



# AGS Weekly

Allerton Grange School Weekly Newsletter



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16 May - **GCSE & A level exams begin**

18 - 20 May - **Year 7 Bushcraft Trip**

23 - 27 May - **Year 12 Careers Focus Week**

30 May - 3 June - **Half Term Holiday**

22 June - **Parents' Forum meeting**  
6 - 7 pm (change of date from 19 May)

6 - 8 July - **Year 8 Bushcraft Trip**  
(Please note - In the last newsletter it was listed in the June trips by mistake)

### Attendance

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

AGS Attendance this week: 92.1%

National Average: 85%

### ClassCharts

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

**This week:**

**Positive points issued = 13000**

**Negative points issued = 1500**

**89% positive ratio**

### Reporting Student Absence

Parents and carers can use ClassCharts to report student absence to school. You can also upload any supporting evidence.

**It is now 12 months since Allerton Grange School took a decision to become part of The Red Kite Alliance.** This is partnership made up of 47 schools (primary and secondary) from across Yorkshire. The core purpose of the Alliance is to share skills, experience, talent and capacity to help improve the learning and achievement of the young people in our communities. We have found the Alliance incredibly beneficial in supporting the drive towards achieving our vision and I want to share with you some of the key achievements:

#### 1. **Strategic leadership – being part of the Red Kite Alliance has supported this function in the following ways:**

**a)** I am a member of the **Steering Committee for the Red Kite Alliance**. This group helps format the direction of the Alliance in meeting its core functions.

**b)** **Peer Reviews** – School leaders and Ofsted inspectors from the Alliance give their time generously in reviewing aspects of each other's schools and making recommendations for improvements. Allerton Grange has experienced a Peer Review from the Headteacher of Benton Park (Leeds) and Kettlethorpe High School (Wakefield). I have conducted two Peer Reviews of schools in Leeds.

**c)** **School Improvement support** – we get access to some of the most experienced and successful school leaders from across the North of England. We are currently working with one such leader on developing our Key Stage Review programme.

#### 2. **Staff professional development – there have been many opportunities for our staff to develop their knowledge and skills:**

**a)** **National Professional Qualifications** – these are educational leadership qualifications devised by central government. We have 10 colleagues taking these qualifications this year. Mrs Saunders (Deputy Head) and I have been delivering them to prospective leaders across the Alliance.

**b)** **Curriculum networking** – all of our curriculum leaders are part of curriculum networking groups who meet with similarly passionate subject leaders from across the alliance every month to discuss the latest curriculum development.

**c)** **On 1 July this year all our staff will be attending a Red Kite Day**. This is an opportunity for all the secondary schools in the partnerships to share professional development at the Harrogate Conference Centre.

#### 3. **RED Award:**

This award that celebrates the inclusion and diversity work going on in schools is only available to Allerton Grange as a result of our involvement with Red Kite. Miss Turner-Lindley is leading on this and following her auditing work, she is very close to publishing our key priorities to further enhance inclusion and diversity across the school.

We are so pleased with the impact this partnership has had on improving the quality of provision our young people experience and so we are looking forward to working with the Alliance in the future.

**Mike Roper**  
Headteacher

## Inspirational Former Student

This week, we were visited by Juergen Maier, Chair of the Digital Catapult, Vice-Chair of the Northern Powerhouse Partnerships, co-founder of vocL, and former CEO of Siemens UK. Juergen is also a former Allerton Grange student.

Juergen gave an assembly to Year 10 students about careers in the green industrial revolution and his inspirational story, including his time at school. He also had a tour of our building and facilities, which are a little different to 40 years ago!



## Sport Experience Day

On Thursday 12 May a group of our Year 10 PE students went to Leeds Beckett University to take part in a Pre-16 Sport Experience Day.

The aim of the event was to inspire students on their paths towards Higher Education. The sessions were focused on supporting them to make informed decisions about careers in sports and giving them an idea of what studying sports at university is like.

The students took part in sports coaching and sports development lectures and had a tour of the brand new £45 Million sports centre and campus. A great day was had by all.



