

Year 8 Newsletter 17th December 2020

We have finally arrived at the Christmas holidays! I cannot remember ever having worked a school term such as the one we have just reached the end of- so many changes, new rules and protocols to keep us safe. The students have done a fantastic job of making this term a successful one; they have demonstrated impressive levels of resilience and we are very proud of everything they have achieved so far. I am sure your daughter and your family have been very much looking forward to the break and well deserved rest these holidays provide and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We are looking forward to seeing your daughter, well rested and raring to go, again in 2021.

With best wishes,

Ms Kelly-Smith, Mrs Oladokun and the Year 8 team.



Golden Tickets

A big congratulations to our top Golden Ticket winners from last week whom all received 3 or more Golden Tickets in lessons across the week:

Isla K 8HL2	4
Anxhelika S 8PK1	3
Keira U 8PK2	3
Charlotte T 8PK1	3
Madison H 8PK2	3
Maddison M 8PK2	3

Well done to all of you and also to all of our Year 8s who received a Golden Ticket in their lesson last week and this week- we appreciate and commend the efforts you make in class to prioritise your learning!

This week we also offered two very special prizes for Golden Ticket winners. For one of the special prizes a draw was done by Ms Kelly-Smith and contained the names of every golden ticket winner this half-term. The winner of a £10 voucher was Eliza S 8HL2- congratulations Eliza!

The next prize will be awarded by Mr Devenney and will go to the student in the year group with the most Golden Tickets overall for this half-term. If there are multiple students all with the highest number of Golden Tickets then Mr Devenney will pick a name from a hat.

We are looking forward to celebrating more Golden Ticket moments with our Year 8s in the New Year!

Amazing Actors!

Millie, Mya, Arista and Aimee-Louise, from Year 8, have all passed their Grade 2 LAMDA Acting exam with Distinction. Arista has also gained a Level 1 Award in Communication exam with Distinction. The Drama department at CHSG hosted 'Pull The Other: Speech and Drama Education' who delivered this extra-curricular opportunity, so thanks go to the tutors for delivering the quality tuition. We are proud of the effort and focus that the students have demonstrated. Well done!



Christmas Hampers

A big thank you to all those who have donated to their form group's hamper this year. We will be donating to HomeStart Sutton, based in Carshalton.



Caring for Carehomes and Carers

Last week Year 8 wrote letters to elderly residents of local care homes, as well as letters of thanks to the care home staff and the staff at St Helier hospital for keeping everyone safe and well.

Christmas is a time of year when we should take a moment to pause and reflect on what life is like for others and be thankful for the sacrifices others make for us and/or wider society. Christmas can be a very lonely time for care home residents, particularly with the pandemic making visitation difficult for many, and so we hope our letters will bring some Christmas cheer to those facing a Christmas unable to see their loved ones.

Similarly, for carers and hospital staff Christmas can be a lonely time because they are incredibly busy and working flat out, away from their loved ones, due to a spike in illnesses like flu (and of course this year Covid 19). We know our carers and hospital staff will be working harder than ever, many on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and we hope our letters will make them feel appreciated for all they do and have done this year.

FSM Christmas Vouchers

The Government's 'Winter Support Grant' is funding free school meal vouchers for the Christmas school holiday period via the Local Authority (Sutton). The vouchers are for £30 to cover two weeks (Monday 21 December 2020 – Friday 1 January 2021).

The £30 vouchers will be distributed using SchoolVouchers.com (also known as Wonde). Parents/carers have been sent an email from the school via School Comms to explain the process.

If you have not received your Christmas school holiday voucher(s) by Monday 14 December, please contact us via fsm@girlslearningtrust.org and our finance team will assist you.

The local authority website contains further information on the support available during the COVID pandemic and can be visited here <https://www.sutton.gov.uk/covid-19>.

School Work at Home

Component	Requirement
Computer and processor	Minimum 1.6 GHz (or higher), 2 core
Memory	4.0 GB RAM
Hard disk	3.0 GB of available disk space – I would recommend the largest size disk space they can afford.
Display	1024 x 768 screen resolution
Graphics hardware	Windows OS: Graphics hardware acceleration requires DirectX 9 or later, with WDDM 2.0 or higher for Windows 10 (or WDDM 1.3 or higher for Windows 10 Fall Creators Update)
Operating system	Windows 10, Windows 10 on ARM,
.NET version	Requires .NET 4.5 CLR or later
Video	USB 2.0 video camera
Devices	Standard laptop camera, microphone, and speakers

At CHSG we have a number of online learning platforms in place in order to support students to complete homework and remote home learning. We understand that when parents/carers look buy or renew home computers it is useful to know the specifications required in order to run these school platforms. The minimum recommendation for home computers is above.

