

Dear Parents and Carers

A big thankyou to those of you who completed the Ofsted survey this month. Nearly 200 of you replied with some very positive comments about the experiences of your child at All Saints Academy.

Some highlights at All Saints Academy are shown below:

84% of parents feel their child is happy

83% of parents feel their child is safe

76% of parents feel their child is well taught

79% of parents feel their child is given appropriate homework for their age

83% of parents would recommend this school to another parent

68% of parents feel they are well-informed of their child's progress

Obviously I am delighted with these results. We still have to improve on some areas and as you can see in the last bullet point above, I want to work with you to ensure we give you the information that you feel you need about your child's progress. I will be sending out a survey soon to ensure we keep moving forward in developing our communications with home.

Many of you took the time to add detail and write about your concerns, and the Heads of Year will be addressing those with you over the coming weeks.

As we move into the final few weeks of term please encourage 100% attendance from your child as this is another area that Ofsted feel we should focus on and we can only improve this with your support!

Kind Regards

Liz Furber
Executive Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as of the end of 2017, there were 65.6 million people in the world who had been displaced from their own homes. That is equivalent to the entire population of the UK – yes, all of us - being forced to flee and live elsewhere, against our will. There has been a dreadful story in the media about a Syrian refugee boy who was filmed while being abused at his school in Yorkshire, having previously escaped from his war-torn homeland. The irony of that story is the perpetrator has not only been arrested, but his entire family have had to flee their own home because of the threat of reprisals. Whilst two wrongs never make a right, they might be experiencing just a little of what the Syrian family has gone through, although they are exiled only within their own community, not a country thousands of miles away.

As we mark the season of Advent and the birth of Christ, we remember that he and his family were forced to flee their own country, escaping the tyranny of King Herod, and seek exile in Egypt because they would have been killed had they remained in Galilee. I recently heard someone use the phrase 'Man's Inhumanity to Man', (first used by Robert Burns in 1784) when referring to the slaughter of soldiers during the First World War and thinking that very little seems to have changed in the last 100 or, indeed, 2000 years.

However, when I walk around the Academy and see the respect and support that the vast majority of our staff and students show for each other, I am heartened about the prospects for the future. What is even more heartening are the comments made by visitors who always speak about the good behaviour and politeness of our students and the sense of calmness that is around the building. Speaking of respect, the way in which the whole school observed the two-minutes' silence at the Remembrance Service was an extremely moving occasion.

Our community understands the phrase 'Living Well Together' and we should celebrate that fact, especially at this time of year.

David Fraser
Chair of Governors

Inclusion Photographs



Inclusion

We have partnered up with Houghton Hall Park again this half term, working with their new Head Gardener whose vision is to make the park an interactive learning zone for the Houghton Regis community.

It will be no surprise that our first themed area will be focussed on Christmas!!

We are transforming squashes into Christmas lanterns using silver paint and glitter; using damaged tools such as old wellington boots and garden rakes to display painted acorns and decorating recycled wooden discs.

We have an old wooden step ladder which will end up as an advent calendar!!

Alison Spicer

The Academy can be contacted on our dedicated parent email address:

parentcontact@asadunstable.org



for supporting Dunstable Foodbank.
Collection in November 2018 raised 125.54 kg food which will provide 299 meals for hungry people.



Registered Charity Number: 1148632. Registered in England and Wales

Prince's Trust

The Prince's Trust students have been hard at work organising group activities to support their teamwork unit. Year 11 have organised a Car Wash to raise funds for their Prom and Year 9 are making Christmas tree decorations to sell at the Academy Christingle service on the 12th December.

Alison Spicer

Tree-Planting—Supporting our Community

We were delighted to be invited to take part in a tree-planting and decorating event in Olma Road by Sandy Coyle from Dunstable Town Council. We invited our Form Captains, Head Boy and Girl and our Living Well Ambassadors to take part in this activity. Thank you to the following students who donned their wellies on a wintry Monday morning and got down to work:

Mason Merrion-Kennett

Robert Hart

Emma Hendry

Lily Helliadis

Sophia Forder

Hayden Keeler

Megan Jones

Ashleigh McDade

Jasmine Kemp

Charlie Stanford

Medow Cox

Charley Shields

Charlotte Tobin



Remembrance 2018

Remembrance Day is always a very special occasion at All Saints Academy and this year was no exception. After the ceremony, Year 8 student Phoebe Tilcock was inspired to write the following poem to mark the occasion.

