



## CCHS Weekly Mailing

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Welcome to this week's edition of the 'CCHS Weekly Mailing'. Another week has flown by and we are now firmly in the build up to Christmas. The school trees will soon be going up, with one in the foyer and another in Clouds and the Holly Court Christmas Appeal is in full swing. However, before our full attention is committed to Christmas, there is still a lot of work ahead to get through.

The next few weeks are particularly important for all upper school students, including sixth form, as their mock exams are taking place. These will be held under strict exam conditions and will provide students with crucial examination experience as we head towards next summer's examination season. It is important that the mock exams are taken extremely seriously as they may be required to be used for any Teacher Assessed Grades (TAG); although we hope this is not the case. Good luck upper school, revise well and make the most of the support offered by your teachers.

"Every lesson counts" - excellent attendance must remain a priority for all students (upper school students - please do not miss any of your mock exams). It is so important that we remain vigilant and do all that we can to avoid the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The twice weekly LFD testing is really helping us to identify any asymptomatic positive cases and keep infection rates as low as we can. Your support with this has been amazing, let's keep going, we all want our Christmases to be 'merry and bright' this year for sure! If you need any test kits please contact [admin@cchs.school](mailto:admin@cchs.school) and we can arrange for you to collect a pack.

Once again, as ever, thanks to all our parents, we receive many emails praising teachers and other support staff colleagues for their hard work and efforts, they are most gratefully received and really appreciated.

Have a good weekend everyone.

#### **Whole School Notices**

[Weekly News](#) – Find out what our staff and students have been up to this week - [Click Here](#)

**National Sleep Helpline** – We have been contacted by 'The Sleep' charity to help promote their new national Sleep Helpline Charity. Research has shown that one in four children in the UK are not getting enough sleep, which can have an impact on their behaviour and their ability to learn, as well as their physical health. The free helpline is run by trained sleep advisors who can talk to young people directly, or parents. The helpline is open 5 nights a week, Sunday to Thursday, 7-9pm and the telephone number is 03303 530 541. You can visit their [website](#) for more information.

**Play Safe, a new national safeguarding campaign (Football Association)** - Over the weekend, the Football Association and the NSPCC launched 'Play Safe', a national campaign to focus attention on the vital importance of safeguarding in football. At the heart of the campaign are three short films to emphasise the importance of safeguarding for key groups of people, crucially children themselves. One aspect of the campaign is prompting parents to ask questions:

- Do you know your child's club Welfare Officer?
- If so, do you have their telephone number in your phone, as well as that of the NSPCC?
- Are you up to speed with your child's club's safeguarding policies and procedures?
- Do you regularly check-in with your child to see what they are enjoying/not enjoying and why?

More information can be found here: <https://www.thefa.com/PlaySafe>

**School Christmas Dinner** - Christmas Dinner will be available for students on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December. Please tell your children not to fear though; the infamous 'chicken and chips' will be available on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> December!

**Careers Hub** – The Careers Hub is full of inspirational ideas, whether year 7 or year 11, it is important to have an aspiration; something to aim for. With that in mind, we encourage all students to take a look. The following link will take you to the hub and links to the 'I Need Inspiration' section

<https://sites.google.com/countyhigh.org.uk/careershub/i-need-inspiration>

When considering future plans, there always seem so many choices to be made, but being better informed about the possibilities available means being better equipped to make the right choice. One pathway to consider is an apprenticeship. [CLICK HERE](#) for a free virtual careers event featuring presentations, Q&A sessions and more from top employers such as BDO, Vodaphone and DLA Piper. The topics highlight what it is really like to work as an apprentice and handy tips and tricks for applications from the companies themselves altogether in one handy blog so they can be viewed anytime, anywhere.

**IMPORTANT Advice and Guidance from the Fire Service to keep us safe at Christmas - Christmas Grottos and Decorations** Whilst everyone is excited for Christmas and we spend a lot of time decorating our houses both inside and out, the Fire Service has provided some useful information that we should all heed. Please follow [THIS LINK](#) to their website which contains important home fire safety advice.

**Holly Court Christmas Appeal**– Thank you to those who have already started contributing to our Christmas Appeal. We are so grateful for your support and every little bit helps to make this such a valued event for the residents, please keep the donations and contributions coming, closing date for bringing items in or donations is Wednesday, 8th December.

**Sigma Sixth Applications** – Applications are now open for admission to Sigma Sixth for September 2022. You can download a copy of the application form from the Sigma Sixth website – the closing date is Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022. If you were unable to attend the Open Evening, but would like to see the college before making an application, we are pleased to offer college tours on an appointment basis. This will give you the opportunity to see the facilities and ask any questions that you may have. We can offer these tours at 3.30pm or 4pm, Monday to Thursday of any week, with the exception of the week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> of November.

If you would like to take advantage of one of these tours, please contact a member of the sixth form team on 01255 424266 to make an appointment, or alternatively, email [sixthformteam@cchs.school](mailto:sixthformteam@cchs.school).

We look forward to welcoming you to our college.

**Essex Household Support Fund – Important information from Clare Burrell, Head of Strategic Commissioning and Policy, Children & Families; Domestic Abuse, Adults Early Help and Carers**

As part of the government's Household Support Fund, Essex County Council has received funding to provide extra support with food, fuel and other household costs this winter.

The fund has been distributed to local organisations, who know their areas best and can directly help those in need. You do not have to be claiming benefits to access support. Whatever your circumstances, if you are struggling this winter, you can get help with your essential costs.