

## Newsletter – 21st October 2022

### Our Wensum Trust Strategic Aims

Our vision is to work together to help every child to develop into high achieving, confident, healthy, caring and resilient members of their family and community; creating a pathway to support their career aspirations, independence and contribution to society.

We value the need to develop positive relationships with every child and every family in order to achieve this vision. We aim to work together to understand and respond to individual circumstances, regardless of background or early life adversities, and to offer the appropriate care during challenges along the way.

Our new strategic framework has been designed to guarantee that the needs of the whole child are met and that our schools offer every child the best possible support throughout their learning journey.



This fortnight we have been continuing to develop our use of Oracy tasks in the classroom as part of Oracy October. It has been wonderful to see students improving their confidence by taking part in class discussions and presentations. We feel developing oracy is a really important skill for students' future lives and this was definitely echoed by our employers who visited as part of Year 11 Careers Drop Down day last week.

We are part of...

**WENSUM TRUST**

## Thank you for your donations

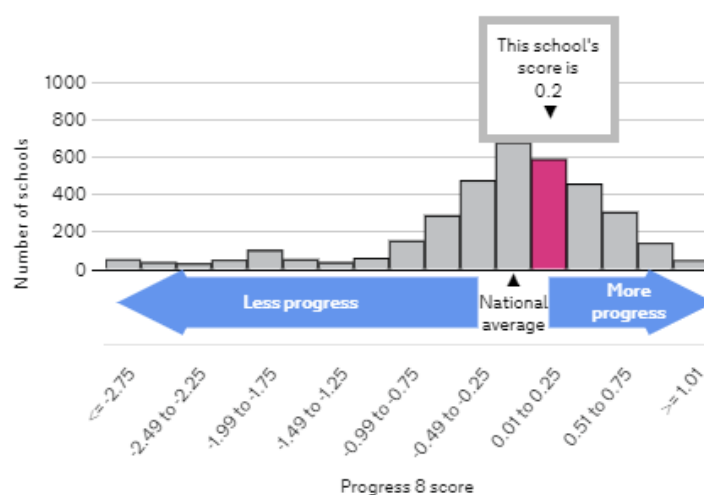
Thank you to all families who donated to the Acle Foodbank for our charity event today. We had a tremendous response from our whole school community and we are very proud that we are able to help families, especially over half term. With the current cost of living crisis, donations to our local food bank are crucial. Students were incredibly proud of the response from the whole school and are glad that their idea and campaign will have an impact. Thank you so much for your support which will make a real difference to families in our community this half term.



## School's Performance Tables 2022

This week the Government published the school's performance tables and published the Progress 8 scores for individual schools. Progress 8 calculates how much progress pupils make between their results in year 6 and their results in year 11. A school's progress 8 score is an average of all pupils' individual scores. It shows whether, as a group, pupils in the school made above or below average progress compared to similar pupils in other schools.

Acle Academy scored +0.2 which means that on average, **students made 20% more progress than expected across** all their subjects. We are delighted that Acle students in 2022 made **above national average progress** and above local average progress. Well done to all our students and staff for their hard work.



The local authority (Norfolk) average score for state-funded schools is -0.02

The average score for all state-funded schools in England is -0.03

For further details please visit

<https://www.find-school-performance-data.service.gov.uk/>



## **Bedrock Mapper – Vocabulary Homework**

This term, students have begun to use our new vocabulary app 'Bedrock Mapper' as part of the homework set for English. This is a great piece of software, accessible on computers, smartphones, and tablets that affords the opportunity for students to further engage with key words and terms linked to their current unit of study, helping to embed important vocabulary through quizzes and tasks.

Once topics have been assigned to students, there's nothing to stop them from accessing Bedrock at any time, where sessions practising vocabulary can be completed as often as one likes, beyond the initial homework set.

Following the half-term break, Bedrock Mapper will be rolled out across different subjects and will thereafter be a one-stop shop for any vocabulary practice.

### **Word of the Week!**

At Acle Academy we love to celebrate the myriad marvels of the English lexicon, so we now have a word of the week, an unusual word chosen for its grandiloquent glamour!

If a student can work this word into their lessons at some point during the week, either through a verbal contribution or written down as part of their classwork, and draw their teacher's attention to it, they can earn a house point.

