

December 2022 Edition

Welcome to this month's edition of **Beverley Highlife**. I hope that you will enjoy reading about what has been happening this month at Beverley High School.

Sharon Japp, Headteacher

## Beautiful Ballet



Congratulations to Year 7 student Esmée Twidale for appearing in Northern Ballet's stunning production of *The Nutcracker* at Hull New Theatre earlier this month.

Esmée auditioned back in April for the Northern Ballet Company and was successful in securing the part of a party child in *The Nutcracker*. She trained every week following her audition and, for the three weeks prior to the show, attended an additional four classes per week in order to fully prepare for her role.

Esmée danced in three performances and impressed everyone by the level of skill and professionalism she demonstrated. She certainly deserved that bouquet!

Esmée is in her third year of training with Northern Ballet and attends a weekly class in Leeds, along with her regular classes at RSDance in Brough.

Well done Esmée, your school is very proud of you. Thank you to your mum for sharing your achievement.





## Gracie is British Champion!

Last weekend, Year 11 student Gracie Wilson became u21s Junior-78kg British Champion. She had a tough run and in it she beat fighters seeded number 3, 2 and 1. Gracie is now an active part of Team GBR Juniors and Seniors training alongside our full time Olympic team fighters. Well done Gracie, Beverley Highlife has followed your career for a number of years, this is an amazing achievement. Your school is very proud of you. Thank you to dad for the regular updates and photos.



## Karate Kid!

Congratulations to Year 9 student Eva-Rose Fogarty for her wonderful achievement this month in being awarded her purple belt, 4th kyu in Shindo-Kai karate. She has been practising karate for 5 years with Driffeld Karate Academy. She trains two to three times per week and has worked very hard to achieve this level.

Eva-Rose has also competed in national and international competitions and was last year's Yorkshire kumite champion in her age category. She is now working towards her brown belt.

Well done Eva-Rose your school is very proud of you. Thank you to your mum for sharing your success.



## Minster Christmas Tree



Beverley High School was represented at the Beverley Minster Christmas Tree festival this month. This year saw an outstanding effort from the Year 7 students who attended the lunchtime Christmas Club making 100 decorations for the tree! A special thank you goes to sixth formers Ruby Johnson and Bella Johnson who decorated the tree. Thank you to Miss Clark for hosting the club and organising our entry; to the Year 7 club members; and to everyone who went to the Minster and voted for our tree!



## Special Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On

The school Christmas tree light switch-on this year was, as predicted, a moving occasion following the sad death recently of its donor, former Beverley High School Site Manager, Peter Myers. Peter's widow and granddaughter attended after school on 30 November and added a photo bauble of Peter to the tree. Thank you to current Site Manager, Mr Overton and Wellbeing Manager, Mrs Mayfield for also being in attendance. The colourful twinkling lights welcome students to school on these dark winter mornings and add brightness as the light fades at the end of each school day.

## Singing Assemblies

The school hall was the venue for five back-to-back singing assemblies last week. Students from each year group were given an introduction to the school's Carol Service and taken through each of the Christmas Carols that they sing in Beverley Minster by Head of Music, Miss Ward. Given that, for a number of years during the COVID pandemic, students weren't allowed to sing in school, they sang beautifully and learned about posture and breathing when singing in public. We were really proud of them, one or two staff even shed a tear of emotion because of the beautiful sound they made.



## Christmas Activities

The Christmas activities for Year 10 and 11 gave an opportunity to gather together for a bit of fun. The whole year group sat in anticipation as the mysterious presents were placed in the middle of their form for a giant game of prize bingo. Not everyone was a winner and some that did win a prize, opened it to find surprising items! The room was filled with laughter, making it a great way to celebrate the end of term together.



## School Christmas Day!

Last Friday saw a festive non-uniform day and Christmas lunch for the whole school and a collection for the local Foodbank. It was a truly festive Friday! Rather than requesting a financial donation we asked that your child brought in something to donate to The Trussell Trust, our local foodbank. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community. This was, by far, our largest collection of food, festive treats and hygiene products. Our local foodbanks have already expressed their gratitude. Thank you.





