

Dear Parents/Carers

Finally we have come to the end of a long and busy term! Staff and students have worked extremely hard and are in need of a well-earned rest.

Today, the whole school assembled once again to share music and dance pieces. I also took a moment to remember Joshua and Ethan Houghton and their father Doug, who is in our thoughts as we approach the Christmas period.

We look forward to welcoming all the students back on Friday 6th January for the start of the Spring Term. Students in Year 11, 12 and 13 will have their next session of mock exams and we trust they will be revising intensely over the Christmas fortnight.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and hope that the New Year is a happy one for the All Saints Academy community.

**Liz Furber
Principal**

From the Chair of Governors

I recently contacted you about the vacancy for a parent governor position that existed on the governing body. I am pleased to announce that Andrew Perkins put himself forward for nomination and has been duly appointed, given that he was unopposed. Subject to ratification by the full governing body in mid-December, Andrew will commence his four-year term of office at that point. Having parental representation on governing bodies is vitally important and we are fortunate that Andrew will join Matt Collins, who is a parent fulfilling a business governor role, on the board.

Andrew has a daughter in Year 10 and works as a Business Analyst for the Post Office. He is passionate about local education and our Academics' role in the wider community. As a governor at another local school Andrew is familiar with current education issues and is keen to support the school and work as an integral part of the governing body in providing a different point of view – the voice of a parent.

I very much look forward to welcoming Andrew to his new role.

**David Fraser
Chair of Governors**

~Calendar~

Thursday 5th January
Staff Training Day/No Students

Friday 6th January
Spring Term Starts for all Students

Monday 9th January
Year 11 Mock exams
Sixth Form Mock exams

Tuesday 24th January
Year 10 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 25th January
Enrichment Day 'Burns Night'



Raising Aspirations Group

We are delighted to announce that our **AP2 prize winners** are Maxwell Warren, Pavan Asodia, Kailan Linney and Noah Olaniran who have been rewarded for cumulative 'Progress 8' improvements. These students were taken to 'Insomnia 59' Gaming Conference at the NEC in Birmingham on Saturday 10th December as their reward. Felicity Young and Elizabeth Vowles were the big winners out of the girls, with Lucy Crossley and Siobhan Schliebe also winning prizes as a result of positive academic progress.

Personal highlights within this group based on AP2 progress were as follows: Maxwell Warren (1st place boy), Billy Joe Fury (2nd place boy), Felicity Young (1st place girl) and Muna Chrisokere (2nd place girl). Congratulations to these students. This recognition is well deserved and we hope they will keep up the great work.

Andrew O'Rourke
Head of Intervention

Learning Performance

Many of our students tell us that they don't yet know how to revise, so we booked a workshop with the nationally renowned company Learning Performance to teach them the essential techniques.

Year 11 students engaged fantastically well in a two hour workshop that covered a number of memory techniques, revision skills and ideas that if used will certainly help them remember information and revise in a far more efficient manner. Techniques included mind maps, acronyms, ideas for condensing large amounts of content and using imagery to remember key information. Well done all!

Year 11 Rewards

We have seen a pleasing rise in the number of students moving in a positive direction between AP1 and AP2. Far more students have been eligible for prizes this time around and I am still pushing the idea of pride over prizes! Congratulations to **Amber James, Reece Flitton, Kianna Dalton, Obede Songa & Arron Barry** whose 'Progress 8' score is currently at or above +0.60. These students have all been rewarded with a £10.00 voucher. Congratulations are also due to **Pavan Asodia, Minthaki Jayakody, Tashinga Gutu, Lauren Chandler, Charlotte Keating, Kyle Dillon, Chloe Carr, Ella Malarky & Kai Kirk** who have a positive 'Progress 8' score, currently between +0.59 – 0. These students have all been awarded a £5.00 voucher.

Can I take this opportunity to firstly congratulate all students who continue to move in a positive direction, keep up the hard work!

Secondly can I remind Year 11 students that we have started our 'Passport to the Prom' scheme, whereby students can choose to now get the money won reduced from the price of a prom ticket as opposed to a high street voucher.

Andrew O'Rourke
Head of Intervention

Sixth Form Mock Examinations

Students in Sixth Form will sit mock examinations in the week commencing 9th January 2017.

Mock examinations are an excellent opportunity for students to experience a true reflection of their A Level assessment conditions. Students have been provided with an individual examination timetable and revision tasks to complete over the Christmas break.

