



16 December 2022

Message from the Principal

It gives me great pleasure to share our newsletter and to take the opportunity to thank you for all your support this term. Our first normal autumn term since 2019 has been super busy as you can see from all the news, but it has been excellent to flourish as an Academy. We continue to wait for the inevitable Ofsted inspection but in doing so, teaching staff are working hard to make sure the quality of education is very strong and both supports and challenges all students. However, as I hope you know, we also put great emphasis on the development of the 'whole child' and on ensuring that our young people can grow into confident, happy and healthy adults.

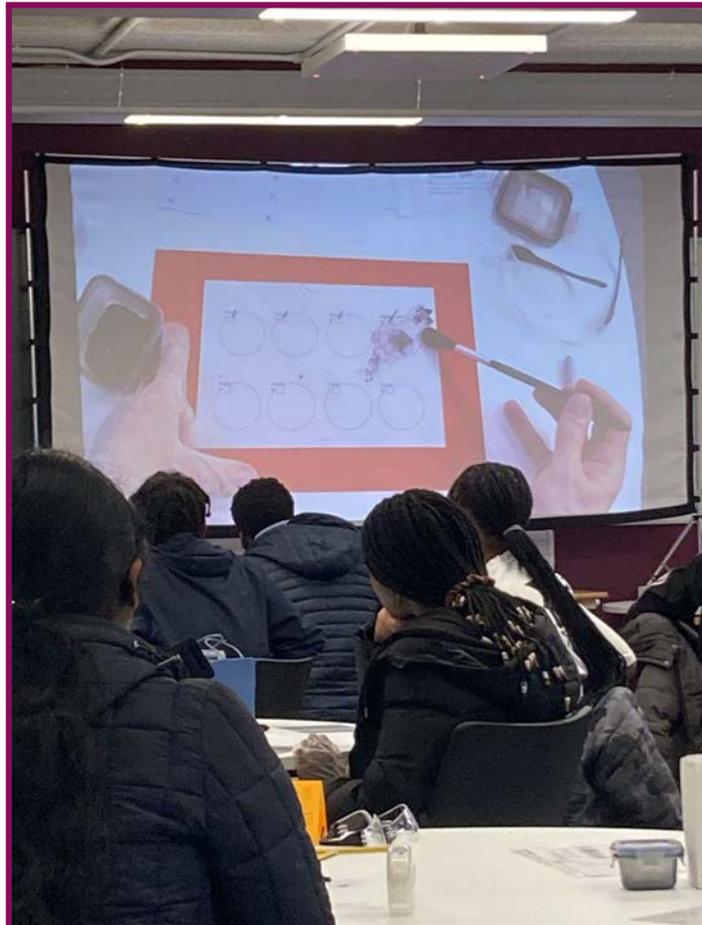
The chance to join together in our Christmas service at St. Luke's on Wednesday was very special. The theme was the Light of the World. As we move from Advent into Christmas I hope that the light of the Christmas Story shines into your homes and families this year. We wish you all a joyful Christmas and best wishes for a peaceful New Year.

Term starts on Wednesday 4th January at 8.35am. We very much look forward to welcoming students to 2023.

Mrs Ardron
Principal

The Chelsea Academy Foundation provides exciting activities as well as academic and wellbeing support for students throughout their time here, which allows all of our students to flourish.

First Story, Debate Mate, and rowing all got off to fresh starts this term. We have had a busy start to the Brunel Urban Scholars programme, with our students heading to the university on Saturdays to take part in some fantastic workshops, and lastly the Access Project has been helping our students with university applications.



Brunel Urban Scholars taking part in a CSI Murder Mystery day



Rowing on the Thames

Online Shopping

You can help us fund these programmes at **no cost to you** by choosing us as your charity when shopping online! If you are making any purchases online, please consider adding us as your designated charity, by registering with [Amazon Smile](#) or [easyfundraising](#) - for every online purchase you make, they will give a small donation (at no cost to you) to our Flourish Fund.

Flourish Fund

Donating directly to the [Flourish Fund](#) also gives you the chance to contribute to the provision of these activities. If you would like to contribute to the Flourish Fund, please click [here](#) to give either as a one-off or monthly donation. This helps ensure that all our students can participate in our activities, without worrying about the cost. Many thanks to all the parents who are already supporting us in this way.

