

WHOLE SCHOOL

Message from Mr Williams

Dear parents and carers

I hope this final message of the term finds you well.

After sadly having to cancel them last year, we have been able to run our Christmas assemblies this week, taking the students across to the beautiful St Peter's Church. As well as hearing from Father Michael and a few words from myself and Heads of Year, we have had the privilege of listening to our fantastic strings and brass groups playing and the choir singing. The atmosphere has been lovely and I think I even caught one or two students singing the Christmas carol this year! The Christmas assemblies have always been one of my favourite Lymm High School traditions and it has been wonderful to be back there this week.

Similarly, the carol concert on Monday night was a great evening and I hope those of you who attended enjoyed it as much as I did. I wasn't able to attend the annual Golf Club concert last Friday unfortunately, but Mr Johnson went in my absence and it was obviously another fabulous display from our talented musicians, ably led by the likes of Mr Wyss and Mrs Leighton-Jones. Thank you to everyone involved.

As so often is the case, I've somewhat lost track of the number of different activities going on but other highlights this week have included the rewards trip and, for me personally, sitting and watching some Sixth Form students give a range of hugely impressive and interesting 'TED talks' on Thursday afternoon. Perhaps most memorable of all though was the return of the famous (infamous?) staff karaoke on Wednesday lunchtime. Details of the performers and performances will remain confidential and it might be best not to comment on the quality of some of the singing, but I will say that the staff involved gave it their all and that their efforts were met with great appreciation by the audience. We also raised a few hundred pounds for charity in the process.

It has been a long term and not without its challenges, but it has also been a really positive one. There seems no point whatsoever in speculating on what January will bring just at the moment, but suffice to say we'll be in touch if anything changes over the holidays and that we know our community will be ready to face anything that gets thrown at us.

Thank you once again for your support this term, and for doing such a brilliant job as parents and carers; as ever, it has been an absolute joy to work with your children. Merry Christmas.

Kind regards

Gwyn Williams

Covid testing

A reminder that students need to take a lateral flow test on **Monday 3rd January** before returning to school.

In addition to this, we have been asked by the Government to test all students once on return to school. This means that Years 7 to 11 will return to school on **Tuesday 4th January** and testing will take place during normal lesson times throughout the day. Years 12 and 13 will receive remote lessons on Tuesday 4th and will return to school on **Wednesday 5th January**, with testing taking place during form time and Period one.

Please note that if your child has tested positive within 90 days prior to this testing then it is advised that they do not undertake these lateral flow tests. However, if they develop symptoms you should arrange for a PCR test.

If you have any queries relating to the covid testing, please email covidtesting@lymmhigh.org.uk and we will try to get back to you periodically over the Christmas period.

Please [click here](#) to read the letter that was sent home to parents on Monday.

Covid vaccines

The school-aged immunisation team will be coming back to school on the **10th and 11th January** to offer eligible children their second dose of the Covid vaccine (children that have had their first dose at least 12 weeks previously). The team will also offer a first Covid vaccination to any child who has not yet been vaccinated. For full details, please [click here](#) to see the letter sent home today.

E-safety Parental Information Evening

We have invited Kat Howard from Smoothwall to talk to us about how we can keep our children safe online. Kat Howard has been working in, and with, schools for over 17 years to develop their understanding of Online Safety and support school leadership teams to implement and embed policies, procedures, training and committees. She is passionate about the importance of online safety in schools and the wider community and provides advice and support on a day-to-day basis. During this workshop, Kat will give you lots of practical hints, tips and activities to support your young people in this environment.

This event was due to take place in school, but will now be delivered live, online, at 6pm on **Thursday 13th January**. The link to attend will be sent nearer the date.

Free School Meals and Holiday Activities Fund

For any parents whose child is eligible for Free School Meals:

Warrington Borough Council has expanded its Holiday Activities Fund and there are a number of holiday activities on offer free of charge over Xmas along with a free lunch for anyone eligible for Free School Meals who attends. Please see the link here and book asap to secure your child's place.

<https://warringtonboroughcouncil.coordinate.cloud/>

Household Support Fund

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, you are eligible to receive the Household Support Fund (previously known as the Covid Winter Grant) to help with food and fuel costs over the winter period. Please click the link below for information about how to apply and we would urge you to apply as soon as possible so you don't miss out.

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/household-support-fund>

If any families who live outside of Warrington local authority (e.g. Trafford, Cheshire East, Salford, etc) experience any problems applying, please email Miss Dixon ndixon@lymmhigh.org.uk.

Charity fundraising

So far this year, Lymm High has raised these amounts for charity:

- Children in Need: £2491.52
- Movember £550
- Wear it Pink £1089.48
- Macmillan Cancer Support £1085.94

We have also collected items for Warrington's Foodbank, donated coats and warm items to Warrington's homeless shelter, and supported the Christmas Shoebox appeal for Manchester Street Angels.

Thank you to all the parents, carers and students who contributed, dressed up, baked and donated to these worthwhile causes.

Cashless catering

You can [click here](#) to view the lunch menu, which changes each day. The price list can be [viewed here](#).

Please remember to top up your child's cashless catering account via Parent Pay to ensure your child is able to purchase food at break and during lunchtimes.

Amazon Smile

There's still time to help us raise money for Lymm High's PTA while online shopping at no extra cost to yourselves. All you need to do is sign up for the Amazon Smile Account by clicking here: smile.amazon.co.uk: You shop. Amazon gives.

Any of your Amazon purchases will then benefit our school by giving us a little cash each time. Thank you for your support.

LHS Lottery

Congratulations to Ms Fraser who was this week's school lottery winner! You could be a winner too! If you have not signed up for our lottery yet, please head to our dedicated lottery website [here](#). If you sign up this term, you could win Christmas! There are loads of prizes up for grabs including a huge food hamper, a luxury Christmas tree, table & tree decorations, a festive door wreath, bubbly & chocolates, and lights, candles & stockings!

If you want to find out how the school lottery works, please [click here](#). Tickets are only £1 each week and your support would be hugely appreciated.

LOWER SCHOOL

KS3 Exams

Please [click here](#) for the KS3 revision booklet and [click here](#) for the letter sent to parents last week. Please can we stress that we are not expecting students to revise over the Christmas holidays but we appreciate that some parents would like this information sooner rather than later. It will also be on the school website under Academic/Revision.

Year 9 Choices

Next term, our Year 9 students will be starting the Choices process with a week of assemblies from **Monday 10th January**. [Click here](#) to read the letter sent to parents yesterday.

UPPER SCHOOL

A Christmas Carol

Polite reminder that Year 11 are starting 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens in January. We encourage students to buy a copy of the text to support their studies for £2.25. Please find the link below:

[A Christmas Carol \(Wordsworth Classics\) : Dickens, Charles, Watts, Professor Cedric, Carabine, Dr Keith: Amazon.co.uk: Books](#)

SIXTH FORM

Back to school

A reminder that Years 12 and 13 will receive remote lessons on **Tuesday 4th January** and will return to school on **Wednesday 5th January**. Covid testing will take place during form time and Period one.