

**Dear Parents and Carers**

I hope you have all had a wonderful half-term with your families. We now enter into the run-up to Christmas with so much going on in the Academy. At the beginning of November our Year 11, 12 and 13 students start their mock exams. I have to say that the Year 11 students are an amazingly hard-working year group who are keen to revise and improve upon the grades they achieved at the end of the summer term. I know as parents and carers you will understand how important this year is for them and will support them with ensuring they have quality time and a conducive space to study.

Thank you for the support you are giving to the Academy in reminding your children to always be polite and courteous to the staff at All Saints. It is now very rare for a student to be rude to a teacher or refuse to comply with our expectations. We do not tolerate students who refuse to do as they are asked and refusal will end up with a fixed-term exclusion being issued, though I would like to reassure you that a lot of time goes into persuading the students to make the right choice.

Behaviour standards start with sticking to the uniform code and the vast majority of students look extremely smart every morning. We will send a text home if there is an issue with uniform and if it is not corrected by the following day you will be contacted to say we are sending your child home to rectify it. Please can I ask for your help with two particular issues? Piercings and nails! We allow one pair of studs only and absolutely no facial piercings. Nails should be of a neutral colour and not false nails which tend to be unreasonably long. Bear in mind that students come to the Academy to learn and need to be able to write. With the length of some nails, I can assure you this will not be possible! With best wishes

**Liz Furber**  
Executive Principal

**Dear Parents and Carers**

We have reached that point in the year where the nation pauses, among all the political turmoil, to remember all of those who died in the service of their country, primarily in the two World Wars. As usual, the students and staff at the Academy will pause for reflection at 1100 on 8th November and probably be reminded of a few of the many poignant words that are spoken at this time of year: 'For Your Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today'. The occasion is always characterised by solemnity and dignity by everyone involved.

Many of those people who died in conflict, especially those who served in the First World War, were no older than our students. I hope there will never be a time again when our young people are forced to take up arms against an enemy. Sadly, however, there is still conflict within some of the communities in which we live, graphically illustrated in Milton Keynes recently when two 17-year-old boys were stabbed to death.

Apart from educating our students about the values that are expected of a civilised society, we have a duty to keep them all safe. If anyone threatens that safety by acts of behaviour that we consider to be anti-social or downright dangerous, we will not hesitate to remove that threat by the sanctions available to us. The governors are adamant that we will have a policy of zero tolerance towards anyone who puts the safety and well-being of fellow students and staff at risk. Once again, I am grateful to the vast majority of students and parents who support our behaviour policy and contribute so positively to the life of the Academy.

**David Fraser**  
Chair of Governors

**IMPORTANT  
INFORMATION**

**GENERAL ELECTION****Thursday 12th December 2019****All Saints Academy will be closed to students on this day**

### Understanding teenagers

The average teenager's body is changing at an alarming rate, as hormones shift and surge, the body, brain and emotions are on a permanent rollercoaster.

The extremes of emotion that teens go through are also partly due to hormones. Boys are coming to terms with large quantities of testosterone surging through their bodies while girls have to cope with the mood swings that accompany oestrogen. It is an exciting time for teenagers, but also a very scary and challenging one. A time when the support and encouragement of parents is essential to their successful transition into adulthood.

### Tips for coping

**Stay positive** - things can change. Don't assume the worst or your teenager will too. Look for signs of change and notice when things go well, even for a short time. Try to be a positive voice in their lives – it affirms that they can have a positive future even if things are difficult now.

**Like who they are** - try to separate the behaviour from the person. Remember all their good qualities and try not to be overpowered by what you don't like about their behaviour right now. Your teenager may be behaving badly but that doesn't make them a bad person.

**Be there** - contrary to how it may seem at times, your teenagers do want to talk to you. But you need to let it be in their time and at their pace. Listen to their ideas, don't interrupt or try to tell them what to do.

**Be reassuring** - a lot of teenagers are scared by the feelings they're experiencing and the new wave of responsibilities that they have to take on. They need lots of reassurance that they're not going mad and they will cope.

Please look out for more 'Tips for coping' in the next Newsletter.

<https://www.relate.org.uk/relationship-help/help-family-life-and-parenting/parenting-teenagers/behaviour/coping-disruptive-teenagers/>

### CAMHS Courses

The courses below are open to any parent/carer who has a child registered at a Bedfordshire GP – you do not need to be accessing CAMHS to be able to attend

'Managing Emotions, Resilience, Self Esteem and Risk-Taking Behaviours' - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November @ 5.45-8.30pm

'Low Mood, Self-Harm and Suicide' - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December @ 5.45-8.30pm

'Navigating Life Whilst Looking After Yourself & Others' – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 @ 5.45-8.30pm

ALL courses held at: Kings House, 245 Ampthill Road, Bedford MK42 9AZ

For more information: [www.camhs.elft.nhs.uk](http://www.camhs.elft.nhs.uk)

## Homework

Students in Years 7 and 8 have a homework timetable which tells them when homework will be set for each subject. Homework should be visible to parents/carers and students via the Edulink One app. At present, we do not have enough demand to run an after school homework club but we will review this if we have enough parent/carer requests for this service.

