



# AGS Weekly

Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3 March - World Book Day  
**Careers Fair** (4.30 - 6.30 pm)

8 March - **International Women's Day**

9 Mar - **Year 9 Virtual Parents' Evening**

14 March - **BBC Roadshow**  
Year 7, 8, 9, 10  
(During school day)

16 March - **Covid Booster vaccine**  
Parental consent required  
(During school day)

17 & 18 March - **Year 11 Results Revealed**  
(During Form Time)

24 March - **KS4&5 Concert**  
(7.00 - 9.00 pm)

31 March - **Moor Allerton Hall has Talent**  
(6.00 - 9.00 pm)



### Welcome to the very first edition of AGS Weekly

At Allerton Grange we recognise the importance of strong partnerships with our parents and a key aspect of this is good communication. Our new weekly parent newsletter will provide you with up to date information about student and staff successes, key dates, curriculum information and information about clubs and trips. We hope this will enable you to be better informed about what we are doing at Allerton Grange and, therefore, better able to support your child at home.

### Getting back to normal

Every week we are making further steps in getting our day to day educational provision back to where it was before the first COVID lockdown in March 2020. Our student attendance figures are rising every week and are currently at 93% (5% better than the national average). The staffing absences we experienced in January and February appear to have eased following the new government guidance. Clubs, trips and sports fixtures continue to run and our Year 11 and Year 13 students have recently completed their final round of Pre-Public Examinations – we wish them all the luck in the world as they begin the final push towards final exams in June.

### Recent external reviews

We have an exceptionally busy week with visitors from the Local Authority and from Red Kite Alliance attending the school. On Wednesday, two school improvement advisers from Leeds Authority spent the day reviewing our Geography curriculum – the feedback they provided said “the curriculum is strong, challenging and well sequenced.” “Behaviour and attitudes were exceptional – no low level disruption.” “Literacy is fully embedded – lots of reading and key vocabulary is well taught.”

On Thursday we had two local headteachers (Kettlethorpe and Benton Park) visit the school to assess the quality of our personal development provision. They spent the day visiting lessons, attending assemblies and conducting interviews with students – the feedback they provided said; “What a great school you have here!” and “Your students were such a pleasure to talk to – they love being part of Allerton Grange and are so proud of their school.”

### Our new recruits for September 2022

This month we were informed which students will be joining Allerton Grange as our new Year 7 cohort in September. We were delighted to have received 944 applications (up 15% on last year) and, of course, we have been allocated a full 300 year group with a very long waiting list. Congratulations if you are one of the families that have received a place and we look forward to working with you in the coming months on our transition programme.

If you have any suggestions as to how this weekly newsletter could be improved then please contact [vikimciver@allertongrange.com](mailto:vikimciver@allertongrange.com)

**Mike Roper**  
Headteacher

# Spotlight on the Curriculum

In this section we will provide updates on the curriculum and some of the topics year groups are studying during this half term.

## ***In this issue we focus on Year 7:***

### **Maths**

This half term, Year 7 students are exploring where multiplication and division are used across maths. They will then be moving on to study fractions and percentages, before looking at directed numbers (negatives).

### **Music**

Year 7 students are learning how to read music and work out notes on the treble clef. They have been learning how to play the keyboard and are practicing a piece by George Ezra for an assessment, where students perform in front of each other in the class. Before we break up for Easter, students will learn about the instruments in the orchestra.

### **PE**

There are many sports being covered this half term, including Football, Rugby, Health Related Fitness, and Basketball. Students will be assessed on how they select and combine skills; what they know about strategies, tactics and composition; how accurately they analyse and comment on their own and others work; what they know about health and fitness; and how regular physical activity can benefit their health.

### **Physics**

The structure of the ear - how do vibrations in air pressure 'look' on an oscilloscope and how does the ear allow animals to hear? What happens when energy stores change?

### **MFL**

In **French**, students will be learning Michel Thomas module 6, which includes different types of infinitives, some high-frequency phrases, such as I am (je suis), I can (je peux) and I must (je dois); and how to form negative sentences.

In **German**, students will be learning vocabulary, focusing on free time and hobbies.

In **Spanish**, the topic is 'school'.

### **Product Design**

Students will be introduced to the Memphis Design movement and the designer, Ettore Sottsass. They will use inspiration from Memphis Design when adding colour and pattern to their final outcome of a desk tidy. Students will also use knowledge they have learnt of tools and machinery to produce their final design.

