



Allerton High School

Enabling young people to achieve success

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Friday 6 January 2023

Dear Parent/Carers

We have welcomed all students back after the Christmas break and wished them every success in 2023.

The Winter Concert was an excellent way to end last term with fabulous performances by all contributors. I am very grateful to Mr Cockerill and Mrs Mayger for their time, energy and commitment at the end of a long term. It was equally impressive to see Year 7 students hosting the 'Celebration of Festivals' events supported by Mrs Corcoran and the RE Team.

Post-16 students organised the annual Christmas party for some of our elderly neighbours through our partnership with Maecare. Our guests enjoyed their food and entertainment with Santa making his customary appearance.

Thank you for supporting our Gift Collection where Coaching Groups donated Christmas Hampers to residents in the community. All students support this initiative, an important tradition at Allerton. The charities involved were: St George's Crypt, Trussell Trust Food Bank, Moorhaven Court Retirement Home, Homeless Street Angels and Maecare. Representatives from the local charities were very grateful to everyone for all the very generous donations and asked us to pass on their thanks.

Year 11 mock examinations went very well and we wish Year 12 and Year 13 luck with their forthcoming January mock and external exams. Just a reminder that external January unit exams are set by the exam boards and their timing is inflexible. Therefore if a student misses an external exam their next opportunity to sit that exam will be in the summer 2023 series. If your child is too unwell to sit an exam please notify school on the day of the exam so that we can notify the exam board.

Poor weather

A reminder to parents that although we hope to avoid any school closures, the decision to close the school for severe weather or power cuts is usually taken before 7am. The closure is published on the LCC and School websites <http://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-closures> or <http://www.allertonhigh.org.uk/> and announced on local radio stations including Radio Aire 96.3 FM and Radio Leeds 92.4 FM. We have never failed yet to get to school and so the phones should be working even if we have to take the decision to close.

Strep A & UKHSA Advice on Infection Control

Before the Christmas break, we issued guidance from NHS Leeds relating to Strep A. Students have also been given additional guidance in the Coaching programme and Student Bulletin. We have not experienced any confirmed cases in school but are monitoring the situation on a daily basis.

In addition, the UK Health Security Agency has issued some advice to parents on how they can help to ensure that their child doesn't catch and spread illness in school or college. Specifically the guidance recommends that parents/carers emphasise routines of handwashing, keep their child off school if they are ill and have a temperature and consider getting a flu jab if their child is eligible. You can read the guidance [here](#).

Expansion

The new building is on track to be completed over the Easter holidays 2023. We have been discussing fixtures and fittings with the Junior Leadership Team and Post-16 Principal students. We will provide parents/carers with an update later this term and will plan to move into the new spaces throughout the summer term.

Google Classroom – Remote Learning

With our previous learning platform Edmodo ceasing to trade at the end of September we have been researching and consulting on alternatives. As a consequence we have now set up Google Classroom within Google Workspace. All students have had instructions on how to access any learning materials posted by their teachers on Google Classroom plus they have logged in at least once during Coaching Time or in an IT lesson. There is a link to Google Workspace in the Quick Links menu of our website and students can log in with the same account details that they use to access the school's computer network.

Teachers may use Google Classroom for setting homework or giving students access to revision links and materials. In the event of a school closure (e.g. 'snow day') work will be posted for the students as earlier as possible, but students should keep checking through the course of the day. For further information and a help sheet for students please see the Remote Learning section of the school website.

Visits/Events

There have been a number of opportunities for students to get involved in extra-curricular opportunities over last term. The programme is advertised weekly in school and discussed during the Coaching programme. The following has taken place:

- New Views Play Writing Scheme for Year 10-13
- Arts Awards Gold Scheme for Year 10-13
- Visit to see 'Othello' for Year 9-13
- Visit to see 'Nine Night' and 'The Importance of being Earnest' Year 12 & 13
- Visit to see 'Bugsy Malone'
- Winter Concert & Music Competition
- Cheerleading Winter Showcase
- Visit to see Charlie & the Chocolate Factory [140 Year 7 students attended]
- Visit to London [Music & Drama] offered to KS4/5
- Duke of Edinburgh expeditions – initially offered to all Y11 and Post-16 students
- Nell Bank – Team Building for all Year 8
- Whole School Musical - Bugsy Malone rehearsals are well underway
- Various sports fixtures and events and successes including: Leeds District Netball Team Selection, Climbing Competition Winners (against Roundhay); Rugby, Football, Year 7 Basketball and Netball successes as well as the participation in the U12 Leeds School Cup.

Congratulations to Rhia Sedha who has been selected as part of the Northern Diamonds Cricket EPP (Emerging Player Programme) squad – well done Rhia

Upcoming

- Sports tour to Greece for students in Year 10 (has been launched).
- PGL - Year 8 Residential
- Camps International to Ecuador has now been launched
- Ethics/Debating competitions
- Various sports fixtures



Calendar dates

January 9	-	Progress Review information home this week for Year 7, 10 & 11
January 11	-	Year 8 Subject Consultation Evening 4pm-7pm
January 12	-	GCSE Drama C1 Performance Exam 4pm
January 16	-	Year 12/Year 13 examinations this week Post-16 Guidance Interviews this week
January 18	-	Arts Awards Moderation
January 24	-	Governor Training Session from 6pm
January 26	-	Harrogate Climbing GCSE Practical
January 31	-	Year 7 Subject Consultation Evening 4pm-7pm
February 2	-	Year 7, 8, 9 – Flu Immunisation Harrogate Climbing GCSE Practical
February 6	-	Progress Review information home this week for Year 12 & Year 13
February 9	-	Resources Governors' meeting
February 10	-	School closes for February half-term

At the next Parents' Forum meeting on 15 March 2023 we will discuss issues brought up by parents and issues relating to the calendar and uniform in 2023-24; all are welcome.

Thank you for your ongoing support. As ever, please contact the relevant Head of Year and/or the general office if you have any concerns.

Kind regards



Elaine Silson
Headteacher