



ALT BRIDGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November/December 2020



School Values

Care

Courtesy

Resilience

Determination

It has been fantastic to see so many of our students settling in so well to the routines of school and engaging with their lessons. For those students who have had to remain home on occasion due to COVID-19, their engagement with our remote learning offer has been impressive and I am so proud of the work being done by staff, parents/carers and students to keep up their determination and dedication to learning. Well done!

This will be quite a different Christmas period to what we are used to but we remain determined to do the absolute best for our students and ensure that there is plenty of festive joy to go around in school. For some of our families, Christmas may present with some challenges this year. If this is the case, please be aware that we are here to support you in whatever way we can.

I hope that parents and carers enjoy reading about the many exciting activities and opportunities that have been and will be available to students.

Best wishes from,

Mrs Menagh – Head teacher

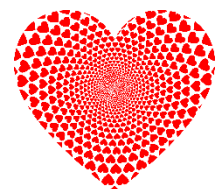
Staff Changes

We are delighted to welcome many new members of staff this term who provide essential support to students through their roles as Teaching Assistants.

The Wellbeing Hub

The wellbeing hub has continued to offer a range of therapeutic interventions this term including;

- KOOH counselling via video link
- Music therapy via our in-house therapist
- Drawing and Talking sessions via our trained learning mentors
- Occupational Therapy via our in-house therapist
- Speech and language therapy via our in-house therapist
- Learning mentor bespoke programmes of work



The wellbeing hub staff will be working to ensure that our families who have been especially affected by COVID-19 receive support.

A little help at Christmas

We are aware that families may have been significantly affected financially by COVID-19 or by other circumstances. If this is the case, ***please get in touch if there is anything you wish to discuss with the wellbeing team.***

We have been unable to do our usual Christmas bingo this year so instead we have decided to raise money for families in need of a little help this Christmas to buy presents or fund Christmas. Our Just Giving page can be found at;

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/altbridgeschool?utm_id=1&utm_term=zA53Kja5b

Safeguarding

Our school safeguarding team includes Mrs Menagh, Mr Farrimond, Mrs Richards, Miss Townson and Miss Pritchard.

Students in year 9 will have accessed the **CELLS Project workshops** again this year via remote means. The CELLS Project do amazing work with young people to raise awareness of criminal and sexual exploitation and how to remain safe from harm. They have offered individual sessions for students who would benefit from further mentoring work aswell.

Equality groups

We are looking for parent/carers champions to join our groups!!

We are setting up equality focus groups which include staff, students and hopefully parents/carers. If you are a parent/carers who would be interested in supporting the work we intend to do to focus on equality then please let us know if you would be interested in being on one of our groups as a parent/carers champion. Our equality focus groups include;

- LGBTQ focus group
- Race equality focus group

By joining the group, you would be invited to a Zoom call meeting once per half term to get involved in discussing actions which would benefit our whole school community.

Coming Soon!

Christmas pod plans – each pod are busy planning their special Christmas arrangements and we send home the plan to parents/carers soon!

Virtual assembly with injured war veteran Martin Ketterick from the Blesa organisation – Tuesday 1st December

Christmas jumper day – Friday 11th December

Christmas dinner day – Wednesday 16th December