



Alder Community High School

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Headteacher: Mr R O'Regan BSc (Hons) NPQH

19th December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Third Autumn Term newsletter 2019

Staff news

We say goodbye to Mrs Hadfield, our curriculum tutor for English, who will be embarking on a teacher training course. We wish her all the very best for the future and thank her for everything she has done for our students. We welcome back Miss Graham and Miss Howarth who are both returning from maternity leave. Also, we welcome Miss Edwards-Brown as a Teacher of Geography. In January, we will also be welcoming Mrs Hines, who is joining us as Student Attendance and Family Liaison Officer.

Closure in exceptional circumstance such as severe weather conditions

Our aim is to keep the school open whenever it is possible to do so. Reduced attendance of any kind impacts on students' learning and progress so it is vital that the school only closes in exceptional circumstances. The school will only close to students if the site is deemed to be unsafe. The decision to open or close the school does not take into account the journey to and from school as each student has a different journey to make. It is important that parents/carers satisfy themselves that their child can safely make the journey before they allow them to depart. We will always send a text/MyEd message, and update the website and school Facebook and Twitter pages at the earliest opportunity to keep parents/carers informed.

Christmas carol concert

It was lovely to see so many people at Hyde Chapel on Tuesday night to celebrate our annual Christmas carol concert. I would like to thank Mrs Clancy, Miss Graham and all the students who participated in a programme of readings, traditional Christmas hymns and individual performances on trumpet and piano.

Pre public exam (PPE) results

As we did last year, we are going to replicate GCSE results day for Year 11 with their pre-public examination results. Students will be given their results once marking is complete on Wednesday 15th January 2020.

Arrangements for the last day

Lessons have continued as normal this week. However, tomorrow, Friday, 20th December, we will have a variety of activities to celebrate the end of term and the beginning of the Christmas holidays. We will finish at 12.15pm (no lunch available). Students may be in non-uniform on the last day for a contribution of at least £2 which will go towards school fund.

Year 9 options assemblies

Year 9 will soon begin the process of choosing their GCSE options. During the spring term we will deliver a series of assemblies to inform students of the GCSE courses on offer. This will help inform their decisions and in conjunction with Options Evening, on Wednesday 29th January, should give them the confidence to choose what is right for their future studies.

Year 11 Photographs

On Tuesday 7th January, Year 11 will have their final individual and form group photograph taken. These will be available to purchase online as a keepsake of their final year at high school.



Careers newsletter

Mr Eaton will soon be launching a termly careers newsletter; look out for it on the Careers Education and Guidance page of the school website.

MyEd School App

One third of parents are still not taking advantage of the MyEd school app. If you are a priority 1 contact at school for your child, by downloading the [MyEd](#) school app, not only can you view your child's timetable, attendance and achievement points but it also means that school can send you messages for FREE meaning a significant cost saving throughout the year. <https://www.myedschoolapp.com/>

Remaining parents' evenings

Year 9: Thursday, 9th January 2020

Year 9 Options Evening: Wednesday, 29th January 2020

Year 10: Wednesday, 6th May 2020

Year 11: Thursday, 6th February 2020

Calendar dates

We break for the Christmas holiday at 12.15pm on Friday, 20th December 2019. Term dates for the remainder of the academic year are as follows:

Spring Term

Monday, 6th January 2020 – Friday, 14th February 2020

Monday, 24th February 2020 – Friday, 3rd April 2020

Summer Term

Monday, 20th April 2020 – Friday, 22nd May 2020

Monday, 1st June 2020 – Thursday, 16th July 2020

School will be closed on Friday 8th May, the Bank Holiday for VE celebrations.

Other dates for your diary:

- Alder Evening of Dance - Thursday, 23rd January 2020;
- Year 8 Science trip to Disneyland Paris - Tuesday, 11th – Friday, 14th February 2020;
- Year 10 Spanish trip to Barcelona - Wednesday, 25th – Saturday, 28th March 2020.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a peaceful and restful Christmas.

Yours sincerely



R O'Regan
Head teacher

