# Parent Bulletin 14/02/25



#### Welcome Message

Welcome to the final week of our half term. As we reflect on the past 6 weeks, it is important to remember all of the fantastic work which has taken place at school during this time.

We have further embedded our 20 Questions which allow pupils to deepen their understanding of topics taught in lessons by enhancing their ability to learn essential knowledge. We believe it is crucial that our pupils understand the power of independent revision and how this can positively impact their learning in class as well as their exam results. Please see the curriculum area of our website for more information on subjects studied at KS3 and KS4: <u>Curriculum :: All Saints Catholic College</u>.

We are also proud of our attendance drive this half term. Our pupils have been rewarded with form trophies and some even with Kindle Fires as part of our final two-week incentive for excellent attendance. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child has great attendance. We are grateful for the ongoing support you provide to your child and for helping foster an environment that encourages both consistent attendance and academic achievement. Your involvement plays a key role in their success.

We strongly value the relationship between school and parents. Your feedback is very important to us and we appreciate the support you have all shown as we continue to develop all aspects of school life.

#### Bronze Equality Award

We are thrilled to share some exciting news with you! Our school has been awarded the Bronze Equality Award in recognition of our commitment to promoting equality and inclusivity for all our students. This achievement is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and positive contributions from our staff, students, and the wider school community.

This award reflects the ongoing efforts to create a welcoming, fair, and supportive environment for every student, regardless of background, gender, race, or ability. We are incredibly proud of the progress we have made so far and are committed to continuing this important work as we strive to create a community of belonging.

#### **Rewards:**

#### **Attendance**

Best form attendance this week:

- 7 Carlo Acutis
- 8 Assisi
- 9 John Paul
- 10 Romero
- 11 Kolbe



7 Assisi won best attendance last week - well done!

## Winners of a Kindle Fire

We have again launched our prize of a Kindle Fire to pupils who have had 100% attendance this half term. We have chosen 5 pupils at random from that list.

The winners this half term are:

- Aliyah-Jay T
- Beren E
- Rebecca O
- Avah D
- Aimee L



### **All Saints Achievement Points**

Here are the top 5 performing pupils this week:

- 1. Tymoteusz P 7 Romero
- 2. Halle RB 8 Teresa
- 3. Libby-Mae G 9 Ward
- 4. Jasper R 10 Kolbe
- 5. Krisha P 11 Teresa

Here are the top 5 performing form groups per year group this week:

- 1. 7 Romero
- 2. 8 Assisi
- 3. 9 Ward
- 4. 10 John Paul
- 5. 11 Kolbe



#### **Curriculum Evenings**

This half term, we have welcomed visitors from 'Positively You' - an organisation who have worked with our Year 11 pupils to focus on revision techniques, productivity tips and stress management advice. Our pupils have benefited significantly from the 'Exam Busters' workshop which helped them to have: a clear plan on how they can best revise for exam, multiple tools to aid the learning and retention of information and increased confidence that they can perform well in exams and achieve their full potential

Year 11 parents also attended a session which showed parents how to become better equipped to support children as they embed the tools and techniques learned that day. The session also showed parents how to be actively involved in exam preparation without having to know the subjects being studied.

We hope those of you who attended found the session useful as we prepare our Year 11 pupils for their GCSE examinations in the coming months.

We will also be hosting the same event for our Year 10 pupils and parents on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March.





### **20 Questions Booklets**

This half term, we have made it a priority to supply our pupils with 20 Questions booklets following our last parent voice survey. This allows all of our pupils to access the questions without the need for internet access. Studying the questions from each subject is essential as it will support your child on their learning journey and embed essential knowledge. The questions are designed by teachers to address key topic areas across all subject areas and are used to enhance learning which takes place in class.

## Year 9 Options

Thank you to everyone who attended the Year 9 Options Evening this half term. We hope you found it useful and informative.

Year 9 students have now been given their letters for them to choose their options subjects for year 10 and year 11. All students will choose three subjects and a 'backup' (in case their first choices clash on the timetable).

We have two pathways, green and blue. Students on the green pathway have been selected based on KS2 scores (from the Year 6 SATs) and are the students who we feel should be entered for the English Baccalaureate. The English Baccalaureate is not a qualification in itself, but it is a measure of success in core academic subjects; specifically, English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science and a Language. These are subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and ones that will keep the most doors open. The blue pathway is an open choice to select three subjects from the list. Students on the blue pathway are able to select a humanities and language as their option choices.