## Exam Students - You can do this!

*To all Year 11 students,*

*Continue with your hard work, eat well, exercise, get as much rest as possible so you are energised and recharged for each exam.*

*You're amazing - we're proud to be your Year Team!*

*Mr Mahoney and Ms Hibbert*

**To all Sixth Form students sitting exams:**

Best of luck from all of the Sixth Form Team for the beginning of your exams next week.

As we have said in your assemblies you and your teachers have worked tirelessly to ensure you are fully prepared for next week.

Remember, **YOU CAN DO IT!**  
Make use of the exams booklet given to you by Mr. Fidler and take care of yourself through this important time.

Good luck!  
**YOU CAN DO THIS!**

*Mr Macrow, Ms Braim and Ms Gillibrand*

## Sports Fixtures

**Rugby:** Year 7 boys' rugby team won five matches out of five at a Leeds Rhinos nine-a-side tournament last Thursday. Like the Year 9 team, they have now qualified for the next round, which will take place next week, with a chance at qualifying for the final at Headingley.

**Cricket:** The Year 8 boys' cricket team beat Roundhay on Monday to qualify for the second round of the Yorkshire Cup but the Year 9 boys' cricket team unfortunately lost in their first round match to GSAL.



**Athletics:** Our junior and inters boys' and girls' team took part in the first athletics meet of the season on Tuesday at the John Charles Centre. We had a fantastic night of athletics, placing in the top three in a number of events across the evening.

## 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.

**1. demonstrate** give a practical exhibition and explanation of (how a machine, skill, or craft works or is performed).

*The PE teacher did some press-ups to demonstrate the best technique.*

**Synonyms: show, illustrate, reveal**

**2. document** writing that provides information (especially information of an official nature)

*The government has issued a new document mapping out its policies on education.*

**Synonyms: paper, report, contract, file**

**3. dominant** having power and influence over others. Most frequent or common

*The dominant male gorilla is usually the largest in the group.*

**Synonyms: main, controlling, commanding**

**4. emphasis** special importance, value, or prominence given to something.

*Some schools place great emphasis on language study.*

**Synonyms: importance, stress, priority, significance**

**5. ensure/make** certain that (something) will occur or be the case.

*It is important to ensure that all the waste is properly and safely disposed of.*

**Synonyms: make certain, guarantee, secure**

**6. exclude** deny (someone) access to a place, group, or privilege.

remove from consideration

*In a Court of Law, judges can decide whether to admit or exclude evidence.*

**Synonyms: infer, shut out, prohibit, eliminate**

**7. framework** an essential supporting structure of a building, vehicle, or object.

We need to establish a legal framework for the protection of the environment.

*The bridge over the river has a strong steel framework.*

**Synonyms: structure, skeleton, foundation, support**

**8. fund** a sum of money to be used for a particular purpose.

The newspaper launched an appeal fund for victims of the disaster.

*Pension funds allow people to secure their future when they retire from work.*

**Synonyms: collection, pool, finance**

## At Hot Chocolate Friday on 13 May, students celebrated their achievements with Mr Roper.

**Aisha, Macy, Raya, Daniela, Fatima, Aryan and Morgan** in Year 9 were all nominated this week.

These students are part of the Brilliant Club who graduated at Newcastle University last week. Each student passed an assignment that they worked on, independently (see below).

- Independent research about a given subject (AGS had the following topic - "To what extent does the differential distribution of power in society affect how an individual is perceived and how they experience life").

- working collaboratively with a tutor to critique their own work and respond to feedback.

- complete a 2000-word final assignment to university standard.

Some achieved a 2:1 at university level. This is amazing for Year 9 students to achieve something that is generally only achieved in the first year of university!

**We are extremely proud of all of you.**



## ParentPay

We are a cashless school and ask parents to only use our online payment method to pay for school trips, music lessons, top up dinner money and so on.

85% of pupils now have an active ParentPay account. Thank you for your support.

If you need help accessing ParentPay, you can find out more on the [ParentPay page on our website](#) or you can phone the School Office on 0113 393 0304.



## Spring Music Showcase



We had a fabulous evening at the Spring Music Showcase on Thursday 12 May, with so many fantastic performances from students.

Thank you to all the parents, carers and friends who came to watch and support our talented musicians.

