



Our Ref: PLE/KHU/HTLet

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems hard to believe that we are heading into December and entering the last few weeks of term. The Autumn term has flown by and the Academy has seen some big changes since the Summer. After so much activity, students and staff are unsurprisingly looking forward to the break but we are still cramming in lots of great learning and fun events right up to the end of the term.

Next week we are undertaking a charity week with daily activities to raise funds for our neighbours at Nannas and Save the Children. The events and how to contribute are listed below:

- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December** – *I'M A TEACHER, GET ME OUT OF HERE!!* Teachers will be tasting some delightful menu options at lunchtime. If your child would like to watch them suffer, tickets to watch are on sale in advance from the Pod in the Quad at 50p. Money raised will be going to local charity Nannas. (All food will be unusual but guaranteed vegetarian!)
- **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December** – *Huxlow Academy Christmas Lunch* – Lunchtime will be extended for everyone to allow for the Christmas lunch to take place. It has proved very popular but orders for lunch have now closed to enable food preparation to begin.
- **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December** – *Staff Lip Sync Battle* - Individuals, pairs, or groups will do battle on stage at lunch time. Once again students will be purchasing tickets to watch at 50p each and money raised will be going to Nannas.
- **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December** – *Christmas Jumper Day* - £1 donation for Save the Children. Please be aware that this is not a mufti day and apart from a Christmas jumper normal school uniform should be worn. Rather than buy a jumper we encourage students to decorate their school jumper with tinsel and baubles to bring some Christmas cheer to our corridors and classrooms.
- **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December** – *Mr Darnbrook's famous Staff Arm Wrestle* – Held in the gym. Students can purchase tickets to watch at 50p each from the Pod in the Quad and money raised will be going to Nannas.

The events are all being led by our Student Leadership Team and tickets are already on sale, so please send your children in with their 50ps and support these important charities, whilst having some Christmas fun!

May I also take the opportunity to remind you that we are still collecting non-perishable food items to make *food parcels* for those in need over the Christmas period. The deadline for donations has been extended to 14<sup>th</sup> December so please send your child in with anything you can to support this wonderful cause. All donations should be given to Form Tutors.

On the evening of Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm we are holding our Winter Concert to celebrate the performing arts at Huxlow. A wide range of talented students will be showcasing their hard work, including a sneak preview of the first of our Fame Jnr songs. A separate letter will be sent out soon with further details of the event and how to book tickets but we hope to see you in a packed house!

With all the events, and a certain football tournament taking place, we have taken the decision to move the planned Year 10 Parents Evening to after the Christmas break. Year 10 Parents Evening will now be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January. We apologise if this causes any inconvenience, but we want to make sure as many parents are able to attend as possible. Further details will be sent out to Year 10 parents soon.

The PE Department continue to enable a wide variety of clubs and experiences to be offered to our students. This term we have taken part in Girls and Boys District Football tournaments and Year 7 & Year 8 Sports Hall Athletics. I am proud to announce that we recently became the U15 District 7-A-Side Girls Football champions. Well done Team Huxlow!

The PE Department has also organised various leadership events, including the Year 9 Leadership Academy, running an inclusive New Age Kurling event for East Northants Primary Schools at the Pemberton Centre on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Alongside all of this, Miss Roberts has created a Fitness Advent Calendar to help keep our community active. This will be opened daily in form time and promoted via our social media. We are hoping that the whole community will get involved with the daily challenges.

Throughout the World Cup we have been running an inter-form Predictor Score League and at the time of writing this letter it remains neck and neck. The friendly rivalry between staff and students has been a lot of fun. I have to say the optimism of some forms has been interesting to observe; England 9, Wales 0 being a highlight! I will announce the winners in my final letter at the end of term.

I will write again before Christmas but I want to finish by paying tribute to our wonderful staff and students. They have really risen to the challenges presented to them this term. The move to Huxlow Academy, joining Tove Learning Trust, welcoming the many visitors that have been in to support us and embracing new expectations and values of Ambition, Pride and Respect has really set us on a path to excellence! It is a pleasure to spend time with our colleagues and students every day. Huxlow Academy is a real community that cares for each other, and I cannot wait to share with you the exciting improvements that we have planned for 2023.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and I hope you all have a great end to 2022.

Yours faithfully



Mr Paul Letch  
Headteacher