

Alt Bridge School

Head teacher's Newsletter
October 2024



National Autistic Society
Autism Specialist Award 2023



Dear families,

This month has seen Alt Bridge being recognised at the North West Inclusion Quality Mark awards ceremony held at Goodison Park. Mr Cook collected our award on behalf of the school community. Our students were very proud to hold the plaque in a photo opportunity.

Students have been becoming used to our new lunch break arrangements this term and have a range of different clubs available to them. Every day, our sports hall and indoor gym is open for activities and we have also been joined by two sports coaches from Active Sports who support students playing football daily in the MUGA.

Recently, we held one of our fire drills and students were absolutely amazing and were very sensible at lining up with their classes as our assembly points. Next week, we will be practicing our lockdown procedures so everyone knows what to do to stay safe if we ever need to take this action. This week you will receive a social story to support your children at home with preparing for our practice in school soon. Thank you for your support in this.

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 COMING UP

OCTOBER 2024

Friday 18th October – FUNDRAISER: Own-clothes day to raise money for Zoe's Place. Suggested £2 donation via Parent Pay.

Tuesday 22nd October – OPEN evening for prospective parents and carers

Thursday 24th October – Students finish for half term

Friday 25th October – Staff INSET – students do not attend

Pedal Away



Dragon Class (9.6) is having a fantastic time cycling around the Halewood triangle with Pedal Away. After just two sessions, the whole class has improved their bicycle safety and confidence. We can't wait to see how we get on in our next two sessions.

Sports Updates

5 a side football tournament - Friday 4th October



Mr Lamb and Mrs Austin took two boys 5 a side football teams to an inter school tournament at Greenbank in Liverpool last Friday. Both sides were outstanding in their play, commitment, conduct and sportsmanship and were a real credit to themselves and the school.

Alt Bridge 'A' team were runners-up, narrowly missing out on winning the tournament by only one point! Congratulations to both teams! The Girls football tournament will take place at the beginning of December!

Bowling tournament - Thursday 10th October

Mr Evans and Mrs Austin took a large group of students to a 10-pin bowling competition at the Hollywood Bowl on Edge Lane in Liverpool on Thursday. All students were exceptional in how they behaved and performed and once again were a credit to the school. Another competition is planned for just before Christmas!

Recent Kindness Champions

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

Post 16 Layla

'Layla shows kindness and encouragement to all the students in Post 16'

7.4 Annabella

'she is so kind and cares for her classmates and holds their hands'

Mrs Whitby

'Mrs Whitby makes sure we are all ok and helps me. She is very kind'

Inclusion Quality Mark Centre of Excellence



We are delighted to announce that the School has been awarded the prestigious Inclusion Quality Mark and we are considered a Centre of Excellence. This is in recognition of giving all pupils regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity, achievements or background equal opportunities to succeed.

The assessment report outlines so many strengths and we are so pleased with this outcome. We have now joined a network of inclusive schools up and down the country who are working every day to ensure the best provision for learners with additional needs.

Year 11 Privileges

Our year 11s have been enjoying the privilege of using our creative enterprise café as a place to relax with friends and access some hot drinks in safe containers during the lunch break.

This is a special arrangement just for year 11! We hope they continue to enjoy this.

Year 10 cultural visit



Year 10 pupils enjoyed a cultural visit to Liverpool Life Museum and a cruise on the River Mersey. Pupils have the opportunity to learn more about our

city's great history and to see Liverpool and Wirral landmarks. A further trip on the Mersey for the rest of year 10 is planned for early next year.

As always, our students were great representatives for our school!

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.