

Dates for your diary:

ARCH Day 2- 9/12/2020
 Student Christmas Lunch- 16/12/2020
 School closes- 18/12/2020 12.15pm for
 Christmas
 Students return to school- Tuesday 5/1/2021
 from 8.40am.

Data Checks:

Y7- Shared with parents w/c 25.1.21
 Y8- Shared with parents w/c 25.1.21
 Y9- Shared with parents w/c 14.12.20
 Y10- Shared with parents w/c 25.1.21
 Y11- Shared with parents w/c 7.12.20



Todmorden
High School

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 Todmorden
 West Yorkshire
 OL14 7DG

Tel: 01706813558
www.todhigh.co.uk
 Head: Miss G Shirt

Friday 27th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support, patience and emails sent in supporting our staff. We really appreciate the support of our families and the community for our school. We are really looking forward to seeing our students who have been at home this week, returning to us on Monday next week.

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested. Please take some time to read this informative letter from Public Health England, to ensure that you are up to speed on what the symptoms of Coronavirus are, and when you should get tested. This has also been published on Class Charts.

<http://todhigh.com/clickandbuilds/WordPress/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/23rd-September-PHE-letter-to-parents-and-guardians.pdf>.

If your child tests positive for covid-19, you must let school know as soon as possible. Through speedy communication we can work to keep our staff and students safe and well. You can contact us Mon-Fri between 8am-4pm on the school telephone number, or out of hours you can ring our covid-19 hotline on 07543477031.

We have reminded students to stay at least two metres apart from staff and we keep year bubbles separate. Keeping two metres apart is the main advice for trying to keep safe. All our safety messages are repeated throughout school through every channel of communication. I can't thank our students, parents and staff enough for working with us on this.

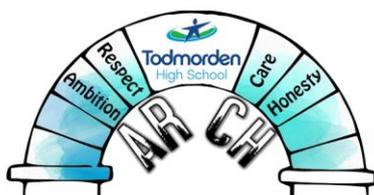
Free School Meals during Bubble Closure: Free school meal vouchers are sent to families mid-week, electronically by email, to registered addresses when a Year group bubble closes.

We have audited our database of family and carer email addresses since we returned to ensure that we have the most up to date information available.

The voucher displays on mobile handsets or tablets and is then shown at the till point. The voucher is equal to a one-week allowance of free school meals.

Christmas and FSM: In addition, Calderdale have launched a 'Never Go Hungry' initiative in support of Marcus Rashford's free school meals campaign. This is a community project which will receive donations and match funding in response to extend free school meals beyond term times. The final details of the project are still being confirmed, along with many other ideas as the government look at how their winter grant scheme will work for eligible families in the UK.

Our second ARCH day of the academic year is due to take place on 9/12/2020, on ARCH days' students engage in a range of activities during their timetabled lessons covering a multitude of PHSCE/SMSC topics. Students have three or six ARCH days across the year. **SMSC** is essential for children and young people's individual development, as well as the development of society as a whole, these days give our students a valuable opportunity to learn about wider issues and develop as individuals. If you have any questions regarding our ARCH days please get in touch with Mr Womack on j.womack@todhigh.co.uk.



Enabling individuals to unlock their unique potential

- **Spiritual-** Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.
- **Moral-** Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.
- **Social-** Use a range of social skills; participate in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the '[British values](#)' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.
- **Cultural-** Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.



Year 11 have recently undertaken some in-class assessments. These will continue throughout the year and they will have formal mocks sat in the hall week commencing 11th and 18th January. We appreciate the stress and anxiety assessments can cause students and staff want to do as much as they can to support students to ensure they are both happy and achieve the best grade possible.

You will be receiving Year 11 students' first data check report week commencing 07.12.20 which will provide students with their current grades, predicted grades and an attitude to learning score. This first data check report will also have written comments for strengths and areas for development in lieu of parents' evening. There will be a second report which will be sent out week commencing 22.02.21. If you need grades ahead of this, please contact your class teacher.

All parents' evenings are currently postponed until Covid-19 guidance allows for large gatherings. Parents' evenings will be replaced with written comments that will accompany your child's data check. If you have any concerns in the meantime or want a more detailed conversation with subject teachers, please do get in touch we will do our best to accommodate your requests.

