



All Hallows RC High School

Specialising in Business, Enterprise & Sports

150 Eccles Old Road, Salford M6 8AA

Telephone: 0161 921 1900

E-mail: allhallows@salford.gov.uk

Website: www.allhallowssalford.com

Headteacher: Mrs A. Cavanagh

December 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

As we near the end of the first term, I write to provide you with a staffing update, some general reminders and information about events and activities held in school since September. You will also have received a letter via your child last week detailing the Christmas activities planned for the final week of the term.

Staffing

Farewell

Sadly we are saying goodbye to Mr Hind (PE teacher/Y7 PPL) who will be leaving All Hallows at Christmas after 8 happy years, to take up a promotion in a new school. We thank him for his hard work and dedication to the pupils of All Hallows; he will be missed by staff and pupils alike. Mr Green will join us in January to teach PE.

Good Luck

Mrs McHale (RE Teacher/Y7 PPL) will be starting her maternity leave after the Christmas holidays. We wish her well and look forward to hearing all about her new arrival in the New Year.

New Y7 PPLs (Pupil Progress Leaders/Heads of Year)

In the absence of Mr Hind and Mrs McHale, we have appointed 2 new PPLs for Y7 – Miss Milan-Snee (Y7 boys) and Mr D'Costa (Y7 girls).

Reminders

Contacting School

We are always happy to speak with parents regarding your child's education and welfare and we would like to remind you that your first point of contact with school should be your child's **form tutor**. The form tutor knows your child well and should be able to assist you with most enquiries. The next point of contact would be your child's Pupil Progress Leader. Please also ensure that we have up to date phone numbers for you and other contacts as this is essential for emergencies and general communications. Please also note that teaching staff will endeavour to return all calls as soon as is reasonably possible, and certainly within 48 hours, and that they fit these around a full timetable of teaching and other commitments.



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When contacting the school, the vast majority of parents / carers keep calm and respect our staff. They understand that the teachers, receptionists and all other staff are doing the best they can to support pupils and their parents / carers and that we are here to help. The staff should be able to do their jobs without being verbally abused, shouted at or threatened. Most people respect this – thank you! In the rare cases where this respect is missing, please be aware that staff reserve the right to refuse to communicate with any person who is abusive or aggressive.

Student Services Email- Parents can also contact school via our email address studentservices@allhallowsrc.co.uk. This is checked daily and emails are forwarded to the most appropriate person for response.

Pupil Registration Forms

Pupil registration forms regarding your child were sent to Y8-Y11 parents in October. If you have not already done so, please can you check that all the details are correct, make any necessary amendments and return to school. Please note it is imperative that school hold at least two points of contact and that their mobile numbers are correct.

Attendance

Thank you to all parents for your support in maintaining high school attendance.

There are a number of incentives and rewards operating to encourage excellent attendance as this leads to high rates of progress for your children. Excellent attendance is also a key criteria to meet for our All Hallows Charter. Thank you for your support in ensuring that your child is in school every day and on time.

If your child is unable to attend school, please telephone reception on **0161 921 1900** from 8.00 am. Please continue to keep all absences to a minimum for the benefit of your child's education. (Also, please note the policy regarding absences either side of a holiday.)

Uniform Expectations

Thank you to all parents for supporting our high expectations of uniform; the pupils have looked very smart this term. Please be reminded shoes must be plain, black school shoes (no Vans, canvas or sports shoes) – we apply this rule rigidly, providing footwear to be borrowed in cases where pupils are unable to comply. As a reminder, please do not allow your child to have any piercings, bizarre haircuts or irreversible beauty treatments over the holiday. Any acrylics or nail varnish should be removed before returning to school. **Jewellery** must be limited to a watch and a pair of small plain studs or hoops in the lower ear. These are the **only** piercings that are allowed.



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Dropping off / Picking up Pupils

Please do **not** drive into the school grounds to drop off or pick your child up from school. This area at the front of school is becoming dangerously congested and is causing access difficulties for our disabled visitors and pupils. Also, access for residents of the new estate adjacent to school is becoming difficult – please be considerate. The overwhelming majority of our pupils are fit and well and therefore could easily meet you on Weaste Lane or higher up Eccles Old Road opposite Buile Hill if parking in the area is an issue.

There is a particular issue in the mornings when parents are blocking the driveway by dropping off and then driving out at a time when there are a large number of staff driving **in** to the school grounds. Please drop off safely at the roadside, not on site.

