



Newsletter

A nativity by English artist Margaret Tarrant

Newsletter Issue 157

17 December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

This week marks one whole year since I became Interim Principal, and Ms Burtonwood Vice Principal, and would like to begin by thanking parents, students and staff for the resounding support over the last year. I firmly believe that we have made huge strides forward in this school and hope that many of these positives are highlighted in the Ofsted report due to be published in the new year.

Our Enrichment programme has gone from strength to strength this year and the continued rise in attendance is heartening, especially in sporting events and the performing arts. It is incredibly frustrating that our Carols by Candlelight concert has had to be postponed, but I am committed to showcasing our wonderful students and their talent at some point early in the new year.

As I am sure you are aware, the government expects us to test students before they return to school. So in line with many other schools across Coventry, we will be having a staggered return in January, details of which are explained on page 2 of this newsletter.

May I take this opportunity to warmly wish you a happy Christmas and a wonderful new year.

God bless.

Mr Everett
Principal

IMPORTANT

Please see page 2 for information about the staggered start for the return to school in January 2022 and on-site Covid testing.



024 7661 7231



admin@cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk

www.cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk

Instagram: [@officialwisemancoventry](https://www.instagram.com/officialwisemancoventry)  [@officialwiseman](https://twitter.com/officialwiseman) Facebook: Cardinal Wiseman Catholic Secondary School

RETURN TO SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

Students will complete a staggered return to school using the following timeline:

Wednesday 5 January 2022

Years 7, 11 and 13 to return to school, testing to be conducted on site for these year groups and lessons will go ahead as normal.

Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 will be provided learning support online.

Thursday 6 January 2022

Years 8 and 10 to return to school, testing to be conducted on site for these year groups.

Lessons will go ahead as normal for Years 7, 8, 10, 11* and 13.

Years 9 and 12 will be provided learning support online.

Friday 7 January 2022

Years 9 and 12 to return to school, testing to be conducted on site for these year groups.

Lessons will go ahead as normal for all year groups*.

On-site learning provision will be provided for vulnerable, key worker and SEND students who need the support from Wednesday 5 January 2022.

*Sixth Form taster sessions have been arranged for Year 11 on this day.



TESTING

Students will be offered one Lateral Flow Device test on site. This will allow the school to identify any asymptomatic cases amongst students, helping to mitigate the risk of transmission.

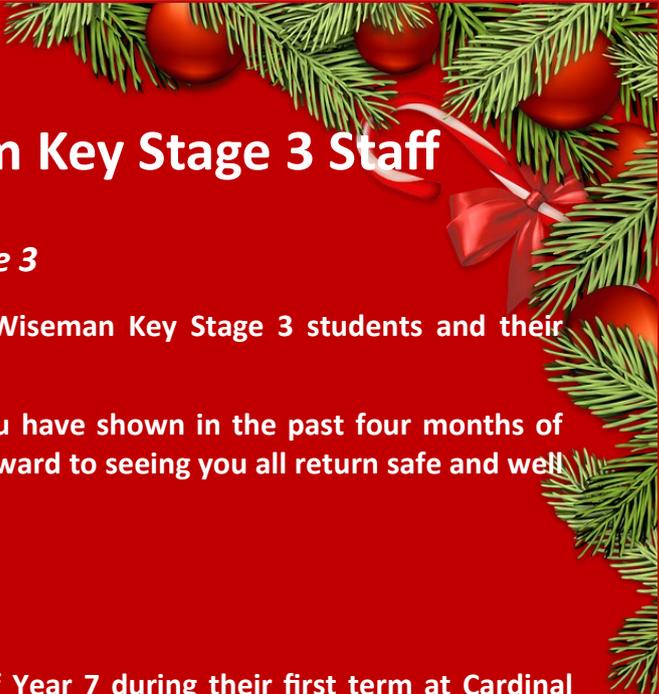
- If you or your child has previously provided consent for on-site testing, this consent will remain valid for the January testing programme.
- Students who wish to be tested, but have not previously consented, please select this link: [consent form](#)
- If your circumstances have changed, and you no longer wish for your child to be tested, please let us know by emailing testing@cwcscoventry.co.uk

We understand that not all families are able to access online learning resources easily at home. Therefore if your child is in urgent need of a device, so that they are able to benefit from online learning, please let the school know as soon as possible, so we can make the necessary arrangements.