## Drama Trip to Hull Truck

Last week a group of Year 10 and 11 students attended a performance of the Dickens' classic 'A Christmas Carol' at Hull Truck Theatre. As part of the GCSE Drama course, students learn to discuss and evaluate the success of live theatre performances and this trip allowed the Year 11 GCSE Drama students to put these skills to the test. The performance was also a great opportunity for those studying the play in English Literature, as it allowed them to see the text brought to life on stage.

It was a truly stunning performance, which could make you laugh and cry in equal measure. The cast was fantastic and the staging and production captured the story perfectly.

The students involved were a credit to the school and displayed mature attitudes throughout the evening. What a brilliant way to get into the Christmas spirit!

Thank you to Miss Bevan for organising and to the staff who accompanied for enabling it to happen.





## Year 7 Artwork for the Carol Service

The whole of Year 7 has been working on a series of large paintings that will hang in the Minster during the Christmas Carol Service. This has been a massive undertaking for the students and they look fantastic and appropriately festive.

On Friday 2 December a group of very talented Year 7 artists added the finishing touches to the work. They had some lovely things to say about their experience:

"It was a lovely atmosphere and I had a great time" Darcy 7MB

"I would love to do this again because I am doing something I love for a whole day. I also loved it because I had a great time doing it with my friends" Lydia 7HL

"I got to make some friends and I got to do Art and it's my favourite thing" Olivia 7MP

"I found that working together is key and that I really enjoyed it and I would do this again" Evie 7HL

"Working together and having fun doing all the detailed pieces. I would love to do it again" Clara 7HL

Many thanks to Miss Holwell who planned the project and had the crucial job of assembling the work and getting it ready for public display. Photographs of the work on display on the Minster will be in the next edition of Beverley Highlife.



## Debate Club's Christmas Competition

After voting to debate on a topical issue (see below), debaters gathered in the final week of term to compete for festive treats and individual prizes. Our judging panel once again had a difficult decision to make. They congratulated students on the progress they've made in one of the most difficult skills in debating: rebutting their opponents' arguments on the spot! They were also impressed with the confidence our more seasoned debaters are displaying.

Debate Club has now been running for over one year, and it was a pleasure to see our older debaters mentoring new recruits from Year 7, developing their leadership skills in the process. We look forward to developing our confidence in formal debating styles and continuing to welcome new members from all year groups.

Motion: This House believes that all MPs should be made to appear on reality television during their career.

Winners: Proposition team

Lara Gray (Y11), Clara Snelling (Y9), Darcy Bishop and Emily Gregory (Y7)

Best individual speaker Proposition team: Lara Gray

Best individual speaker Opposition team: Kitty Atkinson (Y8)

Best newcomer (Year 7): Darcy Bishop

### Year 7 Know it's Christmas-time!

For the third year running, Year 7 forms have enjoyed writing and decorating Christmas cards for residents of Lindum House Care Home in Beverley. As you can see, pupils have had great fun putting their individual stamp on the robin design (originally created by one of our former Year 13 students). They've also put a lot of effort into describing their hobbies and interests, ambitions for the future, and what they're most looking forward to this Christmas. These heart-warming cards are always greatly appreciated by the residents and staff at Lindum House, and help pupils develop their empathy skills and generosity at this time of year.



Year 7 also had a ball at their Christmas celebration in the penultimate week of term. Following Christmas lunch and with everyone dressed in festive non-uniform, the year group gathered to enjoy a host of activities in the canteen - from lucky dip and bingo games, to the Twelve Days of Christmas sing and dance-along! Staff including the Head of Year team and Form Tutors were very pleased to reward Year 7 for all their hard work, at the end of a successful first term. We are proud of the progress they have made in settling into school and wish them all a very merry Christmas break.

### Years 8 and 9 Also Know it's Christmas-time!

As part of their Christmas celebrations, Years 8 and 9 took part in giant games of prize Bingo. This saw students bringing in presents that cost no more than £1, wrapped in disguise. All of the presents were placed in the centre of the form group, each time a students' number was called, they collected any of the presents, this continued until all presents were collected from the middle. From here, students could then 'steal' presents from anyone else in their tutor group. Every tutor group had that one, special present that each of them wanted, it was 'stolen' multiple times over the course of the game!

