

KEB/cl

2nd December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the Autumn term but one look at the front of school and it is clear that Christmas is just around the corner.

Our school choir were delighted to be part of the Christmas light switch on in Wimborne last weekend. Students have also been working in their house teams on a Christmas challenge and we have collected 200 selection boxes which have been donated to the Wimborne Food Bank, thank you for all of your support with this.

Our annual Carol Service takes place in Wimborne Minster on Wednesday 7th December at 7pm, all of our families are welcome to attend this wonderful school event.

We are incredibly proud to have a team of six students who have qualified to compete in the National Finals of The English Schools Cross Country Cup in Leeds this weekend and we wish them all the best for the competition which takes place tomorrow.

Non Uniform Day for Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day

We are supporting the charity again this year and will be holding a non-school uniform day on Friday 9th December. Donations can be made through your ParentPay account.

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 14th December

The restaurant will be switching their weekly Wednesday roast to a Christmas one on Wednesday 14th December. Students can buy this as part of the meal deal for £2.60.

Lost Property Reminder

Lost property is held in reception. We will always endeavour to return any named items to a student. Should your child be missing anything then please ask them to visit reception to see if their missing item is there. Anything that remains unclaimed by Thursday 15th December will be disposed of.

Year 13 UCAS Applications

With the Christmas holidays and PPEs fast approaching in January, we would like to complete as many UCAS applications as possible before the 15th December. With that in mind, we will be running a full day of appointments to complete and send applications during the Pastoral and Personal Development Day on Tuesday, 13th December. Please could you encourage your child to write their personal statement and give it to their tutor for checking. They also

need to complete their online application. Tutors are all geared up to read personal statements and Mrs Ridley, Destinations Lead, is in the Sixth Form office to give guidance on choices and finalise statements to be sent off; students can pop into the office or email for a 1-2-1 session. All step by step guides and supporting documents for the UCAS application are in the Year 13 Google Classroom under the 'UCAS' heading.

Health and Social Care - Year 12 Work Experience - 20th March 2023

Year 12 health and social care students are currently completing applications for their work experience placements. They have been using Unifrog to write their CVs. All applications need to be secured by the end of term as there are other local schools on work experience at the same time. A link to a document that explains how students are to make their placements official and secure them on Unifrog so the relevant permissions obtained and checks carried out can be found [here](#).

Young Enterprise

The Young Enterprise team will be attending the Xmas Fair at The Dolphin Centre on Sunday 11th December. The Year 12 team will be demonstrating their entrepreneurial expertise throughout the day selling the products they have made to members of the public. The Xmas Fair will be attended by Young Enterprise teams from across the local area - it could be an ideal opportunity to purchase some hand made and sustainable Christmas Gifts . Please keep an eye out for more information if you are interested in supporting the YE teams.

Vapes

Following a report of a member of the public selling vapes to students within the local community we reported this to the police. They took swift action and have taken the necessary steps to stop the actions of this individual. We will continue to work closely with the local police officers to ensure the safety of students.

To repeat the information from our previous parent letter;

These items are illegal for under 18's to buy and it is illegal to smoke/vape in all public enclosed and semi enclosed areas and workplaces. As a result these items are banned from school. If students are caught with vapes in their possession or are caught vaping while on the school premises they will be issued a suspension and the vapes confiscated and destroyed. There is also a significant health risk attached to the use of vapes and E-cigarettes. Over the year we will be addressing the impact of vapes and e-cigarettes through our C4L PSHE programme. We ask that you support us by ensuring these items do not find their way into school.

If you have any questions or concerns then please make contact with your child's tutor who will be able to support or direct your concern to the correct member of staff.

Yours sincerely



Katie Boyes
Headteacher

Key Dates

Wednesday 7th December	Carol Service at Wimborne Minster
Thursday 15th December	Last Day of Term (early finish at 1pm to allow for presentation event to take place from 3pm)
Friday 16th December	Staff Training Day - no students in school
Monday 19th December	Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 3rd January 2023	Staff Training Day
Wednesday 4th January	First day of term - all students in school
Thursday 5th January	Year 11 Parents Evening (face to face in school)
Thursday 12th January	Year 9 Options Evening
26th, 27th & 28th January	Shrek the Musical Performances
Thursday 2nd February	Year 9 Parents Evening (face to face in school)
13th to 17th February	Half Term
Monday 20th February	Staff Training Day - no students in school
Thursday 23rd February	Year 13 Parents Evening (online)
Thursday 23rd March	Year 11 Parents Evening (online)
Friday 31st March	Staff Training Day - no students in school
3rd to 14th April	Easter Holidays
Monday 17th April	First day of term - all students in school

Communication and Information

The first point of contact for parents in all instances is your child's tutor.

You child's tutor is supported by the Head of House:

Lancaster: Mr J Mead	jmead@queenelizabeths.com
Stuart: Mrs T Mynard	tmynard@queenelizabeths.com
Tudor: Mr C Finean	cfinean@queenelizabeths.com
Wessex: Mrs G Heighway	gheighway@queenelizabeths.com
York: Mrs C Taylor-Gallop	ctaylor-gallop@queenelizabeths.com

Our school website contains all of the key information about school and is updated regularly.

www.queenelizabeths.com

We are also using our social media platforms to communicate key dates and events with parents

Facebook	www.facebook.com/qedorset/
Twitter	twitter.com/QESDorset
Instagram	www.instagram.com/gesdorset/