The routine Nasal Flu Vaccinations will still take place on Thursday 6 January 2022 for students in Years 7, 8, 10, 11 and 13. A follow up arrangement for students in Years 9 and 12 will take place a week later.

As a school, we will continue to monitor any new developments in line with the COVID-19 pandemic and follow the guidance provided by the Department of Education and Local Authority.





Christmas Messages from Key Stage 3 Staff

A Message from Mr Alcott, Head of Key Stage 3

May I take this opportunity to wish all Cardinal Wiseman Key Stage 3 students and their families a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Well done for the resilience and determination you have shown in the past four months of school following a difficult past two years. I look forward to seeing you all return safe and well in January.

A Message from Mrs Taylor, Head of Year 7

It has been wonderful to share in the successes of Year 7 during their first term at Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School. Whilst I understand the transition from primary to secondary can be a challenging one, it has been delightful to see how well the majority of students have coped with it. It was wonderful to see so many students in assembly celebrating each other and their triumphs and successes this week.

As we move forward into a new year and a new school term, I hope that the students will continue with their positive learning attitudes and continue to be the very best versions of themselves that they can be. I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year with your loved ones.

A Message from Mr Forinton and Mr Hingley of the Year 8 Team

Mr Hingley and I would just like to take this opportunity to wish all Year 8 students and your families, a very happy, peaceful and restful Christmas and a prosperous new year.

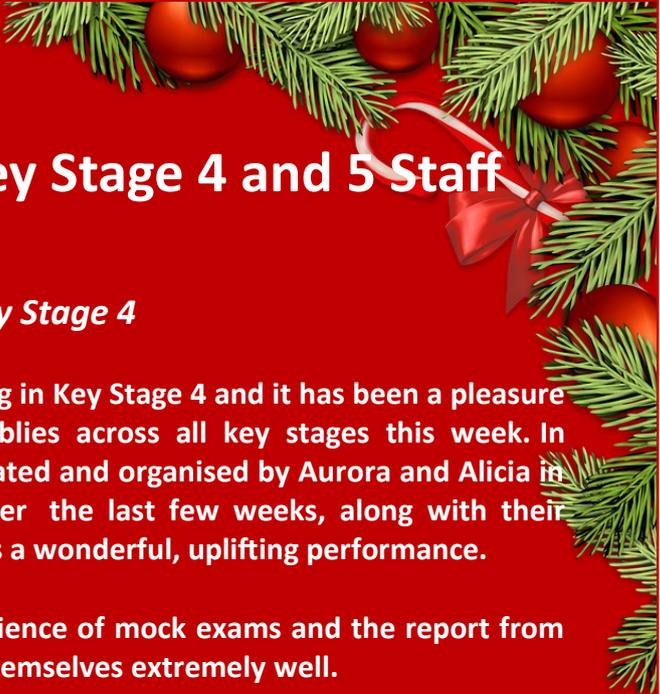
We are both immensely proud to be working with you all on a daily basis watching many of you progress and mature into fabulous young adults. You as students have produced some fantastic pieces of work both academically and creatively with lots of you continuing to access the extra curricular clubs on offer here at Cardinal Wiseman.

Have a restful break and see you all back in January.

A Message from Mr Nagle, Head of Year 9

2022 will be an important and exciting year for our Year 9 students as they make their final decisions about GCSE options. I have been really impressed by their mature and sensible attitude towards this big step and their ambition to do well.

I wish all Year 9 students and their families a relaxing and joyful Christmas and look forward to sharing in next year's steps in your school journeys.



Christmas Messages from Key Stage 4 and 5 Staff

A Message from Miss Greenway, Head of Key Stage 4

This term has seen lots of fantastic things happening in Key Stage 4 and it has been a pleasure to be able to see this in the celebration assemblies across all key stages this week. In particular, the celebration dance that has been created and organised by Aurora and Alicia in Year 11. They have given up their lunchtimes over the last few weeks, along with their performers, to create what can only be described as a wonderful, uplifting performance.

Year 11 have gone through their first official experience of mock exams and the report from the external invigilators was that they conducted themselves extremely well.

I wish everyone a restful and peaceful Christmas and look forward to what the new year has in store.

A Message from Miss Lindsay, Head of Year 10

Year 10 has had a wonderful start to this academic year so far. They have all shown great determination and resilience by continuing to come to school and begin their GCSE's during this continued unprecedented time.

