

16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

After all the restrictions experienced in the Autumn Terms of 2020 and 2021, everybody in school has been enjoying a much more 'normal' December this year. Last week we were joined in Chester Cathedral by pupils from our partner primary schools for a wonderful Frodsham and Villages Schools Partnership 'Bound in Sound' concert and this week we have hosted our first Senior Citizens' Christmas Party and Year 13 Awards Evening for 3 years. For further details on these and many more events please see our Facebook/Twitter pages and our Christmas Newsletter ...

<https://sway.office.com/GzE7nm4VW660wCLj?ref=Link> (HHS Winter Newsletter)

### Message from Ian Devereux-Roberts, Chair of Governors

*As the newly appointed Chair of Governors at Helsby High School, I thought it would be appropriate to introduce myself to the school community. I am Ian Devereux-Roberts and I am currently the Head Teacher at Frodsham Manor House School - a position I have had the honour of holding for the past 16 years. Having completed 35 years in education and 20 years of Headship across two schools, I have had the pleasure of serving on a number Governing Bodies - as a staff governor, parent governor, in my capacity as a Head Teacher, and more recently as a co-opted governor at Helsby High - representing the Frodsham and Villages Schools Partnership.*

*As the Chair of Governors at Helsby High, I would like to assure all school families, that along with my fellow governors, we will work steadfastly, along with members of the school staff, to ensure that the educational journey of the students and that of the school as a whole is one that allows all to succeed.*

*At this very special time of year, may I - on behalf of my fellow governors - extend the warmest seasonal wishes to all Helsby High families and hope that 2023 brings much success and happiness.*

### Household Support Fund

Once again payments for households of students in receipt of Free School Meals is being made over the Christmas break. Each eligible family will receive £20 per week, per child, so in total £40 per pupil for the two-week period. Please look out for these payments in the form of e-mailed Tesco e-vouchers on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

Cheshire West and Chester Council, alongside Edsential and a range of community partners, are running a wide range of activities for the Winter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme that will run throughout the school winter holiday. Please see the attached for full details of these activities and details of the Council's Cost of Living support in these challenging times.

### **Key Spring Term Dates**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Start of Term for Students  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January – Years 9 and 10 Assessment Fortnight  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January – Year 8 Parent Consultation Evening (on-line)  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January – Year 12 Assessment Week  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January – Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening (in school)  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Year 13 PPE2 Exams  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Year 11 PPE2 Exams  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Year 12 Reports published  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Year 12 Parent Consultation Evening (in school)  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Years 9 and 10 Reports published  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening (on-line)  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of the first half-term

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February – Students return after half-term break  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening (on-line)  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Year 13 PPE2 Reports published  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Year 9 Options Evening (in school)  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Year 11 PPE2 Reports published  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening (on-line)  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> & Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – School Production  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Year 11 & 13 School Photographs  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening (on-line)  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Last day of term

### **Schemes of Learning**

A reminder that as our students look ahead to their return to school in January, overviews of our Schemes of Learning, which allow students and parents to see what will be coming up in their lessons, are available on our website at [Schemes of Learning - Helsby High School](#)

### **Class Charts App**

You will have received a letter (via your child) recently regarding the introduction of the parent 'Class Charts' App, which goes live on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The Class Charts App allows parents to have a greater insight into the behaviour of their child and their engagement with their learning while they are in school. It allows parents and students to view their progress and to be able to reflect on their achievements and behaviour on a daily basis.

We hope that, by downloading the App, you will be able to help us to celebrate students' achievements with parents and to be fully involved in working in partnership with us with regard to your child's engagement in school.

### **2022-23 School Development Plan**

A summary of our key priorities for this academic year can be found on our website at <https://helsbyhigh.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/2022-23-SDP-Key-Priorities-1.pdf> . As a school we are constantly looking to develop and improve and please look out in the Spring Term for opportunities for parents to contribute to this on-going process through the provision of feedback on what we do.

Chester Road, Helsby, Frodsham. WA6 OHY

head@helsbyhigh.org.uk

Tel: 01928723551

www.helsbyhigh.org.uk

### **Staff Farewell**

We say farewell this week to Jodie Esquer, who has been working in our Reception team this term. We also say good-bye to Mrs Spencer, who is moving on from the school at the end of this term. Mrs Spencer has worked in the school for many years in a number of roles, most recently as a Teacher of Design and Technology, and has been working with us for one day a week since September. Mrs Spencer is a popular member of staff with both students and staff, well-known for both her enthusiasm for her work and for the care that she shows to both students and colleagues. As such she will be sadly missed and we all wish Mrs Spencer all the very best for the future.

At the start of next term we will be welcoming three new colleagues to the school: Miss Ellam and Mrs Roche, who will be joining our Reception team; and Mrs Penketh, who will be joining our Science department.

I hope all of our students and families have a wonderful Christmas break and enjoy the opportunity to rest and relax with family and friends. Very best wishes for the festive season, and for the coming year, from everybody at Helsby High School (please click to open link) ...

[Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - Helsby High School](#)

Very best wishes,

Martin Hill  
Headteacher