



Principal's Message



Hello to all Parents, Carers and Families

I hope you have had a lovely week and I am sure you will join me in thinking 'where has the year gone' now we are officially in December. This week at Severndale we have seen a definite increase in individual positive Covid cases and unfortunately this has meant that more pupils have needed to go and get a PCR before returning to school. I know this is an inconvenience to parents but I do believe that this has definitely reduced the spread of the virus within the school as we respond to positive cases so quickly. Just to remind you that if there is a positive case in the class then all the class require a negative PCR before they can

return. We do have some exceptional cases where the negative PCR is not required but this really is in exceptional circumstances only. Currently we only ask a group to get a negative PCR once we know a pupil is positive through a PCR and we do not ask the group to isolate based on a positive LFT. I am aware that yesterday the country had their highest number of cases per day since July so the transmission is definitely on the increase and we will continue to maintain our precautions and restrictions as we have always done.

TORTOISE

Just a reminder that we are still looking for a home for Norman - our tortoise in Formal. If anyone is happy to look after Norman during the holidays then please could you contact Laurence.

ASC REQUEST

Kimberley Langford (P6 teacher) has alerted me to a request from Bristol University to link up with families of young people with ASC. The information is in the newsletter.

CHRISTMAS ENTERPRISE

Many classes are currently completing some Christmas Enterprise activities and the various promotional flyers for each of the activities are attached to this newsletter. The contact for purchasing the products are all in the newsletter.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

We now have just two weeks left until we finish for the Christmas break. The trees are now going up and the various class activities are beginning to happen including our usual Christmas meal, parties and of course the Christmas Jumper day. This year the Christmas Jumper Day is on Friday 10th and the link to the Save the Children website is here if you want additional information.

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/donate/single/donation-eventpay-00080>

I am also keen for staff and pupils to continue wearing the Christmas jumpers and outfits in the last week of term too if they would like.

Class teachers will be contacting you about the virtual Christmas meetings that are happening soon and finally just to confirm that Christmas Dinner day is Wednesday 15th December.

It really is beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Severndale!

As always can I wish you a happy and healthy weekend and we will look forward to seeing everyone back in on Monday.

Brian



Mary Webb Visit Futures

Severndale at Mary Webb students have visited our Futures site to explore the campus and have a taster of what life will be like at college. The looked at the different pathways that are on offer including cleaning, customer service, catering and horticulture. The students thoroughly enjoyed their visit and are feeling more confident about their transition next year.



Futures Start Christmas!

Students at Futures have started to prepare the products they are going to sell for Christmas and this week have been completing their festive villages. They have also been decorating their Christmas tree.



Hanukkah Celebrations

S1 have started to celebrate Hanukkah the Jewish festival of lights. The pupils enjoyed using their skills to cut out the candles and they also decorated a card each using glitter pens.



Sixth Form Visit Derwen College

Sixth Form students visited Derwen College this week to have a taster of the exciting opportunities available there. They had an interesting and busy day as they made Christmas cards on a laser cutter, created gift hampers and they also made beds at the local Premier Inn. They really enjoyed their time at Derwen.



Kooth Help and Support

What's on Kooth in December



December 3	December 10	December 10	December 15
Kooth Discussion Board	Kooth Podcast	Kooth Discussion Board	Kooth Live Forum
Not All Disabilities Are Visible: Come and celebrate International Day of the Disabled Person with us by sharing your thoughts, stories and experiences about these disabilities that aren't always so easy to see.	History of the Holidays: Join us as we chat about some of our festive facts and celebrate all the different holidays that fall at the end of the year!	Helping Hands - Kindness & Volunteering Join us to chat about all ways we can bring kindness and volunteering into our communities.	Looking After Your Wellbeing: Come share in all the ways we can look after ourselves and our wellbeing throughout winter. If you can't make this one join us earlier in the week on our discussion boards instead. 7.30pm to 9pm
December 20	December 24	December 29	December 31
Kooth Live Forum	Kooth Discussion Board	Kooth Live Forum	Kooth Discussion Board
Let's Talk About: LGBTQIA+ & Religion: Join our safe space to chat about experiences of religion within the LGBTQIA+ community. 7.30pm to 9pm	Give Yourself a Gift: With so much focus on spending and buying gifts for others at this time of year, let's share some ideas on something special we can do just for ourselves.	Let's Party: Join by our final live forum of the year for a fun, chatty space to celebrate our whole community. 7.30pm to 9pm	New Year, Not New You: Do New Year's Resolutions stress you out? Join our conversation about setting positive intentions for the year ahead that feel right for you.

kooth

Find all of this & much more on **Kooth.com**

kooth

Your free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community

Whether you are looking for advice or simply aren't feeling your best, Kooth offers a range of features and tools to support you.