We have a careers officer in school, Rob Stoakes, who is available to support students with applying for their post 16 options. All Year 11 students have had a meeting / have a meeting scheduled but if you would like any further guidance or support please contact him on rob.stoakes@ckcareers.org.uk. He will also be running some sessions during form-time over the next few weeks to help students with their college/apprenticeship applications.

As part of the National Cyber Security Centre's initiative to encourage pupils to consider a career in technology and cyber security, Todmorden High School are recruiting Year 8 girls to join its Cyber Security Hub. Groups of four girls will compete in a series of exciting online problem solving and cyber security challenges. Winning schools will move forward into regional and national finals. Further details can be found at: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberfirst/girls-competition>

Girls interested in taking part in this fun and exciting competition and to help in protecting our future national security should email Mr Ryan d.ryan@todhigh.co.uk or scan the QR Code to complete an online application. Deadline: Friday 4th December. You can also find out more on our website!



We have asked our students to design a Christmas card that encompasses all of our ARCH values – particularly the value of 'Care' as part of a competition. I will be judging all of the entries and we will be sending the winning card off to a local printer to be professionally printed, as well as awarding seasonal prizes for all entries! Please encourage your children to take part. **DEADLINE – Thursday 3rd December 2020.** Link to PPT and promotional video here: <https://youtu.be/6e2sZ7Nzhak>

Don't forget that we've decided, as a school, to support our most vulnerable families this Christmas by creating and delivering festive food parcels. We're also joining with Todmorden primary schools, to support even more families. Care is one of our ARCH values. We will be arranging festive food parcels to deliver to all vulnerable families as we break up for the Christmas holidays. How can you help?

- All form bases will have collecting bags.
- Students and staff are asked to bring non-perishable festive food treats (biscuits, snacks, sweets, chocolates etc.) into school. This will also, we hope, happen in the local primary schools.
- Monetary donations will also be accepted, and used to shop for more treats. Any money received by tutors should be passed to Learning Managers.
- In the final week, we will collect all the treats and our prefects will use them to fill hampers to be delivered to our most vulnerable families.

If you would like to nominate a family or person who may benefit from a food parcel please contact Ms Wells m.wells@todhigh.co.uk.

In an attempt to plan ahead for any unexpected bad weather, we might see in the next two weeks, I just wanted to remind parents and students about the Adverse Weather Procedure we have in place at Todmorden High School. In the case of bad weather students and parents will be informed by text message, via the school website and through the Calderdale closure pages if the school will be closed **before 7.30am**. Additional information might be added to the website in the case of school being open during bad weather or to notify parents and students of potential changes to uniform (such as walking boots) to help assist in periods of snow or ice. If you are concerned that you might not receive text messages from school, please contact our Administrative team on 01706813558 to resolve this. You can view our step by step process here <http://todhigh.com/clickandbuilds/WordPress/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Adverse-weather-and-Emergency-School-Closure-website.pdf>.

Also a final reminder that our student Christmas dinner this year will be on 16th December. We will only be serving Christmas dinner and a dessert that day- there will be no other offering on the menu. The menu will be published

soon and there will be a vegan/ vegetarian option but no other menu items available. We are letting you know early so you can make arrangements for a packed lunch if your child does not want Christmas dinner. However - we usually have more customers than usual on Christmas dinner days as children who normally bring a packed lunch choose to join in the festivities.

In order for you to make arrangements ahead of the festive period, I want to make you aware that the school will close at 12.15pm on Friday 18th December 2020 for the Christmas break. We will reopen on Tuesday 5th January 2021 for all students. If you need to view term dates you can do so on our website <http://www.todhigh.co.uk/school-day-and-term-dates/>.

As always, if you need anything, we are here to help. Don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Shirt', written in a cursive style.

Gill Shirt
Headteacher



Oliver (9CLA)
 Cameron (10SPA)
 Tegan (11MSC)
 Philippa (11PJD)



Miss Shirt's Wall of Fame

Featuring students who have achieved amazing things this week. Well done and keep up the good work!

