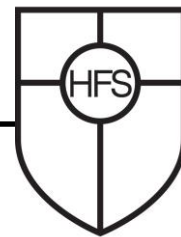


The Holy Family Catholic School



Our Ref: SMA/DK

15 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As school finishes for the Christmas break, I wanted to write to thank you for your support throughout the first term of the school year.

I am delighted with the way that the vast majority of students have positively engaged with school life during this first term of the year. I am particularly impressed with the way the students have adapted to the recently introduced wearing of face coverings in the communal areas of the school, especially Year 7 who of course did not have this experience last year when in Year 6. Unfortunately, due to the school Covid risk assessment we are not able to hold much in the way of Christmas celebrations in school this week. We will, however, be running rewards assemblies on Friday this week for all year groups and invite students to wear Christmas Jumpers/non-uniform rather than their usual school uniform for the day on Friday.

Thank you to those of you who are regularly home testing your child(ren) for Covid 19. This home testing regime has helped us to keep numbers of positive Covid cases in the school down and has meant that we have been able to avoid moving to remote education for large groups of students this term. Please can I ask that you continue testing over the Christmas break and deal with any positive test results as per the government guidelines. If needed, additional testing kits can be collected from the main school reception. If your child(ren) return a positive LFD test result during the holiday, please arrange for them to take a PCR test. On receipt of a positive PCR result, they will be unable to return to school until they have completed a period of 10 days isolation from the date of the onset of symptoms or a positive test whichever is earlier. If this situation arises, please let us know about any student absence as soon as possible.

You have also received information regarding on site Covid 19 testing for your child(ren) when we return in January. We have been asked by the government to test all students for whom we have consent on their return to school. Testing will take place in the morning of 5th January 2022 for students in all year groups. If you would like your child(ren) to be tested and have not already given consent you can do so by following this link:
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=aPW883u8BEaPsFI_LfrOapQln7aue3NDR9sPpi-QZeNUQIQyRjJSVDRIS0VQVEQ4RFVQT1BUSUxJSi4u

May I remind you that there is lots of useful information regarding all aspects of school life on our website. In particular, there is a Safeguarding tab under the Parents and Students sections on the site. This section contains information which may be useful for people facing challenges at what continues to be a difficult time for many. There is also an option to report any concerns you may have. This facility will be monitored over the Christmas holiday. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need to.

We also make regular use of social media to share information regarding what is happening in the school. We have a school Twitter feed: @THFCS_Official, and a school Facebook page; @HolyFamilyCatholicSchoolKeighley . Thank you to those of you who already follow us on social media and please consider doing so if you don't already.

We will close for Christmas, this Friday 17 December at 12.15pm. There will be a school bus at this time. Following the Christmas holiday, school will re-open for a training day for staff on Tuesday, 4 January 2022 and all students are due to return on Wednesday, 5 January 2022.

Thank you for your ongoing support throughout the year. I wish you and your families a safe and restful Christmas break and very happy and healthy new year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Mather'.

S Mather
Headteacher