All students should arrive promptly by 8.25 am to their venues; registration will take place in the venue before the exam starts. If students are unwell on the day of a mock examination they must inform the Academy before 8.25am so their absence is noted.

Students will be expected to complete the missed examination in after school hours, supervised by a member of staff.

Charlie Small
Head of Sixth Form

Revision Resources

Students in Year 11 have been issued with revision guides for specific subjects, revision topics for core subjects and materials for some other areas. In addition, Year 11 students also have an Advent Revision Booklet for Maths, English and Science and they have a revision planner to help them prepare for their January Mocks. Please encourage your son/daughter to use the resources which have been provided for them so that they can feel confident and well-prepared for their exams.

Assessment and Reporting

The second of our Assessment Points has taken place and the latest Flight Plan has been sent home with your child. With the addition of the second set of "Working at Grades", you can see the progress that your child is making and you will also have a clearer picture of how the Flight Plan will grow into a document that will allow you to track their progress throughout the year.

Your child will receive a shortened version for their planner when they return in January so that they always have a copy of their grades to hand; Year 11 students have already received the copy for their planners.

The first set of Annual Reports of the year are currently being written for Year 10 and these will be sent home on Friday 20th January. Annual Reports are written one year group at a time and are staggered through the year. In addition to targets and working at grades, they also contain attitude to learning scores and comments from subject teachers. The issue dates for other year groups will be published nearer the time.

If you are unsure of any information included in these documents or if you have any concerns over your child's grades, please contact the Head of Year in the first instance.

Denise Greenhood
Data Manager

Year 7 Geography Fieldwork

At the beginning of December, our Year 7 students got their first taste of Geography fieldwork, taking part in a walk around our local area to conduct traffic and environmental quality surveys and a questionnaire. Students developed their observation and data recording skills and have achieved high levels in this part of their latest assessment. The students who took part showed an excellent level of behaviour throughout the trip and were a credit to the school. We look forward to taking our Year 7 Geographers out on more trips to see the world around them in the future.

Caroline Room
Curriculum Leader: Humanities

A Level English Literature

A key element of the English literature course is the study of texts from different genres.

The Year 13 students have been working hard on studying Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein' as well as independently working on completing a personal investigation that explores a specific technique or theme in both literary and non-literary discourse; for this they need to write 2,500 to 3,000 words.

This will form the basis of their coursework submission in the Spring Term.

Donna Witter
Curriculum Leader: English

Warcraft II Cinema Visit

Year 8 students at All Saints were privileged to be invited to watch a special screening of this film at Cineworld this month and it was an offer too good to refuse, so we took the whole year group. Part of the purpose of the visit was to develop the critical reviewing skills of the students and here are just a few snippets of their verdicts!

"Warcraft is a great movie and in places can be quite comical. The film, despite being amusing, is also gory!" (Parisha Tank)

"It is quite clear to all that Jones has let himself down with too much war and not enough craft, all that was displayed was flashy CGI instead of a meaningful story." (Karen Foster)

"Despite what the critics say, the movie overall was phenomenal in my opinion, although it definitely does much better on the imagery and CGI rather than the actual storyline and content." (Frani Elekes)

Thanks to all the staff who made this visit possible and to the students for really immersing themselves in the cinema experience.

Sophie Westrope
English Teacher



Revision tips

1. Look after yourself

Try to be well rested and well-nourished in preparation for exams. Drink plenty of fluids, eat a good healthy breakfast. The fresher and more energetic you feel, the more you will be able to tackle the cognitive challenges.

2. Plan your work

Some people concentrate better at night, others prefer to be up with the lark. Stick to a consistent working pattern so your mind and body can adjust, and take plenty of short breaks.

3. Be on top of the practicalities

It is easy to forget practical details, so be clear about simple things like start times, venue, equipment, material you can or cannot bring, and so on. Being on top of all these can make a huge difference in your poise and performance and will help avoid unnecessary last-minute jitters.

4. Get hold of recent exam papers

Go back a few years and consider the kind of questions that came up. Don't assume that these will be on the paper, but look at the relationship between the questions and course content. Is there a question per topic? Are topic areas combined in different ways? What is the style of the question – single focus or direct question, or does your examiner go in for questions with two or more bits?

Martin Serrao
Vice Principal

Preparing for examinations...

Yes, it's exam time again, and for some, the Christmas break can't come soon enough. For now, though, there's some serious business. Here are some expert tips to help prepare you for your time in the exam hall.



