



9th December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last day of term - Friday 16th December

As we approach the final week of term, we thought it important to remind parents that school will close at early on Friday 16th December. Year 7 and 8 will finish at 12pm and the rest of the school will finish at 12:10pm. This is a change from the 12:30pm finish communicated at the start of the year. This is as a result of the changes to the school day we made back in November.

For some parents and carers, we understand that you may have made arrangements to collect your child at 12:30pm already; arrangements that might be difficult to change. Therefore, if you need us to keep your child in school until 12:30pm when you can collect them, please let us know and we can facilitate this.

All students entitled to Free School Meals will be able to use their allowance at break time due to the early closure.

School will restart on **Wednesday 4th January 2023** and all students will be expected on site by 8.25am

Strep A advice for schools

With the amount of discussion in the news regarding Strep A and the effect it's having on some young people in the country, we thought it important to share some information regarding the illness:

Group A streptococci (GAS) is a bacteria that can cause a diverse range of infections such as strep throat (tonsillitis), scarlet fever, respiratory tract or skin infections such as impetigo.

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by group A streptococcus (GAS) and is highly contagious. It takes around 2 to 5 days to develop symptoms after exposure to the bacteria and is most common in children between the ages of 2 and 8 years old.

Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness. The early symptoms include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture.

The usual treatment for scarlet fever is a 10-day course of antibiotics. The fever will usually subside within 24 hours of starting this, but it is important to take the whole course to protect others from becoming infected.

Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling the spread of infection. Scrapes, bites and wounds provide a portal of entry for the bacteria so children should have all wounds thoroughly cleaned and covered. Although scarlet fever is usually mild, patients can develop complications. It is important to stress to parents to seek medical assistance promptly.

Children with suspected scarlet fever should not come to school for a minimum of 24 hours after the commencement of appropriate antibiotic treatment.

Maths Sparx Students of the Month

Well done to the following students for the month of November!

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Muhammad M	Connor A	Fahim S	Harleen R	Pranati P
Annabel C	Kaviyan S	Adnan S	Maddie W	Temi A
Bella L	Jessica L	Yunus F	Shai M	Anya D
Evan W	Casey T	Amina R	Alisha S	Aiden L
Maisie F	Bella BE	Fintan H	Libby B	Jackson W
Layla M	Sophie F	Maya-Miryam I	Mustafa T	Hemma G
Adam A	Logan WC	Jaya D	Imogen G	Emily S
Scarlet M	Jan F	Bilal M	Alfie B	Lacy-Leigh M
Rishi J	Robert H	Harman S	Penny C	Chloe F
Rashwina M	Jasmine M	Sonia Z	Cadie S	Scarlett C
Tyler RD	Prabhleen K	Noorullah A	Tyrese N	Joshua B
Prathiha S	Eesha P	Aleksandra M	Harveen K	Mujeburahman S

Second Hand Toy Drive

We have been completely overwhelmed with the generosity of our school community with donations for our second-hand Toy Drive.

Our little elves have been working very hard to sort and wrap donations into bundles ready to go off to 'Carrier of Hope' to donate to refugees and asylum seekers living in Coventry.



The Big Coat Appeal

We have received our first donation of coats from 'The Big Coat Appeal'. These have been donated by other schools, washed, and sorted, so there is no stigma attached to having someone else's coat from our school.

As the weather is getting particularly cold, please bear in mind, that we have a collection of warm coats available students and families to borrow or keep.

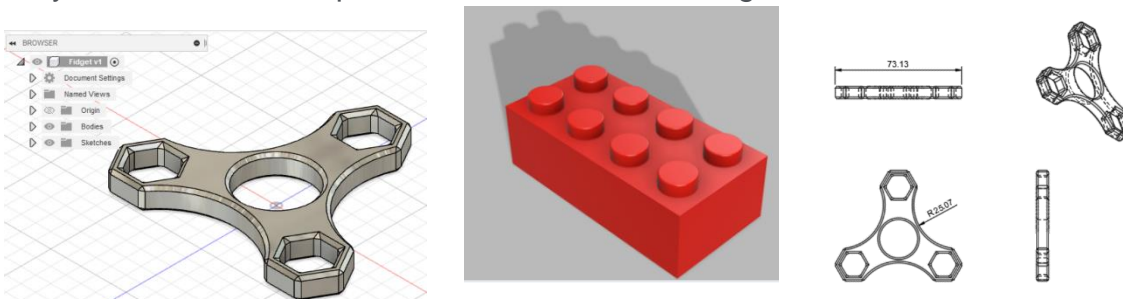
If anyone needs a coat, please come, and find Miss Abberley who will discreetly give them access to pick a suitable coat. Office in the technology block or email community@coundoncourt.org to discuss further as a parent or carer.

Good News for Everyone

This week year 7 had an assembly presented by guest speakers from Good News for Everyone (formerly known as Gideons). Students learnt about how the Bible is structured and learnt how to look up Bible references. We also investigated the meaning of parables and why Jesus often chose to teach using this method, using the Parable of the Good Samaritan as a case study. June and Norman from Good News for Everyone commented on how well behaved and polite our year 7 students are. We look forward to welcoming them back next year.

Design & Engineering

In Design and Engineering this week we had a visit from Fabio representatives who, very kindly, provided our Year 12 and Year 13 students with Fusion 360 software training. Fusion 360 is a commercial software application which allows you to draw up and send designs to be manufactured, create working drawings, render drawings, and develop ideas quickly. Fabio provide a range of different courses to work through which showcase many of the software uses. At Coundon Court, we want to ensure that our students are using state of the art technology to help develop ideas for their own exam work, but also to ensure that they are prepared for industry. We were really impressed with the skills and outcomes that our students have produced on the day, and we look forward to seeing how they continue to develop and create their ideas using this software in the future.



Sixth Form Update

Challenging debates:

Continuing our focus on challenging debates, last week Sixth Form students debated the statement 'We should boycott the 2022 World Cup being held in Qatar'. To put it mildly, it was our most hotly debated topic thus far! A large number of students presented passionate and informed debates, while maintaining a civil and respectful tone. While a closer result than the previous debates, a clear majority broke for disagree, with 69% arguing that the World Cup should not be boycotted, vs 31% that it should. While the majority of students did not support a boycott, there was little support for the World Cup being held in Qatar, with criticisms of its human rights record and persecution of minorities being frequently mentioned. It was felt that a boycott was simply not an effective method at showing a lack of support or condemnation of the decision.

While we had a large number of students who conducted themselves brilliantly in the debates, a select few were identified as Debating Champions: Sam W, Katie R, Harrison D, Izzy-Mae L, Demi W, Uzma S, Hasan M, Kayleigh T, Joravar P, Mikey W and Ben H. All will be given a small prize in recognition of their excellent efforts.

Socials:

We will be taking out a coach load of Sixth Form students to Planet Ice next week as a winter reward for all of their hard work this term so they can enjoy pizza and a go at trying to stay upright on the ice - amusing pictures surely to follow!

Sixth Form Applications 23-25:

We were delighted with the turnout to the Year 11 Pathways and Sixth Form Open Evening. A reminder that applications are still open, with the closing date being *Friday 16th December*. Applications can be made on the website or via the link on Twitter.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Heal
Principal