All forms need to handed into form tutors by the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

## **Uniform and Standards**

Please note that when we return to school on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February, that the winter Uniform Policy still applies. This policy states that all pupils must wear jumpers, and that tights must be worn with skirts. We will switch to the Summer Uniform Policy after the Easter break. Please also ensure that when pupils return to school that false nails are removed, alongside jewellery. In order to have a positive start to the new half term, the expectations around uniform must be adhered to. Thank you for your continued support in implementing our high standards for uniform and personal appearance.

Uniform & Personal Appearance :: All Saints Catholic College

### Year 8 RE Retreats

Our Year 8 Retreats have been running for Year 8 pupils this half term. The theme has been 'Living Treasures'. As part of the retreat, pupils created DNA thumbprints about what they valued and designed a world which encompassed all of the values most important to them.

RE retreats are designed to educate the whole child. They explore moral and social teaching and allow pupils to develop their understanding of themselves, their faith and their place in the wider community.



#### Willow Wood

Thank you to all parents and carers who helped us in our fundraising challenge to raise money for Willow Wood Hospice. We are so proud of all our pupils and thankful to their families for supporting this amazing cause. We can now reveal that as a school, we raised over £3,300 for the hospice! This is our highest ever donation as a school and we could not have done this without the community approach to the Enterprise Challenge.

To celebrate this success, an awards evening will be held in March where some of pout fabulous pupils will be attending on behalf of the school. We truly are so thankful for your participation in the 'Enterprise Challenge' and grateful for your generosity.



#### <u>Sport</u>

We have had some amazing sporting events take place across this half term across all of our year groups. We are always so impressed by your resilience and team spirit and you should all be so proud of what you have achieved his half term. Well done!









## **Assemblies**

Across this half term, we have had a range of exciting and informative assemblies. Our themes have included: Independent Learning, Holocaust Memorial, Year 9 Options and Attendance and Safeguarding.

To continue to keep all parents and carers informed, we will now be posting the assemblies of that week onto Class Charts every Friday. This will allow you to see what your child has been shown in their assembly that week. We also suggest having a look at the 'explore' slide which will provide a deeper insight into the theme of that week's assembly. You may use this as an opportunity to discuss these topics with your child at home.

## Work on the school site

As we continue to work on our school site, we are always aiming to improve what we can. Lots of positive changes have been put into place this half term which have upgrade our school grounds. One key change is the installation of new doors with automatic locks. We learned from our pupil voice survey last term that one of the top priorities for our pupils is safety. It is very important to us that our pupils feel happy and secure at school. We have therefore invested in these doors which further strengthen our lockdown procedure.

## **CAFOD donations**

As you are aware, our pupils have spendable ASAPs. This means they can use their achievement points to purchase specific items, such as stationery. At the end of this half term, we noticed that we had 571 orders for CAFOD donations where pupils had decided to donate the money from their ASAPs to charity. This equates to £142.75 which is amazing! Thank you to our generous pupils.



## **Staffing at All Saints**

As some of you may be aware, we have two vacancies out for teaching staff at the moment. We would like to reassure you that this recruitment is linked to our expansion as a school and is being used to further strengthen our teaching staff by adding additional staff members, rather than replacing staff.

#### Parent Voice

PARENTAL FEEDBACK

Thank you to everyone who has completed a parent voice survey for the school. Your feedback is very valuable to us and slows us to grow and develop, as well as address any areas of concern you may have. We have collected an array of data as part of our part voice surveys. Here are some key areas we have addressed:

I would like to know more about what my child is learning at school.

> OUR RESPONSE

We send out a parental letter each term detailing the curriculum plan for the next term. We also have Parent Partnership Evenings where we welcome any questions and discuss teaching and learning. At All Saints, we run face to face Parents Evenings and host several coffee mornings each year. We are also launching the 'Positively You' workshop for our Year 11 parents to learn more about GCSEs and revision. Options Evening takes place in Year 9 to inform parents and pupils of the different GCSE subjects they can take in Yar 10 and 11. Our weekly Parent Bulletin also informs parents of the learning which has taken place in school that week.



PARENTAL FEEDBACK I would like to be able to discuss the needs of my SEND child with the SENCO in person.

> OUR RESPONSE

We now host weekly SENCO surgeries where one of our two SENCOs can be met with in person every Monday. Our SENCOs alternate their sessions allowing you to speak to Ms Hitchen or Ms Platt. This gives you an opportunity to ask any questions you may need to. This could include access arrangements for your child, potential referrals or any concerns you may have surrounding your child and their needs.

