



## PARENT BULLETIN

FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

### Message from the Principal

Three more weeks of term left. This has been another challenging one and the news that Kent will be Tier 3 at the end of lockdown will have caused anxiety in our community and I know has an impact on many of our families. If you feel you will struggle over the Christmas holiday; please do get in touch and we will help where we can. Over the weekend our Christmas tree will go up by reception and we will be collecting food bank donations and toy donations to help our community at this time. There are various collections going on throughout school, but if in doubt, any donation can always be left under the tree. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

I was reminded today and would like to share with you all:

*'After every storm there is a rainbow of hope'*

Take care,

Shaun Simmons

### Silent Night

With Christmas just over a month away, the Performing Arts department would usually be filled with the sounds of students singing Christmas Carols in preparation for the Annual Carol Concert. With this year looking, and sounding, very different it gives us the opportunity to try new things to spread the Christmas joy. This year, the Performing Arts department are asking students to submit a video of themselves using British Sign Language to sign Silent Night. Mrs Shell has produced a video of how to sign it, which can be found here:

<https://fb.watch/1TdqskDRzB/>

Film yourself at home, in uniform, signing along to the track and send it to [ward@marshacademy.org.uk](mailto:ward@marshacademy.org.uk)

Please only send a video if you consent to the video being posted on our school website and social media.

### Post 16 Open Evening

Due to current COVID restrictions we have been unable to hold our Post 16 Open Evening this year. Year 11 will receive a letter next week which gives further details on where you can find the Virtual Open Evening.

### Summer 2021 Examinations

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) have this week released the final Public Examinations Timetable for Summer 2021 Examinations. GCSE and A-level examinations will commence week beginning the 26<sup>th</sup> May and run until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. We would therefore remind you of the importance of any planned holidays, staycations etc being planned during half-term breaks and in line with Government guidance on travel.

### Reusable Face Coverings

Please ensure that your child's re-usable face coverings are washed daily.

### Years 8 & 9 Assessment Week

Year 8 and 9 students will be completing assessments in their lessons the week beginning Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Please encourage your child to revise for their assessments so that they can continue to make progress.

### Diary Dates

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Yr 11 Extended Day Revision begins

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Year 11 Parents' Evening

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of Term 2

### WEEK NUMBERS TERM 2 2020/2021

Week beginning Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Week A
Week Beginning Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Week B
Week Beginning Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Week A



## 'Online Safety Tips'

### Privacy Settings

Although the internet can be a great way for us to connect with friends and family, sharing with people online can come with risks too.

Once shared, personal information like names, addresses, photos, or bank details, could be used by others. For example, it could lead to your child being bullied, groomed or blackmailed.

Privacy settings can help you and your child manage how much and what kind of information is shared. People often assume that their settings will be private by default but unfortunately this is not always the case – many are public until the settings are changed. Privacy settings are available on many websites and apps to limit who can access your profile and what information visitors can see.

- Before your child shares content online, check who will be able to see what they post. You'll want to make sure that personal information can only be seen by people you know and trust.
- Think about switching off location sharing. Some apps allow you to tag your photos with the place they were taken. These tags can list the exact address of your location. Other apps track users' locations and update them automatically. This could put your child at risk of unwanted contact from strangers.

Remember to review privacy settings regularly. Many websites and apps periodically make changes to the privacy and security settings that they offer and these changes may mean you need to update your settings.



A reminder that the school has a supply of free sanitary products for students which can be found in a box near Mrs Whitewood's office.

# The **BIG** Community **CHRISTMAS**

In a year like no other, our community are continuing to join together to support **anyone** needing a hand during this Christmas period.

This Christmas are you, or someone you know struggling with:

- Purchase of food
- Purchase of gifts and toys for children
- Loneliness and isolation
- Caring for a family member, friend or neighbour

Do not hesitate to get in touch, just one simple referral could make Christmas much easier.

There is support out there and it is easy to access, either by visiting the web-page and completing the short online form, or by calling

**01303 269602 or 01797 208590**

All enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

[www.ageuk.org.uk/hytheandlyminge](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/hytheandlyminge)

[www.rmdc.org.uk/christmas2020](http://www.rmdc.org.uk/christmas2020)

# The **BIG** Community **CHRISTMAS**

Could you help us make Christmas special for those who may be finding this year difficult?

### Donate Toys

New, unwrapped gifts for families in Hythe and Romney Marsh & Surrounding areas can be left at:

**Age UK - Stade Street, Hythe**

Mon-Fri 9-3 / Sat 10-1

**Romney Resource Centre - Mountfield Road NR**

Mon-Thur 9-5

**Hythe Salvation Army - Portland Road**

Wed 10-12 or by appointment

### Donate Food

Unopened and in date items can be donated at the following locations:

**Romney Marsh Community Centre**

Tuesdays between 5.30 and 7pm

**Lydd Hardy Hall**

Fridays between 6.30 and 7.30pm

Collection points also located at

**Dymchurch Post Office,  
and Sainsbury's Hythe**

