



Alder Community High School

A Specialist Maths and Computing College

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

29th March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Spring term newsletter 2018

Staff news

We welcome Mrs Tennant who is covering for Miss Skeldon whilst she is on maternity leave. We also welcomed Mrs Hillier earlier in the term to cover for Mrs White who is also on maternity leave.

Building work

Due to an increase in the need for schools places, Alder has been asked by the Local Authority to increase our Published Admissions Number (PAN) to 180 in year 7 from September 2018 onwards; this is up from our current PAN of 155 in year 7 and 8 and 150 in years 9-11. We have filled all 180 places for September and remain heavily oversubscribed.

In order to accommodate the increasing numbers there will be some changes to the school building, with work taking place over the next few months:

- Reconfiguration of internal areas to create additional classroom space;
- Reconfiguration of the G area to create a new library, learning support centre and pastoral support area;
- A block of 4 new external classrooms adjoining the technology department.

Temporary arrangements have been made for the learning support centre and library whilst the work takes place. The works will inevitably cause some disruption, in particular to social spaces once the external work starts. We are working closely with the project manager to ensure that the disruption is kept to a minimum.

Y8 Disneyland Paris trip 20th -23rd March 2018

The Y8 students who went to Disneyland Paris were a credit to both our school and their families; they were impeccably well behaved, well-mannered and always respectful of staff. Coach drivers and tour guides were very impressed and said that they were an asset to our school.

The students will have made memories which will last a life time and have developed their personal and social skills. A huge thank you from all the staff who accompanied them for making this such a pleasurable trip.

Bikes

I am encouraged that a number of students are keeping active by cycling to school; however, it is also important to stay safe. Please note, it is unacceptable to ride on the roads (and probably illegal) on a bike without brakes. I must insist on bikes with brakes and will not allow students to come to and from school on a bike that is not roadworthy.

Changes to Stage 2 Provision

Stage 2 is part of the school's inclusion unit and sanction system, and is often used as an alternative to Fixed Term Exclusions. It also helps to reintegrate students back into school following Managed Moves or reduced timetable support. The opening times for Stage 2 are being changed from 8:20am-2:45pm to 8:45am-3:00pm. Students that are placed into Stage 2 must now enter through the front door at 8:45 and sign in at reception, this is to ensure we can keep track of your child's attendance. At the end of the day (3pm) students will now exit through the front door and again sign out at reception.

Calendar Dates

We return after the Easter break at 8.20am on Monday, 16th April. Term dates for the remainder of the academic year are as follows:

Summer Term

Monday, 16th April 2018 – Friday, 25th May 2018

Monday, 4th June 2018 – Friday, 20th July 2018

Remaining Parents' Evenings

Year 7 Thursday, 17th May 2018

Easy Fundraising

Easy Fundraising is a website that allows you to raise money for school fund whilst you shop online. We use any money raised to benefit our students in a variety of ways. It is free to join:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/aldercommunityhigh/

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

Yours sincerely



R O'Regan
Head teacher