

SLT Blog

December 16 2021: Christmas Edition



Christmas Lunch in full swing for Year 7

Action-packed Finale...

It's been a fast-moving last week of term, which revolved around a host of Christmas-themed events, as well as some more serious activities, including sessions for Year 11s on study skills.

We were able to have our usual festive lunch – Chartwells staff really did us proud, and with the customary Christmas tunes playing, it reminded us all of what we had missed over the last couple of years.

Christmas jumpers added to the festive mood, along with the Co-Heads as you will rarely see them, handing out treats to all lunchgoers, dressed as Christmas snowflakes - fantastic costumes created for the occasion by the DT department.

2021 - What a Year that was!

What a year it's been! It hardly seems a moment since I sat down to write the last blog before we broke up for Christmas 2020. We won't forget that one in a hurry.

Here we are again, although our Christmas season has definitely felt a lot more like 'the ones we used to know' this year!



That's a lot of chocolate orange muffins!

Merry Christmas!



Fundraising – Raffle!

We are delighted to report that the Friends of the Holt made a profit of £1,646 from the recent online raffle, after deduction of the cash prizes. A Year 7 parent managed to secure some fantastic gifts to support our fundraising efforts, and we added some of those to the pot.

The winners have been drawn and congratulations to you all – enjoy!

For those of you who were not successful this time: join us for our auction and quiz in the New Year.



Effective Studying

Year 11 can be seen below getting serious about the business of study during an action-packed series of sessions which took in metacognition, kinaesthetic revision, Cornell note taking and Pomodoro time management! Good luck everyone!



Beautiful music contributed to the magical atmosphere at this year's concert in St Paul's

Carol Concert in St Paul's Church

We were delighted to be able to hold our Christmas concert again this year...wowed by music from all year groups, as well as the staff choir – a mix of modern and classical, vocal and instrumental – with the customary readings. The audience were superb, leaving everyone feeling very festive – please check out our music twitter @TheHoltMusic.

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas...



Creative Christmas – Some of the Christmas cake competition winners, and traditional seasonal lino printing (Art Club)



Year 10



Year 11



Year 7



Year 8



Can you help? Or do you know someone who can?



Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

We are looking at upgrading some of our sporting facilities and were wondering if there were any parents out there who have expert knowledge of lighting/floodlighting options – please do come forward if you would be happy to share your expertise.

And finally...

We are recruiting for a part time casual Lettings Officer, mainly to cover our new weekend lettings function.

We are also looking for new team members to join our midday supervisor team. Get in touch for more information if you think you can help – spread the word!

And in other news...

I usually take the opportunity when it is my turn to write the blog, to update on some of the non-teaching work that continues behind the scenes. Today is no exception.

Some of you may be aware from reports home that we have been having some major re-roofing work done at the school to protect some of our older buildings on the site. This was funded by a government grant. The majority of this type of project would usually take place during the summer break. This year the project has dragged on far longer than expected, due to the impact of widely-publicised difficulties with labour and materials. It hasn't been without more than the odd hiccup, including flooding leading to the temporary closure of a number of science and maths classrooms.

Thank you to everyone for their patience whilst we improve our buildings



Scaffolding has become a familiar sight

Supply issues have also delayed the installation of benches and seating under the new canopies we had built over the summer; a delivery is now expected early in the New Year. Fingers crossed!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us!

Sian Lehrter, School Business Director