

Alt Bridge School

Head teacher's Bi-Weekly Newsletter
Friday 30th June 2023

Dear families,

It has been an amazing term so far with so many fabulous things to celebrate in this newsletter.

I am absolutely delighted to announce that we have achieved two further awards and recognition. The first is that we have achieved the **Bronze Award for our delivery of Philosophy for Children** through our curriculum. This SAPHERE award is in recognition of our work to embed this approach across the curriculum and for the research we have taken part in as well.

It is also amazing news that **we have achieved accredited status with the National Autistic Society!** Over the past year, the school has been working hard to achieve this status and following a rigorous assessment process, we have been awarded the highest status within the band of the award we achieved. This is exceptional for the school and demonstrates our continued commitment to providing the best provisions for all of our learners but with a particular focus on ASC.

This week, I was delighted to see so many of our students graduate through our **enrichment passport programme**. It was wonderful to have so many of our families here to listen to our students speak about their experiences and be awarded their special recognition certificates. Another very special occasion for Alt Bridge.

Lastly in this newsletter, I want to wish our year 11 and year 13 leavers the best of luck in the future and we have enjoyed welcoming back many of our year 11s to our post-16 transition week this week. Year 11 and year 13 enjoyed many fabulous leaver activities, finishing with the event of the season – The Alt Bridge Leavers Prom!

With so many things to celebrate, this newsletter is packed with information and photos for you to enjoy. We look forward to our other special

events this term and to welcoming our families in to enjoy them with us. I have included key dates for July below:

JULY

Week beginning 3rd July – Year 6 transition week

Parents and carers are welcome to attend our end-of-term celebration assemblies as always:

Monday 10th July – 9:15am Year 7 end-of-term celebration assembly

Tuesday 11th July – 9:15am Year 8 end-of-term celebration assembly

Wednesday 12th July – 9:15am year 9 end-of-term celebration assembly

Thursday 13th July – 9:15am year 10 end-of-term celebration assembly

Friday 14th July – 9:15am post-16 celebration assembly

Monday 17th July 10:00am - Shakespeare trip to see midsummer mechanicals for year 9/10

Wednesday 19th July – LAST DAY OF TERM. Finish at 1pm

As always, I look forward to seeing parents and carers soon. In the meantime, take good care.

Best wishes,

Mrs Menagh

Executive Head teacher

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

We ask that all parents and carers support school with our mobile phone policy by ensuring that students ***leave mobile phones at home*** when they board transport to school. Only students who are independent travellers would be expected to bring phones to school and these must be handed into our office on arrival.

As the hot weather starts to appear, please remember to send your child to school with a re-fillable water bottle so they can stay hydrated at school. They are able to refill their water bottle at the drinking water fountains provided.



STAY CONNECTED

Would you like to know more about how your child is getting on academically and socially? Look no further!

Parents and carers have a wealth of information available to them on how their child is getting on in school. We send out letters, newsletters and information via **ParentApp** and we also use **SeeSaw** and **Epraise**. Both of these systems can be accessed by parents and carers.

SeeSaw will show you your child's work in school and comments by teachers. Each student's learning journal is available online. The link to log onto SeeSaw is via our website;

<https://www.altbridgeschool.com/remote-learning-2/online-learning-platforms/>

Epraise is our behaviour for learning system and we give students merits and demerits for behaviour for learning. You will be able to communicate directly with staff via Epraise as well and catch up on how they are getting on in school. The link to log onto Epraise is via our website;

<https://www.altbridgeschool.com/parent-carer-information/epraise/>

Enrichment Passport Graduations

What an amazing couple of days we had celebrating our Enrichment Passport graduates! Students engaged in a fabulous ceremony and we were delighted to hear from our wonderful school choir. It was a proud occasion for all and the students excelled themselves with some amazing speeches.



Epraise Behaviour for Learning Champions

EPRAISE UPDATES!!

The leading year group for the last week is **year 7!**

The new leading form group for the week is **7.5** with **7659 points** earned.

If any parent or carer still needs to log onto the Epraise support or needs support, please contact Mrs Richards via the school office. We will need your email address in order for you to get set up.

Parents/carers can keep up-to-date with their child's merits and points via this system and also send us messages.

National Autistic Society Award

We are exceptionally pleased to announce that we have achieved Accredited status with the National Autistic Society following a rigorous three-day assessment. Please read some quotes from the report that we hope to release soon;

“Within all observations, both planned and incidental, autistic pupils were treated with dignity, status and respect and were provided with meaningful positive feedback which appeared to boost confidence and self-esteem”

“Throughout observations, staff had high expectations of pupils playing an active role in sessions and presented new activities or experiences in a structured way which appeared to reduce anxiety and promote engagement”

93% of our families surveyed believe that our staff's understanding of their relatives needs, or interests was good or better.

We are exceptionally proud of the findings of our assessment, however, we will not stop there and we will continue to engage with the NAS on our journey to achieving Advanced status as we believe that there is always more we can do for our learners.

Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers Week



Between trips to Blackpool, leaver's assembly, our fabulous leavers prom and our year 11 sports events, our leavers had a great Leavers Week 2023!

