

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

Contents

Whole School	2
Coronavirus - Asymptomatic Home Testing.....	2
COVID Mass Testing.....	2
Free School Meals.....	3
Christmas Lunch	3
Christmas Church Services 2021 – St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford.....	4
ParentPay Alerts	5
Parent Governor Vacancies	5
GCSE and A level exams summer 2022 contingency day	5
Adverse Weather Conditions.....	5
Reading Over the Holidays	6
Sixth Form	6
Year 13 Mock A Level Examinations – 5th to 12th January 2022.....	6
Year 13 Consultation Evening 27 th January 2021 – Save the Date	6
Year 11.....	6
Year 11 Sixth Form Applications – Deadline 4pm this Friday.....	6
Sports	7
Cricket 2022.....	7
Support the PSA when shopping at Amazon.....	7
Illness or Injury re: Participation in P.E. and Games lessons.....	8
Careers, Opportunities & Competitions.....	9
Careers - Reaching Out.....	9
Citizenship, Interact and Community.....	10
Christmas Charity	10
Interact - Bag Packing and Rotary Christmas Collections.....	10
TBSHS Christmas Services.....	10
PTFA.....	11
Folies Christmas Trees.....	12

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

Whole School

Coronavirus - Asymptomatic Home Testing

Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within schools. All students have been given home Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing kits and we encourage them to take a home LFD twice weekly before school on Monday (or Sunday evening) and Thursday (or Wednesday evening).

The current guidelines suggest that this advice will be in place for the foreseeable future, dependent on the circumstances prevalent at the time.

Students who have contracted COVID-19 do not need to undertake Lateral Flow tests for 90 days. However, if they do get COVID-19 symptoms, you should immediately book a PCR test.

Please complete the following form [Covid19 Reporting](#) online if your son/daughter has tested positive on an LFD test and arrange a PCR test as soon as possible. Please complete the [PCR Update form](#) when you receive the test result.

COVID Mass Testing

A reminder to all parents to book a 5 minute appointment for **Tuesday 4th January** (staff INSET day) for your son/daughter to come into school for their COVID test. To book an appointment click on:

<https://tbshs.schoolcloud.co.uk/> . If positive, the result will be communicated on the same day.

During the Christmas holidays, the twice weekly home testing will continue, which means students will be expected to carry out the home tests for the two week holiday.

The Following information has been taken from the Government website in order to help provide advice around the testing of your son/daughter.

Travel

All travellers arriving into the UK will need to isolate and get a PCR test by 'day two' after arrival. They may end their isolation once they receive a negative result. If the result is positive, they should continue to isolate and follow rules on isolation following a positive test. Unvaccinated arrivals aged over 18 will follow the existing, more onerous, testing and isolation regime. All Red list arrivals will enter quarantine.

Had COVID or tested positive

If you have tested positive by PCR for COVID-19, you will probably have developed some immunity to the disease. However, it cannot be guaranteed that everyone will develop immunity, or how long it will last. It is possible for PCR tests to remain positive for some time after COVID-19 infection.

If you have previously received a positive COVID-19 PCR test result, you are not usually advised to be re-tested within 90 days of this result. However, you should have a PCR test within 90 days of a previous positive PCR test if:

- you develop any new symptoms of COVID-19
- you are a close contact of someone who has been identified as a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19
- you are required to take a PCR test upon entry into the UK

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

If you are tested within 90 days of a positive PCR test result for any of these 3 reasons, and the PCR test result is positive, you must stay at home, self-isolate and follow the steps in this guidance again.

If you have an LFD antigen test within 90 days of a previous positive COVID-19 PCR test, for example as part of a workplace or community testing programme, and the result of this test is positive, you and your household should self-isolate and follow the steps in this guidance again.

If it is more than 90 days since you tested positive by PCR for COVID-19, and you have new symptoms of COVID-19, or a positive LFD antigen or PCR test, follow the steps in this guidance again.

Have Symptoms

If you have COVID-19 [symptoms](#) you should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. You should [arrange to have a PCR test](#) as soon as possible. If this PCR test result is positive, you must continue to self-isolate.

If you do not have COVID-19 symptoms, but you have a positive PCR test result, you must stay at home and self-isolate.

If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you must stay at home and self-isolate if you are not fully vaccinated or if they have been identified as a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 that has not been identified as a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, and you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months, you are not required to self-isolate.

