



AGS Weekly

Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter

Dear Allerton Grange community,

As we approach the end of another busy week, I'm delighted to share some exciting updates and celebrate the remarkable achievements of our students.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank all the staff involved in our Sixth Form recruitment process. It's been an absolute pleasure conducting Advice and Guidance Meetings with our Year 11 students. The maturity and politeness displayed by these young adults has been truly impressive. It's encouraging to see so many of our current students planning to continue their post-16 journey with us at Allerton Grange Sixth Form. Your commitment to your future is commendable, and we're thrilled to be part of your ongoing academic adventure.

On the musical front, I'm proud to announce that our Year 12 band, Set List, represented Allerton Grange in the Red Kite Battle of the Bands competition. While we didn't manage to win for the second year in a row, the band's performance was nothing short of brilliant and they showcased their talent, embodying the spirit and values of our school. To the members of Set List: *"Your dedication and musical prowess are impressive. You've done yourselves and Allerton Grange proud."* [You can watch highlights here.](#)

I would like to recognise some individual student achievements that truly exemplify the creative and intellectual talent within our school community. I'd like to shine a spotlight on Amelia, one of our Year 9 students. Amelia's identity poem (see page 3) has left quite an impression, with her skillful use of anaphora and extended metaphors wowing her entire class. But, Amelia's literary pursuits didn't stop there. In a display of curiosity and initiative, that we always encourage at Allerton Grange, Amelia took it upon herself to email the renowned poet, Brian Bilston. She sought clarification on a reference in one of his works, demonstrating not only her engagement with the material, but also her willingness to go above and beyond in her learning. To our delight, Brian Bilston himself responded, confirming that his 'northwest quadrant' reference indeed pertained to crossword completion. As if that wasn't enough, Amelia also entered the 'Lord of the Flies' competition and I'm thrilled to announce that she placed in the top ten nationally! This is an outstanding achievement and a testament to Amelia's literary skill and hard work.

These accomplishments, from our Sixth Form applicants to our budding poets and musicians, reflect the vibrant, diverse, and talented community we have here at Allerton Grange. They are a reminder of the potential that lies within each of our students and the importance of nurturing their individual passions and skills.

As we continue through the academic year, let's celebrate these successes and look forward to the many more to come. Keep pushing boundaries, asking questions, and pursuing your interests with the same enthusiasm and dedication you've shown so far.

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.

Dates for your Diary:

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

Wednesday 26 February - Health & Social Care Evening (Year 11), 5.00 - 6.00 pm

Monday 3 to Friday 7 March - National Careers Week

Monday 10 to Friday 14 March - National Science Week

Thursday 20 March - KS4&5 Concert, 7.00 - 9.00 pm

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

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 [Healthy Families Growing Up Programme](#) 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 [using this link and then completing the online form.](#)

COMING SOON TO A SCHOOL NEAR YOU



11, 12, 13 Feb 2025 7.00 pm
Tickets: £9 each from ParentPay

GUYS AND DOLLS
A Musical Fable of Broadway
Based on the Story and Characters of Damon Runyon
Music and Lyrics by
FRANK LOCER

Book by
JO SHOOTING and ABE BURROUGHS
The musical production is presented by arrangement with
Music Theatre International
All authorized performance royalties are also supplied by MTI
www.mti Shows.co.uk

LEEDS LOCAL OFFER LIVE

The Leeds Local Offer website provides information about services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers in one place.

Leeds Local Offer Live is a market place event that provides families with the opportunity to find out more about SEND services in Leeds.

WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH 2025

10AM TILL 3PM (DROP IN)

PUDSEY CIVIC HALL
(DRIVING CENTRE/ST PAVESLEY CT,
LS28 5TA)

BOOK YOUR PLACE



More than ways Leeds goes [uk/MLLOLive2025](#)



Sports Fixture Results

Cross Country

On Saturday 18 January, it was the final Cross Country Race of the season on a very wet, muddy and difficult Middleton Park.

Three Allerton Grange athletes took part in the race with Ewan finishing first again, Reuben was 10th and Woody was 12th.

