

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 29 September 2021

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Whole School

COVID-19 cases

We have continued to see relatively low numbers of students testing positive for COVID-19 over the last two weeks. We have been in consultation with Public Health Herts and will update students and parents about the requirements on Face Masks at the end of the week. Thank you for your patience and support as we prioritise the welfare of the school community.

12-15 vaccination programme

Please be aware that the Herts Community NHS Trust will be in school on Thursday 30th September to deliver COVID-19 vaccinations for those 12-15 year olds for whom we have received consent. With hundreds of students involved, there will inevitably be some disruption to the school day, though we aim to keep this to a minimum. Please ensure your son completes a lateral flow test either on Wednesday 29th September (this evening) or the following morning, before he attends school.

House Rugby

It was brilliant to see so many students turn out for House Rugby on Saturday morning. There was great competition in every year group and I thought the boys played with good commitment and attitude. Congratulations to each of the winning houses and to all those who took part. There were lots of staff involved in organising, running and supporting the event and they were ably supported by a huge team of older students who helped with the refereeing, coaching and management of the younger year groups. They all did a brilliant job and House Rugby would not have been the same without their willingness to help others in the school community.

Mr D Reeve

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 at least until the end of September and possibly longer, 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.

Coronavirus - When to book a PCR test

Anyone with a positive LFD test result and/or who is displaying symptoms of Covid19 will need to:

- self-isolate in line with the [stay at home guidance](#)
- [book a further test](#) (a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test) to confirm the result

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Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate. If the PCR test is taken within the 2 days following the positive LFD result, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and students can return to school as long as they don't have COVID-19 symptoms.

Please complete the following form [Covid19 Reporting](#) online if your son/daughter has tested positive. Although the school is not currently responsible for track and trace, the Local Authority are still tracking cases in schools and are asking for this information. If you do not have the PCR test result when you are completing the form, please complete the [PCR Update form](#) when you receive the test result.

Positive result - If a student has a positive result from a PCR test, they should self-isolate immediately and continue to isolate for at least 10 days. NHS Test and Trace should contact you or your son/daughter and advise on the isolation period. Close contacts and everyone in the household or support bubble will also be advised to book a PCR test.

If your son/daughter is isolating but well enough, please ask them to check Satchel1/Show My Homework for work that will be set by their teachers. You do not need to update absence reporting unless your son/daughter is not fit to return at the end of their isolation period

If your son/daughter receives a positive PCR result, please **DO NOT take any LFD or PCR tests for 90 days** as this may return a false positive resulting in a further mandatory period of isolation.

Negative result - Where a student has a negative result from a PCR test, it means the test did not find coronavirus (COVID-19) and they can return to school.

From Monday 16th August, people who are double jabbed or aged under 18 are no longer legally required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. If a student is advised to obtain a PCR test as a close contact, they do not need to isolate whilst waiting for the results **unless they are showing symptoms**.

For any queries or absences regarding Covid-19, please email covid19@tbshs.org.

Free School Meals

Did you know that Hertfordshire County Council could save you over £450 every year? Your child could get a free school meal, worth over £450 per child per year if you receive any of the following:

Your child can get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- **Working Tax Credit run-on** (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- **Universal Credit** (with annual earned income of no more than **£7,400** after tax and not including any benefits you get).

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Apply today if you receive any of these benefits. It takes **5 mins** and in most cases we can tell you straightaway if your child can get free meals at school.

<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.

Don't miss out, apply now!

The benefits of applying online include:

- It's quick and easy to do – most online applications take about five minutes to complete. Please make sure you have your national insurance number to hand.
- It can be done whenever it suits you, with no need for face-to-face or telephone contact
- In most cases, you won't have to provide paper proof of benefit
- You won't have to reapply for free school meals every year
- Your child will get their free school meals without delay
- You can apply for other benefits that you may qualify for at the same time

If you do not have access to the internet at home, you can obtain access and support at any of the following locations:

- Public Libraries
- UK Online Centres
- TBSHS – Please call Reception for assistance

For more information or assistance with your application Visit www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals Or Call the customer service centre on 0300 123 4048 (8am-8pm Monday to Friday, 9am- 4pm Saturday).

School Catering

Meal Prices and Menus: The price of a standard 2-course meal is £2.75, menus are available on the TBSHS website. The school currently offers break and lunch options.

The school has an upper limit of £6 on the amount of money that can be spent in one day. This will mean that your child cannot buy excessive amounts of food that may be being passed on to others. If you would like this amount changed, please call the school or email finance@tbshs.org to amend the amount up or down.

As I am sure that you are aware, there are a number of logistical issues affecting availability and deliveries, as a result, menus may change at short notice.

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During the Covid-19 pandemic, the school will not be able to accept cash payments for any reason and the cash loader in school will not be active. If you are unable to utilise ParentPay, please ensure that you contact the finance department (finance@tbshs.org Tel: 01279 869521). Your assistance in keeping the school cash free is appreciated.

