



Arbour Academy

Part of KINGS ACADEMY TRUST

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2024



Message from the Executive Headteacher - Lindsay Regan

Welcome to the first addition of Arbour Academy's Newsletter. I am both excited and proud to showcase the wonderful learning and activities our learners have enjoyed this term and to share this with parents, carers and the schools stakeholders through our new termly newsletter!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for the support both myself, Gwyn and the new senior team have received at Arbour since September. As we embark on a new chapter for Arbour Academy we are proud of our learners who have embraced many changes to their education and are enjoying attending a happy and thriving school.

With this change comes a wealth of opportunities for our young people including an exciting new curriculum, an increased level of support staff, a new pastoral team delivering individualised therapeutic interventions, trips and rewards, lunch and break time activities and free school meals for all.

This term a number of new staff have been recruited and I am looking forward to working closely with Arbour's dedicated team in continuing to move the school forward and ensuring the best possible provision for our young people.

I wish you all a very restful Christmas and Happy New Year.



Message from the Head of School - Gwyn Owen

As we approach the festive season, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our Christmas newsletter. This time of year always offers us a chance to reflect on the past term's achievements and look forward to the opportunities ahead in the new year.

Having grown up in Wales, I've always cherished the sense of community and tradition that comes with this season. It reminds me of the values we strive to instil here at Arbour Academy: High Standards, empathy, resilience, and emotional response. These values are especially evident in the incredible work our students and staff have accomplished over the term, from academic achievements to their participation in extracurricular activities and community projects.

Before becoming Headteacher, I spent 15 years teaching in a specialist setting, and my background in PE has shown me the power of teamwork and perseverance. I see those same qualities every day in the classrooms and corridors of our school. I am proud of every student and staff member who contributes to making Arbour Academy a place where everyone can thrive.

As a lifelong Liverpool supporter, I often say, "You'll Never Walk Alone," and I believe that sentiment rings true for our school community as well.

Together, we achieve more, and I am confident that 2025 will bring even greater success for us all.

On behalf of everyone at Arbour Academy, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in making our school the best it can be.

Hello and Welcome from our New Deputy Headteacher- Glenn Prime

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself as we produce our first newsletter of the year and move into my favourite festive period.

My name is Glenn (not Gwyn, you wouldn't be the first person to confuse us) and I have been teaching for the past 14 years

I trained and taught in East London for the first 10 years of my career, before moving to Manchester with my wife and two girls.

I trained in and taught PE across two secondary schools in Leyton and Leytonstone, alongside many other subjects along the way. I loved teaching PE within inner city schools where sport was an outlet for many of our students. In my second year of teaching, I moved into the pastoral team and became a Head of Year, alongside my teaching commitments. In 2019 I moved to Manchester and taught in Longsight and then moved into specialist settings. As I progressed into leadership and pastoral care became a priority area for myself.

I'm excited to be joining Arbour as we move and progress the school forwards to allow our young people to exceed all expectations. It has been a pleasure getting to know all the characters in the school over the last half term. As a Pastoral lead for many years, the young people in our school are at the heart of every decision I make, and I look forward to supporting every young person with unconditional positive regard. At Arbour 'We do things differently H.E.R.E.'

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and look forward to meeting you on our pupil progress day.



Interim Deputy Head Jo McQueen

Since September lots of work has been undertaken around curriculum and what would be best for the pupils at Arbour. There have been numerous changes along the way but we hope that we now have a timetable suitable for all of our pupils.

At Arbour we prioritise meeting the individual needs of each student through personalised schemes of work. Our curriculum is designed to be flexible, inclusive, and supportive, helping pupils develop confidence and achieve personal success. Lessons are tailored to foster engagement, address barriers to learning, and build essential life skills alongside academic progress.

Our teachers are continuously enhancing their practice to support the diverse needs of our pupils. Recent training sessions have focused on strategies for behaviour management, trauma informed teaching, and creating a nurturing learning environment that promotes resilience and growth. We celebrate the small and big achievements of our pupils. From engaging in creative projects to making strides in literacy and numeracy, students are showing remarkable progress. Activities are designed to build confidence, encourage participation, and celebrate individual strengths.

Upcoming priorities include Therapeutic Interventions to support emotional well-being and enhanced feedback systems to provide clear, supportive guidance for each learner.



