

head'sherald

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Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well and managing in this very cold weather. Please ensure that all students have a coat with them. We will let them in the building especially with the temperatures where they are at present. I just want to remind everyone that it is so important that we keep the standards high regarding uniform and readiness for learning. We still have a week to go and we need to remain focussed until Friday. There are a lot of nice events happening this week alongside lessons for the young people to enjoy, but we just need to be aware of the expectations. Your support with this is much appreciated.

Sport

Our Year 9 boys football team produced a stunning performance this week beating Middlewich High School 5-1. This puts them through to the quarter finals of the U14 Cheshire Schools Cup: an outstanding achievement. Culcheth High or Sandbach await in the next round.

Foundation Governor Vacancy (Liverpool Diocese) Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School

We are looking to appoint a Foundation Governor at the school and would like you to consider whether you could serve God in this way.

The role of a foundation governor provides many opportunities to support the amazing work of our schools, from supporting the headteacher to having a say in the strategic direction of the school. A Foundation Governor has a unique role of securing the Christian Distinctiveness of a school.

For further information and an application form, please visit our school website <https://www.boteler.org.uk/governor-vacancies-2/>

Strep A and scarlet fever cases.

We are aware of some confirmed cases in Warrington and our schools of Strep A and scarlet fever cases.

Whilst the DfE is yet to issue its own advice directly to schools, it has released some helpful posters and guidance that you may wish to share with parents and staff on its social media sites. The DfE is also directing schools to guidance from the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA).

Two or more scarlet fever cases within 10 days constitutes an outbreak. Public Health will offer guidance with this. There should also be an epidemiological link between cases, for example, they are in the same class or year group. Staff and parents should be reminded that children and adults with scarlet fever should not return to school until at least 24 hours after starting treatment with an appropriate antibiotic.

Where you suspect an outbreak, schools are advised to notify us and their local Health Protection Team (HPT). The HPT will then investigate to establish whether there is an outbreak.

As with Coronavirus, and the measures we all put in place, hygiene is key. Handwashing will help to prevent spread. Infections can be spread through close contact between children and staff, as well as surfaces such as table tops, taps and handles.

Please also see the link below from the DfE with regards to guidance.

[Management of scarlet fever outbreaks in schools \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

[UKHSA update on scarlet fever and invasive Group A strep - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



[UKHSA update on scarlet fever and invasive Group A strep](https://www.gov.uk)

There were 851 cases reported in week 46, compared to an average of 186 for the preceding years.. Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious. Therefore, look out for ... www.gov.uk

We will continue to assess the situation closely and offer advice but, in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you need further support or guidance.

Teaching and learning

Literacy in English

Congratulations to all our students who have achieved the Bronze award for reciprocal reading so far this year. These students' reading and annotation skills are developing brilliantly. After completing their first 6 tasks they can collect their bookmarks from their English teacher. Now it's on to the Silver award at Easter! Any student who has not secured Bronze at this point - don't worry - you can achieve it next time.

Lexonik Advance

Well done to all of our students who have been involved in the 6-hour Lexonik Advance course so far. Huge gains have been made in terms of the reading and knowledge of complex vocabulary. Increased language confidence is great to see. [Lexonik Advance Literacy Intervention Programme - Lexonik](https://www.gov.uk)

Assessment and Curriculum

Year 11 Mock Exams and Parents' Evening

Year 11 have just completed their Mock Exams with our teaching staff now assessing and marking the papers. I would like to congratulate them on a smooth two-weeks of assessments and excellent conduct in relation to exam conduct and behaviour. Teachers have been told not to release grades to students. We are having a formal Mock Results assembly on **Friday 6th January**. We will be emailing a copy of your child's mock results on the afternoon of Friday 6th January in advance of **Year 11 Parents' evening**. This evening will be held in school on **Monday 9th January**, where you will be able to discuss the results with subject teachers. **Booking for this parents' evening can be made on SchoolCloud from Wednesday 14th December**. This is perhaps the **most important Parents' evening of a child's secondary education**. On return from Christmas, Year 11 students will only have 15 school weeks left until the GCSE exams begin.

Normal lunch time (1:15pm-2pm) will resume from Monday 12th December now the Mock Exams have finished.

Year 11 Period 6

A reminder that we will be extending the school day for our Year 11 students as we did last year with a **Period 6** lesson. This will take effect from **Wednesday 4th January** which is the first day back with the students after the Christmas holiday. Mr Koltan will be talking through the Period 6 timetable with Year 11 during form time next week. Parents will also be sent a link to the timetable with more detailed information.

Maths and Science Knowledge Organisers and Retrievers and Year 10 WA1

Before the Christmas break, all students in KS3 and Year 10 will be issued with Maths and Science Knowledge Organisers and Knowledge Retrievers. Miss Jones (Head of Maths) and Mr Iqbal (Head of Science) will be delivering presentations on how to best revise for Maths and Science. The purpose of issuing students with these quality resources is to help support students with their revision at home. These resources cost **£30** for the set and will be issued to all our students free of charge. I would be grateful for your support in making sure these resources are well used at home.

For Year 10 students, the Knowledge Organiser and Retriever should be used most evenings in the build-up and during the Working At (WA1) assessment window which will run from **Monday 9th January - Friday 20th January**. Students will be assessed on all the content that has been taught from starting their GCSE courses since September. For BTEC subjects, a grade will be awarded based on the quality of coursework/assessments that have been completed to date.

Attendance



Our Christmas tree is filling up nicely with attendance prizes to be won

There is only 1 week to go before the attendance raffle is drawn. All students exceeding the school attendance target of 96%+ between the 14th November to the 16th December will be entered into the raffle. Students have the opportunity to win many prizes, including Amazon Fire HD Tablets, Prom Tickets (£32), £20 Cinema Vouchers, World Cup Footballs, £20 ASOS Vouchers and more.

Personal Development

Boteler Union Conference

Students who participate in our councils across school are invited to attend the Boteler Union Conference on Tuesday 13th December, period 1. This is an excellent opportunity for students to celebrate the work of our councils so far this year, as well as plan for the New Year ahead.

The event also allows students to gain an insight into how business conferences work and feel, students will build problem solving and communication skills in this meeting as they will be able to discuss and present their work to the different councils.

Monday 12th

- **P5** Advent Virtual Service
- The schools Boteler-tonix group are singing at various Care homes.
- 15.00- 16.00 is The Student **Christmas Fayre**, please encourage your child to come along. Everything will be under 50p. They can change at the end of the day into Christmas jumpers and Christmas head gear. This event is organised by Parents Supporting Boteler and our student council/ house groups.

Tuesday 13th

- Carol Service at St Elphin's Church, 129 Church St, Warrington WA1 2TL at 18.00. Please come along with your family and friends.

Thursday 15th

- We are hosting our Community Christmas Party, Year 10 GCSE hospitality provide the food, and the event is supported by our Parents Supporting Boteler.

Friday 16th

- **We finish school on Friday 16th December at 12:00pm.** This day will be a non-uniform day/ Christmas jumper day. If students would like to they can make a voluntary contribution to save the children, their form tutor will collect this from them. Here is the website for further information.
<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>
- House assemblies will take place period 1.

Something nice to finish with.....

This morning a little robin flew inside school to warm up. Mr Kolton and Year 7 student A-Jay Wood managed to carefully rescue him and safely move the robin outside.



With very best wishes

Handwritten signature of Beverley Scott-Herron.

Beverley Scott –Herron
Headteacher