



AGS Weekly

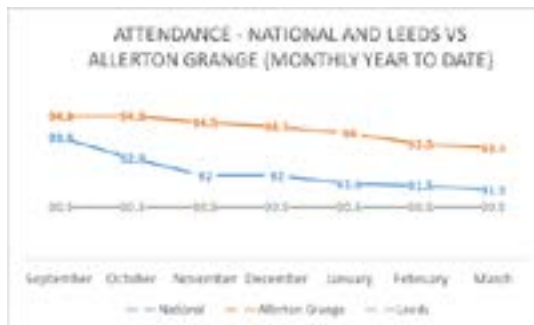
Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter

Wishing a Happy Easter and a Happy Eid to those who will be celebrating

To all our families, thank you for your support over this term and have a wonderful holiday. Let's hope the weather improves allowing us some time outside with family and friends.

Attendance Matters

Allerton Grange performs way better than Leeds and Nationally (but we are not complacent)



As we conclude the Spring Term, thank you to all our parents and carers for ensuring your children are in school accessing the KLAS curriculum. Allerton Grange students have, throughout this year, outperformed national attendance by 2% and outperformed the Leeds average by nearly 3%.

It is so important for a young person to be in school every day, not only does it aid their current development in terms of academic and social development but all the data shows a key correlation with future success. For example:

- Poor attendance leads to significantly lower GCSE grades. Even an attendance rate of 95% equates to 50 school days lost from Year 7 to GCSEs.
- Lower GCSE grades affects future education opportunities which in turn impacts on university and career prospects.

The message is simple – AIM FOR 100% ATTENDANCE.

Thank you and Goodbye:

It is always difficult at the end of a term to say goodbye to staff who are moving on. This term we say thank you and good bye to:

Miss Chappell (Attendance Team) – she is leaving Allerton Grange to take up a similar post at a school nearer home.

Miss Chadwick (Religious Studies Team) – she is leaving Allerton Grange to focus on being with her young family.

We wish both of them every success in their new adventures.

Mike Roper
Headteacher

ClassCharts

Positive points: 10,960
Negative points: 1,900
83% positive points ratio

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 28 March -
School closes at the usual time for the Easter Holidays and reopens on Monday 15 April 2024 (Week A Timetable)

Year 10 PPEs start on Monday 15 April and finish on Friday 26 April 2024

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

Sports Results

Badminton

This week, we had a fixture against GSAL. Unfortunately, all 3 teams lost (**Sixth Form boys, KS3 girls and KS4 girls**).

The matches were extremely close with the **Sixth Form boys' team** and the **KS4 girls' team** narrowly losing out in the final games 5-3.

The **KS3 team**, with a player short, lost 6-2.

Sparx Maths

This year in Maths, Years 7-10 are using SPARX to complete their homework. This allows each student to receive individual and challenging tasks to help maximise their progress.

We have had competitions throughout the half term to see which students have engaged with SPARX the most.

The top five students are:

Isla (9ag10), **Ethan** (7ag7), **Serena** (9ag6), **Evan** (7ag3) and **Monae** (7ag9).



These students have completed lots of additional tasks in addition to the weekly homework.

Well done to these, and every student, for their hard work this half term.

SEND Next Choices Event

Getting ready for adult life

Thursday 25 June 2024

Leeds first direct arena

The event will bring together a wide range of organisations who can answer your queries about what to do next if you have a special educational need and / or disability. Find out about jobs, training, apprenticeships, college courses, supported internships, voluntary work, leisure activities, finances, benefits and organisations who can help you.

Young people, parents, carers, teachers and support workers are all welcome.

Book your free ticket at bit.ly/SEND2024

SEND information drop ins for parents and carers

An opportunity for parents and carers to speak to services and receive information and advice about SEND services in Leeds:

- Leeds Local Offer
- SENDIASS
- Scope
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum
- Speech and Language Therapy Service, Leeds Community Healthcare Trust

10.30am till 12.30pm

Sanderson Room, Leeds Central Library

- Wednesday 24 April 2024
- Wednesday 22 May 2024
- Wednesday 26 June 2024
- Wednesday 17 July 2024

Contact LLO@leeds.gov.uk for more information, and to request a visual walkthrough of the venue.

Author visit: Mark Illis

On Friday 22 March, two groups of Year 7 and Year 9 students, who've been engaging well with our reading platforms (Reading Plus for Year 7 and Sparx Reader for Year 9), were lucky enough to take part in a workshop with the author Mark Illis.

Students worked on crafting sentences to begin their own autobiographies. They experimented with their ideas, crafting and reworking their sentences carefully to create intriguing openings and working on hooking the reader. They also worked on constructing characters - inspired by a pair of shoes!



Mark gave students excellent advice including:

- have a strong beginning
- have a good idea
- create strong characters
- the first draft is often not the best draft
- as writers you can ask a question of your reader that you don't have to answer right away
- build your story - dive into the pool of the unconscious and pick around to come up with ideas
- as a writer, interrogate your ideas to ensure they'll work in a story

Mark also discussed the ingredients for writing a book - using the head and the heart to create a story. He spoke about the inspiration for his recent novel. He spoke about his experience of having cancer as an 18 year old and how that influenced him as a writer. He discussed the way that the 'big stuff' in life can give us motivation and inspiration for our writing, but that sometimes we don't want to be defined by what has happened to us. He also spoke about how to take a serious, truthful subject and write about it in a way that's not dismal and depressing and can be funny and entertaining. He read us some extracts from his book 'Running Away for Beginners'. He reminded us that stories are not really about things that happen; stories are really about the person who is at the heart of the story.

It was a real treat to hear first-hand from a real author and to get an insight into how he works. We have many budding writers at AGS so hopefully in the future we'll be inviting one of them back to share their experiences with the next generation of AGS students! Thank you Mark for coming in to inspire us and thank you to Mr Ellis for organising the event.

Ms Halaka - Curriculum Leader for English

Fundraising Enrichment Group

This week, students have been busy raising money for St Gemma's Hospice. They have been selling raffle tickets, 'Easter chicks' and baked goods, and held a whole school non-uniform day, on Thursday, with all proceeds being donated to St Gemma's.



Business and Language Competition

Last Wednesday, a group of Year 9 students went on a trip to Leeds University for a Business and Language Competition.

They participated in various workshops and also had a tour of the university. At the end of the day, they presented in French in front of a panel of judges.

The AGS Team did really well and were awarded second place.



Drama Exam Performances

On Tuesday, it was the A level exam for Year 13 Drama students. Well done to each member of the group!



Classics Students visit the University of Cambridge

On 27 March, our GCSE and A Level Classics students had a brilliant day at the Faculty of Classics at the University of Cambridge.

Students began their day in the Museum of Classical Archaeology where students were able to see most of the sculptures that they have seen in their lessons as well as having a talk from Dr Susanne Turner about how sculpture developed from Archaic Greece to the Roman period.

Students then experienced a tour of Clare College - the second oldest college at Cambridge - and had a talk about what it is like to study at the University of Cambridge. The day was wrapped off by an exciting lecture on the Greek poet Sappho by Dr Henry Spelman.



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)