Free School Meals

Your child could get a free school meal, worth over £450 per child per year if you receive some benefits. Full details and the online application can be found at

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-schoolmeals.aspx#year3>

Have your National Insurance number or Home Office number to hand when you apply.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until March 2023, or until they finish their current phase of schooling (primary or secondary), if that's after the end of March 2023.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will be served on **Tuesday 14th December** and will be available for all students. A traditional Turkey Christmas Lunch as well as a Vegetarian option will be served and this will be the only menu offered on the 14th. Students will be able to order lunch from their Tutors from 1st December through to Tutor time on Thursday 9th December, tickets will not be allocated but we will rely on students remembering their choice. The price of the lunch will be the same as last year (£4.50) and payment will be deducted on the 14th December. Please note that once ordered, payment for the lunch will be deducted from your son/daughter's account as the meal will have been ordered, **please ensure that sufficient money is available on their account**. Students eligible for FSM will all be provided with Christmas lunch as normal and should choose their meal with their form.

The menu for lunch will be:

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

“ALL IN ONE” G/F TURKEY PAUPIETTE
Turkey Escalope rolled with Cumberland sausage
stuffing, wrapped in Bacon

“NUTLESS” VEGAN ROAST SLICE G/F
(An Individual slice of Vegetable Roast with
Sunflower & Pumpkin Seeds, delicately flavoured with
Herbs)

Pigs in Blankets

Vegetarian Chipolatas G/F

Crispy Roast Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetables

Rich Christmas Gravy (V) (G/F)

Festive Chocolate Brownie
(Served by Members of SLT, Heads of Year and other members of Staff)

There will be three sittings for lunch:

- 12:00 – 12:45 Years 13, 12 & 11
- 12:50 – 13:35 Years 7 & 8
- 13:40 – 14:25 Years 9 & 10

All Students participating in the Christmas Services will be back in school and able to enjoy lunch during the first sitting.

Last year we served over 900 Christmas Lunches and we would like to encourage students in all year groups to participate on this enjoyable festive occasion with lunch and associated activities with their friends, form tutors and other staff.

If your Son/daughter is currently isolating due to Covid19 but would like to participate, please email their form tutor before Thursday 9th December with “Christmas Lunch Order” in the subject line, and your son/daughter’s name and choice of Turkey/Vegetarian or None.

Christmas Church Services 2021 – St Michael’s Church, Bishop’s Stortford

Monday 13th December and Tuesday 14th December

Arrangements for TBSHS Christmas Church Services

Monday 13th December: Year 7 and 8 - the service will start at 2pm. Students will walk to the church with their tutor. Students will be dismissed from the church at 3:05pm. Form tutors will accompany students who walk back to school in order to catch a bus or collect their bike.

Tuesday 14th December: Year 9 and 10 - the service will start at 9:20am. Students will walk to the church with their tutor. The service will end at 10:20am. Students will walk back to TBSHS with their tutor.

Tuesday 14th December: Year 12 and 13 –students are to register with their tutor at the church at 1:45pm. The service will start at 2pm. Students will be dismissed from the church at 3:05pm.

General notes:

- All students and staff are to wear a face mask in St Michael’s Church.

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

- All students and staff are to take a Covid test on Sunday night before the service.
- Unfortunately, due to our Covid protocols, parents cannot attend our service this year.
- It would be greatly appreciated if your son/daughter could make a £1 donation at the end of the service.
- Parents and carers who would like to collect students after the service should be aware that the area outside the church becomes congested and are advised to arrange alternative pick-up points with their children beforehand.

Mr Jonathan Griffiths
Assistant Headteacher

ParentPay Alerts

To ensure students have sufficient money on their accounts please set up the Alerts on ParentPay. You can do this quickly by logging into your account, clicking on Communication History and following the 'How to set up email or text alerts' link. ParentPay will then send you an automated message when the account funds drop below the threshold (£5.00).

Parent Governor Vacancies

The Governing Body of TBSHS invites nominations for two Parent Governors with effect from the Spring Term 2022.

Being a school governor is a rewarding and challenging role. It will allow you the opportunity to use your skills to have a positive impact on the education of all students at the school and work as part of an established and successful Governing Body.

Governors do not need to be experts in the field of education but do need an interest in the school and welfare of the students, as well the time, energy and willingness to get involved. This is a particularly exciting time to consider putting yourself forward, as TBSHS progresses plans to relocate the school to a new site.

If you would like to find out more about the role by having a conversation with an existing governor, please email the Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Jane Yates at jane.yates@tbshs.org.

Please click [here](#) for **further information**. Click [here](#) for a **nomination form**.

GCSE and A level exams summer 2022 contingency day

The exam contingency date for the summer 2022 exams is Wednesday 29th June. All students must be available to sit exams up to and including this date. Therefore please ensure that any holidays are booked after 29th June.

