

# Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr G Prebble BEd Joint Honours NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH

Tel: 01474 814646

Website: [www.meophamschool.org.uk](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

6th December 2023

Dear Parent/carer

I am writing to confirm the arrangements for the last day of term and the start of the new school year in January.

Students will finish for the Christmas break on Friday the 15th December. We will dismiss students from 12:30pm and the school buses have been notified to collect students at this time. This will also be our Christmas jumper day. There will be a voluntary contribution of £1 to those who wish to wear the jumper. Full school uniform is still expected.

Any families in receipt of Free School Meals are able to order a 'grab and go' lunch from the school canteen using the link to be found here: [Grab and go lunch - booking form](#). We would ask that you place orders before Wednesday 13th December to allow us to pass your booking onto the school's catering company.

Please note that in response to feedback regarding the congestion in the canteen at lunchtimes, we have decided to bring in a slightly amended school day that will allow for split lunchtimes from January. This will not change the lessons found on the students timetables in any way, but will simply move TAC time to later in the day to accommodate the amended lunchtimes.

Students will be given information relating to this change before the Christmas break. We hope that this will ensure students have a more comfortable experience at lunchtimes and also allow wet-breaks to be better accommodated in the colder months.

This approach will be reviewed when our new block opens in the summer term.

## Attendance and teaching to the end

As we approach the end of Term it is essential that students are in school on time every day and ready to learn. Teachers will be delivering lessons right up until the last day of term to ensure that student learning is prioritised and the curriculum can be delivered.

For the last week of this term, any student who has 100% attendance will be placed into a prize draw. In addition any student who has achieved 100% attendance in Term 1 or Term 2 will also be placed into an additional prize draw.

If you need to report your child absent or to inform us of a medical appointment, please contact the Attendance team on [mss-attendance@swale.at](mailto:mss-attendance@swale.at) or call the school on 01474 814646, option 1. Please leave a message with your child's name, year group and reason for absence.

# Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr G Prebble BEd Joint Honours NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH

Tel: 01474 814646

Website: [www.meophamschool.org.uk](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

## A message from Cucina - Our catering team

The student Christmas lunch is scheduled for Wednesday 13th December - please can you ensure that your child has enough credit on their ParentPay account if they wish to purchase a Christmas meal.

## Christmas Cracker

The Christmas Cracker is a showcase evening where students will have an opportunity to perform pieces of Music, Dance and Drama. This year's performance will be held on Wednesday 13th December with the evening starting at 6.30pm. The tickets are £5 each, tickets can only be purchased using your ParentPay account and are limited to five tickets per family.

## Returning in January

Students return to school on Wednesday 3rd January. Some students may have had new piercings or had their nails painted for the festive period. However, at Meopham School it has always been a policy that piercings and acrylic/painted nails and extended eyelashes are not permitted. In addition, make-up is not permitted in Key Stage 3. Please can you ensure that your child is appropriately prepared for the first day so that there is no unnecessary conflict when they return to school.

Students should be in full school uniform from the start of Term. Black trainers are not permitted. Shoes must be black, flat and suitable for the school environment.

Term 3 will begin with an TAC session, where students will be welcomed back by their form tutor and equipment and full uniform checks completed.

## Safeguarding Safety information

We are aware that for the majority of people Christmas is a joyful time spent with family and friends. However, for some Christmas can also be a difficult time of year and concerns around mental health, well-being and loneliness can arise.

If you feel worried about yourself, your child or another child you know please reach out for support during the festive season.

- The NSPCC are here to help 24/7 and children can call their Childline number on 0800 1111. Help for adults concerned about a child can call 0808 800 5000.
- Shout is the UK's first 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. Text 85258.
- Kooth is an online counselling service for young people and is free for them to access. Please visit <https://www.kooth.com/> for more information.

# Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr G Prebble BEd Joint Honours NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH

Tel: 01474 814646

Website: [www.meophamschool.org.uk](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

- Childline also offers online 1-1 counselling for young people. Please visit <https://www.childline.org.uk/> for more information.
- Gravesham food banks are also available to offer support to families in need. Please see <https://gravesham.foodbank.org.uk/> for more information.
- If you are concerned about domestic violence then please contact the police on 999 (emergency) or 101 (non emergency) to report any concerns.
- You can also contact social services for support or advice on 03000 41 11 11.

We understand that Christmas is such an important time of the year for family and friends, we would like to wish you a restful and peaceful holiday. We look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Prebble'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mr G Prebble

Headteacher