



# AGS Weekly

## *Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter*

**Dear Parents, Carers and Students,**

### **A Focus on Attendance**

Firstly, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support in promoting excellent attendance.

Thanks to your efforts, we are pleased to report that our whole school attendance has returned to 94% this week. This is a strong position, and maintaining this upward trajectory will make a meaningful difference to students' progress, wellbeing and future opportunities.

To provide some national context, recent attendance data for England shows that the secondary national weekly attendance average is 91.8% for the week of 5-9 January 2026. This means Allerton Grange is currently performing above the national secondary average, and we are extremely proud of our families and students for helping us achieve this.

We know, from national evidence, that regular attendance is one of the strongest predictors of academic success. Your continued partnership in ensuring students attend every day, on time, truly matters. Let's keep going - every lesson counts.

Please see our [Student and Parent Attendance Reminders](#) booklet for more information.

### **Thank You to Staff and Students – School Trips**

A huge thank you goes to all staff involved in the planning and delivery of school trips this week. Your hard work, organisation and dedication ensure our students enjoy enriching experiences beyond the classroom.

This week, students had the opportunity to visit the Leeds Playhouse to watch A Christmas Carol. Staff have reported that the behaviour of our students was exemplary; they conducted themselves with maturity, kindness, and enthusiasm.

As always, they were a credit to both the school and their families. We are incredibly proud of how they represented Allerton Grange, and we look forward to many more successful trips and cultural experiences throughout the year.

**Warm regards**

**Andrew Norrington**  
**Headteacher**

### Dates for your Diary:

**Tuesday 20 January - KS3 Parents Online Safety Talk, 6.00 - 7.30 pm (Parents/Carers Only - this is due to content of the talk)**

**Wednesday 21 January - Year 11 Advice & Guidance meetings (1), 3.15 - 4.15 pm**

**Thursday 22 January - Red Kite Battle of the Bands at the Wardrobe. [Tickets available](#)**

**Wednesday 28 January - Year 7 Parents' Consultation Event, 4.30 - 7.30 pm**

**Thursday 29 January - Year 11 Advice & Guidance meetings (2), 3.15 - 4.15 pm**

**Monday 2 February - Year 9 DTP Men MMR vaccines ([Parental consent required](#))** *If you do not wish your child to receive the vaccinations, you still need to complete the refusal section.*

**Tuesday 10 to Thursday 12 February - School Musical, Little Shop of Horrors, Doors 6.30 pm, Show starts at 7.00 pm. Tickets available from ParentPay**

**Monday 16 to Friday 20 February - Half Term Holiday**

**Tuesday 24 February - Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening (online appointments)**

**Monday 2 to Friday 6 March - National Careers Week**

**Monday 9 to Friday 13 March - National Science Week**

### Training Days 2025-26

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

**Monday 1 September 2025 ✓**

**Friday 19 September 2025 ✓**

**Monday 5 January 2026 ✓**

**Monday 20 July 2026**

**Tuesday 21 July 2026**

### Parents' Information Evenings 2025-26

We have an online booking system for Parents' Evenings

<https://agrange.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

For the 2025-26 academic year Parents' Evenings will continue to be online/virtual meetings.

Bookings open for each Parents' Evening 2-3 weeks before the event. You will receive a letter from school prompting you to book your appointments.

- 6 October 2025 - Year 13 Parents' Evening, 4:30 - 7:30 pm ✓
- 18 November 2025 - Year 11 Parents' Evening, 4:30 - 7:30 pm ✓
- 4 December 2025 - Year 12 Parents' Evening, 4:30 - 7:30 pm ✓
- 8 January 2026 - Year 9 Parents' Evening, 4:30 - 7:30 pm ✓
- 28 January 2026 - Year 7 Parents' Evening, 4:30 - 7:30 pm
- 24 February 2026 - Year 10 Parents' Evening, 4:30 - 7:30 pm
- 24 March 2026 - Year 8 Parents' Evening, 4.30 - 7.30 pm

### Sixth Form Applications

Applications are open for Allerton Grange Sixth Form places for September 2026.