Top Tips for Stocking Fillers

Excellent ideas for presents which will ensure our children are fully prepared for learning in the new academic year include...

- ◆ Generously sized pencil case
- ◆ Blue or black rollerball pens/biros: buy in bulk have at least two in your pencil case at a time
- ◆ Highlighters: ideally four different colours
- ◆ HB pencils: buy in bulk
- ◆ Pencil sharpener
- ◆ Rubber
- ◆ 30cm ruler (folding ones take less space and are less likely to snap)

After Christmas, stationery sales are usually great with multi-buy deals and great discounts on all your essentials.

New Term, Fresh Start

At the start of the new term, we expect all students to be in correct uniform. This means that they will be wearing the All Saints branded items with appropriate shoes and plain black socks or tights. Parents/carers are reminded that the school uniform specifies shoes for footwear and that trainer type shoes and boots are not permitted. Please use the holiday period to replace any items which do not meet the uniform expectations of the Academy.

As the holiday starts, we would like to remind all students that facial piercings and nail extensions are not permitted. Students may wear one small stud in each ear and if any extra piercings are made, these must be free of jewellery by January 6th.

Elaine Boyd
Vice Principal

Cycle Registration

Any student who has not yet registered their bicycle with the Academy must do this no later than January 6th in order to ride to school and use our cycle store. There are prizes for those who register early.

From January 6th, we will be focusing on cycle use on the Academy site, ensuring the safety of all pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. Please ensure that the expectations are fully understood.

Useful Numbers

We hope you all have a stress free and peaceful festive period. The following numbers are provided in case anyone in our Academy family needs additional support at this time of year.

Samaritans	01582 720666 Or 116123 (free)
Salvation Army	01582 699092
Childline	0800 1111
NSPCC	0808 8005000
Domestic violence	0808 2000247
Mind Mental Health	0300 123 393 Text 86463
NHS	111

Also....

Beehive Childrens Centre * **01582-699092**
Tithe Farm N'hood Centre* **01582-867692**
Noah Enterprise (Homeless) **01582-728416**
(141Park Road Luton LU1 3HG open 8.15-3.45 weekdays 10-3 weekends and 7pm every evening)

**Foodbank vouchers available*

Careers Guidance

All Saints Academy provide professional Careers Advice, which has enabled our students to make fully informed decisions for their next stages in their lives. This in turn has raised their aspirations and has been shown to raise their confidence and self esteem. The programme of Careers Education Information, Advice and Guidance(CEIAG) is developed as students progress through the Academy. There is an opportunity for a Careers interview for all our students but with a particular focus on Year 11 at this time. Within the Careers' Interview process, help and support can be given for interview preparation, completing a CV and finding and signposting suitable training and next steps. If you require any further information or wish to make a Careers interview please contact Jo Ojulah.

Jo Ojulah
Key Stage Assistant

Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 16 December saw us host our second Christmas Jumper Day, with this being the first year we invited students to take part also. The event was a great success with students going the full hog with Christmas hats – inclusive of a singing, dancing Christmas tree hat! The total raised has yet to be finalised, but on last count stood at £150. Money raised will go to ‘Save the Children’ who support children in third world countries to access better healthcare and education, responding when needed to emergencies and humanitarian crisis. To find out more about the work of ‘Save the Children’ and exactly where your money will go, log on to www.savethechildren.org.uk. Thank you to all those who took part.

Nicholas Carter
Student Voice Co-ordinator



Festive Feel Good Friday

Student Voice wanted to host an event to recognise the hard work of Academy staff, both teaching and non-teaching this Christmas and decided to do so in the way of ‘Festive Feel Good Friday.’ Students were invited to come along and write on Christmas cards to be delivered to their nominated member of staff with a small chocolate treat. This event was free to students, and so far we’ve had in excess over 100 cards and messages to deliver. It’s really heart-warming to see that every member of staff will receive one of these as a recognition for their hard work from our students.

Nicholas Carter
Student Voice Co-ordinator

Smoothie Bike

Students were invited to have a ride on Sustrans 'Smoothie Bike.' Students were encouraged to pedal to power the blender to make rich indulging smoothies. Students eagerly raced each other attempting to beat one another's top scores, with a delicious fruit smoothie as the end reward. The bike was hugely popular and played a huge role in promoting students to eat healthy and cycle more. Derek Smulders from Sustrans also provided us with some Cycling Safety guidebooks which will be used to develop our Safe Cycling Scheme.