Site Security and Personal Property

We ask that all bikes are locked with a strong bike lock and we must advise you that **all bikes are left at their owners risk** – school cannot take responsibility for them.

All Hallows Charter

The All Hallows Charter is in its second year and once again has been incredibly successful, with even larger numbers of children achieving Bronze, Silver and Gold. Pupils are recognised for their achievements (attendance, punctuality, good behaviour, attending eXtras and recognition points in lessons etc) and will receive a reward at the beginning of next term. The Charter has been very successful in rewarding those pupils who do what is expected of them each day throughout term.

Building Developments

The new canteen has been transformational and has been well received by both pupils and staff who enjoy using the space. We have three more classrooms which will be used from January (1 Science lab and 2 Spanish classrooms) and the teachers and pupils are excited about using these new rooms.

From January 2024 the next phase of building work will commence at the front of school (to deliver more office and meeting space) and to the side of school (to deliver further classrooms). The offices are due to be completed by June, and the extra classrooms by January 2025. This last phase of works will be rather disruptive to school life and routines, particularly from the summer onwards, but we believe that this short-term pain will give us a greatly enhanced school building on completion. (Please note: There will be no noisy building works during the actual GCSE exams in May/June.)



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Events

Open Evening 2023

Open Evening was packed again this year with over 230 families attending. Responses to the school, staff and our pupil guides were overwhelmingly positive. We had almost half of our pupils volunteering as either guides or helpers in department areas – the pupils were proud of their school and, although a little nervous at first, grew in confidence and felt really proud of themselves after the event.

Y11 Presentation Evening

The Y11 Presentation Evening took place in November and our ex-pupils – Class of 2023 – that attended had a wonderful evening. The staff, as always, had given their time to make videos or present in person, and to nominate pupils for a wide range of awards. It was a lovely evening and enjoyed by all.

Awards Evening

The annual Awards Evening took place at the end of November and it was a great evening! This event recognises pupils in Y8-Y11 for their work during the last academic year. They are awarded either for 'excellence' or for 'progress and achievement'. All the pupils were well behaved and they enjoyed the guest speaker's, Rebecca Long-Bailey (MP), inspiring speech. The musical interlude pieces were well-received as was the delicious food prepared by Mr Ehlke-West and his impressive crew of pupil volunteers. The event was very enjoyable and well attended by parents/carers.

Year 7

Our Year 7 pupils have settled in wonderfully since September and it has been lovely to see them begin secondary school life with such enthusiasm and motivation to achieve.

Welcome Mass

Our Year 7 Welcome Mass was celebrated by Father Nichols and it was a pleasure to have so many parents join us in school for this special occasion.

PGL Residential

Year 7 pupils (and form tutors) had a fantastic time at Kingswood Colomendy on their PGL residential trip. It was a great team building opportunity and wonderful to



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see how supportive and encouraging pupils were of each other during the various activities.

Y7 Parents/Carers Coffee Morning

15th September we held a coffee morning for the parents/carers of our new Y7 pupils. This was an opportunity for them to meet key members of staff such as form tutors and PPLs to have an informal chat about how their child is settling into life at All Hallows. This event was very well-received by parents and we plan to repeat it again in the New Year.

Y7 Internal Retreat Day

20th September was our Y7 Internal Retreat Day led by the RE Department. Pupils took part in a variety of activities in preparation for their Welcome Mass.

BBC Ten Pieces

We held our annual 'Ten Pieces' event in October where Year 7 pupils produced some impressive work including dance, art, creative media, performing arts and poetry; all based on 10 different pieces of classical music.

Enterprise Events

MFL Enterprise Day

Year 8 pupils celebrated European Day of Languages by taking part in a Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Enterprise Day. Supported by foreign language speaking business volunteers from BCEGI, Talk -Talk, Resource Solutions and Salford Foundation. Pupils researched the cultures and traditions of different European countries to help them understand how learning a foreign languages can benefit them in future careers and life.

Careers Convention

Pupils in years 9-11 took part in our annual careers fair in November. Attended by over twenty employers and post-16 providers, this event provides our pupils with vital information enabling them to make informed choices about their future education, careers and GCSE options.

