



AGS Weekly

Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter

Welcome back:

Welcome back to half term 4 to all our students, families and staff. We are now half way through the school year – it doesn't seem a minute ago that we starting back in September. As usual, this is a very busy half term leading up to the Easter holidays – please check the school calendar on our website and upcoming events on this weekly newsletter.

New Head of Year:

Welcome to Mr Lomas who has joined us this week as the new Head of Year 10. Mr Lomas is very experienced at working in educational pastoral care and we are delighted he has joined the AGS Behaviour and Welfare Team.

Mobile phones at Allerton Grange:

There has been a lot of talk in the news this week about mobile phones in schools. I wanted to remind you that mobile phones have been banned from Allerton Grange since September 2019. We took this action over 4 years ago because we were concerned about the impact these devices were having on our students' mental health. Since introducing the ban, we have seen a marked improvement in students playing outside at break and lunchtimes, and also students simply talking to one another. A reminder of our full policy on mobile phones and electronic devices can be found in our [Policy for Positive Discipline](#).

Artificial intelligence and plagiarism:

Advances in technology have many benefits for society but can also create challenges, especially in education. This week students have received an assembly about the dangers, and possible consequences, of being tempted to use AI to plagiarise work and submit it as your own. Miss Moore (Assistant Headteacher) delivered the assembly and the key messages were:

- Plagiarism was explained and how it relates to the world beyond school. It was highlighted to students that only two miles away, in the centre of Leeds, law firms have thriving intellectual property departments.
- Avoiding plagiarism is about making positive choices, being proud of developing and wrestling with hard thinking, and creating authentic work.
- Plagiarism is something that students can be susceptible to doing, particularly due to developments in Artificial intelligence (AI). Students were given information about what AI is and how it can be misused.
- An outline of the AGS plagiarism behaviour policy was shared with students. This has been introduced following guidance from Ofqual and JCQ, and is underpinned by the AGS Academic Integrity culture code.

Ancient Greece visits Allerton Grange:

It was a pleasure to welcome back the classical academic, Jennifer Saint, (author of Elektra, Ariadne and Atalanta) to Allerton Grange on Thursday this week. She held assemblies and workshops for all students studying classics in Years 7, 8, 9, and at GCSE and A Level. Jennifer visited the school in the Autumn and presented a lecture for the local community, but this time it was wonderful to see her engaging with our Classics scholars. Thank you to Mrs Adams for organising the day.

Mike Roper
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary:

Monday 26 February - Art Trip to Edinburgh

Tuesday 27 February - Year 8 Into University Trip to the University of Leeds

Wednesday 28 February - Textiles Trip to Manchester

Friday 1 March - MathsCity Trip

Friday 1 March - Music Industry Conference at Leeds Beckett University

Monday 4 to Friday 8 March - National Careers Week

Monday 11 to Friday 15 March - National Science Week

ClassCharts

Positive points: 15,500

Negative points: 1,550

90% positive points ratio

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

Important Student Safety Information

You will be aware that this week we have had West Yorkshire Police in school, delivering assemblies to raise awareness about safety on our streets.

We are pleased to report our students engaged very well and asked some interesting questions.

Over recent weeks we have been made aware of a spate of 'street robberies' taking place in and around LS8/LS17.

Although we don't believe the perpetrators to be of school age, these incidents are occurring at the end of the school day, between 15.00 and 16.00, when all our local school children are on their walk home.

Whilst not wishing to cause alarm, we do think it's pertinent to share this information with parents and carers so that you can have a conversation with your child about being vigilant and keeping safe.

Good examples would be keeping their belongings secure and hidden, and if possible, walking home in a group. Police advise to run away, if possible, to create space away from the assailant, and of course dial 999, if it is safe to do so.

The Police are fully aware and, where possible, will provide a presence but this is not always something we can rely on.

School colleagues are on duty at Talbot Avenue and Lidgett Lane, both at the start and end of the school day. Any incidents are reported to the Police immediately, and we share intelligence using the PIP - Police Intelligence Portal.

We also work very closely with other schools in our local community, and share information as soon as it is received, in an effort to identify the suspects and prevent further incidents.

Please be assured that the safety and wellbeing of all our young people, in and out of school, is of paramount importance and remains at the heart of all the decisions we make.



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, and if they are, replies are not getting through.

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.

Classics sessions with Jennifer Saint

On Thursday, it was a joy to welcome author Jennifer Saint back to Allerton Grange School, following her visit in November.



Our GCSE and A level Classics students took part in small group seminars and had the opportunity to ask questions, whilst Year 7, 8 and 9 students attended lectures.



After school, students also had the opportunity to join a Q&A session with Jennifer Saint in the school library.



It was a fabulous day. Thank you so much to the Classics Team (Mrs Adams and Mr Flint) for arranging the Classics Day.

Hot Chocolate Friday

At Hot Chocolate Friday on 23 February, with Mr Norrington (Associate Headteacher), students celebrated their achievements.

Congratulations this week to:

Hogan in Year 7 competed in 9 swims and achieved PBs in all of them at the Yorkshire Championships competitions.

Harrison in Year 7 also competed at the Yorkshire Championships. He achieved 4 PBs and a bronze medal in the 50 m breaststroke.

Nashe in Year 8 was nominated by the Music Team for having a remarkable presence in the classroom, where she is ready to learn, organised and eager to contribute. Nashe has only been at Allerton Grange for a few months and is a fantastic and dedicated student.

Hayden in Year 9 also competed in 17 swims and 2 relays at the Yorkshire Championships. He was awarded 4 gold medals and 2 bronze medals.

Alika in Year 10 was nominated for showing incredible perseverance and resilience. We are so proud of you for coming to school and trying hard.