- By giving **£5 per month**, you would pay for one student to take part in Debate Mate
- **£15 per month** buys Duke of Edinburgh expedition equipment for one student
- **£50 per month** pays for half a term rowing for one year group

Academic Update

Work hard. Be Kind. No Excuses.

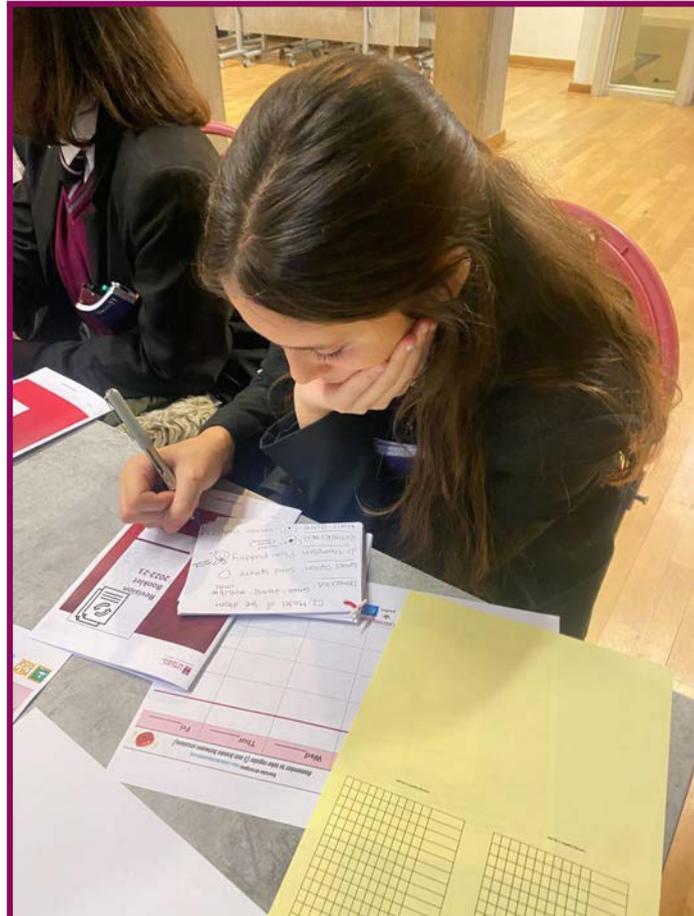
All students have been preparing hard over the past few weeks in the run up to the end of term - whether they are in Year 13, balancing the art of submitting UCAS applications and studying for their Autumn Term assessments, or Year 7 navigating their first series of termly assessments at Chelsea Academy - the message is the same, we strive to work hard in all our efforts, make no excuses for missed opportunities in learning, and are kind to ourselves and each other as we learn. We know learning is tough, and great learning is the reward of challenge, preparation, and perseverance.

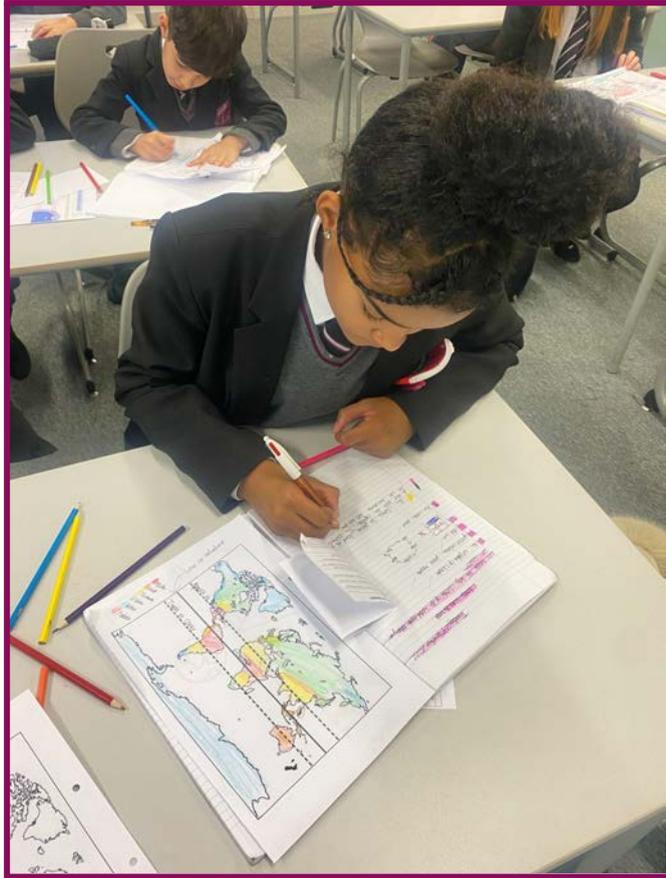
All students are guided through each of their assessments when they are returned. No matter how each student performs, their teachers make sure that all students advance as a result of the