Magazine

Helpful articles, personal experiences and tips from young people and our Kooth team.

Chat with the team

Chat to our helpful team about anything that's on your mind. Message us or have a live chat.

Discussion boards

Start or join a conversation with our friendly Kooth community. Lots of topics to choose from!

Daily journal and goal setting

Write in your own daily journal to track your feelings or emotions and reflect on how you're doing.

Mini activity hub

Select from a growing menu of fun, therapeutic and useful activities.



How to sign up

- 1 Head to **Kooth.com**
- 2 Click on the **'Join Kooth'** button on the homepage.
- 3 Choose your **area** and **location** from the drop down menu.
- 4 Select the **year** and **month** you were born.
- 5 Click on the **gender, ethnicity** and **background** that most closely describes you.
- 6 Create an **anonymous username** and secure **password**
- 7 Let us know how you found out about Kooth from the drop down menu.
- 8 Select **Next Step** to complete your registration!

Where to find us



kooth.com



@Kooth_UK



Kooth_UK & Kooth Podcast



Kooth-Podcast

Severndale
Specialist Academy



Tickwood This Week

F4 have been to Tickwood and they have been making forest faces using clay. They enjoyed foraging for all the different natural materials to use for their artwork which they found around them at Tickwood. Their creations were amazing and they used their imaginations to use different items for the hair, eyes, ears and mouths. Well done F4!



Interactive Room

P13 have been enjoying time in the interactive room where they have been using PECs to choose songs that they wanted to sing along to. They also enjoyed the light boxes and different sensory sensations that the room has to offer them.



S11 Christmas Enterprise

Following S11's article in last weeks Severndale Star they have now created a wonderful poster to promote selling their Christmas gifts. If you would like to purchase one then please contact class teacher Jemma Parton in S11 01743 563333.



Sibling Research Project

 **Research Project**

'The experiences of children and young people who have a sibling with severe and complex needs'

..

We are looking for children and young people who have a sibling to participate in an exciting new research project.

If you...

- are aged between 11-16 years old
- attend a mainstream educational setting
- live with a sibling who has severe and complex needs*
- have access to a laptop or computer

Then we would like to hear from you!

If you are interested or would like further information, please contact the researcher on the below details

Brittany.fisher@bristol.ac.uk

*Please note siblings with a diagnosis of autism spectrum condition will not be included within the research due to the large amount of research that has already been conducted in this area



We have been contacted by Brittany Fisher from the University of Bristol regarding a research project that they would like us to bring to your attention.

They are looking for children and young people who have a sibling with severe and complex needs to take part in the project.

If you would like to take part then please contact Brittany on her email:

Brittany.fisher@bristol.ac.uk

We wish Brittany good luck with her project and look forward to hearing about the findings.



6th Form Christmas Fayre

Fill out the form below if you would like to buy any of these lovely Christmas gift and decorations and send it back to your child's class

6th Form Christmas Fayre

Christmas tree - £1

Handmade Cards - 50p



Sock Snowman -£3

Snow Pegs - £1

Gingerbread Characters - £1

Please send exact money in a named sealed envelope detailing your name, your child's name and their class.

NAME:

ITEM/S: (Please state quantities)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

Please note orders will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Where we are not able to process your order we will return money in the same envelope.



A Sensory Santa Experience, Book Now!!



SENSORY FATHER CHRISTMAS

SUN 12 DEC

Outdoors
with a fire
to keep
warm!

12pm - 3pm

Particularly suitable for children and young people with complex and/or sensory needs. Individual booking slots available for people who may find it more challenging to wait.

All ages up to 18 welcome.

Sensory based gifts available and makaton signing elves

For booking and more information:

www.i-gnition.co.uk

hannah@i-gnition.co.uk



Severn Valley
Country Park

WV15 6NG



Severndale
Specialist Academy



Understanding Your Child Solihull Approach Courses

For more information go to www.inourplace.co.uk to find out more about these online courses.



Free School Meals Information

Over the Christmas break, supermarket vouchers to the value of £30 will be sent out to those entitled to benefits related Free School Meals. If you would like to apply for Free School Meals this can be done on the Shropshire Council website or alternatively please complete the attached application form and return to Rhiannon Jones by Friday 10th December.

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

An application can still be made even if your young person doesn't have school lunches during term time.

If you have any other questions, or need support in completing the application please contact Rhiannon via email at:

rhiannon.moreton@severndaleacademy.co.uk

What's happening this term!

Hanukkah 28 November to 6 December 2021
Friday 10 December 2021 Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 15 December 2021 Christmas Dinners
Last Day of term Friday 17 December 2021
Bank Holiday Monday 3 January 2021
First Day of term Tuesday 4 January 2022

Dates Coming up...

Our New Website

Take a look at our new website at:

www.severndaleacademy.co.uk

We are adding new information every week