Once someone shouted BINGO, with a full house, the game ended and whichever presents lay in front of a student, were theirs to open and keep. We had lovely boxes of chocolates and handmade gifts, we also had Terry's Chocolate Onions, Smarties Tubes full of pasta, tins of hotdogs and bags of potatoes!

Both students and tutors had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was a lovely way to celebrate the end of term and Christmas. Thank you to all the Year Leaders for organising such fun activities for their year groups.

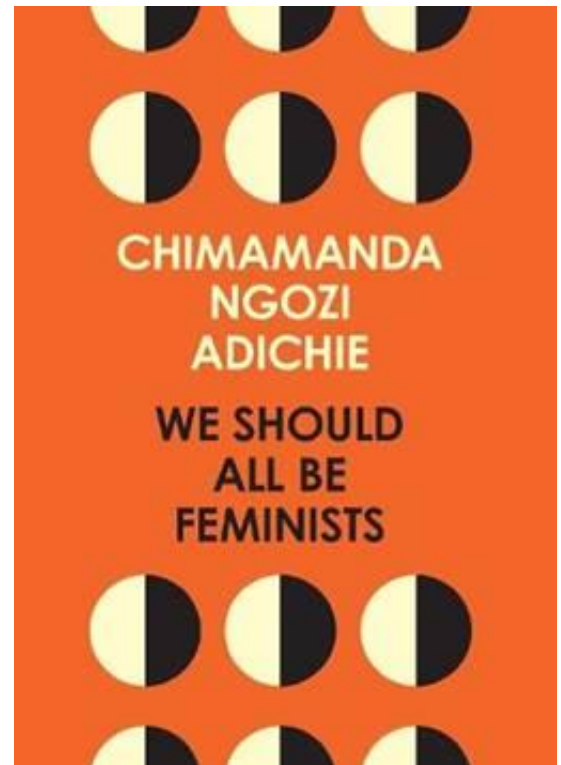
**Tutor Reading Book of the Month:** *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Students in Year 11 have the opportunity to read *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie as part of the tutor reading programme. Taken from her globally influential TED talk, this is Ngozi Adichie's feminist manifesto. A powerful, personal essay of hope and ambition for a better, fairer world. This is a personal and powerful essay from Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, the bestselling author of *Americanah* and *Half of a Yellow Sun*.

*'I would like to ask that we begin to dream about and plan for a different world. A fairer world. A world of happier men and happier women who are truer to themselves. And this is how to start: we must raise our daughters differently. We must also raise our sons differently...'*

She asks, what does 'Feminism' mean today?

In this personal, eloquently argued essay - adapted from her much-admired TEDx talk of the same name - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie offers readers a unique definition of Feminism for the twenty-first century, one rooted in inclusion and awareness.



Drawing extensively on her own experiences and her deep understanding of the often masked realities of sexual politics, here is one remarkable author's exploration of what it means to be a woman now - an of-the-moment rallying cry for why we should all be feminists.

<https://www.waterstones.com/book/we-should-all-be-feminists/chimamanda-ngozi-adichie/9780008115272>

Find out more:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hg3umXU\\_qWc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hg3umXU_qWc)

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/chimamanda-ngozi-adichie>

**Class of '22 Presentation Evening**

Tuesday 13 December saw the return of the Year 11 Celebration Evening. After the events of recent years preventing mass gatherings it was wonderful to be able to invite last year's Year 11 back to Beverley High School to celebrate their achievements. More than 240 guests attended the evening. The Sports Hall had been turned into a conference theatre-style venue with a stage, soft lighting, flowers and complimentary chocolates. There was a buzz of excitement, everyone thrilled to see their peers and swap stories about life after Year 11. The PowerPoint of images from throughout the previous five years was projected above the stage and sparked memories and laughter. Understandably, people were also curious as to why there had been so many requests for everyone to turn off their mobile phones.



The event began with the customary welcome from Ms Japp. After which she introduced the guest speaker, Julie. The reason for the phone ban becoming quickly apparent once she had introduced herself as the Head of GCHQ, Scarborough; a diplomat and strategic lead working for the country around the world. The talk was a fascinating insight into how from humble beginnings and striving with the right mental and personal attitude that great things can be achieved. Particularly nice was the constant reinforcement that looking after your own mental wellbeing, resilience and moral outlook are as significant in success as academic achievement. The message being that success is a very personal thing and this might look different for everyone. The talk also highlighted elements of social justice and recognition of the importance of women as leaders and role models. In all, a fantastic speaker and we were very grateful to Julie for accepting the invitation that Ms Brownell had extended.