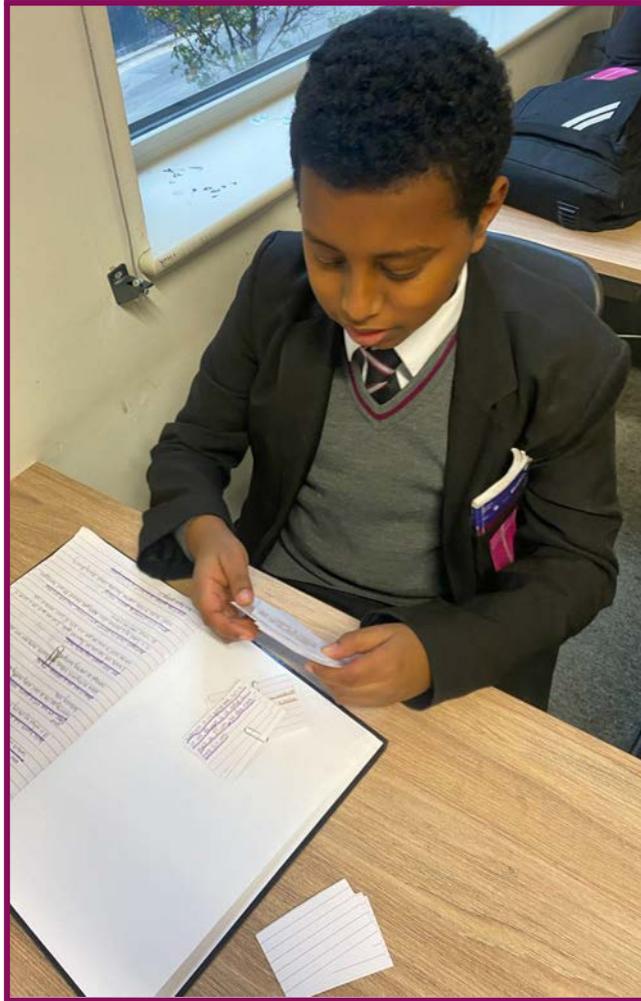
feedback. Students are expected to act on this feedback, close the gaps in their knowledge, and make connections with their learning across the curriculum. It is crucial that students take some time to stop, think, and assess their performance. Too many students want to move on quickly, but reviewing prior knowledge, considering teacher feedback, and making adjustments are guaranteed and proven ways to make sure that all students learn more, retain more information, and succeed over the long term.

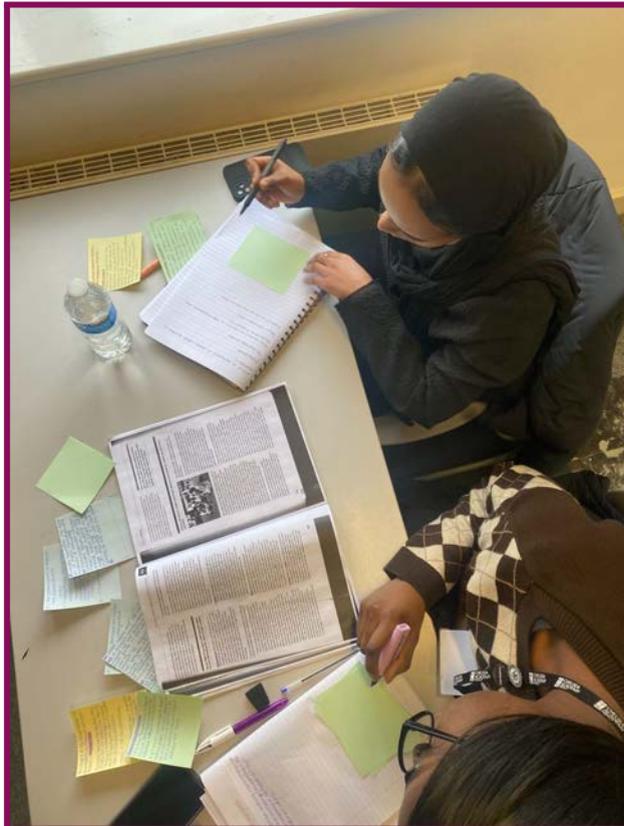
Over the holiday season, if your child isn't spending time looking over their Autumn Term assessments and 'improving on their best' I would ask you to encourage them to do so.

