

Dear Parents/Carers

November has been another busy month and I am delighted to report on the excellent conduct of our Year 11, 12 and 13 students as they took their first set of mock exams. The Year 11s received their exam results on a recent Friday afternoon to experience the feeling they would get next summer when they opened their final results. I was heartened to talk to some students, one of whom stated,

'These results are not what I want next summer Miss...I've got to work harder!'

It has also been rewarding to hear feedback from students as they talk to external visitors about the Academy. They mention not having supply teachers, better marking and improved behaviour in lessons. Much of this is down to the hard work of our dedicated staff who have forged on through what is the longest term of the year.

On Friday my two eldest children, who are University students, returned home for a 5 week break. Although envious of their long holiday it was joyful to have them home on the first day of December as they did all the child-like things with their younger brother, such as putting up the Christmas decorations and opening Advent calendars. It made me reflect on how the build up to Christmas is all about being together as a family and the anticipation of the day itself.

Of course Christians all over the world will look forward to the arrival of Jesus on Christmas Day and in a recent House assembly All Saints' students were reminded about the real meaning of advent and Christmas and I would urge you to follow this link that they all watched which really made them think.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCOFGQLBp7w>

We will have one final newsletter of the year before we break up. Until then wrap up warm: it looks like it's going to get a lot colder!

Liz Furber
Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

The 3rd December marks the start of Advent in many Christian churches, which is a time of preparation and waiting for the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. It is marked by various symbols that many of us are familiar with: Christingle (which we will be celebrating in the Academy), the setting up of Christmas decorations (as I write this, they are just decorating the tree near Bedford Square in Houghton Regis) and, of course, the Advent Calendar, which appears to have moved on from the traditional chocolate behind each dated door, to encompass such things as beauty products, gin, beer, wine and Lego!

I recently saw an article about a Reverse Advent Calendar, where people put a gift aside each day to give to someone who is less fortunate than themselves. Our tradition of being a 'giving' Academy continues, appropriately enough at the start of Advent, with our Children in Need Mufti Day. 22 boxes have already been sent as part of Operation Christmas Child and Streetlife, which is another initiative that the Academy is pleased to support, organised by Student Voice.

It is a well-worn cliché that 'it's better to give than to receive', but the truth is, there are many people, both in this country and around the world, who rely on the generous giving of others, in order to get by or simply to survive.

Can I take this opportunity, as we approach the season of giving, to thank everyone in the Academy who has given so generously of their time, talents, money and goods over the past 12 months to the benefit of those most in need.

David Fraser
Chair of Governors

Love of Reading Programme

We are asking all staff, as part of the 'Love of Reading Programme', to submit book reviews to share with colleagues and students.

We would also welcome any book reviews from yourselves, as parents/carers of our students.

If you have recently read a book and could write a review, please submit it to Mr M Serrao (Vice Principal), Mrs K Searle (Assistant Principal) or Mrs J Roberts (Learning Resource Centre Manager). We look forward to receiving them.

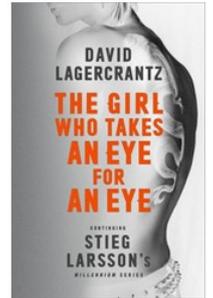
Mr Serrao's book review is included opposite for you to read.

The Girl Who Takes An Eye For An Eye

Swedish journalist Stieg Larsson plans 10 instalments in his Millennium series before his untimely death.

The three novels he did write, beginning with 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo', had energy, spectacular violence and superb plotting. Larsson's weird, sometimes clunk prose style was forgiven because there was real chemistry-empathy, even - between his two stars, the computer hacker Lisbeth Salander and the journalist Mikael Blomkvist.

The enduring draw at the centre of the Millennium series is that the image of a strange and solitary young woman trying to even the score with all manner of bullies by dint of her brains and, when called for, some martial arts moves. A bit far-fetched, certainly, but its rooted in the just barely possible. 'The Girl Who Takes An Eye For An Eye' is entertaining.