If you're ready to apply for a place you can [find out more and apply online](#)

Still have questions? You can talk to the Year 11 Team, your subject teachers or email [sixthform@allertongrange.com](mailto:sixthform@allertongrange.com)



# AGS Performing Arts

are proud to present

## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 February 2026  
7.00 pm  
(Doors open at 6.30 pm)

Tickets are £10 per person

A gleefully macabre sci-fi horror musical, powered by Alan Menken and Howard Ashman's infectious 1960s-style pop, rock, and Motown score.

A nerdy florist finds his chance for success and romance with the help of a giant man-eating plant who demands to be fed...





## **Leeds Playhouse Theatre Trips by Mrs Spencer-Matthews, Curriculum Leader, Drama**

This week, a group of our wonderful Year 7 students attended Leeds Playhouse to watch their spell-binding production of A Christmas Carol.

The students were exemplary ambassadors for our school and fully embodied our AGS virtues - especially when it came to sharing sweets with Mrs Spencer-Matthews! The students said it was an amazing show and enjoyed the catchy tunes and incredible set design and costume.

Miss Hullock is now on the hunt for giant bauble costumes for next year's staff panto - we have all been inspired!



## **ESU Shakespeare Monologue Competition**

This year for the first time, we are entering some of our fantastic Shakespeare experts into the English Speaking Union's Shakespeare Monologue and Duologue Competition.

Last term, a dedicated team have been working on speeches and an oracy component, where they discuss their chosen role, play and what it means to them.

We ran an internal heat last week to choose our 2 finalists who will then compete in the regional competition.

The standard was incredibly high and Mrs Spencer-Matthews and Mr Hansen had a really tough job choosing the finalists but we are pleased to announce that Elizabeth in Year 9 and Olivia in Year 8 will be representing AGS with their compelling monologues.

## **KS4 English Trip to see A Christmas Carol by Ms Halaka, Curriculum Leader, English**

On Thursday 15 January, 126 KS4 students including our DAHIT students and two Year 12s also went to Leeds Playhouse to watch an amazing production of 'A Christmas Carol'. The production was BSL signed and captioned and incorporated lots of music, dance and song into its retelling of the Dickens classic, including a contextual twist of setting it in Leeds and positioning Scrooge as a factory owner - an echo of Leeds's past and a reminder that the novella's moral message isn't London-specific.

Students and staff alike enjoyed the production immensely and everyone had their favourite moment - lots of us loved the dancing baubles who appeared with the Ghost of Christmas Present and Fezziwig and Mrs Fezziwig who appeared to Scrooge when he was with the Ghost of Christmas Past, and everyone was suitably awestruck by Jacob Marley's Ghost as well as the imposing figure of the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, played by a towering puppet that dominated the stage and haunted us all!

Everyone in the theatre was impressed by the faultless conduct of our students, who represented AGS with pride and demonstrated what it is to be an AGS student. Their manners were perfect and a member of the audience, whose son was playing Fred and Young Scrooge, said she was so impressed by them that she was going to tell the Playhouse what a wonderful school group we were.

Thank you to all staff who supported with the trip and a special mention to the 16 students who had to wait the longest for the coach at the end - your attitude and behaviour were impeccable. George in Year 11 kept everyone's spirits high with his lively conversation and good humour all the way home!

## Music Champion School

Last night, Mrs Casey and Miss Shrimpton attended an event at Leeds Conservatoire to celebrate Allerton Grange being recognised as a centre for excellence for music in Leeds and to receive our new banner and certificate for being one of the 19 selected ArtForms Music Champion Schools out of 260 Primary and Secondary schools in Leeds.



## Battle of Bands Competition

This year, Neon Penguins will be representing Allerton Grange School at the Wardrobe on 22 January 2026 at the Red Kite Battle of the Bands competition. [Tickets are available from Eventbrite](#) and are selling fast, so don't wait too long if you're planning on going along to support the AGS band!



## Workshop for parents and carers



### Overview of health services in Leeds

**Date:** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Time:** 11am till 12pm

**Location:** Microsoft Teams

### The session will cover:

- How Health Services work.
- Health providers in Leeds.
- Health services in Leeds and where to find out more information about services.
- Transition to adult services within health

[Book your free place](#)

<https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/HealthWorkshop/>

We will be recording the session, if you are unable to attend but would like to submit a question please complete the booking form

## Want to know more about Health Services in Leeds?

You can join a Parents and Carers' Overview of Health Services in Leeds session on Teams on 10 February 2026, 11 am to 12 pm.

