

Tales from the

Arbour

Autumn / Winter
2023

www.arbouracademy.uk



Welcome to our Autumn / Winter newsletter

Becoming part of King's Academy Trust has allowed Arbour Academy to invest in a facelift for our classrooms, with new furniture and technology now installed across the academy

Over the past term, staff have been working hard to provide pupils with a whole host of educational and cultural opportunities, only a few of which are featured in this newsletter.

As usual we would like to thank all the parents and carers - I know you are working hard in the background, supporting your child to attend and engage.

On behalf of the staff and governors of Arbour Academy can we wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas.



Chester Zoo



Students spent a day at Chester Zoo this half term as part of their Biology Curriculum. They had the chance to explore the zoo, visit the animals and attend a class .

After lunch, the bravest members of the group ventured into the bat cave where a variety of winged creatures swooped and tumbled through the air, narrowly missing the students heads. Managing to stifle their screams, the students made it out with their dignity intact.



After a final exploration of the enclosures, it was time for the journey home. Before leaving there was a very brief trip to the gift shop where the obligatory cuddly frog was bought, yet nobody could be persuaded to buy some lion dung for their garden.

Another successful trip for the Arbour Explorers.

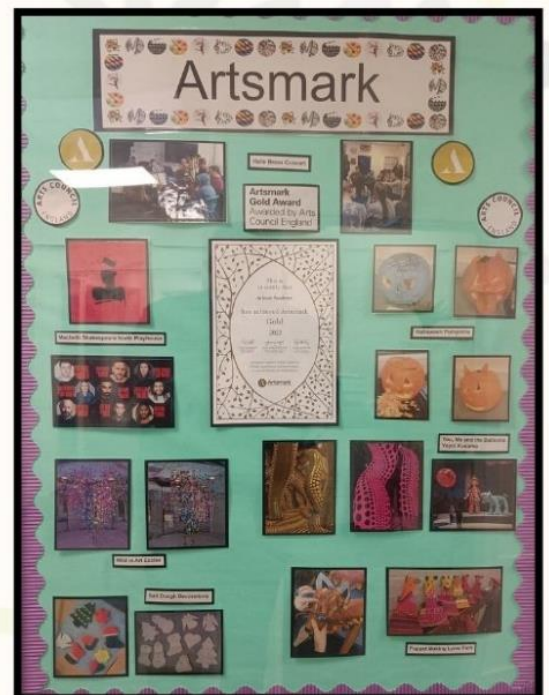


Artsmark

Here at Arbour Academy we have been on an Artsmark journey.

Back in September 2021 we submitted our Statement of Commitment to The Arts Council with an action plan for the arts in our school. Our intention was to follow their guiding principles of striving for excellence and innovation; inspiring and engaging; ensuring a positive and inclusive experience. With the support of all the staff and our many arts partners we have enabled all pupils to have some positive experiences of the arts, including cinema, theatre and art gallery visits; music instruction from MAPAS and Halle; puppet-making in Lyme Park; helping to create an art installation in Eccles town centre and many more.

All of these different activities and collaborations, and the positive effects they had on our school, were written into our Statement of Impact. The Arts Council responded quickly and we were delighted to be awarded Gold.

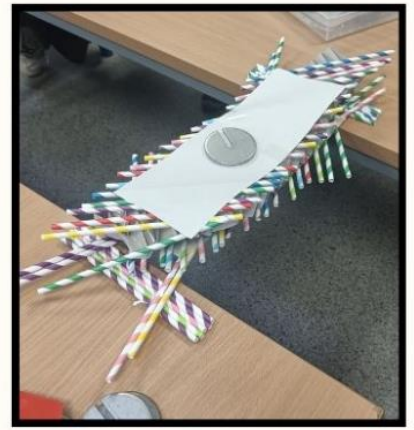
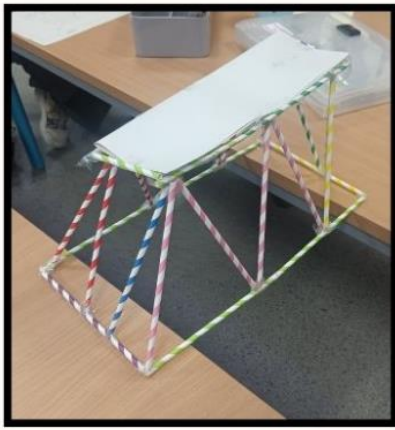


MANCHESTER *Airport*

Students had a great time on their careers trip to Manchester Airport. They visited the 'Aerozone' where they learned about all the different careers at the airport including pilots, cabin crew, security, check-in and retail.

