



# School Newsletter 378

Values – Care – Achievement

Thursday 17 September 2020

## Head's Introduction

Dear Parents and Carers,



As students settle into the second week of new school routines I remain incredibly impressed with the way they are responding to the systems and structures in school. In my Parent Bulletin on Monday, I will write in more detail about ways in which we are continuing to evolve our response to Covid-19 and to ensure all our students and staff are safe and secure at school.

Exciting plans are in place for our Virtual Open Evening on Wednesday 7 October which will include the premier of our new school video, a new interactive virtual tour of the school, video recordings from students and staff about life at AHS, as well as opportunities to join myself and the Head of Year 7 for live Q&A sessions. Look out for further information on the school website and via Twitter.

I would like to draw your attention to the 'Attendance' article and 'Should you send your child to school' flow chart to help parents in deciding whether to send their child to school.

### Travel on designated school buses and public transport

Government guidance for designated bus services to schools is that the wearing of masks is not compulsory. Bus drivers are therefore not allowed to enforce the wearing of masks. However, as a school we strongly recommend that ALL students wear a mask when they travel on the ERYC Pullman bus from Stamford Bridge to AHS and the return journey. We would be most grateful for parental support with this.

Government guidance for public buses/transport is that masks are compulsory.

Andrew Daly

## Food for Thought

This week during Form Tutor Collective Worship students have been focussing their morning reflection on the theme of 'Stillness'. One of the quotes we have spent some time thinking about is:

"In the midst of movement and chaos, keep stillness inside of you."

Deepak Chopra, Indian-American physician and alternative medicine practitioner

To receive the daily Thought for the Day straight to your phone or other electronic device sign up to @AHSChaplaincy on Twitter.



## Message from Head of Year 7

It is my pleasure to welcome Year 7 students and their families to Archbishop Holgate's School. I feel privileged to be their Head of Year, both myself and our Pastoral Support Worker, Miss Greenhalgh, eagerly anticipate the year ahead. What an outstanding start to the Year 7 journey. It is clear already you are going to be a wonderful year group, capable of wonderful things and I couldn't be prouder to be your Head of Year. As we begin this journey together, remember, we are all here to support you and guide you.

Something that has been particularly pleasing to see at the beginning of a new year is how proactive and independent our new students have been. We understand the transition to secondary school can be daunting, especially in the current climate, but it has been evident that many students have excelled with the additional responsibility. With this in mind, staff are very understanding and I have been thrilled by the response from those who have found teaching our new students a joy and whilst visiting classrooms I have seen outstanding behaviour.

It has been excellent to see how students live the school's values of Justice, Compassion, Forgiveness and Trust into being each day. I have been very pleased to hear impeccable manners from our Year 7 students and Form Tutors are regularly expressing how kind and thoughtful the students have been. My focus in assembly this week has been the opportunity for a new start and about the importance of using kind words. I can honestly say the kindness and camaraderie I have seen this last week has thoroughly embodied our values.

An integral part of Year 7 is 'Joining In', this is how students discover new interests, meet new friends and quickly feel like part of our community. This has been achieved so well in our new Year 7 specific building. All Year 7 classes are in the same building, it has been truly lovely to be able to walk down the corridor and see wonderful class after wonderful class. All day I am seeing hands in the air, friendships forming and relationships with teachers developing. They are clearly being inspired by each other and enjoying the Year 7 only environment. Soon they will be able to join in more when the outstanding Extra-Curricular Timetable is implemented. (continued overleaf...)



## AHS Feedback

We welcome all feedback and thank all parents for their valuable contributions. If you have a query or simply an observation about the school please complete the form online.



## Social Media



Please follow us on Twitter @AHSYork or Facebook to keep up to date with the latest news and events!



# This Week's Main School News



## Message from Head of Year 7 (continued)

Finally, a key focus for the school this year will be the completing of homework. Staff are working hard to ensure all measures have been undertaken to make homework meaningful and accessible. The usual sanction for the non-completion of homework is an after-school detention the following day. However, Year 7 are being granted a 24-hour grace period during this first half term. Should a Year 7 student not produce their homework, they will be given until the next day to provide it, if it is then not produced they will receive an after-school detention the following day (except Friday).

