



AGS Weekly

Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter

Looking after our staff at AGS:

Good schools require great staff and we have the best team of staff working at Allerton Grange, and they are so committed to ensuring that every student at our school has all the opportunities required to meet their full potential. I am sure you have seen in the news how difficult it is for schools to recruit and retain quality staff – there is a national shortage of teachers. Allerton Grange is very fortunate to have all our teaching and pastoral positions filled by specialist qualified staff. This means that your children can immerse themselves in the knowledge rich curriculum in a safe and secure environment. We achieve this by looking after our staff and creating a culture throughout the school where people want to work and stay. How do we do this?

1. AGS Culture Code – [This document, available on the school website](#), sets out how it feels to be a member of staff at AGS. We are true to our core values and enable our employees to engage in challenging and rewarding work, whilst at the same time, supporting them to *Aspire, Grow and Succeed*. We believe that engaged, motivated and happy staff are the foundation of a successful school community.

2. AGS Teacher workload and professional development charter – [This document, also available on the school website](#), sets out how, as a leadership team, we minimise all the unnecessary burdens that sometimes get in the way of teachers planning and delivering high quality lessons, day in day out.

Some of our key workload strategies are:

- a) Planning time – AGS teachers, on average, receive 4 hours of planning, preparation and assessment time per week.
- b) After school meetings – AGS staff have only one calendared meeting after school per week.
- c) Lesson observations – AGS teachers receive frequent lesson visits from senior and middle leaders. Any feedback is developmental (suggestions on how to improve), feedback is not judgemental.
- d) Cover supervisors – we have a dedicated specialist team of cover supervisors who provide cover for absent teachers. This means subject teachers do not provide cover for absent colleagues.

3. Wellbeing Charter – AGS has signed up to the government's education staff wellbeing charter. This document provides a framework for schools to operate within which promotes and secures staff wellbeing in schools. Working in a school environment can be stressful at times and AGS school leaders are aware of these pressures and consciously try to minimise this.

4. Flexible working – Allerton Grange has recently been approached by Harrogate Grammar School to join the government's programme of promoting flexible working in schools. We currently have 25% of our staff who work on a part-time basis but there is more that we can do to promote flexible working within our organisation.

Nationally, a third of teachers leave the profession after 5 years of teaching and 13% of teachers leave at the end of their first year. At Allerton Grange our turnover rate is extremely low – throughout last year only 11 teachers moved on from Allerton Grange:

- 6 moved to promoted posts at other schools.
- Only 3 decided to leave the profession.

We will continue to support and look after our staff and in doing so continue to provide the quality education our students deserve every day.

Mike Roper
Headteacher

Important information if you have a Yahoo or AOL email address

It has come to our attention that some, if not all, emails from the 'Yahoo' or 'AOL' domain are not getting through to Allerton Grange recipients. We have investigated this, and it appears that the issue is at the Yahoo end. Unfortunately, there is nothing Allerton Grange can do to remedy this. If you use the Yahoo network, please get in touch with the School Office to provide an alternative email address.

ClassCharts

Positive points: 15,490
Negative points: 1,810
90% positive points ratio

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 6, Wednesday 7 & Thursday 8 February - Our House: The Madness Musical, 7 - 9.30 pm - Tickets available on ParentPay

Friday 9 February - Year 9 Options Deadline

Monday 12 to Friday 16 February - Half Term Holiday
School reopens on Monday 19 February

Training Days 2023-24

The remaining Training Days this school year, when school is closed to students, are on:

Friday 5 July,
Monday 22 July and
Tuesday 23 July

KS3 Enrichment

Last Friday, KS3 students took part in their second enrichment session of the term.

Within the Service and Leadership KLAS cornerstone, there are three strands: Creativity, Community, Commitment.

A range of sessions fall within the Creativity group, including:

- Create a Mood Board and Model
- Mindfulness
- Formula 1
- Dig School
- Film Studies
- Zentangles
- The Rest is History
- Crochet 101
- Ceramics and the Sea
- Contemporary Dance
- Braiding
- Crafty Mindfulness
- Creative Science
- Origami
- Pashamama
- Dissectology



Hot Chocolate Friday

At Hot Chocolate Friday on 2 February, with Mr Norrington (Associate Headteacher), students celebrated their achievements.

Congratulations this week to:

Monae in Year 7 was nominated for her love of reading, and for winning the prize for the best review of a book read for the Winter Reading Challenge.

Ameen in Year 8 was nominated for his attitude, determination, focus and resilience in the recent Words Matter quiz, and his kindness towards another student.

Josh in Year 9 was nominated for being amazing in a photoshop lesson. As well as getting on with his own work, he stepped up to help other people. His teacher was so impressed with his kindness and work ethic.

