



Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter

Polite reminder: all students are expected to be on time next week and in their classroom by 08.30 am. Also, unless it is a PE day, all students should be wearing plain black footwear, no trainers.

Dear Allerton Grange community,

As we settle back into our regular routines following last week's snow disruption, I'm delighted to share some exciting updates and celebrate our students' remarkable resilience and dedication.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank all of our parents and carers for their unwavering support. Your commitment to ensuring our students maintain excellent standards of uniform and behaviour is appreciated. The smooth transition back to school life is an example of the strong partnership between home and school, and we're truly grateful for your efforts.

Our Year 13 students have recently completed their PPEs (Pre Public Exams), and showed remarkable focus and determination. These assessments provide invaluable practice and feedback, helping our sixth formers prepare for their final exams. We're incredibly proud of their hard work and commitment to their studies during this important time.

Meanwhile, our Year 11 students have been tackling their Mock Speaking Exams with confidence and determination. These experiences are vital in building the skills and confidence needed for their upcoming GCSEs, and we're impressed by the maturity and dedication they've shown throughout this process.

Looking ahead, excitement is building for our upcoming production of "Guys and Dolls". With just over 3 weeks to go, our talented cast and crew are working hard to bring this classic musical to life on our school stage. The dedication and creativity on display are truly inspiring, and we can't wait to share this spectacular performance with our school community. Tickets are available on ParentPay.

As we continue through the term, let's maintain the positive momentum we've built. Your ongoing support and engagement are key factors in our students' success, and we're inspired by the strong community spirit that defines Allerton Grange.

Thank you for your continued support, and here's to another fantastic term of learning, growth, and achievement.

Andrew Norrington (Associate Headteacher)

Change to 'Late' Detentions

From Monday 27 January 2025, any student late to school will be booked in for a social time detention at lunch time on the same day.

For example, if a student is late to school on Tuesday, they will have a lunch time detention on Tuesday.

Lost Property

Please help your child by labelling their belongings with their name.

We have lots of lost property at Main Reception. If your child has lost something in school, please as them to check what's been handed in by Wednesday 22 January.

Dates for your Diary:

Wednesday 22 January 2025 - Year 11 Advice & Guidance meetings, 3.15 - 4.15 pm, Dining Room

Thursday 23 January 2025 - Red Kite Battle of the Bands, 6.30 - 9.00 pm at the Wardrobe, Leeds

Friday 24 January 2025 - Deadline for consent forms to be returned for Year 7 to take part in the Raised in Yorkshire Programme.

Thursday 30 January 2025 - Year 11 Advice & Guidance meetings, 3.15 - 4.15 pm, Dining Room

Tuesday 11 to Thursday 13 February - Guys and Dolls, 7.00 - 9.00 pm Tickets from Parent Pay

Monday 17 to Friday 21 February - Half Term Holiday -School is closed

Monday 24 February - First Day of Half Term 4

Training Days 2024-25

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

Monday 2 September 2024 √ Friday 20 September 2024 √ Monday 6 January 2025 √ Monday 21 July 2025 Tuesday 22 July 2025

December Fundraising

We're delighted that our students raised **£1014.79** at the end of last term which will be split between St Gemma's Hospice and Simon on the Streets.







Sports Fixture Results

Cricket

On Monday 13 January, Miss Caisley took 10 Year 9 girls to participate in an U15 Indoor Cricket Tournament at Ralph Thoresby.

In short, the girls were superb! We won all of our games, beating Allerton High by 13 runs, Leeds West by 47 runs, Ralph Thoresby by 33 runs and Guiseley by 23 runs.

All of our students were fantastic, special mentions go to Skye, Amrit and Zainah who all achieved the maximum run total of 15 in 2 games and they also bowled superbly taking multiple wickets.

We now progress to the finals day at Woodlands Cricket Club in February - well done girls.

Basketball

Our Year 7 and 8 combined Basketball team played in their first Junior NBA competition against Abbey Grange and Allerton High earlier in the week. Unfortunately, they lost but each pupil showed brilliant determination.

