Living Well Together with Dignity, Faith and Hope

# VEWSLETTER

Issue 2—October 2022

## ALL SAINTS

#### **Dear Parents and Carers**

The weather has started to cool down as we enter into October, and I for one wish I had not complained about being too hot this summer! As it gets more inclement, students will of course want to wrap up warmer and wear coats. Please remember that hoodies should not be worn and students will be asked to remove them upon entering the Academy, so a coat needs to be worn on cold days. A plain black, V-neck, nonlogo jumper can also be worn under blazers but **not** instead of a blazer. If you could help us with this it would be much appreciated and it will stop students having a difficult start to the day.

We took part in a voluntary NSPCC safeguarding audit and it was pleasing that they concluded all students they had been speaking to felt safe and knew who to go to with any concerns (DSL Kate Searle or DDSL Hannah Buckledee). We were delighted with this result because the most important thing that a school should be is SAFE.

This week we have held a meet the tutor evening for all students from Years 7-11 as this is one of the things that parents/carers asked for in the July parent survey. There will be another parent survey in the next few weeks where I will ask if you feel there has been a more consistent approach to setting homework on Edulink - another request from the parent survey.

On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October it will be World Mental Health day. The mental health of our students is so important when they have lived through strange experiences over the last two years, such as the pandemic. Therefore, next week we will focus assemblies and resources on mental health awareness.

Next Wednesday will be our Open Evening for prospective parents, and staff and many students will be on site from 8am until after 8pm. I am sure you will understand that on Thursday morning staff and students will need a slightly later start to ensure their wellbeing. Therefore, the Academy will open to **all students and staff at 9.30am on Thursday morning**. There will be **no** registration or lesson 1. Any parents/carers who have difficulties with this arrangement are asked to contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

It will be half-term in two weeks' time and the Academy will be closed to students from **Thursday 20th October** as the final Friday is a staff INSET day. Students will return on **Monday 31st October.** 

Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Furber Executive Principal

#### **Dear Parents and Carers**

A belated welcome to the new academic year. September is usually a month of relative calm after the summer holidays as people settle back into the routines of work and school.

I have rarely known such a turbulent month as the one that has just passed. Aside from the on-going war in Ukraine, we have witnessed the death of Queen Elizabeth II, the seamless transfer to King Charles III, and the transition of power from one Prime Minister to another. Add into that significant economic turbulence and extreme weather conditions around the world, and it has been far from a settled time.

It has been interesting looking after our two teenage granddaughters for the last couple of weeks, talking with them about not only the day-to-day issues surrounding school life and relationships, but also listening to how they feel about those wider matters that equally impact on their lives. It has been important to put aside time in busy schedules to listen to any concerns they might have, not necessarily being able to provide them with answers or solutions, but at least giving them a platform for sharing.

It was very distressing recently to follow the inquest into the death of Molly Russell who took her own life five years ago, partly as a result of what she was seeing and reading on social media. It is incumbent on all of us, as adults, to make sure the children in our care feel safe. Talking, listening and taking any concerns seriously are important elements of communication at any time, but especially in times of turbulence and uncertainty.

Alongside our teaching and support staff, we have colleagues at the Academy who have specific skills in listening to, and working with, any students and their families who are in need of help or guidance. Please do feel free to contact them.

> **David Fraser** Chair of Governors

All Saints Academy, Houghton Road, Dunstable LU5 5AB 01582 619700 www.allsaintsacademydunstable.org Executive Principal: Liz Furber

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#### **Looking Ahead**

Wednesday 12th October Y6 into Y7 Open Evening

**Thursday 20th October** Last day of half term

Friday 21st October **INSET Day** (Academy closed to students)

**Monday 31st October** Students return

#### Access to School Site

Please can all parents/carers be aware that there is no vehicle access onto or off of the Academy site from 8.15am to 8.45am and from 2.45pm to 3.15pm each day.

#### ParentPav

ParentyPay is an online, secure payment system where you can top up your child's cashless account so that they can buy items in the canteen. You can also purchase items such as replacement ties and locker keys.

If you do not have a login for ParentPay, please contact the Academy.

### Vacancies for Exam Invigilators **Casual contract**

### £9.50 per hour (plus accrued holiday pay)

As Exam Invigilator you will supervise students taking examinations according to regulations determined by the Academy and Examination Boards, this will include supervising the arrival and seating of candidates, handing out exam papers with the support of the person in charge. As an Exam Invigilator you will continually monitor students writing the examination and report any irregularities, such as communication between students.

Invigilators are required for mock exams and end of year exams, as well as the public examinations and this post is an ideal opportunity for someone who enjoys flexible hours.

All Saints Academy is an equal opportunities employer. The Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers, prohibition order check and the Disclosure & Barring Service.

Applications for this role can be made through the My New Term website at https://www.mynewterm.com/jobs/135946/EDV-2022-ASAD-75537

#### Edulink

Edulink is an app that is used for a variety of purposes across the Academy.

Staff are able to take registers, issue House or behaviour points and view information about students.

Students are able to look at their timetables, access their homework, view Flight Plans, Annual Reports, attendance and the balance on their cashless account, as well as see how many House or behaviour points they have.

Parents are able to look at the same areas as students but can also book open evening appointments, update contact information, report absences and email members of staff.

If you have not yet logged into Edulink, we encourage all parents/carers to activate their accounts as the Edulink app is the perfect 'one-stop shop' to view information about your child.

If you do not have a login or have forgotten your password, please let us know so that we can reset your account.

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#### **Community Health Hub**

The Bedfordshire and Luton Children's Community Health HUB is a one stop service for Health Visiting, School Nursing 0-19 and our Looked after Children Teams for parents, carers and professionals. The Luton Community Paediatric Service can also be contacted via this number, but for emails please continue to use their own dedicated email address.

To access the Health HUB call us on 0300 555 0606 or

email: ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub @nhs.net

Our trained Hub administrators will be at the end of the phone to help and advise, and to signpost to you to the correct services.

#### **Contacting the Academy**

You can contact the Academy:

By phone on the main switchboard number - 01582 619700

**By email** using our dedicated parent/carer email address – parentcontact@asadunstable.org

By text on 07860 098785

The school **website** is also a source of useful information and links – <u>www.allsaintsacademydunstable.org</u>

#### **Medicine in School**

Students should not carry medicine around school with them, with the exception of inhalers and epi-pens.

The Academy can store medicine in the Medical Room once parents/carers have completed the relevant form. Forms can be collected from Student Reception.

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	School Holiday						Bank Holiday							Pupil Day						Training Day								
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