

Weekly News – 19th December 2025

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE: It has been another fantastic week culminating in the Christmas Showcase where it was wonderful to see students performing to a packed audience, and a big thank you to our Parents' Association who served drinks on the night and raised £385. Year 11 students will receive their mock GCSE results today. In the build up to the actual exams in the Summer we would ask parents of students in year 11 and 13 to have read the [Exams Malpractice Policy](#). Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

YEAR 11 – PARENTS' EVENING

There will be an online Parents' Evening on Thursday 15th January for Year 11 from 4.30-7pm. Parents can make 5 appointments per student, and we will release more on the 13th if there is availability. Bookings can be made from 6.30pm on Wednesday 7th January on [SchoolCloud](#). Mrs de Groot (French) is not available on the 15th so will meet with parents (online) on the 8th January from 5-7pm. Appointments to see Mrs de Groot can be made on SchoolCloud now.

GENERAL NOTICES:

INSET Day Please note that Monday 5th January is an INSET day. Students' first day back at school is Tuesday 6th January.

Weekly diary - Please click [here](#) for the diary for the week commencing 5th January.

Extra-curricular clubs After school and lunchtime clubs for next half term will be open for bookings from tomorrow (20th) on SchoolCloud – click [here](#). If your child is unable to attend a session you have booked, please cancel that session to allow others to attend. Many of our clubs are oversubscribed, so we will need to remove students that do not attend for 2 consecutive occasions without explanation in order to make space for others.

Day to Work Please remember that students are encouraged to go into work with a family member or trusted adult on Inset Day, 5th January 2026. As an incentive, there is a £10 Amazon voucher to the student in each year who completes their DTW booklets (available from the Careers Office in 6th Form) in the most detail, describing what they have learned from the experience and showing the most self-reflection Email: matthewsk@holmer.org.uk.

School day structure After Christmas we will be making a small change to the order of the school day. Afternoon form time will now follow from line up and registration at 2pm and period 5 will commence at 2.25pm. The timings of the school day otherwise remain the same with the school day ending at 3.25pm.

Same-Day Detentions To support consistency and fairness for all students, the school operates a same-day detention policy. Parents are notified by 2pm if a same-day detention has been issued. Notifications come through the SIMS app, so please ensure you have notifications enabled on your phone. Requests to change detentions impact the effectiveness of the system and therefore we ask for parents' support in ensuring detentions proceed as scheduled.

School Uniform Expectations We ask that all students return in January meeting the school's uniform standard as set out [here](#). False nails, razor lines in hair/eyebrows got over Christmas need to be removed/faded out prior to the start of term.

We also remind families that we expect students to wear their trousers correctly at the waist with a belt where required. Shorts or jogging bottoms must not be worn underneath school trousers.

Equipment Reminder As we return to school, please ensure students have all required equipment ready for learning. The equipment list can be found [here](#).

Christmas Reading You will have received an email from Mr Bulteel this week with a winter reading list for all ages to be enjoyed as a family. If you missed it, you can see the list [here](#).

Congratulations! We are so proud of Hanna G and Florence S who will be moving forward in the Rotary Young Chef competition. It was an exciting competition with a wide range of impressive dishes produced. Every single one of the students involved performed exceptionally well and did themselves proud.



Enjoy a virtual trip to Japan – if you're not going away over the break and want to enjoy a virtual holiday, Mrs Carter, Trips Coordinator, has arranged a trip to Japan. Click [here](#) and be transported!

One Can Trust - The Senior Student Leadership team would like to extend their thanks to every student and parent who brought in donations for our collection for the One Can Trust. The charity collects food items to distribute to families who are struggling to feed themselves. We collected 300 items which the team delivered to their depot this morning. The charity sends their thanks for your generosity and has said that the food collected will be enough to feed 500 people. A real achievement, and a huge contribution to making the season much better for people who are less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you and Merry Christmas, from the Sixth Form Senior Student Leadership team!



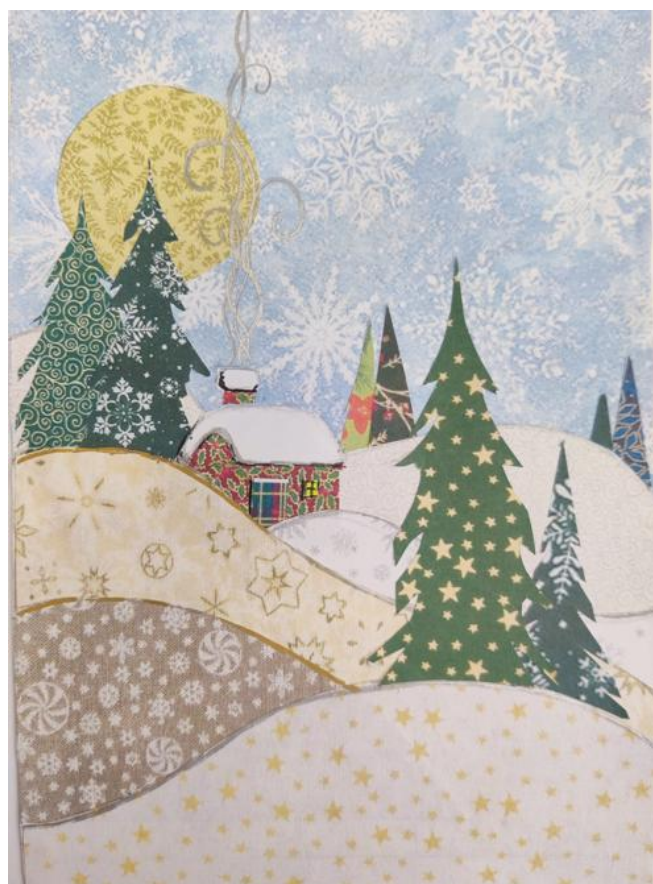
Happy Christmas! – Following the success of last year’s Christmas card competition, students from year 7 and 8 have taken part in creating their submissions for this year. We are pleased to announce that 1 winner, and 6 runners-up have been selected! A massive well done to the students for all the effort put into creating these designs. The winner – Harry W - will be receiving an Art prize, certificate and their design has been printed and sent out to school stakeholders and contacts. The runners-up will also receive a certificate, celebrating their efforts.



Millie C



Abi D



Isabella B



Gurveer B



Molly C



Taylor H