STEM Challenge

Year 7 pupils had the opportunity to work with business volunteers from tech company, Capgemini and put their problem solving skills to the test in a STEM Challenge. Activities included coding, cyber security and renewable energy and gave pupils an insight into the exciting STEM career opportunities available.



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Projects/Competitions

DWF 5 STAR Futures

We are running the DWF 5 STAR Futures Programme for the tenth year. The monthly workshops are delivered by DWF employees focusing on building aspirations, confidence and communication skills, in preparation for the world of work and also the speeches our year 10 pupils will deliver at the DWF awards evening in March.

Cyber-First Girls Competition

A group of Year 8 girls met every lunchtime and after school for a week to complete online challenges as part of the Cyber-first Girls Competition. Many of them continued to complete challenges at home in the evenings and weekends too. With over 700 schools taking part, we were delighted to be chosen as one of only twenty schools to be awarded 8 new laptops. The amazing commitment shown by this group of girls certainly paid off!

Charitable Activities

Throughout this term, our staff and pupils have been involved in a number of charitable activities including:

- Cash for Kids: pupils have raised money in school through bake sales, a sponsored silence and our annual Dance-a-thon to buy Christmas presents for the Mission Christmas campaign which will go to underprivileged children.
- Reverse advent calendar: each form group over the last month has been filling a box with items ready to donate to Salford Loaves and Fishes and Caritas Salford Cornerstone to help homeless and vulnerable people in our local area. Pupils have also spent time, thought, imagination, effort and love in designing and decorating these gift boxes, which I am sure will be a delight to receive.
- Community Christmas Party: We enjoyed celebrating with friends, family and neighbours at our annual community Christmas party. With fantastic food and entertainment and a special appearance from Father Christmas himself, a wonderful time was had by all.

Awards and Appointments

LPPA

We continue to work towards re-assessment of the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA) which All Hallows first achieved in 2020. This is a national award which provides a framework that will help us to improve our school's engagement with parents and carers, to actively support every child's learning experience. There will be a parent/carer survey sent out in the New Year, we would be extremely grateful to



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all parents able to complete the survey and we will share feedback and actions with you in due course.

Head Boy/Head Girl

Following a closely fought campaign, our Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputies for 2023-2024 were appointed this term. Congratulations to Bruce, Wendy, Mateusz and Beheshteh who are wonderful ambassadors for All Hallows RC High School and the finest of role models for our pupils.

Reading Mentors

We now have a team of year 10 reading mentors in school who successfully applied for this very important role supporting our year 7/8 pupils and improving literacy across the school as a whole.

Catholic Life of our School

Our Catholic faith underpins everything we do in school. Our pupils are presented with many opportunities to celebrate the Catholic faith life of our school and this term has been no exception.

Hope in the Future Retreat

Our school Chaplain, Dominic, accompanied five pupils from the SVP group to the Salford Diocese Hope in the Future event where they came together with other schools to learn about the different ways we can all be ambassadors of Christ.

Churches Together Remembrance Service

Thirteen pupils represented All Hallows at this year's Churches Together Remembrance Service at Peel Green war memorial. Miss Evans-Berry's art class made poppies which were on display at the service and were later made into cards which were delivered to 33 care homes in Salford.

Year 7 Retreat Day and Welcome Mass

All Year 7 pupils took part in a full day retreat led by the RE department in preparation for their Welcome Mass attended by pupils, staff and parents as we welcomed Year 7 pupils into our All Hallows Family.

Refugee Aid

Pupils in school have delivered donations of clothing to Refugee Aid each week to support refugees and asylum seekers in our local area.



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Sporting Achievements

The autumn term is mainly concentrated on pupils representing the School in football and netball matches and extra – curricular clubs. Congratulations to Year 8 and Year 9 who reached the last 16 of English School football. Good luck to the Year 8 team in their last 8 fixture against Moorland School, Clitheroe in the first week back after the Christmas Holidays.

Not to be outdone, the Aquinas pupils have been representing All Hallows RC High School in the Salford wide Panathlon games. A huge well done to the 14 pupils that represented All Hallows RC High School with pride!

Twitter

For all the latest news and updates you can follow All Hallows on X (Twitter) @allhallows.

Finally, I wish you all a peaceful, happy and spiritual Christmas as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, and enjoy the giving and receiving of presents.

I look forward to welcoming all pupils safely back to school on Monday 8th January 2024.

Yours faithfully

Mrs A Cavanagh
Headteacher