### **Religious Studies**

Year 7 are studying the topic "Are Holy books still relevant?" This covers a range of topics from how holy books were revealed, what they contain and how they are viewed and treated by different religions.

### **Biology**

This term, students will use qualitative reagents to test for carbohydrates, fats and protein; describe the process of diffusion and osmosis; explain how different factors affect the rate of diffusion; name some substances transported in and out of the cell by diffusion; carry out an investigation to determine the effect of concentration on osmosis. Students will also be learning about the structure of a leaf and how it relates to function, looking into the rate of photosynthesis and describing root structure and the leaf transport system.

## PSHE

During this half term, PSHE will focus on the following topics:

Year 7 - Developing self-confidence, Physical and emotional changes during puberty, Periods, How to manage influences on body satisfaction.

Year 8 - How to recognise and challenge stereotypes, Prejudice, Discrimination, The Equality Act, Human Rights, The Laws and Rights of Children

Year 9 - What are my consumer rights?, Understanding and getting support for identity fraud and money mules, What is gambling?, What is problem gambling and how do I access support?, Your developing sexuality, Understanding gender identity

Year 10 - How to recognise when social media features inaccurate information, How inaccurate information can relate to extreme viewpoints, What is radicalisation and how to seek support, What is the age or criminal responsibility?, How laws affect your life, Understanding judicial proceedings.

Year 11 - Pensions and Student Loans, Financial Insurance and risk, Preparing for Exams, Reframing negative thinking

**Congratulations** to our Year 7 and 8 'Millionaire Readers', who have each read over ONE MILLION words this year.



# Focus on Enrichment

## Student Council

AGS students took part in the annual 'Make Your Mark' vote, run by the UK Youth Parliament, choosing from seven topics.

**Jobs, Money, Homes and Opportunities** received the most votes, **Environment** was second and **Ending Child Poverty** was third.

The full results will be shared with the UK Youth Parliament and will influence what issues are raised. Thank you to Student Council, and to all students who took part and shared their views.

## DEAR

Every morning students Drop Everything and Read with their form group. The form tutor reads aloud as students follow the text and all forms in a year group read the same chapters each week for a shared learning journey.

This half term we're reading the following books:

**Year 7 - War Horse** by Michael Morpurgo

**Year 8 - Girl of Ink and Stars** by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

**Year 9 - Noughts & Crosses** by Malorie Blackman

**Year 10 - Fahrenheit 451** by Ray Bradbury

## Trips and Clubs

### Y10 Geography Field Trip

GCSE Geography students visited Flamborough and Hornsea to investigate sea defences and longshore drift, and also spotted seals.



### Legally Blonde Rehearsals

This Summer, our school musical will be 'Legally Blonde'. Rehearsals are going 'fantastically' (that's what their director says!). Our lead performers are working on key scenes, we're enjoying whole company rehearsals and are delighted with our core dancers.



## We're Proud of:

**Gurman in Year 10** will be attending an event on 11 March where she will open a debate with the Speaker of the House of Commons.

**Miss Spencer-Matthews** has been awarded with the Blair Peach Award for 2022 by the National Education Union for her humanitarian work with Care4Calais. The Blair Peach Award is given to an NEU member who has made an exemplary contribution to their school or union branch's work in any area of equality and diversity.

Our **Year 9 Boys Rugby Team** won the 2022 Year 9 Lee Trophy, our first major trophy for High School Rugby league.



**At the last Hot Chocolate Friday before half term, students celebrated their achievements with Mr Roper.**

**Lucas in Year 7** has grown in confidence and we are very excited to see him step out of his comfort zone.

**Samuel in Year 8** was nominated for consistent hard work and determination across the whole curriculum.

**Tilly in Year 9** was nominated by Ms Taylor who said "Tilly is such a pleasure to teach. I am so impressed with her work ethic and she shows resilience and determination to tackle any difficulties she may face."

**Saleem in Year 10** was recognised for being extremely helpful during a very difficult situation.

**Safiah in Year 12** has been nominated for the lovely gesture of giving out positivity cards to support resilience and positivity within Sixth Form.

**Hannah in Year 13** has shown such a commitment to working hard, going above and beyond this year and being incredibly resilient. Well done!