Lucca in Year 10 has made such a difference to his behaviour since the start of the term. He is engaged, focused and really concentrating on his GCSEs. We are all very proud of him.

Abida in Year 11 has been super proactive about her post-16 options and overcoming any barriers she has encountered.



Our House - The Madness Musical

Tickets for Our House, on **6, 7 & 8 February**, are available from ParentPay. It promises to be a fantastic show. Last year, we had sold out shows, so don't miss out!

Doors open at 6.30 pm

Performances starts at 7.00 pm

If you have any accessibility needs, please email vikimciver@allertongrange.com.

[Watch the trailer - click to open YouTube](#)



The Woman in Black Trip

This Wednesday, a cohort of Year 10 students visited the Grand Opera House York to witness the enthralling performance of 'The Woman in Black.'



The performance marked our first DEAR enrichment trip, fostering a collective appreciation for the arts and offering students a unique perspective on their current DEAR novel.

Students demonstrated exemplary behaviour and it was truly a superb day!

Ms Taylor
Teacher of English and DEAR Lead

Winter Reading Challenge

Allerton Grange has always placed great importance on reading, and we particularly try to instil a love of reading for pleasure in our students. Not only are there endless hours of joy to be had from reading, but studies have shown that reading is the single most important out of school activity in improving a child's future career prospects.

With this in mind, before the holidays the Library launched a Winter Reading Challenge to students. We suggested students take advantage of the dreadful weather by using it as the perfect excuse to curl up with a good book!

Acknowledging that everyone reads differently, the challenge was all about setting personal goals; read an extra chapter a day; read a book by a new author; or try out a genre you have not read before. To complement the challenge, a prize of a book voucher was offered for the best book review left on Reading Cloud, our Library Management System. This prize goes to Monae for her review of The Cousins by Karen McManus. We love to see students not only reading, but also recommending books to others.

Well done to all students that took part in the Winter Reading Challenge.

James Ellis, School Librarian

LEEDS LOCAL OFFER LIVE

Thursday 21 March 2024
10am-2pm (drop in)
Pudsey Civic Hall, LS28 5TA

The Leeds Local Offer website provides information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents or carers in a single place.

Leeds Local Offer Live is a market place event that provides families with the opportunity to find out more about support services available to them in Leeds.

There will also be workshop sessions at the event.

To book your free ticket scan the QR code with your phone camera or visit <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/LLOLive2024/>



CONTACT US

Email: LLO@Leeds.gov.uk

Facebook: Leeds Local Offer

Website: <https://leedslocaloffer.org.uk>



Careers Update

Apprenticeships at Irwin Mitchell Webinar, 7 February 2024, 6.00 - 7.00 pm

Irwin Mitchell is the UK's largest full service law firm and offer legal and non-legal roles including apprenticeships in the following disciplines

- Assistant Accountant
- Business Administration (starting at the age of 16)
- IT (Software Tester and Software Engineer)
- Paralegal
- Solicitor

The Irwin Mitchell Early Careers team is hosting an apprenticeship webinar on the 7th February at 6pm where they will be bringing their apprenticeship proposition to life to encourage applications

To sign up to attend the virtual event please [click on this link](#).

Apprenticeships with the Government

Students in Year 11 can apply for Level 2 (Intermediate) or Level 3 (Advanced) Apprenticeships. Students in Year 13 can apply for any level.

Have you seen some of these vacancies that are currently live? There are 216 apprenticeship vacancies in Leeds currently on the government apprenticeships website, and many more in addition to this if you search on job sites such as Indeed or Reed, or on specific company websites.

[Level 3 - RAF Weapon Technician - Full Time Career with Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 2 RAF Mover](#)

[Level 2 or Level 3 Finance Assistant](#)

[Level 2 – Apprentice Pharmacy Assistant](#)

[Level 3 Apprentice Travel Consultant](#)

[Level 6 \(Degree\) Apprentice Civil Engineer](#)

[Level 4 \(Higher\) Construction Management Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 6 Creative Digital Design Professional Degree Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 3 Networking Engineer](#)

[Level 3 Engineering - Machining Technician Apprentice](#)

[Level 2 Apprentice Plasterer](#)

There are many more on the [government apprenticeships website](#). Apprenticeships are highly competitive, but are a great way to work and gain qualifications at the same time and lots of students are interested in them.

If you'd like any more help or advice with apprenticeships or anything else careers related, please contact Mrs Mills, Careers Lead (louisemills@allertongrange.com).

