

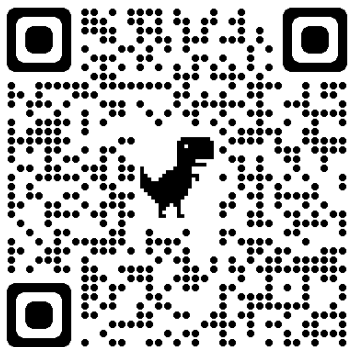
Newsletter – 18th March 2022



We Stand With Ukraine – Unicef Appeal

We have been overwhelmed with the support for our Unicef Ukraine appeal and are delighted to announce that we have raised **£2101!** Thank you to all parents/carers and the community who have supported this campaign. I'm sure our fundraising efforts will make a difference to those in desperate need. If you wish to make a donation to UNICEF in support of this cause please use the below link or scan the QR code.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/acle-academy-wearblueandyellow-nonuniformday>



We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST 

Service Areas - Day 2

We all enjoyed a fabulous day on our second Service Area Day this last week. Students across all year groups engaged with all events with enthusiasm and were a credit to the school.

Community

Students who participated in the Community Service area did a fantastic job enhancing the school and local environment. Students learned to care for the environment through litter picking in the local area footpaths and fields as well as around the site. Mr Newstead led a group of students who cleaned ivy off the mobiles and painted areas around the school. Mrs Chapman led a group who transformed the bike storage area to a gleaming renewed state. Mrs Mackie and Mrs Perkins led a group of students who designed, painted and installed tyre planters in our garden area. We are very proud of how well students engaged with the activities and took pride in enhancing the school environment.







Study Support

Year 10 and 11 spent their time with the Study Support Service Area.

We offered a range of activities including revising English literature by creating rap lyrics, how to look after your wellbeing and how to cope with exam stress. Year 10 were introduced to the world of psychometric tests used by lots of the big graduate companies. They worked on a series of number reasoning, linguistic reasoning, abstract thinking and logic problems that they may encounter in interviews. These sessions were run by some of our senior prefects. Year 11 were supported with their upcoming mock exams by looking at common 'silly' 1 mark mistakes in maths exams. We looked at maths revision materials, made revision formulae flash cards and took a look at the adapted formula sheets for this year.





Charity

Charity Service Area- Drop down day



Working together in partnership

We have embarked on an exciting project as the Charity Service Area with the core aim being to build up a working long-term relationship with two charities that we feel are an integral part of our local community.

We will be primarily working with Nelson's Journey and Pets as Therapy.

We know how valuable the services that Nelson's Journey provide for bereaved children in Norfolk are. Equally, we are aware of the amazing services that Pets as Therapy provide for those suffering from mental health problems and how beneficial the love and support of animals can be. Mental wellbeing and support of reflective behaviours is also one of our Academy's main focus points. We can very much see the benefit of the service provided by both charities in support of young people.

Pets as Therapy visited the school to speak with Year 8 and 9 pupils on Thursday 17th March and we organised a series of different classroom-based activities associated with them. We also welcomed several therapy dogs to the school for this visit and the pupils had the opportunity to spend some time with them. Unfortunately, Nelson's Journey couldn't attend on the day due to staff illness but Mr Sayce was sent their presentation and was able to deliver this session. It focused on making pupils aware of the work Nelson's Journey does to support children in Norfolk.

What follows below is a brief snapshot of the day for Year 10 and 11 pupils.

Hospitality and Catering led sessions-

Mr Kennedy and his team of Year 9 students led a dedicated team who worked tirelessly throughout the morning. They made a variety of exceedingly tasty brownies and cookies which were sold at break and lunchtime. The cooking group worked diligently and sensibly to produce treats of the highest quality and judging from the sell-out performance, this was a great success for an excellent cause and they raised over £123.



Persuasive language sessions-

Mr Lengthorn and Mrs Barber led separate sessions on teaching pupils about how charities use persuasive language to encourage people to support their cause. Sessions went through specific examples of posters and campaigns for both Nelson's Journey and Pets as Therapy. The core aim here was for pupils to see the various techniques deployed and to make pupils fully aware of the work of both charities. Importantly, the sessions looked at how students could help write a poster campaign in support of our chosen charities and linked this closely with the work in the art session.