*History lies within the Lincoln green grass
The wind is filled with both fear and peace
As the soldiers who fought strong and stood tall And didn't
back down with the harsh weather
For the courageous and resilient soldiers rest in the ruby red
poppy fields
And as to this day we hold their strength as a memory
And we remember what they did for us
Where there was once war and conflict they now rest
peacefully
When they made us have a today but lost their tomorrow
They made our today what it is today
Where the claret poppies grow, the swaying green grass
blows*



Thank you to all students who represented the Academy at either the Houghton Regis or Dunstable Town Remembrance Services, either as part of our official representation or on behalf of other organisations.

Well Done Club—new members in November

The Well Done Club goes from strength to strength and each week a new group of students join their Head of Year for hot chocolate and cookies. This is a simple way of recognising students who work hard and make the right choices every week and who are a great example of our mission statement “Living Well Together with Dignity, Faith and Hope”. We have had another month of students joining us for hot chocolate and chats. Well done to you all, for always meeting the expectations of the Academy. We look forward to meeting even more of our fabulous students at Well Done Club next month.

Year 7: Lily Rose Sharman, Scarlett Sale, Avalon Haslam, Nicole Tan, Jack Geary, Eryn O’Gorman, Jayden Hollinshead, Charlotte Tobin, Gustas Zeringis

Year 8: Caitlin Antsey, Aleks Gosk, Harvey Brine, Jodie Norman, Leo Pyatt, Nicola Swiderski, Estelle Lee-Mowatt, Denis Gabor, Dainton Hales, Stella Watts-Bushby, Harley Vickers



Weekly “Power” Challenge

Each week, the Key Stage 3 team set a challenge for all students in Years 7 and 8. Sometimes this is a word power challenge to improve literacy, sometimes it is a number-based challenge to improve numeracy and sometimes it is a general knowledge based challenge. Since we started the challenges, we have had 436 entries and we’ve been able to award prizes to 10 lucky students. The surveys can be accessed through the Showbie “Electives Groups” and the codes are the same each week:

Year 7 ZJD2W

Year 8 VV5K8

Children in Need—Just Dance

Thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need—by dressing up, by dressing down and by supporting the various challenges around the Academy. Key Stage 3 were responsible for organising the very popular (and very sweaty) Just Dance Challenge.



Key Stage 3 Attendance is currently 95.1% and our target is 96%. We can achieve this if everyone makes sure that they attend on every day that they are able.

Advent Assembly

We are really proud of our Collective Worship and even prouder of our Student Leaders. One of our targets this year is to increase the involvement of students in the planning and delivery of Collective Worship. When we came to deliver this year’s Advent Assemblies, we were thrilled that **Sophie Edwards** and **Nicole Solomei** volunteered to help lead the SLT assembly for all year groups. They led the prayers and Bible reading, talked about the Key Stage 3 “Reverse Advent Calendar” project and also lit the candles which symbolise the different stages of Advent. They were a credit to the Academy. We were also very proud of 8 Determination who led this week’s Head of Year Assembly with all students taking a part.

Dia de Muertos

Year 8 Art students have been looking at the Day of The Dead this term. From their own design work they have then made a clay “Day of The Dead” skull. These are a few examples of the great work we have seen. Well done Year 8!



Christingle

We are all looking forward to this year's Christingle Service which takes place at **5.00pm** on **Wednesday 12th December**. The service will be led by our new part-time Chaplain, Rev. Tim Davies and the Christian Union and it will allow us time to reflect on the meaning of Christmas before all the hustle and bustle of the season itself. We really look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

A very warm welcome to **Eduard Cepisca, Adam Craggs, Pawel Czekaj, Lilee-Rose Lemmon-Sheppard, Dilaksha Satkunarupan and Ellie Sibley** who have joined Key Stage 3 this month.

Teaching and Learning in December

Although we focus on Christmas and celebration at this time of year, we also have a busy programme of teaching and learning in December. There will have been some class and set changes after Assessment Point 2 and we will also be working with students in Years 7 and 8 to review the targets we set earlier in the term. We know that students perform best when their attendance is high and we would like every student to aim for 100% attendance for the remainder of this term. There is a direct link between attendance, achievement and future earnings.