I very much hope that Year 7 will set the standard for their journey here and make sure homework is completed consistently and to the best of their ability. Homework Club will also be running for Year 7 in MA7 every day, except Friday, for anyone who is struggling to complete homework and needs extra support, or for those who wish to get ahead and stay ahead.

Key points to note this week:

- Students will begin to receive homework this week, they are on a split timetable so will get half of their subjects one week and half the next. I recommend students always attend Homework Club, Monday-Thursday, 3.10-4.00pm, so they can complete their work on the day it is given.
- Students riding bikes need to enter school via the Black Bull entrance please.
- If your child is Pupil Premium and they have not yet received a stationary pack, please ask to speak to Miss Greenhalgh.
- A polite reminder about earrings. There should be one single stud in each ear. They must be small, completely plain silver or gold, no crystals or diamonds, etc.

If you have any issues regarding your child in Year 7, please do get in contact with the school and ask for either Miss Kincell or Miss Greenhalgh and we'd be happy to help. It's been an excellent start for Year 7, and I can't wait to see what the year has in store for us!

Miss Kincell and Miss Greenhalgh

## Election of Parent Governor

A ballot will take place next week for the election of a Parent Governor to the school's Local Governing Committee. Ballot papers and envelopes will be sent home with students on Wednesday 23 September to be returned by 10.30am on Tuesday 29 September.

## Student Achievement

Rudi Connolly, Year 10, passed his Grade 4 Guitar exam with Merit during lockdown. Great news, congratulations.

## Cashless Catering System

We apologise for the 'gremlins' in the cashless system at the start of this term, the system had difficulty communicating with WisePay, our online payment system.

The system is now back up and running, if you would like to check your child's account and make sure the balance is kept in credit. Thank you.

Mr Richardson, Catering Manager

## Attendance

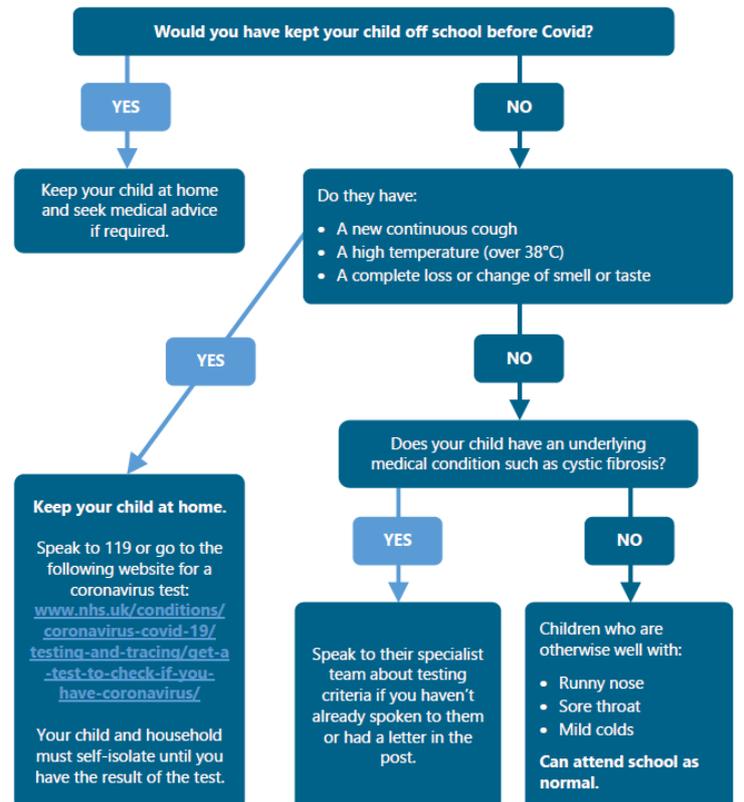
We hope the flowchart enclosed with this Newsletter is helpful to parents in deciding if they should send their child to school. We obviously do not want anyone in school who has Covid-19 symptoms:

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If you have these please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>.