Please ensure that your child always has sufficient funds on their accounts for lunch as overdrafts will not be available. Any parent/guardian in financial difficulty should contact the school.

Breakfast Service

The breakfast service is now available. The menu will offer bacon rolls, cheese baps, cereals, yoghurts, fresh fruit and cold drinks.

Publishing Houses and Supporting the School

If any parent has a connection with any Educational books Publishing Houses please contact rachel.engel@tbshs.org as many organisations offer additional discounts to schools where parents work in the company. Similarly, if parents are connected to other organisations where the school can take an advantage of a discount, please contact me.

The School appreciates all offers of sponsorship and support from parents, if you feel you can help support the TBSHS in any way, please contact rachel.engel@tbshs.org and I will pass the information to the relevant members of staff. Offers of support for assistance to help us improve the marketing the School, sixth form or fundraising would be appreciated.

Sixth Form

Pavilion Parking – 30th September

Sixth Form students will not be allowed to park in the pavilion on Thursday 30th September. This is because we will have a lot of NHS staff on site and need to make space available for parking. **Mr R Stark**

Prospective Parents Evening

A huge thanks to the Year 13 and 12 students who supported the school during Prospective Parents Evening. We had lots of great feedback and the Sixth Form were fantastic ambassadors for the school. **Mr R Stark**

Inter House Rugby

I also want to signpost the fantastic contributions that Sixth Form students made to Inter House Rugby. It was one of the best House Ruby competitions I have been to and that was in large part due to the leadership of the Sixth Form students. **Mr R Stark**

Yr. 12 Community Activities Days

Communications have been sent to parents regarding these activity days, to be held at Herts Mariners Base on the 6th and 8th October. The online consent form, sent via MyEd, will need to be completed, even if students are not participating. Payment will also need to be made via ParentPay prior to the trip. Thank you to parents

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for their support of our Activity Days for Year 12. We hope these will prove to be a very beneficial experience for our students. **Mr R Stark**

Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday 10th November – EARLY WARNING

Currently it is planned that our Sixth Form Open Evening on **Wednesday 10th November** will be held in school. We will therefore need some of our Sixth Formers to play a crucial role in promoting the school to prospective Sixth Form students and their parents. We would be grateful if you could make sure students keep this evening free so that they are available to help. **Mr R Stark**

Year 13 UCAS Applications – Final changes

Students applying to UCAS should have by now PAY/SUBMITTED their applications into the school's control so that tutors can be preparing accurate and supportive references. I am in the process of collating final Post-18 predicted grades following the closure of the consultation period and will be distributing these to tutors so that students can double check with them that the grades we will be entering are the ones that they were expecting. They must make sensible, realistic choices with a spread that encompass grades lower than their predictions. They should also be doing a final proofread of their applications and asking for them to be returned for editing to make any necessary changes. 18th October is the final date for them to be returned to the school's control, ready for our final processing on 21st October. **Mrs F Price**

A Level Maths Revision Guides

I would like to offer you the opportunity to buy revision materials for A level Mathematics. As you may know, the A Level examination in Maths has changed its style of assessment relatively recently, and as such older revision guides and workbooks may not be appropriate.

The school can purchase a revision guide and an exam practice book direct from the publishers at a discounted rate. The books are published by CGP and are tailored towards the MEI course that our students are studying. The price we can offer is £14 for the two books (retail £25). You can view a sample of the books using the QR code. If you would like to make a purchase, this must be done through Parent Pay. The deadline for orders is **Thursday 7th October**.

Mr BD Boxall Subject Leader for Maths

Year 11

Year 11 Study Rooms

In addition to the library, the following days, times and rooms have been made available to year 11 students for private study. They should bring work to get on with during these sessions. They are not permitted to be on their phones:

Monday 1.20pm-2pm – Room 36

Tuesday 1.20pm-2pm – Room 36

Wednesday 1.20pm-2pm – Room 15

Thursday 1.20pm-2pm – Room 35

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Friday 1.20pm-2pm – Room 12

GCSE Maths Revision Guides

I would like to offer you the opportunity to buy revision materials for GCSE Mathematics. As you may know, the GCSE examination in Maths changes its style of assessment fairly regularly, and as such older revision guides and workbooks may not be appropriate.

The school can purchase a revision guide, workbook and past paper book direct from the publishers at a discounted rate. The cost is £3 per book. There are books available for both Higher tier and Foundation tier and your son should know his tier of entry. If you would like to make a purchase, this must be done through Parent Pay. The deadline for orders is **Thursday 7th October**.

We also have a few old edition guides, workbooks, revision cards and past paper books, which we will be selling for cash in the Maths department at £1 each for each of the books and £2 for the revision cards. These can be purchased in Maths clinic in the last two weeks of half term (Monday 11th October to Friday 22nd October). Maths clinic is in room 16 on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime from 1:30pm until 1:55pm.

