



# Northgate High School

*Inspiring excellence, fulfilling potential*

Dereham Norfolk NR19 2EU

Telephone: 01362 697033

Email: [office@northgate.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@northgate.norfolk.sch.uk)

Website: [www.northgate.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.northgate.norfolk.sch.uk)

Heads of Northgate High School, Dereham Sixth Form College and DESA: Mrs Z Galley and Dr D Hone

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you well, and looking forward to the holiday. This term has, as ever, been busy and full of productivity. The pupils have excelled in their learning – especially Year 11 participating in their ‘mocks’. Additionally, many have taken part in sporting fixtures and clubs, Children in Need bake sales, the Save the Children Christmas jumper day, the virtual Earth Summit and a plethora of other activities. It’s been fantastic to see the high levels of engagement and enthusiasm from both pupils and staff. This week, our Christmas meal was such a success it had to be delivered across two days - our thanks go to Alan and his team for putting on such a fantastic spread – and pupils have been able to watch the fantastic Christmas showcase of singing, dancing and music ‘virtually’ in their Form groups.

As ever at this time of year, we say goodbye to some staff and welcome others. We say farewell to Miss Breeze, Head of Drama, and would like to thank her for all her hard work over the last 5 years. Mrs Oates departs for maternity leave, and congratulations are due to Miss Lyons on the birth of her son last month. We wish both her and Mrs Oates all the best for their maternity leave. Ms Hodson and Mrs Rae cover them respectively. Mrs Gill joins us as Head Librarian across both sites, and we’re thrilled to announce that she has already booked a range of authors for our pupils to meet and learn from. Watch this space for exciting developments and clubs!

We would also like to take this opportunity to request to parents that if their child’s Christmas present is to be a visible piercing anywhere other than an earlobe, this will have to be removed in school hours on their return in January. If this is not possible the piercing should wait until the longer 6 week summer holiday so it has a chance to heal so it can be removed during school time in September. Equally, full uniform should be worn: shoes not trainers, skirts at knee length and no leggings or jean material trousers. We would like to thank you in advance for your co-operation with these long standing school rules.

Clearly, the news at the moment is dominated by Omicron and Covid in general. We have already written to you about our testing schedule on our return and would like to encourage as many pupils as possible to take part. In the unlikely event that the Government makes the decision to close schools in January, we will of course be in touch again with a comprehensive remote learning plan. We are, however, very hopeful that it will be ‘business as usual’ on Thursday 6th January (Week A) and look forward to welcoming all our pupils across both sites back after the holiday.

Have a fabulous Christmas and New Year.



