

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have had a wonderful break over the Easter holidays and that, for those of you with students in Years 11, 12 and 13, you were able to support your child with their attendance at intervention sessions and with their revision timetables. As the exams draw nearer it will be vitally important to ensure these students remain undistracted and focussed!

Before the break I informed you that the Academy site would no longer be freely accessible to parental traffic. At the secondary age range, there really is no need for parents/carers to drop students off at the door, so may I respectfully ask that you drop them off in a suitable nearby side road? This will ensure that our site remains safe from road traffic accidents, but also that the site is secured from unwanted visitors. To this end the gates will be locked to all traffic from **8.15am to 8.45am** and then again from **2.45pm to 3.15pm**. Parents/carers will not be allowed on site unless they have a pre-arranged appointment with staff and our staff will avoid making appointments at this time to prevent issues or embarrassment.

At the Academy we do try to follow our vision statement of **Living Well Together in Dignity, Faith and Hope**. We work hard to build strong relationships with parents and carers so that we can support our students in every aspect of their development. I must also support my staff and ensure they are safe, so you will understand that, just as at any other place of work, abusive language and behaviour will not be tolerated and parents/carers acting in this way will not be welcome on our site. We would like to thank the vast majority of our parents and carers who take the safety of students seriously and who have complied with our request. Your support and courteous interactions with the Academy are very much welcomed and valued.

Liz Furber
Principal

Summer Term Calendar

(Additional Dates will be published in our May newsletter)

15th May

Public Examinations Start

25th May

Year 8 HPV Immunisations

29th May—2nd June

HALF TERM

7th June

All Saints Academy Mock Election

8th June

General Election

14th June

New Year 7 Welcome Evening

15th June

Year 10 Careers' Day

23rd June

Year 11 Leavers' Day and Celebration

29th June

Public Examinations End

3rd July—7th July

Year 10 Work Experience/Years 7,8,9 and 6th Form
Enrichment Week

7th July

Year 11 Prom/Year 13 Leavers' Day

10th July

New Academic Year Begins

13th July

Awards' Evening

21st July

End of Term—Early Closure

Assessment and Reporting

All students have now received up to date flight plans which should be stuck into the front of their planner.

In addition, Year 11 students have received their most up to date mock grades and Year 7 students have received their annual report.

Denise Greenhood
Office and Data Manager

Examination Season 2017

Students have now received their examination timetables and the first formal examinations take place in the week beginning **15th May**.

Now is the time to make sure that students have their ID card and their clear plastic pencil case with the correct equipment in place. Details were given in our last newsletter which can be found on the Academy website.

Keri Kropelnicki
Examinations Manager

Year 11 Intervention

Thank you to all staff and students who took part in intervention activities during the Easter holidays. During May, our Period 6 provision will continue and a TLM session has been added on Tuesday after school. There will also be opportunities for revision and exam practice on some Saturdays (Super Saturdays) and at May half term. A full programme will be issued by letter and we urge students to take advantage of these opportunities where they can.

Andy O'Rourke
Head of Intervention

AQA English and Project 5 in 5

Targeted students have been attending Project 5 in 5 to boost their Maths and English grades and all students have also had their final session from our AQA examiners focusing on preparation for the English Language papers which take place after the half term break. We would like to thank all parents and students for their support for these activities and all staff who contributed to the organisation and delivery.

Staff Inset Training

At All Saints Academy, we are not just focused on training our students—we also spend quality time working with our staff on their development so that they can work even more effectively with students. Our Inset Day on 24th April was focused on moving the Academy to outstanding, with staff considering what this meant in terms of planning, marking, teaching and their focus on literacy and enrichment. All members of staff, including our Administration Team, were involved in the day's programme and there will be some exciting developments as a result.

Martin Serrao
Vice Principal (Teaching and Learning)

Learning Performance

On Thursday 6th April, All Saints hosted guest speaker Graham Vick from 'Learning Performance', the largest study skills company in the UK. This event was focused on delivering a range of memory and revision strategies for Year 11 students and families. Strategies covered included various memory techniques, methods used to understand and condense text/entire topics, how to turn notes into something creative and memorable and how to make this part of the home. Resources from this evening are available for all Year 11 students and families and will be distributed via form tutors by

Mr O'Rourke.

