

Allerton Grange School



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Our Ref: MRp/BMa

20 July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

End of Term

Well, that's another school year completed and, as usual, the weather deteriorates just as we start the summer holidays.

Thank you to all our school community for your support throughout what has been a highly successful and rewarding school year. Some of the highlights of this year have been:

- February 2023 – the school was transformed into Rydell High in the 1950s for our Grease extravaganza.
- March 2023 – Culture Day hit Allerton Grange with music, outfits, food and curriculum workshops celebrating the diversity of Allerton Grange.
- July 2023 – only last week we had 20 students from Year 7 perform in a Public Speaking competition. The standard of speech writing was superb. Also worth noting was the courage shown by many of the students who were talking about personal issues in front of 300 peers. Truly breath-taking!
- Attendance – throughout this year we have consistently achieved an attendance rate above the national and Leeds average. This is down to the support we have from all our families and the commitment shown by our attendance and pastoral teams ensuring all children are in school.
- School trips – this year we have had a real focus on developing the Aspirational Enrichment cornerstone of our KLAS curriculum. As a result we have been able to offer 521 school trips to our students – this is remarkable!! It is double the number of trips we offered last year and only achievable because of the dedication shown by staff at the school to lead and supervise trips.
- Over the year we had a number of external reviewers who we invited into school to evaluate certain aspects of our provision. This year we have commissioned reports about:
 - Special Educational Need provision.
 - English as an Additional Language support.
 - Quality of the Humanities curriculum at Key Stage 4.
 - Behaviour and Attitudes of students across the school.
 - Careers provision for all year groups.
 - Quality of A level English curriculum.
 - Professional development for middle leaders at the school.

The outcomes from each of these reviews has provided valuable recommendations, that allows us to further improve the quality of provision we offer, moving forward at Allerton Grange.



Changes to senior leadership:

- From September, the governors have very kindly agreed to me working 4 days a week. We have, therefore, appointed Mr Norrington (current Deputy Headteacher) to Associate Headteacher who will run the school in my absence.
- In September we welcome back Mrs Saunders (Deputy Headteacher) who is returning from maternity leave.
- We have made 2 recent new appoints to the senior leadership team:
 - Miss Moore has been appointed as Assistant Headteacher, with responsibility for Teaching, Learning and Assessment.
 - Miss Langstaff has been appointed as Associate Assistant Headteacher, for one year, with responsibility for overseeing the Peer Review programme of departments.

Premises work over the summer holidays:

- **Site security** – at half term in June, we reinforced the fencing at the back of school to provide full security. Over the summer we will be installing fencing across the front of the school building to provide full security throughout the school site. Access to the school after the beginning of the school day will be via an intercom to reception.
- **Toilets** – we have 12 student toilet blocks throughout the school which have been accessible to students at all times throughout the school day. At social times this number has proved impossible to monitor safely, therefore, from September we will be closing off a number of toilets at social times. We will ensure that there are two sets of toilets open for students at every break and lunchtime, plus students will still be able to access toilets, with permission, throughout the day. This change will ensure that we can safely staff each toilet, and every communal area, during social time.

Arrangements for the start of the new year:

In last week's newsletter I informed parents about the arrangements for the new start times for September. The start dates for every year group will be as follows:

- Monday 4 September – staff training day (school closed to all students)
- Tuesday 5 September – Year 7 only.
- Wednesday 6 September – all students (except Year 12 attend)
- Thursday 7 September – all students (except Year 12 attend)
- Friday 8 September – all students attend.

I wish every member of our school community a happy and safe summer holiday. See you all in September.

Yours faithfully



Mr M Roper
Headteacher