

9th December 2022

Dear SGS Forest families,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

It is accompanied by two other items:

- a booklet from Gloucestershire County Council about access to food, activities and wellbeing services during the Christmas holidays
- an important letter for Year 11 families

Sporting success

Congratulations to our First Team boys' rugby squad on winning the 2022 District Rugby Championship! The boys played some sensational rugby, even more so considering **many had never played a competitive rugby game before this September**. They have made all of us here at SGS Forest extremely proud.

Well done to all of the Dene Magna and Wyedean students who also played well.

Thank you to our friends at Cinderford RFC for hosting us and for all they are doing to promote rugby at grassroots level.

Scarlet fever/Strep A

The Department for Education has asked schools to communicate the following information to families regarding the recent increase in scarlet fever/Strep A cases.

Strep A infections can cause a range of symptoms that parents should be aware of, including:

- sore throat
- headache
- fever
- a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel
- on darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel

If a child becomes unwell with these symptoms, you should contact their GP practice or contact NHS 111 (which operates a 24/7 service) to seek advice.

If a child has scarlet fever, they should be kept at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection to others.

If a child has any of the following symptoms, you should call 999 or take them to A&E immediately:

- difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- pauses when they breathe
- skin, tongue or lips are blue
- floppy body and will not wake up or stay awake

Alan Dane | Headteacher

SGS Forest High School
Causeway Road
Cinderford
GL14 2AZ

01594 822257
info@foresthgh.org.uk
www.foresthigh.org.uk



SGS Forest
High School
CINDERFORD

Year 11 news

Next week, students who are studying Fine Art or 3D will complete their two full days of mock exams on Monday 12th and Thursday 15th. Meanwhile, students who are taking Sports Studies or Health & Social Care will have a day per subject with their teachers for assignment completion on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December.

End-of-term arrangements

A reminder that **we will continue with normal lessons until 1500 next Friday, 16th December.**

Staff and students can choose to wear a Christmas jumper on the 16th, in return for a £1 donation to Save the Children.

Next term

Please remember we have Family Day on Tuesday 3rd January. **Normal lessons resume from 0830 on Wednesday 4th January.**

As mentioned last week, from Monday 9th January, we will be rejigging timings within the main school day of 0830-1500, as follows:

0830-0850	Tutor Time (including weekly House assemblies)
0850-0910	Years 7 to 10: Guided Reading*/Year 11: Guided Prep*
0910-1000	Lesson 1
1000-1050	Lesson 2
1050-1105	Break
1105-1155	Lesson 3
1155-1245	Lesson 4
1245-1315	Lunch
1315-1320	Tutor Line Up*
1320-1410	Lesson 5
1410-1500	Lesson 6

(*We will share information about Guided Reading, Guided Prep and Tutor Line Up in due course.)

Also from Monday 9th January, any student who arrives to school with one of the following uniform issues will have a lunchtime detention that day:

- no tie
- no blazer
- incorrect footwear
- false nails

Most of our students make us proud by dressing for school perfectly every day, as per our uniform guidance, which can be found [here](#) and which remains unchanged since before I joined the school in January.

Thank you for your continued support.

Alan Dane
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