

A message from Headteacher -

Joanne McQueen



As we come to the end of a busy and productive Spring Term at Arbour Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the many positive moments we have shared as a school community. It has been a term full of focus, development and celebration.

Our pupils have shown great commitment to their learning, particularly during the recent mock examinations for Year 11. These have been an important milestone in preparing for the upcoming exam season, and we are proud of the maturity and resilience pupils have demonstrated. We will continue to support all learners as they move forward with their preparation in the Summer Term.

Alongside this focus, it has been fantastic to see so many opportunities for celebration across the school. Pupils fully embraced our themed days, including wearing pink for Valentine's Day, green for St Patrick's Day and red for Red Nose Day. These moments help to build a strong sense of community and belonging, and it has been wonderful to see such enthusiastic participation.

It has also been particularly pleasing to see pupils so engaged in outdoor learning on our site. These experiences are invaluable in supporting both personal development and wellbeing, and it is encouraging to see pupils making the most of these opportunities.

I am also delighted to share that our staff shout-out box is now in use, providing a meaningful way to recognise and celebrate the efforts of colleagues. In addition, recent survey feedback from staff, pupils and parents has been overwhelmingly positive, reflecting the continued strength of our school community and the progress we are making together.

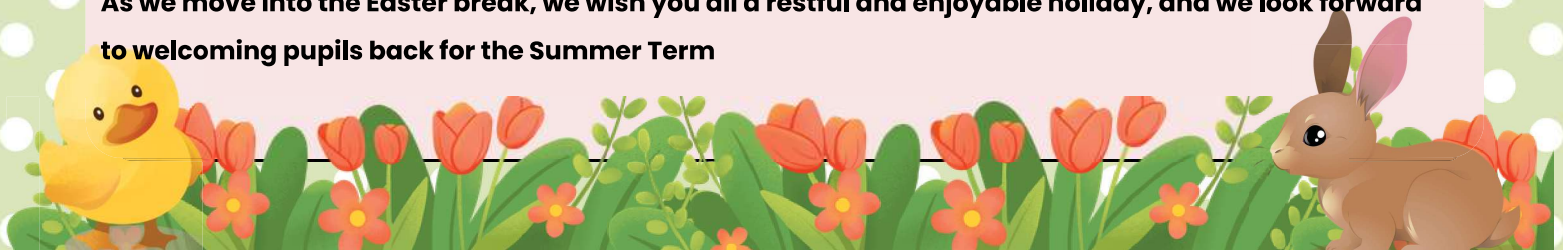
Looking ahead, we are excited to be introducing Class Dojo in the Summer Term. This will be a fantastic platform to celebrate and share the many successes of our pupils at Arbour Academy with families more regularly.

We are also pleased to share exciting news about the future of the school. From September 2026, Arbour Academy will further develop its specialist provision, focusing on supporting pupils across Salford with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). This is a positive step in strengthening the support, expertise and opportunities we can offer, ensuring we continue to meet the needs of our learners as effectively as possible.

Finally, I would like to commend both pupils and staff for their professionalism during our recent practice drills, including fire, lockdown and bomb evacuation procedures. These were carried out successfully and reflect the strong culture of safety and preparedness within the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff team for their continued dedication, and our parents and carers for their ongoing support.

As we move into the Easter break, we wish you all a restful and enjoyable holiday, and we look forward to welcoming pupils back for the Summer Term



KS4- English

It has been a busy and productive term in the English department at Arbour Academy, with students across year groups working hard and showing great enthusiasm for their learning.

Our Year 11 students have been focusing on preparing for their upcoming GCSE examinations. They have been working through a range of past papers, allowing them to strengthen their understanding of key concepts and become more familiar with exam-style questions. This targeted practice has helped students build confidence, refine their exam techniques, and identify areas where they can continue to improve. Their dedication and determination as they approach their final exams has been fantastic to see, and we are proud of the effort they are putting into their revision.