Art session-

Mrs Evans and Miss Cunliffe led a creative session on creating memory flowers. The purpose of this session linked with our work with Nelson's Journey. We have already created a large memory tree which was very kindly and skilfully created by Mr Green and Miss Maxted and will now go on display near the hall. In the art sessions, pupils were taught how to make these creative craft flowers and the aim was for them to design these with special messages focusing on people who have inspired them or who they appreciate or value. Pupils were fantastically creative in designing their flowers and thoughtful in their messages.



A pupil's perspective- Izzy H- Head of the Charity Service Area



Pets as Therapy Teaching Session

Our student leaders in the Charity Service Area also worked very hard across the day. Alfie worked all day with the Pets As Therapy team and Jess and Harrison supported in the art sessions. Izzy, Megan and Beth spent the day leading a series of teaching sessions for pupils on the work of Pets As Therapy and the importance of pet therapy in improving wellbeing. All three demonstrated excellent leadership and will make fine teachers!

Pets As Therapy

We were also greeted by a couple of gorgeous greyhounds, a golden retriever and four lovely ladies from the incredible charity, Pets as Therapy (PAT). The charity takes different dogs around to hospitals, schools and care homes. Stroking dogs is known to be a way of relieving stress or anxiety. The two ladies spoke to the students about the work the charity does and how they could get involved as a volunteer. They shared very touching stories as well as showing pictures of the work they do with the dogs in action. The students were lucky enough to say hello to the dogs and had a little cuddle if they wished to. This proved to be extremely popular and many students adored the dogs.



Charity- What's next?

We plan on holding a further non-uniform day for both charities in the not-so-distant future. We will also organise and hold other fundraising activities to raise funds for these charities but also raise awareness of the great work they do.

We will also be looking to Art students to help us finish decorating our wonderful memory tree and to help us get this ready to put on display.

Thank you to all the staff who ran sessions, looked after visitors or supported throughout the day. We are very grateful for the time given up by our chosen charities to come in and support our pupils. Additionally, we are equally proud of the leadership shown by all our Charity Senior Prefects.



Enrichment

The enrichment service area focussed on improving teamwork and communication skills through physical activity. The enrichment sessions were designed to test students' leadership, problem solving and interpersonal skills through fun and exciting opportunities which are not a normal part of the curriculum. Students enjoyed a multisport trip to East Norfolk College, a Laser/Airsoft session and a virtual reality bomb disposal task. Students agreed that the activities were not only fun but productive too with lots of chances to play different roles and overcome challenges together.





Wellbeing

Year 7 and 8 participated in the wellbeing event and they enjoyed a range of workshops, a nature walk, tin can and pebble painting, board games, a mindfulness and positivity session and wellbeing bingo. The students had a wonderful day.





Netball Tournament

On Thursday 10th March Mrs Watts took the Year 9 and Year 8 Girls netball teams to play a tournament at Lynn Grove Academy. Both teams won and lost games but the year 9 team smashed their first game against Caister, 23:0 !!! The teamwork and resilience shown by both teams was excellent. Particular stars of the match were Ellen, Kiera and Ruby in Year 9 and Freya, Daisy and Melissa in Year 8. Well done girls!



Rugby Success

On Thursday 10th March the Year 8 boys rugby team ventured to North Walsham RFC to compete in a tournament against 4 other schools. Everyone played really well and gelled together as a team. Particular mentions go to Billy Charlton who was fearless in his tackles and Leo Peterson-Barber for his lightning quick legs which allowed us to score many tries. The scores from the games were as follows:

Acle VS Hellesdon - Lost 5-3
Acle VS Aylsham - Lost 4-3

Acle VS Jane Austin - Won 6-0
Acle VS Stalham - Won 8-2

On Monday 14th March Mr Bliss and the year 11 Rugby team travelled to Springwood High School in Kings Lynn for the semi-finals of the U16 County Cup.