As students break up for the well-deserved holiday, I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and new year. I look forward to welcoming Year 10 back in 2022 as they continue to thrive with their studies.

A Message from Mr Lambert, Head of Year 11

After studying for their GCSE's during these difficult and strange times, Year 11 sat their mock exams this term. They showed how determined they are to achieve and we were proud of their behaviour and commitment. They all deserve to enjoy a relaxing holiday and I wish them a very happy Christmas and a successful 2022.

A Message from Mr Palmer, Head of Years 12 & 13

The Sixth Form have made a fantastic start to the year showing heaps of resilience, respect and ambition off the back of a challenging couple of years. I wish all members of the Sixth Form and their families a very merry Christmas and a happy new year .

Congratulations to Year 13 Students achieving British Sign Language Qualification



Three Year 13 students from Cardinal Wiseman School achieved their Level 1 qualification in British Sign Language (BSL) after studying after school as part of an extracurricular club organised by Ms Jefferson.

Initially, the BSL course was advertised to students doing the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, as an option to complete their skills section, but it was then opened up to all Sixth Form students.

About ten students attended the sessions regularly with three, Khiara G, Lana DC and Ifeyinwa A, going onto achieve the Level 1 qualification. These girls worked extremely hard and even had online lessons, with tutor Tim Scannell, during lockdown.

Tim currently works as a freelance BSL tutor which includes teaching at Coventry University. People are welcome to contact him about advice for deaf people in the workplace, deaf awareness training, BSL tutoring in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Enrichment and Levels 1 to 6 qualifications in British Sign Language.

The school is extremely proud to have been able to offer this amazing opportunity for students to learn a new language and skill. This academic year there are more Year 12 and 13 students who are interested in undertaking a course in sign language as a result of the girls' success.

Ms Jefferson
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Manager

I hope you are all excited for Christmas and hopefully all of the JOY that is to come.

The theme for the final week of term was JOY and we have a video from some students reflecting on what Joy means to them!

<https://youtu.be/EXyJzKksH-0>



Year 9 Girls Tackle Top Class Rugby Coaching



For the past six weeks the girls in Year 9 have spent their timetabled PE lessons with WASPS Community Rugby coaches including Coventry based, Worcester Warriors and former under 20's England international, Meg Varley.

The girls have really enjoyed developing their understanding and skills in rugby. The coaching programme has progressed from the core skills of catching and passing to game play and contact skills.

Mr Page



POP-UP COVID VACCINATION CENTRE THIS WEEKEND



There will be a pop-up COVID vaccination centre this weekend in Broadgate.

Saturday 18 December 10.00am – 4.00pm

Sunday 19 December 11.00am – 4.00pm



Football Report

On Tuesday 14 December, the Year 9 Football Team travelled to Blue Coat School for their last friendly game of 2021.

They started brightly and quickly took the lead with some incisive interplay between midfield and attack. They quickly doubled this lead and at half time the score was 5-0. In the second half they furthered the lead with an outstanding long range effort from David H.

The team played fantastically well and won the game 7-0 with some standout performances including a hat trick from Cameron C. Well done boys!

Mr Page



Remote Learning Update



All students should have access to Google Classroom to complete work whilst at home. However, you might not have known that Google Classroom can also be accessed through the Xbox or Playstation if it is connected to the internet. Please follow the link below to connect through this device:

<https://www.ka-net.org.uk/story/access-google-classroom-xbox-or-ps4>

Dostęp do Google Classroom w języku polskim - Accessing Google Classroom in Polish -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uqBShw8zG04GMAyVpx8E0949nhoZzKLXUpsEohXsyPI/edit?usp=sharing>

وصول إلى Google Classroom - باللغة العربية - Accessing Google Classroom in Arabic -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SHVgYRDvTR8TAtgUAWV6e9KgoFVIEJDKIC9Ft3Czbpq/edit?usp=sharing>

Acceder a Google Classroom en español - Accessing Google Classroom in Spanish -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hzfcYhkOHRyAWSJi-RIXEelhs9DMIXewkl8YLWzKt0c/edit?usp=sharing>

Accesarea Google Classroom în limba română - Accessing Google Classroom in Romanian -

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LjAMIsCAW-kRNvG--o0nZZpLUXSdhz_2iL8cj0hVHwE/edit?usp=sharing





Update on COVID-19 vaccinations

The new Omicron COVID-19 variant is spreading fast. Anyone who is unvaccinated or who hasn't had their booster is at even greater risk from COVID-19 and more serious illness. Vaccines are the best way we can protect ourselves and help keep children and young people in face-to-face education.