A poster for EY Office Insight Evening. It features a row of five diverse people's faces at the top. The text reads: "Start your career with EY", "Office Insight Evening", "Interested in an apprenticeship in Business, Finance or Technology?", "Come along to your local EY office to learn about our apprenticeship and work experience opportunities for year 11/54, 12/55 and year 13/56.", "You will have the chance to learn about the application process, and speak with current apprentices as well as more senior team members too.", "Please see below the list of events:", a table of events, a QR code, and a "REGISTER" button. At the bottom, it says "All events will be from 4pm - 7.30pm" and "Connect with us".

Location	Date
Birmingham	Monday, 29 January 2024
Bristol	Thursday, 8 February 2024
Cambridge	Wednesday, 31 January 2024
Edinburgh	Monday, 29 January 2024
Glasgow	Tuesday, 20 January 2024
Leeds	Wednesday, 7 February 2024
Liverpool	Wednesday, 14 February 2024
London	Monday, 4 March 2024
Manchester	Thursday, 15 February 2024
Newcastle	Friday, 2 February 2024
Reading	Tuesday, 13 February 2024
Southampton	Tuesday, 6 February 2024

Leeds - Meet Your Army: The Army Engagement Group

Wednesday 28 February 2024 18:30 - 21:00

Elland Road Stadium

[Book your ticket here \(click on link\)](#)

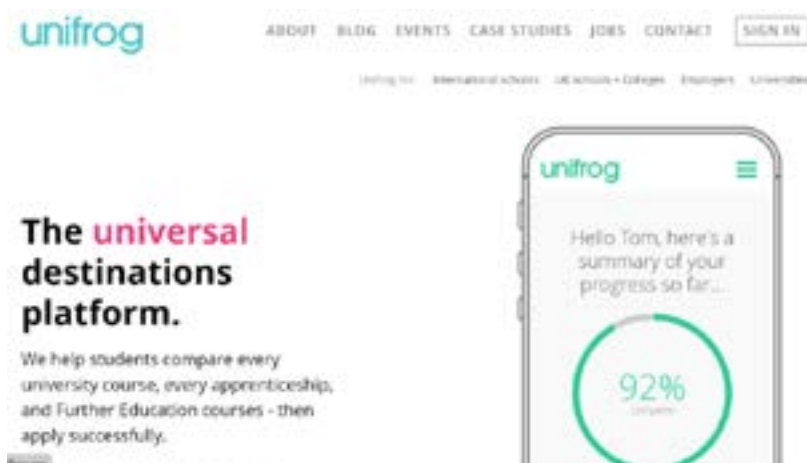
Join us for an exciting evening at Elland Road Stadium on Wed 28 Feb 2024 at 18:30 GMT. Get ready to meet the Army Engagement Group and discover what they're all about! This in-person event offers a unique opportunity to engage with the Army and gain insights into their work. Whether you're curious about the army's role or considering a career, this event is perfect for you.

Learn about the army's various departments, their missions, and the incredible individuals who serve. You'll have the chance to interact with army personnel.

Don't miss this chance to get up close and personal with the army. Mark your calendars for Wed 28 Feb 2024 and join us at Elland Road Stadium

[Book your ticket here](#)

We're a Unifrog School!



Unifrog is the universal destinations platform and is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. All students have their own account where they can explore all the career and next step options available to them and find information on everything from managing their workload to writing a winning CV. Students have access to a wide variety of video and written content, and interactive quizzes and tests, including:

Section of the platform	Examples of what students can do	Suitable age range
Quizzes	Finding their interests, personality type, preferred work environment, and skillset.	Years 7-13
Exploring pathways	Explore careers, career sectors, subjects, sign up to free webinars, explore MOOCs and courses, and find wider reading materials.	Years 7-13
Recording what you've done	Record their in-class and extracurricular activities, record examples of their skills, and see the record of CEIAG events the school has added to their accounts.	Years 7-13
Searching for opportunities	Find scholarships, activities, and bursaries to support their HE journey. Find and compare degrees in the UK and overseas, live apprenticeships, and FE courses.	Years 10-13
Application materials / Making applications	Write their CV, cover letter, Personal Statement, and more. Track their applications and record their Post 16 / 18 intentions.	Years 11-13

Students sign in to Unifrog using their school email address and password and they can do so from any computer, tablet or smartphone. A welcome email has been sent to all students.

We have also added a parent sign in code, to enable you to research careers, attend webinars delivered by employers and universities to learn more about their opportunities, and compare pathways so you can support your child in making an informed decision about their next steps. The sign up code you need is: [AGSparents](#) and you can sign up here: www.unifrog.org/code.

