

# Alt Bridge School

Head teacher's Newsletter  
November 2024



National Autistic Society  
Autism Specialist Award 2023



Dear families,

Welcome to my November newsletter. You will find key dates for December and Christmas included in this newsletter. I am keen to draw your attention to our end-of-term assembly dates. Parents and carers are welcome to attend our end-of-term assemblies as usual but the times are different. Assemblies will take place from 9:40am to 10:00am. We keep our assemblies brief in order to suit the needs of our learners. During assemblies, announcements for awards will be made and there will be a student performance. This year, we are also having a Christmas book raffle whereby every student has an opportunity to win a book. Three raffle tickets will be drawn in each assembly.

This year, the school is working towards the Rights Respecting Gold standard school award, having previously achieved the awards for Bronze and Silver. This is a huge accolade for the school and a really important aim. Our students receive a really strong education in regards to human rights which contributes significantly to their personal development goals and preparation for adulthood. We have special days coming up which we will recognise as a school which includes International Children's Day and World Human Rights day.

Within this newsletter you will find details about our Christmas dates and some exciting things happening at Alt Bridge!

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**

#### **NOVEMBER 2024**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November** – International Children’s Day 2024

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 7 Road Safety Play production in school

#### **DECEMBER 2024**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December** – UNICEF World Human Rights Day 2024

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day for years 7, 8 and 9 – All other year groups receive cold lunch pack

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day for years 10, 11 and post-16– All other year groups receive cold lunch pack

#### **END-OF-TERM CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES – Parents and carers welcome**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 9:40-10:00am** – Year 8 Assembly

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 9:40-10:00am** – Year 9 Assembly

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 9:40-10:00am** – Year 7 assembly

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 9:40-10:00am** – Year 10 assembly

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 9:40-10:00am** – Year 11 assembly

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 9:40-10:00am** – post-16 assembly

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – **LAST DAY OF TERM** – Students finish at **1pm**

## Speak and Win

Post-16 took part in a fantastic Speak and Win workshop in October. The youth workshops are life-changing, promote positive mental health & equip our audiences with the vital employability skills they will need to navigate the challenging pathways of adult life. Students enjoyed the sessions and were highly motivated after the activities!



## Parking Issues

We are liaising with Highways in Knowsley to install further railings outside the school to prevent drivers from mounting the curb outside school.

Parents and carers are reminded that there is an arrangement in place with Purple Hub – KGC sports and playing fields on the other side of the road from Alt Bridge (Longview Lane) which offers free parking for pick-ups and drop offs for Alt Bridge. We continue to encourage parents and carers who are collecting

pupils to park in this car park and walk over to collect pupils in order to avoid congestion.

## Sports Updates

### Dodgeball competition



Congratulations to both of our year 11 dodgeball teams who finished 1st and 3rd in an inter school tournament in Liverpool.

All students were magnificent with their behaviour and attitude throughout the day and were a credit to themselves and the school.

Special mention for Barnes Harlock who was an inspirational leader for everyone and showed excellent sportsmanship towards the other schools and their teachers! Well done to everyone involved!

## Recent Kindness Champions

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

### **Post 16 Paul**

*'Paul is a polite and very caring person. Paul held the door open for a member of staff then he was insistent he helped carry the box up to post 16'*

### **11.5 Thomas**

*'Thomas has helped me out loads this week and then he helped other pupil's complete circuits during PE'*

### **Mrs Meyler**

*'Pam for bringing bacon, bread, butter and sauces in for everyone to have a bacon butty on Friday morning'*

## 2024 Fundraising so far



**We raised £965.97 for Zoe's Place baby hospice** with our bake sales, non-uniform day and cake raffle. This was an amazing show of support for this fantastic cause from across our whole school community!

At this moment Zoe's place have managed to raise £5,953,904 and so they are very close to reaching their intended target. A huge thank you to everybody from Alt Bridge School for their donations and purchases, and good luck to Zoe's place in raising the rest of their funds needed.

