



Parent & Carer Newsletter

July 2023



Dear parents and carers,
Is it July or more like October? Let's just hope that when we arrive at our well-deserved summer break the weather matches our expectations!

I write to you with a very big thank you for the fantastic support you have provided to both staff and students as we continue to work together – in partnership - to enhance the lives of every single student who walks into Audenshaw School.

July has been just as busy and eventful as every other month this year! And although many may think the pace slows down a 'tad', if anything we do even more to ensure students have a fantastic experience in all areas of school at this time.

Here are a few highlights from this month!

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Duke of Edinburgh Expedition is BACK AT AUDENSHAW

It has been many years but we can now proudly say DofE takes place at Audenshaw! Huge congratulations to our Year 9 students who completed their Duke of Edinburgh Expedition last weekend. They hiked a total of 25 km over the two days and enjoyed an evening chilling in front of the camp fire and then a night under canvas. All good fun although the badgers' encounters were a little closer than they would have liked! Thank you to Mr Khokar, Miss Perry and Mr Stephenson for supporting the trip and inspiring our students.



New Year 7 Alert!!!! Summer School 2023-4

Our Summer School will take place from the 22nd to the 24th August for those students who will be joining us in Year 7 in September. The three days will be action packed with lots of fun activities taking place throughout the school. We cannot wait to welcome our new Y7s into our school and I wanted to thank the staff involved who are running the summer school in advance.

Summer Term Extended Writing Competition

Reading and Writing are the basic tools to accessing a curriculum and also skills for life. Students this half term have been invited by Miss Fitzgerald to take part in an extended writing competition where they had to research a topic of their choice and present an extended piece of writing on that chosen topic. This wasn't homework or classwork and not compulsory, just Audenshaw boys being marvellous! The standard was very high and the winners T Dunphy, Morton & R Gallimore can be seen to the right. Well done to all who took part.



Attendance Matters

Earlier this year I raised the importance of working in partnership to get students back to pre-pandemic levels of attendance. We know the past few years haven't been easy for families or school but we also know that building back the resilience, and the expectation that **students should be in school each day** is what is best for both their wellbeing and achievement. Our attendance currently stands at an impressive **93.5%** which is above national average and in the top 10% when taking into account the size and context of our school. However, we continue to aim for as close to 100% as possible as we know how important it is for students to be in school and learning. The national average figure for all schools currently stands at approximately **90.8%** and we will continue next academic year to further improve our already very impressive figures.



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We say good bye and good luck to the following staff who leave us this term. All colleagues that leave our school will retain a special connection with Audenshaw and will always be a part of our journey.

Our own Mrs Parker, leaves Audenshaw after an amazing 26 years with the school. Mr Watkinson leaves us after 25 years with the school. Both colleagues are part of a group that arrived within a short period of time and have made such a stunning contribution to the lives of so many. Other colleagues that also move on this summer and again have provided a rich learning experience over a significant period are as follows; Miss Perry in Maths, Mr Stephenson (Maths and Computer Science), Mr Fox aka 'Iron Man' Mrs Boston, our cover supervisor, Miss Chadwick (English LSA) and Mrs Pimlott (Pastoral Support Admin). We wish them all the very best alongside, saying a big thank you for all that they have done for our students.



Cricket Success

Well done to our Year 10 cricketers who are The Lancashire U15 Plate winners! This success rounds off a great season for the team. Well done to all involved and let's hope England can deliver a similar result in the remaining ashes series.



Birds of Prey visit Audenshaw as part of Science.

Just this week we were treated to quite a spectacle, the Cheshire Falconry Company visited our school to showcase some amazing birds of prey, and with their expert knowledge showed the students what life was like for this simply stunning species of bird. Year 8 conducted themselves well and really enjoyed the experience – do ask your son all about it!



Battlefields Trip Mr Wilkinson and The History department have planned a jammed packed trip to see the battlefields of Belgium and France with 46 Year 10 students this week, leaving late on Monday night the boys were excited to get to Dover to board a ferry to Belgium. We wish all well and keep track of the group via our social media platform, primarily, Instagram.

Crypto? Digital Assets? Risk Analyst Career? Our Year 10 Students have been learning this month how to be an investment analyst as part of their business studies. The technical challenges here really did inspire the students and they are already showing that the financial future of the economy is in great hands!



Finally, I sign off with some excellent news. Myself and Miss Dootson sat and listened to many presentations from those students aspiring to be the next Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy for 2023-4. It was an outstanding level of quality, and we had an extremely difficult decision and are sure of one thing, the full Senior Student Leadership Team for next year will be simply stunning.



Below is a photo of the New Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy - Z Gill and L Calvert did an amazing job in their applications. We are very proud of them.

On behalf of all staff at Audenshaw School, Governors and our whole school community we wish you a lovely summer break and look forward to an even better year moving into 2023-4.
Health and Happiness to All.
Mr P Taylor

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