

Alt Bridge School

Head teacher's Newsletter
July 2024



Dear families,

We have come to the end of a wonderful year at Alt Bridge School. It has been a pleasure to give out so many awards during our end-of-term assemblies and to enjoy the amazing talents of our students who performed during the assemblies for students, staff and parents. A huge well done to those brave individuals and the choir!

I hope you enjoy reading about the many positive things happening at Alt Bridge in this newsletter. It has been an exciting month with two residential trips going ahead for students in years 7 to 9. The stories they have returned with have been lovely to hear.

Today, we say a fond farewell to Mr Farrimond, our Deputy Head teacher. He will be missed at Alt Bridge and we wish him well with his retirement.

During this term, we have achieved three awards: The Philosophy for Children Award, the Wellbeing Award and the Inclusion Quality Mark Centre of Excellence. We have been hugely proud of the students who have spoken to each assessor about their school. Huge thanks also to the parents and carers who came in to support us on the assessment days. A great set of achievements for the whole school community.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and relaxing summer break. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school in September, when we will be welcoming the next year 7 group to school.

Best wishes,

Mrs Menagh
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.

SOME KEY DATES

JULY 2024

Friday 19th July – LAST DAY OF TERM – 1pm finish

SEPTEMBER 2024

Tuesday 3rd September - First day back for all students

NEW SCHOOL TIMETABLE FROM SEPTEMBER 2024

School Times	
8:00-9:15am	BREAKFAST CLUB PROVISION Dining hall (students must be signed in)
9:15-9:30	Arrival of students – to main yard & greeted by staff
9:30-9:45	REGISTRATION/Form time
9:45-10:15	Reading development sessions for all students
10:15-11:00	Lesson 1
11:00-11:15	Morning break & snack
11:15-12:00	Lesson 2
12:00-12:40	Lesson 3
12:40-12:45	REGISTRATION at end of lesson 3
12:45-13:45	LUNCH
13:45-14:30	Lesson 4
14:30-15:15	Lesson 5
15:15-15:30	Form time and departure

Wellbeing Award

Alt Bridge School are proud to have the work that we undertake in relation to mental health and wellbeing, recognised once again through the achievement of the wellbeing award.



We consistently prioritise mental health and wellbeing for our whole school community because we understand that this helps everyone to achieve their best possible outcomes.

A huge thank you to the parents and carers who spoke with our assessor on the day and supported the school.

Quotes from our assessor:

"The school has made significant investments in creating the best possible learning environment, focusing on a welcoming and calm atmosphere."

"The school's commitment to the children's learning is evident as students actively participate in educational activities and help one another understand and manage emotions."

"Alt Bridge School places mental health and wellbeing at the core of all its activities, offering significant levels of provision for students".

Kindness Champions

Each week, students nominate others for Kindness awards. Our Kindness Champions for this week are;

Catherine Hodgers

'for helping Helen make up cupcake boxes when she needed them in a hurry. Catherine went out of her way to help'

Josh Povey

'for keeping everyone fed in Post 16 with Greggs. Josh has secured employment (which is amazing!!!) with Greggs and he brings in free goodies'

Ava Smith

'Ava went out of her way to invite a new student to sit with them during lunch. She also invited the new student to the yard with them'

Joseph Matthews 10.5

'after cooking in class Joe not only did his dishes, but other students as well to help out'

Inclusion Quality Mark Centre of Excellence



Huge news!

We have been recommended to become a Centre of Excellence for Inclusion following our recent assessment for the award. The wonderful work taking place at school every day at Alt Bridge was recognised by our assessor. Some of the quotes below really highlight the best bits;

"All stakeholders shared in their own words a consistent message that the school was a happy place, a community with shared vision and values and all expressed a strong sense of belonging. Staff say they have found a place they do not want to leave; pupils say they feel secure here compared to their previous placements and parents overwhelmingly feel supported by staff."

"Students show pride in their learning across the whole curriculum. They aspire to become literate and effective communicators. They openly discuss a deep understanding of how the curriculum is helping them work towards life as an adult in the community and workplace"

"The Philosophy for Children (P4C) project has had a stronger impact on students than even leaders anticipated. In particular, it is noticeable how pupils with Autism communicate alternative perspectives than their own on moral, social and cultural issues. As a result, their sense of self-awareness is

communicated with a level of confidence I have rarely seen in young people with similar profiles."

"Parents say that nothing is too much to ensure their children are welcome and are provided for in a safe environment"

Zero Waste

Unfortunately, after a fantastic run of involvement with the zero-waste project, we will no longer be able to be involved as the supermarkets have adjusted their times to evenings so we will be unable to collect the produce at the times given.

We hope that parents, carers and students have enjoyed the huge amount of produce that we have been able to save from landfill. It has been wonderful being part of this community project.

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;

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;

Safeguarding Team

The **Designated Safeguarding Leader for the school is Miss Richards** (Assistant Head teacher). We also have five other members of staff who are trained to the level of Designated Safeguarding Leaders;

Mrs Rodgers – Assistant Head teacher
Miss Pritchard – Pupil Welfare Coordinator
Mr Randall – Assistant Head teacher
Miss Townson – Learning Mentor
Miss Freeman – Learning Mentor

If you have any safeguarding concerns about a child who attends Alt Bridge, please report them to one of the DSLs above. You can also contact Knowsley Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub on **0151 443 2600**.

Please note if you believe a child, young person or adult at immediate risk, you should contact the police urgently, CALL 999 EMERGENCY.

Epraise Behaviour for Learning Champions

EPRAISE UPDATES!!

Our top points achievers this **week** are;

Nathan from 7:4 with 71 points
Alfie-John from 7:4 with 58 points
Aidan from 7:4 with 55 points
Tamara from 7:4 with 54 points
Melissa from 7:4 with 52 points

It was lovely to see students cashing in their merits at the end of the term for a variety of fabulous treats!

