

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Some of you will be leaving for your Christmas breaks soon. Rasheed has just sent an email which mentions the absolute focus required during this current surge of Covid-19. Please read Rasheed's email. It contains important information.

Primarily I wanted to thank you on behalf of trustees, our Advisory Committee and the Management Team for your excellent work and commitment as we come to the end of another challenging year.

Far from standing still, Holy Cross can be proud of its achievements: -

- We made further developments to our home-written Electronic Patient Record System – to include Incident Management, Medicine Administration and Therapy Charts.
- The Outpatient Physiotherapy Team added extra-corporeal shockwave therapy to their range of services and made further developments to the women's health service
- We built and opened the Treehouse, with generous support from the Congregation
- We installed solar panelling on the hospital, enlarged the carpark at the north of the site and installed car charging points
- We celebrated learning and development at Holy Cross – acknowledging the richness of a workforce that originates from 21 countries
- We submitted another article for peer review - *'Assistive technology, including orthotic devices, for the management of contractures in adult stroke patients'*
- We were awarded a High Sheriff's Award
- At the Clinical Team Development Day, we were updated about actions that have taken place, proposed developments and requests for equipment, so that improvement to our wide range of services can continue
- We saw staff progress in their careers – gaining skills, qualifications and advancement
- After many months of low occupancy I am pleased to say that we currently have 38 beds full.

Looking into 2022, we will: -

- Upgrade the bathrooms at the Selsey cottage
- Acquire Magic Mirror / Sensory Guru equipment for the Occupational Therapy Service
- Implement the Electronic Patient Record System
- Undertake developments to improve the site and increase our capacity (more on this in January)
- Appoint a new Consultant

All of the above sits on top of compassionate care and a focus on excellence.

I came across a quote which says *'you can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have'*. A walk round the hospital yesterday with Dr Karin Englehart (Chair of the Advisory Committee) highlighted this – wards, the dining room and offices were adorned with Christmas decorations, and a walk outside to the treehouse revealed the Holy Cross Glow (an amazing Christmas

display)! Oh...and I mustn't forget to mention that the Outpatient Physiotherapists have turned their office into an igloo!

Mother Theresa once said ...."It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving." This is evident when I see so many people going the extra mile. Thank you.

Have a good Christmas, stay safe, and please remain alert to Covid-19.

With best wishes

Ross