

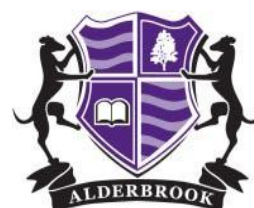
Alderbrook School

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12 December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly can I congratulate our staff and students who have organised and taken part in our recent Winter concerts and Winter Wonderland productions, which showcased the amazing talent we have in our school and I hope that many of you were able to join us in this celebration of music and dance. Tickets for our High School Musical production are selling really fast and it is promising to be a magical show so please get your ticket through the link [here](#) and be part of this wonderful experience! Our talented school choir are also visiting Solihull Hospital and a local care home next week to spread that Christmas spirit.

Smartphone Parent Event – get your tickets

Following my previous letters regarding our concerns around Smartphone use in young people, we'd like to invite you to a panel event at Alderbrook on the evening of 28th January 2025. We have managed to secure some leading local and national experts in this field and it is sure to be a highly informative and interesting event. This event is aimed at all parents and carers of school-aged children in Solihull and tickets are free but there are limited spaces. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for additional information and for the QR code that can be used to gain access to the Eventbrite ticket page. Alternatively the link for the website is [here](#).

Do get your ticket soon as this has been advertised across the borough!

Last day of term arrangements

Further to my email to you last week, I can confirm that there will be an earlier finish on the last day of term. Following the end of period 3 at 12.20 pm, students will return to their form rooms and following registration will be released from site at 12.30 pm. Students in receipt of free school meals can collect a packed lunch from Cartwright Canteen at break time or at the end of the school day at 12.30 pm. If your child is eligible for free school meals and you would like to order them a packed lunch please complete the MS form [here](#). All students should come into school on the last day of term in full school uniform as usual.

We have been advised by our school bus companies that the following services will run between 12.30-1.00 pm to accommodate the Blossomfield Campus staggered finish times. Any students who need to wait for their bus will be supervised until the bus arrives.

12:30 for 12:45 depart - 894, 895, 896, 821, 822

13:00 arrive / depart - BVP

Assessment Periods after Christmas

Good luck to year 10 students who begin their first assessment period on Tuesday 7th January and to Year 8, who start their exams on Monday 20th January.



Alderbrook School
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Uniform

Going into 2025, it is important that all students continue to maintain high expectations in terms of their school uniform. Blazers must be brought to school and worn at all times. Students should not be wearing trainers.

We have noticed that many students are removing and / or losing their ties. These are expensive items for school and parents to continually replace. Moving forward, although we will keep a small stock of clip-on ties, we will be returning to the traditional full-length ties, which pupils will have to learn to tie themselves and are much more difficult to remove and lose.

Keeping your child safe online

Please find some useful information we hope you find helpful when having conversations with your child about keeping your child safe online, [here](#).

Understanding your child Group – Alderbrook School - Wednesdays from 29 January to 9 April, 5pm to 7pm

We are delighted to give you details of a partnership between Alderbrook, Solihull Parenting Team and Solihull Council for a set of sessions to be held in Alderbrook School on Wednesdays from 29 January to 9 April between 5.00 and 7.00 pm at Alderbrook School. Full details can be found [here](#) and if you would like to register your interest please complete the MS Form [here](#) by Friday 20 December 2024. We will then write out to you again in the New Year to confirm your place.

Goodbye and thank you

At the end of this term we say goodbye to three members of staff. Tori Horswell has worked as a Teaching Assistant at Alderbrook since 2021 and has supported some of our most vulnerable students; she is leaving to take up an opportunity at another school and we wish her all the very best in her new role. Martin Stockman is a long-standing Pastoral Manager at Alderbrook – Martin has supported many students over the years and we are very grateful for all he has done. We wish Martin all the very best for his move to Yorkshire and welcome Zena Warwood as the new Year 11 Pastoral Manager from January. We are also saying goodbye to Hema Chauhan. Hema has taught Social Sciences at Alderbrook since 2015 and we'd like to thank Hema for all her work with Sixth Form Students and students across the school. We wish her all the very best for the future.

Christmas at The Core – please find below information on various events happening at the Core over the Christmas period



The Core Christmas Market, The Core, Sat 14 December

There's festive shopping galore at The Core's FREE Christmas Market, on Saturday 14 December between 10am and 4pm. 30 stalls will feature handmade and artisan goods from small businesses & local artists.

[Find out more](#)



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Teena's Tinsel Tease, The Core Studio, Sat 14 December

A ridiculous night (or afternoon) of fun awaits with TV and international star Miss Teena Bizkit. A full-on variety selection box includes a TV & Movies quiz, stand-up comedy, songs, singalong, Play Your Cards Right, plus a huge disco-filled Music Bingo. [Find out more and book](#)

Santa's Christmas Cracker, The Core Studio – extra show!

Due to overwhelming demand there will be an extra performance of Santa's Christmas Cracker on Sunday 22 December at 5pm. It's the family show where every child receives a present from Santa! [Find out more and book](#)

Art workshops for adults and children

Art at the Heart will be running a range of Christmas-themed art workshops during the holidays for both adults and children. Learn how to draw puppies, cats, snow leopards and more! [Find out more and book](#)

Festive menu, Encore café

Stop by the Encore café and try out the delicious new Christmas menu and festive treats including roast turkey baps, mulled wine, hot chocolate, mince pies and more. [View the festive menu](#)

Christmas gift ideas

Looking for unique Christmas present ideas for friends and family? Tickets to shows at The Core make for a super surprise – or how about vouchers for afternoon tea in the Encore Café? [Find out more](#)

Classes and courses at The Core starting January 2025

Make a fresh start in the new year and choose from a range of new [classes and courses](#) at The Core in Solihull. The Core offers a friendly and welcoming environment to try out new activities, develop your skills and meet new people.

A reminder that we have an INSET day on Monday 6 January 2025 for staff only and we welcome all year groups back to school on **Tuesday 7 January 2025** at the usual time.

Best wishes



Tom Beveridge
Headteacher

