



# AGS Weekly

Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter



What a wonderful week of weather we have had. It has been fantastic to see our students playing outside during their break and lunchtimes – long may it continue.

## RED Award:

The diversity within our school community is something we frequently celebrate at Allerton Grange and it is an aspect of school that visitors always comment on. Indeed, it is highlighted in the opening sentence of our recent Ofsted report: "This is a multicultural school and pupils enjoy the diversity." The variety of different cultures, faiths, backgrounds and experiences that all come together to make our school community is something extremely special and deserves to be nurtured and protected. That is why we have recently subscribed to The Red Kite Alliance RED Award. This award is an auditing framework that will help us to dig deep into all aspects of school life to ensure that Respect, Equality and Diversity runs through everything we do. I am sure there will be lots to celebrate but also aspects to work on. Miss Turner-Lindley is going to work on this agenda across the whole school and it will involve her consulting with all stakeholders in Allerton Grange – students, staff, parents and governors. So please be alert for an invite asking you to take part.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

30 - 31 March - **Cooking on a Budget**  
Sixth Form Enrichment

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

4 - 18 April - **Easter Holiday**

19 April - **Summer Term starts**

21 April - **Battle of the Bands Audition**  
(M001)

25/26 April - **DTP Vaccinations**  
Year 9 - consent required

2 May - **Bank Holiday**

## Staffing absences:

I am sure you will have seen in the news that COVID cases are rising across the country. This week we have experienced our worst week since 2020 for staffing absences. On average this week, we have experienced 12 staff absences each day, with 9 of these being teaching staff and 6 absences related to COVID. This equates to 10% of our teaching staff being absent each day this week. Despite all the challenges absence rates like this bring, we have managed to keep a full curriculum running for every year group in school. We have, however, had to revert to AMBER staff contingency arrangements, this means that school trips or sports fixtures that require lesson cover may have to be cancelled at very short notice – this allows us to keep our main curriculum running.

**Mike Roper**  
Headteacher

## Attendance

*Are you ensuring your child attends school every day and on time?*

*Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, attendance data isn't available this week.*

## ClassCharts

*Are you a regular user of ClassCharts?  
Are you tracking your child's achievements and behaviour in school?*

**This week:**

**Positive points issued = 13,000**

**Negative points issued = 1,300**

**90% positive ratio**

## Particle Physics Roadshow



Last Friday, 18 March, Year 7 and 8 students were wowed with by a visit from Dr Sam Gregson and his Particle Physics Roadshow. This was organised by Mr Warne and took place during National Science Week.

# 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 10:**

## Computing

This half term students are working on Logic and Languages, and Python programming.

## Hairdressing

Students will be completing their Marketing Project, which includes them planning promotional activities and developing promotional materials for hair and beauty products.

## Religious Studies

Year 10 are completing their short course GCSE and are currently exploring the key beliefs of Islam. In recent lessons they have explored the lives of the prophets and belief in God.

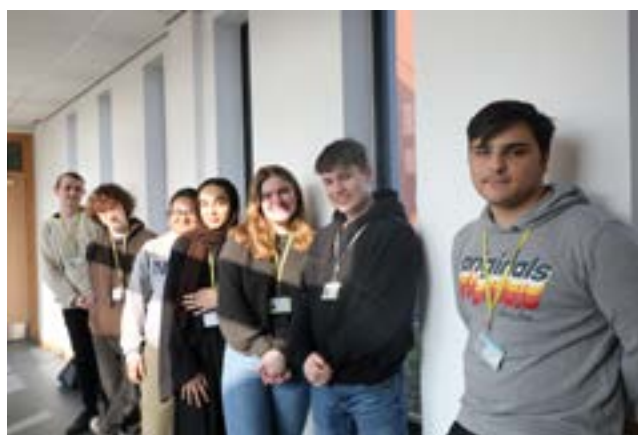


## Extended Project Qualification

Ten Year 13 students delivered their EPQ presentations to a panel of AGS staff on Wednesday.

Students spoke eloquently on a range of topics including:

Lavendar linguistics in China; Cosmetic Dentistry; Social Media; Volcanoes; the Criminal Justice System; Islam; Autistic Spectrum Disorder; the Pandemic and Dental Care; Historical Use of Mercury; Portuguese Colonial War.



## Academic Vocabulary

'Words Matter' is a programme designed to improve literacy levels in KS3. Students need to learn these words to be able to fully access the curriculum, examinations, and a wide range of academic texts.

**History vocabulary words include:**

**Analysis** – complex judgments based on the evidence

**Authority** – power or rule

**Compensation** – a type of payment to make up for damages or doing something wrong

**Economy** – A term used to describe the system of money and trade in a country

**Impact** – the effects of a change

**At Hot Chocolate Friday on 18 March, students celebrated their achievements with Mr Roper.**

**Mohammed in Year 7** is a very polite and respectful student, with an excellent attitude towards his learning. He is a hardworking learner who makes a great contribution to the class.

