



Newsletter 11 December 2020

Dear parents and carers,

An urgent plea for help - save our Friends of St Hugh!

The Friends do a fabulous and really important job for the school, by funding lots of things that we couldn't otherwise afford for our children. Last year for example, they funded furniture for the new library and undertook to fund the ongoing annual subscription to the Hampshire School Library Service which means that we can regularly replace and replenish our book stock. They also funded the renovation of our Reception classroom and have just bought the beautiful new class Bibles for the children. Our wonderful Friends committee are now in need of our help.

In the Friends update towards the end of this week's newsletter you will find details of how to call into the Zoom AGM. If they are unable to find enough parents to join the AGM and some volunteers to join the committee to fill some critical roles (including treasurer) they will have broken the rules of their constitution and will be legally obliged to dissolve the charity. This will mean that the children lose out on roughly £9,000 of funding each year and we lose the wonderful events and activities that enrich the life of our school.

If you are able to find the time to join the Zoom AGM next week that would be amazing. If you're tempted to join the committee but don't know what's involved or are nervous about the amount of work, please do call in to find out. I appreciate that everyone is incredibly busy and this is a very challenging time for many of us, but if you could find the time to try and support us it would mean a huge amount.

End of term Covid reporting procedures

Some of you may have read in the news that the government have given schools the option of transferring an INSET day from 2021 in order to close on Friday 18th December.

For a whole host of reasons we are keeping arrangements as they are **and all Xavier schools will be open on Friday 18th December with the St Hugh day ending at 1pm.**

The government have asked that school staff remain on call for 6 days after we break up to assist with contact tracing should we be notified of a positive case with one of our children or members of staff. As a trust we have decided to centralise our track and trace efforts over the Christmas period and so I'm asking that should the worst happen and your child tests positive between 18th December and Christmas day please contact emergency@xavier.cet.org.uk and we will put in place appropriate track and trace procedures. Please note, that this is a different email address to our usual Covid notification one. If you need to report a case prior to 18th December please use the usual covid@sthugh-of-lincoln.surrey.sch.uk address which I monitor out of school hours.

We're being very rigorous at school with regard to our Covid risk management procedures and are doing everything we possibly can to avoid a case in the last week. You've been fantastic in cooperating with our request for you to wear masks at the beginning and end of the day as well as socially distancing on Five Oaks Close and the playground. Please could I ask that you continue to do this right up until the day we break up to help us minimise the risk to our community, especially given the steep increase in cases in the local area.

Lost property

We recently sent an email regarding lost property with pictures of the items we have at the office. Please note that any unclaimed lost property will be disposed of at the end of the autumn term.

St Hugh Christmas Video

Over the last couple of weeks the children have been busy filming their contribution to our St Hugh's Christmas video. We're busy editing this together and will release a Vimeo link for you on the last day of term.

School closes at 1pm on Friday 18th December

Please collect your children at 1pm on Friday 8th December (the children will have eaten lunch so please remember to book a school lunch or provide a packed lunch on the last day). There will be no after school club that day, but breakfast club will go ahead as normal. Our first day back after the Christmas break is Wednesday 6th January, (wraparound care will be available as usual).

Christmas lunch - 16th December

Our school Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 16th December. If you would like your child to participate, please book and pay for your meal on Scopay as usual. Many thanks to Mrs Small and her team for all of their hard work and for feeding us so very well this term!



Christmas jumper or mad hair day – 16th December

To coincide with our Christmas lunch, children are invited to come to school in a Christmas jumper over their uniform and/or mad hair for a suggested donation of £1 to The Friends.

Class Christmas parties – 17th December

In the afternoon of Thursday 17th December, teachers will be organising parties for the children in their bubbles. The Friends are kindly supporting the parties with donations of cookies to decorate, cups of hot chocolate and a small gift for each child. **If your child has any allergies and you do not want them to decorate a cookie or have a hot chocolate please contact the office so we can try and arrange an alternative.** Please don't send party clothes from home for your child to change into this year.

Latest update from the Friends:

Christmas

Don't forget to check out our great items for sale to make Christmas even more magical and participate into our competitions! All orders must be placed before the 15th of December to avoid disappointment. Items will be delivered in classes on the 17th. Here's a summary:

- Santa's secret key £2.50
- Santa's lost button with 1 personalised letter per button £0.70
- Magical reindeer food (environment friendly) £0.50
- Sweet treats bags (may contain nuts) £1
- Christmas Jumper competition £1 per entry
- Christmas tree competition (A bottle of Gin to win!) £3 per entry
- Raffle tickets for the 12 days of Christmas hampers (17 great hampers and prizes to win!) £1 per ticket

Everything can be ordered here: <https://bit.ly/sthughxmas>

If you are unable to open the link please send an email with a list of what you would like to order to Friendsofsthughspta@gmail.com



**** NEW for this winter! **** St Hugh of Lincoln Beanie Hat (£8) (Mock up picture) Order here:
<https://bit.ly/hatbagorder>



AGM of the PTA:

With Covid, the impact on the Friends of St Hugh's fundraising and volunteering has been dramatic. Please remember that all the funds raised by the PTA go towards enhancing our children's experiences and education. As an example, the Friends are financing the new library annual subscription (and the new furniture) for a total of more than £2300, from December, the increased need in soap (£1400 per year), the new home corner in Reception etc. Without face-to-face events such as Christmas and Summer fayres, fundraising has been more difficult than ever. This is why we need you to take part, as much as you can, within your means, in all the activities we are organising, such as the Christmas activities. We also need more volunteers. At the moment, we are only a handful of people, most of us work full-time and have children to look after. If we all (or at least more of us!) pitch in, the workload will be decreased for everyone! Please, make sure you attend the AGM and give a thought about volunteering either for specific events or to take on a committee role (we are currently looking to replace some committee members such as treasurer and vice-chair). Thank you in advance!

AGM is on the 14th of December at 7pm, on Zoom:

Click the link to join the meeting

<https://sap-se.zoom.com/j/93521063078?pwd=dS9hSVdzeHhuZ0UyUlh1U2xTa1RjZz09> Password: 617024

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing everyone for the last week of term on Monday. Stay safe!

God bless,
Mrs Harper