



DAME ALLAN'S SCHOOLS  
building the future

# Weekly Update

Friday 26 June 2020

## Key information

### Update from our school uniform stockists

Despite some supply challenges earlier in the year, Schoolblazer are almost fully-stocked for the back to school period. Any remaining out of stock items will be in stock before the students return to school in September.

Their warehouse is ready to dispatch orders, but they have sent some suggestions for those of you who do need to buy new uniform:

- Please order early. Our warehouse is operating on a two shift system to enable social distancing so it is more important than ever for parents to shop with us in July and not wait until August.
- We only charge at the point of dispatch, so parents should order any item showing as out of stock. It will be dispatched on receipt into our warehouse. Parents are only charged once for delivery per order.

Schoolblazer is also offering free shipping on all orders from 6th July to 19th July.

### PLEASE NOTE:

We very much hope to welcome all pupils back to school in September in the normal full school uniform.

However, if it is the case that pupils shouldn't wear their uniform, we will let parents know this nearer the start of the school year.

If pupils are not required to wear a uniform it will be for the shortest amount of time possible.

### Reminder

Ahead of the final week of term, once again, some key points to remember regarding infection control:

- Please do not send your child into school if they or a family member present with any symptoms of coronavirus. Please click the link for the NHS information on asking for a COVID-19 test
- Encourage your child to wash their hands more often and with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Here is some great information on how best to wash hands from Public Health England (PHE).



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# Dame Allan's @ Home

## Year 1

Children in Year 1 have been getting very creative this term!

In art classes, pupils have had lots of fun making lion collages. They used lots of strips of paper for the lion's mane.

In design technology, this term's project was to design 'eco-houses' with features such as wind turbines, solar panels and waterbutts - some even had grass roofs. They then used recycled junk materials to make the models.



## Pre-season training

The Senior Schools' sports department is now able to share a potential schedule for preseason training.

Please note, this is provisional information and details (including what form the training will take if it is able to go ahead) may be subject to change based on the most recent guidance from both the government and national governing bodies of each sport.

Further information will be shared closer to the time.

	School	Rugby - DABS	Hockey - DAGS
<b>26 August</b>			U12 and U13 - AM U14 and U15 - PM
<b>27 August</b>		U12-13 - AM U14-15 - AM U16-1st XV - AM/PM	U16 and Seniors - AM U12 and U13 - PM
<b>28 August</b>		U12-13 - AM U14-15 - AM U16-1st XV - AM/PM	U14 and U15 - AM U16 and Seniors - PM
<b>29 August</b>			
<b>30 August</b>			
<b>31 August</b>		Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday
<b>1 September</b>	INSET	U12 and 13 - AM U14/U15/U16 and 1st XV PM	U14 and U16 Nat - AM U18 Nat - PM
<b>2 September</b>	INSET	U12-13 - AM U14/U15/U16 and 1st XV - PM	
<b>3 September</b>	Term Begins	U15-1st XV - PM	

## DASPA

After a quiet few months, DASPA are now busy organising an online uniform sale and competition for students, an email will follow over the coming weeks which will detail these events.

As mentioned in last week's Update, we held a free raffle to mark what would have been our Summer Ball on Saturday 20 June. Congratulations to Mrs Forster from the Junior School, who won a meal at home for two from The Patricia bistro in Jesmond.

We're pleased to announce the Summer Ball has been rescheduled and will take place on Saturday 21 June at St James' Park. We look forward to preparing for that during the coming academic year and hosting what should be a wonderful evening.

DASPA also held the final draw of the 50/50 Club. The winning tickets were: 31, 72 and 68. They will contact you with payment shortly.



## Dame Allan's Bake Off

The latest bake off challenge looked at how to use up leftovers to make a delicious meal or snack. Once again, the work produced by the students was fantastic - we don't envy Mrs Crawley's task of judging each week!

Congratulations to India in Year 5 for her winning entry of omelette picnic bites and meringues with fruit.

[Click here](#) to see all of this week's entries.



## Inter-house relay

There's still time to take part in Mr Salisbury's Virtual House Relay competition - the deadline for entries is on Wednesday 1st July.

What is the House Relay?

- Design a 3 km race route
- Run the course as fast as you can
- Submit your time
- The fastest three times in each house and category will be totalled to give your house's final finish time

[Full details can be found here.](#)

## Year 13 Leavers

**To ensure that we can keep in touch with you about events and reunions, if you haven't done so already, please complete the Allanian Society 'Keeping in Touch' form.**

[Click here](#) to complete a short Google form.

**Any new sign-ups will receive an Allanian Society badge.**

# A message from our Chaplain...

## A Return to a New Normal

A phrase that has become well-known in recent times is that which offers some hope of a return of things which were once familiar; be that routines, activities, work or school. A return to something that seems recognisable, but which is not exactly as we knew it.



It has been great to be able to visit the shops with more freedom, to welcome people back into churches in a limited way, and to see our school corridors with a degree of hustle and bustle once more over these past days as we prepare for the summer break. Given the trauma and stress endured by many over the past few months, perhaps this gentler return to the almost familiar is a much more comfortable way of beginning to restart that pattern of new normality.

For some of our school family, this is a very significant moment of transition in less than normal times. Year 6 leaving their community ready to join the seniors, and our Year 11s marking the end of their compulsory education and our Year 13s moving on to a very different world of work or further study that they might never have dreamt of whilst completing those UCAS forms or considering their futures only a few months ago.

Out of all of my summer holiday memories as a child, teenager and young adult, it is perhaps those three years of transition that remain most firmly in my memory. The planning for the new beginning, the adaptation to new patterns of daily life, and maybe above all else the adventure of the 'new normal' found even amidst individual and communal anxiety and stress.

I'm yet to find out what a new normal might look like in the work of a Chaplain and Parish Vicar; the paperwork produced in the parish through risk assessment and review is marginally less than that of a school, but even so much of it only seems 'current' for a few days at most.

I cannot imagine what this new normal might actually look like in the long term. Though, I don't know that this matters.

The great thing about the measure of 'normal', is perhaps that there isn't really a measure of 'normal'. Every moment in time, every individual and every meeting can never be 'normal'. They are all individual moments of encounter and opportunity; some found in the midst of anxiety and worry, some found in the midst of joy and celebration.

The major world faiths have a common theme of re-creation; of new emerging out of the old. The Indian Religions and the concept of rebirth and the Abrahamic faiths with that basis of periodic revelation from God through the prophets might be two examples, alongside the new beginning of the Resurrection narratives and eschatological hope of a new creation seen in the Christian tradition.

As we look for that promised new normal in our everyday lives – which may of course never come – let us remember that this season of transition is a chapter in that adventure of life. A moment when new, great things emerge. It will come at a cost, and many might be changed by this forever. So, we begin slowly and gently as we re-emerge looking to see how things might become 'normal' once more, holding the events of the past with care and compassion, but ever looking to that new beginning as it emerges.

Normal or not, may you have adventure this summer, and may you know the blessing of encounters with others in this less than normal ending to this less than normal academic year as we look to the horizon hopeful of something new.

**Rev'd James**

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### Get in touch!

If you have any stories or photos of your children getting creative with their remote learning, email us at [news@dameallans.co.uk](mailto:news@dameallans.co.uk)



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