

NEWSLETTER

ALL SAINTS

Issue 10-June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Since the Parent/Carer Survey in May, we have been working hard to contact parents/carers to find out more about issues that could easily be resolved. We genuinely wish to change things for the better so listed below are issues you have raised, and our responses to them:

Year 7

You Said	We Did
Communication - not aware of what child is learning throughout the year	New newsletters every week - as well as the usual whole school newsletter there will be an additional weekly newsletter for Personal Development, Behaviour & Attitudes or Quality of Education.
Communication – lack of awareness over parent consultation evening	Head of Year newsletter once a Half-Term to share key dates and activities for that year group.
Homework - confusion over how homework is recorded.	In the future all homework will be on Edulink

Year 8

You Said	We Did
Consultation evening timings not always suitable and some parents want a face-to-face meeting	Next year we will offer parents/carers the choice of a face-to-face meeting or an Edulink meeting, with all year groups having a 'Meet the Tutor' event.
Homework - confusion over how homework is recorded.	In the future all homework will be on Edulink
Behaviour – a few parents/carers said they did not know if the Academy expected the students to behave well.	Behaviour tours arranged by Deputy Principal in charge of behaviour – two dates available: 4 th July and 11 th July

Year 9

You Said	We Did
Consultation evening timings not always suitable and some parents/carers want a face-to-face meeting	Next year we will offer parents/carers the choice of a face-to-face meeting or an Edulink meeting, with all year groups having a 'Meet the Tutor' event.
Options – some disappointment over students not being able to get their first option choice.	Longer lead-in time and parent/carer meetings around Options time.
Lockers – some students had reported issues with accessing lockers	Year 9 lockers now fixed and new keys given out

Year 10

You Said	We Did
Communication - not aware of what child is learning in the year	New newsletters every week: as well as the usual whole school newsletter there will be an additional weekly newsletter for Personal Devel-
	opment, Behaviour & Attitudes or Quality of Education. Ensure parents/carers are aware of curriculum maps on website.

Most issues seem to surround communication with our parents and carers. To address this, we are sending home a mini-newsletter every week to ensure parents/carers are kept in the loop more frequently. Parent/Carer

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evenings should all have taken place or be imminent.

The other main issue is homework – either lack of it or confusion over how it is reported. We intend to re-launch our homework strategy in September with much more rigour!

It was pleasing to hear parents/carers talk of behaviour improving since the return from Covid lockdowns. We will undertake another survey in six-months' time (November) to ensure communication and homework systems have improved.

Meanwhile, I hope you are enjoying your more frequent newsletters.

Liz Furber Executive Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

The nation recently marked the seventy years since Her Majesty the Queen acceded to the throne - 70 years of service. During these past few months, All Saints Academy marked nearly 50 years' loyal service by Margaret Deal, who retired. Maggie joined the school soon after it first opened as an Upper School in the early 1970s. In her various roles during that time, she will have seen thousands of students pass through the doors and played a small, but important, role in their education and development. Such commitment is rare to see in these modern times where very few people remain in a job for so long. According to statistics, the average person changes jobs 12 times in their lifetime and the average stay with an employer is around 4 years.

At All Saints Academy, we have several colleagues who have been with us for many years. The vast majority of these are support staff, who play a vital role in ensuring the Academy operates smoothly on a day-to-day basis. These are important functions, often going on behind the scenes but which are a vital part of making sure that teaching and learning can take place. They include finance, human resources, IT, cleaning, catering, site maintenance, exam preparation, reception, student welfare, timetabling, technicians, student support, printing, ordering (sincere apologies if I have missed any). The whole operation is overseen by the Principal, who is additionally responsible for the direct delivery of teaching and learning. Most businesses will have similar support systems, but our business is very special because we know who all our 'customers' are, we generally know how long they will be with us, and we know the outcomes we want them to achieve. That is what makes schools unique and why most people choose to work in an education setting.

All our staff, along with the governors, are committed to achieving the very best for the students in their care. I am particularly grateful to all those colleagues, some with many years' service, who provide support for the teaching and learning process, and especially to those who manage that process. Leading such a complex operation is not easy and the governors would wish to express sincere thanks to Liz Furber for her on-going commitment (nearly six years as Principal) to All Saints Academy. That commitment continues as she, and we, say farewell to some of the Year 11 and 13 students who have completed their public examinations, celebrate their achievements in August and welcome a new Year 7 cohort in September.

Thank you, as ever, for your continuing support as parents and carers.

David Fraser Chair of Governors





Uniform

Please can we remind all parents/carers that we will continue to apply the high expectations we have regarding uniform, including skirt length and footwear and ask that correct uniform is worn at all times. As notified in the recent Behaviour and Attitudes newsletter, from September, skirt length must be to the knee and our uniform supplier has been made aware that this is now the Academy's policy.

Should you require any support replacing uniform please contact Ms Herd on 01582 697615 or aherd@asadunstable.org. We are also offering a 'swap shop facility' where you can bring in your nearly new items



of uniform and swap for a different size, at a hugely reduced cost or free depending on what is available. Please note the logo will now be at the bottom of the skirt and, with the skirt at the required knee length, this logo will sit just above the knee. If you require help to source the correct length skirt we are more than happy for you to bring your child to try stock on and orders can then be placed with Ms Herd and delivered to the Academy. Ms Herd is available Monday to Thursday 8am until 5.30pm and parent/carers can contact her direct, as above, to arrange a time to come and see her.

