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Headteacher: Chris Eccles

Friday 17th December

Dear Parents and Carer,

Can I start by saying how much all the staff at Oakwood High School appreciate your ongoing support, through what continues to be a challenging time in schools. This week the response from pupils taking responsibility to bring and wear their face coverings has been excellent and I would like to thank you for the part you have played in that. Positive COVID cases in school continue to remain low, with only one being reported this week. I would also like to thank you for the support you have given with helping reduce the number of incidents this term concerning mobile phones. Our pupils have shown a greater responsibility and there have been fewer confiscations as a result.

The final week of the winter term is always packed full of exciting activities. It has been great to finally put on a school production after two years and I hope those that have been able to attend have enjoyed it. The pupils and staff have worked really hard to put on an excellent performance. We have also had reward events for pupils, a bake off and charity cake sale, the traditional festive House challenge and carol singing at a local residential home. It has been a long, but successful term and both pupils and staff are ready for a rest over the Christmas holidays.

I also have some excellent news to share with you before we break for the holiday. As you will be aware the school was inspected on the 9th and 10th November and yesterday the final report was published on the Ofsted website. The outcome of the report is that Oakwood High School continues to be a GOOD school. A copy of the full report can be found here: [OHS Inspection report 2021](#)

The report is overwhelmingly positive with it saying;

Pupils enjoy attending Oakwood High School. They feel safe and enjoy their lessons. They have access to a broad range of subjects regardless of their background, ability or any individual needs. Leaders recognise the potential of every pupil and ensure that any barriers to learning are addressed.

Pupils respect each other. They respect the diversity of the pupil population. They know that teachers and other staff will support them if they have concerns. Pupils and parents and carers consider incidents of bullying to be rare. However, when problems do arise, they have confidence that these will be addressed quickly.

Staff have high expectations of all pupils. Most pupils behave well in and out of lessons. If a pupil struggles to self-regulate their behaviour, leaders provide them with personalised support. This is one part of leaders' effective 'care, prepare and repair' pastoral programme.

Pupils behave well, especially in lessons. The number of exclusions is low. When incidents of poor behaviour do occur, leaders provide effective support for pupils. As a result, many pupils do not make the same mistakes again. Pupils understand why sanctions such as detentions are used, and say that these are used consistently.

The school is well led. Leaders value the opinions of staff and are mindful of their workload and well-being. Inspectors could clearly see why 98 per cent of staff who responded to the inspection staff survey said that

they were proud to work at Oakwood. The responses to Ofsted's parent questionnaire showed that the vast majority of parents would also recommend the school.

There are still areas we need to focus on, to ensure the school continues to improve, including embedding the curriculum strategy across all subjects and fully developing a culture of reading.

We are very proud of this achievement and it reflects the excellent work done by staff, pupils and the support of parents and the wider community. We are also proud of the fact that 94% of parents who completed '[Parent View](#)' would recommend the school.

Testing and face coverings on the return to school

Just a reminder that when pupils return to school on Wednesday 5th January, we will ensure all pupils in school receive a test in school during the first few days. In addition to the testing the school will undertake, we ask that all pupils take a lateral flow test on Tuesday 4th January before returning to school.

We also ask that pupils continue to bring and wear a face covering in communal areas. This will continue until the guidance to schools is updated.

Vaccination

All eligible pupils aged 12 and over are encouraged to take up the offer of the vaccine; including boosters. Vaccines are our best defence against COVID-19. They help protect young people and adults, and benefit those around them. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on.

To book a vaccination, please visit: [Book or manage a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#).

Guidance for parents and carers on online sexual harassment and keeping children safe online

The Children's Commissioner this week is launching [a guide for parents and carers on online sexual harassment and how they can support children to stay safe online](#).

"The things I wish my parents had known" draws together advice from 16 to 21 year olds on how parents should manage tricky conversations around sexual harassment and access to inappropriate content, including pornography. A surprising but overriding message from young people is that parents should start these challenging conversations early and this guide is designed to support parents to do this

Once again I would like to thank you for your ongoing support, through what has been a successful term. I would like to wish all our families a good holiday and happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Eccles - Headteacher

Monday 3rd January 2022

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Wednesday 5th January 2022

Monday 10th January 2022

Monday 24th January 2022

School closed - Bank Holiday (New Year)

School closed - Bank Holiday (extra day for Queen's Jubilee)

Start of the Spring Term

Year 10 ILEs start (all week)

Year 10 Work Placement week

If you need some help with a translation of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ak potrebujete pomoc s prekladom, kľudne mi napíšte email a ja vám zavolám pri prvej vhodnej príležitosti. Moja emailová adresa je h.vereczy@oakwood.ac

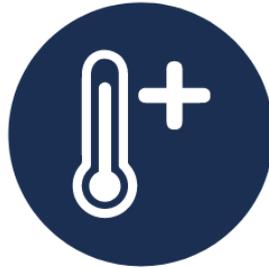
اگر آپ کو اس خط کا اردو ترجمہ چاہیے تو براہ کرم اوپر دیئے گئے نمبر پر رابطہ کریں۔ شکریہ s.khan@oakwood.ac

COLD OR COVID?

DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS?



Continuous
Headache



Fever



Sore
Throat



Loss of
smell



Sneezing or
new/continuous cough



Runny Nose

IT MIGHT NOT BE 'JUST A COLD'

Many of the symptoms of COVID-19 are similar as a cold.
Get a PCR test to make sure it's not COVID-19.

www.rotherham.gov.uk/coronavirus