



No.10: Week 12– 4 December 2020

Wellbeing Support

This past year has been challenging for us all and many students have benefited from extra support in school. We have a strong pastoral team at The King's and a student's Tutor or Head of Year is always the first point of contact for wellbeing support.



If additional emotional support is required, we can refer students to our trained Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs) who offer group or 1-1 sessions. Our ELSAs in school are: Mrs Williams, Miss Atkinson, Mrs Lynch, Mr O'Donnell, Mrs Greenaway and Mrs Scard.

Students requiring counselling or therapeutic intervention can be referred to Chameleon Connection by their Head of Year. Given the current Covid circumstances and rising demand, we have increased our counselling support and qualified counsellors now work across four days per week to deliver this support to those who need it most.

Our team from Chameleon are Graeme Rowlings, Anita Armstrong and Laura Britton (counsellors) and Beverley Finnegan (trained psychotherapist and counsellor). Due to high demand, like many counselling providers, we do have a waiting list but are committed to supporting students whilst they await intervention.

External Support

Further information on Mental Health Services outside school can be found in Middlesbrough's Local Offer under the Health and Wellbeing section. Link below:

[Middlesbrough Local Offer - Health and Wellbeing](#)

Ms Watson (SENCO)



Christmas Cracker: Round 1– decorate your form room

Left– Y12 taking it seriously in the Study Centre

Right– HLN1 have created their own tree

Far right– Mr King is immensely proud of his 'Chemis-tree'



Key Dates

November

30 Year 13 Rehearsal Examinations start

December

9 Year 13 Rehearsal Examinations finish

16 Christmas Lunch
'Christmas Cracker'

17 Virtual Carol Service
Year 11 Reports

Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 16 December 2020

Our catering team has been doing a fantastic job to deliver a near-normal service this term, whilst also implementing a strict range of measures to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission. Although a "full works" Christmas lunch is regrettably not possible this year, on Wednesday 16 December students and staff will still have opportunity to celebrate the season with a traditional Roast Turkey meal followed by Christmas Pudding or Chocolate Fudge Cake. This may be a great opportunity for students to try "eating in" for the first time and parents/carers are reminded to ensure that meals accounts are topped up in advance using ParentPay. Other menu choices will also be available on that day.

Highlights of the Week

(from Heads of Year)

Year 7– The enthusiasm and progress of the Christmas choir despite cold and wet outdoor rehearsals!

Year 8– Well done to the 60 pupils who have received merits for excellent classwork.

Year 9– The enthusiasm of the tutor groups as they have been decorating their rooms for Christmas.

Year 10– The most improved attendance over the last week. I am really pleased!

Year 11- Child Development students got their exam results on Thursday. Many were A* and A grades and Mrs Cochrane/Mrs Smith are immensely proud. Their hard work and commitment to their studies are evident and I am sure this will continue in their coursework! Well done to all involved.

Sixth Form– How well Year 12 have adapted to the new bubbles system and their transformation of the Study Centre.

Focus: Art

“There is nothing more truly artistic than to love people” Vincent Van Gogh

Art can bring hope, love and peace during challenge and hardship. Art can bring people together and be part of a community showing their love for one another. We saw this in the first lockdown, with such a variety of inspiring rainbows and artistic window displays, showing that Art can help people to express themselves, to show support for others and to find the good in any situation.

Each piece of artwork is as unique as the artists that create them. Art allows our students to process their feelings; to build character and understand their identity; and to explore the world around them through the eyes of an artist. During lockdown, we were moved each day by the creative work our students made in their home learning.

Since returning to school in September, the Art and Textiles staff have been working hard to ensure our lessons are as rich and creative as always under the COVID19 restrictions. To make sure no student misses out, we have provided our Year 11 students with Art packs and put in place resources for each year group ‘bubble’. Our students always take great pride in their creative work. Sadly, our Annual Exhibition did not take place in 2020; but look out for our online video exhibition as part of this year’s Carol Service. It will celebrate the amazing work of our 2019/2020 cohort of GCSE and A-level Art and Textiles students.

Mr Morris (Head of Art)

Online Safety

The world is a very different place right now, and that brings with it a much higher demand for children to be using the internet. Whilst the online community can be educational and fun, without restrictions and monitoring it can also pose risks to young and impressionable people.

Part of parenting in modern times is ensuring we keep our young people safe when online and in school this is a duty we all take seriously.

Please take time to understand the risks and learn how to keep children safe by visiting our website where you will find a useful actions checklist and further information and advice.

Mrs Manthy (Safeguarding)

Spotlight: Early Help

Early Help is proactive and timely support that is given to students and their families to improve student progress and wellbeing. By everyone working together we find we can achieve the best outcomes for all.

This happens in a variety of ways: from getting alongside students in school to give that extra layer of support and tailoring it to their individual needs; to working closely with outside agencies such as Stronger Families by sharing ideas and information, always keeping the child at the heart of everything we do.

Early Help is available to everyone and I pride myself on getting to know the children and the families I work with, understanding each individual situation so I can do my best to support- especially during these challenging times.

Mrs Sinclair (Early Help Coordinator)

Online Uniform Shop– Christmas Holidays

- Last date for ordering pre-Christmas for free ‘click and collect’ in school is Tues 8 December (collection by students on Tues 15 December).
- Last date for ordering to receive items by courier pre-Christmas is Monday 14 December.
- Any orders received between 19 December and 3 January will not be processed until 4 January 2021.
- First free click and collect in 2021 will be on Tuesday 12 January (order 1 week before)