



## HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

PDR/TCC

23 November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Whilst we are still in the month of November, I am sure you are starting to notice shops very much in their run up to Christmas mode and already festive songs being played on the radio. With that in mind, I thought it might be helpful to detail some of the events coming up in the next few weeks, during this particularly busy period.

### **Staff Training Day: Friday 1 December**

I'm sure you will have already noted this, but just to confirm, school is closed on this day for staff training.

### **Parents' Evenings: Year 11, Thursday 30 November**

#### **Year 13, Thursday 7 December**

One of the great strengths of our school is the excellent support from parents and we are very grateful for parents giving their time to attend these important meetings. Please do note, students are expected at these events, as it is important everyone takes part in the discussions.

### **Senior Choir Recital: Sunday 3 December**

This event held at Dewsbury Town Hall, is a first in the music department's busy schedule. We have been invited to join the Leeds Male Voice Choir in a great choral celebration of Christmas.

### **Christmas Concert: Wednesday 6 December**

I have to admit this is one of my personal favourites and as ever will be a joyous performance by a large number of students, in various ensembles, choirs and the incredible full HGS orchestra. One not to be missed.

### **Youth Theatre performance – A Christmas Carol: Thursday 14 December**

An opportunity to see some of our younger students perform a well-known classic, with a HGS interpretation!

### **Senior Prizegiving Ceremony: Tuesday 19 December**

Once again held in the grand Dewsbury Town Hall, an opportunity to celebrate the superb examination successes of last year's Year 11 and Year 13 students. Invitations have already gone out to the relevant families, and it will be a night to remember for all those involved.

**Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day: Wednesday 20 December**

A marathon event for our catering team with well over 1000 covers and also opportunity for a more light-hearted day, as the once-a-year jumpers come out of wardrobes, all for a good charitable cause.

**Carol Service: Thursday 21 December**

Once again held in the beautiful St James's Church, a formal celebration of Christmas, with carols and hymns, and a delightful way to sign off the school term.

**End of Term: Friday 22 December**

As is our tradition, we will finish the term with an assembly and some nice celebrations in school, before students will be allowed to leave at 12.15, as a small reward for all the excellent work they do.

Very disappointingly, we will not be able to hold our swimming gala this year, which has always been a highlight of the House competition calendar. You will probably be aware of the financial difficulties Kirklees council are in and very regrettably they are not prepared to take our booking this year. Clearly, we all hope these difficulties are swiftly resolved, such that we can all get back to having access to sports facilities provided by the council.

And finally, though a while a way, we return to school on Monday 8 January 2024, and I will look forward to welcoming all our students back.

My best wishes to you all.

Yours faithfully



Peter Roberts

Headteacher