Malaika in Year 11 has been extremely kind and proactive in supporting our new EAL students in Year 11. She has been making sure that they are where they need to be in school and helping in lessons with translation.



Swimming Success Continues!

Congratulations to Hogan in Year 7 and Hayden in Year 9 who competed in the Yorkshire Swimming Championships over the last 3 weekends.

Hogan competed in 9 swims and achieved PB's in them all.

Hayden competed in 17 swims and 2 relays. He achieved 2 Gold Medals, for 200m Breastroke,

50m Butterfly; 2 Bronze Medals, for 100m Breastroke and 100m Butterfly; and 2 Gold Medals in both 200m Medley Relay and 200m Freestyle Relay.

Congratulations also go to Harrison in Year 7 who achieved 4 PBs and was awarded a bronze medal in the 50m Breaststroke which was amazing as he swam as a 12-year-old age group, after having his 12th birthday two weeks ago.

Out of this World Guest Speaker

A group of students from Years 10, 11 and 12 met with David Carter, an engineer and project manager from the [James Webb Space Telescope](#).

David discussed orbits, imaging and technical difficulties associated with launching and maintaining such an advanced spacecraft.



Some excellent questions from students about topics including; orbital mechanics, exoplanet detection and employment in the engineering sector.

Health and Social Care students present their projects

On Wednesday 21 February, Year 11 Health & Social Care students took part in an event where they presented their project work to Allerton Grange staff, family and friends.

Each student created a display for their Health Campaign and gave a short presentation on their project, which was assessed by their teachers.

The students had worked incredibly hard and created eye-catching displays and innovative ways of getting their Health Campaign messages across.

Well done to all!



Raised in Yorkshire Dental Project

This week, our 90 Year 7 volunteers took part in their first sessions of the Raised in Yorkshire Project.



The students taking part will be learning about dental hygiene and how best to look after their teeth, whilst supporting Leeds Dental School with their research.



Business and Language Competition Launch

Year 9 and 10 language students took part in a Business and Language workshop organised by the University of Leeds.



Next month, they will be visiting the University of Leeds to take part in a Business and Language competition.



Lost Property

Please help your child by making sure their name is in all of their belongings, particularly coats.

If your child loses something in school, they should retrace their steps and check they haven't left it in a classroom, or the dining room, before checking with their Year Team or Lost Property.

We have a large number of items in Lost Property at Main Reception, including coats and school uniform items without names.

Start Up Sherpas

Paid work experience with large companies and organisations is available for students aged 13-18.

Opportunities are available in 2024 and beyond with Startup Sherpas.

Over 70 Allerton Grange Students took part in a Startup Sherpas paid work experience last summer!

New opportunities will be advertised with students via ClassCharts, when they become available, but please check out <https://startupsherpas.org/> to sign up to your own alerts.



KS4 & 5 Concert

On Thursday 21 March, our GCSE and A level musicians in Years 10, 11, 12 & 13 will be showcasing their talents at the KS4&5 Concert.

For some of the students, this will be their final concert performance at Allerton Grange.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and commitment they have shown.

All are welcome to join us for the concert. Tickets are £3 each and available from ParentPay.



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 | PE Band Rehearsal M002 |
| Girls Basketball Sports Hall | Spectrum (LGBTQ+) Club All years - M002 | Juniors 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 - 1001 |
| 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 | <p>ALL YEARS KS3 KS4 KS5</p> |
| | Year 7 Drama Club Hall | Politics Club KS3 - L053 | Coding Club (WEEK A) KS3 - KS7 | |
| | Writers' Collective KS3 - L011 | Fine Art GCSE/ A-Level drop in Art | Physics Olympiad KS4 - S11 (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 - 1001 | |
| | Product Design Drop-in T002 | | Social Sciences Drop-in KS5 - L011 | |
| | Social Sciences Drop-in KS5 - L051 | | | |



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



WHAT'S ON AFTER SCHOOL IN PE?

| | ACTIVITY | WHERE | STAFF |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| MONDAY | All Years Girls Basketball | Sports Hall | BCA |
| TUESDAY | All Years Badminton KS3 Netball Club KS3 Girls Football | Sports Hall MUGA Fields | SNO BCA & JAD KAI |
| WEDNESDAY | Boys Basketball Y7 Fitness Y8/9 Trampoline Year 7, 8 & 9 Netball (teams only) | Sports Hall Fitness Suite Sports Hall MUGA | DTO JGA KAI BCA & JAD |
| THURSDAY | Year 7 Boys Football Year 8/9 Fitness Year 7 Trampoline Year 11 GCSE PE revision | Fields Fitness Suite Sports Hall L44 | DTO SNO KAI BCA |

YOU MUST SIGN UP IF YOU WANT TO JOIN.

Sheets are outside the PE Office.

These clubs start the week beginning 19th February until the Easter Holiday.

ALL CLUBS ARE FROM 3 - 4pm.

This is a new PE After-School timetable starting on 19 February 2024. Please refer to this timetable rather than the combined version above for PE clubs.

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 | 8:50am |
| 9:15am | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 9:15am |
| 10:05am | 2 | BREAK | 10:05am | 2 | 10:05am |
| 10:55am | BREAK | 2 | | BREAK | 10:30am |
| 11:15am | 3 | 3 | | 3 | 10:50am |
| 12:05pm | 4 | LUNCH | 12:05pm | 4 | 11:15am |
| 12:55pm | LUNCH | 4 | 12:30pm | LUNCH | 12:05pm |
| 1:20pm | 5 | 5 | | 5 | 12:30pm |
| 2:10pm | 6 | 6 | | 6 | 12:55pm |
| 3:00pm | | After School Provisions/Detentions begin | | | 1:20pm |
| | | | | | 2:10pm |
| | | | | | 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)