On Wednesday evening, the **Year 7 Basketball team** had a competition against Roundhay, Allerton High, Carr Manor and Bishop Young Academy. We won three games and lost two. Matthew, Lucas and Zayne all demonstrated outstanding performances.

Badminton

On Thursday, Mr Noutch took the Year 7, KS3 girls' and KS3 boys' Badminton teams to the Grammar school for a fixture vs GSAL and Prince Henry's Grammar.





Snow Poetry

The recent snow inspired one of our wonderful Year 10 students to write a poem inspired both by the weather and by Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem Ozymandias, which Year 10 are currently studying.

We thought it was too good not to share! If you also feel like writing a poem, please do share it with your English teacher - we always love reading your poems, especially when it's something you've come up with by yourself and without being prompted by your teacher! *Ms Halaka - Curriculum Leader for English*

The Blizzard by Henry (Year 10)

Trudging through the snow is a worn-out soul, Who seeks warmth and summers delight, In the midst of this blizzard so cold, He clambers through the slush that grasps so tight,

The fleet of the fire as the frost takes hold.

Crawling through the arduous snow is a wornout soul,

The tempest of the night trailing close behind, Lingering for him to soon fold,

Gasping for breath that he itches to find, As the sneer of the breeze becomes uncontrolled.

From under the polar quilt, A worn-out soul's visage peaks, As the frozen fluff covers this filth, The splitting of the Blizzards jaws that shrieks, As another lone traveller trudges through the snow.

> We had great success against Prince Henry's with the Year 7 team winning 6-2, KS3 boys drawing 4-4 and KS3 girls winning (by default as they brought Year 10 students instead of Year 8/9).

Unfortunately, a bit of a reversal against GSAL, as we lost all 3 fixtures.

Well done to all players.

Free School Meals

Eating a nutritious school meal is essential for pupils' health, growth, and learning.

In January 2024, 8,435 eligible pupils missed out on their free school meal

which can save families up to £490 each year. Find out if you are eligible to apply for Free School Meals by clicking on this link.

HENRY Parent Programme

The free <u>Healthy Families Growing Up</u> <u>Programme</u> is suitable for any parent or carer with at least one child aged 5-12 years.

The next online course starts on 28 January 2025, 12.00 - 1.30 pm. You can sign up <u>using</u> this link and then completing the online form.

Certificate Collection

On Wednesday, we welcomed last year's Year 11 and Year 13 students back into school to collect their exam certificates.

It's always lovely to catch up, especially with those who have gone on to university or college, and find out how things are going.



Raised in Yorkshire Dental Project -Opportunity for Year 7 Students

Each year, Allerton Grange partners with the University of Leeds School of Dentistry and our Year 7 students have the opportunity to take part in the Citizens Science Project: Raised in Yorkshire.



Information is collected about the health of your child's teeth, the bugs in their mouths that cause tooth decay, and their health behaviours. The aim is to empower young people with the skills and knowledge to improve their own oral health and toothbrushing habits.

Qualified dental professionals work with AGS Sixth Form students as part of the programme to train them to become Oral Health Educators. They teach students at AGS and other local schools about the importance of oral health care and sharing their skills and knowledge.

If you would like your Year 7 child to take part in the project, please read the information sheet and return the consent form to school by 24 January 2025. Students received print outs during Form Time this week. Copies can also be found on the <u>school website</u>.





Free STARS Online Workshops for Parents and Professionals

STARS are running a series of free online parent/professional workshops linked to supporting neurodivergent children in the home.

Each workshop will be delivered via Teams from 9.45 to 11.15 am on each date.

Dates and topics:

08.11.2024	Sensory Support in the Home
06.12.2024	Identity and Diagnosis
10.01.2025	Visual Supports in the Home EY
10.01.2025	Keeping autistic children and young
	people safe online
07.02.2025	Visual Supports Secondary & Post 16
07.03.2025	Key life transitions
02.05.2025	Anxiety based avoidance
06.06.2025	A basic introduction to Intensive Interaction
04.07.2025	Puberty and sexuality

To book your place:

Parents: email <u>starsteam@leeds.gov.uk</u> stating your name, email address and workshops you would like to book.