Key Stage 3 Christmas

In addition to a very busy programme of lessons, assessments and target reviews, we have lots of activities planned for Key Stage 3 as we approach Christmas. We are putting together gift boxes for children at the L&D Hospital, Keech Hospice and families at the Dunstable Foodbank. Our "reverse" Advent Calendars are our charity project for the second half of the Autumn Term and we hope everyone will be able to support by donating some items to the boxes.

~Dates for Your Diary~

Tuesday 11th December

Year 7 & 8 Celebration Assembly

Wednesday 12th December

Christingle Service
5.00pm

Friday 14th December

Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 17th December

Key Stage 3 Christmas Disco 6.00pm-7.30pm

Tuesday 18th December

Key Stage 3 Pantomime Reward Trip

Wednesday 19th December

Christmas Assembly
Early Finish (12.15pm)

Handball and Dodgeball

The Year 10 boys have recently been involved in the District Handball and Dodgeball tournaments which were held at Vandyke Upper School.

All the boys involved played extremely well. One match included a great 3-2 comeback win against Vandyke in the handball competition to secure 2nd place. We now wait patiently to see if 2nd is a position that allows the boys entry to the County Finals in February.

Well done to all the boys who took part for their effort, teamwork and application across both tournaments.

Mark Gilbert



Year 11 Mock Results Information

Year 11 had an assembly on Friday when they were given their Mock Results and various pieces of information pertaining to these and their upcoming GCSEs. The main points of this are summarised below:

- Students were advised of their Progress 8 League tables and target groups. Progress 8 scores are all about an individual student's progress made against their silver target in their top 8 subjects. A Progress 8 score of 0 means a student is making expected progress in all subjects. These are a fair measure because they show how students are doing in relation to their own target grades.
- On Tuesday morning the new AP2 league and target groups will be available.
- Students can obtain rewards for House points from AP3 onwards. Details are available from Andy O'Rourke.
- There is additional English and Maths support on offer for ALL students. This includes intensive programmes, Masterclasses and working with a lead English examiner. Again, details are available from Andy O'Rourke.
- We are putting on some additional English and Maths groups to try and help all students maximise their potential. These are available at various times in the week - details from Andy O'Rourke.
- We have interventions planned in Period 6, during evening workshops and through independent learning resources.
- New personalised timetables have been created and will be with students / families before the Christmas break.
- Unifrog, the complete destinations platform, is available to students. This is where students can compare, side by side, every Post-16 and Post-18 opportunity in the UK.
- Students can access 1:1 meetings with our 4YP Careers Adviser. These are available every Thursday in the Careers Office.

GCSE Music

We have recently had Lara Haigh, who used to be a Music student at All Saints Academy, do work experience with us in the music department. Lara helped me with my singing, she went over my song with me which I am preparing for my final performance. She was very supportive and kind and she has made some of us more confident. It has been lovely to have her in the department and our class have appreciated the feedback and help she has given us to improve.

Ella Varle

Year 11 Music student

Visit to Wadham College

Staci Phipps and I took a group of Year 9 and 10 students to a very wet Wadham College, Oxford on Tuesday 27th November 2018. Students experienced what university life is like, they got to question some students about their experiences and what it is like to be at university. The students experienced a neuropsychology and PHD mathematics lessons, which Staci and I found very interesting!

I would like to thank the following students for their impeccable behaviour:

Year 9:

Logan Bright
Harry Dutnall
Caitlin Jones
Ashley Peters
Charlotte Preston
Ethan Roberts

Year 10:

Madison Bennett
Adan Breed
Arjeta Celepia-Stucinskaite
Sophie Chandler
Sophie Crossley
Jaime England



I would also like to thank Staci Phipps who was a great help on the trip.

Harry Dutnall: *'At the university I enjoyed getting to talk with real students and being able to see what people do at university. It was also good to know more about how people get in and why.'*

Charlotte Preston: *'I really enjoyed the taster sessions that we did as it gave us an insight into some of the Oxford Lessons. I also really enjoyed the museum as it was a time to be independent and do different things.'*

Caitlin Jones: *'When we went to Wadham College I enjoyed learning about all the different types of universities and how your GCSEs affect what courses you can take. I also enjoyed learning about cryptography.'*

Claire Rumsey

A Level Film Studies

We have recently had visits from media technician Phil Dickson-Earle, who has previous experience working for the BBC. We had a filming workshop where we learned skills relating to iso and aperture, as well as about depth of field and framing. We took test footage and tried out some of the techniques he taught us so we could put them in our own short films that we were making. We then had a screening of our films. This was very useful as I was able to see whether Phil could understand the narrative of my film and he was also able to give me feedback on my film; what he thought was good about it and what could be improved. He also pointed out slight issues that could be resolved and he always explained what he was saying. For example for my film he said that in-between certain scenes I needed just a fade and not a cross fade, because generally in films using a cross fade means that you are going into a person's mind.

