



## The Albion Academy Headteacher Newsflash

*Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020*

### Staying safe, staying healthy

We are at the end of our 4<sup>th</sup> week now and have seen and felt the many positives of our Covid safe set up: bubbles, zones, separate breaks and lunch areas, year group toilets. Have all added that extra level of safety.

This week I have been into every Year 11 group to talk about the importance of face coverings, hand washing and generally looking after each other. Next week I plan to visit every other year group to continue the message that by looking after each other we can continue to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

We have seen locally and nationally the great imposition placed upon families when a school has to send home children, a full class or an entire year group. We have been so fortunate that we have yet to be affected unlike our friends and neighbours in other schools. No one that works with children in a school wants to see them at home any longer than is absolutely necessary and I genuinely think that as a big Albion family we are doing well to keep the virus away from the school.

Moving onto being healthy I need to bring to your attention your child's choice of drinks. Fizzy sugary pop, highly caffeinated energy drinks are not needed in a Secondary school. I think most of us might be able to relate to those times where we may be away on holiday somewhere or out and about and we need to give our little elves a little pick me up. What do we go for? Coke, fizzy orange...generally something we know will give our kids that little bit of a pick me up. Imagine that x10, x20 or even x30. In a classroom and now you need to teach them about the causes of World War 1 or to explain the imagery in An Inspector Calls.

I have consulted with pupils and staff who have reliably told me that they know that energy drinks, sugary coke, orange etc is not allowed in the building. Water still, sparkling or flavoured is fine and all that we need. The World Health Organisation has done extensive research on the dangers of energy drinks, they are simply not allowed in the building. Follow this [link](#) to see



some research via the NHS. Those parents whose children may have diabetes your protocols for bringing in your recovery fluids are unaffected we know who you are and where it is stored.

## Attendance Matters – Every day counts

We are still in the grips of a pandemic so if you are a parent of a child whose year group is flagged in red, we need to view it through the lens of increased concerns over Covid, coughs, colds and the sniffles.

It is always a difficult call to make is your child ill. Are they ill with a cold or flu? Could it be Covid? I think we are getting the balance right, or I certainly hope you feel like we are. I definitely feel that you are really supportive of us and when you call us we listen and talk things through. When we call you the same courtesy is given and quite often we have got “he’s not ill, he stayed up too late, I caught him on his PS4” which I will be honest caused a smile in the office.

We want your child in school as much as possible. Thank you for supporting us by continuing to send your child to school and thank you for working with us when we have those moments when we are just being extra safe.

Week ending 25.09.2020					
Year	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
7	95.9	95.9	93	94.3	95
8	88.6	89.1	89	92.4	90.4
9	86.2	84.4	83.6	79.3	82.2
10	89.4	82.1	90.4	88.5	87
11	94	91.4	92.9	89	88.9
Whole school	90.9	88.8	89.8	88.8	88.9

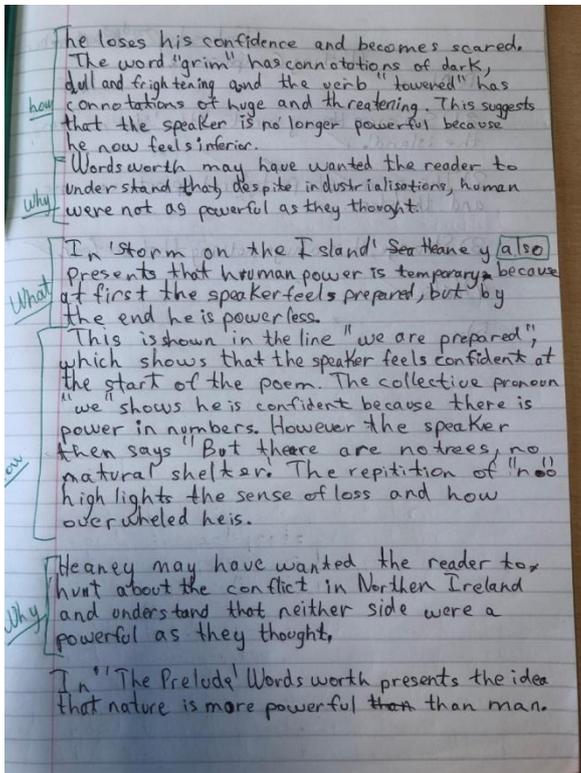
## Around the subject areas

If you follow the school on social media you might have seen examples of our pupils work. The aim is to give you as parents and carers an insight into what your child is doing whilst they are in school.



This week we have two examples the first is from the geography department. The children in **Year 8** have been looking at human geography and specifically looking into population distribution. They then utilised skills learnt in maths to create graphs and plotted how there has been a significant increase over the past hundred or so years.





In English, **Year 10** pupils have been working on their poetry comparison pieces 'The Prelude' and 'Storm on the Island'. This involved analysing poetry text, planning the written work with the teacher and then completing a full comparison piece.

## Standards

Many thanks to everyone support the academy with our standards around uniform, equipment and all the aspects in relation to being Covid safe.

Unfortunately, some pupils are choosing to be a little awkward about their masks "I think I've lost it" is the usual. The pupils were truly excellent only a week ago so this is a polite reminder that those that can wear masks, should wear masks as its about helping slow the spread of the virus so we all benefit.

## Year 11 Period 6

Smashing it yet again!

Attendance on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday was well over 97% of the pupils that attended school those days and we are so pleased that so many of you are finding the additional support beneficial. It is after all for you and to help you with anything that you might be struggling with, filling those gaps that might have occurred or just consolidating previous knowledge and supporting those interleaving practices that help with long term memory.

## Reminder - Homework Timetable – September 2020

This is just another reminder that we have a homework / home learning timetable that your child should be following and should have work set for them to do away from the classroom.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths
Year 8	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths
Year 9	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths
Year 10	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths
Year 11	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths

## Year 11 Summer examinations

Year 11, there are only 26 school weeks left, just 130 days in school, until your first GCSE exam. Where is the time going? Do not fear, worry or fret remember that we are here to help you every step of the way. You are not alone.

We cannot stress enough how important it is that you devote a bit of time each day to home study, refreshing what you have done in your lessons in past lessons helps keep those memory pathways fresh.

In the coming weeks Mr Roberts is going to provide you with a little personal revision guide that helps you understand how your brain works when it comes to 'revising' and preparing yourself for your mock examinations later in the term. You can get your own copy now by going to this [website](https://chronotopeblog.files.wordpress.com/2018/05/wellington-college-study-guide1.pdf)

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## Safeguarding

It has been brought to our attention from some parents that a number of pupils are using apps such as Snap-Chat and in particular WhatsApp in a way that is not particularly nice. We cannot stress enough that you should know precisely what your child is doing with their phone. I imagine though that you pay the phone bill, you probably bought the phone for their birthday or Christmas, so actually it is your phone.





If you do not know what your child is sending via WhatsApp, Instagram, Snap then I strongly implore you to check what they are doing tonight or this weekend. If you see things that you are not happy with then as a responsible parent it is your duty to safeguard your child in the first instance and step in.

## Next week – 28<sup>th</sup> September

Next week is WEEK A

## Important dates

Virtual Open Evening Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020

The Academy will close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. We reopen again on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

INSET day Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

Last day of Autumn term is Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Pupils return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## Social media



Remember you can follow us on Twitter [@albionacademy](#) or on [YouTube](#) '[TheAlbionAcademySalford](#)'