The spotlight then turned to the students and their incredible achievements. Awards, certificates and cups were presented by Julie, Mr Hardy-Cork and Mr Colton. All students present came up to the stage to collect their GCSE certificates. Head of Year, Mrs Clark was a magnificent presenter with her stories of the year group and she kept the whole event flowing. After much cheering and clapping there were speeches by the Head and Deputy Head Girl and finally closing words from Ms Japp.

It would be quite some time before the hall was empty. Students had photos taken under the balloon arch or in front of the stage. People exchanged stories and caught up with missed friends. Meanwhile, site staff cleared away and Mrs Habbershaw, without whom this event would never have been so successful, finally managed to sit down after weeks of organising in the background. In all, it was an absolute delight to share in the achievements of a phenomenal set of students, who are becoming impressive young adults. We, at Beverley High School, are very proud of them all.



## Year 13 Ukraine Lecture



On Friday 9 December, Year 13 Historians visited Hull University to listen to a lecture delivered by Dr Jenny Macleod. The lecture entitled 'War in Ukraine. How can History help us understand?' gave students a fascinating insight into Ukraine's complicated History and developed their understanding of the conflict today. Students and staff appreciated the opportunity to listen to such a fantastic lecture. Thank you to Dr Macleod and to Miss Brownell for organising the visit.

## Kindness in our Community

Well done to Miss Stamp's International Committee who raised over £41 from their recent bake sale for Save the Children. Well done!



