

December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: 14 Days of Appleton Advent Challenge

As we are approaching the final 14 school days before the end of the year, I thought it would be pertinent to write to you about secondary school's plans for the remaining few weeks of this term.

So far this school year, we have focused on breaking down the barriers that affect school attendance by listening to families, offering tailored support and working with external partners. Thanks to your input and collaboration, we have made real progress. To celebrate these efforts and keep the momentum going, we are excited to launch our '14 Days of Advent Attendance Challenge' to finish the term on a high.

What is the 14 Days of Advent Attendance Challenge?

Starting on **Monday 1 December 2025**, we will be marking each of the final 14 school days of term with recognitions, encouragement and festive fun, all to celebrate excellent attendance.

Here is how students can take part and win:

- **Daily Recognitions** – Each day a student attends, they will be entered into a daily prize draw for sweet treats, lucky dips and much more.
- **Name the Reindeer** – each day, five students who are in form on time will get to name the reindeer. On the last day of term, the student who has guessed the correct name in each form will win a reindeer plush toy!
- **Competitions and Christmas wishes**
- **Lunchtime games**
- **Christmas karaoke**
- **Grand Prize Draw** – Students who achieve **100% attendance** for all 14 days will be entered into our final prize draw of the year.

Along the way, there will be a few special events planned to keep morale high and spirits up in the cold, dark days leading up to Christmas.

Thursday 11 December 2025 is Christmas jumper day and we ask students to wear a jumper, or other Christmas item, alongside their uniform (blazers must be worn). Wednesday 17 December 2025, is our Christmas lunch day and students can again wear their Christmas jumper or an item of Christmas attire alongside their normal uniform.

On Thursday 18 December 2025, we will be having a special day to mark the end of term. There will be a Christmas tombola, where students who have earned reward tickets from staff can spend one of their tickets to try to win a prize. Students can also spend any other tickets they have earned on lunchtime games and activities, which will be available around school.

We will also be holding a special surprise show on the last day for every year group.

As outlined above, on the last day of term the person who guessed the name of the reindeer in each form will also win a plush reindeer toy to take home.



Students will return to classrooms for a form party at the end of lunch and the form with the best attendance for the 14 days will be provided with a goodie bag to share in their party. School will then close for secondary school students at the earlier time of 2.00pm on Thursday 18 December 2025.

I will write to you again during the final week of school with details of our end of term newsletter and more information about what is coming up next year.

We hope that you have a restful Christmas break when it arrives and that you enjoy a chance to recharge the batteries and spend time with family and friends. We then look forward to having students back refreshed and ready to work hard next year.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Garlick".

Rachel Garlick
Head of Secondary