My film was about mental health, more specifically depression and self-harm. I decided to pick these topics because they are more common issues now and they are heard about a lot more. As well as this, I wanted to educate people to make them aware that there are different signs that people can show which could mean that they are depressed. The workshops and technical support have helped me to improve my film and I will look forward to showing my film to an audience.

Jasmine Khaliq

A Level Film Studies student

Create and Design

We've seen some superbly designed creations in the GCSE and A Level Art, Graphics and Photography 5 hour mock examinations. We were truly delighted by the focused efforts of students and their personal designs and work.

The Art & Design GCSE Coursework Deadlines are fast approaching : **Tuesday 18th December 2018**

All coursework including mock examination work is required. Lots of students will have feedback to work further into their projects to show more investigation of ideas. Following the teachers' advice is highly recommended as they are the first markers of the coursework.

The first Art and Design lesson in January will see the Exam Paper issued to students. Students work on this until the beginning of May when their final piece is made in exam conditions over two days. This is the first examination for Year 11, it requires early preparation placed in now as no further revision or work will be required after May.

Mel Tynegate & Kate Hawkes

Deputy Assistant Principal (Individualised Pathways) &
Curriculum Leader (Creating and Designing)



'Carols Around the Crib'

Sunday 16th December at 4pm, All Saints Church.



All Saints Church would like to invite all the uniformed organisations in Houghton Regis to Carols around the Crib. This will be a children's service of carols (chosen by the children) and readings followed by refreshments. Everyone welcome including Mums, Dads, Grans, Grandads, Friends, Relatives etc...

Production News!

Christmas Show— Thursday 13th December

Please join us on **Thursday 13th December** at 6.00pm for our Christmas Showcase where you will experience a mini Christmas market and an All Saints Academy twist on the classic tale of Scrooge.

Tickets will be on sale at Student Reception from **Friday 30th November 2018**, adults £5 and concessions £3

Sophie Bolton

All 60 of the ceramic poppies sent to Morrisons sold in 3 days this year! There will be more next year.

The Create and Design department took part in a number of events to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War, including creating 60 Poppies which were sold by the Royal British Legion and raised over £300 for the poppy appeal. We also created a community window display which included poppies made by All Saints students.

Kate Hawkes

Curriculum Leader (Creating and Designing)



CEIAG- Can you help?

To help every student achieve and progress onto their successful destination as well as grow local talent inspiring our young people into careers for the future we need help from local businesses and local employers!!

We know you are busy, but on behalf of our young people we would value your contribution, whatever this may be. Could you spare some of your time to

- Provide a 'careers insight' talk or workshop to students on your career sector
- Send a representative to act as an interviewer / assessor at a mock interview for our Year 13 students
- Host a workplace visit for a small group of students
- Host a Year 10 or Year 12 work experience student
- Link with a relevant subject in the Academy to provide a 'workplace' task to support careers/employability within the curriculum, bringing real world context to a particular topic

The above list is not exhaustive, if you have any further ideas of how you could support our CEIAG programme please do not hesitate to get in touch with **Helen Anton**, Head of Careers.

We are particularly keen to engage with any of your employees who are alumni of either All Saints Academy, Northfields Technology College or Northfields Upper School.

CEIAG

Every student has the opportunity for a 1:1 careers advice meeting with our 4YP Careers adviser, Mr. McCree who is in the Academy every Thursday. Appointments can be booked through your child's form tutor or by contacting Helen Anton. You are also very welcome to attend to support your son/daughter.

Email: hanton@asadunstable.org

Helen Anton
Head of Careers

Christingle Service

The Christian Union will be presenting the Christingle next **Wednesday 12th December** at 5.00pm.

All are welcome.

Nicola Oxley

Visiting Speaker

Chloë Scott, Senior Occupational Therapist, Psychological Therapist.

North Adult Community Mental Health Team

On Wednesday 23rd November, the Year 9 and 12 Health and Social Care Students had a visit from Senior Occupational Therapist and Psychological Therapist, Chloë Scott. We had the chance to listen and talk with Chloë as well as engaging in activities that Occupational Therapists would take part in. For example, we played Jenga while observing each other's behaviour.