Meanwhile, Year 10 students have been exploring poetry and creative writing this term. They have been engaging with a variety of poems, analysing language, themes, and poetic techniques, while also developing their own creative voices. Alongside this, students have been working through a range of creative writing tasks, experimenting with descriptive language, structure, and imaginative storytelling. It has been wonderful to see students sharing their ideas and producing thoughtful and creative pieces of writing.

Overall, it has been a positive and productive term, and we are incredibly proud of the hard work and enthusiasm shown by both Year 10 and Year 11 students. We look forward to seeing their continued progress as we move into the next part of the academic year.

Drumming

Year 11 students recently took part in a series of successful visits to a professional music studio, where they had the opportunity to explore a wide range of instruments in a creative and supportive environment.

Across the sessions, students built confidence, expressed themselves, and engaged with music in a hands-on way.

A highlight of the visits was the drumming mindfulness sessions, which supported relaxation, focus, and teamwork. Overall, these experiences were both enriching and enjoyable, contributing positively to students' wellbeing and personal development.

Maths- Paper Airplanes

In Maths lessons this term, pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 have been working hard to prepare for their Entry Level Functional Skills qualification, developing essential numeracy skills for everyday life. A big well done to all pupils who successfully completed their Maths qualification—your effort and determination have been fantastic. KS4 pupils explored speed, distance and time, applying their learning in a practical investigation by designing and testing paper airplanes to calculate their speed.

Meanwhile, KS3 pupils developed their understanding of fractions and coordinates, and took part in the national competition on Times Tables Rock Stars to strengthen their multiplication fluency. A special well done to the KS3 pupils who made it onto the leaderboard—an excellent achievement!

ART

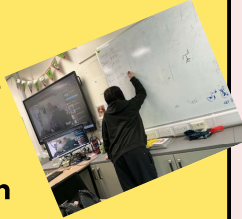
This term in Art, pupils experimented with a range of mixed media techniques, including the use of pastels, paint pens and charcoal. They explored how different materials can be combined to create texture, contrast and expressive effects in their work.

Pupils also studied the work of artists such as Teesha Moore and Callow Lily, looking closely at their styles and artistic approaches. Using these artists as inspiration, pupils then created their own self-portraits in the style of their chosen artist, applying the techniques and ideas they had developed throughout the term.



Business Enterprise

This term in Business Enterprise, students have been developing a strong understanding of what it means to be enterprising. They have explored key enterprising skills, identified their own strengths as well as those of their peers, and gained insight into the full enterprise process from initial idea through to final outcome.



To round off the Easter term, both Year 10 and Year 11 students have taken on fully student led projects to raise funds for the Year 11 prom, with Year 11 organising a Hot Chocolate sale and Year 10 running a Candyfloss stall.



From selecting ingredients and perfecting recipes to designing promotional materials and allocating roles, students have demonstrated excellent teamwork, creativity, and initiative throughout.



STEM

During STEM Week in March, pupils explored the principles of bridge construction, learning about tension, stability and the strength provided by triangular structures. They discovered how these concepts are used in real-world engineering to create strong and reliable bridges. Pupils then applied this knowledge by working collaboratively in pairs to plan and build their own bridges using straws and card, testing how much weight each design could hold. This hands-on challenge encouraged problem solving, teamwork and creativity. A big well done to all pupils who took part, and congratulations to the winning teams for their impressive designs!



NCFE cooking level 1

I'm excited to share what our learners have been working on as part of their NCFE cooking level 1.

Learners show confidence in key techniques and safe knife skills.

Preparing and cooking a range of dishes, following and adapting recipes independently.

Maintaining a clean and hygienic workspace.

Engaging in lessons to build their confidence.

Showing creativity when preparing and presenting dishes.



