



Hall Green School An Academy

26 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

It was great to meet so many parents/carers of Year 7 pupils last week. Despite the cold weather, we had a great turnout at Parents/Carers' Evening; the stronger the link between home and school, the more likely that pupils will be successful. Thank you if you attended.

For the parents/carers of Year 7 that were unable to attend, or didn't complete the feedback questionnaire on the night, we would encourage you to complete the online survey to feedback to us your views on school. The link will be sent to Year 7 parents/carers this week. There is no need to complete this if you completed a paper version on the night. If you wish to speak with any teachers regarding your child's progress, please do get in touch via the main school office.

Following a recent survey to all parents/carers gathering feedback on how we as a school can make the home/school link even more effective, I will write to you soon with the summary outcomes and our action plan moving forward.

Charity fund-raising

On **Thursday 12 December** we will be raising money for Save the Children (<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>). It will be a non-uniform day, pupils and staff are encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper or something festive. A voluntary donation of £1.00 (or more) can be made on Parent Pay. We do understand the challenging financial circumstances for some families at present, hence the reason for this being voluntary. Equally, the decision to wear non-uniform is an individual one and not compulsory; pupils may wear their uniform if they prefer. Pupils must still bring all the relevant equipment, including stationery and their PE kit (if they have PE on this day), as lessons will be taking place as normal.

Christmas dinner

Christmas dinner will also be served in our school canteen on this day (Thursday 12 December) for those who wish to partake.

Hall Green's Got Talent

During the week beginning 9 December, we will be hosting our annual celebration of talent. Auditions and rehearsals are under way in school with excitement building. It is guaranteed to be a wonderful celebration of who we are at Hall Green School, bringing our community together. All pupils will be allowed to watch the show except anyone who is removed from a lesson between now and their year group's show.

Key Dates

A reminder that we are closed on **Friday 29 November** to pupils and **Monday 2 December** for pupils and staff. Pupils should be in school as normal at 8.40 am on Tuesday 3 December.

We break up for the Christmas holidays on **Friday 20 December at 12.05 pm**. To celebrate the festive spirit on the last day of term, there will be a draw made for a prize of a £50 Amazon voucher. All pupils present on the day will be entered into the draw.

Furthermore, pupils may wear non-school uniform on the last day of term, making a voluntary £1.00 (or more) donation to their House charity for this privilege (payable via ParentPay).

Pupils return to school on **Monday 6 January** at 10.45 am. The school gates will be open from **10.45 am** with the canteen open for food and drink. Pupils must be on site by **11.00 am** to be on time for Period 3 at 11.05 am. All pupils on time to Period 3 will be entered into a prize draw for a £50 Amazon voucher.

Friday 29 November 2024 – INSET Day – school closed to pupils

Monday 2 December 2024 – INSET Day – school closed to pupils

Thursday 5 December 2024 – Year 8 Parents Evening

Friday 20 December 2024 – End of Term for Christmas break, pupils finish at 12.05 pm

Monday 6 January 2025 – Term starts, pupils return at 10.45 am

Emergency closure

There are times in school that we have to deal with unexpected emergencies. These might be related to the weather, site issues, or other incidences that we simply cannot predict or plan for. For this reason, I think it is important I remind you of the school's position on decision making and how we manage these situations.

All decisions begin with a risk assessment. The health and safety of all pupils and staff has to be at the centre of any decision. In the case of snow, we consider a wide range of things within the risk assessment. For example; supervision levels, safety around the school site, safety on the pavements, public transport availability, and the state of the roads.

In the case of inclement weather overnight, we aim to make a decision about any potential closure by 7.30 am and will communicate this via text and email through the Gateway app, and also through Classcharts notifications.

It is important to note that sometimes a decision to close the school can happen at any time during a day. In the case of taking a decision to close the school once pupils have arrived, we will always attempt to inform you with enough time for you to put arrangements in place, although depending on the circumstances, this may not always be possible. Again, communication will be through the Gateway app and Classcharts. **If you wish a staff member to make contact with home BEFORE dismissing your child, it is vital you inform us by returning the slip below.**

Please do take time to talk through with your child what your expectations are if an emergency dismissal is necessary. It is also important to remind pupils that they should go directly home, unless otherwise agreed by yourselves, and ensure their behaviour and conduct is of the highest standard on the way home.

You have my assurances that I will always aim to take the best decision for the safety and welfare of all our school community. This includes starting off with the premise that school should be open to all pupils.

Drop offs and pick ups

My continued plea goes out to all parents and carers in terms of the use of Southam Road. We value our relationship with parents/carers *and* with our local neighbours. We do our best as a school to manage arrival and dismissal of over 900 pupils to minimise disruption to our immediate neighbours, and urge the whole Hall Green community to work together to ensure mutual respect and safety of the children in our care.

Please, therefore, do not arrange to drop off or pick up your child on Southam Road directly outside of school. Whilst we appreciate our school's location makes dropping off/picking up children difficult, it is vital we do not increase the road congestion as this puts our pupils in danger. Instead, please ensure you arrange to drop off/pick up further down the road or off a side street. Your support on this is very much appreciated as the safety of our children and staff is paramount. I thank for your co-operation on this matter.

Although a few weeks away still, I wish you and your family a safe and happy Christmas break.

Yours faithfully,

Miss K Slater
Headteacher

RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Emergency closure of school

Please return this form if in the case of an emergency school closure, you wish for the school to NOT dismiss your child until contact has been made with an emergency contact by a staff member.

Name of pupil: _____ Form group: _____

We will attempt to make contact with emergency contacts provided and kept on school file in the order of priority stated by parents/carers. Please confirm which person and number you wish to be contacted first in an emergency:

Name of person: _____ Relationship to pupil: _____

Contact number: _____ Date: _____

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