



AGS Weekly

Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter

End of Term letter

The End of Term letter has been sent to parents and carers by email and ClassCharts. It is also available on the [school website](#).

Reminder of morning arrangements for September 2023:

- School gates will open at 08:00.
- Access to the building will be from 08:15.
- Year 7 access will be from the bridge entrance and they will be escorted to their form rooms upon entry
- by the Year Team.
- Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 access will be from either the student entrance or the PE corridor
- entrance. Upon entry, students will wait in the dining hall and will be permitted to make their way to their
- form groups from 08:25.
- Sixth Form students will access their building from the main entrance.
- All form times and registration will begin at 08:30.
- Lidgett Lane school gates will close at 08:25.
- After 08:25 the only access to the school will be from the Talbot Road entrance

Mike Roper
Headteacher

[Updated PPD \(Policy for Positive Discipline\) available on the school website](#)
[Please read and check School Uniform requirements](#)

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 17 August, A level Results Day, 8.00 am to 12 noon

Thursday 24 August, GCSE Results Day, 9.00 am to 12 noon

Monday 4 September - Training Day (School Closed to Students)

Tuesday 5 September - First day for Year 7
- Year 12 Enrolment 10.30 am - 12.00 noon

Wednesday 6 September - Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 13 in school

Friday 8 September - Year 12 Timetable starts

Sports Fixture Results

by Mr Gaunt

Rounders

The **Year 8 girls' Rounders** team finishing 2nd in the Leeds Schools finals tournament that took place on Monday.

Thank you to the PE Team for supporting our students throughout this year!

Thank You Day

We marked the end of term with a Thank You Day, where students wrote thank you cards for members of staff who have helped them in some way this year.



A level Classics students visit the University of Leeds

On Monday 17 July, A level Classics students went to the Special Collections in the Brotherton Library at the University of Leeds to handle Roman coins.

Year 12 have been studying the reign of Rome's first emperor, Augustus. As part of their study they have analysed how coins were used as an effective method of propaganda. Students were able to handle Augustan coins which were over 2000 years old. They were amazed by the size and weight, and how well some of the coins had survived.



Hot Chocolate Friday

At Hot Chocolate Friday on 30 June, students celebrated their achievements with Mr Roper, Headteacher.

Congratulations this week to a group of Year 7 students who took part in the Bushcraft trip:

Flo showed steely resilience and determination to overcome her anxiety and homesickness to enjoy Bushcraft.

Harry showed great resilience during this trip, he initially struggled being away from home, but managed so well. He was fantastic company and took to life in the woods brilliantly. I was so impressed with Harry. Well done!!

Adam was one of the loveliest and most overwhelmingly positive students we have ever come across!

Bilal is the most patient person when learning new skills, very resilient and always looked smiley and happy. He did a fantastic job at sewing his bracelet and persevered for a long time getting the pattern correct - the finished result looked great.

Issy got involved in every aspect of the trip and her kindness allowed Kodie to have the opportunity to sleep outside.

Kodie really embraced the Bushcraft trip and pushed herself out of her comfort zone in every sense: from trying foods she'd never eaten before to learning new skills to sleeping outside under just a tarpaulin!

Tem was such a ray of sunshine throughout the trip! She threw herself into every activity and had a smile on her face throughout. Her solo singing performance in the talent show was truly incredible and showed such courage. She is a superstar!



Celebrating Millionaire Readers in Year 7

Ms Williams and Mr Ellis celebrated the outstanding reading achievements of a group of Year 7 students:

Joshua, Isa, Thomas, Elijah, Grace, Anais, Amelia, Naveen, Rhodri, Alfie, Jez, Ollie, Rory, Violet, Larry, Imogen, Isla, Ava, Sam, Thaleia, Zahaan and Sreehari.

They have each read more than 1 million words this year!

Special congratulations to Josh who has read over 3 million words and Thomas who has read over 2 million words!