I wish you and yours a wonderful, peaceful and treasured time together.









Mrs McGuinness
Vice Principal - Quality of Education

Keeping Your Child Safe

In this section of the CA Newsletter, we provide regular and up-to-date advice to support you in keeping your children safe.

As we begin two weeks of festive celebrations - with particularly arctic weather outside - many of our students will no doubt choose to spend much of their free time indoors and online. The London Grid for Learning (LGfL) has created a very useful Parent and Carer's Portal that provides excellent advice on all aspects of online safety. The site is very user friendly - and its real strength lies in its provision of topical information on current issues/ new apps etc. The Parent Portal can be accessed for free by clicking on [this link](#).

Happy Christmas!

Mr Whitley
Assistant Principal - Inclusion

Head of Year Update - Year 7

Another fantastic half term for our Year 7 cohort!

As well as all of the great learning taking place, I was delighted to see so many students in our year group getting involved in our extra curricular activities. Here is a photo of Davyd taking part in our climbing club!



Trips

Our students were very lucky to experience a range of rewards trips this half term! A group of students went to see the Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe in the West End which they thoroughly enjoyed.

50 of our Year 7 students, who have been involved in the Stepping Stones mentoring programme, have also been on a trip to Go Ape to celebrate their first term of mentoring! We found out that Mr Whitley was very scared of heights - but he did a good job of hiding it!



Christmas Celebrations

As a year group we have had such a lovely week of Christmas celebrations. It all started with our Year 7 Christmas Disco on Tuesday evening, where students danced the night away! (we even got treated to a dance off between Mr Mohammed and Mr Sheikhnur!)

We came together again as a year group for a very special Eucharist service. This was an opportunity for our students to spend some time really reflecting on what Christmas means to them.



Our students then had their Christmas dinner together in their coaching groups - we even had time for a singing competition at the end which Einstein won!



I would like to thank all Year 7 parents and carers for all of their help and support over the past term. The move from primary to secondary school can be daunting, but with the help of our parents / carers and the Academy working together as a team, I am confident that the children in our care will thrive and achieve their full potential!

Mr White
Head of Year 7

Head of Year Update - Year 8

Wow! What a term that was! Our assembly this morning highlighted just a small amount of the great efforts Year 8 have put in. Congratulations to all the students who have received awards and recognition for their outstanding achievements during this term. They have already changed so much and we are on the right track to where we want to be. They need to rest, recharge and return ready and eager in January.

Thank you to all Parents and Carers who attended our Parents Consultation evening recently, and thank you to those of you that have met with me too. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions or concerns. I've done my best to be as accessible as possible to you all, and I'll continue to hold this position for the upcoming year.

We had our Christmas lunch together this week, and I am really beginning to see their personalities grow and develop, I have to say I have enjoyed them all very much in the lead up to Christmas.

We now anticipate what 2023 will bring, especially the planned residential trip in May, which will give Year 8 students a great chance to try activities outside of their comfort zones. We also anticipate the transition to Year 9 and, eventually, the options process for choosing GCSEs.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to you for all of your support for both our young people and the Academy, and of course me. It is an enormous pleasure to be your child's Head of Year and I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and here's to a fantastic 2023.

Mr Fisher
Head of Year 8

Head of Year Update - Year 9

It has been great to see so many students involved in a range of events and activities across the Academy this half term.

Students have successfully displayed their talents in a variety of extracurricular activities, with some of them leading to awards. In addition to students interested in joining our linked Air Cadet Squadron in the coming year, we have seen record numbers of students sign up for the Duke of Edinburgh programme since it was introduced to the year group a few weeks ago. These are all examples of what terrific young people we have in Year 9.