After a long journey the boys were keen to start well but unfortunately the best laid plans don't always pan out as you'd expect and the team were dealt an early setback when Callum S suffered a significant injury two minutes into the game. Archie L came on in his place and the boys pulled together to ensure the strong start that was needed materialised. Some excellent work in the tackle and break down particularly from Charlie P and Seb S, who deserve a special mention as they were both playing up a year group. The exceptional ball handing work from Ed H and Tom M meant that the team were able to assert their dominance onto the match early on scoring a try.

Springwood responded with a try of their own soon after and a tightly contested first half ended at one try a piece.

The second half was a different story with the Acle pack becoming more and more dominant in the scrum, winning a high amount of good balls and starving Springwood of possession. An exceptional tackling performance from Seb S meant that on the rare occasions Springwood were able to breach the Acle defence, they were met with some stiff opposition and dodged defiance to defend our try line.

As the game wore on we were able to take control of the match and scored a number of tries in quick succession. Tries from Tom M, Seb S and Cullen B following some great team play effectively killed off the match. A late rally from Springwood saw them run in a try towards the end of the game to make things a little closer than they should have been. All in all it was a fantastic team performance and a well-deserved victory for the boys who moved on to the final. They will face either Framingham Earl or Northgate to be crowned County Champions in a game that we are hoping will be able to be played at North Walsham Rugby Club one evening after school, in order for parents and students to come along and hopefully cheer the boys on to victory.

Congratulations boys. A great team effort and well deserved win. You were all fantastic and a credit to the school! Final score: Acle 24 - Springwood 15



School Production – Matilda JR.

If you would like to buy tickets for the School Production of Matilda JR. Please use the link below. Performances will be on 27th, 28th & 29th April.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/matilda-jr-tickets-299428698297>

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Expedition

On the 12th March, 14 students embarked on their Bronze award assessed expedition from Whitwell Hall. The year 10 and 11 students displayed fantastic teamwork, determination and resilience in all activities; from planning their routes and menus to navigating over 20 Km in an unfamiliar area, using skills taught in their in school training sessions. Students demonstrated amazing perseverance over the weekend, correcting navigation errors and overcoming personal challenges for a successful expedition. All the students have now passed their Bronze expedition and many are hoping to continue on to their Silver award once they have completed their Volunteering, Skills and Physical sections. If you are interested in participating in the Duke of Edinburgh award or wish to find out more, please contact Mr Southerden. tsoutherden@acle.norfolk.sch.uk



Skirts

We are having to remind a number of girls that skirts should be worn on the knee. Quite a few students are choosing to roll up their skirts. Please could parents help enforce this expectation at home.

Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 are now completing their mock exams until Easter and should be regularly revising at home. We have a wealth of revision material on our school website and students have been given lots of links to useful websites and resources. All students have a login for GCSE pod and we are currently placed 6th in the national leader board so this is a great way to revise.

The best type of revision is something active such as; making revision cards, testing themselves, answering past papers/questions or teaching someone else key information. Research proves that the best way of retaining information is to teach someone else so parents and carers can help your child revise by asking them to teach you content from a topic in a subject. We are now very confident that terminal GCSE examinations will be going ahead so it is really important that students start to seize every opportunity to prepare and revise.

Video games and derogatory language

As parents we all work hard to ensure that our children speak respectfully but sometimes when teenagers get together they use language that they wouldn't dare to use at home. We have seen a rise in comments and language that we find disrespectful in our school community from a small group of students. We are aware that some students are using words and phrases that they don't really understand the meaning of. Some of the language we have picked up has been derogatory to women and we have identified a common thread between social media and video games such as Grand Theft Auto. This particular game has an age rating of 18 and is therefore not suitable for any of our students. We are teaching students to 'call out' when they hear expressions or phrases that are misogynistic or derogatory. We would be very grateful if parents could help support this message at home.