Congratulations to you all. It has been a great season. But, it isn't quite over because Ewan, Ellie and Reuben have been chosen for the West Yorkshire Trials on Saturday 1 February - so watch this space!

A massive thank you needs to go to Ms Raven who has attended and supported our students.

Year 9 Poetry

We are delighted to share the following poem, written on the theme of the struggle to define one's identity in a world where ideologies clash and contradictions are abundant.

Fractured Mirrors by Amelia, Year 9

In the city of broken glass, I am a shard of identity.
In the city of broken glass, I am a reflection of the past.
In the city of broken glass, I am a fragment of a nation's pride.
In the city of broken glass, I am a splinter of a people's divide.

In the streets of forgotten dreams, I am a whispered rumour of freedom.
In the streets of forgotten dreams, I am a faint echo of a revolution's drumbeat.
In the streets of forgotten dreams, I am a forgotten melody of equality.
In the streets of forgotten dreams, I am a stray note of injustice.

Like a river that flows between two rocks, I am torn between the ideologies.
A chasm of capitalism's craving, where the strong devour the weak.
A canyon of communism's creed, where the many silence the unique.
I am the water that carves a path, seeking a balance between the two.

In the hall of history's hollowed hearts, I am a portrait of conflicting truths.
In the hall of history's hollowed hearts, I am a mural of shattered youth.
In the hall of history's hollowed hearts, I am a statue of freedom's frustrated cry.
In the hall of history's hollowed hearts, I am a tapestry of lives left to die.

Like a flame that flickers between oxygen and fuel, I am a dance of contradictions.
A waltz of extremes, where fascist fists clash with communist hands.
A tango of tensions, where individual voices are lost in the crowd.
I am the fire that burns with a desire to forge a path that's neither too proud.

In the silence of a world asleep, I am a crescendo of awakening cries.
In the silence of a world asleep, I am a symphony of resistant sighs.
In the silence of a world asleep, I am a chorus of dissenting voices.
In the silence of a world asleep, I am a whisper of a new world's choices.



**CITY OF LEEDS
YOUTH MUSIC
GROUPS**

Open Rehearsals
21st to the 24th January 2025

For more details please visit
www.artformsleeds.co.uk
or scan the QR code.

High quality music-making and performance opportunities for talented young people in Leeds aged 19 and under. To find out more, scan the QR code.

artforms Leeds Arts Council ENGLAND

Red Kite Alliance Battle of the Bands

On Thursday evening, it was the Red Kite Alliance Battle of the Bands competition at the Wardrobe in Leeds.

Allerton Grange band 'Set List' (Danny, Frank, Ben, Archie and Oliver from Year 12) gave an outstanding performance of the Arctic Monkeys' song 'When the Sun Goes Down' to a packed crowd.



Unfortunately, despite their strong performance, it wasn't their year and Temple Moor band 'Vertigo' were crowned this year's winners of the competition.

Last year's Battle of the Band champions, AGS band 'Yacht Club' (Niamh and Krisha from Year 13, and Luke and Eddie who left Sixth Form in the summer) also performed a set including some of their own songs.



Thank you to everyone who came along to support our musicians, especially the Music Team (Mrs Casey, Ms Shrimpton and Al Matthews) and Mr Macrow.

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 starsteam@leeds.gov.uk stating your name, email address and workshops you would like to book.

Professionals: book via Leeds for Learning.

Contact: starsteam@leeds.gov.uk

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 community-based 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 need support 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 [Start the conversation leaflet](#) for some helpful tips on how to start the conversation. Further guidance is available on the [LSCP website](#) as well as information on [how to set up parental control](#) on all the devices that your child uses.

**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.**

SCHOOL DAY 2024-25

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		8:50am	
9:15am	1	1		9:15am	
10:05am	2	BREAK	10:05am	10:05am	
10:55am	BREAK	2		10:30am	
11:15am	3	3		10:50am	
12:05pm	4	LUNCH	12:05pm	11:15am	
12:55pm	LUNCH	4	12:30pm	12:05pm	
1:20pm	5	5		12:30pm	
2:10pm	6	6		12:55pm	
3:00pm				1:20pm	
				2:10pm	
				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.