It's all part of our focus on broadening students' vocabulary horizons, and it would be wonderful if the words were shared at home too. To this end, please see below the Words of the Week for our first half-term this year!

1. Regnant
2. Hiatus
3. Brandish
4. Languid

### **Book Reviews**

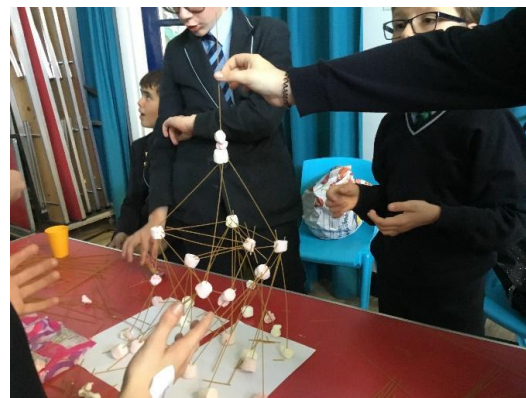
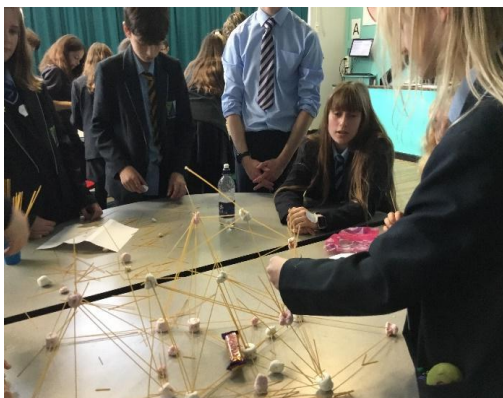
Students have been rapaciously reading through our library collection this half-term, with 44 book reviews completed so far! I expect this number to shoot up following the half-term break, when lots of students will be finishing their first or second book as part of our '15 by 15' programme.

Remember, each review completed a high standard that shows a thoughtful and thorough understanding of the finished book earns 10 house points, and the chance to win prizes in the termly celebration assemblies, so keep them coming in! Hard copies of review templates can be found in the library.



