

Alderbrook School

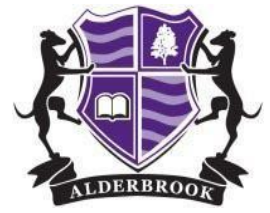
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2 May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

After what has felt like a very long and wet winter and autumn, we finally seem to be moving towards some warmer spring weather and the summer is not far away. It has been an incredibly busy term, and we are now in the thick of summer assessment and exam season. Congratulations to our Year 10s who sat their mock exams in the first two weeks back after the Easter break; these mock exams not only give our staff important data on their performance against targets for forthcoming exams next year, but also give students the crucial experience of self-organisation, revision and an exam hall setting. The conduct of the students was excellent and we were really proud of how they applied themselves.

Our year 11 and 13 students have now started their official exam period and we wish them all the very best of luck. Our year 7s and 9s are sitting assessments next week and the week commencing 13 May respectively and these will be held in their classes.

Lockdown procedures in school

You may be aware of the knife attack in a secondary school in Wales last week as well as an incident reported locally at Solihull Sixth Form College this week. I wanted to write to reassure you that the health and safety of our students is our priority and the security of our school site is regularly reviewed, with the following measures in place:

- locked gates to prevent access to the site
- annual lockdown practice with all staff and students
- regular staff training
- intermittent bell reminders for students
- focus during PSHE and Personal Development lesson time on keeping safe as well as educating students on knife crime and its consequences
- consistent presence of senior leadership team on and around site
- full coverage of Duty Staff at social times
- close links with the police who share intelligence and information as and when required

Whilst we are keen not to alarm students, we will be reminding them of our safety procedures in Form time.



Year 11 parents/carers

Please see an invitation from our colleagues at St Peter's Catholic school, who are hosting a pop-up Prom event on the 8th May at 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm. Contact details are on the featured invitation and how to book a place at this event. This event will be aimed at students who may be struggling to afford or access clothes for Prom, for a variety of reasons including financial vulnerability, physical disability, SEN needs which make shopping overwhelming and so on. This can be discussed with Madrina who will confirm eligibility to attend.

A Request for Uniform

We shall be holding our popular pre-loved uniform sale later this term which raises money for us to buy the 'added extras' that our school budget doesn't stretch to; last year for example, we bought some basketball hoops for students to use at break and lunch times. We currently have an extremely limited stock of uniform so are urging parents to have a look at home and send in any donations of unwanted/outgrown uniform. Students can drop this off at the old reception area, opposite First Aid. All donations are gratefully received.

Our Voices Heard

Please see information below for children, young people, young adults living with a SEND and their families.

'We are excited to announce our next evening participation session on Monday 13th May 2024 6:30 - 8:30 at Marston Green Parish Hall. We are focusing on Transitions and have professionals attending (see details on the flyer).

Please use the QR code to book on or email OurVoicesHeardSolihull@outlook.com '.



Transitions

What does it mean to you



WHEN

Monday 13th May 2024
6:30 - 8:30pm

WHERE

Marston Green Parish Hall
Elmdon Road, Marston Green, Chelmsley Wood
B37 7BT

Refreshments and activities will be available during the session



Professionals attending -

Bridget Morris (Operations Manager SEND)

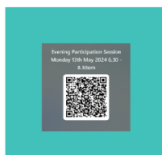
and

A professional from Adult Social Care

To book your place on this session scan the QR code or click on the link

<https://forms.office.com/r/iBbxr1zcNz>

ourvoicesheardsolihull@outlook.com



Evening Participation Session
Monday 13th May 2024 6.30 -
8.30pm



Congratulations to our U16 girls football team!



We are delighted to announce that our U16 girls team played in the football finals in the Solihull Borough football tournament. Miss Fogarty reports: 'They were pros and beat Grace Academy 9-0 in the semi final game and then went on to beat St Peter's 3-0 in the final. Poppy was named player of the evening out of all 4 schools!'

Best of luck to our Year 10 boys team who play in the final of the Aston Villa U15 Charity Cup against Bishop Challoner on 20th May at Villa Park, and to our Sixth Form boys team who play in the final of the Solihull Cup against The Coleshill School next Tuesday.

School Day from September

I want to explain one small change to the timetable for the next academic year. From September, it will be statutory to have students in school for 32.5 hours a week. With our current school day running from 8.30am-2.55pm we are proposing that the only change will be to increase the length of Period 5 by 5 minutes, so we will run the school day from 8.30am-3.00pm. Bus and taxi companies will be informed for the new year start in September.

Dates reminder

We have a long weekend with May Day on Monday 6 May and we welcome students and staff back to school on Tuesday 7 May. Half term for Whitsun break is Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May. A reminder



Alderbrook School
& Sixth Form

AMBITION | BRAVERY | KINDNESS

that we are running some Year 11 and 13 Masterclasses during the half-term break which need to be booked in advance.

Best wishes



Tom Beveridge
Headteacher

