



Marple Hall School

December 2023.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support yet again this term. It has been a great first term in school!

Our first two "Focus Fortnights" on Honesty and Respect were a success and it was fantastic to give out so many congratulations postcards to students, recognizing how important these values are to our school community.

Our Year 7 students have settled in quickly and are already a big asset to their school. Staff have commented on their Readiness and Spark in particular.

To raise money for charity this Christmas, we are holding our annual Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Students may donate £1 in order to wear a Christmas jumper over their uniform or wear one small Christmassy item. This is an optional event. The proceeds will be split between charity and reducing the cost for families of our Year 11 school prom tickets. Students not participating must wear full school uniform.

As you will know, attendance to school nationally has declined since covid. Along with all schools, we are trying very hard to encourage students to attend school every day. Our overall attendance rates are much higher than the national average, but they are below pre-covid levels. **The two best ways of guaranteeing individual success at school are for young people to come in and for them to read.** Please encourage your child to come in whenever possible.

To support high attendance, we have launched a competition called 'Have Christmas on us'. Thanks to some generous local businesses, we have some fantastic prizes to hand out to families chosen at random on Thursday 21st December. **To be entered into the draw students need to attend school every day between Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December inclusive.**

We will close for the Christmas break on Friday 22nd December at 12.20pm. Buses will be running as normal and will leave at 12.30pm. Students eligible for free school meals will be able to collect pre-ordered sandwiches from Bradshaw canteen at break time on the last day. Orders should be placed at either canteen by Wednesday 21st December.

School will reopen for the new term on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 8.30am. As students replace items of school uniform over the break, we would ask you to check school uniform guidelines on our website before making any purchases. Students must ensure they have formal black leather or leather look shoes to wear in school. We also recommend students wear a warm, waterproof coat to school.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kind regards,  
Claire.

Claire Gregory. **Our Community — Our Future**  
Deputy Headteacher.

**A place of excellence where learners are proud of their school and confident of success**

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