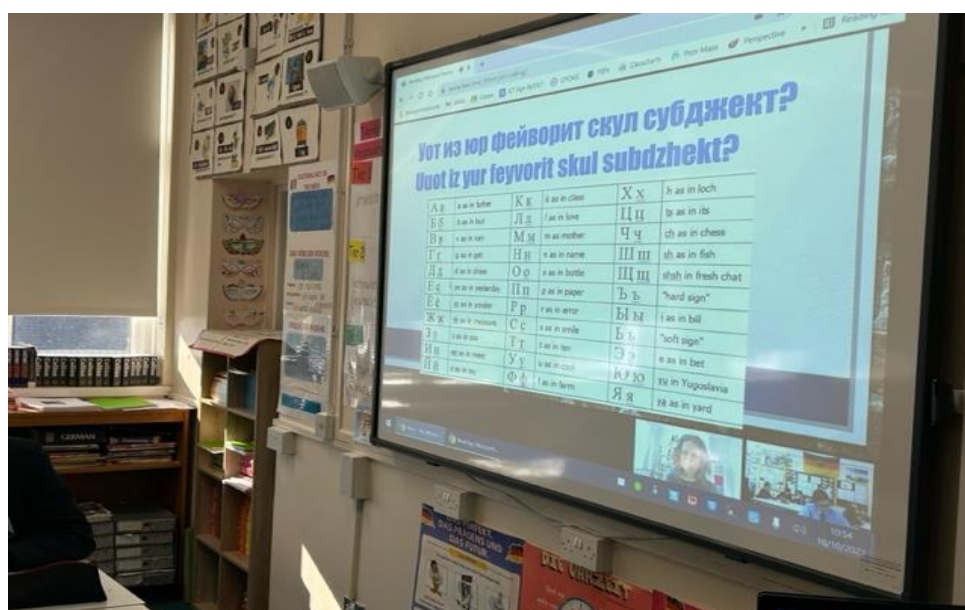
## Junior Prefects

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October we held a special training morning for all prospective junior prefects. We were incredibly happy that so many pupils came forward and applied for the role. In total, we had nearly 100 pupils apply which is a massive credit to our school community. The training morning consisted of a variety of different team activities including a memory challenge, group discussion and a task to build a tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows. All the pupils engaged really positively and it was a delight to see them working together to constructively solve problems and share ideas. The final part of the morning included a group interview led by our senior prefects and it was great to see all pupils engaging well and developing their oracy skills. The Senior Leadership team have had some tough decisions ahead and will make an announcement about our final selection of junior prefects soon. All pupils will be notified in person. Well Done to all the applicants and remember, even if you don't get it this time, we are very proud of all of you for applying! Expect to hear a final announcement on our selection of junior prefects on social media and a formal reveal via the next newsletter.



## TEFL (Teaching English as Foreign Language) ambassadors:

As we now have a significant number of students in the school who do not have English as their first language, we thought it would be a good idea to give our students some top tips on how to support our new students with learning English while they are chatting at break and lunch or in class. Almost 40 students signed up to be TEFL ambassadors and 25 of them completed the first round of ambassador training on the 18th October. Lots of our new students speak Ukrainian and Russian so along with top tips on how to support with the English language, they were given a 'crash course' in the Cyrillic alphabet and some basic phrases in Russian. The group were engaged brilliantly and are keen to use their new skills around school.





## Wensum News – Autumn 2022

Please find below a link to the Wensum Trust Autumn 2022 Newsletter

[Wensum News - Autumn 2022](#)

**Art-** On Monday, Year 11 had a taste of what it's like to be an art student. The whole art room was transformed with a still life set up and ready to draw for their current project, 'Edible'. They worked on several drawings and used a range of materials.



## **Football- Mr Hurren**

The Acle Academy P.E. Department are working to build on the success of the Lionesses' Euro 22 win and inspire a new generation of female footballers. We have already achieved so much with our Year 10/11 team narrowly missing out on the Norfolk County Cup final last year and we want to provide more opportunities and earlier for the wonderful girls who play football at our school.

On Wednesday 12th October, we took two Year 7 and 8 teams to Sprowston for a small-sided tournament. The girls had a great time playing against lots of other schools in the area.

The Year 7 and 8 team will play their first game in this season's County Cup when they welcome Harleston Sancroft on Friday. All the best girls!

