



No. 14

11 December 2009

Cashless Catering

We are very pleased to announce that the Suffolk County Catering Service is installing a cashless system during the Christmas break. Schools which have this system have found that it reduces queuing time considerably and therefore makes it far quicker for students to get their meal. Parents can also pay by cheque, or online as the system develops, so that they need not give their children money if they do not wish to do so. Overleaf is a letter from Mr Tate about the new arrangements. If you wish to contact him about any aspect of this, please use his e-mail address from the bottom of the letter.

Final Reminders

The Carol Service

Our annual service, a traditional evening of lessons and carols, will be held in **St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds next Tuesday, 15th December at 7.30 pm**. There are no tickets for this, but there will be a retiring collection for Charity 2009

Non Uniform Day

Next **Wednesday 16th December** will be a **non uniform day** (£1) with fancy dress for sixth formers. Main school students are reminded that it is a normal school day and they should **cover their shoulders and avoid bare midriffs**.

Christmas Lunch

A traditional Christmas lunch, with a vegetarian alternative, will be served next **Thursday 17th December**. The cost will be **£2.00**. We hope as many students as possible will join us for what is always a pleasant occasion. Students will pay just before getting to the till to speed up the service and should have their £2.00 ready. There will only be a limited range of other food available on that day.

Sixth Form Revue

The sixth form will give a performance of this year's **revue** for parents, friends and former students next **Thursday 17th December at 8.00 pm**. Tickets are

£5 (no concessions) and the PTA are supplying refreshments and a raffle. All the money collected will go towards Charity 2009. Please come along and support the students.

Charity 2009

Students are reminded to pay in all their monies by **9.20 am on Friday morning**. This year's charity events are going very well with a huge range of activities, large and small, and we want to make sure that everyone's contribution is in the final total. This will be announced to the school and representatives of the major charities on Friday afternoon.

Year Group Information

Year 10

All students except those taking triple science have an **actual GCSE Science module on Thursday 14th January** and so should be revising this holiday.

Year 11

- **Thank you** to all those year eleven parents who attended their children's **interviews with the senior leadership team**. The attendance of parents was almost 100% and we were impressed with the students' attitudes to their GCSEs and post-16 plans.
- Well done to all those students who took their **Art and Drama** practice examinations this week. We were impressed by your commitment and results.
- The year eleven **Modern Foreign Languages Speaking tests** begin as soon as we return to school after Christmas. Time slots and dates have already been allocated to individual students:

06.01.10: Mr Taecke/ Mr Staples (French)

07.01.10: Mrs Duverne/Mr Taecke (French)

08.01.10: Mrs Duverne/Mr Goodchild/Mr Taecke (French): Mr Snaith (German)

11.01.10: Mr Staples/Mr Goodchild (German)

12.01.10: Mr Staples/Mr Goodchild (German)...

- All **additional science** students have an actual GCSE module (B3/C3/P3) on **Wednesday 20th January**. This does not involve students doing Triple Science (unless they have a resit) and so should allow for this in their revision timetable for the **practice examinations**. These start on **11th January**.

Science Revision Guides

The following are available from Mr Jackson:

- Science/Additional science revision guide (including workbook) £3.50
- Individual revision guides for biology, chemistry and physics (Triple science) are £3.00 each.

“The Pajama Game”

Any donations of dust sheets and old rags which can be used for the painting of the set would be gratefully received. A reminder too, that tickets are now on sale through the Theatre Royal Box Office.

The new term

Term starts on **Wednesday 6th January** when students return in full uniform with **natural hair** colour and **no body piercing apart from ears where small studs** are acceptable. Girls may wear grey skirts of a suitable length and style with navy, grey or black tights or socks and shoes. However, **skirts cannot be worn with boots and a combination of leggings or tights with socks may not be worn.**

Dates of Future Publications

- The next edition of the *County Courier* will be published on **Friday 8th January**;
- The next edition of “*The Accolade*” will be published on **Friday 18th December** and will include the final Charity total;
- We give our thanks to **Miss Collins** for these excellent productions again this term.

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Dear Parent / guardian

We are pleased to announce that Suffolk County Catering is installing a cashless catering system during the Christmas break. The new system will allow us to continue with the development of the school meal service, and will provide us with a more efficient, faster and, ultimately, better quality of service.

This is a system that incorporates the latest technology and eliminates the need to carry cash throughout the day. It is also biometric so there is no need to carry a card as the system will recognise the thumb of your child at the revaluation pay points and at the tills. Each individual’s finger and thumb prints are unique. The Biometric cashless system will store only a section of the print as a unique number and not as an image. The system does not store the image of the finger scanned. The stored co-ordinates are only of use in matching part of the individuals print and cannot be used for the purpose of reconstructing a print.

We will start operating the system on **Monday 18th January**. From this day no cash will be accepted at the Till Points. We have two methods of payment option available to you, coin and note payments to the revaluation pay-points, or by cheque. We will be introducing online payments as soon as possible in the New Year and will give you further details when this happens. Any amount of money can be paid into your account, with the money spent on food and drink deducted on a daily basis. There will be a daily ‘spend limit’ programmed into the system of £4.00, this can be increased or decreased for an individual student by making a written request to the school finance office.

All students and staff will be informed of, and given training on, how to use the system.

Yours sincerely

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