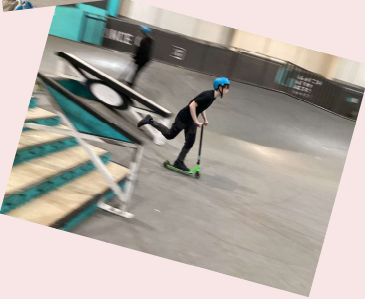
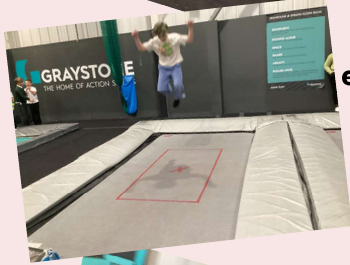
The focus ahead is to plan and prepare own dishes and continue building independence in the kitchen.

We are proud of the progress being made and look forward to sharing some delicious updates soon.

Graystone Action Sports Centre

From January to February Half term, all pupils and staff enjoyed outdoor learning at Graystone Action Sports centre. The aim of the 6-week programme was to enhance pupils' outdoor learning experiences through participation in alternative physical activities, including BMX, trampolining, skateboarding and bouldering.

The programme supported the development of physical competence, confidence, resilience and risk awareness, while encouraging pupils to engage positively with outdoor environments. Delivered in a safe, structured setting, the programme promoted wellbeing, personal development and teamwork, and reinforces the value of outdoor learning in supporting pupils' physical, social and emotional development.



Bushcraft

This half term the school has been taking part in Bushcraft lessons, as part of the Outdoor Education programme. They have all engaged fully and enjoyed the lessons and the experiences they have gained.

They have learned different aspects of bushcraft including: Creating tent pegs, decorative mushrooms and gnomes through whittling wood with Bushcraft knives, to sawing and chopping firewood. Building shelters with tarpaulin and parachute cord in different wooded areas.

They have also learned how to dig firepits, set, light and manage fires, toast marshmallows and cook sausages and self made flatbreads, along with the all important fire maintenance.

These tasks have all been done with a strong safety oversight and an environmental concern in mind, always sticking to the mantra of "leave it as you found it". I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching everyone these new skills, I hope they continue to develop their new found interest in the outdoors.



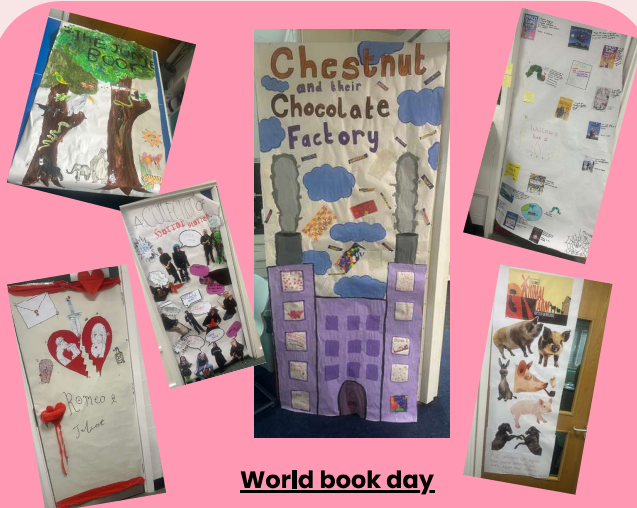
WORLD BOOK DAY

This year, World Book day coincided with the Year 11 mock examinations. In order to maintain a calm environment for our students during this important assessment period, we marked the occasion in a more low-key way than usual. Student engaged in a range of smaller-scale activities after the exams have finished in the afternoon.



Year 10 students were given the opportunity to go on a trip to the Portico Library in Manchester to take part in their exhibition, 'How to Read a Book'. Whilst there, students were also able to generate ideas for their creative writing.

They then visited Waterstones book shop on Deansgate, to spend their book tokens and buy some books for the school library.



World book day competition

This year's World Book Day door competition saw each class transform their form room doors based on a favourite book. The winning design, "Chestnut and the Chocolate Factory," stood out with its fun, personalised chocolate bar themed display and imaginative details. A brilliant effort from everyone who took part!