This year has also been busy for our music scholars, who gave lovely performances at the Christmas Concert.

Together with Ms. Sanders in the ISC, our Year 9 mental health ambassadors played a key role in organising Mental Health Awareness Day and Anti-Bullying Week.

We had a wonderful final week of term, complete with a delicious Christmas lunch. We celebrated all of our outstanding accomplishments from this term at our achievement assembly!

I wish everyone a restful holiday period and look forward to seeing you all in the new year!

Mr Lehmer
Head of Year 9

Head of Year Update - Year 10

Half term two has seen us celebrate Year 10 in a number of different ways. Our achievement assembly in this final week of term highlighted some of the positive contributions students had made to the wider Academy community and recognised individuals who had made improvements for their attendance, punctuality and conduct.

I would also like to praise Year 10 for completing their RE mock exam and the focus and conscientious attitude they showed leading up to this. It has been particularly rewarding to see the Year 10/12 mentoring programme flourish this half term and hear the Year 10's positive feedback about the impact this is having on their work ethic and revision strategies.

Both the Christmas concert and Christmas church service saw key performances from Year 10 students and it was inspiring to see the improvements these students have made - the performances were truly fantastic!

The Chelsea Scholars and the Mental Health Ambassadors in Year 10 have continued their respective work with Ms Thomson and Ms Sanders this half term which has given these students the opportunity to develop their skill set as we look ahead to next half term and the prospect of work experience in the summer term.

Year 10 were given the opportunity to write thank you notes this week in coaching time to show their gratitude to any member of staff at the Academy - distributing these notes was a humbling reminder that the students in the year group really do notice the little things and are so appreciative for all the encouragement they receive at Chelsea Academy. I know staff will be thrilled to receive these in their pigeon holes at the end of term.

As always, I would like to thank the parents and carers for their support and understanding. I wish you all a restful and peaceful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming Year 10 back in January refreshed and ready for the new year ahead.

Mrs Hetherington
Head of Year 10

Head of Year Update - Year 11

December has seen one focus for Year 11s: The Mock season. With 9 days and dozens of exams, it's been a productive one to say the least.

Interventions have been packed with students coming in as early as 7:45 to revise, or staying behind after the academy day to get last-minute tips from their teachers to put them in the best position for excellent grades in these important exams.

However, it's not all been exams and revision. Year 11 have also been treated to their RE culture trips across different locations in London, ensuring that we help ourselves to keep a healthy work/life balance.

Christmas holidays are well deserved for the cohort. It's been a fantastic term settling into such an important year. The building blocks have been laid, and the results will be discussed in January (Mock Results Day, 11th January / Parents Evening, 12th January / Learning Coach Consultation Day, 19th and 20th January) in terms of next steps for Term 2.

However, in the meantime we would like to wish all of our students, along with their friends and family, a lovely Christmas break and a Happy and healthy New Year 2023.

Mr Daverat
Head of Year 11

Head of Year Update - Year 12

Year 12 have had a positive end to the calendar year. So many students got involved in our charity Christmas jumper day - raising money for Save the Children, as well as a shared breakfast during

coaching time and the end of term Achievement Assembly. Overall, it has been a joy to see so many Year 12 students getting.

A particular highlight has been the Wednesday afternoons' Year 12 to Year 10 mentoring programme. This has proved to be incredibly successful. I am so proud of those students who have chosen to give up their time to help others through sharing their experiences of their own GCSE years and knowledge of particular subjects. Last week, the focus was on the RE GCSE mock and revision strategies.



All 6th Form leaders have been so impressed with our Grocers Team who put time and effort into creating a pitch alongside Ms Turley and Ms Bakumba. We have had some wonderful feedback from the judges - including one who said that the Chelsea Academy team had produced one of the best brands they'd ever seen in the competition! Our amazing team can be seen below.



Next half term, we will be launching some more extracurricular activities - including the Duke of Edinburgh awards - so please look out for emails about this! Please follow us on Twitter at @ChelseaAcad6th to keep up to date with announcements and achievements.

I am looking forward to seeing our students return in January, refreshed and ready to learn. I wish everyone an enjoyable break and a Happy New Year!

