



The County Courier

The weekly information sheet from County Upper School

www.countyupper.suffolk.sch.uk

No.15

8 January 2010

Welcome Back!

This is a very important term for students in all year groups with preparation for GCSEs, AS and A levels, as well as a lot of coursework, practical and oral examinations to be completed. The “**County Courier**” will continue to be sent home **every Friday** to keep all sections of our school community informed of all dates, deadlines and events.

Severe Weather Conditions

Obviously, disruption due to snow has occurred earlier than usual this year and I thank everyone for their patience and forbearance. In the event of further school closures because of bad weather, the following arrangements will apply:

- a) **Early closure during the day:** this would be a very unusual occurrence and would normally only happen if the bus contractors asked to run the buses early because there was a fear of worsening weather conditions. We would assume that students sent home early would be able to get into their home or that of a friend/neighbour/relative. If this gives any problem please let your child's Year Head know.
- b) **Early morning closure for the whole day:** all should base their actions on the assumption that the school is **open** unless they hear otherwise from BBC Radio Suffolk (FM 104.6) or Heart

(FM 96.4). If a decision has been taken to close the school it will be relayed on these radio stations by 7.30 am at the latest. There will always be someone at school to handle queries and receive students who didn't hear the closure message.

- c) Our network manager will post details on the **school website** as early as he can.

Year Group News

Year 10

- **Parents' Evenings for Year 10**

This term year 10 parents will have a choice of two evenings when they can discuss their children's progress with their subject teachers. These are:

Wednesday 20th January, 4.30 – 6 pm

Thursday 28th January, 4.30 – 7 pm

Letters will be sent home via the students on Tuesday (12th) and students will make the appointments with all subject teachers on their parents' behalf.

This is an important stage in the GCSE courses and we would like to see as many parents as can possibly get to one of the two evenings.

- The **GCSE science module test** for all year ten students except those taking triple science is this

Thursday morning, 14th January.

This is an **external GCSE examination** and students will need a medical certificate if they are too unwell to sit it.

Year 11

- The written practice examinations start on **Monday 11th January** and last until **Tuesday 19th January**.
- Those students who take **additional science** (sets 1y, 3x, 3y) have their **GCSE module test on Wednesday 20th January**. This is an **external GCSE examination contributing 33% of the final mark**.

Clubs and Activities for the Spring Term 2010

This will be published next week

Cashless Catering

This week's weather conditions have forced Suffolk County Catering to postpone the start of this system. We will now wait until all this month's

examinations are over to register students and then start after the half term break.

Charity 2009 and "The December Accolade"

- Whilst we were all extremely disappointed to have to close on the last day of term, nothing could detract from either the fantastic atmosphere in the school during **Charity 2009** or the magnificent final total, both of which reflect the unique County Upper Spirit. Thank you to all members of our school, their families and the local community who helped us to raise such a phenomenal sum and a very special thank you to the sixth form for not only organising it but for their patience and understanding in the difficult weather conditions.
- The December edition of **"The Accolade"** (which was already printed before the enforced closure) and the **insert revealing the Charity Total** have been issued to students today.