

# Michaelmas Term Update

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2020

#### Headmaster: Mr Andrew Allman



Despite this being a very different Michaelmas Term, we are trying our best to ensure that the Myddeltonian Christmas Spirit continues. We will of course all miss the several fantastic Carol Services that would have been held in St Asaph Cathedral led by Bishop Cameron, however, showing true resilience Mr Cadman and Mrs Hughes will be delivering 'Carols from the Quad' with our students, served with mince pies and hot chocolate on Thursday afternoon. There would have been several Christmas concerts and nativities to enjoy in the Great Hall, but

despite not having a live audience, Mrs Hughes has ensured that the 'show must go on' and has been busy filming this week to ensure that parents will not miss out on those special moments. It would have been nice to have had our annual Christmas lunch together as a full community, but our Chef has ensured that we won't miss out by scheduling Christmas lunches within bubbles throughout next week. I am looking forward to our Christmas themed clothes day on Thursday, as I am sure our students will do us proud and help us to maintain such a positive Christmas spirit and will also donate some money to GUTEALL.

Upper Preparatory visited Bus Stop Quarry above Llanberis in LTTO this week. They learnt about the importance of slate during the Industrial Revolution and applied their climbing skills in the outdoors. This week's Star of the Week is Sophia Corbett for demonstrating outstanding resilience on the LTTO trip and excellent scholarship with her Accelerated Reader quizzes. I am delighted that the Myddelton Preparatory School were awarded 'Highly Commended' in the Renaissance Lockdown Learning Awards for continuing to raise the status of reading during lockdown. We are delighted with how well our pupils are doing with their reading this year too with many pupils well on their way to becoming 'word millionaires'.

There were also some heroic scenes at Moel Siabod in Snowdonia yesterday, where 9Y climbed the mountain in the snow and demonstrated true fellowship and resilience. 8Y also did some climbing above Llyn Padarn near Llanberis which made their LTTO teachers very proud. In Science lessons Ms Churchman has been impressed by the presentations from her Year 7 class on Cell Structure and Space.

The boarders have had a Christmas themed week: gingerbread house decorating, carol singing, Christmas movies and Secret Santa. They are looking forward to Go-Karting, yoga and car maintenance lessons this weekend, as well as decorating the new party room in Stanley's house.

I hope that you have a nice weekend and I look forward to our final week of this year.

## Senior Deputy Headmaster: Mr Ian Lloyd



# **Parents' Meetings & Options Evenings**

Dates for your diary:

13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 Year 8 Virtual Parents' Meetings
 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 Year 11 Virtual Parents' Meetings

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 Upper Preparatory School Virtual Parents' Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 Lower Preparatory School Virtual Parents' Meetings

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 Upper VI Form Virtual Parents' Meetings

10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 Year 9 Virtual Options Evening

Instructions for how to book meetings with staff will be included in next week's newsletter and dates for other year groups will follow.

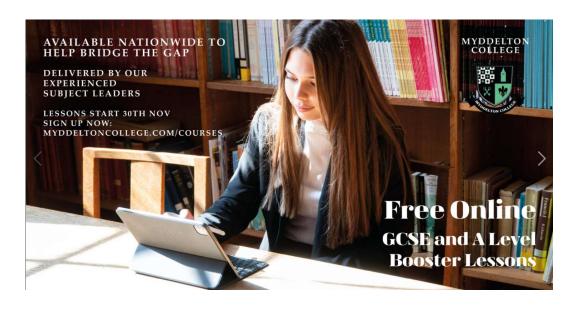
#### **Student Parliament**

Elections for the student parliament are underway and it is delightful to have so many students nominated for these positions. Student Parliamentarians have an excellent opportunity to represent the entire student body, being an advocate and a voice for change - for the students, by the students. Thank you to Miss Williams for overseeing our election and ensuring fair access for all. Results of the election will be included in next week's newsletter.

#### **Booster Lessons**

I would like to thank our wonderful subject leaders in English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry and Physics for offering such inspirational GCSE and A level online tutorials; we have received outstanding feedback from so many students; our own and from schools across the UK. I am looking forward to their continued success throughout next week.

It's not too late to take part. Participants can still sign up via the College website: <u>Myddelton</u> College GCSE and A Level Booster Lessons



# **Headmaster's Commendations**

Congratulations for achieving Headmaster's Commendations to:

- Oliver Lewis (Year 11, St. David's House) Oliver has recently published his fourth book, Venturous, the final novel of his Bloodcross trilogy.
- **Jessica Frith** (Year 10, St. Patrick's House) & **Matthew Stubbins** (Year 10, St. Andrew's House) Jessica and Matthew have both been nominated for the ISA Athlete of the Term awards.