Adverse Weather Conditions

In the event of adverse weather conditions we will endeavour to keep the school open as normal. In the very unlikely event that it is not safe to open this information will be sent to you via My Ed and published on the school's website and Twitter feed. In this situation we will move to remote learning via Microsoft Teams. If we do move to remote learning then students should check their school email for information on how to access their lessons.

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

Reading Over the Holidays

Studies have found that reading for pleasure enhances empathy, understanding of the self, and the ability to understand one's own and others' identities. - Reading between the Lines: the Benefits of Reading for Pleasure, 2015

The library is open from 8am to 4pm for all students to pick up a book before the Christmas holidays. You can view our catalogue, as well as our most popular titles and latest returns by visiting:
<https://uk.accessit.online/thb03>

Or borrow an eBook or audiobook on ePlatform at any time using the following link:
<https://tbshsuk.wheelers.co/>

You can also keep up with us over on Twitter at [@TBSHSLibrary](https://twitter.com/TBSHSLibrary)

Sixth Form

Year 13 Mock A Level Examinations – 5th to 12th January 2022

A reminder that arrangements & timetable for the mock exam period immediately after the Christmas holidays can be viewed here: [Yr13 Mock Examination Arrangements Jan 2022 FINAL](#). This letter has been e-mailed to the students. **Mr R Stark**

Year 13 Consultation Evening 27th January 2021 – Save the Date

Early warning that Year 13 Consultation Evening will be held on **Thursday 27th January 2021** between 4.30 and 7.30pm. This will be an online event using the School Cloud System and further details about how to book your virtual appointments will be provided in January. This is an extremely important event at which students, together with yourselves, can meet with teachers to understand how they are progressing, especially in light of their mock A level results. If you could be saving the date in your diaries and also ensuring that students rearrange any other existing commitments. **Mr R Stark**

Year 11

Year 11 Sixth Form Applications – Deadline 4pm this Friday

We are aware that Year 11s are focused on their mock GCSE examinations but we have a number who have still not applied to the Sixth Form who may be intending to. A reminder that the deadline is **4pm this Friday 11th December**. Our own Year 11 still need to complete an on-line application form using the following link: [TBSHS Application System](#) just as students do from other schools, although the majority of data will be populated directly from our systems. Please note: It is possible to change subject options at a later date as thinking develops, especially in light of further assessments and exam results. Full instructions have been on previous parental bulletins.

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

All Year 11s, whatever their intentions, will have a one-to-one Post-16 Guidance meeting next term with a member of the Senior Leadership or Sixth Form Management Team. This will take place in school time and be after they have received their mock exam results and teacher feedback at Parents' Evening. **Mr R Stark**

Sports



Cricket 2022

Year 7, 8 & 9 Before School Training

Attached are letters relating to the before school cricket training which will commence in January 2022 for years 7, 8 and 9. These sessions are for **current cricketers** and the courses will be supported by external coaches. You will find the link to enrol within the letters. Click the appropriate year to view letter: [Year 7](#), [Year 8](#), and [Year 9](#)

For students wishing to start playing cricket or those with limited experience we will be running after school sessions on Monday evenings commencing on Monday 10th January 2022. You do not need to enrol but will need school PE kit to attend. We will provide equipment for these sessions

Playing Clothing

Once we start playing fixtures we would encourage students to wear cricket whites. We do not expect players to wear school clothing but should you wish to purchase school branded kit a link to our supplier Tylers Sportswear is below:

<https://www.tylers-sportswear.co.uk/Catalogue/School-Webshops/The-Bishops-Stortford-High-School>

Support the PSA when shopping at Amazon

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on amazon.co.uk. The difference is that when customers shop through the URL smile.amazon.co.uk, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of eligible purchases to the charitable organisations selected by customers.

Just use your normal Amazon login details to log into the smile.amazon.co.uk website and enter the full PSA name "THE BISHOP'S STORTFORD HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS SPORTS ASSOCIATION" or our Charity Commission Registration Number "1144671".

All you just need to remember then is that to support the PSA that you just need to go through the smile.amazon.co.uk portal each time you shop with Amazon.

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

Illness or Injury re: Participation in P.E. and Games lessons

Please can you refer to and follow the procedures described below in the event of your child not being able to participate in PE or Games due to illness or injury.

