



2 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

It is hard to believe we are about to enter the last two weeks of term. I am very grateful to all who have contributed to the success of this term whether supporting sporting endeavours, attending College events or simply ensuring students stay on top of their learning or revision and are encouraged to try their hardest. It is appreciated. There will be much to celebrate in our next letter which will be accompanied by Term 2 Headlines so this letter is briefer and contains just a few updates.

School Funding

We are grateful to all who recently wrote to their MPs make the case for sustainable school funding and are particularly grateful to local and national politicians with influence who argued that schools should be protected as much as possible.

Like many of you, we are watching the bills closely at this time, ensuring we are making as many sensible choices as possible. We do not know what the impact of increased costs will be over winter and we do not yet know what will happen after April when support is removed. We always try to be considerate of our families but please contact us if you have concerns about your child.

Student Voice

I am very grateful to our student leaders this week as the culmination of some considered thinking and hard work takes shape.

- **Wealden District Council Corporate Plan 2023-27**
Please see attached to this letter the collective thoughts from our College Council to the District Council following their discussions on the proposed priorities for Wealden in the future. We are impressed by their reflective and intelligent suggestions.
- **Anti-Bullying and Equal Opportunities priorities:**
Assemblies last week continued awareness around the protected characteristics and revealed the next stage of work in an on-going focus for over 18 months, overtly raising awareness and challenging unwanted behaviours.

Students from different year groups and groupings contributed to this latest phase raising the profile of recognising and responding to sexualised and racialised language. This work will be the focus of further action in the new year. More details can be found on our Anti-Bullying website page: https://www.heathfieldcc.co.uk/?page_id=937437

I am very proud of the community ethos of our College and the strong student voice. They are learning and modelling democracy, respectful debate and how to effect change. Feedback from the last Student Council has also recently been disseminated to form groups so they know their voice is heard and considered.



Distinguished School



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Headteacher: Ms Caroline Barlow B.A. (Hons)

Heathfield Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 9 December 2022

We are always amazed at the generosity of our students on Christmas Jumper Day, last year they provided meals for 1,376 vulnerable people and families. On Friday 9 December 2022 students will be allowed, if they choose, to wear a Christmas jumper in place of their blazer (all other items of uniform must be worn). Instead of inviting a monetary donation to charity we are suggesting a donation be made again to the [Hailsham Foodbank](#).

The charity urgently need the items listed on the shopping list below but please check their website by [clicking here](#) to see what other items they require as these change on a regular basis. Students can bring their donation into College and place in the boxes at Reception.

SHOPPING LIST - URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS	
<i>Tinned Vegetables - Sweetcorn, carrots, peas Tinned Fruit Long-life Apple/Orange Juice Long-life Dairy Milk Small Jars Coffee Small Packs Tea Sweet Treats - Chocolate/Cereal Bars Savoury Treats - Crisps etc</i>	<i>Desserts - Jelly, Instant Whip, Long-life Cakes, Mini Chocolate Rolls, etc Nappies - Size 3, 4, 5 & 6 Pull Ups - Size 5 & 6 Baby Wipes Toiletries - Shampoo/Deodorant (Men & Women) Jam/Chocolate Spread/Peanut Butter etc Tomato Ketchup/Brown Sauce</i>
NOT NEEDED AT PRESENT	
<i>Pasta Beans</i>	<i>Soup Cereal (particularly not oats)</i>

Conduct and Ethos

We continue to hold students to the highest standards, despite the difficult national circumstances. Support and guidance are available for all who need it but we make no apologies for prioritising the safe, calm and consistent environment that ensures students can learn and make progress. Visitors to the College recently commented on:

- An “incredible” calm atmosphere across the college, impressive Climate for Learning.
- Relationships all around the school that were warm and friendly, mutually so, saying good morning, smiling, holding doors etc.
- The prefects that gave tours who were honest about their experiences and opinions and managed to communicate the College’s fair and balanced approaches, the high expectations, care and ambition combined.

It is sometimes hard to maintain high standards in the light of more difficult national challenges but we are very grateful to all who work with us to collaboratively ensure consistency for our young people. It does make a difference.

Recent Achievements

Please do check our Latest News and Facebook or Twitter pages for celebration of positive news and achievements by our students, specifically:

- We have been awarded Rainbow Flag kitemark for the second time for our inclusive community and practices.
- The fabulous Peter Pan production (more detail in Headlines).
- Children in Need amazing charity support.
- Year 13 Interview Day.
- Respect and participation shown for Remembrance.

And much more...! Well done to all involved.

Yours sincerely



MS C BARLOW
Headteacher

Diary Dates:

w/c 5 December	House Photography Competition (via Firefly) Year 7 Assessment Fortnight (week 2)
Monday 5 December	Broadbridges Uniform 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Thursday 8 December	Year 11 Subject Feedback Evening
Friday 9 December	Year 10 "A Christmas Carol" Production Christmas Jumper Day (see above)
Monday 12 December	Year 13 MFL Oral Mock Exams
Tuesday 13 December	Years 7 to 9 Influenza Nasal Vaccination
Wednesday 14 December	College Christmas Lunch
Thursday 15 December	Learning Support Department Christmas Fair Alumni Certificate/Celebration Event College Christmas Carol Concert
Friday 16 December	Last day of Term 2
Tuesday 3 January	First day of Term 3