



7 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this email finds you and your families well.

The Autumn term has been one where we have faced challenges of further delays to the building project partially due to a good deal of inclement weather. Yet I have remained impressed with the way our students have worked hard and focused on their studies. It has also been fantastic to see so many students getting back to involvement in co-curricular activities. There are very few students who have not been involved in at least one co-curricular activity over the course of this term. We have also seen a return to school trips and it has been great to see trips abroad happening with both of our hugely successful MFL trips to Seville and Berlin alongside Geography fieldtrips, Theatre trips and a vast array of Sports fixtures.

If your child has not been involved in co-curricular opportunities yet this year, can I ask that you encourage them you to consider attending some of the array of clubs available for all students to join. There is something for everyone, from sporting activities to chess clubs, and we would like to encourage every student to get the very most out of the opportunities offered. Next term, we will have even more on offer and an updated list of activities will be sent out before the end of term. As always, our current offer can be found on our website <https://www.guiseleyschool.org.uk/extra-curricular>.

Early finish on December 16th

As is customary, we will finish for the Christmas Holidays at lunchtime on Friday the 16th. Students will be released at 12.30 after a morning of lessons and Christmas assemblies.

Lockers

Lockers will be serviced and cleaned over the Christmas break. Please remind your child to empty their lockers before they leave on 16th December. We feel access to lockers is important to offer students in making school life a little easier, although there is a considerable cost. We have a small number of parents who have not yet paid the £5 locker maintenance fee for this year. Please can I ask parents to pay this so that we can continue to offer lockers to students.

Lost Property

Students should check at reception and PE for any lost property as these items will be donated to charity if not claimed. Students will be able to check in the PE changing rooms on 15th December at lunch and after school whilst reception will be available to check each day at break and lunch until the 15th December.

Christmas Menu

We are delighted to advise that we will be providing a grab and go festive menu on Wednesday the 14th December in our dining facilities.

School Office Closure

The School Office will close on 16 December at 1pm until Tuesday 3rd January.

Uniform

We always encourage students to take pride in their uniform as representatives of Guiseley School. Indeed, we believe that our school uniform is an important means through which we establish and communicate the

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high standards that we aim for in all aspects of life in school. Whilst most students uphold these standards impeccably, we have seen a recent increase in students arriving to school without the correct school shoes. Footwear needs to be plain black shoes, with black trainers or footwear with sports logos not permitted. Medical evidence must be provided if it is necessary for a student to wear alternative footwear for medical reasons. Boots can be worn to school during inclement weather but school shoes should be brought to change into.

It is also worth reminding Parent/Carers at this point that students are not permitted to wear false nails or nail varnish and piercings are only allowed in the ear lobe or helix, with a maximum of two small studs per ear. Your support in ensuring that your child returns to school in January meeting all of these expectations is greatly appreciated. As parents will be aware, students not in the appropriate uniform, including footwear, as well as students with piercing or make-up issues that cannot be resolved will be isolated from other students throughout the day until this is rectified. Please do support your child to adhere to uniform requirements as we head towards the Christmas break and when we return in January.

Building Works

It has been a frustrating term with respect to building delays. Although we have gained access to our new hard courts and Netball court, which has made a huge difference to access around site and outdoor areas, we still await completion of the 'soft-social area' and car park which will make access to the site so much more manageable. However, we have seen real progress in the last 4 weeks and are very hopeful we will see site completion very early in the new year. I would reiterate how much we are looking forward to inviting all parents into school to see the completed site.

Nativity!

You will already be well aware that our students are performing "Nativity the Musical" at school for three nights on the 12th, 13th and 14th December at 7pm. Students have worked incredibly hard to put the show together and it promises to be a fantastic show. **If you can come along and support our students on these evenings, please can I encourage you to do so** – it means a huge amount student to have parents and carers in the audience. Tickets are available on ParentPay; prices are £8 adults and £4 concessions.

Emergency Closure – 'Snow Days'

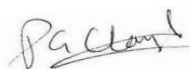
If weather makes the school site unsafe or there are travel issues, we may have to take the decision to close the school or instigate a late start. We will always **try** to make an early decision and inform parents by **text message**. We will also update our website and inform local radio.

In the eventuality of a closure, students will be able to access a selection of core subject (English, Maths and Science) lessons via independent learning tasks that will be set on Microsoft Teams. These will broadly take 3 hours to complete. We recognise that some students may not have suitable online access at home. If this applies, students can use their knowledge organisers to self-quiz on their current curriculum topic. Students have been shown how to do this and there is a guide on the website.

We wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas holiday.

As ever, if you have any questions feel free to contact us at info@guiseleyschool.org.uk

Yours sincerely



Paul Clayton
Headteacher