If you wish to support your son with the purchase of revision materials, I strongly recommend that you buy these, as they are written by the exam board. They will be very useful for Mock exam preparation.

Yours sincerely, **Mr B D Boxall** Subject Leader for Maths

ISBN : 9781447988090, 9781292210889, 9781292274645 for Higher materials.

9781447988045, 9781447987925, 9781292274638 for Foundation materials.

MFL Revision Resources

The MFL department are able to order the following revision resources for either French or German which may help your son with his MFL revision. If you are interested in purchasing revision resources for your son, please pay for the appropriate books on ParentPay by **Monday 10th October**. Please ensure that you select the correct language.

Revise AQA GCSE (9-1) Revision Cards	£4.00	French only
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Includes access to a FREE online edition of the REVISE AQA GCSE (9-1) French Revision Guide and contains 100 Revision Cards and three organising dividers (with a handy 'how to use' guide), multiple choice questions and answers, worked examples, topic summaries and key facts to remember.

Revise AQA GCSE (9-1) Revision Guide	£3.00	French / German
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Covers all topics for GCSE course, highlights target grades on each page allowing students to work at their pace, access to audio files as well as ActiveBook.

Revise AQA GCSE (9-1) Revision Workbook	£3.00	French / German
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Covers all topics for the GCSE course, highlights target grades on each page, providing plenty of practice, with reading and listening questions for every topic and a grammar practice section.

Mr W. Alexander, Subject Leader MFL

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Mindful Gardening (YR7 & YR8)

Gardening club will resume on 6th October with Miss Holland. Meet outside the Library at 3.30pm. This is a great opportunity for students to gain some fresh air, learn about vegetation and complete some community service to the school.

Language learning magazines for students to boost skills and grades (YR 7-13)

At **The Bishop's Stortford High School**, we always find that students learning languages engage more and perform more strongly in exams when they study topics that they want to watch, listen to or talk and write about.

We are therefore happy to recommend Mary Glasgow Magazines for students learning both French and German.

Packed with great vocabulary, comprehension and grammar tips, Mary Glasgow Magazines are vibrant, colourful and will engage teens at the exact level of the language they are learning, with topics that they'll love including school life, technology, friends, culture, sport, music, the environment and much more.

An annual subscription to Mary Glasgow Magazines costs just **£10.00** and includes five printed issues (delivered to the school throughout the year) plus unlimited access to video, audio and online activities.

We recommend the following magazines for your child:

French

Magazine	Level
Bonjour*	Years 7/8/9
Ça va?*	Years 9/10/11
Chez Nous	Higher GCSE/A Level

German

Magazine	Level
Das Rad*	Years 7/8/9
Schuss*	Years 9/10/11

*Students in Year 9 could subscribe to either magazine, depending on the level of challenge desired.

If you wish to place an order, please visit www.maryglasgowplus.com/orders. Search for our school and then select the appropriate level and you'll be able to browse magazines and pay online for your subscriptions.

Please note that the closing date for ordering is **Monday 10th October**. Thank you for your continued support.
W Alexander, Head of MFL

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Vacancies

Catering Assistant

The Bishop's Stortford High School is seeking to appoint a **Catering Assistant** to join the catering team. This role is for 16 hours per week. Term time only (38 weeks p.a.) Monday to Thursday 12pm until 3pm, Friday 11am until 3pm. Please click [here](#) for further details.

Invigilators

The Examinations department are seeking reliable, confident male and female applicants who are available during school hours to assist in the supervision of internal and public examinations which take place at the following times –

Mid December

Beginning of January

Mid April – End of June

No experience is necessary as full training will be given.

For a full job description / application form please contact Dr Luppi leanne.luppi@tbshs.org or telephone the exams office on 01279 869524

Events

*** Tickets Now Available *** Disco Inferno – Whole School Production

Dust off your glitter ball, dig out your flares and resurrect your platforms. *The Bishop's Stortford High School Drama & Music Departments* are delighted and proud to present this year's whole school production, **Disco Inferno**, which takes place on 17, 18th and 19th November. This musical extravaganza is the story of an ambitious singer and his desire to make it in the music industry – all brought to life with an explosion of hit songs. The drama, singing and dancing will be accompanied by our very own pit band playing the songs that defined a generation.

Doors open 6.30pm. Performance at 7pm. Interval Bar. Tickets are now available to book online: £11 for adults, £9 for concessions. Please [click here](#).

Sponsors for Whole School Production

Taking place in November, this year's whole school production will be the exciting, high-energy and glitter ball-spinning musical extravaganza *Disco Inferno*.