**Chloe in Year 8** is a great friend to other students and she has always shown a great deal of respect to staff. She always works hard in lessons and has also really grown in maturity this year, despite some adversity. Well done.

**Oliver in Year 9** was nominated by Mr Nutch for finishing in the top 600 in the country (Gold stage) for a Maths challenge.

**Imran in Year 11** has been so much more focused and engaged with his studies lately. His Technology teacher is impressed and he is on his way to achieving a very good grade.

**Rafah in Year 12** has made an impressive start to Sixth Form. He has a high number of achievement points, brilliant attendance, dedication and commitment to his school work, and is a polite young man who we are proud to call an AGS student.

**Simran in Year 13** has the highest number of achievement points for the year group. When faced with a challenge she steps up, goes out of her way to be part of the school community, and is so polite and kind.





# Sports Fixtures

## Rugby:

The Year 9 boys' rugby team continued their fantastic season, winning five matches out of five at the Leeds Rhinos Try 9's tournament to qualify for the next round.

## Netball:

In Netball, Year 7 finished 3rd in a tournament played at Allerton Grange last Thursday, even beating a GSAL team along the way!

The Year 8 girls' netball team also finished 3rd in a netball tournament at Prince Henry's Grammar School.

Our Year 10 netball team beat Bishop Young 19-13.

## Badminton:

KS3 girls and KS4 boys team played Dixons Trinity Chapeltown, with the KS3 girls team losing 5-3 and the KS4 boys team winning 8-0.

## Football:

The Year 7 and 8 girls' football team beat Leeds City 13-0 on Monday.

On Wednesday, the Year 7 boys' football team beat Cockburn 4-1 to progress to the Leeds City Cup semi-final. The Year 8 boys' football team beat Garforth 2-1.

The Year 9 boys' football team beat Allerton High 4-2.



Year 7 (below)

Year 8 (above)



# Trips and Clubs

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award

This week, more Year 9 and 10 students went on their overnight expedition for the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award.

We have two more groups taking part next week.

If you would like to find out more, please speak to Mr Morgan or email [dofe@allertongrange.com](mailto:dofe@allertongrange.com)



## City of Leeds Prom Concert

This week Mrs Casey, Kieran and Miss Child took 13 students to Pudsey Civic Hall. Students enjoyed a concert from multiple Artforms ensembles including the City of Leeds Youth Wind Orchestra, a Folk group called Roots, Leeds Silver Steel Sparrows and Leeds Youth Jazz Rock Orchestra.

[More info for young people interested in joining these ensembles.](#)



## Maths Feast Competition

Congratulations to Year 10 students Maya, Shayan, Harry, Hester, Riya, Isobel, Aki and William who took part in a Maths Feast competition this week.

Team 1 received a certificate for scoring highly over all four rounds; and Team 2 received a certificate for scoring the highest in round 3. Allerton Grange was the only school that won two certificates!

Thank you to Ms Kurasz for organising this opportunity.

## KS4/5 Concert

Thank you to the Music and Technical Teams for supporting our KS4 and KS5 students to perform at the concert on Thursday 24 March. It was a welcome return to performing for a live audience and our students were exceptional.

Mr Roper said: "What spectacular performances - it was a great evening of musical talent!"



## Supporting our Young People

Please see information below, provided by the Behaviour and Welfare Team, to help you support your child.

### Bereavement

Please view the [Leeds City Council and Child Bereavement UK presentation](#) where young people share their advice.

Dr Alex George's [Five Top Tips for Mental Health and Wellbeing](#).

### Kooth

This is an online mental health community for 10-18 year olds where they can access free, safe and anonymous support, commissioned by Leeds NHS Clinical Commissioning Group.

### Keep your child safe online

It is important to have regular conversations about staying safe online and to encourage children to speak to you if they come across something worrying online. Talk to your child about the importance of creating a safe online environment, including keeping any log-in details and passwords safe

### Stay calm before exams - Useful apps

To help students stay calm and beat exam stress, there are a number of apps that can help, available from Apple and Android App Stores.

**Headspace:** This is a popular meditation app, focusing on mindfulness and providing 3 to 10 minute themed sessions to deal with panic, stress and anxiety.

**Stop, Breathe & Think:** This is an emotional wellness app that helps you to develop a habit of taking a moment to think about the current situation you are in.

**Happify:** This offers games aimed at relieving stress, motivational articles and audio tracks from psychology experts.

**Sleep Cycle:** This app helps you manage a sleep schedule to help you perform at your best.

**Calm:** This app offers guided meditation sessions and breathing exercises that can help you overcome tension and stress.

**7 Cups:** This app allows you to have 'therapy' session with experts and trained listeners at no cost.

**Colorfy:** This is one of many online colouring apps available. Through colouring activities, you can clear your head and stay sharp.