



Aspire Academy Newsletter

Issue number 3

In this issue: Head Teacher's message, new staff at Aspire. what we have been learning, careers information and guidance, football results and Aspire Pride Day.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we say farewell to another busy term, we are pleased to be able to share success stories from what has turned out to be another very busy term 3.

Your children have continued to impress with their positive attitudes towards learning and their school community. I have been privileged to have queues of children wanting to show me their work for it to be displayed in the new 'personal best' board opposite my office. From poems about Warhorse, to pieces of art which are worthy of a spot in a gallery, all are now proudly displayed. We are delighted to be able to report that attendance has risen to 87.5% which is quite rightly being celebrated by our Attendance and Welfare Officer who knowing that everyday counts, will be endeavouring to push it even higher.

On a completely different note, as a school community we were very disappointed to see an episode last week which resulted in us making a formal complaint to BBC. This followed an irresponsible and ill-informed article on Newsround related to Elon Musk claiming autism could be curable. We were however pleased with the response which included a full and unreserved apology to our children, families and staff and a commitment to specialist training for the Newsround team. In addition, the episode has been removed from BBC iPlayer and all other platforms. Thank you to those parents who we contacted for your understanding and support.

In other news, I have been asked by our Chair of Governors to enquire as to whether any parent or carer would like to join our school Governing Body. It is very important that Parents and Carers are represented as your voices really are important. Meetings take place once per term and if we have any takers, I will commit to providing biscuits and maybe the occasional cake! If you are interested in finding out more, please do contact the school office.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank your children and young people for their contribution to Aspire Academy and also to thank you as parents and carers for your support. I wish you a calm and hopefully dry half term and look forward to seeing our children refreshed and ready to learn after their break.

Kind Regards

Mrs H. McDicken

New Staff and changes of responsibility at Aspire

Susy Summers - SENCO

I'm back! Some of you may remember me as the Hedgehogs' Teacher for 6 years, I left Aspire for a couple of months, but missed everyone so much, I came back and now I'm the school SENCO!

I've had a busy term filling my little office with paperwork, getting to grips with the new role and the best bit, spending time with all the amazing children at Aspire! I'm so glad to be back, I will be running the annual reviews from now on and I look forward to continuing relationships with families I already know, getting to know new families and hopefully helping everyone to have a positive experience while they're here at Aspire.

See you soon, Susy Summers

Tom Palmer - Behaviour and Engagement Lead.

It has been a very successful initial term at Aspire Academy where I have had the pleasure of meeting and getting acquainted with our students. Throughout my career, I have primarily focused on working with students who exhibit social, emotional, and mental health challenges, and I find immense satisfaction in endeavouring to create a positive impact. I eagerly look forward to witnessing the promising future that awaits our students at Aspire Academy.

Tom Palmer

Zoe Napier - Assistant Head Primary

I am so excited to have joined the team at Aspire Academy. I have previously worked in a variety of settings with many different roles, always supporting children with SEND at the heart of all I do. I have spent the first term getting to know the students and staff, finding out what a wonderful school this is. I will be overseeing the Primary department and look forward to working with you all as we move forward.

Zoe Napier

Amanda Tapsfield - Head of Secondary

My first term as Head of Secondary has gone very quickly and I have enjoyed getting to know the students (and becoming re-acquainted with those I knew from Primary). We are now looking forward to exciting times ahead as we develop the curriculum to better support and engage our students with their learning. Please feel able to get in touch should you have any queries, concerns or exciting news to share. My work mobile number is 07939 655839.

Amanda Tapsfield

English -

A busy term for all writing super stories! Year 11 have been creative story planning and writing for their GCSE exam questions, Year 10 creating versions of their own monster transformation story, based on Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde and Year 9 writing Sinister stories.



Year 9 have been trying to solve the murder mystery of Victor Frankenstein through non-fiction text types!

The English Department entered a Twinkl competition (website that teachers use for resources) and won a book bundle for the school!



Food Technology -

We have been creating dishes such as Vegetarian Lasagna, Parmesan Chicken bites with chips and Fruity muffins. We try and select the range of dishes on their skills, for example chopping, sieving and blending and their ease and affordability. The dishes we make can be for one person or sized up to feed a whole hungry family!



KS3 Science 9B -

We've been learning all about microscopy. We learnt how to make a slide using onion skin and staining it, so the cells are visible under the microscope. Did you know that Silver nanoparticles are in some plasters? Nanoparticles are the technology of the future and we've been learning about their uses and advantages and disadvantages.