#### PARENTAL FEEDBACK

I am worried that my child is being bullied and want to know what is being done.

#### OUR RESPONSE

We have a strict antibullying policy in place and strongly believe that secondary school should be enjoyed by all pupils. In light of this, we have held several anti-bullying assemblies and have also had the police team lead workshops on online bullying. We are also recruiting anti-bullying ambassadors within our pupil body to help us ensure that pupils are safe and happy at break and lunch. There are also several post-boxes around school where pupils can make reports discreetly, allowing issues to be dealt with quickly and sensitively. We also hold the Bronze Equality Award and the Anti-Bullying Alliance Award.

PARENTAL

FEEDBACK

I would like to see my child being rewarded for their achievements and behaviour.

> OUR RESPONSE

We use Class Charts as a system for rewards and behaviour. Pupils are given 3 ASAPs (All Saints Achievement Points) every lesson. Pupils are rewarded for being on time, having all their equipment and completing work to a high standard. Pupils with a high number of ASAPs can claim rewards from our shop, such as a new pencil cases and shopping vouchers. Pupils are also rewarded at the end of each term in celebration assemblies. We also reward pupils for their attendance. Last term, we gave out several Kindle Fires. We are also holding a reward trip for our pupils with great attendance.

PARENTAL FEEDBACK My child can't access the 20 Questions at home.

## OUR RESPONSE

We recognize that not all of our pupils will be able to access the internet or have a phone, laptop or tablet to view their 20 questions online. We have therefore recently launched our 20 questions booklets which your child will bring home with them. This will allow them to study their questions without the need for an internet connection and also allow you to see more easily exactly what your child is studying in each subject area. You can also see what has been studied in the past, present and future to allow you and your child to see how learning has developed across the year. The booklets have been followed by independent learning assemblies guiding pupils on how to learn and remember knowledge.

## Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable

Please see below a copy of the Year 11 mock timetable. Pupils have been given an overall timetable as well as an individual one. The timetable will also be up on the exams board near PE. Good luck to all of our amazing pupils!

DATE	Period	EXAM	LENGTH	TIME	Room	Candidates
Monday 3rd March	P2&P3	AQA English Literature Paper 2	2hrs 15	8:45 - 11:00	Gym/DS/LS	All students
	P5&P6	Biology				
		AQA Triple Science H/F	1hr 45	13:00 - 14:45	Gym/DS/LS	All students
		AQA Combined Science H/F	1hr 15	13:00 - 14:15	Gym/DS/LS	All students
Date	Period	EXAM	LENGTH	TIME	Room	Candidates
Tuesday 4th March	P2&P3	Maths Paper 1				
		OCR Foundation	1hr 30	9:00 - 10:30	Gym/DS/LS	All students
		Pearson Higher	1hr 30	9:00 - 10:30	Gym/DS/LS	All students
	P5&P6	AQA English Language Paper 2	1hr	13.00 - 14.00	Gym/DS/LS	All students
Date	Period	EXAM	LENGTH	TIME	Room	Candidates
Wednesday 5th March	P2&P3	Maths Paper 2				
		OCR Foundation	1hr 30	9:00 - 10:30	Gym/DS/LS	All students
		Pearson Higher	1hr 30	9:00 - 10:30	Gym/DS/LS	All students
	P5&P6	<u>Chemistry</u>				
		AQA Triple Science H/F	1hr 45	13:00 - 14:45	Gym/DS/LS	All students
		AQA Combined Science H/F	1hr 15	13:00 - 14:15	Gym/DS/LS	All students
Date	Period	EXAM	LENGTH	TIME	Room	Candidates
Thursday 6th March	P2&P3	Maths Paper 3				
		OCR Foundation	1hr 30	9:00 - 10:30	Gym/DS/LS	All students
		Pearson Higher	1hr 30	9:00 - 10:30	Gym/DS/LS	All students
	P5&P6	Pearson Catholic Christianity	1hr 45	13:00 - 14:45	Gym/DS/LS	All students
Date	Period	EXAM	LENGTH	TIME	Room	Candidates
Friday 7th March	P2&P3	Physics				
		AQA Triple Science H/F	1hr 45	9:00 - 10:45	Gym/DS/LS	All students
		AQA Combined Science H/F	1hr 15	9:00 - 10:15	Gym/DS/LS	All students
	P5&P6	Pearson Judaism	50mins	13:00 - 13:50	Gym/DS/LS	All students

### Final message

Thank you to all parents in our community for your continued support. I hope you have a happy and restful half term break.

Best wishes,

Ms Gilligan