People aged 18 years and over, and those aged 16 years and over who are at risk (including health and social care workers), will be offered a booster dose of coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine.

You can pre-book your booster dose online if it's been 2 months (61 days) since you had your 2nd dose and you are:

- aged 18 and over
- aged 16 and over with a health condition that puts you at high risk from COVID-19
- a frontline health or social care worker

You will be offered appointment dates from 3 months after the date of your 2nd dose.

16 and 17 year olds can get two doses of the COVID vaccine. They can book an appointment through the national booking service and walk in centres are available.

The Health and Social Care Secretary announced on Monday 29 November that young people aged 12 to 15 in England will be offered a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, following advice from JCVI. Parents of children aged 12-15 that have not yet had their first vaccine can book their child's first vaccination slot over the winter break via:

[national booking system](#).

We ask parents, where possible, to use the out-of-school route as they break up for the winter holidays. In some cases, parents will be able to get their booster at the same time as their child getting their first vaccine.

Information on vaccination for 12 to 15 year olds can be found here:

[COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 12 to 15 guidance](#).

An information leaflet on [what to expect after vaccination](#) is available to download or order.

Please select the following link to see a letter from Kirston Nelson, Director of Education and Skills at Coventry City Council, containing updated information about the local government's response to COVID-19 for schools:

<https://cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/12/COVID-letter-to-parents-December.pdf>

An Important Message About Vaping



Dear Parents and Carers

It has come to our attention, and through communication with other schools, that the use of Vapes is becoming more widespread amongst young people outside of the supervision of their parents, carers, teachers or any other responsible adult. These Vapes are commonly named Geek Bars or Elf Bars. Often they can be bought easily and are relatively cheap. We would like to stress that they have a health risk and we are aware of these items causing severe reactions in students who belong to other schools.

Please can I ask that you be vigilant with regard to these Vapes, often they are difficult to distinguish from stationery highlighters or make-up.

I would like to stress that Vapes are a prohibited item at Cardinal Wiseman School and students found to be in possession of them or using them on school site are likely to have a fixed term exclusion sanction.

Ms Burtonwood

Vice Principal



**When picking up and dropping off
students please be respectful of
our neighbours.**

**Please do not park or reverse
onto their drives.**

Thank you.





CHRISTMAS STRESS RELIEF

TAKE A WALK

MEDITATE WHILE STANDING IN LINE

SKIP THE PARTY

IGNORE THE DUST BUNNIES

CUT BACK ON GIFT GIVING

SHOP ONLINE

DRINK DECAF

AVOID EXCESS ALCOHOL

KEEP UP HEALTHY HABITS





JUST IN CASE...

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

You can call us or have a 1-2-1 chat 7 days a week, from 9am-10:30pm from 9am-3:30am, you can call us for free on [0800 1111](tel:08001111).

Our counsellors won't be available from 3:30am-9am, but you can [send an email](#) using your Childline account any time and you'll usually get a reply within 24 hours. In an emergency, you should always call 999.

Talking on the phone can be hard sometimes, especially when you're used to talking online. But we've got [advice to help](#) if you're scared. You can also get support from other young people on the [message boards](#).

shout **85258** here for you 24/7

If you are struggling to cope and need to talk, our trained Shout Volunteers are here for you, day or night. If your life is at imminent risk, please call 999 for immediate help.

Shout [85258](tel:85258) is a free, confidential, anonymous text support service. You can text from wherever you are in the UK.

www.giveusashout.org

SAMARITANS

Talk to us on the phone

Whatever you're going through, call us free any time, from any phone, on [116 123](tel:116123).

You talk, we listen.

www.samaritans.org

POLICE

Call **999** if:

- a serious offence is in progress or has just been committed
- someone is in immediate danger or harm
- property is in danger of being damaged
- a serious disruption to the public is likely

If you're deaf or hard of hearing, use our textphone service [18000](tel:18000) or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the [emergencySMS service](#).

Non-emergency - 101

Call **101** for non-emergency enquiries. If you're deaf or hard of hearing, use our textphone service on [18001 101](tel:18001101).

www.police.uk



The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come. Merry Christmas!



1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

