



5<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Principals' December Update.**

It is December already and with less than three weeks of term remaining, we would like to share details of our plans for the festive season.

**Normal curriculum until the End of Term.**

**Lessons will continue as normal until the close of College at 2.30pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December.** Year 11 students are sitting their mock exams in the final three weeks of term.

**12 Days of Christmas – Attendance Prize Draw**

You have heard our key message of 'every student, every lesson, every day' on many occasions. As an additional treat for students who attend well during the last twelve days of term, we will be holding daily prize draws from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Students who attend college will have the chance to win vouchers, selection boxes and on the final day, there will be a draw in each year group for a hamper filled with Christmas treats for all the family. We thank you for ensuring your child attends every day – no excuses. The 12 Days of Christmas amount to 16% (one sixth) of the term! Your child needs to be in College to be successful in their learning and to enjoy being with their friends.

**Collection for Local Food Bank Underway – Reverse Advent Calendar**

Following the success of previous years, the College is collecting a range of non-perishable items for the Westfield Centre Food Bank in South Elmsall. Collection boxes are in the Main Reception for students to drop off their contributions to the collection each morning. This is voluntary collection for any family that feels they are able to do so- your generosity is always gratefully appreciated by the Food Bank.

**Christmas Concert – Thursday 14th December 2023**

It is with great pleasure that we invite you all to our Christmas Concert on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm in the Main Hall. Tickets are on sale from the Creative Arts Base at £4 for adults and £3 for children. We hope you will come along and enjoy the amazing talent of our Minsthorpe students from Years 7 – 13 in a variety of musical performances.

**Reward Afternoons**

We have been impressed by the Motivation, Commitment and Care shown by our students this term. In recognition of this, the students in each year group will enjoy watching a film together in the Main Hall one afternoon before the end of term.

Motivation ♦ Commitment ♦ Care

Minsthorpe Lane, South Elmsall, West Yorkshire, WF9 2UJ T. 01977 657600 E. enquiries@minsthorpe.cc **minsthorpe.cc**

**Principals** Mark Gilmore & Rachael Merritt



### **Non-Uniform Day – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

Students may attend College in non-uniform on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. If students wish to wear a Christmas jumper, they may, but any (warm) casual clothing is acceptable. We are asking students to donate £1 which will be shared between our students' chosen charities and future student reward activities. Students may wish to donate to the food bank on this day too. All donations (money or food) will be collected on the gate.

### **Christmas Holiday Closure**

We will finish for Christmas at our usual finish times on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December:

Years 7 & 8: 2:25pm

Years 9, 10, 11 and Post 16: 2:30pm

### **Start of Term – January 2024**

We are unable to open to students on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 due to health and safety reasons arising from the current construction work. There are a number of changes to teaching blocks and dining facilities from January 2024. Staff will be on site to ensure we can operate safely from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

**The Spring Term will start for all year groups at the normal time of 8:25am on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

### **Change to the entrance gate for Year 9 from January 2024**

Due to the construction work in the English Block, the entrance gate for Year 9 will be via the Post 16 gate at the bottom of site from January 2024.

### **'Team Minsthorpe' Newsletter**

We will include more details of the construction work in our termly newsletter, including an artist's impression of the interior of the new Sports Centre. As always, there will be lots of photos and articles about the amazing enrichment opportunities enjoyed by our students this term. It has certainly been a term to remember!

It is a privilege to be Principals of Minsthorpe Community College and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support for your child's education.

We wish you an enjoyable Christmas with your loved ones.

Yours sincerely

Mr M. Gilmore  
Principal

Mrs R. Merritt  
Principal

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