Nicholas Carter
Student Voice Co-ordinator



This term saw year 9 Business take on the Coca-Cola European Partners Real Business Challenge (RBC) 2016/17. In teams they had to design a healthy drink, research the nutritional value of the ingredients and design a bottle label. The label also had to include a competition linking the product to the Special Olympics Great Britain. There were several entries of which two were selected to go on to the Regional competition. Unfortunately they were not one of the top ten to then go on the regional final, however they did well to be selected to represent the school. So well done to Cole Braddon, Sam Markham, Thomas Bland, Charlie Mansell, Jack Turner and Maksymilian Krakowiak .

Michelle Watt
Second in Curriculum Maths



After their success at the trade fair in Bedford, our Young Enterprise company, Xenon Concepts, have been busy selling their service to those looking for business card designs, logos for projects and website designs. They are also now preparing for the large trade fair in Milton Keynes on Sunday 29th January 2017. If you are in Milton Keynes that day then come along and see what they have been up to. Should you wish to find out more about the services they offer then look at their website www.xenonconcepts.com

Michelle Watt
Second in Curriculum Maths

AM- 8.30am / MID 11.10am		JAN 2017 Mocks		Year 11		
Mon 9th		AM	ENGLISH LANGUAGE YR 11 1hr 45	ENGLISH IGCSE YR 12+13 IGCSE Paper 2 2hrs	ENGLISH YR 13 Paper 1hr 30	GEOGRAPHY YR 13 Unit 1 1hr 30
		MID	SCIENCE YR11 Core Biology 1hr			
Tues 10th		AM	MATHS YR11 Paper 1 Non Calc 1hr 30	FILM STUDIES Yr 12 2hrs		
		MID	RS YR11 1hr 30	MATHS Yr12 Core 1 1hr 30	MATHS YR 13 Core 3 1hr 30	
Wed 11th	9.00 am	AM	BTEC H&S CARE YR 10/11 PUBLIC EXAM 1hr	MEDIA YR 11 1hr 30		
		MID	MATHS YR 11 Paper 2 Calc 1hr 30	PSYCHOLOGY Yr 12/13 Paper 1 7181/1 1hr 30		
Thurs 12th		AM	HISTORY YR 12/13 Paper 1 REFORMATION 2hrs 15	BUSINESS GCSE YR 11 1HR 30		
		MID	SCIENCE YR 11 Core Chem- istry 1hr	GEOGRAPHY Yr 13 Unit 2 1hr 15	MEDIA YR13 1hr	
Fri 13th		AM	MATHS YR 11 Paper 3 Calc 1hr 30	ENGLISH IGCSE Paper 3 YR 12 + 13 2hrs		
		MID	SCIENCE YR11 Core Physics 1 hr	GEOGRAPHY YR 13 Unit 3 1hr 20	HISTORY YR 13 paper 2 Luther 1hr 30	
Mon 16th		AM	SPANISH YR 11 Listening & Reading Papers			
		MID	FRENCH Yr 11 Listening & Reading Papers			
Tues 17th	9.00 am	AM	BTEC PUBLIC MUSIC EXAM 1hr	SCIENCE YR11 Triple Biology 1hr		
		MID	SCIENCE YR 11 TRIPLE Chem- istry 1hr	BIOLOGY A YR 12 60 mins	SPORT YR 12 PAPER 1 1hr 30	
Wed 18th		AM	FOOD YR 11 2hrs	GRAPHICS YR 12 Unit 1 2Hrs	HISTORY YR 13 Paper 3 2h 15	
		MID	GEOGRAPHY YR 11 Paper 3 1hr 15	HISTORY YR 11 Paper 1 1hr 30		
Thurs 19th		AM	SCIENCE YR 11 TRIPLE Phys- ics 1Hr	SPORT YR 12 Paper 2 1hr 30		
		MID	TLM YR 11 1hr	PSYCHOLOGY YR 13 Paper 3 7182/3 1hr 30		
Fri 20th		AM	DRAMA YR 11 1hr 30	DANCE Practical YR11 2hrs MAIN HALL	ENGLISH Yr12 Paper 1 (V&V) 1Hr 30	
		MID	HISTORY YR 11 Paper 2 1hr 30			
Mon 23rd	8.30am	AM	ART YR 12/13 All day			
Tues 24th	8.30am	AM	PHOTOGRAPHY YR 11 All Day			
Wed 25th	8.30am	AM	ART YR 11 All day			