



DISS HIGH SCHOOL

END OF TERM NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2021

“Tough times never last but tough people do.” – **Robert H. Schiuller**

We come to the end of another challenging term and we are so grateful for the dogged and persevering support that parents have given to the school. Your common-sense optimism has shone through our youngsters.

Arrangements for next term – pupils return on Thursday 6th January *

The arrival of Omicron has ensured the pandemic is still with us, sadly, so once again we are required to conduct lateral flow tests for pupils at the beginning of term. We will start these on the first day back on **Thursday 6th January** and into the following week. We also ask you to continue twice weekly testing at home. In addition, we request that parents, guardians, and other visitors take a lateral flow device (LFD) test before entering the school. Thank you. We are advised by Norfolk County Council that lateral flow test kits are readily available for free at local libraries and pharmacies.

Latest government Advice

From Tuesday 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 has been introduced in England. All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Sixth Form Charity Week



Sixth Formers have worked hard again this year for their annual charity week. Cait Croft, Lucie O'Brien and Zeyno Oguz, who are BTEC Business students, set up a Charity Auction for East Anglian Children's Hospices (EACH) and Brain Tumour Research UK. The trio approached town businesses for donation items including Fredericks Fine Foods, Hilary and Alice, Diss Publishing and Brownie and the Bean bakery. They raised nearly £1,000 which is a tremendous achievement and will be added to all the other fundraising activities for the sixth form charity week. Thanks go to Mrs Budds for guidance and hard work behind the scenes. And well done to ALL the Sixth Form for sponsored walks, games, and quizzes!

Goodbyes

We are saying goodbye to some valued staff: Mrs Offord leaves us this term to pursue new interests. She has worked at the school since 2006 and we thank her for all her hard work in the English department and as a Head of Year. Miss Flatman joins us to teach English in January and Dr Busby is the new Head of Year 7. We also thank Dr Gillis for his contribution to the Science Department and welcome Miss Smith as new teacher of Science in January. Likewise, we thank Mr Graham for his work in Computing and welcome back Mrs Adlam from maternity leave.

May we wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year .

Stay safe!

Kind regards

Dr J Hunt – Headteacher

*NB Pupils return is a day later than some other schools, as we had to add an extra day to one of the holidays for the Queen's Jubilee bank holiday which falls within the June half term. We decided to add the jubilee day to the Christmas break.