

# What a start to the term!

A huge thanks to everyone who supported the Covid testing process to ensure all our students returned to school safely after the Christmas break. We very much appreciated the cooperation of all concerned to manage the phased start which we recognise may have caused inconvenience to some. It was impressive how many students attended for testing and it is a credit to you and your families as to how well they conducted themselves in the process.

Please continue to test twice a week and report all results to NHS Test and Trace as well as to school. We are expecting a delivery of test kits very soon but if you are running low, spares are available from Student Services. Just to remind you that face coverings should be worn by all students (unless exempt) in all settings.

Please see the website for an update regarding self-isolation and lateral flow testing.

# FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY PLEASE WEAR A

**FACEMASK** 

WHEN MOVING AROUND

SCHOOL AND IN

Please help keep everyone safe and continue with the twice weekly testing

# COVID-19 TESTING

Please report ALL results on the school website - see link below

Report results here

For the latest guidance on lateral flow testing and self-isolation please click link

### **Christmas, Carols & Candlelight**

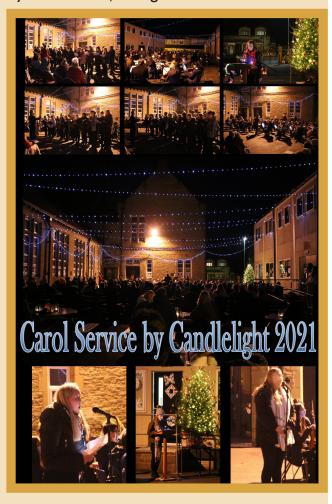
Just before the end of term we held our annual Christmas Carol Service. After moving it online last year we were determined to perform in person this year. However, during the final week there were

increasing concerns about holding indoor events and it was touch and go whether we would be able to perform in our usual venue of St. James Church. So, at the last minute we decided to move it outside!

The final few days before the end of term saw orders from Amazon of candles and fairy lights, lanterns borrowed from local churches and a year 7 Art class were busy making snow flakes. The Christmas tree was moved outside, the site staff were up ladders hanging lights, the music staff were busy re-arranging the outside furniture and the catering staff were stirring the mulled wine! Finally, after a last minute instruction to our performers to 'wrap up warm' we were ready.

The service started in a traditional way with a solo voice from Blossom Palmer singing the first verse of Once in Royal David's City. We were then delighted the Reverend Karen Young could join us from St James Church to lead the opening prayers.

There was a variety of music from our band, soloists and choirs. The band performed The Shepherds Song, Miracle on 34th Street and a lovely arrangement called 'Noel'. There were two traditional pieces by the Senior Girls Chamber



Choir of Away in a Manger and Angels from the Realms of Glory. The reduced Junior Choir (only 30 this time!) sang the very apt Cold December Night, followed by City of Stars and War is Over. The Senior Choir performed Carol of the Bells, Ding Dong Merrily on High and Silent Night – all in an a cappella style.

There were three outstanding solo features during the evening. Eleanor Turner and Kyran Russell (both year 10) once again delighted us with another Nikki Iles jazz violin and piano feature of Noël Nouvelet. Molly Lawford (year 12) sang the Norah Jones song Peace, accompanied expertly by Eleanor Lilley (year 12) on the piano with lots of jazz harmonies. Jessica Hirst (year 13) performed the final solo of O Holy Night. It was lovely to hear Jess sing for her final Carol Service as she was our soloist for Once in Royal way back when she was in year 7. Something for Blossom to think about for the future!

Our readers for the nine lessons and prayers battled with the dew soaked lecturn but read excellently. They were Amelia Kellet (Head Girl), Leo Beevers (Head Boy), Zach Brooks (year 7), Ava Clark-Speight (year 8), Mythreyi Kumaravel (year 9), Leesha Dubey (year 10), Lola Freakley (year 11), Martha Currie (year 12), Olivia Smith (year 12), with the final lesson traditionally read by the Head Teacher Mr Roberts.

There were our traditional carols sung by the congregation, including the final carol of Hark the Herald Angels Sing taken rather quickly as the cold was starting to be felt by everyone! As always, the Carol Service is a great way to end the term with a Christmas glow and a carol to sing. And although it was a little cold towards the end, it was lovely to finally enjoy our Carols by Candlelight.

### Sadie Bakes

Sadie Tidswell, a Year 10 student is a keen baker and took up the opportunity to start baking



her business d u r i n g COVID. She was recently asked to take park in the Yorkshire Pop Up event in November 2021, which was based at Superfood Bowl in



Cleckheaton. She made about 150 cupcakes, comprising of 6 different

varieties one of which was a vegan option, these were then sold to people who attended. It was a very successful day and she sold out!



Good to see Sadie, that you are putting your GCSE choices of business and food tech to some good use!

## **Parent Notices**

**Thursday 13 January 2022** 

Year 8 Options Evening -

details to be communicated by email

Monday 17 - Thursday 20 January 2022
Year 11 Sixth Form Consultations

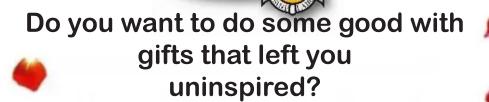
details emailed Thursday 6 January 2022

**Thursday 3 February 2022**Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening -

Invites to attend will be emailed w/c 17 January

Monday 14 February 2022
Year 8 Options Deadline





Friends of HG.

Why not donate them to our school Valentine's Raffle?

Donations are now being accepted in the main reception

All funds raised from the selling of the raffle tickets will be used to enhance the education of HGS students

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