Attendance Matters

Congratulations to **Savannah Gladden** who was the winner of our £50 prize draw at the end of last term. Our attendance was 10% higher than it has been at the end of previous terms, so we hope this was an incentive to all students to make sure that they were in the Academy every day.

Update your Data

We have sent out data sheets to all families and would ask that you check your mobile numbers and provide an email address where possible.

If you email us at our new email address parentcontact@allsaintsacademydunstable.org we will get back to you within 24 hours—but only if your details are up to date!

MyEd

We now have over 100 families using the **MyEd App** which means that they can see our website, their child's achievement and behaviour points, our calendar, all our policies and links to ParentPay and our Parents' Evening booking system—all from their phone or tablet. We've sent out information cards with our data sheet and hope to see more of you downloading and using the app.

The Personal Development Programme

Our vision is that everyone in the All Saints family will **"Live Well Together"**. Each half term, we explore two of our values through our Personal Development Programme which includes our morning Tutor Time, our afternoon PSHCE session, our daily act of Collective Worship in assemblies and through our work as students and staff here at the Academy. In the coming half term, we will be exploring the values of **Hope** and **Happiness**.

Elaine Boyd

Vice Principal (PD,B and W)

Blue Whale Website

We have received advice from the police that there is currently a website called Blue Whale which encourages self harm amongst young people who are asked to post pictures on the site. We would advise Parents/Carers to be vigilant and anyone seeking additional advice can visit the www.saferinternet.org.uk where more detailed advice can be found.

Parents/Carers' Evenings

We had an excellent turn out of 74% for our Year 7 Parents/Carers' Evening this week. Thank you to **Mr Walbank** and his team and **Mrs Ojulah** for all their work in helping to organise this. There were some extremely happy parents at the end of the evening. As so many Parents/Carers have given us positive feedback about the way their son/daughter is working here at the Academy, we will be sending out the link to the Ofsted online survey to support you in giving that feedback to that forum as well.

Public Behaviour

We have received concerns from the Town Council that some of our students are riding bikes in Bedford Square (a non-cycle zone) and that this is causing a public nuisance. We are disappointed that some of our students are placing the Academy in a negative light, especially when we receive so many compliments about the majority of our students from members of the public. We will be working with the Town Council and Police to identify the students at fault and will sanction them as appropriate.

Advance Notice

General Election—8th June 2017

Once again, we will be acting as a Polling Station for the General Election. As a result, there will be a number of restricted areas for students on that day with a view to ensuring that our normal Safeguarding standards are maintained.

On 8th June only, access for vehicles will be permitted and a security team from Central Bedfordshire will manage access to the site.

Personal Development Programme

We have linked our Assemblies and Form Time next week to consideration of the issues raised by the General Election. **Mr Walbank** will be leading assembly in the week running up to the election and **Mr Grant** has been organising a Mock Election to take place on 7th June. Students have agreed to stand to represent different parties and are currently preparing their manifestos and speeches ready for election week. This is an exciting opportunity for our students to experience politics at first hand so that they begin to have an understanding of the issues facing our country.

Raising the Participation Age

We have received some useful advice and guidance from the Local Authority about Raising the Participation Age (RPA). We have put this on our website under the Careers page for parents/carers to access.

Wadham College

You will have noticed that there are increasing opportunities for our students to travel to new places and to gain new experiences. As you will have seen elsewhere in this newsletter, this was a key focus of our Inset Day on 24th April.

As part of our Enrichment Programme, **Mr Conway** and **Mr Smith** organised a visit to Wadham College, Oxford, where our students took part in lectures, toured the college facilities and visited the Natural History Museum.

They were all inspired by their visit, with several of the group saying that their aspiration is now to attend either Oxford or Cambridge to study. Thank you to **Mr Conway and Mr Smith** for organising this amazing opportunity.



UK Maths Challenge

60 students from All Saints Academy in Years 7 and 8 competed in the UK Maths Challenge which took place here at the Academy last week. Results will be out later in the month and we are hoping for some real successes.

Bake Sale 4th May

Please support our **Year 13 students** who have organised a Bake Sale as part of their Public Services coursework. They will be selling at break and lunch time and all proceeds will be going to the charity Kids in Action.