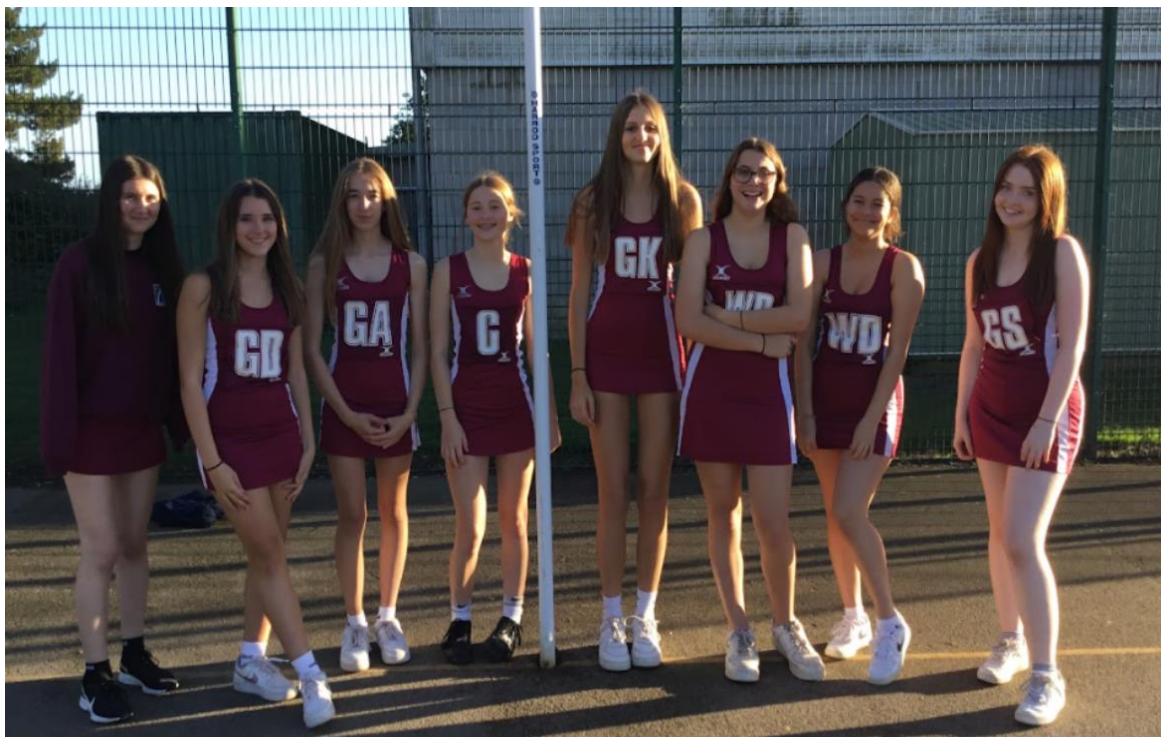




### **Netball- Mr Hurren**

Congratulations to our wonderful Year 11 netball team who confirmed their Yarmouth League win on Tuesday with a convincing 14-6 win over Flegg. They have also beaten Venture and Lynn Grove this half term.

This has been five years in the making and we are so proud of how hard you have worked and all the improvements you have made. The girls will finish their netball journey at Acle with the National Schools qualifiers on 3rd November with a chance of getting to the County Finals at UEA. We wish you all the best and know you will make us proud!



## **Year 7 Netball vs Venture - Wednesday 12th October- Miss Wacey**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> October, the year 7 girls had their first competitive netball game against Venture. They played four quarters for 7 minutes each. They all played extremely well, leading them to their first win with the score of 6-3. In the first quarter venture quickly took the lead scoring a goal within the first few minutes, despite this the girls carried on playing to a high standard and successfully scored 2 outstanding goals. These two goals meant that Acle took the lead of 2-1 at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

As the second quarter began, our girls at Acle worked together as a team, and achieved lots of successful passes, this gave them the opportunity to have a shot, and Amelia scored a great goal putting Acle in the lead of 3-1. In this quarter the girls showed off their great defending skills, where Jasmine stood out, every time that ball came into her direction she was ready, performing great interceptions for Acle. The girls showed their happiness as this quarter ended, they were very proud of themselves, with huge smiles on all of their faces, as they were winning 3-1!

After half time the girls had a drink and there was a switch of a few positions, so that everyone had a fair amount of game play. The third quarter began and both Acle and Venture scored a goal each. This was our closet quarter as both teams played great. Both teams showed a huge improvement in their play. Acle girls were working as a team and using all the tactics they had learnt in training so that they were able to move into spaces well, they could keep successful possession of the ball.

In the fourth and final quarter the girls went on the court and played exceptionally. They made sure to move into space to receive the ball. A minute into this quarter Skylar made a great interception so Acle regained possession of the ball, they worked as a team, working the ball down the court all the way to the shooting third! An amazing shot by our team, putting us in the lead of 5-2. However, we conceived a goal as venture scored. Although this occurred, the girls showed their determination to score one more goal before the whistle was blown. They passed it around making sure they took their time, so no mistakes were made and again another successful goal was scored for Acle. Ending the game with a win of 6-3. Skylar was awarded player of the match, for her huge improves through the game and playing in a position she never had before, and played amazingly. Well done to all the girls, a great start to your netball club. One win and many more to come!



## **Year 7 Girls Rugby Day at North Walsham Rugby Club- Miss Richards**

On Thursday 13th October, 14 brave Year 7 students made their way to North Walsham for a training morning and full contact matches. The girls spent the morning learning a variety of different skills from how to pass effectively, the correct tackling technique and how to ruck once a tackle has been made. All students gave every activity 100% with lots of gum shield smiles after getting one another to the ground. After many muddy tackles were made the students had lunch. We began the afternoon by playing three other schools in 12-a-side games. First up Acle took on Aylsham where both teams battled really hard and lots of tries were scored. Some big tackles were made by Jasmine and Jordan, with Lily-Grace running the ball to score. The next game against North Walsham went the same way with Frankie, Layla, Ruby and Lily creating good space and scoring tries. The coaches at North Walsham chose their star player of the day which was awarded to Layla for her determination in every game we played. Well done to all the girls who played, it was a fantastic to see all of you getting involved!