Hairdressing Success

Congratulations to our Hairdressing students for some excellent exam results

Year 10 - All students achieved grades equivalent to grade 7 or more, with two students OW and AF each getting 240/240, equivalent to grade 9. Ms Riley said: *"Phenomenal results for all their coursework!"*

Year 11 - All students in the group completed two qualifications over the last two years. All students achieved a distinction for the Level 2 salon skills and all students passed the GCSE equivalent qualification with 92%, gaining grades 8-9. Ms Riley said: *"Excellent results for all students who worked extremely hard."*

Year 7 Public Speaking Competition

On Friday 14 July, we held the finals of the inaugural AGS Public Speaking Competition. It was a true privilege to hear 20 of our powerful orators speak to their entire year group, many teachers, and parents/carers of the finalists. It was a huge audience of over 300 people - what an incredible achievement for our Year 7s.

Topics ranged from climate change to the underfunding of the health service, to living with autism, to the over-reliance on mobile phones. Every student handled their topic with maturity and sensitivity, and we were all absolutely blown away by the calibre of the speeches.

The judges (Mr Roper (Headteacher), Mrs Trayer (Chair of the Board of Governors), and Dr Caroline Herbert from Leeds Beckett University) faced an incredibly difficult job of deciding on the winners. Three were selected as winners: Nathan, Freya, and Ryan, along with three highly commended by judges: Fatima, Jaziba, and Lucy.

Public speaking is something that many people dread, worry about, and do all they can to avoid. But our Year 7 students have conquered those fears over the past few weeks. They have thought deeply, written carefully, and performed passionately.

The entire English team are so proud of every single student for entering whole-heartedly into the spirit of this competition. This year group are to be our public speaking trailblazers: next year, the competition will take place in both Year 7 and Year 8 and then will continue up to Year 9 in the following year. I know it will continue to be a highlight of the school calendar.

Ms Halaka, Curriculum Leader for English



Music Tour to Belgium

Mrs Casey, Curriculum Leader for Music reports: Leaving school at 3am on Monday morning, and tackling the Dover wait times, we arrived safely in Leuven Belgium at 7:30pm Monday evening, just in time for our evening meal. We took a walk out to explore and found some lovely buildings in the centre.

On Tuesday, we went to the Chocolate Story Museum in Brussels, where we got to try some magnificent chocolate, followed by some free time to explore. Some students went to the instrument museum which was a weird and wonderful experience! We then performed a concert at the Place de la Monnaie. The students were just fantastic!

On Wednesday, we played in Ostend Band Stand. Despite setting up in a rain downpour, we started playing as the sun and people came out! Had a great crowd, lovely feedback from the locals and the student's performances were outstanding. After Ostend we travelled to Bruges and went on a boat ride, had free time, and then went bowling in Leuven in the evening.



Year 12 English students visit Leeds Beckett University and The Leeds Library

Ms Halaka, Curriculum Leader for English

On Monday 17 July, the A level English Language and English Literature students spent the morning at Leeds Beckett University.

The Literature students - along with Ms Camidge, Ms Ludlow, and Ms Howell - had a lecture and an interactive seminar on Shakespeare's Othello from Dr Nicholas Cox, LBU's resident Shakespeare expert. They explored the concept of the migrant experience in Early Modern England and how it is relevant to our reading of Othello, and then explored an extract of the play, focusing on how Shakespeare portrays Othello through the words other characters use about him versus the words he himself says.

The Language students - and Ms Napier and Mrs O'Sullivan - got creative with Dr Nasser Hussain, published poet and senior lecturer at LBU. They experimented with language, wrote and shared their own poems, and took feedback from Dr Hussain on their work. Both groups' hard work was rewarded with pizzas for lunch!

We then went to The Leeds Library to explore their amazing building - which is right in the centre of Leeds on Commercial Street, but you'd never know it was there unless you were looking for it - and get up close to some of the treasures of their collection. Amongst other things, we looked at - and held - a very early edition of Frankenstein, heard about the ghost of the library, and were entertained by a book of Victorian slang words.

A great day was had by all!



Year 10 and Year 12 Work Experience 2024

With employability skills being high on the list of priorities for recruiters of colleges, universities and companies/organisations, we would like to ensure that our students are as well prepared as possible for their future, by offering work experience to both Year 10 and Year 12 students in 2024.

Year 10 Work Experience – 20-22 May 2024
Year 12 Work Experience – 8-12 July 2024

We will be asking students to find an appropriate placement to match their aspirations. With around 450 students across both year groups, this will be a huge task. We are hoping that our school community can help! If you or your employer is willing to offer a placement to a student or group of students in Year 10, Year 12 or both year groups, I would love to hear from you! Please complete this google form if you are able to help by offering a placement or placements.