Chloë's work is founded on the concept that occupation is essential to health and wellbeing but it's also about helping the person to do activities they love. Chloë never intended to become an Occupational Therapist, but instead stumbled upon it when she was travelling and met a lady in the profession. She liked the practical aspect of it and how it is interlinked with many other areas. Chloë then applied for her training.

She now works amongst adults in the community who need additional support with their day to day lives, whether through new equipment, or having carers supporting them. Chloë works with lots of other people in different areas of mental and physical health, like Psychologists, Doctors, Paediatricians and Counsellors.

We are very grateful to Chloë Scott for taking the time to come and speak to us. We certainly learnt a lot and were suitably inspired.

Priscilla Addai Asamoah said this about the experience.

'It was really good and enjoyable. I now know what Occupational Therapy is and have an insight into what these people do.'

Charlotte Preston and Zoe Smith

Lost Property

We have a large amount of lost property outside the Head of Year Office and all named items have been returned to students. Please encourage your children to check thoroughly for anything that belongs to them as we will be donating all remaining items to charity at the end of term.

Denise Greenhood



Parents you can sign up to support your son/daughter!

Unifrog is the one-stop-shop for destinations, allowing students to explore every university course, apprenticeship and college course in the UK plus other around the world, including opportunities such as European and US

undergraduate courses.

Parents with children in Year 11, 12 and 13 have all been given a login to this fabulous site. Please contact me for more information on how the platform can help your son/daughter.

Helen Anton
Head of Careers



ALL SAINTS
ACADEMY

Congratulations to **Minthaki Jayakody** on achieving her Bronze Award and **Yassmina Popescu** on achieving her Silver Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is an internationally recognised award, highly regarded by many employers and Universities. It comprises of three levels each with four sections, Physical, Volunteering, Skill and the expedition.

Applications from those interested in taking part in the award are now being taken for this year's cohort. The students were given the information during an assembly and letters are available for those interested. If your child is in Year 9 or 10 and wishes to take part please encourage them to collect an application form from **Michelle Watt**, in Maths. Should you have any questions please contact the Academy.

Extra-Curricular activities for Create and Design

		Lunchtime	After School	
Mon			Dance Company 0046	
Tues		Music practice rooms- Break time		
Weds		Dance Club 0046		
		Music practice rooms- Break time	Drama club 0073	KS4 Drama intervention 0073
				KS4 Dance intervention 0046
			KS4 Food intervention 1038	KS4 Music and media intervention 0054
Thurs				
Fri		Singing Company 0054		



Looking Ahead

Thursday 6th December
Year 11 Parents/Carers' Evening

Wednesday 12th December
Christingle Service

Thursday 13th December
Christmas Showcase

Monday 17th December
KS3 Disco

Wednesday 19th December
Last Day of Term
(Students finish at 12.15pm)

Wednesday 2nd January
INSET Day
(Academy closed to students)

Thursday 3rd January
First Day of Term

Friday 18th January
Year 10 Discovery Day Trip

Tuesday 22nd January
Year 10 Parents'/Carers' Evening

Peter Pan - 20th—21st March 2018

As some of you may know our annual school production this year will be Peter Pan. This year we have our biggest cast of 65 students. Thank you to the students who have already demonstrated great commitment to this show. On Thursday 18th November the Create and Design team took 26 of these students to watch Wootton Upper Schools production of Grease. The students loved watching a production that was produced by peers of their age.

Abbie Stock said, *'I absolutely loved watching the amazing performance of Grease, they were so professional and the singing was amazing. It is making me very excited for our performance of Peter Pan.'*

After the Christmas holiday rehearsals will take place every Wednesday until 5.00pm. The cast will be receiving letters to inform parents/carers of the rehearsal dates leading up to the show.

The shows are on

Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March.

The Peter Pan performances will be raising money for Great Ormond Street. (Staging a production is very expensive and so all money raised in our Christmas showcase will be used to fund Peter Pan.)

Sophie Bolton
Head of Year 8

REMINDER

There is no vehicle access to the Academy site
between

8.15am and 8.45am every morning and
2.45pm and 3.15pm every afternoon
when the Academy gates are locked

And finally...

Christmas Gift Suggestions:

To your enemy - forgiveness
To an opponent - tolerance
To a friend - your heart
To a customer - service
To all - charity
To every child - a good example
To yourself - respect

Oren Arnold