Rewards trips

We love to be able to reward those pupils who have gain 10 point and 50% plus attendance.



This term KS3 and Year 10's enjoyed testing their speed and agility at Laser Quest, meanwhile the Year 11s put their combat skills to the test at Delta Force paintballing, shooting fellow pupils, but mainly staff with paintballs.

Rank	Name	Peak	Score	Survival	Time	Peak	Score
1	AMIR	100%	111	100%	0:28	0	28
2	HYDRONKS	100%	112	100%	0:28	0	28
3	AMIR PEACH	100%	84	100%	0:28	0	28
4	CONQUERORS	100%	84	100%	0:28	0	28
5	UNDERFACE	100%	84	100%	0:28	0	28
6	HYDRONKS	100%	84	100%	0:28	0	28
7	CONQUER	100%	84	100%	0:28	0	28
8	CONQUER	100%	84	100%	0:28	0	28
9	AMIR	100%	84	100%	0:28	0	28
10	UNDERFACE	100%	84	100%	0:28	0	28

CONGRATULATIONS

We are absolutely delighted to share that Levi Sykes (year 10) is the artist of one of the 22 winning artworks in the Therme Manchester's Artists of the Future drawing competition, Her fantastic creation that can be seen below and will also be printed at large scale and displayed as part of Therme Manchester's outdoor gallery.



Valentines Day



For Valentines day, all pupils and staff were able to wear a token PINK item of clothing. Students enjoyed making Valentines day card.



Chinese New Year



To celebrate the Chinese new year, pupils and staff were able to enjoy a Chinese style menu for lunch.



Motorbike visit



We were lucky enough to have a motorbike visit school. Students and staff enjoyed sitting on the bike and revving it's engine.



Red Nose Day

For this years Red Nose Day, all pupils and staff were able to wear a token RED item of clothing. Students enjoyed engaging in a number of activites, such as "Design-Yer Nose" Competition, completing wordsearches, taking part in a school quiz.

St Patricks Day

To celebrate St Patrick's Day, a whole-school creative activity was organised by Jessica in Year 11. Pupils and staff were invited to decorate their own four-leaf clover, each one uniquely designed to reflect creativity and individuality.

These individual clovers were then carefully brought together by Jessica to create one large, eye-catching display, which is now proudly displayed in one of our school hallways as a symbol of collaboration and community.



Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our recent parent survey following the Progress Review Afternoon. We are very grateful for your feedback

Your feedback helps us reflect, improve and celebrate what we do well. Thank you for continuing to work in partnership with us to support your child's progress and wellbeing.

If you have not had the opportunity to complete the parent survey, Please scan the QR code below and this will take you to the survey.



If you would like to discuss your child's progress further, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Staff Wellbeing

Staff wellbeing continues to be a key priority in our school. We recognise how important it is for staff to feel supported, valued and able to maintain a healthy work life balance.

We have introduced staff 'Shout Out' cards to thank those who have gone above and beyond their normal duties.

We also enjoyed a Pastry Pay Day breakfast.

Throughout the term we have encouraged opportunities for staff to look after their wellbeing. By working together to create a positive and supportive environment, we ensure that our staff can continue to provide the very best support and learning experiences for our students.



We are proud to announce that we have received top marks in our recent food hygiene inspection.

Pastoral Care Update

We are pleased to share that we now have two members of staff Sophie and Gill trained as Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA). This specialised role enables staff to support children's emotional, social, and mental health needs within school.



Our ELSAs work with pupils to help build resilience, develop self-esteem, and strengthen coping strategies. They can provide support around a range of areas, including anxiety, bereavement, anger, and social skills.



We are proud to continue developing our provision to ensure all children feel supported, understood, and ready to thrive.