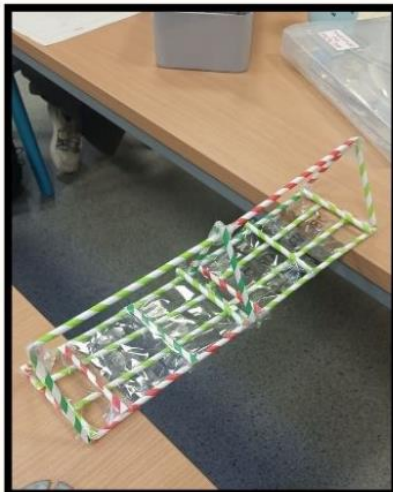
They were able to immerse themselves in the interactive pods where they could dress up and try out the jobs for themselves. A manager from the resilience team then spoke to the students about their role in the airport and the students asked him some great questions. We then had a look at Terminal 2 where £1 billion has been spent updating it - it now has a Manchester theme with all Manchester retailers in the departure lounge. Great fun was had by everyone!





Building Bridges

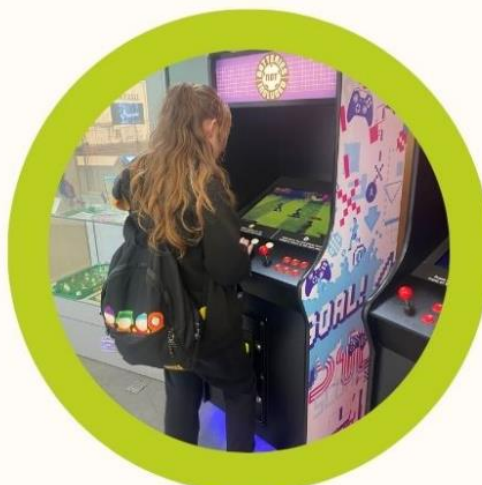
As part of our first Big Theme day, Exploration students were set the challenge of building the strongest bridge out of straws, tape and paper. For many, this would seem like an impossible task but the students from Arbour Academy are built from stronger stuff. They set about this challenge with their usual determination and sense of humour to build some incredible structures. Congratulations to AS for their winning structure that held an impressive 840g which is roughly the same size as a hedgehog.



Company Name	Cost (£)	Weight it held (g)
I'm Also Confused	£100000	840
Bridge Bees	£100000	600
JCM	£96000	820
Humphrey's Towers	£100000	300



National Football Museum



The Nurture team have been inspired by the book 'Kick' and became enamored with football, leading them on a thrilling adventure. They began by visiting Manchester's National Football Museum, where they marveled at the impressive collection of trophies, iconic jerseys, and unique souvenirs. However, their adventure didn't end there. They proceeded to the games area and dominated the penalty shoot-out, even attaining the third-highest score of the day. The team was unstoppable, and everyone had an incredible time!



On the last Friday of the Autumn half term, wearing their fiercest red gear, the Arbour staff and students were united behind the Show Racism the Red Card initiative.