Placements must:

- Have up to date Employer Liability Insurance.
- Have a risk assessment in place, which includes hosting work experience students.
- Be approved by school.

If you would like further details, please don't hesitate to contact the school Careers Lead, Mrs Mills (louisemills@allertongrange.com).

More information will be sent to Years 10 and 12 at the start of the new term and preparations will begin early.



Year 12 Visit Liverpool

The Year 12 Liverpool Trip took place on Tuesday 18 July, where students enjoyed a visit to the Tate Gallery and the Maritime and Slavery Museum. Students also had time to explore the Royal Albert Dock. Despite the wet July weather everyone had a great time!



AGS Careers - Some tips to help you on GCSE Results Day

The school Senior Leadership Team will be in school on GCSE results day (Thursday 24 August, 9.00 am – 12.00pm), along with lots of other school staff including: Miss Walker, Mrs Mills, Helen Smith (Independent Careers Advisor) and Shabana Jabar from the admissions team at Leeds City College.

We're all here to help you with you next steps.

1. Stay calm!

2. Speak to someone about your feelings

- It is good to talk to someone about how you feel.
- Then start getting your act together as most students do secure something in less than a week.
- Try to be calm and think about the options that are available to you.
- Being focused and having a plan will help you feel better.

3. Stay positive

The disappointment is greater on the results day itself, especially if your exam results came as a shock. There are ups and downs in life. There's no need to carry baggage about your grades or missing your conditional offer for Sixth Form or College. Park these negative thoughts quickly, get good advice, stop giving yourself a hard time and start making good decisions so you can move on quickly and happily.

4. Near Misses

It is worth speaking to the Sixth Form Team or contacting the Sixth Form/College that has offered you a place. Don't assume that because you've missed a few of your grades that the offer is off the table. And, even if it is, 6th form or the College could well offer you a place on a similar course or a lower level one that will help you to improve your qualifications and then lead on to the one you originally wanted.

5. Remember you are not alone!

Being pro-active will put you on the front foot. The best way to succeed is to prepare thoroughly, then speak to sixth form staff, Colleges and Training Providers for an intelligent discussion about the courses you're interested in. Explain why you would be a great fit for the course or the training opportunity. Ask sensible questions about the content and structure, aiming to show your passion for studying the subject.

What are your options?

1. AGS Sixth Form – discuss whether or not other subject courses are available to you, with the grades you receive.

2. A fresh start at College?

- Leeds City College 0113 386 1997
- Leeds Arts University 0113 202 8000
- Bradford College 01274 088 088
- UTC 0113 353 0140
- Leeds College of Building 0113 222 6000
- Notre Dame 0113 294 6644
- Wakefield College 01924 789 789
- For more options speak to Mrs Mills

For more information on colleges and courses, check out <https://apply.startprofile.com/>

3. An Apprenticeship or Traineeship - check out the vacancies at Find an apprenticeship - GOV. UK (www.gov.uk)

4. An engagement programme or college that offer Study Programmes and Traineeships. Some examples of these are:

- Central YMCA – 0113 243 2377
 - They run courses in Fitness, Social Care, Childcare, Employability.
 - Their Fitness Training Academy has a 2-year programme, finishing with a Level 3 Personal Trainer Qualification.
 - An example timetable = 2 days full time learning, 1 day GCSE resit classes, 1 day work placement.

- Somerville House (Leeds City College)
 - Aimed at reintegrating students with SEND, SEMH or other additional needs back into education.
 - GCSE resits available
 - Functional Skills
 - Entry level 3 qualifications.

- Mabgate (Leeds City College)
 - Personalised 12 week programme, focused on reintegrating students back into education if they have missed school.
 - High level of pastoral support and safeguarding