The year 8 boys' football team started the season really well with a 100% win record. Firstly they progressed to the second round of the National Cup with an excellent 6-1 win over Harleston Sancroft. They then followed this up with a 2-1 win over City Academy in the Norwich Schools Community League. On Tuesday last week they travelled to Sprowston Bulls and won 8-0 which included a wonderful hat-trick from Oscar and a brace from Nathan.

On Wednesday this week they welcomed Taverham to Acle in the first round of the Norfolk County Cup. Unfortunately, their winning record came to an end against a very strong team and eventually lost 3-0 to exit the competition.

They finished the half-term's football on Thursday when they welcomed Sprowston Sharks in the final game of the Norwich Community League A. The game was extremely close for the opening 25 minutes, but our gifted year 7 player Sonny broke free and rounded the keeper to slot home just before half time. In the second half, Sonny added a second before another talented year 7, Ethan, drove an unstoppable shot past the keeper from 20 yards. Conner added a fourth goal to complete the scoring.

Well done on a great half term of football and we wish you good luck in the next round of the National Cup when you entertain Holbrook Academy in November. Well done boys!

Our year 7s begin their campaign after half term with trips to City Academy and Thorpe, so we look forward to seeing how these wonderful boys can perform.

## Year 8 & 9 Rugby Days at North Walsham

Continuing the excellent partnership that has been developed with North Walsham Rugby Club we were delighted to be able to take both the Year 8 Boys and Year 8 & 9 girls Rugby Teams to Scottow to take part in the Emerging Schools Taster Day events. The days consist of a morning of coaching sessions led by the excellent team at North Walsham in all of the fundamentals of the game, allowing the students to build upon their knowledge and refine their ever improving skills, before an afternoon of competitive matches against all of the other schools. Although winning is not the focus of the event, both of our teams equipped themselves exceptionally well demonstrating excellent levels of technique and understanding proving to be more than a match for the majority of the schools also competing at the event.

There were some excellent performances across both of the days but a special mention has to go to Oscar A who was named player of the day in the Year 8 boys event, and then Luna P who was named Player of the day for the year 8 Girls event. Both demonstrated exceptional skill and techniques across the entire days and were worthy winners of the award. A huge well done to everyone who played - you were a credit to yourselves and the school. North Walsham's junior teams play and train on a Sunday morning and are always looking for new players for anyone who might be interested. All information is on their website:

<https://www.nwrfc.club/>

## PE After Half Term

**Quick message FOR ALL YEARS so you know what sports you are on in PE after half term:**

7C 1&2 Boys - Rugby  
7C 1&2 Girls - Gymnastics  
7D 1 - Rugby  
7D 2 - Table Tennis  
7D 3 - Football

8C 1&2 Boys - Rugby  
8C 1&2 Girls - Basketball  
8D 1&2 Boys - Rugby  
8D 1&2 Girls - Basketball

**Compulsory Kit:**

Football - boots and shin pads  
Rugby - Gum shield and boots  
Gymnastics - bare feet (no socks of any type)

9C 1&2 Boys - Rugby  
9C 1&2 Girls - Basketball  
9D 1&2 Boys - Rugby  
9D 1&2 Girls - Basketball

10X and 10Y CORE PE - No change  
11X and 11Y CORE PE - No change

10 GCSE PE and Sports Studies - Table tennis and basketball groups switch / Girls are on badminton at Broadland / The five girls are starting dance with Miss Nichols

11 GCSE PE and Sports Studies - choices from: Rugby (with NWRFC coach and teacher and table tennis. Some will be on coursework intervention with Miss Richards.

When playing Rugby all students are required to have a mouth shield under new health and safety regulations. These can be obtained from any supplier and we have a small stock in school which can be purchased at £3 each via Scopay.

Year 10 and 11 Rugby players will need to remember their kit for Monday 31st October as they will have a two hour training session with Ryan Oakes from North Walsham Rugby club.

## Introduction to Spanish/Mandarin

East Norfolk Sixth Form College will be hosting an 'Introduction to Spanish/Mandarin'. These classes are open to all (under 16's should be accompanied by an adult) and cost £90 for the course. They will be running every Tuesday, 6:30-8:30pm, for 6 weeks from 1st November.

