



Weekly message for Greenhead College students and parents/carers

Friday, 22 December 2023



Dear all,

Congratulations on getting through a long and busy first term. We wish all our students a peaceful and restful Christmas and New Year.

Please note, the College is closed for the period 23 December – 7 January. All our resources around well-being and the support available in your local area can be found on Moodle in the well-being section.

Enjoy a well-earned rest over the holidays and we look forward to seeing you on **Monday, 8 January 2024**.

Here are some further messages:

Academic Skills Weekly Top Tip

Our top tip this week is to have a balanced holiday.

Use some of your holiday to focus on your well-being; take time to rest, rejuvenate and smile. Connect with friends and family and enjoy a break from your College routine. This will help you to de-stress and avoid burnout.

Also, take time to reflect, revise and plan for the spring term. It is important to get the balance right, so you return refreshed and productive.

Try our holiday bingo on *page 2*. Aim to get a full house with some work, rest and play...



Holiday bingo



 <p>Pop on a woolly hat and go for a winter walk</p>	<p>Spend time organising your folders and resources</p>	<p>Watch a Christmas movie with your favourite chocolate</p>	<p>Do some blurting for a challenging topic</p>
<p>Go shopping with a friend</p>	 <p>Reflect on what went well this term</p>	<p>Do a puzzle</p>	<p>Make a revision plan for the new term</p>
 <p>Play a game</p>	<p>Watch a film related to your studies</p>	<p>Go to bed early</p>	 <p>Organise your room and study space</p>
<p>Send a message to an old friend to reconnect</p>	<p>Listen to a podcast related to your studies</p>	 <p>Make a hot chocolate with marshmallows</p>	<p>Go out for a day trip linked to your studies such as a museum or art gallery</p>

Neurodiversity resources

While many neurodiverse young adults enjoy Christmas, it can be a difficult time with extra social occasions and expectations, lights, decorations, smells, noisy homes, busy shops and a lack of structure and routine.

You may find some or all of these things wonderful or you may be feeling totally overwhelmed at the thought of it all.

The links *below* have some ideas for preparing for and enjoying Christmas in a way that you are comfortable with:

<https://autismunderstood.co.uk/social-stuff/surviving-the-festive-season/>

<https://autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/topics/leisure/christmas/tips>

<https://www.lifecoach-directory.org.uk/memberarticles/12-days-of-christmas-adhd-guide>

<https://www.lifecoach-directory.org.uk/memberarticles/12-days-of-christmas-adhd-guide>

<https://i-am-autism.org.uk/autism-surviving-christmas/>

Greenhead Volunteering Scheme

Many of our students carry out regular volunteering in the community and are making a real difference to so many people, but this often goes unrecognised. This week we received some great feedback about eight of our current students who have been volunteering at Beechwood Nursing Home. We wanted to share this with you, as this highlights what an impact our students make:

“What a truly amazing group of young people. Their willingness to work with our residents with considerable nursing needs has been truly inspirational. They are our heroes, so willing to give up their time to support us. I am in wonderment of these young people who show such empathy and understanding of the task at hand. I will never forget them and their generosity of heart, the gift of time given to us by the wonderful students at Greenhead College is truly lodged in our hearts forever.”

Many congratulations to all our volunteers!

We hope to encourage more students to volunteer next term and will be holding a Volunteering Fair in College on **Tuesday, 16 January** at lunchtime in the Hirst Building to promote new opportunities available in Kirklees and Calderdale. Further details will be sent to students at the start of next term.

Latest sporting fixtures

Here is our latest enrichment scorecard. Congratulations to all students involved:

GC Team	Score	Opposition	Score
Women's Football First Team	5	Runshaw College First Team	4
Netball Third Team	38	Thomas Rotherham College First Team	14
Men's Football First Team	3	Thomas Rotherham College First team	1

Key dates next term

Finally, here are some key dates for the term ahead:

All students

- All students return to College – **Monday, 8 January 2024**
- Six-period day (all lessons taking place as normal) – **Monday 5 February**
- Half-term – **Monday, 12 February to Friday, 16 February**
- All students return to College – **Monday 19 February**
- College closed to all students – **Monday, 4 March**
- M+P week 2 – **Tuesday, 5 March to Friday, 8 March**
- Six-period day (all lessons taking place as normal) – **Thursday, 21 March**
- Easter holiday – **Monday, 25 March to Friday, 5 April**
- All students return to College – **Monday, 8 April**

A1 students

- A1 subject monitoring (surnames A-K to attend College) – **Thursday, 18 January**
- A1 subject monitoring (surnames L-Z to attend College) – **Tuesday, 23 January**
- A1 parents' evening – **Tuesday, 30 January**
- A1 parents' evening – **Thursday 8 February**
- A1 assemblies – **Tuesday, 19 March to Friday, 22 March**
- Work set for students due to A2 subject monitoring – **Friday, 15 March**
- Work set for students due to A2 subject monitoring – **Monday, 18 March**

A2 students

- EPQ poster showcase – **Tuesday, 16 January 4.30-5.30pm**
- Work set for students due to A1 subject monitoring – **Thursday, 18 January**
- Work set for students due to A1 subject monitoring – **Tuesday, 23 January**
- A2 assemblies – **w/c Monday, 29 January**
- A2 mock exam week – **w/c Monday, 26 February**
- A2 subject monitoring (surnames A-K to attend College) – **Friday, 15 March**
- A2 subject monitoring (surnames L-Z to attend College) – **Monday, 18 March**

Finally, can I wish all students and their families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy new year.

Best wishes to you all,

Simon Lett,
Principal