Extra-Curricular Activities Calendar

Term 2 – January to April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Homework Club All Years - Library	Homework Club All Years - Library	Homework Club All Years - Library	Homework Club All Years - Library	Pit Band Rehearsal M002
Girls Basketball Sports Hall	Spectrum (LGBTQ+) Club All years - M002	Junior Concert Band Grade 1-3 Musicians - M001	Chess Club All Years - L029	Rubik's Cube Club All years - L026
Art Club Art	Spars Maths All Year - Maths Pod	Senior Concert Band Grade 4-8 Musicians - M001	School of Rock All Years - M002	Our House - Rehearsals All Years - Hall
Our House - Rehearsals All Years - Hall	All Years Badminton Sports Hall	Boys Basketball Sports Hall	Choir All Years - Hall	Software development Club (WEEK 8) KS4 and KS5 - M001
Samba Year 7, 8 and 9 (Lunchtimes)	Jazz Club Grade 2 or above musicians - M003	Year 8/9 Trampoline Sports Hall	KS3 Table Tennis Sports Hall	Product Design Drop-in T002
Product Design Drop-in T002	Music Theory Musicians approaching Grade 5 - M002	Year 7 Fitness Fitness Suite	Year 8/9 Fitness Fitness Suite	GCSE Music Revision M003
	Our House - Rehearsals All Years - Hall	Year 8 and 9 Drama Club Hall	Year 7 Trampoline Sports Hall	
	Year 7 Drama Club Hall	Politics Club KS3 - L053	Coding Club (WEEK 4) KS3 - M002	
	Writers' Collective KS3 - L011	Fine Art GCSE/ A-Level drop in Art	Physics Olympiad KS4 - L11 (from March)	
	Darts Club Year 8 - L024	Foundation French GCSE Revision L002	Product Design Drop-in T002	
	KS4 Fitness Fitness Suite	Product Design Drop-in T002	Debating Society KS5 and KS4 - L15	
	Physics Drop-in Year 11 - S004	GCSE PE Revision L044	Fine Art GCSE/ A-Level drop in Art	
	Fine Art GCSE/ A-Level drop Art	Geography A-Level Drop-in KS3 - L022	Debating Society KS5 and KS4 - L15	
	Geography GCSE Drop-in KS5 - L022	Social Sciences Drop-in KS5 - L051	EPQ Club KS5 - M001	
	Product Design Drop-in T002		Social Sciences Drop-in KS5 - L051	
	Social Sciences Drop-in KS5 - L051			

**ALL
YEARS
KS3
KS4
KS5**



[Click here to open a PDF version of the Extra-Curricular timetable](#)



WHAT'S ON AFTER SCHOOL IN PE?

	ACTIVITY	WHERE	STAFF
MONDAY	Girls Basketball	Sports Hall	BCA
TUESDAY	All Years Badminton KS4 Fitness	Sports Hall Fitness Suite	SNO JGA
WEDNESDAY	Boys Basketball Y7 Fitness Y8/9 Trampoline Year 11 GCSE Revision	Sports Hall Fitness Suite Sports Hall L44	DTO JGA KAI BCA
THURSDAY	KS3 Table Tennis Year 8/9 Fitness Year 7 Trampoline	Sports Hall Fitness Suite Sports Hall	SNO JSM BCA & KAI

YOU MUST SIGN UP IF YOU WANT TO JOIN.

Sheets are outside the PE Office.

These clubs start the week beginning 27th November until February half term.

ALL CLUBS ARE FROM 3 - 4pm.

Don't start your day by being late to school!
Students need to be in school , in their form room, at 8.25 am
ready for the register to be taken at 8.30 am.

The School Day 2023-2024

Timetable A Years 10/11/12/13		Timetable B Years 8/9	Timetable C Year 7
8:25am		Warning Bell	8:25am
8:30am	REGISTRATION		8:30am
8:50am	DEAR	DEAR	DEAR
9:15am	1	1	1
10:05am	2	BREAK	2
10:55am	BREAK	2	BREAK
11:15am	3	3	3
12:05pm	4	LUNCH	4
12:55pm	LUNCH	4	LUNCH
1:20pm	5	5	5
2:10pm	6	6	6
3:00pm	After School Provisions/Detentions begin		3:00pm

All students should leave the school site by 3.10pm unless attending a session 7 or working with a member of staff. There is to be no waiting in the cafe after school. The only students in the building must be involved in Enrichment sessions, a session 7, or isolation/detention.

(Monday) Stage 3 - SLT Detentions – 3:05pm – 4:30pm (85 minutes)

(Tuesday - Friday)

Stage 1 Detentions – 3:05pm - 3:35pm (30 minutes) Stage

2 Detentions - 3:05pm – 4:00pm (55 minutes)

Isolation takes place between 9:00am-3pm/3.30pm/4.00pm (Depending on Behaviour)