

27 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are already four weeks into the second half of the Autumn Term and I would like to commend students for their continued positive attitude to learning and the resilience they are demonstrating in this uncertain time. Feedback from both students and parents/carers on the new remote learning policy is extremely positive. I have been fortunate enough to be able to support with the facilitation of live lessons in both science and maths lessons and I have been impressed with the quality of work completed.

### Contact with Home

The school's new data management system is fully operational, which means that parents/carers will now receive communications via email. We will not be sending frequent text messages so please check that we have the correct email contact details for you and check emails frequently.

### Christmas Hamper Competition

Every year, the school collect donations for the local food bank through the Trussell Trust charity by running a competition for all Year 7 forms. The form with the best hamper will win a prize, which is yet to be determined. Students are asked to bring in non-perishable food items which will form part of their form Christmas hamper and this will then be donated to the food bank before the Christmas holidays. Items can be: tinned food, sealed packets of food, jars, biscuits, sweets or non-alcoholic drinks. Please do not send in any toiletries as these cannot be included in the hampers. Although we are aware these are difficult times for many, we feel it is highly important to run the competition as normal to help others in these difficult times. Over the next few weeks, students will be creating the Christmas hampers with their form tutors. Donations of any size will be greatly received, and can be brought into school from now until Friday 11 December.

### Christmas Festivities and Charity Donations

We would like to thank the many parents who helped us shape our plan for some Christmas festivities this year. Based on your feedback and in order to work within Covid-19 restrictions, we have decided that Christmas dinner will take a slightly different format this year. Throughout the week commencing 7 December, we will be offering a festive menu of grab and go options and sandwiches. These will be available to purchase each day, with a festive theme running within the dining hall.

Feedback was overwhelming in support of Christmas Jumper Day, to raise funds for food bank charities, and for students to be offered a few opportunities to engage in festive activities towards the end of term; we are currently finalising the details of these activities and will communicate them as soon as they are complete. Christmas Jumper Day will take place on Friday 11 December. Students are encouraged to wear a

Christmas jumper or t-shirt in support of our charity, however, if they do not have a Christmas jumper they may wear something else that is festive; this could be a red or green item of clothing or something such as a Santa hat or reindeer antlers. We would ask that you support us in ensuring that your child enters into the spirit of the day and does not see this day as a non-uniform day. Due to Covid-19, it is not recommended that students contribute their usual £1. Therefore, can we ask that all students bring an item of non-perishable food as their donation to the value of £1. The Senior Leadership Team will be at both entrances to the school in which to collect the food. This will be collected by the Trussell Trust Charity.

### Art Competition

We are currently running an Art Competition for all year groups. After receiving feedback from students with regards to the lockdown and Tier 3 restrictions, we wanted to give students the option of participating in an engaging and stimulating activity during this time. This is, of course, completely optional and Mrs Pond as 'Chief Judge' will be looking for student's creative use of items they already have in their home. It is not an expectation for parents/carers to spend money on supplies for this. All entries must be submitted to form tutors by Monday 14 December. Winning entries will receive recognition and will be on display in Mrs Pond's office on the top corridor.

### Christmas Concert

As we know, things are a bit different this year and the Hungerhill Christmas concert is no exception. However, it wouldn't be Christmas without it so we are planning to put together a collection of recorded performances that can then hopefully be streamed one evening for everyone to enjoy. Permission will be sought from parents/carers of students wanting to take part and a secure link to the streamed performance will be provided nearer the time.

The types of performances we are looking for are:

- singing a Christmas song to a backing track
- performing a Christmas song on an instrument
- dancing to a Christmas song
- a reading, such as a Christmas poem
- performing a Christmas monologue
- delivering a comedy routine of Christmas jokes (the material must be suitable for school though please!)

All students are invited to contribute to the Christmas performance, they should email Miss Crowder - [crowder.n@hungerhillsschool.com](mailto:crowder.n@hungerhillsschool.com)) with details of what they would like to do. We can't wait to see what you all have to offer!

### Assessment, Recording and Reporting Calendar

A separate letter with further information on this including key dates and Parents' Evenings will be circulated later next week.

### Enrichment

The week commencing 5 October saw the launch of our lunchtime club programme. Students have had the opportunity to take part in clubs such as Spanish, football, careers and music. The clubs have been well attended by students so far. The Year 8 football club has proven extremely popular with students and it was fantastic to see so many of them enjoying learning new skills in a game-based environment. A student from form 8N commented 'It was enjoyable to be able to play football at lunch time with my friends after not doing so for a long time'.



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Our inter-form programme is well underway for Years 7, 8 and 9. All form groups have been taking part in a general knowledge themed quiz on Thursday morning during form time. Scores from this are added to the overall leader boards at the end of each half-term.

Year 7 students were busy designing a logo for their form group. The Art Ambassadors judged these and points were awarded to each form group based on the outcome of the competition.

Year 8 have competed in a Basketball shootout competition. A team of five students from each form had three minutes to shoot as many baskets as they could. It was great to see so many students take part over two lunch times and there was a nice competitive atmosphere at the event.

There was a wonderful atmosphere when the Year 9 boys took part in a five a-side football tournament on a wet Wednesday evening recently. The weather didn't dampen the students spirits as the standard of football played was exceptional and the competitiveness between the form groups was great to see. It was a fantastic moment to see students enjoying the opportunity to play an organised sport again after such a long period of time not doing so. A student from the winning form of 9E said 'It was great to have the opportunity to take part in an after-school activity after not doing so for so long'. Another student added 'It really brought people in our form together and made us want to try our best for each other'.

### Song Writing Course

Would you like to learn how to write songs? Higher Rhythm, home of Sine FM, are offering this Trinity College London Bronze Arts Award online course for free. By joining this course, you will develop your creative skills in four areas.

1. **Writing:** you will improve your lyric writing skills and learn how to write a song.
2. **Reviewing:** you will attend a virtual music performance and write a review of the event like a true journalist.
3. **Exploring:** you will research the career and work of your favourite artist, getting to know more about your role models.
4. **Sharing:** finally, you will take what you have learned and pass on your knowledge to a friend, a family member, or anyone else you would like to share your skills with.

The Bronze Arts Award is a Level 1 qualification, open to anyone between the ages of 11 and 25 who would like to learn more about the arts.

Please contact Miss Crowder for further information – [Crowder.N@hungerhillschool.com](mailto:Crowder.N@hungerhillschool.com)

### Free School Meals

We are pleased to confirm that Doncaster Council have made the decision to provide vouchers over the Christmas period for families in receipt of Free School Meals. Arrangements have been put in place for these to be distributed via email on Monday 21 December.

If your circumstances have changed as a result of the pandemic and you feel you may be entitled to free school meals, please use the link below which will take you to the Local Authority website.

<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/doitonline/free-school-meals>

### Covid-19 Update

For your reference, we have included the link to the government's advice for parents. This was last updated on 5 November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>



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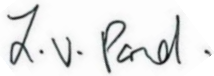


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Please remember to inform us of any cases of Covid-19 and to follow the guidance for self-isolation if you or someone in your bubble are symptomatic, or if you or someone in your bubble are awaiting the results of a Covid-19 test.

Finally, can I please take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the fantastic team of staff that we have at Hungerhill School. I am sure that parents/carers will agree that they are all going above and beyond to ensure that students are not further disadvantaged during these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Pond  
Headteacher



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