[Book your free place](#)



## Family Hubs SEND parent drop ins

Family Hubs are designed to support families by bringing together a range of services into one easy-to-access space. Whether you need parenting advice, health support, education guidance, or help navigating local services, our family hubs are here to help.

Family hubs act as a vital link between families and community support, offering a holistic approach to meet individual family needs. They are also a space where families can connect with others in their community.

The SEND Coordinators within the Family Hubs are hosting SEND parent drop in:

### Outer West Family Hub

Last Thursday of the month, 9 am till 12 pm at Horsforth Library.

### Inner West Family Hub

Last Wednesday of the month, 9.30 am till 12 pm at Armley Community Hub.

### Book your place now

Book your place by calling 0113 535 0185 or emailing [family.hubs@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:family.hubs@leeds.gov.uk) quoting the drop in you would like to book a place for, upon booking you will be given a time slot.

### SEND Parent Carer Monthly Drop-In

A monthly drop in for parents and carers to speak to services to receive information and advice about what is available in Leeds to support their family.

- Leeds Local Offer
- SENDIASS
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum
- Carers Leeds
- Child Health and Disability Team (CHAD)
- Leeds Speech and Language Service

Dates and times:

- Wednesday 4 February 2026, 10.30am till 12.30pm at Horsforth Library Building, LS18 5BL

[Book your place here](#)

Email [LLO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LLO@leeds.gov.uk) for more information.

## STARS Training (parents and professionals)

These workshops provide information for parents to support their autistic child at home. Training sessions will be delivered through Teams

Please email [send@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:send@leeds.gov.uk) or [leedsforlearning@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:leedsforlearning@leeds.gov.uk) with your name, email and training date you would like to be booked on.

### Preparation for adulthood: independent living

Wednesday 4 February 2026, 9.45 till 11.15

This session is suitable for parents and professionals who are currently supporting children and young people to develop their independence. The focus of the session will be on how we support children from early years through to adulthood to develop their confidence, self-advocacy and independence depending on their stage in life. We will be sharing key resources and approaches to prioritise and plan the steps to independence.

### Emotional wellbeing

Wednesday 4 March 2026, 9.45 till 11.15

This session will explore why autistic children and young people are at greater risk of poor mental health.

We will discuss how we can work with children and young people to explore the causes of poor mental health, overcome barriers to wellbeing, and support the development of coping mechanisms.

### Puberty and sexuality - Secondary/Post-16

Wednesday 25 March 2026

This session will look at why autistic and other neurodivergent children and young people may need additional support to understand puberty, relationships and sexuality.

We will discuss strategies and resources for supporting children and young people to better understand these themes.

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Extra-Curricular Activities Calendar: Term 2 – January to March				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Homework club Library 3-4pm	Homework club Library 3-4pm	Homework club Library 3-4pm	Homework club Library 3-4pm	
Samba (Y7 & Y8/9 Lunchtimes) Suitable for anyone who loves drums & rhythms. Music pod Store 9	Years 8-13 Advanced Rockers 3-4.15pm M001 TCa & DSu	Junior Concert Band Grade 1-3 Musicians 3-3.30pm M001 ASH/ TCa	Choir Everyone welcome! 3-4.15pm M002 ASH	Little shop of Horrors Full Company (invite only) 3-4pm Hall KSp/ CHu
Little shop of Horrors Pit Band (invite only) 3-4.15pm M001 TCa & SDu	Grade 5 Theory Club (invite only) 3-4.15pm M002 ASH	Senior Concert Band Grade 3-8 Musicians 3-4.15pm M001 ASH/ TCa	Latin Club- All year groups L20	KS3 Coding Club Week A ONLY 3-4pm I001 LMo/ Cba *
Little shop of Horrors Vocal Rehearsal (invite only) 3-4.15pm M002 ASH	Jazz Club Suitable for grade 2 & above musicians & singers 3-4.15pm M003 SDu	Years 9, 10 & 11 Fitness Fitness Suite 3-4pm JGA	Year 7 School of Rock- for anyone who wants to learn instruments or enjoys playing as a group 3-4.15pm M001/2 AMa/ TCa	KS4 Software Development Club Week A ONLY 3-4pm I002 LMo/ Cba *
Little shop of Horrors Dance (invite only) 3-4pm D001 KSp/ CHu	Years 7 & 8 Fitness Fitness Suite 3-4pm JAD	Years 8 & 9 Trampoline Sports Hall 3-4pm KAI	Year 7 Trampoline Sports Hall 3-4pm ECa	<p>* Each term the club will explore a different programme</p> <p><b>ALL YEARS</b></p> <p><b>KS3</b></p> <p><b>KS4</b></p> <p><b>KS5</b></p>
	Basketball Sports Hall 3-4pm DTO	Years 7 & 8 Table Tennis Main Hall 3-4pm SNO	Year 9 & 10 Table Tennis Main Hall 3-4pm SNO	
	Years 9, 10 & 11 Netball MUGA 3-4pm JAD		KS3 War Hammer Club 3-4pm L002 SLO	
	Girls Rugby Field 3-4pm ECa			
	Little Shop of Horrors Main Parts (invite only) 3-4pm D002 KSp/ CHu			
	Year 7 & 8 Pokemon Club 3-4pm L008 Dwa			
	Debate Club- students from all year groups welcome! L15 3-4pm with SHa			
	Art Club 3-4pm A002 KCr			
	Social Science Catch-up Drop-in session for KS5 L51 3-4pm NMu			