## Healthy Living FREE course

This week saw the start of a healthy living course that parents and carers can attend at Alt Bridge on Thursdays 2-3pm. The course provides fun and engaging activities led by a specialist. Parents and carers can attend and their child will also attend with them.

Please see the poster for more information!



# HEALTHY FAMILIES COURSE

Join our 5-week course designed to support families to make healthy lifestyle changes together!



## Physical Activity

Each week families will play fun, interactive games.



## Healthy Eating

Each week learning about a new healthy eating topic.



## Resources & Recipes

Weekly resources to support lifestyle changes.



## Cooking Session

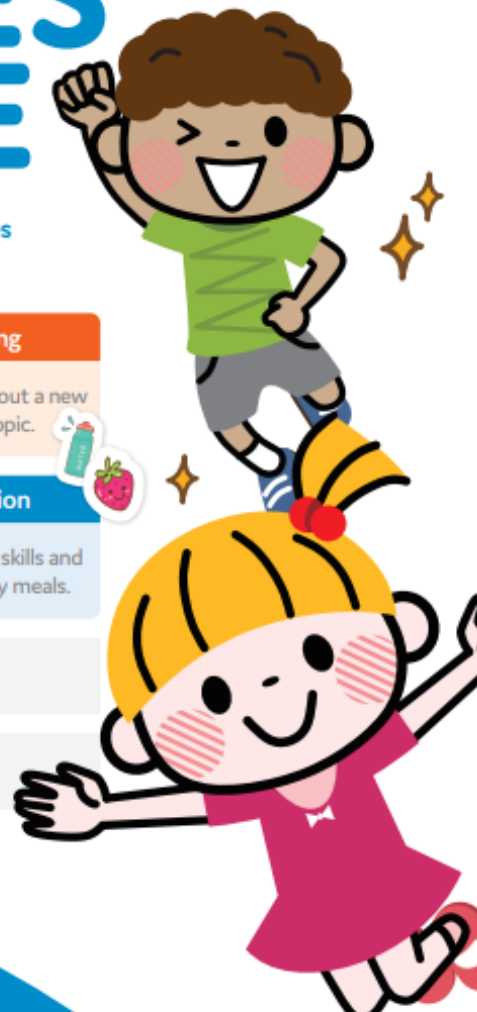
Develop new cooking skills and create low-cost tasty meals.

Where **All Bridge School. All ages welcome!**

When **Starting 14th November 2pm-3pm**



To register interest or to find out more, email:  
[health.trainers@merseycare.nhs.uk](mailto:health.trainers@merseycare.nhs.uk) or scan the QR code.

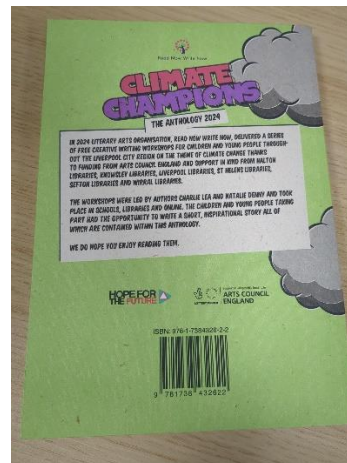


## Creative Writing Workshop and Publication!

Before Summer 4 Year 10 & 11 students took part in a Creative Writing Workshop from a project called Read Now Write Now, focusing on the topic of Climate Change.

At the end of the workshop they all created individual short stories on the topic of Climate Change, which were then printed and published in an anthology! The anthology contains over 60 stories from students around Knowsley, including our four students.

Each student who took part has been gifted a copy of the anthology, and a copy has also been gifted to the school library for students to read. This arrived in school on Tuesday and the students who have had their copies are very excited and proud of themselves, and rightly so!



## Parent/carer surveys

Thank you to parents and carers who have completed our survey for communication. We are working all the time to develop our communication further with parents and carers and really pleased to receive your feedback.

We will be in touch soon with the outcomes from the survey. If you still wish to contribute your views, please use the link sent out on the Parent App by our SEND strategy leader Mrs Whitby.

**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.**