Holiday Activities and Food Programme

Please find below a link to the new Holiday Activities and Food Programme for this summer. Parents/carers will need to register their children before booking any activities, if this has not already been done. At the point of booking, parents/carers will need to quote the registration number with the HOL prefix to the providers when booking sessions. Here is the link.

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/school-hols-food

These activities are funded by the DfE and are for children in Year Reception through to Year 11 who are in receipt of benefits. Should you need anything further then please do not hesitate to contact Ms Herd on 01582 697615 or aherd@asadunstable.org.

Anita Herd

Welfare and Safeguarding Officer

Lost Property

We have a large amount of lost property which students should collect before the end of term. Named items will be returned to students, but any unclaimed items will be donated to charity over the summer holidays. Please encourage your child to check for any items that they may have lost. All lost property will be on display outside Student Reception during the last week of term.

Medication at School

If we hold medication for your child, we will be sending this home at the end of term, along with a blank School Medicine Record Form that can be used in September. We will be texting home towards the end of term to find out if you are FIRST AID happy for your child to bring the medication home, or if you would prefer to collect it.



Denise Greenhood

Academy Services Manager







Chaplain Message

This month's focus passage:

The parable of the Lost Sheep from Luke Chapter 15 verses 3-7.

The parable of the lost sheep is a fairly well known story that Jesus told to a group of religious leaders in order to make a number of points which are as equally relevant today as they were 2,000 years ago when this situation occurred. It is a relatively short story and goes as follows:

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has 100 sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the 99 in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one person who is lost and returns to God than over 99 righteous persons who do not need to repent".





For me, the two stand out points are firstly, that God sees everyone as important and worth making the effort for and secondly, the importance of partying and celebration. However, throughout June I have been sharing this story with students in Years 7-10 under the theme of trust – the idea being that you can trust someone who has proven themselves to be trustworthy by looking after people, or sheep in this

instance. So, we hear about God being prepared to leave the 99 safe "sheep" to go and find and rescue the one who was in danger. There is a song you may wish to listen to called Reckless Love and can be found using the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ju9As7b brk

It can be a bit like that with us. God can sometimes leave us alone and allow us to do our own thing but is always available to help when we ask. Maybe if we are in danger or need help? And it is not just a random "we can trust God" but do nothing about it, God invites us to trust Him by telling Him about the things going on; in our home lives, in our places of work, in our relationships etc. This is what Christians call prayer - communication with God, nothing fancy, just directed thoughts and time listening to hear what He might be saying to you through your thoughts whilst were focusing on God in any particular situation.

Prayer:

Dear Lord,

Thank You that You look over us and give us direction and guidance.

Thank You that we can trust You.

Sorry for the times we have gone our own ways.

Please help us to look forward and see You leading us in our lives.

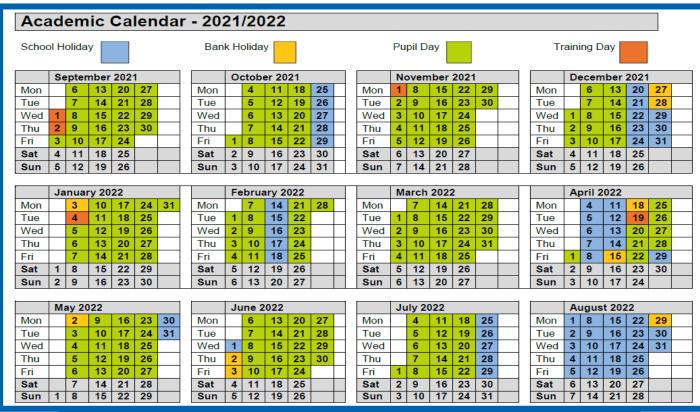
Amen.

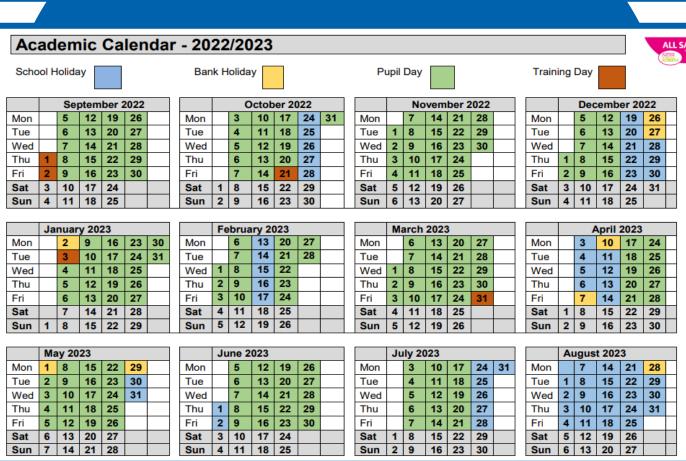


Revd. Tim Davis: School Chaplain



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Looking Ahead
Thursday 7th July
Year 7 Parents' Evening

Friday 7th to Saturday 8th July
Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh
Residential

Thursday 7th July Year 11 Prom

Tuesday 12th JulyYear 9 Southend Trip

Wednesday 13th July
Years 10 & 12 Southend Trip

Wednesday 13th July
Awards Evening

Thursday 14th July
Year 8 Steps Into STEM

Tuesday 19th JulyYear 7 Whipsnade Trip

Wednesday 20th July Year 8 Whipsnade Trip

Friday 22nd July
Last day of term
Students finish at 12.15pm

Thursday 18th August Year 13 A-Level Results

Thursday 25th August Year 11 GCSE Results