## WHAT'S ON AFTER SCHOOL IN PE?

Clubs run from 3-4pm starting from January

	ACTIVITY	WHERE	STAFF
TUESDAY	Fitness Y7/8 Basketball	Fitness Suite Sports Hall	JAD DTO
WEDNESDAY	Trampoline Y 8/9 Table Tennis Y7/8 Fitness Y 9/10/11	Sports Hall Main Hall Fitness Suite	KAI SNO JGA
THURSDAY	Trampoline Y7 Table Tennis 9/10	Sports Main Hall	ECa SNO

YOU MUST SIGN UP IF YOU WANT TO JOIN AND YOU WILL RECEIVE AN INVITE ON CLASS CHARTS  
Sign up sheets are located on the wall outside the Sports Hall.

ALL CLUBS ARE FROM 3 - 4pm.

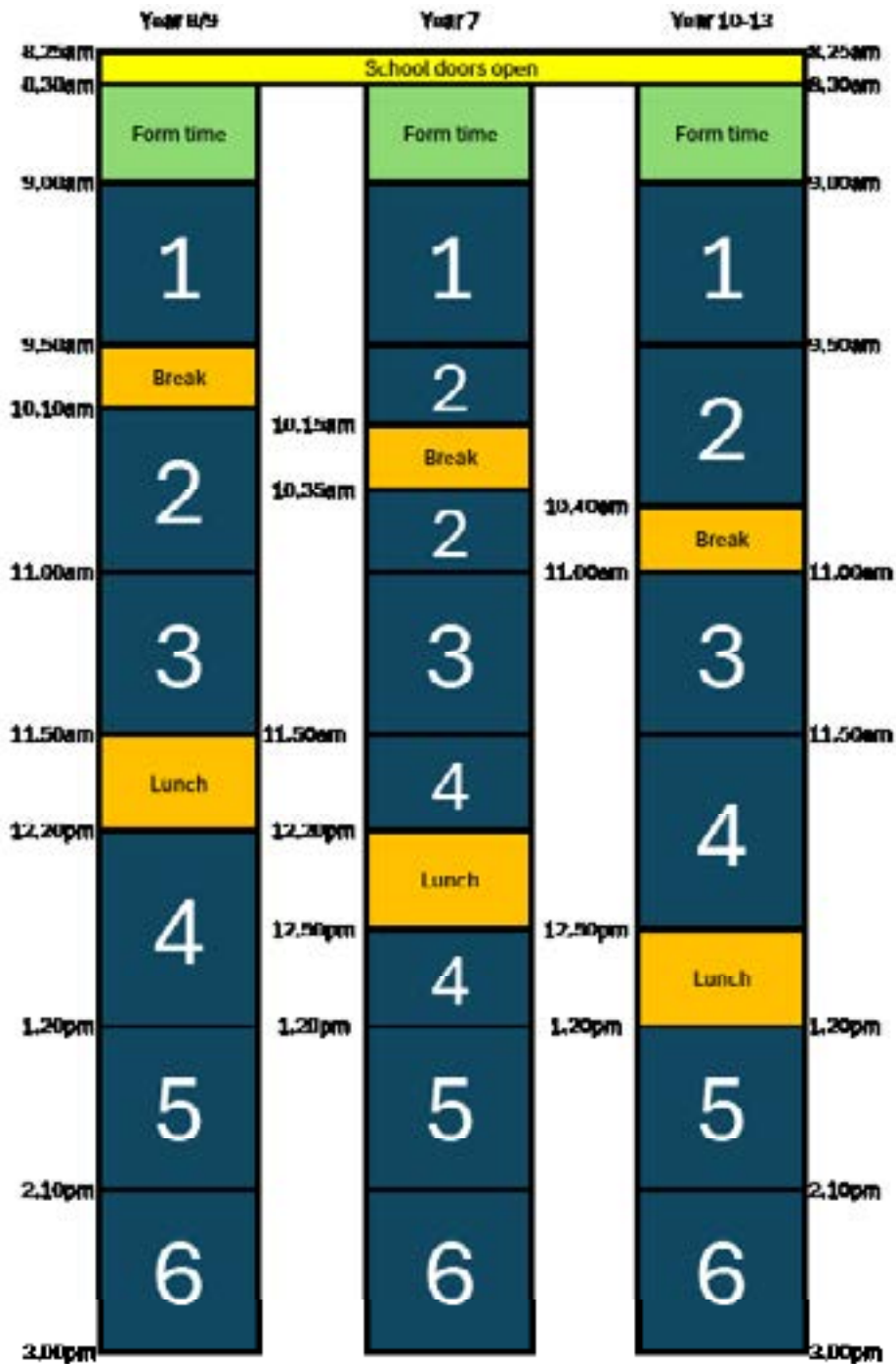
## Music Extra-Curricular Clubs

No need to sign up to the Music Clubs, just come along and let the music making begin!

Day	Time	Room	Club	Teacher
Monday	Year 7/8&9 Lunch	Storeroom 9	<b>Samba</b> Suitable for anyone who loves drums, rhythm and noise!	Ian Matthews (Drum Teacher)
Monday	3.00 - 4.15 pm	M001	<b>Little Shop of Horrors Pit Band</b> (Invite only)	Mrs Casey/ Mr Duff
Monday	3.00 - 4.15 pm	M002	<b>Little Shop of Horrors Musical</b> Vocal Rehearsal (Invite only)	Miss Shrimpton
Tuesday	3.00 - 4.15 pm	M001	<b>Year 8 - 13 Advanced Rockers!</b> Suitable for students who have attended School of Rock before/ can play a rock-based instrument/ sing	Mrs Casey / Mr Sumroy
