



5 December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

The first week of December greeted us with a crisp, frosty morning but that didn't deter our committed Year 10 girls BTEC class who were determined to practice their coaching skills with well-crafted drills and game play. Their enthusiasm was brilliant to see, and it was a pleasure to enjoy some fresh air in the peace of the countryside alongside them -even though I had to bundle up with two coats (and a very large cup of tea waiting afterwards!) it was lovely to see them working together to improve and develop each other's techniques.



On Wednesday afternoon, Year 11 received their PPE results in a special assembly. As expected, there were the full range of emotions — relief, surprise, pride, disappointment and a renewed sense of determination to make improvements. What really stood out, though, was the collective resolve to now “lock in” and make the progress needed to secure College and Sixth Form places. It was a mature and reflective moment for the year group, marking an important milestone on their journey to summer exams.

This was followed by the Year 11 Parents' Evening, which proved to be another positive and purposeful event. Staff, students, and families engaged in valuable conversations about strengths, next steps, and targeted areas for improvement. It was a supportive evening of advice and guidance, all helping to keep students focused and motivated for the months ahead. Certainly, the feedback from staff yesterday and today has reflected this renewed motivation with students engaging in DIRT tasks on their exams and many attending BTEC coursework support sessions afterschool last night.

Tuesday and Wednesday saw our Year 8/9 and Year 9/10 teams take on Langtree in a fantastic round of girls' football fixtures. Our Year 8/9 squad delivered an outstanding performance, coming away with an emphatic 8–2 victory. A special shout-out goes to Georgina, who had a phenomenal game and scored an impressive six goals — an achievement worth celebrating!

The Year 9/10 match was a much tighter contest. Although the team showed great determination, resilience, and teamwork, Langtree's goalkeeper proved difficult to beat, and we weren't able to secure the win this time. Nevertheless, there were plenty of positives to take forward, and the team's effort and attitude were excellent throughout. Next week Y7





girls complete the suite of matches, and I know they are very keen to come away with the win!

Today we were proud to support the Weller Centre's Community Lunch — a highlight of our ongoing partnership with this wonderful local organisation. Earlier in the week, a group of dedicated Year 10 students volunteered their time to bake delicious cookies and cakes for the event – I was able to sneak a taste before they were packed away and can confirm they were very yummy! This afternoon three enthusiastic Year 7s, selected by Mrs Haycock (HOY) to join Ms Rees at the Weller Centre in serving the lunch and chatting with the guests. Their warmth, kindness, and confidence were a real credit to the school. This is a fantastic example of community spirit in action, and we are delighted to continue supporting the great work the Weller Centre does for so many in our wider community.



Last week I highlighted the students who had earned 25 or more House Points across the previous week and today I enjoyed morning Hot Chocolate with those from Years 7-9 on that list. They talked enthusiastically about their favourite subjects and what they would add to the curriculum if they were in charge for the day... suggestions ranged from taster sessions in Spanish, Italian, Latin & German to sessions on how to craft the best social media posts for small businesses certainly food for thought for me and the team!





This week I have been seeking out the top scoring House Point student each day and rewarding them with a chocolate from my advent calendar. This is just a small token of recognition for those students who have had “chart-topping” days. Winners this week are Edith (Y8), Lola (Y11), Zemeriah (Y10), Sophie (Y7) and with a little over an hour of the day to go as I write the newsletter, it is looking like Liam (Y11) will take today’s prize! Well done to all!



This weekend I will be sifting through the hundreds of School Christmas card entries that I have received. It has been great to see Heads of House really encouraging students to earn their House Point for entering and the quality of many of the entries is truly fantastic! I look forward to sharing our chosen design next week.

Mrs Hills has once again organised for the Book Fayre to be up and running for the 10 days of term. Students will be able to browse the selection during break and lunchtime and can purchase them for themselves with cash or card if they would like to. Further details will come to you early next week if you wish to purchase anything in online.

And finally, a reminder of some key dates coming up:

- **Christmas Jumper Day & Festive Lunch** – A chance for students and staff to get into the festive spirit while supporting a good cause (Save the Children) – please ensure you have ordered / donated on **Parent Pay by 9am Tuesday morning**
- **Winter Showcase Carol Concert**– Our talented performers will be taking to the stage for an evening of music and celebration – **tickets available on Parent Pay**
- **Last Day of Term** – Whole school Santa Run in the morning and an Early Finish (1pm). **You can purchase a Santa hat for the event via Parent Pay** and students are invited to wear school PE kit on the last day of term.





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Full details of the events outlined above can be found in the letter sent earlier this week which can be found here on our website.

Best wishes for a lovely weekend,

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Bliss
Headteacher

