

Alt Bridge School

Head teacher's Newsletter
November 2025



National
Autistic
Society

Autism Specialist
Award
2023



Dear families,

It's November and Christmas time is nearly upon us so we have been doing a bit of preparation for a calm and festive Christmas time at Alt Bridge. This newsletter has some key dates for how we plan to celebrate Christmas. We always like to give students a lovely time in school but we also need to balance sensory needs and will be doing our best to celebrate whilst not overwhelming anyone. On the run up to Christmas, parents and carers might notice differences in their young people which can happen due to the changes this time of year can bring but also due to the excitement. Excitement is a tricky emotion and it can have a similar effect on the body and mind to anxiety.

Headspace is currently offering a free 1-minute recording which explains how excitement can be difficult and some tips for managing it. You can find this recording here:

<https://www.headspace.com/content/advice/excitement/299>

We know Christmas time can be a difficult time for some people and families so I wanted to remind you that school are here to support you in any way we can so please do keep talking with us and let us know if we can help. We may also be able to put you in touch with other services which offer support to families for a range of reasons at this time of year.

The next few weeks will have a number of activities taking place, however, the majority of our Christmas activities will take place nearer to the end of term. I hope year 7 parents and carers enjoy coming in to take part in in our year 7 celebration events soon. Please take a look at our other key dates so you know what is going on.

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

DECEMBER 2025

Tuesday 2nd December – Year 7 base classes celebration event 9:45am (parents and carers welcome). This includes classes Skye (7.4), Golden Gate (7.5), Python (7.6) and Liberty (7.7)

Wednesday 3rd December – year 7 other classes celebration event 9:45am (parents and carers welcome). This includes classes 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3.

Thursday 11th December – THE SANTA DASH!! All year groups welcome to take part and an opportunity to dress in festive fashion if students wish to.

Thursday 11th December – After school disco for year group 10, 11, 12 and 13. 5-7pm.

Friday 12th December – School Christmas dinner day and own clothes for all students.

Thursday 18th December – Christmas silent discos in school for years 8 and 9. Students in years 8 and 9 can dress in own clothes for their discos.

Friday 19th December – Christmas silent discos for years 7 and all base classes. Students are welcome to wear own clothes. Also, the last day of term and pupils **FINISH AT 1PM**

Makaton Sign of the Week

Our Makaton sign of the week is the colour Blue! Circle one hand on top of the other.



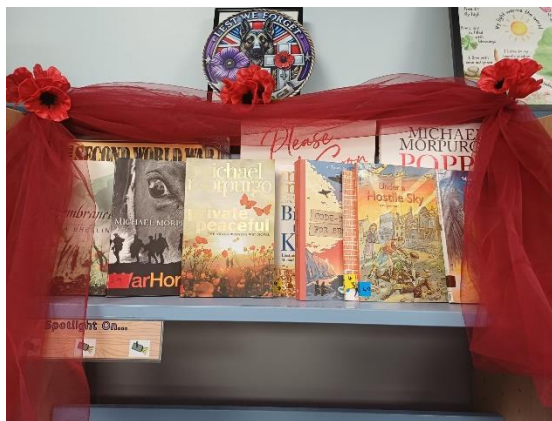
Childrens' Right of the week

The right of the week this week focuses on the first article of the UN convention of children' rights which simple identifies that those under 18 years of age have the right to be a child.

Article 1

A child is anyone under the age of 18. All Rights of the Child apply to everyone under 18.

Remembrance in the library!



Football!

Our girl's football team achieved Gold medals at the Panathlon Challenge games this week with celebrations all round!! The students behaved impeccably well and proudly represented their 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 Murphy – 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.