We look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Teaching and learning

A visit to Chetham's Library

Recently a group of KS3 students went to explore Chetham's Library, which is a beautiful medieval building located near Manchester Cathedral. Built in 1421, it is one of the oldest surviving public libraries in the world and has a rich history.

We explored the dark, oak panelled corridors, reading rooms and the library itself, on a guided tour with Sian the events manager. Sian entertained us with stories about necromancers, ghosts and the various strange characters who had connections with the building. As we soaked up the atmosphere, we started planning our own Gothic ghost stories using the setting of Chethams as inspiration. Back at school we are continuing to develop our spooky stories to round off our unit of work on Gothic literature.



Business ENTERPRISE

This term, students have been gaining real-life business experience by working in groups to complete various tasks in their booklets.

Both Year 10 and Year 11 students organised their time and make decisions about their chosen business activities, with each team member taking on a specific role to contribute to the final product.

Each group was responsible for designing a poster that was visually appealing to their target audience. The poster detailed their chosen product or design, which they will sell to consumers. As part of this process, students had to determine the cost of materials and calculate the appropriate selling price to ensure a profit.

Following an action plan, students conducted research to decide where to purchase the materials and how much of each is needed.

Year 10 students chose to create a range of hot chocolate drinks, while Year 11 students made Rocky Road tray bakes and chocolate brownies.

Both teams then sold their products to staff and students at the school in the lead-up to Christmas.

A huge well done everyone!

HEADSTART HAIR ACADEMY

Headstart is an Educational support service supporting children's mental health and wellbeing.

Our Year 11 students have been attending the offsite Headstart provision each Monday, gaining experience in the hair and beauty industry at the academy.

They each have been completing roller setting and curling hair to practice on each other. They have been shown skills on shampooing and blow-drying hair in the salon.

This term they have been focusing on colour and creativity using a mood board for inspiration for nails and make up.



FESTIVE FUN

This festive season has been full of joy and creativity at our school, with a series of memorable events and displays celebrating both the holiday spirit and the artistic achievements of our students.

We started off the festivities with an exciting trip to Stockport Plaza to see 'A Christmas Carol'. Year 10 enjoyed watching the production and used this experience to support their learning in school.

In the spirit of the season, students took part in an afternoon of Christmas decorating, turning the school into a winter wonderland.

Another exciting feature of this season's celebrations is the showcase of student artwork from the Duke of Edinburgh (DoE) program. Talia, one of our talented students, has been working diligently on her artistic skills as part of her DoE lessons.

As the year draws to a close, these events have been a beautiful reminder of the joy and talent that our school community has to offer.



Meet the Pastoral team...

At any school, the pastoral team plays a crucial role in ensuring that every child's emotional and social needs are met, alongside their academic growth.

Their primary aim is to create a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment where students can thrive, both in and out of the classroom.

The pastoral team typically includes teachers, counsellors, and other support staff who work closely with students to provide a wide range of services.

These services include:

Emotional and Mental Health Support

Behavioural and Social Support

Academic Guidance

Well-Being Initiatives

Parent and Teacher Collaboration

By having a dedicated pastoral team, schools can ensure that every student is given the support they need to succeed not just academically, but emotionally and socially as well. Whether it's helping a student navigate a difficult time or fostering a positive school culture, the pastoral team is there to guide and support your child's growth.



Arbour Pastoral Team
Sophie Booth & Jonathan Bacon



Language is the foundation of all learning:



At the Arbour Academy, we use 'Bedrock Learning', which is an online literacy and vocabulary programme, to help develop our students' literacy skills. Bedrock supports learning in all areas of the school curriculum, not only English.

We expect students to complete at least **one 20 minute**, preferably two, Bedrock session per week at home. This is their weekly English homework. Bedrock can be completed on any digital device, which has access to the internet, including a mobile phone.

Your child will have been given their own Bedrock log-in details to take home with them.

Please support and encourage your child with this homework.

We receive a weekly update on the progress of each student from Bedrock. Throughout the year we will award prizes of Amazon vouchers to the students who have made the most effort and progress.

The next winter challenge will start in January and if your child completes their weekly Bedrock homework they can be entered into the prize draw.

BEDROCK WINTER CHALLENGE



YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!!

