

29<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## Newsletter- April 2021

Dear Parent and Carers

I hope this letter finds you all well.

We have all been enjoying a slight return to normality so far this term and it has been great to see some of our usual provisions such as after school clubs, start up again. Year 11 have all been working hard preparing for their assessments and Year 10 are beginning the recruitment process for senior prefects. Despite the Covid safety measures, we are beginning to settle back into the normal routine.

### Continued testing

For students who are taking part in the covid testing, please continue to report your test results to the NHS and to the school using the link on the schools' website. The DFE has asked us to pass on the below message:

#### ***The importance of testing and reporting in secondary schools and colleges***

*Testing continues to play a crucial role, in and out of classrooms, in our fight against coronavirus (COVID-19). Reporting test results can be done simply and quickly, from mobiles, online or by phone, and should be completed straightaway. Reporting not only supports contact tracing in the event of a positive case, but assists our understanding of community rates of infection.*

In the event of a positive test result, please report the test result to the school as soon as possible or use the out of hours Covid hotline. – 07721332592

### Gardening Club- Update from Mr Kennedy

After months of national lockdown, our students are excited to be getting outside and into the sunshine and fresh air!

Acle Academy has offered students the wonderful opportunity to take part in creating a School Garden. We have worked alongside the Papillion Project, a Norfolk-based charity which helps the school establish allotments and gardens to teach children important life skills and to allow them to reconnect with nature.

On our first day of working on the Garden, we had an astounding amount of student volunteers from Year 7 and 8, who helped design the garden, clear up the area, as well as dig and plant multiple allotments.

Our goal for our School Garden is to create a functional space, which can be used by students and teachers alike. It will benefit multiple subject areas in the school, namely Food Technology, where we plan to use some of the food we grow as ingredients as well as teaching about seasonality, as well as Biology, where outdoor lessons and experiments can take place. The benefits of the garden extend past just helping some of our subjects, School Gardens have been shown to improve student wellbeing and mental health, so having a quiet area in the school where students can relax and enjoy their surroundings is very beneficial.

We plan to focus on using recycled and donated materials to keep costs down to a minimum in this student led project, so any donations of materials or funding would be greatly appreciated. We are looking for:

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- Gardening equipment
- Seeds/bulbs/outdoor plants
- Compost
- Materials we can recycle, eg. Tires, Pallets, Bathtubs
- Anything we can use as storage

Please contact Mr Kennedy if you can help- [ikennedy@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:ikennedy@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

### **Parking**

Please could parents please avoid parking on the roads near the school. We have received several complaints from residents and parents and have now had to alert the local highway authority. We have been asked to record registration numbers and pass these to the police.

### **Parent view**

We know that Ofsted will soon be restarting their inspection process and as a school we are looking forward to showing the improvements we have made. We have not shared the parent view survey for the last year and thought it would be timely to do so. If you would like to share your views on the school, please visit:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

If you have any particular concerns about our school provision, we hope that you would be able to share these with us directly so we can resolve any issues.

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We will soon be launching the process to recruit for a new parent governor to join our team of dedicated governors on our Local Advisory Board. This is a wonderful way to help support our young people and contribute to the strategic direction of the school. Further details will be published next week but if you would like an informal chat about the role, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.



Helen Watts  
Principal

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