



# Chew Valley School

Learn      Grow      Achieve

Headteacher: Gareth Beynon BA (Hons), MA

Chew Magna, Bristol BS40 8QB

Tel: (01275) 332272

Email: [enquiries@chewvalleyschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@chewvalleyschool.co.uk)

Web: [www.chewvalleyschool.co.uk](http://www.chewvalleyschool.co.uk)

6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

A big well done goes to all of the students who were involved in both the Autumn Music Concert and the performances of Willy Wonka over the last few weeks. It was wonderful to listen to all of the bands playing along with the staff choir at the concert and for those in the audience to see the students taking part and the quality that we have on stage during the performances. It has also been super to see students from all years taking part in sporting fixtures and outdoor education in the form of night navigation exercises recently. As ever, a massive thank you to all of the staff who have given up their time to support everything going on.

Year 11 are coming to the end of their mock examination period. They have worked hard throughout and our invigilator team have been really impressed with how they have gone about tackling these. Year 13 students have their mocks after Christmas at the same time as Year 12 have internal examinations and we know they will be spending some time over the Christmas break in preparation for these. We do have our **Sixth Form RAG Week** coming up where Sixth Form students look to raise money for charity by carrying out a range of activities as well as a different theme for dressing up in the Sixth Form each day. Needless to say, we are looking forward to this.

As we are now well into December, Christmas is very much on our minds. In that respect I have attached along with this letter a document entitled 'It's Christmas at Chew Valley' which will give you a good feel of a packed calendar over the coming weeks.

The senior leadership team have recently been carrying out some work around reviewing our **parental engagement** and talking about what we do and how we can continue to work together in partnership so that the young people in our care can benefit to the greatest extent possible. We will be taking this item to our governing body so that they can reflect on this alongside ourselves. We have already sent out a questionnaire to Year 7 parents and carers around 'settling in' and another parental questionnaire will follow later in the year, in line with other Lighthouse Schools Partnership schools, in order to get some feedback. Certainly we are already reviewing which events we have online as opposed to those where parents and carers are invited in. I would say that there are often a full range of views from parents and carers and clearly we need to put things in place for everyone.

**A reminder that term will finish at 12.05pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December** (bus timings are adjusted accordingly) and that day will include the opportunity to wear a Christmas-style jumper and give a donation to UNICEF for children living in various parts of the world where conflict is currently happening. We **return to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025**.

This will be the final letter of this nature from myself for 2024 so can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support of the school and to wish you all a very happy Christmas when we get there, whatever you are up to.

Best wishes,

Gareth Beynon  
Headteacher



# It's Christmas at Chew Valley!

| DATE   | EVENT  | FOCUS                           |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup><br/>November</b>                                     | <b>Y11 mocks start</b>                       | <b>All Y11 students</b>         |
| <b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup><br/>November</b>                                    | <b>Autumn Concert 7pm</b>                    | <b>Whole community</b>          |
| <b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup><br/>November</b>                                     | <b>Friends Quiz</b>                          | <b>Tutor groups</b>             |
| <b>Week beginning<br/>Mon 2nd<br/>December to 19<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b> | <b>House Comp: Decorate your Tutor Base</b>  | <b>All tutor groups</b>         |
| <b>Week beginning<br/>Mon 2nd<br/>December to 18<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b> | <b>Collection for the Food Bank in Wells</b> | <b>Whole community</b>          |
| <b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>                                      | <b>Deal or No Deal House Competition</b>     | <b>Tutor groups</b>             |
| <b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>                                      | <b>Christmas tree decoration</b>             | <b>Prefects team</b>            |
| <b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>                                      | <b>Y10 Lloyds futures event – Me@23</b>      | <b>English team in lesson</b>   |
| <b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>                                      | <b>Sixth Form RAG week</b>                   | <b>All Sixth form and staff</b> |

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b> | <b>Chew's Got Talent</b>                                      | <b>Invited audience and performers p5</b>    |
| <b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b> | <b>Class of 2024 GCSE and Level 3 certificate evening 7pm</b> | <b>Alumni and parents</b>                    |
| <b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>   | <b>Year 7 Carol Concert at Chew Magna Church am</b>           | <b>All Year 7</b>                            |
| <b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>   | <b>Sixth Form Debate – 6CI and Common room</b>                | <b>Lunchtime &amp; P5 Sixth form only</b>    |
| <b>Wed 18<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>    | <b>Christmas Markets – break time</b>                         | <b>Main Hall Y7</b>                          |
| <b>Thurs 19<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>  | <b>Aspens' Christmas Lunch</b>                                | <b>Y7 &amp; 11 1:20- rest of school 1:45</b> |
| <b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b> | <b>Cinema experience reward Main Hall P1 and 2</b>            | <b>Invited students</b>                      |
| <b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>    | <b>Christmas jumper day for UNICEF</b>                        | <b>All staff and students</b>                |
| <b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>        | <b>School finishes at 12:05</b>                               | <b>All staff and students</b>                |