Tuesday	3.00 - 4.15 pm	M002	<b>Grade 5 Theory Club</b> (Invite only)	Miss Shrimpton
Tuesday	3.00 - 4.15 pm	M003	<b>Jazz Club</b> Suitable for grade 2 and above musicians and singers	Mr Duff
Wednesday	3.00 - 3.30 pm	M001	<b>Junior Concert Band</b> Suitable for grade 1-3 musicians	Miss Shrimpton/ Mrs Casey
Wednesday	3.00 - 4.15 pm	M001	<b>Senior Concert Band</b> Suitable for grade 3-8 musicians	Miss Shrimpton/Mrs Casey
Thursday	3.00 - 4.15 pm	M001/ M002	<b>Year 7 School of Rock</b> Suitable for anyone who wants to learn instruments or enjoys playing as a group	Al Matthews and Mrs Casey
Thursday	3.00 - 3.45 pm	M002	<b>Choir</b> Suitable for anyone who likes singing!	Miss Shrimpton



# SCHOOL DAY 2025-26



## After School Arrangements

This is a reminder that all students should leave the school site by 3.10 pm. There isn't anywhere inside school where students can wait. The only students in the building must be involved in Enrichment sessions, Session 7, isolation/Reflection or detention.

Detention times:

**Stage 1 Detention** - Mondays 3.00 - 3.30 pm  
(30 minutes)

**Stage 2 Detention** - Mondays 3.00 - 4.00 pm  
(60 minutes)

**SLT Detention** - Wednesdays 3.00 - 4.30 pm  
(90 minutes)

**Isolation/Reflection** takes place between 9.00 am - 3.00 pm/3.30 pm/4.00 pm depending on behaviour.