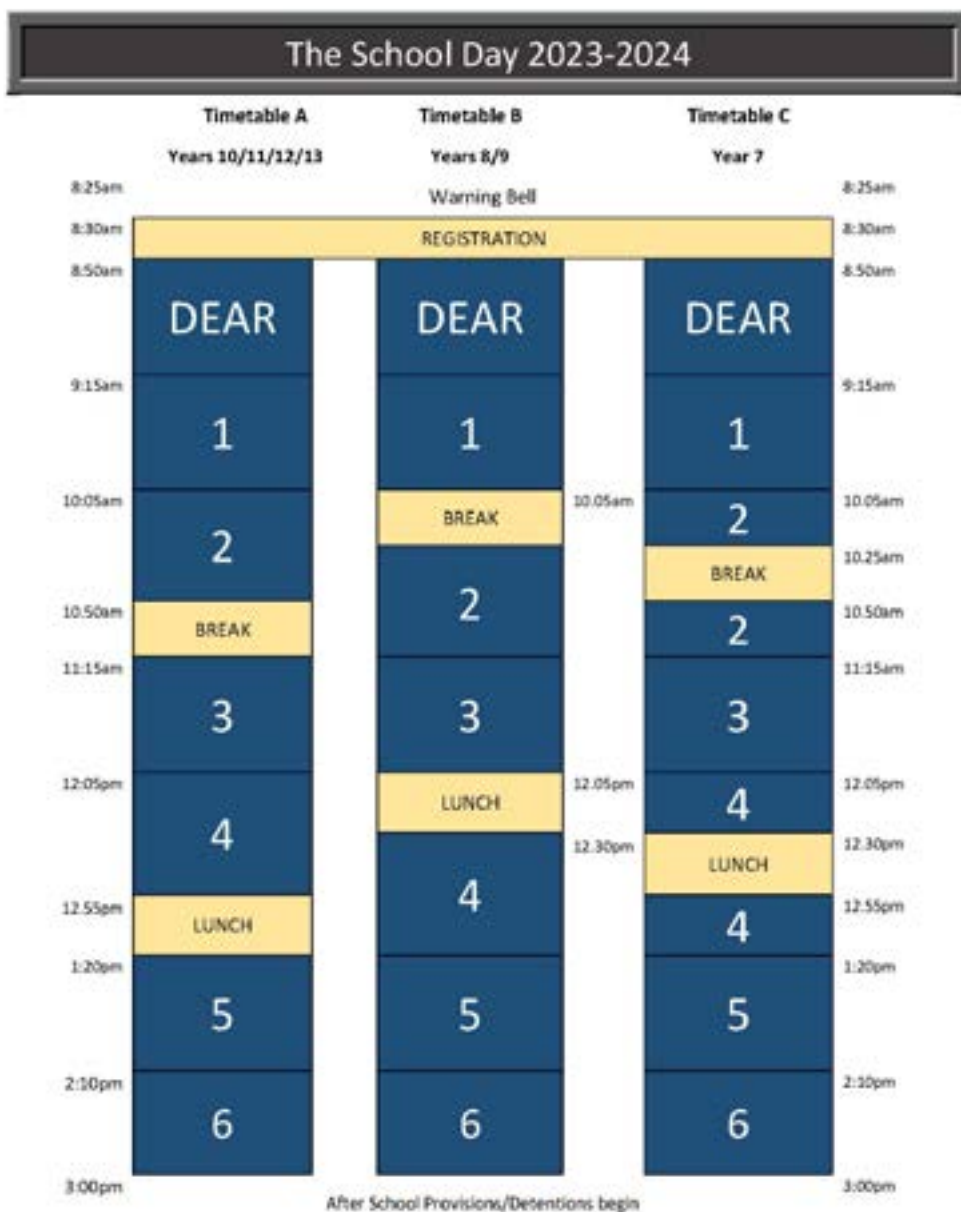
- Princes Trust – www.princes-trust.org.uk
Please contact Mrs Mills any time at louisemills@allertongrange.com for any help with future plans or careers.

Reminder: From September 2023, there will be changes to the timings of the School Day.

Students will need to arrive by 8.25 am for Registration at 8.30 am.

The School Day will be amended, with the first lesson starting at 9.15 am.

School will still finish at 3.00 pm, unless students are staying for extra-curricular clubs, revision sessions or detentions.



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.

(Monday) Stage 3 - SLT Detentions – 3:05pm – 4:30pm (85 minutes)

(Tuesday - Friday)

Stage 1 Detentions – 3:05pm - 3:35pm (30 minutes)

Stage 2 Detentions - 3:05pm – 4:00pm (55 minutes)

Isolation takes place between 9:00am-3pm/3.30pm/4.00pm (Depending on Behaviour)

There is no immediate change as the current School Day timings remain for the Summer Term (April to July 2023).

The new times will start after the summer holidays, in September 2023.