Martin Serrao
Vice Principal

LRC Inductions for Year 7 Students

Year 7 students attended two LRC (Learning Resource Centre) induction lessons during the week beginning 6th November 2017. The students learned how to use Eclipse, the online catalogue, and during the second lesson they completed a quiz, using Eclipse, which led them to a prize hidden in one of the books in the LRC. The prize was a £5.00 gift voucher and the winners were:

Christopher Hicks/Filip Suchcicki (7VE1)

Dawid Kania (7VE2)

Sophie Edwards/Pyper Levingstone (7WE1)

Rhys Kirk (7WE2)

House points were awarded to all students for completing the quiz successfully.

Bookbuzz

Every student in Year 7 has been able to choose their very own book from a list of 12 titles from the 'Bookbuzz Programme'. As part of the induction to the LRC, we presented them with their chosen books and really hope they enjoy reading them.

Janice Roberts
Learning Resource Centre Manager



Students
reading in
the Learning
Resource
Centre



'River of Ink' series by Helen Dennis
I am currently reading the River of Ink series by Helen Dennis. It's about a boy washed up on the bank of the River Thames and how it is a search for his identity. Later on he finds out he is (no spoilers!). I would definitely recommend this series for those that like mystery and adventure or just like a good book series.
Charlotte Preston/8DET



'Just Friends' by Melissa J Morgan
Just Friends is an amazing book! It is part of a series (Summer Camp Secrets) and it is my favourite book from the series. I like it because you think you know what's going to happen and then it takes a sudden change of turn.
Parisha Tank/9DET



'FIRST NEWS' NEWSPAPER
It's very informative and it reminds me when 'Blue Planet 2' is on television.
It has a lot of pictures which are very colourful and bright and makes reading more interesting and fun.
Harry Dye/7DET
Jake Dixon/7DET



'FIRST NEWS' NEWSPAPER
I enjoy reading the 'First News' newspaper because every edition is different and it's very interesting. I love the sports pages, but also like reading about the antics of some animals.
Kian Delaney/8INS



Super Animals by Anne Rooney
I like animals and my favourite is a snow wolf. The animals in my book were small and deadly.
Joel Goodwin-Hyde/7INS
Small But Deadly by John Townsend
The animal on the cover attracted me to this book.
Harvey Brine/7EXC



'House of Night' series by PC and Kristen Cast
I am currently reading the House of Night series by PC and Kristen Cast. It has everything in it: teenage drama, vampires, war and even magic. It is an amazing series and I would definitely recommend it!
Caitlin Jones/8DET

Wave 1 intervention – Project 5 in 5 English and Maths Outcomes.

October saw the return of our intervention partners, TwentyTwentyLearning, who worked with thirty Year 11 students, 15 who focused on Maths and 15 who focused on English. Our students worked diligently through this intensive programme of study for a total of 25 hours and we are pleased to be able to share the impact, as collated after our most recent internal assessment which was the November mock exams. Our '5 in 5' students as a group showed fantastic progress in English Language and Literature, on average increasing their individual grades by over half a full grade.

Using the pre and post testing carried out with the Maths groups, we saw that eight students had moved up one full grade or more. Of those eight, five moved up to a Grade 4. This represents excellent progress and we look forward to welcoming our friends from TwentyTwentyLearning back in the new year to work with our 2nd Wave of Project 5 in 5 students as we continue to prepare for the summer exams.

**ATTAINMENT 8
YEAR 11 TOP ACHIEVERS – AP2**

What is Attainment 8? Attainment 8 is the total point score a student achieves in their highest eight subjects – the same subjects that count for Progress 8.

How is it calculated? Each subject grade is worth a set amount of points and the points for the highest eight grades are added together.

