



The COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL *Leftwich*

Achieving Excellence

Headteacher Mr R Warburton BA (Hons), PGCE

November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you enjoyed [October's](#) Newsletter Sway which tried to capture the many ways that students and staff have been **Achieving Excellence**. We will send a new Sway towards the end of term. In the meantime, do follow us on Twitter and Facebook so that you can see the regular examples of kindness, pride and aspiration of our fantastic students that we share each week.

This letter is an opportunity to update you on our latest news, our plans for the rest of this term and to confirm the holiday dates for 2023-24 for which we have consulted with primaries, secondaries and governors.

Aspiration - *Aim high, dream big*

- **Year 10 Information Evening** on Thursday 24th November outlined how we are preparing and supporting our current students to achieve excellence in their ST exams both prior to Christmas and at the end of the year.
- **Year 11** completed their ST1 exams and had a Mock Results morning on 28th November when they collected their projected grades. The online **Year 11 Progress Evening** on Thursday 1st December is an opportunity for parents/carers to discuss the next steps with class teachers.
- **Self-Assessment Reviews** – Learning Leaders met with Governors, Mr Snelson (CEO) and me for a quality assurance review of GCSE performance in 2022 and the implications for Year 11 and to look at plans for 2022-23. Governors were able to clearly see how outstanding curriculum leadership and student support are provided for your children.
- **Staff Training:** Staff have taken part in training exploring Relational Practice and how to support students in our classes even more effectively. Teachers have also been exploring the idea of 'Purposeful Practice' and making students think deeply in lessons to improve memory in the longer term.

Kindness - *caring for yourself and others ('No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted'.)*

- **Attendance** - we link the value of attendance to the school's rewards system by allocating Achieving Excellence points for 100% attendance over each fortnight or for improvements from previously. In response to parent feedback, InTouch SMS is now tiered, with two messages, to encourage regular communication re absence and punctuality with all families.



The County High School, Leftwich is part of The Sir John Brunner Foundation, a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 11227336 and an exempt charity.
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- **Admissions** – we are delighted that so many Year 6 parents/carers have chosen us as their first-choice high school next year. We will once again be full and look forward to welcoming students for the transition programme later in the summer term.
- November 16th – December 16th is **Disability Awareness Month**. We have a whole-school reflection on personalities in the public-eye that have ‘made a difference’ in spite of their disability (some visible and some silent)
- At Information Evenings this academic year we have once again been completing **parent/carers surveys** using the Ofsted questions. Responses from years 7, 10 and 11 are very positive. For example, 98% of students are happy at school and 93% of parents/carers would recommend the school to another parent. We will look carefully at all the answers and share the findings with governors.

Pride - *in who you are and the success of others*

- **Students** have once again represented school impressively in a variety of sporting opportunities.
- **Achieving Excellence Assemblies** – 485 students received their Bronze Awards in November. They have consistently met our three clear Behaviour Expectations of being '**Ready to Learn**', '**Respectful and Safe**' and '**Embracing Opportunities**', which allow us all to learn and work in a safe and purposeful school community.
- I have once again enjoyed meeting with a number of students this term who have been nominated to attend the **Head’s breakfast** for achieving excellence in a variety of ways.
- **Year 6 Explorers** from Davenham, Antrobus, Comberbach and Great Budworth have been exploring Science, Maths and English projects.
- Nine colleagues who enrolled on the NPQLT (**Leading Teaching**) with The Sir John Brunner Foundation hub attended their first session on Saturday 19th November. The training was excellent and will ensure our students continue to receive the best teaching possible.
- Congratulations to **Sir John Deane’s Sixth Form College** who received an **Outstanding** judgement from Ofsted. This judgement strengthens our Foundation and continues to provide wonderful opportunities for our students.

Looking Ahead to December

- We have our annual **Christmas Carol Concert** on Tuesday 6th December, 6-7pm, at St Wilfrid’s Church, Davenham. Please do join us to celebrate with word and song.
- **Christmas lunch** will be served in the canteen on the 7th and 8th December.
- Our **Christmas Concert** takes place on Friday 9th December. Tickets are available for a full band experience from the office.
- Our **Senior Citizens’ Party** is on Tuesday 13th December. Well done to the Year 11 Junior Leadership Team who are organising the event. Thank you to all parents/carers for their donations.
- **Christmas Jumper/Out of Uniform Day** is on Friday 16th December.

Thank you for your continued support. We are very proud to celebrate so many ways your children are achieving excellence.

Yours faithfully,



Mr R Warburton
Headteacher



TERM DATES 2023-24

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Tuesday	5 September	Return to School
Friday	27 October	Break for Half-Term
Monday	6 November	Return to School
Thursday	21 December	Break for Christmas Holiday

SPRING TERM 2024

Monday	8 January	Return to School
Friday	16 February	Break for Half Term
Monday	26 February	Return to School
Thursday	28 March	Break for Easter Holiday

SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday	15 April	Return to School
Monday	6 May	Bank Holiday
Friday	24 May	Break for Half Term
Monday	3 June	Return to School
Friday	19 July	Break for Summer Holiday
Monday	2 September	Return to school (2024)

INSET Days

Monday	4 September	INSET Day
Thursday	21 September	INSET Day
Monday	22 July	INSET Day
Tuesday	23 July	INSET Day
Wednesday	24 July	INSET Day

Total 195 Days



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