Professionals: book via Leeds for Learning. Contact: <u>starsteam@leeds.gov.uk</u>

CYMPHS Crisis Call Line - Supporting students back into school after the holidays

Whatever your issue, big or small, they are there to listen and support you.

Call 8.00 am to 8.00 pm, everyday: 0800 953 0505

Time for Young People, Leeds

This is a new service designed to deliver communitybased early emotional and mental health support for children and young people in Leeds, with a particular focus on children and young people aged 11-25 who needsupport outside of school or NHS services settings.

This service is delivered by The Children's Society, a national charity with over 140 years of experience commissioned by NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (Leeds) and Leeds City Council. 'Time for Young People, Leeds' is available for children and young adults up to 18 years old, including care leavers and young people with special educational needs and disabilities up to age 25, as well as their parents and carers.

To access the service and to find out further information, please visit the website or phone 0113 517 8000.

https://mindmate.org.uk/time-for-yp/

Online Safety

Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership, West Yorkshire Police and partners have launched a campaign to encourage parents to have conversations with their children about their online activity.

The online world can be a great place for young people, when enjoyed safely, but some criminals can use online games and social media to contact and exploit them.

The campaign "**Start the conversation**" encourages parents to have conversations with their children, to understand who they are talking to and interacting with online.

Talking to a child about what they do online, is as important as asking them where they are going when they go out with their friends.

Regular conversations about their online world could encourage children to talk to a trusted adult if something they have seen online made them feel uncomfortable or if someone is talking to them that they don't know.

For parents and carers:

Talk to your child about staying safe online

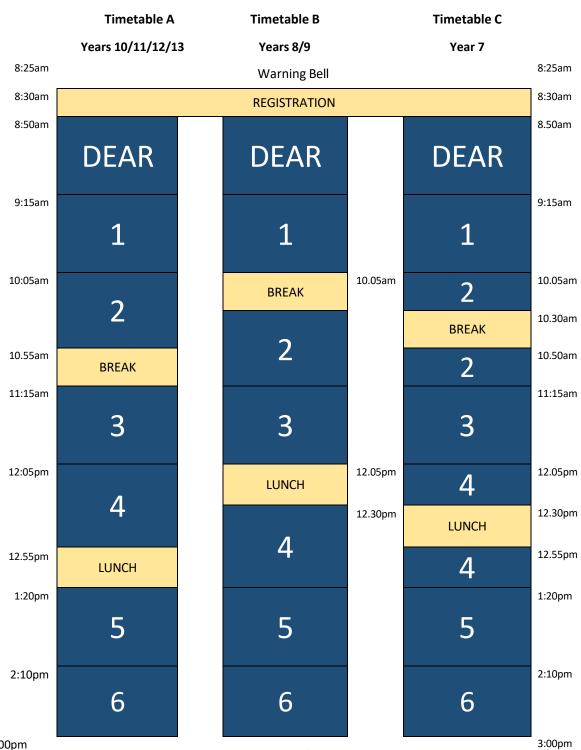
Most of us tend to think of our online and offline lives as separate, but children today are growing up with technology and the internet as a natural part of their lives. To them there isn't a separation. It's all just life. The internet is now part of the real world.

Talking to your child about what they do online is just as important as asking where they are going when they go out with their friends. It can be difficult starting the conversation with your child about their online activities. Technology keeps changing and you might find it overwhelming trying to keep up with it all, but you don't need to. You just need to take an interest in what apps and games your child is using. That's the best place to start.

Your child might not want to share anything with you at first, but keep trying.

Having honest and open conversations with your child and speaking to them regularly about what they are doing online, could be crucial in giving your child the confidence to tell you if they have seen something that makes them feel uncomfortable or may highlight someone who is wanting to cause harm.

See the <u>Start the conversation leaflet</u> for some helpful tips on how to start the conversation. Further guidance is available on the <u>LSCP</u> <u>website</u> as well as information on <u>how to set</u> <u>up parental control</u> on all the devices that your child uses.



SCHOOL DAY 2024-25

3:00pm

After School Provisions/Detentions begin

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.