Rank	Student Name	Attainment 8 Score at AP2
1	Kirsty Foster	76
2	Jake Roblett	74.5
3	Jasmyn Gooding	72
4	Zoe Samuels	70.5
5	Yassmina Popescu	69
6	Jersey Villanueva	66
7	Cody Robinson	65
8	Hugh Holland	64
9	Marian Boadi Kavanagh	63
10	Liam Lindgren	62

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS LISTED ABOVE.
THIS IS A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT!**

Sixth Form Mock Examinations

In November, Sixth Form students sat mock examinations and they all conducted themselves impeccably. Each student has received individualised feedback on their performance and should be working hard now to make improvements. Our Sixth Form Parents Evening on Thursday 1st February 2018 will be an excellent opportunity to discuss progress and areas for development in preparation for the second set of mocks after February half term.

Charlie Bellwood

Associate Assistant Principal & Head of Sixth Form

Period 6 – January 2018.

Curriculum Leaders are currently redrafting their period 6 lists based on the most recent and accurate data that we now have as a result of the recent November mocks. We will be sending out new personalised timetables before the Christmas break and both students and families should check these carefully to see which subjects are requesting your attendance to P6 in the new year. Thank you to all students for their attendance to P6 this academic year so far, you are taking advantage of a fantastic opportunity to increase your levels of understanding and consolidate your learning. Keep up the hard work, it will pay off!

Andrew O'Rourke
Acting Assistant Principal

AP2 'PROGRESS 8' LEAGUE TABLES & TARGET GROUPS – YEAR 11

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE		
POSITION	NAME	PROGRESS 8 SCORE
1	FOSTER Kirsty	1.85
2	YILMAZ Yasmin	1.68
3	OLUTAYO Gloria	1.29
4	O'BRIEN Hayley	1.19
5	NNADI Emmanuel	1.16
6	LACEY Summer-Louise	1.14
7	VILLANUEVA Jersey	1.12
8	NORRIS James	1.08
9	FEDERICO Sabrina	1.05
10	SOUSA Monica	1.04
11	MARINACHE Alessandra	0.91
12	RANDALL Casey	0.78
13	CHENNELLS Harley	0.75
14	MILES Ellie	0.75
15	BENNETT Rhiannon	0.67
16	BURGESS Lucie	0.65
17	DAVIES Saskia	0.63
18	ROBLETT Jake	0.60
19	CADY Georgia	0.60

LEAGUE 1		
POSITION	NAME	PROGRESS 8 SCORE
1	GAUTHIER-LOWE Makenzie	-0.03
2	PARKER Lucas	-0.06
3	MORGAN-COOPER David	-0.08
4	MOORE Felicity	-0.10
5	WHITE Chloe	-0.10
6	PRATT Caitlin	-0.13
7	MAHOMED Jesse	-0.14
8	GORDON Reegan	-0.19
9	QUINN Kyren	-0.19
10	HURLOCK Casie	-0.22
11	FENN Liam	-0.23
12	ARGINT Mihai	-0.24
13	PARTRIDGE Chloe	-0.26
14	SAMUELS Zoe	-0.29
15	EVANS Ewan	-0.30
16	LITCHFIELD-SHAW Isabel-Mae	-0.31
17	SIBLEY Faye	-0.32
18	SMITH Kailey	-0.33
19	DURY Cameron	-0.43
20	FOX Hannah	-0.45
21	HAGAN James	-0.45
22	BOADI KAVANAGH Marian	-0.47
23	MCCANN Christopher	-0.49
24	BRENNAN Jake	-0.49