Home Cooking BTECH

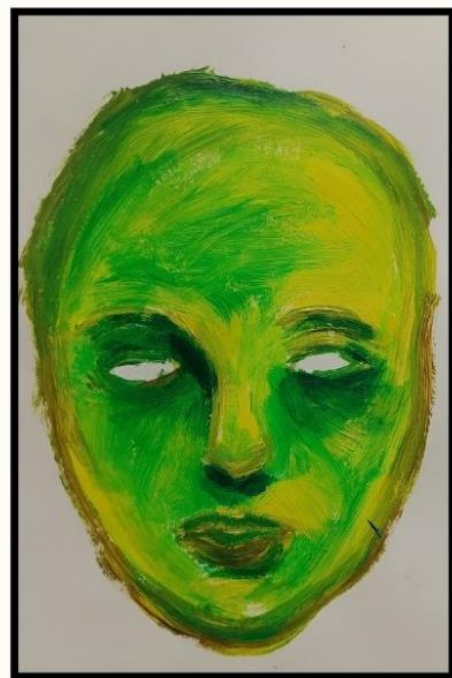


In a recent development at Arbour Academy, a new qualification has been introduced for year 10 and 11 students, focusing on the art of cooking. Students are exploring a variety of recipes, from vegetable and fruit kebabs and flatbreads to salt & pepper chicken, all with an emphasis on simplicity, health, nutrition, and affordability. EW, one of the students, had his first experience chopping an onion, highlighting the practical skills being honed.

This initiative is not only fostering culinary talents but also creating a sense of community as both staff and pupils eagerly anticipate the cooking sessions.



Art



This term in Art, students have turned the mirror upon themselves and used a range of different mediums to explore portraiture.

We think the results are pretty impressive!

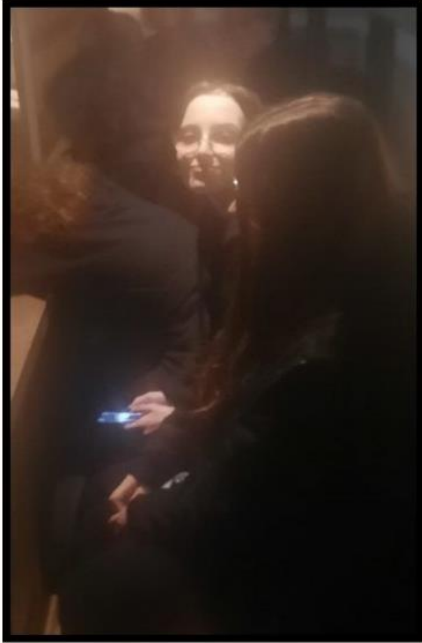
LEARNING *outside the classroom*



Our Nurture and KS3 students transformed into nature's guardians, using their skills to cultivate the Clevelys community gardens and create a thriving schoolyard.



SHAKESPEARE NORTH PLAYHOUSE



Seven of our intrepid pupils were lucky enough to be taken to the new Shakespeare North Theatre to see a really challenging version of Macbeth. The theatre is an incredible immersive space and we were close to the action. The play was a heady mixture of old and new and the director had been adventurous with the order of events.

The pupils were extremely well behaved, they managed admirably with a full theatre, followed the action and could comment sensibly on what they had seen. A real credit to Arbour Academy.

Thank you, Ms Anderson, for arranging.

Stars in our School

As a thank you to the support staff at Arbour Academy, staff and students were invited to a party, where the work that the unsung heroes do was acknowledged and lots of cake was shared.

Thank you to our Unison rep Sharon for arranging this event.



Wild in Art



A round of applause to the brilliant students who crafted silk flowers for the Wild in Art exhibit in Eccles.

With Laura's skilled touch, their handiwork blossomed into a breathtaking display, now gracing the town centre as part of the Art Trail.



Thank you to everyone for adapting to the new uniform policy - even Sheldon and Chester have stepped up their fashion game!

A challenging day



The second of our Big Theme days was based on the concept of 'Challenge'. The Arbour students took up this offer with delight and overcame such obstacles as rolling an Oreo down your face without using hands, drawing portraits while blindfolded, being photographed in an interesting way near a door and trying some unusual delicacies.

To complete the day, students were taken to Manchester to experience a winter wonderland of ice skating by the side of Manchester Cathedral. Students gave their all and made at least one revolution of the rink before gazing in awe at Mrs Panini gliding gracefully around the ice.



HALLOWEEN PARTY



In typical Arbour style, Halloween was celebrated with a party. Pumpkins were carved, donuts were dangled and the greatest costumes this side of Hollywood were on display. A spectacular effort by everyone.