1. Please provide your child with a signed and dated hard copy note (hand written or word processed) that they can keep in their blazer pocket to show to the member of staff. This note should explain the reason for non-participation and have an approximate timescale of absence. This is due to it not always being practical for PE staff to always be checking emails or due to receiving them several days before the lesson.
2. Please ensure you child still brings their PE kit, ideally with one of the TBSHS warm up tops or ¼ zip tops to stay warm and dry. This is for a number of reasons;
 - A) Depending on the severity of the issue they may still be able to access the curriculum in an adapted format (such as a non-contact or non-running format).
 - B) If the severity is such that no adapted physical involvement can occur they can still take part as an umpire, referee, time-keeper, scorer or coach.
 - C) We also have the option for students to continue rehab in the gym be doing cycling, stretching or exercises from their physio.
 - D) The only exception to this is if the student has a broken limb or an injury where changing would be inhibited due to the severity of the injury.

It is a legal requirement for your child to participate in physical activity in school and we are careful with managing overuse, however there seems to be an increasing number of students who not doing PE because they're 'saving themselves for a big game on Sunday'. We get very few injuries in PE lessons and therefore students should be participating in some capacity in all lessons.

Kind regards

Peter Harris

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

Careers, Opportunities & Competitions

Careers - Reaching Out

The success of the school's recent Careers Forum was in part, down to terrific support from the TBSHS parent/carer community, some of whom, kindly gave up their time to host stands. If you are able to support careers initiatives for our students in any way (e.g. workshops), do please get in touch claire.jonas@tbshs.org.

There are many more opportunities for Years 12 & 13 in the 6th Form Bulletin - issued every 2 weeks by Mrs Price.



Please note, students can find the careers section of the parent bulletin in the 'Others' area of the Q Pool File

Click [here](#) for this week's Careers News

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

Citizenship, Interact and Community

Christmas Charity

We appreciate that this time of year can be so challenging for so many in our locality and around the world. We also appreciate there can be so many demands on families.

TBSHS Interact is supporting the Christmas Appeal of the Salvation Army and *Bishop's Stortford Independent*.

This appeal is looking for the following:

- New and unwrapped toys for babies and children up until the age of ten
- Toiletries for adults
- Cash and cheques are also gratefully received to provide money to buy presents for those in need.

Please bring any items to either Reception or Room 8. We will then take them to the distributor.

Next week, we will also be selling allergy-free cookies and mince pies in the playground for Rotary's Christmas Appeal. This pays for vouchers for those in need in our local area.

We will also be collecting for our local Food Bank once again in January.

Finally, at the end of our Christmas Services at St. Michael's Church, students will have an opportunity to donate one pound to the important work of the church in the community.

Anything anyone could give to any of these good causes would be very much appreciated.

Thank you very much indeed for all your continued support of the school and wider community.

Mr. Etheridge

Interact - Bag Packing and Rotary Christmas Collections

We are bag packing / mostly collecting for charity in Bishop's Stortford on **Saturday 11th December** at Waitrose (other great supermarkets are available).

This charity is the Rotary Club's Christmas Collections. The Rotary Club give money to those in need at Christmas.

Let me know by e-mail if any student wishes to join us.

Mostly we will standing by/ near the entrance collecting I suspect in the current times. Students normally do a shift of between one and two hours. Numbers this year will be reduced.

This is open to all years.

Thank you, Mr. Etheridge

TBSHS Christmas Services

If any student would like to read at the Christmas Services at St. Michael's Church in the last week of term, please e-mail me.

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

If any student would like to write any poetry for us to consider for them or someone else to read at the services, or any art work to include, please e-mail me by this Sunday. Any poem should focus on either "The Black or Gold Spirit – being with others at school" or "Giving to Others and The Meaning Of Christmas".

Thank you to St. Michael's Church.

Thank you, Mr. Etheridge

PTFA



Starting your Christmas shopping?

The GivingMachine makes donating to TBSHS PTFA easy when shopping online.

What better way to help your child's school than to donate while you shop.

It's easy. Just one extra click on your mouse and it doesn't even cost you a penny! Become a giving hero by clicking the link below and adding your details to create an account. Save as a favourite, then each time you start to shop click on it and it will take you straight through to the shopping page.

<https://shopandgive.thegivingmachine.co.uk/giver/join/?pbid=13>

Many thanks for all your support.

TBSHS PTFA.

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021

Folies Christmas Trees

Folies (formerly Squires) based by Sworders in Stansted is once again offering to donate £5 for each Christmas tree bought by a TBSHS parent to the PTFA. Please click [here](#) for details.

EXCLUSIVE TBSHS PROTECTIVE FACE MASKS



AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE NOW

£5

THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO PAY:

Via ParentPay - Students can collect mask from school reception.

Or, students can purchase masks from school reception (*Exact money only please, no change given*)

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 8th December 2021



**TBSHS Golf Umbrella
Only £22**

(You'll need one at Jobbers Wood!)