Jewellery

A polite reminder that students are not permitted to wear earrings in any part of their ear other than their ear lobe.

Our policy is clear that students may wear a small (5mm) plain gold or plain silver stud, one in each ear lobe.

Please do not buy your daughter a piercing as a Christmas gift if it won't conform to the school jewellery policy. Facial piercings of any kind are also not permitted.

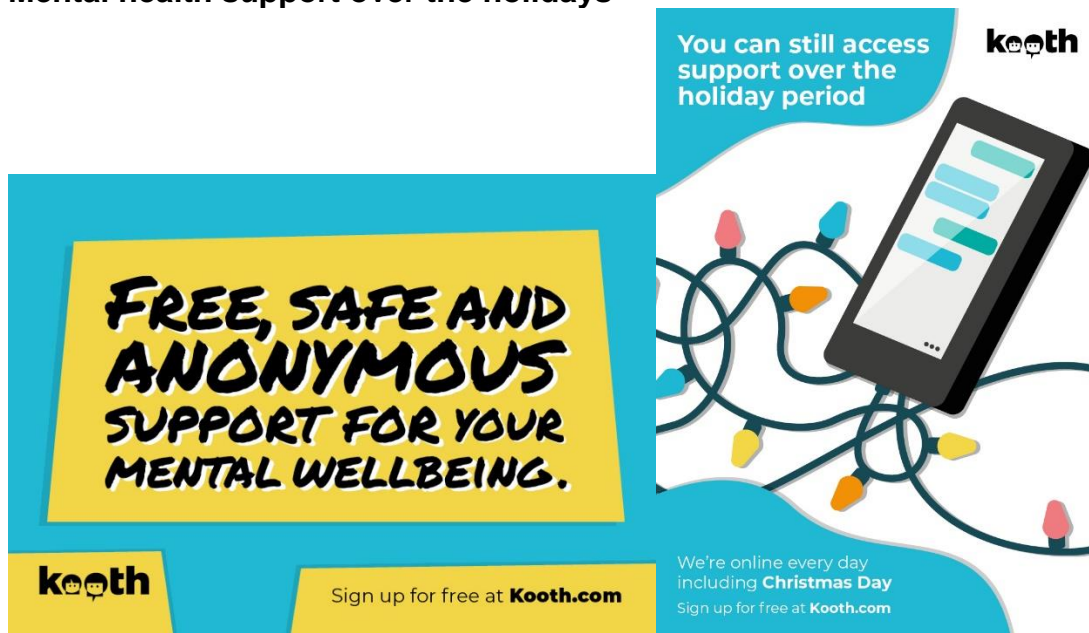
Students with piercings in other parts of their ear (or any kind of facial piercing) will be expected to remove it or remain in isolation until it is removed.

Plastic studs and plasters are not permissible.

For further information about our Uniform Policy please refer to our website:

<https://www.chsg.org.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=339>

Mental health support over the holidays



The advertisement features a blue background with a yellow rectangular box in the center. Inside the box, the text "FREE, SAFE AND ANONYMOUS SUPPORT FOR YOUR MENTAL WELLBEING." is written in a bold, black, hand-drawn style. To the right of the box, there is an illustration of a smartphone with a screen showing a list of items, surrounded by a tangled string of colorful Christmas lights. Above the smartphone, a blue speech bubble contains the text "You can still access support over the holiday period". The Kooth logo, consisting of the word "kooth" with two speech bubble icons, is positioned in the top right corner. At the bottom left, the Kooth logo is repeated. At the bottom center, a yellow banner contains the text "Sign up for free at Kooth.com". At the bottom right, a blue banner contains the text "We're online every day including Christmas Day Sign up for free at Kooth.com".

FREE, SAFE AND ANONYMOUS SUPPORT FOR YOUR MENTAL WELLBEING.

You can still access support over the holiday period

kooth

kooth

Sign up for free at **Kooth.com**

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Dates for your diary:

- A reminder that school returns on 4th January 2021 at normal time.
- Please note that the INSET Day that was on the school calendar for Monday 22nd February will now be cancelled and it will be a normal teaching day.

Please follow this link which will take you to a recording of the presentation.

<https://youtu.be/HcW-3Dnh9sl>