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 HAF 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. The program runs from 7 April to 25 April 2025, and families can book places for the upcoming Easter holidays through the Salford Council website. For more information please visit: <https://www.salford.gov.uk/children-and-families/school-holiday-activities/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/>

Salford Educational Psychology Service
Salford City Council

Who are we?
We are Salford Educational Psychology Service. We support children and young people aged 0-25 who may find it hard to manage in their school/educational environment. Not only do we support individual children and young people, but we also support vulnerable groups (e.g. Virtual School Team), and all young people through projects such as emotionally friendly schools.

Why work with us?
We work with children/ young people who are struggling in their school/setting for lots of different reasons and will help to gather views and develop a plan.

What are we working on?
We are working on including children and young people in their schools/setting whilst also trying to identify special educational needs.

How does a child or young person get referred for support?
Referrals are received through the school/setting's SENCO, or if an assessment is agreed following a request for an education health and care plan.

School Referral
We will consult with the school/setting and the parent/carer and then get the views of the child/young person to form a plan, if necessary, we may complete other activities and assessments with the child/young person.

EHCP Assessment
We will consult the school/setting and the parent/carer about their best hopes and concerns for the child/young person.

More information / get in contact
Please email us on: EPS@salford.gov.uk or visit our local offer page on: <https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/info-for-parents-students-and-teachers/educational-psychology-service/>
If you would like to give us feedback on our service following involvement, please follow the QR code here

Our mission
Applying psychology collaboratively to facilitate change through hope and creativity

Welcome to SalfordPCF

Who are SalfordPCF?
Salford Parent Carer Forum (SalfordPCF/SPCF) is a parent-led organisation who gather the views of Parent Carers of Children and Young People (aged 0-25 years) with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) and work with local partners to improve the experiences of families.

What is SEND?
The UK government and the NHS describe SEND as "A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her" (SEND Code of Practice 2015)

How to get involved
Become a member
Our membership is free and is open to any Parent Carer in Salford who has a Child/Young Person aged 0-25 with SEND. Becoming a member allows us to stay in touch and keep you up to date with our work, any new activities for our families, and up and coming events.

Share your views
There are lots of ways to share your views. We have a "have your say" page on our website, we run regular drop-ins and events, or you can get involved with our surveys and polls. Your views matter!!

Volunteer for us.
We have lots of opportunities to get involved. We always need help running coffee mornings, attending our events, deliver training, or meeting with partner agencies to undertake strategic work. We also need people who can offer back office support, promote our organisation, or help with our forum development.

Our offer!
• Parent Carer SEND support group
• Coffee mornings and drop-ins
• Parent Carer well-being sessions
• Well-being walk and talks
• Soundbaths with Reiki
• Participation Group
• WhatsApp support group
• Private online group
• Work with schools and wider organisations
• Working together projects

Our membership, groups, and sessions are all FREE for parents in Salford!

Where to find our more!
• www.salfordpcf.com
• 07348 134618
• info@salfordpcf.com
• www.facebook.com/salfordpcf
• Salfordpcf

Salford Parent Carer Forum

Attendance

Good attendance is essential for every student's success. Being in school every day helps pupils build strong learning habits, keep up with lessons, and develop positive friendships. At Arbour, we continue to encourage excellent attendance and punctuality. Missing a small amount of school can add up to a significant loss of learning time over the year. By attending regularly, students give themselves the best chance to achieve their full potential. We would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support in ensuring children arrive at school on time and ready to learn. If your child is unable to attend due to illness or exceptional circumstances, please remember to inform the school office as soon as possible.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

School closes Thursday 2nd April 2026
School reopens Tuesday 21st April 2026
School closes Friday 1st May 2026
School reopens Tuesday 5th May 2026
School closes Friday 22nd May 2026
School reopens Monday 1st June 2026

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students, their families and staff a wonderful Easter and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 21st April.

You can keep up to date with all the latest school news by checking out our school website <https://www.arbouracademy.uk/> or by following us on X @ArbourAcademy