### Year 7

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7v	Create & Design	English Science	Maths		MFL
7w		Science	Maths Create & Design		English
7v1		RS	History	Geography	
7v2		Geography	History	RS	
7v3		Geography	RS	History	
7w1	History Geography	RS			
7w2	Geography RS	History			

### Year 8

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
All Year 8		Mathematics		MFL	Science
8v Band					English
8w Band				English	
	<b>Humanities Homework Rotation – set for each subject once every three weeks</b>				
8v1		History RS			
8v2		Geography History			
8v3		Geography RS			
8w1	Geography	RS	History		

## Assessment Point One

We are fast approaching our first formal assessment point for Year 7 and 8 students. There will be an in-class assessment for all students and these will test elements of the course that is being studied at present.

The results of these assessments will be shared through a “flight-plan” later this term and there may be a number of set changes as a result of the outcomes.

## Pencil Cases

We have now received a new stock of basic pencil cases and students who have lost theirs are now expected to replace this equipment. There will be a charge of £1.00 which represents excellent value for the pencil case and students can purchase their replacements at Student Reception at any break or lunchtime.

## Year 7/8 Games Club

We are aware that some of our students need a quiet space at lunchtime. We open our Games Club to Year 7/8 students every day and they are welcome to chat quietly, play board games or play on their iPads. All are welcome in Room 0037 and the sessions are supported by Mr Gould and Mrs Oxley. Students are reminded that they are not permitted to eat their lunch in the Games Club.

### Start a Heart

Congratulations to all Year 7 students who participated in our recent Start a Heart training. For a number of years, we have worked to ensure that all of our students receive this essential life-saving training.



### Our Academy

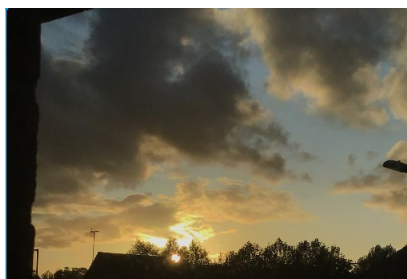
**Attendance Target is 95%.**  
**Is your child meeting or exceeding this?**

### Key Stage 3 Photography Competition

Over half term, we invited our Key Stage 3 students to take part in a photography competition. Their challenge was to take one photograph that captured Houghton Regis in the Autumn. Our winner was Iveta Mizutaviciute:-



Our runners-up were Demi Lee and Amy Drury. Well done to everyone who entered a photo.



### Young Geographer

Congratulations to the Year 7 students who took part in the Royal Geographical Society's "Young Geographer" competition. Amazing work, focusing on where Geography can take you. Our runners up and our winner are shown below.



### Christmas Rewards

Congratulations to the **158** students in Key Stage 3 who qualified for the Autumn Term reward trip. To be invited to participate, students had to have **95%+** attendance, **5** or fewer behaviour points and at least **10** House Points. For those who did not qualify, there will be a chance to earn a place on the Spring Reward Trip.

### **Study Skills and Memory Techniques – Family Workshop October 2019.**

It was our pleasure to host our guest speaker Adrian Fear from 'Learning Performance' for a fantastic and highly enjoyable evening on 10<sup>th</sup> October. Parents/carers and students found the event to be incredibly valuable and a lot of fun! Adrian delivered an entertaining and very interactive workshop that gave all participants an insight into a wide range of different revision/study skills and memory techniques. The evening was overwhelmingly positive and attendance to this event was incredible, with over 60 people in attendance. Our students and accompanying families were full of praise for the event.

#### **Student quotes.**

"I have learnt to break up my revision study time into lots of small chunks and to get my family members to regularly test me."

"I am definitely going to make lots more mind maps and create and use mnemonics – our brains like them!"

#### **Parent quotes.**

"Excellent event. So much information given in two hours. Informative and excellent learning participation. It is fantastic that All Saints have organised this. Thank You."

"I have learnt to encourage shorter studying periods and to chop between topics. I will encourage my daughter to use stories in her revision."

"I will try to test and encourage my son to teach me what he has learnt at school. Also to improve his work space in the home".

We sincerely hope that these techniques will allow families to work together as our Year 10s and particularly our Year 11s now prepare for the forthcoming GCSE assessment. We look forward to welcoming our friends from 'Learning Performance' back in May 2020 for the second instalment, which will coincide with the beginning of the formal GCSE examination period for our year 11 students.



Andrew O'Rourke  
**Assistant Principal —KS4**

Our Year 11 students have been given revision booklets for Combined and Triple Science which will help them with their mock exams which are taking place at the start of November. They have also been given a revision guide and workbook which they can use in class. Finally to support the Year 11 students we run revision sessions on Monday after school and Thursday lunchtime. In these sessions personalised help can be provided to the students with any of the topics. If you would like to ask me any questions about your child's progress or the Science curriculum please email me on [aali@asadunstable.org](mailto:aali@asadunstable.org)

Amir Ali  
**Director of Science**

### Year 10 Assembly

On 8<sup>th</sup> October, Richard Cloutman from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) visited the school to deliver an assembly to our Year 10 students. The students learnt about the history of nuclear weapons development and their use at the end of WWII. They also considered the impacts of their use and were presented with a range of viewpoints on nuclear weapons, which will be useful in the RS topic 'Peace and Conflict'. Richard has been an educator and activist on this matter for many years. We hope his visit has inspired our Year 10s to begin considering their own views on this topic as well as how they could peacefully and practically challenge aspects of the world they feel strongly about.