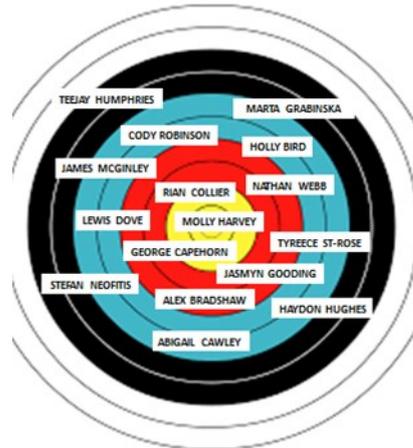
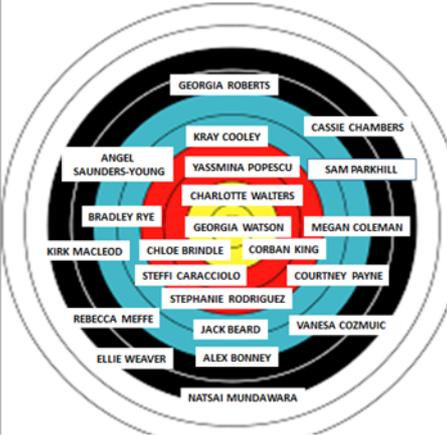
CHAMPIONSHIP		
POSITION	NAME	P8 SCORE
1	ELLIOTT Ryan	0.57
2	PERKINS Hannah	0.56
3	RYE Rachel	0.56
4	MEAD Amy	0.52
5	GRIMES Courtney	0.52
6	HAWTHORNE Georgia	0.50
7	NUGENT Elise	0.42
8	KELLMAN-DAVIS Mia	0.39
9	MURNANE Taylor	0.32
10	TAYLOR Kelsey	0.29

CHAMPIONSHIP		
POSITION	NAME	P8 SCORE
11	CONNIFF Luke	0.22
12	EVANS Eden	0.21
13	NARMONTAITE Inta	0.21
14	LAZZERINI Matthew	0.15
15	ENGLAND James	0.14
16	HOGG Katie	0.13
17	HURLEY Lillie-Rose	0.10
18	LEE Alexander	0.09
19	FLUDGATE Connor	0.04
20	STACK Shauna	0.02
21	PODDER Yasmine	0.00

**-0.5 to -1.09
TARGET**

**-1.1 to -1.9
TARGET**

**-2.0 to -4.09
TARGET**



Andrew O'Rourke
Acting Assistant Principal

Attendance Matters

We are very pleased to report that attendance is improving week by week across the Academy. We would particularly like to congratulate our Year 11 students who achieved an amazing 99.4% attendance during their recent Mock Exams. We always reward form groups who achieve over **96%** attendance each week and, during November, we have awarded a fantastic **50** boxes of chocolates.

As we get to the later stages of the term, we know that students can feel under the weather but we would urge every student to attend on every day that they are able as every lesson counts! Our term finishes on **Tuesday 19th December** and although it might be tempting to miss out on those last few days, there will be plenty of learning happening in the Academy and rewards available to those who are present for all days.

Robbie Swain
Attendance Officer

Low Level Disruption Survey

As we did last year, we have recently conducted a survey for all students, giving them the opportunity to name any student who is impeding their learning. Following on from this survey, Heads of Year have been working with members of their year group to improve behaviours and reinforce the importance of focused learning. Some students will have been moved to Pastoral Support Plans and there will have been meetings with parents and carers as we value your support in improving the Climate for Learning for all students. The survey will be repeated in the Spring Term and we expect to see a reduction in the number of students identified.

**Academy
Attendance Target**

96%

Help Over Christmas

In our December newsletter, we will publish a list of emergency contact numbers for support groups and organisations which may help families in need over the Christmas break. This list will include the contact details for local foodbank services. Before we break for the holidays, Mrs Pullen will check in with families who have received our support previously to make sure that all is well with them before we close. If you feel that you may experience hardship or difficulty over the Christmas break, please contact us over the next couple of weeks so that we can help where we can.

Uniform Matters

As we move towards the end of term, we expect uniform standards to remain high. In cold weather, we know that some students like to wear socks over tights to keep warm, but you are reminded that these should be plain and black. Hoodies or sweatshirts may be worn on the way to school but must be removed as soon as students are in the building. Coats are not to be worn indoors and must be stored in lockers during the day. Over the Christmas break, we would ask you to check your son/daughter's uniform and replace any shoes, skirts or other items which have been outgrown. Please encourage students to have everything clean and ready for their return to the Academy on 4th January.

