



Dear all,

I hope everything is continuing to go well for all our students.

This week's weather has been exceptionally wet. We took the decision not to run our planned fire evacuation on Wednesday morning and will be rescheduling this to take place during the week commencing **Monday, 5 December 2022**. I will remind students about this nearer the time.

In the meantime, can I ask that students take extra care on the footpaths surrounding the campus and in corridors inside our buildings, as these can sometimes be slippery.

Here are this week's messages:

College closure – Friday, 25 November 2022

As previously mentioned, the College will not be open to students on **Friday, 25 November**. This will be a lieu day for staff following the recent Open Event which took place on Saturday, 1 October.

Normal timetabled lessons on Thursday, 1 December 2022

Our website and calendar states that there will be a 9.45 am start on the above date. Apologies, but this is incorrect. The College day will be operating as normal on this date.

Adverse weather

As we are now about to enter the Winter months, can I remind all students to look out for social media announcements and to regularly check their emails and Teams messages regarding adverse weather conditions. Should poor weather mean we have to organise a later start to the day or cancel the day's lessons entirely, we will communicate this message to students and staff by **7.00 am** approximately on the day in question.

Please note that no message means the College will be open as normal.

Autumn Concert

Our Autumn Concert will be taking place on **Monday, 28 November** at **7.30 pm** in Holy Trinity Church. Tickets will be available on the door (£5.00, £3.00 concessions). This promises to be a memorable evening which showcases the exceptional musical talents of our students.

Students and parents may also like to be aware that our Carol Service will be taking place on **Monday, 12 December**. This will also be at **7.30 pm** in Holy Trinity Church. Tickets are free but will need to be collected from our Music office in advance.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Chemistry department win prestigious prize



I am thrilled to report our Chemistry department has been named the winner of the Royal Society of Chemistry's Team Prize for 'Excellence in Secondary and Further Education'. The team of teaching staff and technicians use their skill, expertise and passion to bring Chemistry to life for almost 1000 students, supporting them to make the most of their Chemistry education.

Additional support comes in many forms, such as peer mentoring; 11 staffed support sessions a week; a dedicated classroom where students can work quietly in their free time; student study groups; and video tutorials covering the entire course. Enhancement activities include the Cambridge Chemistry challenge; RSC schools' analyst competition; RSC Chemistry Olympiad; Cambridge HE+ scheme; interactions with alumni; outreach trips to the University of Huddersfield; and a residential to the Chemistry department at Oxford.

The team has developed an interesting and varied scheme of work that is enriched by work outside the classroom. For example, students are given opportunities to work with Year 6 children at local primary schools. If students are considering a future in chemistry or research, there is also the opportunity to work alongside researchers at the University of Huddersfield to conduct a project as part of our 'Real World Chemistry' enrichment, the results of which are presented in College and at the University.

The department's commitment to enhancing and enriching the learning of a large and diverse group of students, by offering a high quality and broad Chemistry education and effective outreach activities, makes them a very worth winner of this prestigious prize. Well done to the whole team!

Best wishes,
Simon