



NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Associate Principal



25th November 2021

Hello Stantonbury families

I hope you and your family are well. Despite this week only being 4 days, remember the school is closed to students this Friday 26th November, we have been able to pack in so much. In addition to the normal lessons, clubs, rehearsals and fixtures our Year 11 students have started their exams. Their attitude and commitment to the first exam papers being sat under exam conditions in school for almost two years has been admirable. They have done themselves proud. Thank you, Year 11!

1,111 students in years 7-10 have competed in their first Interform football competition this week. I would like to formally thank Miss Mumford for her incredible organisation, leading the PE team to put on a spectacular tournament. All our students have participated with great enthusiasm and passion, despite the cold weather. Results and pictures will be shared next week.

BE HERE

Wellbeing

A must read! Thank you to Miss Ferris for putting together another fantastic newsletter.

Internet Safety

The Internet can be a wonderful place for our children to develop and grow. They can use it for homework, communicate with teachers and other students and play interactive games or chat with friends. Online access also comes with risks, like inappropriate content, cyberbullying, and online predators. Using apps and websites where students interact, unknown people may pose as a child or teen looking to make a new friend. They might prod the child to exchange personal information, such as address and phone number, or encourage students to call them. Parents should be aware of what their children see and hear on the Internet, know their password, know who they meet and what they share about themselves. Talk with your children, use safe tools to protect them and keep an eye on their activities.

Top tips:

- Keep personal information professional and limited
- Keep your privacy settings on
- Practice safe browsing
- Be careful what you download
- Choose strong passwords – never share
- Be careful what you post
- Be careful who you meet Online
- Keep Your antivirus program up to date

Testing

Despite a rise in cases in many other schools in MK, covid numbers have remained low across our school and only a very small number of staff and students have reported positive results. But as you can appreciate, we must remain wary and be sensible. I want to encourage you all to ensure you test your child every Monday and Thursday morning before they come to school so we can protect our community and keep our children as safe as they can be.

BE READY

Go4Schools - Achievement and Behaviour Points

Next week we are flicking the switch, which will allow you all to receive more information about your child, either through the Go4Schools app you have downloaded or as a weekly summary sent to your email on Friday night. As a parent you will be able to see both the Achievements points and Consequences recorded for your child, you will be able to see the subject where the point has been awarded and identify the member of staff. Staff have been asked to contact home if any C4 is logged to provide you the specific details which will enable you to support us modifying your child's behaviour so their or others learning isn't affected. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Tree Collection

Advance notice - Willen Hospice wanted us to let you know about a fund-raising scheme they are running in our postcode area. They will take unwanted real Christmas Trees on the 7th - 9th January 2022 and arrange to have these recycled or chipped in return for a donation to the Hospice.

They have added new postcodes throughout Milton Keynes this year after the success of last year and are hoping to raise funds for Willen Hospice in excess of £8000 so they can continue to provide care to the local community with life limiting illness.

Postcodes they cover are MK1-MK17, MK19, MK43 and MK46, LU7.

They have to raise £4.7 million per year to continue to provide their services and support free of charge to the local community and their families which is a cost of £9 per minute, every minute of every day.

It is with the help and support of the local community that they are able to keep their promise of 'Always being there to care.'

BE LEARNING

What is the Winter Activities and Food programme?

A range of **FREE** activities and food for children, young people and their families who are in **receipt of benefit related Free School Meals**. All activities will take place **20th – 24th December** at locations across MK. From football to film making, cookery, multi sports clubs and even ninja clubs, we hope there is something for everyone.

How do eligible families get involved?

Across Milton Keynes, we have more than 9,000 individual sessions planned for the Winter Holidays. To book activities, parents and carers simply need to browse our programme and contact their chosen providers direct.

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/children-young-people-families/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf>

If you have any questions, not answered on our webpage, then please do contact the Winter HAF team: haf@milton-keynes.gov.uk

REMINDER - Start of Spring Term - letter attached

Last week I wrote to you to inform you of a change to our planned arrangements for the start of the Spring Term 2022 (please see attached letter). As you know our new building opens after the Christmas holiday and we are very excited to be able to offer state of the art facilities for our Maths, Science and Art & Design Technology faculties. We are certain that the new building will help us inspire your children in these very important subjects. In order to ensure that everything is ready for teaching, we need to adjust arrangements for the start of the spring term in 2022. The spring term will continue to start on Wednesday 5th January 2022, but this will be with pupils learning remotely from home. Pupils will return to school on Thursday 6th January.

I hope you all have a great weekend and either avoid or embrace the sales, depending on your preference.

Take care



Ben Wilson
Associate Principal