Elaine Boyd
Vice Principal (Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare)

Sex and Relationships Education

All students are due to receive Sex and Relationships education during the Spring Term. On **Tuesday 14th November**, we were delighted to welcome families to the Academy to hear about our provision and the ways in which we deliver SRE. The families who attended have received a copy of our SRE Policy and we have also mailed them the notes from the session. For those unable to attend, the SRE Policy can be found on our website under **Parents & Carers/ Policies**. If you would like a copy of the presentation, please email Mrs Granger at jessicagranger@allsaintsacademydunstable.org and she will be happy to supply a copy.

Target-Setting

We can see some significant improvements in focus for our Year 9 and 10 students following their target setting meetings in October. Following on from their Mock Examinations, Year 11 Target Setting has taken place from 27th—30th November. Target Setting for Year 7 takes place in the week beginning 4th December and for Year 8, Target Setting takes place in the week beginning 11th December. Letters will be sent home inviting parents/carers to join these meetings where they are able.

All policies relating to Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare can be found on our website under the **Parents&Carers/Policies** tab

Student Leadership

Following on from the appointment of our Form Tutor reps, students have now elected the Head Boy and Girl for each Year Group. They are a wonderful group of students. We would like to thank everyone who stood for election and we congratulate the following students who have been appointed.

Year 7

Nicole Solomei and Charlie Stanford

Year 8

Charlotte Preston and Cameron Payne

Year 9

Chloe Allen and William Stock

Year 10

Paige Adams and Tyler Young

Year 11

Yassmina Popescu and Cody Robinson

Sixth Form

Natalie Zabinska and Arron Barry

MyEd App

This month we welcomed another **55** users to the MyEd App. If you haven't downloaded it to your phone or tablet yet, you are strongly encouraged to do so as it brings together our website, Show My Homework, our newsletters and lots of useful information—all in one easily accessible place.

Even better, the MyEd App allows you to keep track of your child's attendance and punctuality, their behaviour and House points. We have asked the company to develop a link to detention records and we believe this is a feature which will come on line soon.

Careers Day

On Thursday 2nd November 2017, students in the Sixth Form participated in a day of careers guidance activities. Careers Day started off with learning about the various Post-16 options for after Sixth Form. This was delivered in a fun, interactive session and the feedback from students was positive. The majority of our Year 11 and Sixth Form cohorts visited the Central Bedfordshire Council event at the Incuba, where they met 50 leading local businesses from a whole range of different areas including: construction, health and social care, travel and tourism, transport and logistics, agriculture and food, research and development and high-performance technologies. The students were able to discuss the various pathways, training and apprenticeships available and take part in interactive demonstrations. Alongside this, they met with many local training providers and had the opportunity to gain key careers information, advice and guidance. To finish the day, we returned to the Academy and we were extremely pleased to welcome two guest speakers. One a partner from Densons Law firm and the other a famous actress. Both speakers were well received. Their talks focused on their career journeys and their knock backs; they explained how they showed resilience, how they overcame failure and disappointment. They went on to explain the pathways taken to achieve their careers, what they looked for as an employer, skills for interviews, tips for CVs and the overall importance of having passion and drive to achieve your dreams.

Jo Ojulah

Parental Engagement and Careers Co-ordinator



National Citizenship Service Enrichment session

On Friday 1st December 2017, students in the Sixth Form were visited by the National Citizenship Service (NCS). They took part in a range of fun team-building activities during the session and gained an insight into the roles available with NCS as both participants and paid employees.



House Litter Bins

In the past month All Saints Academy has introduced a new ongoing competition to help strive towards living well together. On the playground, we now have 5 separate bins, one for each House. The Houses are now in competition to fill their bin each week.

Upcoming House Activities

Since September the House System has continued to grow within the Academy, allowing students to pursue extracurricular activities, participating in charity fundraising and other House activities. As a result it has continued to build a meaningful 'spirit of unity' amongst students. The most recent team event has been House Football and Team Courage were the overall winners across the year groups.