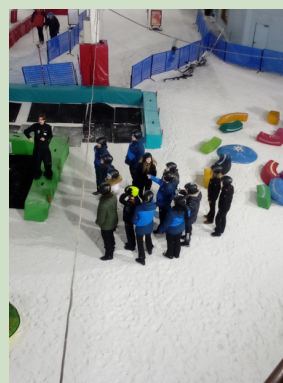


Reward Trips

Chester Zoo Trip



Chill Factor Trip



Salford City Council

Holiday and Activities Food Programme

Children and young people aged four to 16 who are eligible for benefits related free school meals can access a range of fun free activities throughout the year.

Funded by the Department of Education, Salford's Holiday Activity and Food programme is a package of support for children and young people on benefits related free school meals. The programme provides free access to multiple activities and food during Easter, summer and winter.

Whether its arts and crafts, dance, sports or drama, Salford's #HAF2024 programme has something for everyone! A wide range of organisations have come together to deliver a range of activities across Salford allowing children and young people to access age-appropriate sessions in their local community.

For more information please visit: <https://www.salford.gov.uk/children-and-families/school-holiday-activities/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/>



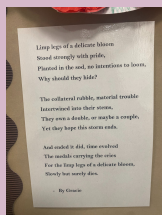
CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 15th November the whole school participated in a non-uniform day to raise funds for the Children in Need Charity.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Students used their arts & craft skills to design a Remembrance Wall display with a Poem written by Gracie from Year 10



Christmas Dinner Day



The school's first annual Christmas Dinner Day was a heart-warming occasion where both staff and students came together to celebrate the festive season.

This special event allowed everyone to enjoy a delicious, traditional Christmas meal, fostering a sense of community and unity within the school.

Students and teachers sat together at shared tables, as everyone enjoyed a meal of turkey, stuffing, roast vegetables, and all the classic Christmas trimmings, followed by a delicious dessert.

For many, this event offered a break from routine and a chance to bond with colleagues and classmates. The Christmas Dinner Day not only celebrated the festive season but also strengthened the sense of school spirit.

It was a wonderful way to end the term on a high note, leaving everyone feeling festive and appreciative of the strong community they are part of.



HALLOWEEN



As part of our Halloween festivities, students showcased their creativity and pumpkin carving skills.

The results were nothing short of impressive, with each pumpkin displaying intricate designs, from spooky faces to intricate patterns.

The learners truly outdid themselves, transforming ordinary pumpkins into works of art. The pumpkins were proudly displayed around the school, adding to the festive atmosphere and bringing a touch of Halloween magic to the entire school community.

It was a wonderful way for students to engage in some fun and artistic expression as part of the Halloween celebrations.

This term saw us welcome some new staff recruits to The Arbour Family...

A big Hello and welcome to:

- Alex Jones - Assistant Headteacher
- Liz Cohen - SENDCO
- Jenna Legg - TA
- Joe Hickman- 1:1 TA

Welcome to the Team!

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

You can keep up to date on all the latest school news by following us on X @CanterburyPRU or by checking out our school website: www.arbouracademy.uk

Welcome to the world!

We are thrilled to congratulate SENDCO Alex and her family on the arrival of their beautiful baby girl, Tara!

This special moment marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter filled with love, joy, and cherished memories.

Alex and her family are overjoyed by the addition of their little one, and we wish them all the best as they begin this wonderful journey of parenthood.

Sending heartfelt congratulations to Alex, her family, and of course, baby Tara. May this new adventure be filled with endless smiles, laughter, and love.

Enjoy every precious moment with your beautiful baby girl!

Dates for the diary:

- School closes for Christmas - 1pm on Wednesday 16th December
- Progress Review day- Monday 6th January 2025
- School re-opens- Tuesday 7th January 2025

Please note, Progress Review Day is via appointment only.
Appointments have been sent to you in the post

On behalf of everyone at Arbour Academy, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Support over Christmas

At Arbour Academy, we are looking at ways we can help our parents with situations which may arise over the Christmas holidays. If there are any concerns around a child, they must be reported to The Bridge Partnership on 0161 603 4500.

All referrals and requests for support must be completed on the online referral form. The Bridge Partnership is available Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm.

If you need to speak to someone outside these times, please contact the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0161 794 8888.
If a child is in immediate danger of being harmed or is home alone, call the police on 999.

If you are worried about an adult - Report abuse or neglect by telephone on 0161 206 0604 and for further information visit <https://www.salford.gov.uk/adult-safeguarding>