Mr Hall

Head of Year 12

Head of Year Update - Year 13

Year 13 have had a productive term, with students focused on their future goals. As a team, it has been enjoyable to hear about their plans and their passions and interests. We have received offers from some top universities just in the past week and many students have had interviews with Oxford and Cambridge. Others have had interesting apprenticeship interviews, whilst many students have benefitted from a valuable interview skills workshop from Russell Reynolds, which has stood them in good stead.



Thank you to those parents/carers who came to the Progress Consultation Evening in December. It was lovely to finally meet some of you in person and I hope that you and your son/daughter found the teachers' feedback insightful and helpful. Despite being in their last year of schooling, your support is more crucial than ever.

Our students have been showing some excellent student leadership skills this term. For example, helping with the shoebox appeal, leading assemblies during Black History Month, representing our Sixth Form at recruitment events and hosting MacMillan coffee mornings. I'm very proud of all of their efforts.



I'm very much looking forward to seeing all that they will achieve in 2023.

Best Wishes for a peaceful Christmas,

Mrs Hogg
Head of Year 13

Chelsea Academy Careers

Preparing for transitions has very much been the theme of this Autumn Term. We are asking all Year 11 students and families what they want to do after GCSEs and it was wonderful to have so many face to face conversations during our rescheduled Sixth Form open evening. Year 11 students are asked to visit <https://bit.ly/cacolleges20> to research their next steps that can include Chelsea Academy 6th Form.

Additionally, students have been meeting with Mr. Young, our careers advisor. All students are welcome to stop by and see him on Mondays during lunchtime in G46.

Students in Year 13 have also been working tirelessly to submit their applications to university using UCAS. We would like to celebrate all of the work that goes into successful applications from students, staff, families and extended networks.



We are also very grateful to our community of support for the success of our Sixth Form Lecture series. This term we are grateful to the following incredible speakers and our partnerships with Walpole and Cadogan that make this possible:

- John Nicholson, Mathematician and research fellow from Imperial College London
- Dr Antoine Rogers
- Halema El-Mattawaa (Class of 2021)
- Andy Ankrah, Senior Director - Head of Technology Consulting Merkle
- Olivia Sim, Walpole
- Sara Pearson, Founder & Chairman Spider Media
- Kiran Momi, The London Interdisciplinary School
- Anabela Chan, CEO & Creative Director, Visiting Lecturer Royal College of Art
- Royal Holloway University

Mr Flitcroft

Director of Careers and Deputy Head of Year 12 and 13

Library Update

Please [click here](#) to view the half-term 2 Library Newsletter.

Mrs Sim
Library Manager

Music Department Update

Christmas is always a busy time for our music students.

Our Christmas concert started off our festivities with performances from Year 7 all the way to Year 13. Thank you to all parents, students and staff who attended.



A Year 10 trip took place to watch the London Philharmonic Orchestra play the set works from a variety of exam boards. We took the scenic route and took in the sites that our capital has to offer.



We ended the term celebrating and sharing in collective worship in true Chelsea Academy style at St Luke's church. The choir led the service and we had performances by the jazz band and the choir. A wonderfully uplifting service with excellent support from our singers and musicians!



Happy Christmas from the music department!

Miss Koerner
Director of Music and Vocational Studies

Computing Department Update

KS3 - The Year 7s have been enjoying making shapes using 'Turtle' in Small Basic as an introduction to programming. Some of the students have managed to make some very interesting shapes using repeating patterns.

The Year 8s have been putting their detective skills to use as they study cryptograph and codebreaking. They've learned about substitution ciphers such as morse, pigpen and caesar, along with codebreaking strategies such as frequency analysis to crack codes.

KS4 & 5 - The students in both Key Stages have been doing a lot of programming alongside their theory work. At Chelsea Academy, we have recently launched a programming competition to keep the students on their toes while at the same time allowing them to showcase their programming skills. If your child is studying Computer Science at Chelsea Academy, ask them about it!

Mr Khan
Computing Curriculum Leader

Reflection

During this advent, we have all been reflecting on what it means to be the 'light of the world' in the same manner Jesus Christ has brought light into the lives of millions of others throughout history. In the same manner in which a well decorated Christmas tree floods the environment in which it stands with colourful lights and bright colours; I pray that our own 'colourful lights' will shine during these cold and dark winter days. May you all have a blessed Christmas!

Mr Van-Kan

Chaplain

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