As well as the major competitions, the Houses have run a shoebox competition alongside Student Voice to help raise gifts for Operation Christmas Child and Streetlife. Each tutor group was allocated an age range and had to fill a box full of goodies to send to children in Third World Countries. Operation Christmas Child is a charity formed by the Samaritan's Purse which gives young children around the world novelties that we take for granted, sent in a shoebox. Streetlife is a local charity supporting homeless people in our community; predominantly in Luton.

Looking ahead, the decorating of Christmas doors and a House Christmas tree competition are now in full swing leading up to Christmas. All students will be getting involved by helping their tutor decorate their tutor room door and results will be announced at the end of the term in our final assembly.

House Points



2nd Place- 281



5th Place- 231



4th Place- 235



3rd Place- 246



1st Place- 289

Current Competitions

**ALL SAINTS ACADEMY
HOUSE CHRISTMAS**

— 20  17 —

**ALL SAINTS ACADEMY
HOUSE NETBALL**

— 20  17 —

Pride of Houghton Awards

It was an honour to be invited to Houghton Regis Pride Awards on Saturday 14th October 2017 to represent the Academy's Student Voice team. Nominated by Mrs Ojulah for their conscientious work following the Manchester attack, the student body were entered into the '**Young People**' category. The fantastic nomination speech, which can be read in full on our website, received many cheers from the crowd. We are pleased to report that the work of the team and the fantastic supporting speech secured students a win at the Pride of Houghton awards. It was fantastic for the students to receive recognition for their continued hard work and commitment to the Academy and local community. We are very proud of them all.



Members of the team receive their award from Mayor, Jo Hillyard

Act of Remembrance

Once again, students at the Academy were a credit to all of us as they marked our traditional Act of Remembrance in the main Hub. Following readings from our students and memories and prayers read by form representatives, the Last Post was marked by local cornet player, Raymond Jackson. Poppies bearing memories and prayers from all of our students were scattered during the silence and wreaths were laid by students, Governor **Barry George** and **Father Diego** from All Saints, Houghton Regis. Following the silence, Reveille was played and students moved on to the remainder of their day in respectful silence. We are very proud of them.



Ceramic Poppy Workshop

During the Pride awards, local councillors spoke of their desire to recreate the Tower of London poppies in Houghton Regis next year. As this is something we've been doing for a while, we invited the mayor and her team to join us for a ceramics workshop led by our Create team and our students. This was followed a few days later by a tour of the Academy on a Wednesday afternoon showcasing the work of our elective sessions before sitting down to glaze their poppies. We look forward to working with the Town Council over the coming year and supporting them with their many events.



Nicholas Carter
Student Support &
Community Engagement Co-ordinator

Poppies Supporting the National Appeal

The Poppy Appeal is important to us. Many of our school community are connected to current or former serving soldiers and military personnel. On 7th November, the Royal British Legion raised over **£112** during a forty minute lunch break, selling merchandise and poppies. During their visit, Appeal staff spotted our fabulous ceramic poppies in Reception and we were pleased that we were able to spare some to be taken to Morrisons to be sold on the Legion stall in the foyer. It was great to showcase the talents of our students with £138 being raised in just a few hours. This brings our donation this year to £350 which we still expect to increase. Thank you to all for your support.

NCS Champion School

We have been informed that All Saints Academy have been named as a National Citizenship Service (NCS) "Champion" school, in recognition of our excellent partnerships with this organisation. NCS organise volunteering opportunities for young people which gives them the chance to live and work away from home after they have finished their exams in the summer. We have already had one visit from NCS this term and the team will be back to sign up our Year 11 students after Christmas.

Jo Ojulah

Parental Engagement & Careers Co-ordinator

Visiting Clergy

We have continued to work with Father Diego, Father Bernard and Rev. Money during the second part of the Autumn term.

Students have worked with our visiting clergy to write prayers for our Christingle service, plan visits to local churches and have also extended their learning in their RS lessons.