However, we do recognise that being confident in differentiating between a normal cold and Covid-19 is hard. The following link hopefully will help: <https://www.parents.com/health/cough/how-to-tell-if-your-childs-cough-is-a-sign-of-the-coronavirus/>.

If you are unsure about what you should do, please contact school and we will try to help or contact your doctor.





# This Week's Sixth Form News



## Message from Assistant Head: Acting Director of Post 16, Mr Williams

It has been a busy but successful first week for students. As things have started to settle down, students are continuing to impress staff with their mature and focused attitude towards class and independent study. I would like to take this opportunity to raise the following opportunity and notices with Sixth Form students and parents:

**Bursary and discretionary funding** - Archbishop Holgate's Sixth Form students can apply for Discretionary Funding. This fund is accessible to students whose households annual income is £35,000 or below and can be used to pay for a range of educational costs, eg transport to universities, books, contributions to course trips, etc. An application pack is available from Mrs Walton, Sixth Form Administrator, or email: [swalton@archbishopholgates.org](mailto:swalton@archbishopholgates.org).

**Chromebooks** - The portal for purchasing Chromebooks can be found at: <https://ahs.store.academia.co.uk/>, which includes Frequently Asked Questions and more detail about how the system works. In short, it allows parents to purchase a device for their child using a range of options, including the option to pay the cost over a period of time. We will also arrange delivery to school to save parents a delivery charge and let you know as soon as they have arrived. Please contact Mr Williams directly if you have any specific questions.

**Careers advice** - Our external careers advisor is available on Wednesday 23 September. If your child would like an appointment, they should see their Form Tutor or Head of Year who will organise this for them.

**Independent study** - Students continue to make the most of the fantastic resources available within the Sixth Form Centre. Students are reminded they have exclusive use of the brand new Resource Centre which provides the perfect surroundings for independent study. Students are also welcome to bring their own devices to use here.

**Face coverings** - We are heavily promoting face coverings with all Sixth Form students in any situation where social distancing or forward facing working is not possible. We are strongly recommending students wear face coverings in the corridors and we continue to follow Government advice.

**Purchasing food on and off site** - Students are able to buy a range of hot and cold food on site during break and lunchtime from the outside serving hatch. Students are also allowed to go off site to purchase food. However, it is essential they follow Government guidance and go in groups of no more than 6 and wear face coverings in all shops.

Mr Williams: Director of Sixth Form



## Head of Year 12, Miss Cox

Another really positive start to the week. Students are being pro-active in seeking support, starting to embed routines and work hard in lessons. This week's focus is on preparing for learning, we'd like to see students prepared with appropriate equipment to get organised; note books, folders, highlighters, pens (black/ blue plus a different colour) etc. - we can support with this through the Discretionary Bursary, please speak to Mrs Walton if support is needed. We'd appreciate your support in encouraging Year 12 students to wear face coverings in corridors/social areas when social distancing is not possible. We have supported course changes as students are settling in to subjects, Friday will be the day for this so please check in with your child to see how they have got on and ask them to speak to Miss Cox before the end of the week for any further changes.



## Head of Year 13, Mr Charlton

All students have been working on a personal statement over summer and will develop this with the assistance of their Form Tutor and the wider Sixth Form staff. We encourage all students to complete a UCAS application as they consider the options available to them.

Students considering applying to Oxford or Cambridge university, or courses in medicine, dentistry and veterinary, please note that these have much earlier deadlines and completing their application needs to be a top priority this half term. The school deadline to register for Oxbridge tests is Friday 25 September. It is vital students see Mr Charlton this week if they are intending to apply for either Oxbridge or Cambridge. They will need to provide: Name, DOB, Email address, UCAS Number, Test requested, University, Course and College if applicable.

For other students considering university as a progression route we are delighted to promote 'Meet the Russell Group', a virtual event in association with UK University Search, on Wednesday 7 October, 12.00-6.00pm. We encourage students to access this event after school where they will have the opportunity to explore all 24 Russell Group universities and chat directly to their representatives and ambassadors. To register, go to: <https://russellgroup.vfairs.com/en/>.