## Year 7 Textiles

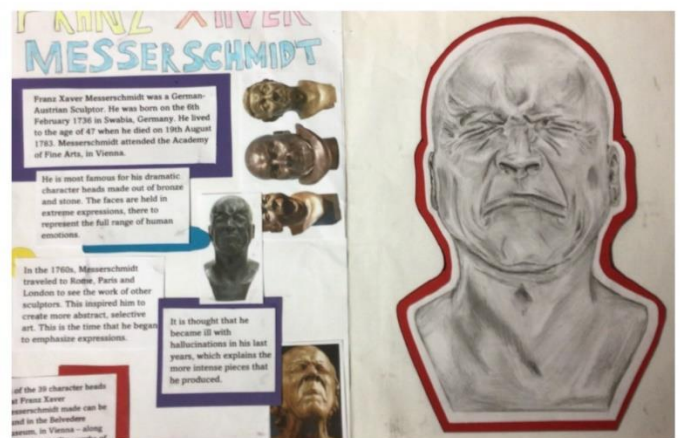
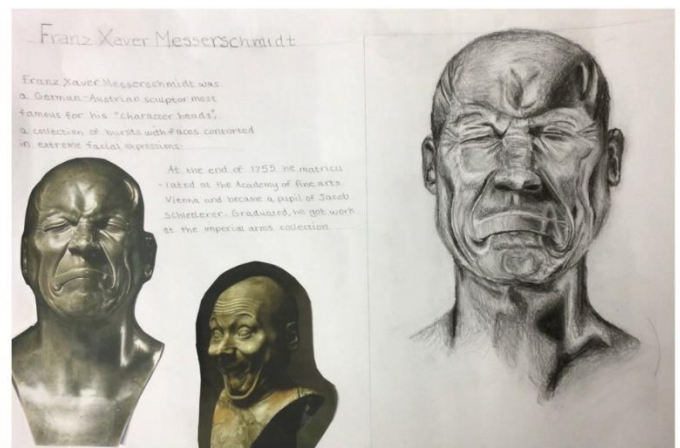
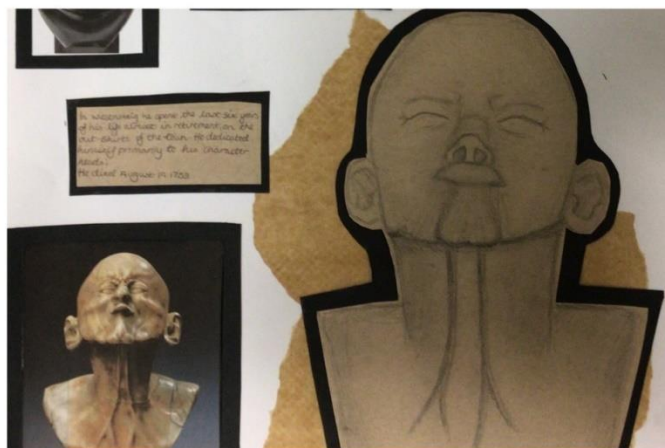
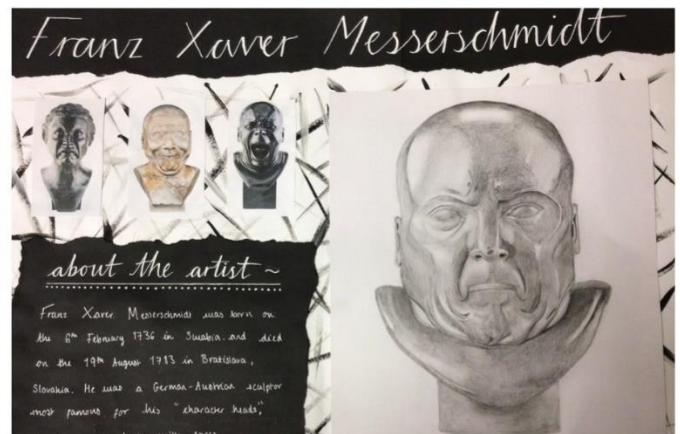
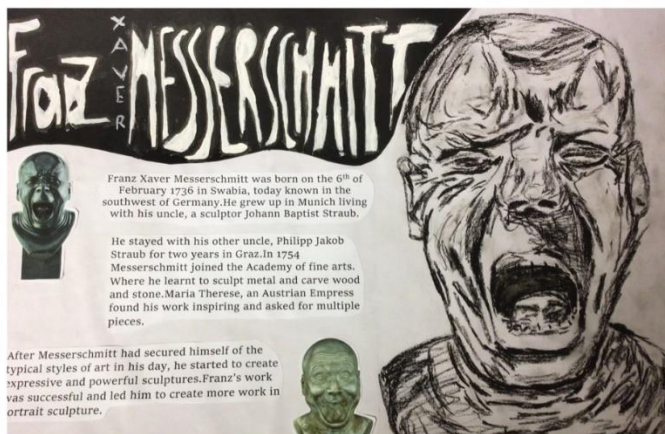
Year 7 Textiles students have worked really hard to complete their practical work in time for the Christmas break. They have incorporated new techniques and spent time mastering the sewing machines to make a holder based on the theme of fruit. An amazing start to their time in Technology. Well done.