#### The Week Ahead:

#### Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December

• Lower Preparatory LTTO Completing Tudor House project (full waterproofs and change

of clothes required)

• 1200 Years 7, 8 & 9 Christmas lunch

• 1335 – 1410 Headmaster's Assembly

• 1410 – 1600 VI Form v Staff: 5-a-side football, badminton & netball

#### Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December

| • | 7M LTTO | Christmas Bushcraft special, onsite |
|---|---------|-------------------------------------|
| • | 1200    | Years 10 & 11 Christmas lunch       |

#### Wednesday 9th December

| • | 8M LTTO | Adventure Day, Snowdonia National Park           |
|---|---------|--|
| • | 1200    | Preparatory School and VI Form Christmas lunch   |
| • | 1300    | Upper Preparatory School Film: A Christmas Carol |
| • | 1300    | Lower Preparatory School Film: Nativity!         |

# Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December

| • | 9M LTTO | Festival Challenges, onsite                  |
|---|---------|--|
| • | 1500    | Carols in the Quad (warm clothing advisable) |
| • | 1600    | Finish (no activities, buses depart at 1610) |

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December

• Boarders' travelling day Students travelling are to be off-site by 1600

Lent term begins on Monday 11th January 2021 at 0830.

Please note that LTTO and Boarders' activities and locations are subject to change depending upon a range of factors including weather, learning objectives and safety.

# **Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Absence Procedures**

| What to do if  | Action needed  | Return to school when  |
|--|--|--|
| My child or another family member has Covid-19 symptoms  | <ul> <li>Do not come to school</li> <li>Keep school updated</li> <li>Self-isolate – follow guidance</li> <li>Book a Covid-19 test</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test results</li> </ul>                                     | The test comes back as <b>negative</b> .   |
| My child tests positive for<br>Covid-19  | <ul> <li>Do not come to school</li> <li>Keep school updated</li> <li>Self-isolate for at least 10 days</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test results</li> <li>Keep siblings off too</li> <li>Seek guidance from TTP</li> </ul> | They can return to school after 10 days (siblings after 14 days if not showing symptoms) even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone. |
| Somebody in my<br>household has Covid-19   | <ul> <li>Do not come to school</li> <li>Keep school updated</li> <li>Self-isolate</li> <li>Household member to book a Covid-19 test</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test results</li> </ul>                                   | The household member test is <b>negative</b> or self-isolation is completed  |
| Somebody in my<br>household has tested<br>positive for Covid-19  | <ul><li>Do not come to school</li><li>Keep school updated</li><li>Self-isolate for 14 days</li></ul>   | The child has completed 14 days of self-isolation.   |
| NHS test and trace have identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms of confirmed Covid-19 | <ul> <li>Do not come to school</li> <li>Book a Covid-19 test</li> <li>Keep school updated</li> <li>Self-isolate for 14 days</li> </ul>   | The child has completed<br>14 days of self-isolation<br>The Covid-19 test comes<br>back as <b>negative</b> .   |

# **Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Absence Procedures (continued)**

| We/my child has travelled<br>and has to self-isolate as<br>part of a period of<br>quarantine | <ul> <li>Do not take unauthorised leave in term time</li> <li>Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel</li> <li>Provide information to school as per attendance policy</li> <li>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</li> <li>Do not come to school</li> <li>Keep school updated</li> <li>Self-isolate for 14 days</li> </ul> | The quarantine period of<br>14 days has been<br>completed. |
|--|--|--|
|  | Do not come to school  | School/other agencies                                      |
| We have received advice  | Contact the school as advised by the   | inform you that  |
| that my child must   | attendance officer/pastoral team   | restrictions have been                                     |
| resume shielding   | Shield until you are informed restrictions are   | lifted and your child can                                  |
|  | lifted and shielding is paused again   | return to school again.                                    |
|  |  | If it is negative, they will                               |
| A member of staff or a   | That member of staff must remain at home   | return to school. If they                                  |
| member of their  | until they or a member of their household  | or their family member is                                  |
| household becomes  | receives their test result.  | positive then Test, Trace,                                 |
| symptomatic  | School will seek advice from Test, Trace,  | Protect Wales will contact                                 |
| Symptomatic  | Protect Wales and the Local Authority.   | the school and give  |
|  |  | advice.  |
|  | • If you cannot access a test locally when you go  |  |
| I can't get a test for my  | online Apply for a coronavirus (COVID-19) test   |  |
| symptomatic child when I   | GOV.WALES or ring 119 please contact the   | The test is negative                                       |
| go online or ring  | school and we will try to help. (We cannot   |  |
|  | promise we can help but we will try our best!)   |  |

If you are unsure or have any questions regarding sending your child to school, please contact the office before sending them in to ensure the safety of all staff and students.

