

# THE NELSON THOMLINSON SCHOOL



Founded 1714

Headmistress  
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December 2010

Dear Parents

Once again I would like to say a big 'thank you' for the support we received during the recent extreme weather conditions. The vast majority of our students were in school and I know that this was a combined effort between yourselves and the bus companies. Many of our staff endured some long and difficult journeys in order to keep the school functioning normally - we even managed to hold the Lower Sixth Parents Evening. Our site team worked hard in order to maintain safe pathways between the many different buildings and I am grateful to the secretaries who opened the telephone lines much earlier than usual. I hope the messages we placed on our website were helpful and we are looking to expand this to include information about the buses.

At the end of this term Mrs Fye and Miss Dixon will be taking maternity leave. Mrs Fye in Art will be replaced by Mrs Irvine and Miss Dixon's timetable will be covered by several of our part-time staff.

## Reports

As we close for Christmas, students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be issued with their 'short' report. These reports were due to be available electronically and I know some parents have signed up for this service, in response to the letter that Mr. Northwood sent out. Unfortunately, the update by Capita has now been moved to the 14<sup>th</sup> January at the earliest. Once the update has taken place further details and passwords will be issued.

## Attitude to Learning Grades

All students will receive a further set of Attitude to Learning grades on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. These grades will be included in the 'short' reports for students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and will be issued on a single sheet of paper for Year 11 and the Sixth Form. In all cases the half-term grades will also be included for comparison purposes.

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### **Christmas Carol Services**

There will be two services at St Mary's Church and you are most welcome to attend. (As in previous years visitors are requested to sit upstairs.) There will be readings and musical contributions, and carols for everyone to join in with. Each service is expected to start just after 2 pm and finish by 3.15pm.

The collection at each service will be for charities nominated by the Student Council. (These are Oxfam, Cancer UK and the Great North Air Ambulance.)

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Years 7 & 8

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Year 11 and Sixth Form

### **Christmas Holiday**

The last day of term is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

School re-opens for pupils on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

Let me finish by wishing you all a Happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely

*J Downes*

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