We will, of course, continue to share resources and information on other progression routes and encourage students to maintain and keep up to date a CV and covering letter to assist with apprenticeship and employment opportunities.

To keep up to date with all Sixth Form news please follow @AHSSixth\_Form on twitter.



## Year 11 History

The History department has warmly welcomed back all their historians as they prepare for their final GCSEs next June. All classes have come back with energy and enthusiasm to succeed in History and it is wonderful to see. Period 6 has started after school on Tuesdays, with members of the History department, from 3.10-4.10pm. Period 6 lessons are extremely valuable for all students to go over knowledge from all three papers; practice the various skills needed for each paper and to boost their own confidence. We strongly encourage students to regularly attend as we approach the winter mock season. We look forward to working with students throughout their Year 11 studies and are confident they can all be a huge success come summer 2021. If you have any questions regarding History at AHS, please do not hesitate to contact the History department.

Mr Knox (Acting Head of History)

### VACANCY

#### Archbishop Holgate's School

##### School Cleaner

15 hours per week, 3.30-6.30pm, Full Year  
Required as soon as possible  
£9.00 per hour

For more information visit:

[www.archbishopholgates.academy/staff/vacancies/](http://www.archbishopholgates.academy/staff/vacancies/)

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust is an equal opportunities employer, committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Enhanced DBS check will be required

## History Film Club



History Film Club starts again this term from Monday 14 September, 3.15pm. To keep our bubbles safe, Year 7, 8 and 9 will be in their own year groups. Year 7 will be watching Pocahontas in MA10, Year 8 Hidden Figures in ML2 and Year 9 Hamilton in Hi4. This is a great opportunity to get involved and back into the school community to enjoy some fabulous historical films!

## Breakfast Club

The school's Breakfast Club is available for Year 7-11 students, each day in the Main School Hall, 7.45-8.30am, all students are welcome and social bubbles maintained.

## MFL Stars of the Week

Students were nominated by Language staff to receive an Effort merit, a postcard home and appear on the 'Stars Wall' for all their hard work:

KS3 French – Aya Harper, 7Cy  
KS3 German – Thomas Leonard, 8MDn  
KS3 Spanish - Tilly Platten, 7CMp  
KS4 French – Holly Fisher, 11RMe  
KS4 German – Isobel Hanson, 10RGI  
KS4 Spanish – Lottie Langan, 9Kx



## Term Dates 2020-2021

### Autumn Term

Staff Training Day - Wed 7 Oct 2020 (School closed to students)  
Half Term - 26-30 Oct 2020 (inclusive)  
Term Ends - Fri 18 Dec 2020

### Spring Term

Staff Training Day - Mon 4 Jan 2021 (School closed to students)  
Students return - Tue 5 Jan 2021  
Half Term - 15-19 Feb 2021 (inclusive)  
Term Ends - Fri 26 Mar 2021

### Summer Term

Staff Training Day - Mon 12 Apr 2021 (School closed to students)  
Students return - Tue 13 Apr 2021  
May Bank Holiday - Mon 3 May 2021  
Half Term - 31 May-4 Jun 2021 (inclusive)  
Term Ends - Fri 23 Jul 2021  
Staff Training Day - Mon 26 Jul 2021 (School closed to students)

## School PE Kit

A reminder that all PE kit should be clearly named. If a student misplaces any PE kit, this makes it easier to return items to their rightful owner.

## PE Uniform

Students will be asked to remove ALL jewellery for PE lessons. This is a health and safety precaution and must be adhered to. Thank you.

**PLEASE SHARE:** If you would like to share students' achievements and events in the community, please email [jsissons@archbishopholgates.org](mailto:jsissons@archbishopholgates.org). It's always nice to celebrate our school community.

**WOW!**  
word of the week



**Intolerance:** (noun) An unwillingness to accept views, beliefs or behaviour that differ from your own.

"We should always stand up to religious intolerance".



**Tweet OF THE WEEK**

@AHSArts&Culture, @AHSArtsAward,  
Another great day of filming today @AHSYork, @AHSsixth\_ Form in preparation for our #virtualopenevening. Loved watching the drone capturing the aerial footage!