Year 9 students are looking forward to visiting St Fremunds Church, Dunstable and All Saints, Houghton Regis later this month as part of their unit of work on **Understanding Christianity**.

Christingle Service Tuesday 12th December at 5.00pm

Hub Design

We hope you will take a moment on your next visit to admire our new artwork in the Hub area. You can now see our vision "**Living Well Together with Dignity, Faith and Hope**" around the glass panels on the first floor and our striking new logo, which shows our status as a church school, behind the main reception desk.

Christingle Service

All members of our Academy family are invited to join us at 5.00pm on Tuesday 12th December for a Christingle service led by our students.

There will be a mixture of carols, reading and prayers to celebrate the bringing of the Christingle. This is always a beautiful service to bring in the Christmas period and we look forward to welcoming you all.

Our Christian Union have been hard at work fundraising and have purchased a new crib for All Saints. Well done to all the team.



Please see below for the Christmas lunch menu for the students on

Wednesday 13th December 2017.

We would like to encourage the students to pre-book by the 7th December so we can work out the orders and for the students to be entered into a raffle with a chance to win £25.00 high street vouchers

Lost Property

Once again, the number of items in Lost Property is beginning to build and, as very few of the items are named, we are unable to return them to students. We are also unable to store items indefinitely due to space. All unclaimed items from last term have either been returned to students or were donated to Streetwise, one charity our students have chosen to support. We donated four large bags of items to this charity, which will be put to good use, but we were only able to return six named items to students. Replacing lost items can be costly and we urge you to name all items of clothing that are brought to school, including coats and sweatshirts that are worn to and from school.

Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 13th December **£2.40**

Roast Turkey

Stuffing Balls, Pigs in Blankets, Gravy and Cranberry Sauce

or

Festive Plait with Caramelised Sweet Potato & Onions (V)

Both are served with

Roast Potatoes, Roast Parsnips, Glazed Carrots and Brussel Sprouts

And

Spiced Apple Pie

or

Traditional Christmas Pudding

Or

Mince Pie & Cream

Please pre-order your Christmas Lunch at the canteen **before 7th December and pay in cash**

You will be given a raffle ticket as proof of purchase. This will be entered into our draw with a chance to win £25.00 High Street vouchers



Aspens

For just a £5 deposit, lockers are the ideal way for students to store their possessions throughout the day — forms available from Student Reception

Water Bottles

Even though the winter months are upon us, students should still bring a water bottle with them every day. This could be a sports bottle or a recycled juice or pop bottle. These can then be filled at the water fountains located around the Academy. Students often visit First Aid complaining of a headache and, in many cases, this is due to them not having had a drink during the day.

Year 10 All Saints Academy 5-6 Houghton Regis Academy

Once again, the Year 10 boys came up against their counterparts from Houghton Regis Academy, who were looking for revenge following an earlier defeat in the academic year. Houghton Regis Academy included some of their Year 11 students who provided a stern test for the Year 10 boys. Despite going 2-0 down early on, the boys battled back well to take the lead before Houghton Regis Academy stole the win in the last 2 minutes of the game. Mrs Granger who came out to watch said, "I am definitely going to watch the rest of the Year 10's football season; seeing those boys working so hard and supporting each other represented the school to such a fantastic level and made me incredibly proud not just as a tutor but as a member of staff." The boys now look forward to further games as we move through the year.



Josh Smith
Head of Year 10

Operation Christmas Child

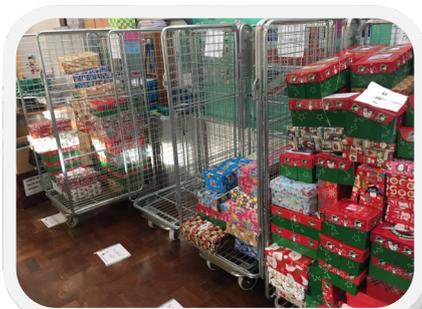
Operation Christmas Child this year was once again a great success with 22 shoeboxes being filled and numerous items being donated to go towards filling other boxes at the packing site.

