

Wednesday, 02 December 2020

Dear Parents,

It has been a busy second half of the term, particularly for our Year 11 students who have been sitting their all-important mocks exams and our Year 13 who have been making applications to university. Whilst we have had higher staff absence than usual as a result of colleagues being required to self-isolate, we are pleased that the school has been able to remain fully open so far and we are very grateful to our students for maintaining our expectations and routines to keep the site as 'COVID Secure' as possible.

**During the school holiday, the site will be closed and we will not be able to access our telephone mailbox. It is essential, therefore, that you report any positive cases of COVID 19 via our mailbox [office@haverstock.camden.sch.uk](mailto:office@haverstock.camden.sch.uk) during holiday so that we can inform others to self-isolate if necessary.**

### **Haverstock Community Christmas Plan**

After a very difficult 2020, our school community is working to do a little more to support others this Christmas. Haverstock students have a 40-year history of preparing hampers at Christmas for local elderly residents and we are continuing this tradition this year. We would very much appreciate donations of one or two items from the list at the bottom of this letter. Students can drop them off at the Office between now and Wednesday 16th December.

In addition, our students will be writing Christmas cards to local care home and hospice residents and letters of gratitude to local health and care workers. We are also launching an appeal to support some of our own Haverstock families with hampers. At the time of writing, the appeal has raised £1,145 and you can donate if you wish at this [link](#).

### **Free Laptops**

The school is very fortunate to have been awarded funding via the Community Investment Levy to secure a limited number of 'Chromebook' laptops. The laptops are sleek and durable and enable students to complete all of their homework at home and access our remote learning offer if they are required to self-isolate.

Parents will be expected to pay a refundable deposit of £30.00. The laptop will remain the property of the school, but students will be able to keep the laptop as long as they are a student at Haverstock School.

Laptops are available on a first come, first serve basis. To order, please:

- Pay £30 through the School Shop link on our website making sure to unclude your child's name and tutor group (you can use any bank card and don't need a Parent Pay account to make this payment). This will be the record of parental consent to issue a Chromebook to your child.

You can do this here:

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=942>

**24 Haverstock Hill, Chalk Farm, London, NW3 2BQ**

*Tel:* 020 7267 0975

*email:* [office@haverstock.camden.sch.uk](mailto:office@haverstock.camden.sch.uk)

**Headteacher: James Hadley**

**Senior Deputy Head: Mark Mayne**

**Deputy Head: Sarah Hide**



- Your child will sign an Acceptable usage policy with the Chromebook when they receive it at a date to be confirmed by the school.
- The school will contact you by text before your child has been issued with a laptop so that you can monitor their use of it. If you wish to pick up the Chromebook in person separate arrangements will need to be made.

Some Frequently Asked Questions in relation to the school laptop scheme are at the bottom of this letter.

### Diary Dates

Finally, a reminder that this Friday 4 December 2020 is an INSET day. The school will be closed to all students. As with the start of this half-term, the first hour of the new half-term will be used for staff training. The revised start times are:

Year group	Start time for Monday 4 January 2020	Regular start time for the rest of term
Year 7	09:30	08:30
Year 8	09:30	08:30
Year 9	09:45	08:45
Year 10	09:45	08:45
Year 11	10:00	09:00
Year 12	10:00	09:00
Year 13	10:00	09:00

I wish you all the best for the upcoming holiday season. We will look forward to working with you in 2021 - a year which we will hopefully be able to look back on more fondly.

Yours sincerely



**James Hadley**  
Headteacher

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### **Community Christmas Hampers - donation list**

If you can spare any of these items, your child can deposit them at the Office between now and Wednesday 16 December 2020.

- A pack of Biscuits
- Bottle of Orange Squash
- Box of Tea Bags
- Box of Trifle
- Cans of Baked Beans
- Cans of Carrots
- Cans of Corned Beef
- Cans of Creamed Rice
- Cans of Fruit
- Cans of Peas
- Cans of Spam
- Cans of Sweetcorn
- Cans of Tomato Soup
- Cans of Tuna
- Cans of Vegetable Soup
- Carton of Custard
- Cheese (get nearer end of term)
- Chocolates
- Cream Crackers
- Crisps
- Jelly
- Mince Pies
- Small bag of Sugar
- Small Christmas Puddings
- Small jar of Coffee

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## **Laptops Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: You are asking me to make a contribution of £30.00 as a refundable deposit. When will I get the money back?**

**A:** The deposit you pay will be refunded when your child leaves Haverstock and returns the Chromebook via Student Services.

**Q: Will the Chromebook be set up with internet filtering as I am concerned about my child's access to inappropriate websites?**

**A:** The Chromebooks have been sourced through the London Grid for Learning (LGfL). This organisation provides the internet filtering safeguarding used in Haverstock School. It is really important for the school to extend these internet filtering protections to learners at home. We have achieved this through installing HomeProtect onto the Chromebooks when setting up the machines. All of the Chromebooks issued out to students will have Homeprotect installed.

**Q: Why is HomeProtect better than the family settings on a home router?**

**A:** HomeProtect is much safer than the family settings on a home internet connection, which are typically limited to pornography, illegal sites, or perhaps an alcohol block stops you seeing the menu for your pub lunch. These systems cannot effectively protect children and young people from harm. HomeProtect, however, is based on enterprise-grade, school-safe Netsweeper technology which LGfL have used to carefully curate allow and block lists from over 100 categories to meet the needs of a home learner, allowing the necessary technologies but blocking obvious harms.

**Q: Does it filter Wi-Fi and mobile networks?**

**A:** The system filters the internet regardless of your connection, because it is integral to the device. So whether Wi-Fi, mobile, home, shopping centre or school, our students will be filtered. That's what makes it safe – using a different Wi-Fi or a mobile hotspot won't bypass any protections; nor will VPN or DNS-changing apps.

**Q: Can you be more specific about what is blocked?**

**A:** There are over 100 categories but the kinds of things LGfL have blocked include themes otherwise accessible on a standard home connection: adult content which is not pornography (nudity, erotica, sexual drawings), plus swimwear, adware, malware and sites used to hide other sites, alcohol, drugs and smoking sites and promotion, bullying, body modification, self-harm and promotion of poor body image, criminal skills, hacking, drugs and weapons, terrorism and other extreme sites, rude, tasteless and hateful speech, gambling, dating and more.

**Q: Will students notice anything different on their devices?**

**A:** The first time a user accesses the internet when filtered by HomeProtect they will be presented with an information screen to inform them of this. Thereafter, they will only see a difference if they try to access a blocked site, when an LGfL HomeProtect block page will be shown. Otherwise, they will not notice any difference and will not need to do anything differently.

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