



# Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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## Newsletter - November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

This newsletter gives you a brief update on a few matters.

### Just Talk Week

A reminder that this week is Just Talk Week and we are running a number of activities in school to support the wellbeing of our pupils. These are particularly challenging times for many of us and it is more important than ever that we support one another and find ways to talk. Please follow this link if you want to find out more information: [Just Talk Week 2020](#). One thing that all parents/carers can do at home is to check with your child whether they feel that they have at least one member of staff at school they feel they could talk to if they have a problem. It is really important to us that all our pupils feel comfortable about letting us know when things are not going well for them. If your child cannot name a member of staff for this then please do email their Form Tutor or Head of Year and we can try to ensure that we put this in place. We know that not all children will want or need to speak to staff, but it is very important that they feel they could if the need arose.

### Covid-19 Precautionary Measures

As you know, we are working as hard as we can to keep everyone as safe as possible at school. Last week we had a visit from a representative of the NHS Infection Control Deep Cleaning Advisory Team who looked at the precautionary measures we have put in place. I am very pleased to share with you the main finding of the report:

***I cannot find fault in this school. Ms Jones has done an excellent job in every aspect of preparing the school and ensuring it is Covid-19 ready. Everything has been executed to a high standard and well considered throughout the school, in every aspect of protocols and procedures.***

A huge thank you to our Facilities Manager, Ms Jones, and the whole site team who continue to work extremely hard to maintain and implement the measures we have put in place. I know that some pupils and parents continue to have anxieties about coming into school in the current

***"This is an OUTSTANDING school" - Ofsted 2016***



circumstances and I hope that this will give you reassurance that school is a safe place to be. Our overall attendance figure is almost 95%, which is excellent and thank you to you all for keeping this up. All evidence shows that attendance is vital to pupil success at school, both academically and socially.

### **Pick-up After School**

Whilst after school clubs are temporarily suspended we are seeing quite a lot of congestion on Woods Avenue at the end of the day since most of the school leaves at around the same time. Please avoid driving into the drop-off zone to collect your child. Staff are frequently being blocked in by parents parking across the exit from the car park, which is both inconsiderate and potentially dangerous.

### **Charity Donations**

Thank you so much for the donations we have received for our Reverse Advent Calendar. The boxes in Form Rooms are filling up fast and it looks like we will make an even bigger donation to the Hatfield Food Bank this year. The deadline is Tuesday 1st December. It says a lot about our school community that the value of kindness shines through and we are willing to help others during such a difficult time.

Finally, a plea from me. I would like to decorate our marquee with some festive cheer. If you have any spare seasonal decorations that you are able to donate then please send them in with your child. I will share the outcome on social media once we have them all up!

Thank you, as ever, for the support you are giving to the school and to your child(ren). I continue to be so impressed with the positive approach of pupils, staff and parents. A reminder that school will be closed on Monday 30th November for our Occasional Day when hopefully we can enjoy a long weekend even under the current restrictions.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Wood  
Headteacher