



NOWER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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27797/LV/JM
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Headteacher:
Chris Livesey BA (Hons)

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of term we would like to remind you of forthcoming arrangements and share other information with you.

On **Friday 11th December**, lunch will be a little earlier than usual, followed by Period 5 and 6. **School will dismiss at 1.45pm**, to allow the staff Christmas get together to take place. Should the early closure present difficulties with child care for your son or daughter, please make contact with your child's Year Coordinator. Also on this day, I am delighted that we will be recognising Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day; students will be allowed to wear their favourite themed Christmas jumper in place of the school jumper, in return for a £1 donation to Save the Children. Please note that they must wear their regular school trousers/skirt and shirt/blouse, but there is no need for blazers. We look forward to the festive spectacle!

On **Sunday 13th December**, we invite all students and their families to take part in the annual St. Luke's Santa Dash. This is a fun and exhilarating event: an opportunity to take some seasonal exercise; meet other parents and raise money for an extremely worthwhile local hospice in the process. We do hope you will join in – please see the attached form for entry if you would like to join the dashing Santas!

Christmas lunch for students who have registered for a ticket will be on **Tuesday 15th December**. This will be a traditional lunch with a vegetarian option. Please note there will be no other food available in the Dining Centre at lunchtime on that day. There will however, be food available in the normal way at break in the Dining Centre and in the 'Grab and Go' facilities at lunchtime, to allow students to purchase items for lunch, or to collect their free school meal.

On **Friday 18th December**, the final day of term, **school will be dismissed at 12.15pm**. The Dining Centre will not be open at lunchtime on this day but will be open at break to allow students either to purchase items for lunch or to collect their free school meal.

In keeping with tradition, the **last day of term will be a Mufti Day**. The charge for this will be £1 prior to the day, which will be collected every morning during registration from **Monday 14th December**. The proceeds will, as usual, be divided between our two school charities: St. Marcellin's Children's Village in Zimbabwe and the Romanian Orphanage visited by our 6th Form students each year. We do understand that we are asking you to make a donation to charity on two consecutive weeks, but we hope that families will support us in reiterating to children that part of the spirit of Christmas is thinking about those less fortunate than ourselves and doing what we can to help them.

We would respectfully remind parents that any incidents which involve inappropriate 'end of term' behaviour will be viewed very seriously, as they affect the good reputation which Nower Hill enjoys. Your co-operation by ensuring that your son or daughter recognises the importance of showing consideration to all the community would be very much appreciated.

We would also like to remind you that although the last day of term is a mufti day, children should wear attire that is **respectable and appropriate for school**; any student who arrives in clothing which exposes the chest or midriff will be asked to change. Shorts above the knee are also not considered appropriate for school.

Students return to school on **Monday 4th January 2016** and need to arrive at the usual time for a normal school day. May I ask that you carefully note our holiday dates, which can be found on the school's website under the 'Calendar' tab, as we will not authorise absence outside of these dates for incorrectly booked holidays.

Finally, I end with a plea that our very hard-working children should be allowed to enjoy a proper rest over the Christmas holidays and some quality time with their friends and families. This term is particularly hard for our new Year 7s, who have had to make the transition from primary to secondary school, and for our children taking mock examinations, which we know they have worked extremely conscientiously for. Please parents and carers, no tuition or expectations of additional work for the children over the holidays! What will be most beneficial for us all is if they have a happy, relaxed holiday and come back refreshed and looking forward to a new and exciting year ahead at Nower Hill.

We thank you, as always, for your support and commitment to the school this term and look forward to continuing to work positively with all parents and carers next year. As we approach Christmas and New Year, may I take this opportunity on behalf of Mr Livesey and all the staff of Nower Hill, to wish you and your family a very happy and peaceful holiday.

Merry Christmas!



Louise Voden
Deputy Headteacher
Student Support