# Please reinforce these important messages with your children:





To help reduce the risks of infection, all students, staff and visitors are asked to wear a face covering or mask whilst inside the buildings. Where possible, this should cover the mouth and nose. They should be worn at all times, removing them for as short a time as possible when eating and/or drinking.



# **Myddelton College Newsletter**

Edition 12

## **Car Parking**

As a consequence of communication with Parent Voice and Friends of Myddelton, we have decided to trial an option for Year 11 and VI Form to be picked up from the front door of the College in the quad at the end of the day. All other year groups can continue to be picked up from the Sports Hall car park and we hope this alleviates some of the traffic and parking difficulties that have been experienced. If there are siblings in multiple year groups, we will leave the collection point to the discretion of the parent.

Please can we remind all parents to be respectful and mindful of all students, staff, parents and other road users whilst driving on and around the College grounds.

# **Update: Summer 2021 examinations**

This week, on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, UK Education Minister Rt. Hon. Gavin Williamson CBE MP, announced further changes to the summer 2021 examinations. In summary these are:

- More generous grading, in line with national outcomes from 2020
- Pupils will receive advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE, AS and A-levels, to help focus revision
- Some exam aids, such as formula sheets, will be provided in some exams
- There will be contingency examinations available, if anyone misses a scheduled exam due to illness or self-isolation

The full implications of the announcement will not be known until the end of January and we will continue to keep you informed.

# **Preparatory School Gymnastics**

As part of the Sport Curriculum at Myddelton College Preparatory School students will attend Ruthin and Denbigh Gymnastics Club. These sessions will take place during school time and are due to begin in January for Lower Preparatory students and February for Upper Preparatory students. All COVID-19 guidelines will be followed at all times in the transportation, before, during and after the Gymnastics session. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mr Pearson.



#### **Christmas Lunch**

Our whole-College Christmas lunch will not be able to take place this year as we look to keep the College community safe by continuing with our staggered lunchtime arrangements. However, Christmas lunch is not cancelled and students and staff will be treated to a traditional festive feast during the final week of term.

The arrangements will be as follows:

#### **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

| 1200 | Years 7, 8 & 9 (and form tutors) will enjoy a traditional Christmas lunch |
|------|---|
| 1240 | Preparatory School (normal lunch menu)                                    |
| 1250 | Years 10 & 11 (normal lunch menu)   |
| 1310 | VI Form (normal lunch menu)   |

#### Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December

| 1200 | Years 10 & 11 (and form tutors) will enjoy a traditional Christmas lunch |
|------|--|
| 1240 | Preparatory School (normal lunch menu)                                   |
| 1250 | Years 7, 8 & 9 (normal lunch menu)                                       |
| 1310 | VI Form (normal lunch menu)  |

#### Wednesday 9th December

| 1200 | Preparatory School & VI Form (and form tutors) will enjoy a traditional Christmas lunch |
|------|---|
| 1240 | Years 7, 8 & 9 (normal lunch menu)  |
| 1300 | Years 10 & 11 (normal lunch menu)   |



# **Staff vs VI Form Sports**

On the afternoon of Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December, Myddelton College are hosting the first ever Staff vs VI Form Sports Competition.

Activities include 5 a-side Football, Badminton and Netball.

VI Form students wishing to take part should speak to A Level PE students Aaron Leacock, Esther Lucas and Jack Wright.

# **Independent Schools Association Awards**

Congratulations to Jessica Frith and Matthew Stubbins, both in Year 10, who have been nominated for ISA Athlete of the Term. Well done both.



## **Operation Christmas Child**

With Christmas fast approaching, I feel it is important to encourage parents, students and staff alike to be continually aware that while this may be a time of celebration and community support for the majority of us, there are many people for whom Christmas is a time of struggle. Samaritan's Purse is a charitable organisation that describe themselves as "an international relief and development charity that works through local churches to proclaim and demonstrate the love of God amongst communities in need (in countries across Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia) across the world."