Festive Foxes

Lyme Park in Cheshire has become a canvas not only for seasoned artists but also for the budding talents of students from Arbour Academy, who have embraced the spirit of the season by creating Christmas-themed art featuring the estate's beloved foxes

The Arbour Academy students, guided by their teachers and inspired by the enchanting surroundings of Lyme Park, have not only embraced the artistic process but have also learned about the importance of wildlife conservation and environmental responsibility. The use of recycled materials in their installations serve as a powerful statement about sustainability and the need to cherish and protect the natural world.

The models are now starring in the Christmas extravaganza in the main house, where they will be viewed by hundreds of excited guests.



Whitworth Wednesday



As part of our Wednesday activities, we were given a tour of the Whitworth Art Gallery by Ashleigh, who works there as well as spending Tuesdays with us training to be an art therapist. The young people wanted to see the most expensive piece of art, which is a Freud worth many millions. We were also taken behind the scenes to see where art is stored, where the students took the opportunity to browse. We found out that Whitworth was famous for designing a new type of screw, and that art pieces made of textiles have to go into 'quarantine' in a freezer so that no insects can be imported from abroad!

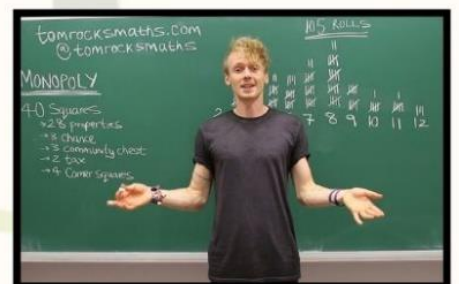
Maths inspiration show

In early November Year 11 students were given the opportunity to attend an interactive Maths lecture show at the RNCM in Manchester.

This was a fantastic chance to experience the UK's most inspiring Maths speakers presenting Maths live in the context of exciting real life applications.

Dr Tom Crawford's lecture was "Using Maths to save the Planet" and he also showed off some impressive mathematically themed tattoos.

Colin Wright entertained us with his juggling talents in "Patterns, predictions and juggling."



Students really enjoyed the show and appreciated that

Maths is not all about passing exams and can be a fascinating and incredibly useful subject to solve problems and understand underlying mathematical structures.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



The Year II Digital Media class rose to the task of planning, organising and running the Arbour Academy Macmillan Coffee Morning last month. As a group they decided on the date, time, who to invite, how the invitations would be sent, what refreshments to serve, the shopping list and they made contact with staff for permissions and asking for donations.

All their actions were professional, thorough and collaborative, giving them enough evidence for their Working Together unit in their course.

All of the group helped to make salt dough decorations, bringing a creative element to the task, and they all contributed to baking for the spread on the day. We were delighted to welcome some esteemed guests: former staff members Mr Concannon, and Barbara and Chair of the Management Committee, Jacqui Hughes.

Special thanks to LH, KB, KWH, AS and MW for all your hard work and teamwork; to Claire for the excellent cheesecakes; Ms Owen and Mrs Panini for supporting and letting us organise the event. We raised over £100 for an excellent cause.

Welcome

A warm Arbour welcome to Sarah Barrow who joins us every Wednesday to support the pastoral team.

Sarah says "I work across all schools in Kings Academy Trust, providing support with attendance, pastoral interventions and referrals to services. I am looking forward to building professional relationships with staff, students and families at Arbour Academy"





At Arbour Academy, we use Bedrock Learning, which is an online literacy and vocabulary programme, to help develop or 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 Bedrock session per week at home. Bedrock can be completed on any digital device which has access to the internet, including a mobile phone.

Please support and encourage your child with this homework.

We receive a weekly update on the progress of each student and this is displayed on a leader board. Throughout the year we have awarded prizes of Amazon vouchers to the students who have made the most effort and progress.

Getting support from WRADAS Welfare Rights Team



- We provide advice to individuals and also consultancy for professionals through our Welfare Rights Advice Line
- Line operates each week day Monday through to Friday 10am to 12 noon (excluding bank holidays)
- Can offer guidance on dealing with specific issues, when and where to make referrals for advice.

- Free phone number is 0800 345 7375

- Online referral form at
<https://contactus.salford.gov.uk/?formtype=WRDAS>