11b



11b have spent this term focusing in English on being ready for their Level 1 exam. They worked on their presentations, debates and writing skills to prepare themselves. They grew in confidence, giving each other lots of support and praise. We are very proud of them and know whatever the outcome they did their very best in the final exams.

Francesca Brennan

Badgers Class



This term, Badgers have been working on lots of fun activities and topics, including rainforests, poetry, archery, and music technology, focusing on the use of MIDI controllers to play with rhythm.

Squirrels Class



In cooking the squirrels have been looking at healthy protein in our diet. We made lots of dishes but one of our favourites was chicken fajitas.

Foxes class

After a busy Christmas, Foxes class were glad to be back to normality and get into the routine of school life.

We welcomed new challenges and continued to settle and bond as a group. Despite this, we have still found time to celebrate in the meantime and learn about a new national day, every day! Some of our favourites include National Draw a Dinosaur Day where we practiced our sketching skills, National Crepe Day - which was very yummy indeed and National Lego Day when we were able to put our learning about the rainforest to the test, Lego style!

Last but definitely not least, we have been learning the recorder - scan our QR code to hear a preview!



Aspire Academy Vs Soundwell Academy



Students from years 9, 10 and 11 took part in our first KS4 fixture against Soundwell Academy this term. The match started brightly with several chances for both teams and was an evenly matched contest until Soundwell scored their first goal. A few more Soundwell goals followed but despite this the Aspire Academy players continued to work hard and created opportunities of their own but unfortunately couldn't convert any of these into goals. It's important to note that despite the defeat against a strong Soundwell team (who had several club players in their line up) our team never gave up and continued to play the game in the right spirit and still shook hands at the end. A defeat but a valuable learning experience to take into future games through the year. Well done to all. Final score - Aspire Academy 0 Soundwell Academy 5

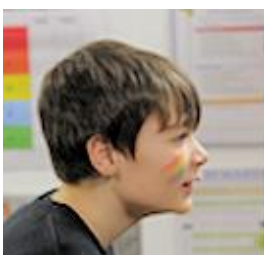
9B

We are really proud of 9B for winning first place in the behaviour tutor award. They have done amazing this term besides the challenges, the cold and the constant darkness. They have shown a positive attitude and resilience to their learning.



As part of the school's ethos of inclusion we took part in a celebration of how far LGBTQ+ rights have improved and a recognition of the work still to be done for equality. We learnt what all the letters mean, discussed what we knew, and improved our understanding of the community.

There was also a chance to come in our own choice of clothes instead of uniform and fun was had face painting at break time.



Careers, Education, Information and Guidance

Bath Royal Crescent Hotel



This term we had the fantastic Royal Crescent Hotel come in and speak to our students about careers in the Hospitality, tourism and catering industry. The students enjoyed the interactive experience of speaking and listening to the manager of the Hotel and they were a credit to our school.

Get involved with National Apprenticeship Week 2024- 5th-11th February

Schools, colleges, employers, parents and individuals are being encouraged to participate in National Apprenticeship Week which takes place on the 5th to 11th February 2024 and celebrates the achievements of apprentices from all over the country.

You can get involved by:

visiting the National Apprenticeship Week website, downloading the communications toolkit and sharing these assets with your networks.

Planning your own or attending an organised event to celebrate the work of apprentices

Sharing our social media posts on Apprenticeships X, Apprenticeships LinkedIn, Skills Support for Employers Facebook, and T Levels LinkedIn, and using the hashtags #NAW2024 and #SkillsForLife with your own posts

This is a great opportunity to celebrate the benefits that apprentices offer, how they are bringing innovation to businesses, filling skills gaps, and helping to grow the economy. Please get involved to help make National Apprenticeship Week 2024 the biggest and best yet.

The following links for the National Apprenticeship are listed below:

Home - National Apprentice Week 2024, 5th - 11th February 2024 (appawards.co.uk)

https://naw.appawards.co.uk/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Toolkit - National Apprentice Week 2024, 5th - 11th February 2024 (appawards.co.uk)

https://naw.appawards.co.uk/toolkit?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Events - National Apprentice Week 2024, 5th - 11th February 2024 (appawards.co.uk)

https://naw.appawards.co.uk/events?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Term Dates

Term 4

Starts: Tuesday 20 February 2024

Ends: Thursday 28 March 2024

Term 5

Inset day: Monday 15 April 2024

Starts: Tuesday 16 April 2024

Ends: Friday 24 May 2024

Term 6

Starts: Monday 3 June 2024

Inset day: * Monday 24th June 2024

Ends: Tuesday 23 July 2024

Please note this date has changed from 8th July.