Caroline Room  
Curriculum Leader—Humanities

Below is the Year 11 Period 6 Intervention Timetable. Sessions are open to all students.

Year 11 P6 Intervention Timetable 2019	a.m. intervention 8am–8.25am Lunchtime intervention 1:10pm – 1:35pm P6 Monday-Friday 3.05pm - 4.05pm Except Tuesday 3.05pm – 3.25pm		Never hope for it more than you work for it.	HARD WORK PAYS OFF.	I prefer to earn it. It makes me appreciate it more.	It's hard to beat a person who NEVER GIVES UP.	NOTHING WORTH HAVING COMES EASY
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY			
MORNING		French VLA & SOY 1022 Spanish SOY 0037		French VLA & SOY 1022 Spanish – SOY 0037			
LUNCHTIME			Geography CRO in 0058 History JAS in 1004	Science AAL in 0125			
AFTER SCHOOL	Science in 0122 LRO & in 0124 EFA	Geography (20 mins) 0058 CRO	English Language 1073 & 1064 MJO & GJO	English Literature 1073 & 1064 MJO & GJO			
	Maths 1024 & 1025 MWA & CCH	History (20 mins) 1004 JAS	Maths 1019 & 1024 NMA & JST	Sport, Health & Leisure (all subjects) 1051			
		RS (20 mins) 1006 CAN	Business Studies 1076 SMI	Music and Dance 0054 & Dance Studio C&D Team			
		Staff meetings at 15:30 No full P6 today.	Art, Photography & Graphics 1035 MTY & ALE				

### **Sixth Form Options Evening**

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November we will be holding our Sixth Form Options Evening for students and parents/carers between 5.30pm and 7.30pm. This is a chance to come along and see what courses we have to offer and what options there are available to you. The school is very proud that the Sixth Form received a Good judgement from Ofsted last year, showing that All Saints is a great choice for A levels.

**Options Evening**  
**Tuesday 26th November**

**Parents' Evening**  
**Thursday 30th January**

On 15<sup>th</sup> October we took our Year 12 students to the brand new Waterside campus at Northampton University to attend the University and Apprenticeships Fair.

The students had the opportunity to talk to numerous different universities about the courses on offer and their requirements, as well as meet potential employers within the apprenticeships section.

The students also attended numerous seminars relating to student finances and personal statements. The day was capped off with a personal tour around the university campus including the students halls.

This was a very impressive day with lots to take on board by all.

Anthony Lee  
**Deputy Assistant Principal—KS5**

### **100%ers**

Well done to the following pupils who have maintained a 100% attendance since the start of the academic year.

Lauren Adkin  
Jenna Booth  
Connor Braddon  
Lauren Corr  
Adam Denny  
Paula Fischer-Fodor  
Dionne Machingauta  
Sam Markham  
Turaya Moore  
Ronnie Wilkerson  
Rhiannon Bennett  
Marta Grabinska  
Georgia Hawthorne  
Summer-Louise Lacey  
Liam Lindgren  
Amy Mead  
Felicity Moore  
Caitlin Pratt

### **After School Clubs**

The Science and Mathematics departments will be running an exciting STEM Club which will take place on Wednesdays after school and will be open to Year 7 to 9 students. The activities in the club will involve experiments, STEM challenge and projects.

### **Looking Ahead**

**Tuesday 26th November**  
Sixth Form Options Evening

**Friday 29th November**  
Box Clever Theatre Visit for Years 10 and 11

**Monday 2nd December**  
Year 11 and Sixth Form Reports sent home

**Thursday 5th December**  
Year 11 Parents' Evening

**Wednesday 11th December**  
Rewards Trips  
Year 11 Music students' concert

**Thursday 12th December**  
Academy closed to students

**Wednesday 18th December**  
Christmas Showcase

**Friday 20th December**  
Last Day of Term

**Monday 6th January**  
First Day of Term

**Please encourage your children to use their Active Learn logins. All students in Years 9 to 11 should have received this from their teachers. The login gives them access to the online digital book and other resources which will support their studies and help to improve their grades.**

### **EduLink One**

Logins for our new communication app, EduLink One, were posted home over half term. At the moment, we have only issued logins to priority 1 contacts but if you would like additional logins, please contact the Academy.

We will be phasing out some of our other communication packages as we increase our use of EduLink One and we ask that parents/carers log in as soon as possible.

EduLink One is a user friendly app that provides a variety of information about your child in one place. The software can also be accessed via the internet using the same login as your app.

If you are having any difficulties with using EduLink One, please get in touch.