If you would like to support the show by way of advertising your business/services in the show programme, do please get in touch; individual supporters also welcome. Half page or full page adverts are available. For more information please email claire.jonas@tbshs.org

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Careers, Opportunities & Competitions

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](#)

Years 10-13 Careers Forum – 20th October – 5pm-7.30pm (tbc)

So long as it is safe to do so, we're very much looking forward to hosting our ninth biennial (postponed by one year) **Careers Forum on 20th October**. It's very much hoped that students in Years 10-13 will made the most of a great opportunity to meet with a huge number of employers and educators. Some of the employers who have confirmed so far are *Audi, Barclays, B.S. Orthodontists, Choice Physio, the Civil Service, Connect Scaffolding, Dotmatics, Down Hall Hotel, Ford, Hill Developers, ISG, Johnson & Johnson, London Life, PHD Associates, Price Bailey, Princess Alexandra Hospital, RCA Structures, Restless Ltd, Sanger Institute, Sporting Futures, St James's Place, Tees Law, Titan Airways, Weston Homes* – and all of the *Armed Forces* and the *Police* - the list grows daily.

Please ensure your sons/daughters have a note of this important date and event.

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Sports

First Aid Appeal

This is an appeal from the PE department and the PSA for any willing volunteers who would be happy to act as first aiders at Jobbers Wood on Saturday fixtures. This a crucial role in both safeguarding the well-being of students but also in allowing coaches to attend to the responsibilities of running a team. Once a number of volunteers has been established a rota will be produced so commitment every single weekend is not a necessity.

If you are not yet first aid trained but wish to be in order to assist with the running of fixtures at Jobbers Wood then the PSA may be able to assisting in funding for your training.

Any effort to volunteer will help massively with our provision of Saturday sport. Any one wish to volunteer please contact Elliott.Kelsall@tbshs.org.

Many thanks,

E Kelsall

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Fundraising

Interact Harvest Food Bank Collection

**Helping one person
may not change
the whole world,
but it may change
the world for one
person.**

We will once again be collecting for our local food bank this harvest time.

On Friday 1st October, students will have the opportunity to give items below that the food bank are requesting, or any other items. Alternatively, students can give a donation of either 50 pence or £1. We will be going round the school on Friday 1st October, safely collecting any items and donations. Requested items are (No nut products please):

- ✓ Cans and packets of soup
- ✓ Rice, pasta & noodles
- ✓ Tinned vegetables (carrots, sweetcorn etc), tinned tomatoes, tinned and mashed potatoes, tinned beans & spaghetti, tinned meat, tinned fruit (peaches, pineapple etc)
- ✓ Sugar, crisps
- ✓ Breakfast cereal and cereal bars
- ✓ Jam, marmite
- ✓ Savoury and sweet snacks
- ✓ Toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, shower gel
- ✓ Shaving foam, razors, deodorant
- ✓ Sanitary items and toiletries
- ✓ Coffee, Tea, UHT Milk

If you can afford it, please bring one item or donate 50 pence or £1 for those in need.



BISHOP'S STORTFORD
Food
Bank
Helping those in crisis

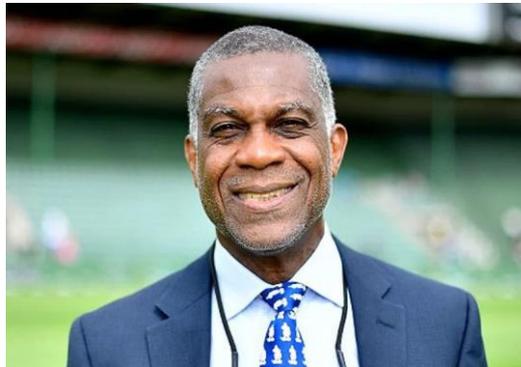
Thank you for your continued support. **Mr S Etheridge**, Head Of Religious Studies and Citizenship

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Michael Holding



At the school we are fortunate to host a range of interesting guest speakers over a number of years.

Michael Holding is a former West Indies cricketer. He was one of the greatest bowlers of all-time in the greatest cricket team of all time.

In recent times, Michael has become a prominent anti-racism campaigner and author.

Michael has visited the school on a couple of occasions. He has kindly offered to engage in a webinar on the zoom platform for interested and engaged students (who have questions) in all years.

This is will be after school next week, allowing good time to get home and have something to eat and drink. Please e-mail simon.etheridge@tbshs.org if you are interested in attending.

Thank you for your consideration

Mr. S Etheridge

Head of Religious Studies and Citizenship



PTFA

The TBSHS Candlelit Supper 2021

Save the date!

This year's ever popular Dinner and Dance evening will be held on Friday 3rd December at 7.30pm.

Further details to follow.

PTFA

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Shop & Give

Powered by TheGivingMachine

TheGivingMachine 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.

Please **[CLICK HERE](#)**

Many thanks for all your support.

TBSHS PTFA.

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**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*)