation. The IWF work to remove online images and videos of child sexual abuse. Their online reporting tool can be used to anonymously report criminal content of this kind. [www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk)
- Advice on how to respond to harmful content online, this tool also allows you to query inadequate reporting responses from other services. [www.reportharmfulcontent.com](http://www.reportharmfulcontent.com)
- Hate crime and incidents and advice on how to report it in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. [www.report-it.org.uk](http://www.report-it.org.uk)
- How to remove a nude image shared online: [www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/remove-nude-image-shared-online](http://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/remove-nude-image-shared-online)
- Make a report to the police:  
[www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime](http://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime) or call 101



Please see below amended Woodside term dates for next year. These have been amended to reflect revised start of term dates in September and an additional day's school holiday on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June, to offset the bank holiday the previous week for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. These dates can also be viewed on the school website.

## **Woodside Academy Term Dates for 2021 to 2022**

### **Term One**

Primary Pupils return to school on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021  
Secondary Pupils return to school on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
(Half term holiday – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021)

### **Term Two**

Pupils return to school – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021  
(Christmas holiday – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022)

### **Term Three**

Pupils return to school – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
(Half term holiday – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022)

### **Term Four**

Pupils return to school – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022  
(Easter holiday – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2022)

### **Term Five**

Pupils return to school – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
(Half term holiday – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022)

### **Term Six**

Pupils return to school – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

### **School Closed for INSET days**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

### **Pupil Progress Review Day**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 (pupils + parent/carers in by appointment only)



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## Woodside Academy 2021/2022

September 21						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 21						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 21						
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29	30					

December 21						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 22						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 22						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 22						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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28	29	30	31			


April 22						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	


May 22						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					


June 22						
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27	28	29	30			


July 22						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31


August 22						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				


 Holidays (School closed)

 Teacher Training Day  
(School closed to pupils)

 Bank Holiday (School closed)

 Progress Review Day  
(Pupils+parent/cares in by appointment only)

 Primary start of term

 Secondary start of term



Please note that the term dates attached for 2022-23 have been revised since the version sent earlier this week.

## Woodside Academy 2022/23



September 2022						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2022						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2022						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2022						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 half day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 half day		

April 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 half day	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Holidays (School closed)  
 Teacher Training Day (School closed to pupils)

Bank Holiday (School closed)  
 Progress Review Day (Pupils+parent/cares in by appointment only)

Half day at school



### Keeping Children Safe

If you're worried that anyone under the age of 18 might need help, or is being neglected or hurt, you must tell someone.

Call Children's Services at the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 020 3045 5440 and speak to a social worker. If you're worried you'll be put in a difficult position, you can speak to them anonymously. The opening hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

if it's out of hours, call 020 8303 7777 or 020 8303 7171

drop in and see us at Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street, Bexleyheath DA6 7AT

### If you are a parent and you have concerns about your child's mental health,

**Bexley CAMHS:** 0203 260 5200 Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

During weekends, evenings and bank holidays emergency support is available from the following services

**The urgent advice/crisis line CAMHS :** 0800 330 8590

**Child Line:** 0800 111111

**Samaritans:** 08457 909090

*We welcome communication from parents and carers, please see guidance sheet attached - **Communication between home and school (v2) May 2021***

### Information and Helpline Numbers

[Bexley Coronavirus Helpline](#) London Borough of Bexley has setup a helpline for vulnerable residents who may need help, advice, and support linked to the coronavirus. Tel - 0203 045 5398

NSPCC Internet Safety - <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

You can also visit our School website for more information - <http://www.woodside.bexley.sch.uk//>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>





**Pupil Covid testing/reporting procedures**

**KS3 pupils should:**

- Over the half term break, continue Covid home testing every day and report results via the NHS Link.

**KS4/P16 pupils should:**

- Over the half term break continue COVID home testing twice a week.

Should you obtain a positive LFD result, or have Covid symptoms you should:

- Self-isolate and immediately book a PCR test for clarification of result.

*Testing is voluntary for secondary pupils and staff. Please do follow the above guidance to ensure that we comply with the Government guidance. Thank you for your continued support in keeping everyone safe.*

**Dates for Diary**

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2021	Pupils Progress Day (parents and pupils should attend only for booked appointment time)
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2021	All pupils return to school
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Remembrance Day
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Children in Need Day
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	KS3 Christmas Performance 9:15 am – 10.15 pm KS2 Christmas Performance 2.15 pm – 2.45 pm
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Christmas Fair
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Last day of term before Christmas break
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	All pupils return to school

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