Just one of the projects Samaritan's Purse run is Operation Christmas Child in which Christmas gift boxes are either sponsored or created by anyone and everyone who wishes, to donate a shoebox worth of gifts and sanitary items to, often orphaned, children between the ages of 2 and 14 around the world. However in light of regulations regarding Covid-19 we are encouraging the use of the charity's 'Shoebox Online' service in which you can personalise the items included in the box as well as sharing a photo and message to the child(ren) you wish to donate to. This can be found through the following link: <a href="Shoebox Online">Shoebox Online</a> and I would encourage you to look to the Samaritans' success in other projects on their website also.

I would like to thank everyone who participates in Operation Christmas Child in advance, as giving children the best start in life is a cause I feel very passionately about; children are our future.

Abbey Hughes, Year 13

#### **Tennis**

#### **Christmas break holiday activities**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December with discounted rates for Myddelton students. To register your interest and book your place, follow this link: <u>First Advantage Tennis Christmas</u> Break

#### **Lunch time clubs continuing after Christmas**

Tuesday prep and Thursday lower school (Years 7-9)

Tuesday link to book: <u>First Advantage Tuesday</u>
Thursday link to book <u>First Advantage Thursday</u>

**Private lessons** are fully booked Tuesdays, 2pm and 3pm, but spaces are available on Thursdays at 2pm for 45 minutes & 2:45pm for 45 minutes.

To register your interest and book your place, parents should email John: First Advantage

# **Christmas Jumper/Fancy Dress Day**

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October, we were due to host a Hallowe'en Fancy Dress day to raise money on behalf of Genesis Umbrella to Empower All (GUTEALL). This charity is run by Jane Lucas, mother of Esther Lucas (Lower VI Form) and information about their charitable work can be found at their website https://www.guteall.org/about-us/

Unfortunately, our original event was cancelled because of the extended half term break enforced by the Welsh Government. However, this will not stop us from raising money to support this worthy cause!

As an alternative, on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December, students are encouraged to wear their favourite Christmas jumper and festive decorations or dress up in a Christmas costume and donate at least £1 each.

Please make sure that warm clothing is available as students will be outside during the afternoon for the carol singing, mince pies and hot chocolate.



## **Instrumental Music Lessons - January 2021**

If your son daughter is interested in starting to learn a musical instrument after Christmas please see Mr Cadman for details. Myddelton College offers a taster lesson with one of our Visiting Professionals to see if they like the instrument (and the teacher!) Please see below:

Brass (Trumpet/Cornet/Trombone/Euphonium) Mr Williams Voice/Piano Mrs Terry Piano Mrs Evans Violin/Viola Mr Barker Electric Guitar/Classical Guitar/Ukelele/Bass Guitar Mr West Drum Kit Mr Neal Flute/Clarinet/Saxophone Mr Deacon Cello Mrs Merrion

Mr Cadman also offers Theory help and instrumental accompaniment in preparation for a concert or exam.



# **Friends of Myddelton**

#### **Selection Box Donations**

The Friends of Myddelton have agreed to supply the local foodbank in Denbigh with 100 selection boxes. If parents and guardians would like to donate a selection box please leave them at the College reception. We would like to take the selection boxes on Wednesday and your support is greatly appreciated.

#### **Christmas Raffle**

The Friends of Myddelton Christmas Raffle is back! Whilst it is clearly disappointing that we cannot enjoy the wonderful Myddelton College Christmas Fayre this year, there is no stopping the Christmas Raffle – an opportunity to win from a selection of fantastic prizes.



To enter, text: FOMXMASRAFFLE followed by the amount of your contribution to 70085.

**Important**: You must include a number at the end of FOMXMASRAFFLE to indicate the amount of your contribution. For example, texting **FOMXMASRAFFLE10** to **70085** means that you will contribute £10 in return for 10 entries into the raffle draw.

#### **Your School Lottery**

The Friends of Myddelton have contributed many hours and items to fundraise, support and raise the profile of the College in the local community and beyond. Funds are raised by a wide variety of events including the partnership with 'Your School Lottery'. We would like to encourage as many as possible to participate in the lottery, so please take a moment to read through the accompanying attachment that details how you can get involved – including chances to win up to £25,000 and regular prizes like the Nintendo Switch Mega Bundle.





# Win a Nintendo Switch MEGA BUNDLE

WITH Nintendo Switch Console Neon
Mario Kart Home Circuit DOUBLE PACK (Mario + Luigi)

2 Games: Lego Marvel Heroes 2 and Minecraft
Nintendo Switch case and accessory pack
Mario and Luigi hats



- Help raise essential school funds
- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Win up to £25,000
- Cash prize every week

To start supporting your school, go to:

# YourSchoolLottery.co.uk

and search for: Friends of Myddelton College

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. Offer ends 19th December 2020. T&Cs apply, see website for details.