Please remember to check ClassCharts for daily updates and messages. ClassCharts is used to communicate house points, behaviour points and interventions. We also use the parent instant messaging system to share important messages from school. Parent help guides are available on our school website. If your child has lost their log in, please ask their form tutor or the school office who will be able to provide child and parent login details. Parents and students can view their child's timetable via ClassCharts.

No Pen Day- Wednesday 16th March

As part of our focus on developing oracy skills, we held a No Pen day on Wednesday. Speaking and understanding skills are fundamental for everything we do – learning, reading and writing, managing emotions, developing friendships and entering employment. However, speaking and understanding skills are underrepresented in the national curriculum in comparison to reading and writing. In order to build our students' confidence with speaking skills, lesson activities were designed to maximise oracy. Although some students found it challenging initially, by the end of the day, many had gained confidence and thoroughly enjoyed the different approach to their lesson activities. This is an area we will continue to focus on throughout the year.



Acle Academy Easter Transition Event

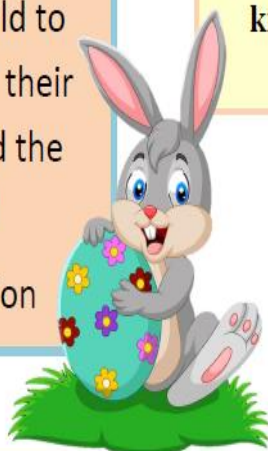
Easter Egg Hunt

A great opportunity
for your child to
start to find their
way around the
school

£1 donation

A chance for you
and your child to
meet and get to
know the staff

Easter
themed
arts
and
crafts



Coffee, Tea and cake will also be
available for parents and pupils to
enjoy

Easter themed games

Where: Acle Academy, South Walsham
Road, Acle. NR13 3ER

When: Thursday 31st March 2022

Time: 4:30pm - 6:00pm



Easter Transition Event

On Thursday 31st March we will be hosting an Easter egg hunt for Year 6 students joining us in September. The event will commence at 4.30pm and finish at 6pm. We would like to ask for a £1 donation to enter the Easter egg hunt and siblings are welcome to join. This will be an opportunity for year 6 to familiarise themselves with the school and meet teachers and key staff.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 24th March- Year 8 Parents Evening - (4.30pm-7.30pm)

Friday 25th March – PTA Quiz Night

Thursday 31st March – Year 6 Transition Easter Egg Hunt 4.30pm – 6pm

Friday 1st April- End of term. Return on Tuesday 19th April- Week 1

Change of Date- Matilda- School Production Wednesday 27th, 28th & 29th April, details to follow

**Fed up and missing your mates
during the holidays?**



**Bin off the boredom
and sign up to**

***FREE
activities**

during the Easter Holidays today

- Film making
- Hip Hop and music
- Art and crafts
- Baking and cooking
- Outdoor adventure sports
- Bootcamp fitness
- Tennis
- Football
- Dodge ball
- Basketball
- Dance and drama
- Circus skills and acrobatics



And loads more!

www.activenorfolk.org.uk/bignorfolkholidayfun

*Activities are free for those claiming free school meals – ask your teacher for your special promo code

**Big
Norfolk
Holiday Fun**

Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies in our team:

- Cover supervisor
- Lead Invigilator
- Invigilator
- Teaching Assistant (dyslexia specialism)
- Head of Department for Biology

Please see our website for further details.

<https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/acleacademy/about-us/our-vacancies>

Contact details

The majority of our communication is electronic so it is really important that we maintain accurate records of parental contacts. If you change your email address or phone number, please inform the school office so we can ensure you receive important information.



Friday 25th March 7pm

**Acle Academy
South Walsham Rd, Acle, Norwich NR13 3ER**

£7.50 Adults

£2.50 Children

**Ticket includes Burger/Hot dog
and Chips. Veggie/Vegan option
available**

*Bring your own
refreshments.*

To Book Please email PTA@acle.norfolk.sch.uk for a booking form.

Max 8 members per team. Doors open at 630pm

*Book early and avoid
disappointment!*

Soft Drinks, Tea and Coffee
available to purchase on the
night