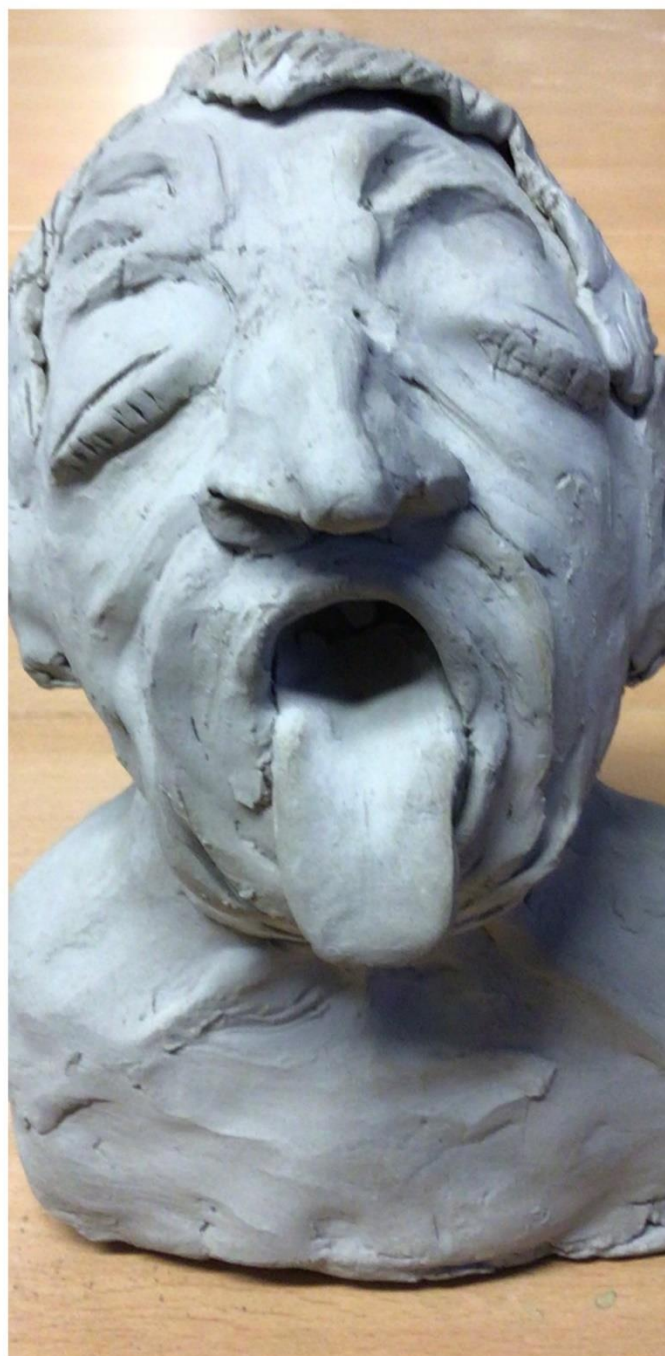


## Stunning Sculptures

Year 9 have been studying the work of Franz Xavier Messerschmidt, in particular his Character Heads, which link into our clay project. Here are some beautifully drawn studies of his work and some sculptural interpretations too, from sculpting clay to carving apples!



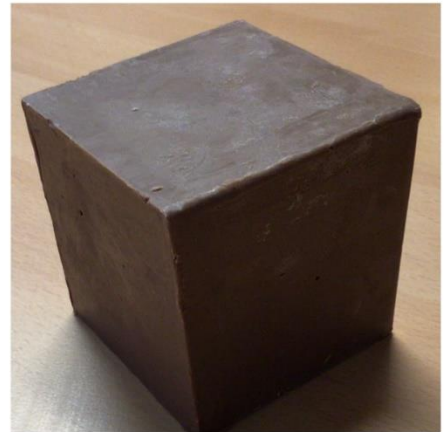






## Creative Cubes

Some Year 7 Art classes have produced amazing and creative cubes this year. From sugar cubes, to toast, chocolate and needle felt. One student has used epoxy resin and another's has a bulb inside to light up. There are also some amazing skills on display too, dove-tail joints on a wooden cube and complex stitches on a knitted cube. Well done 7X1, 7X2 and 7Y1.



*Pic Stitch*





## Sports Report

### Sports Hall Athletics

The School Sports Partnership organised the Year 7 & 8 Sports Hall Athletics Competition for local schools in the area in early December, with the event being held at Longcroft School. The competition is a team event consisting of a variety of jumps, throws and running races.

It is always an exciting event, as we don't know the scores until the very end when they announce the results. Our students showed great enthusiasm and determination in all the events, it was lovely to see how supportive they were of each other, cheering on all the competitors – they really showed great team spirit!

We were pleased to hear at the end that both our Year 7 & Year 8 teams came first out of six schools competing! Well done to all involved.





## PE in Lessons

After Christmas we will be studying the following activities. We also welcome back Tristessa Moore who will be delivering yoga sessions for our Year 11 students, this was a great success last year and something that our students found really beneficial in the run up to GCSEs.

Year 7	Gymnastics and Short tennis.
Year 8	Fitness and Dance.
Year 9	Badminton, Football, Fitness and Basketball.
Year 10	Badminton, Table tennis and Basketball.
Year 11	Yoga, Basketball and Badminton.

## Extra-curricular PE Clubs

Thanks to all those students who have been coming along to clubs this term. The new extra-curricular clubs' timetable will start again the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> January. All students are welcome to join.

## Farewell

After over 22 years of loyal service to Beverley High School, Lunchtime Supervisor Mrs Nevis, retired last week. In true Mrs Nevis style she wanted no fuss, but was overwhelmed by the moving gestures made by students and staff on her last day. We will miss you Pam, but hope that you enjoy a very long and happy retirement.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy Christmas-time

We look forward to welcoming students back to school on

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