On Friday I was lucky enough to meet the volunteers and see the process the boxes go through from being donated at a school. Once donated to the Academy they are taken to a drop off point in Caddington where volunteers work tirelessly checking the suitability of each box, ensuring that only suitable items are sent and that all boxes are of an equal size and filling. The volunteers have kindly offered to come in next year to present assemblies to our students and offer them a tour of the processing point in Caddington.

Opposite are photos of our trolley of boxes arriving; the large sorting room and then the pile of trolleys awaiting sorting and collection.

A huge thank you to everybody who supported our appeal.

Nicholas Carter
Student Support & Community Engagement Co-Ordinator



Reading for Pleasure Elective

As part of the Reading for Pleasure elective, students write a book review at the end of the half term about the book they have been reading. We judge these reviews and the best one is made 'live' on Eclipse, the LRC online catalogue. The student also receives a prize of a book and a 'Read' wristband.

We are pleased to announce that our first winner is Emma Hendry of 7COU and her book review is below. Well done Emma!

Janice Roberts

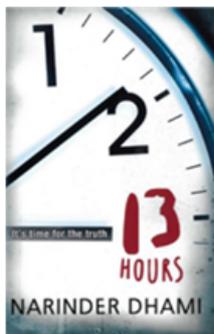
LRC Manager

Pat Leonard

Intervention Mentor

Thirteen Hours – A book review by Emma Hendry (7COU)

This book is called Thirteen Hours and it is written by Narinder Dhani and I think that it is a great book with a gripping story. Someone recommended this book to me and I read it, not knowing what it was about but when I got into it, it was a really good book. It is about a girl called Anjeela (Anni) and her mum, Jamila, who has a condition called Agoraphobia, which is a fear of outside spaces. They stay in their old Victorian house together with all the doors locked and live peaceful lives where no-one knows where they are. But one day when Anni comes home from school they find a group of strangers in their house. It is a story that includes friends, family and adventure. I think this book was written for both boys and girls at the age of 10+ years old. I would rate it 4/5 and would recommend it for anyone who is looking for an interesting book to read.



Prince's Trust

Some of our Year 11 students have recently completed a charity bake sale for their Prince's Trust project. A big well done to Haydon Hughes, Chelsea Harding and Abi Cawley for organising this.



The money that has been raised has been donated to Cancer Research. Students will next be focussing on their new unit, Career Planning, where Prince's Trust is teaming up with Mrs Ojulah to learn how to create CVs, write application forms and more!

Kirsty Tarrant

Inclusion Officer

Celebrating
student success
across the Academy

Educational Trips and Visits

We are really pleased that every year group will have had one educational and/or reward trip by the end of this term. Dates for December's trips are shown below and further details are available on the **Educational Trips and Visits** page of our website.

11th December 2017

Year 9, Planet Ice

12th December 2017

Year 10, Brighton Photography

12th December 2017

6th Form, Bedford Cineworld

13th December 2017

Year 7 Pantomime, Dunstable

14th December 2017

Year 8 Pantomime, Dunstable

14th December 2017

Year 11, Orbital Trampoline Park

14th December 2017

Sixth Form, Cineworld Bedford

18th December 2017

Year 11, Orbital

17th January 2018

Year 11 A Christmas Carol, London

Letters and consent forms can be downloaded from our website.

Watch this space for details of additional opportunities which are planned for 2018.

Looking Ahead

Monday 4th December

Year 11 & Sixth Form Reports sent home

Thursday 7th December

Year 11 Parents/Carers' Evening

Tuesday 12th December

Christingle Service—5.00pm

followed by Christmas Showcase—6.30pm

Tuesday 19th December

Last Day of Term

Wednesday 3rd January

Staff Training Day

(Academy closed to students)

Thursday 4th January

First Day of Term

A reminder that students return after the Christmas break on Thursday 4th January