Click on the link below to book your place.

<https://www.eastnorfolk.ac.uk/Events--Lettings/Introduction-to-Spanish--Mandarin>



## Could you volunteer?

We would love to hear from parents or carers that may be interested in volunteering at school. This could take the form of helping students with reading, sharing a passion for a sport, craft or hobby through an after school or lunch time club or if you speak French or German, perhaps helping our students practice with speaking in Modern Foreign Languages?

Our students appreciate the opportunity to work with adults who are not teachers and it also helps give them perspective into the world beyond school and home.

The school would provide full training, support and DBS checks. To register an interest, please contact the main school office.



## Sailing

Many thanks to Eastwood Whelpton Boat Yard and the Ranworth Trust for supporting our students. Some year 8 students have spent 6 weeks developing their skills and confidence and passing the RYA Stage 1 in yachting. Learning about wind, knots, tacking, helming, nautical terminology and crewing. They showed fantastic teamwork and are great ambassadors for the school. We are really proud of them.



## Parliament

On Monday 10th October all of our newly appointed House MPs met in the afternoon for our first parliament session of the year. The students presented the ideas, suggestions and motions put forward by each tutor group. Several important issues such as suggestions to how we can improve wellbeing of all students, improve our school environment, as well as suggestions for extracurricular activities and clubs were all debated and put forward to the different service areas to work on. I was so impressed not only with their ideas, but also how all students were respectful, and able to challenge and question different suggestions. I am already looking forward to our Next Parliament meeting.

Well Done! – Mrs Skarin



**Ant**



**Bure**



**Yare**

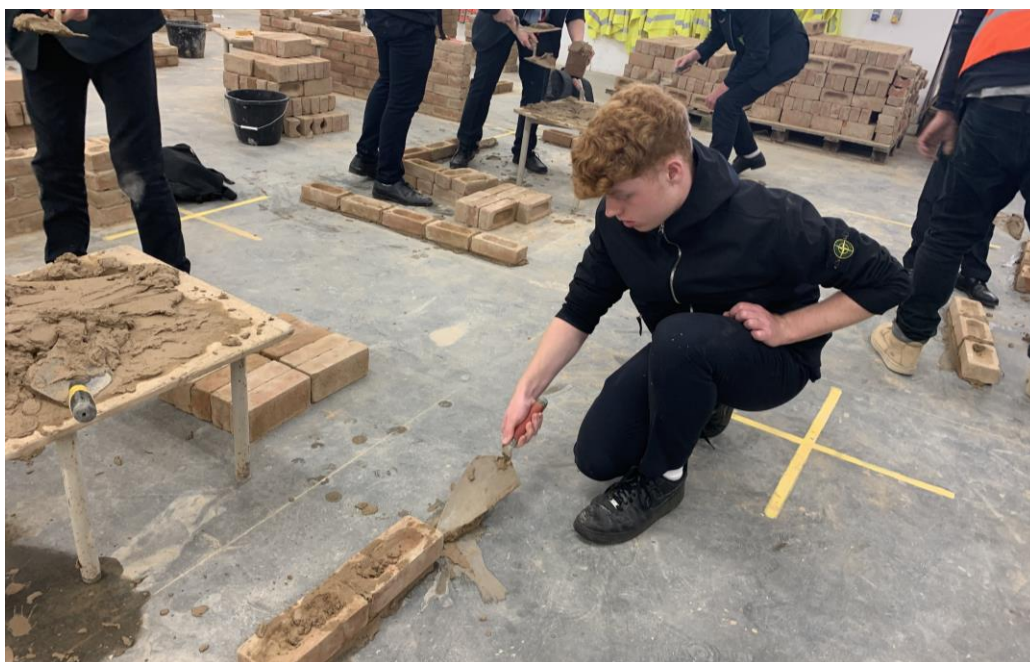


**Thurne**



## East Coast College Trip

On Wednesday 19th October our year 11 students visited East Coast College for a morning of taster sessions linked to post 16 options, students were able to visit the facilities of the College and get a flavour for courses such as Animal Care, Beauty therapy, Hospitality and Catering, and Welding and Fabrication amongst other subjects! The students were a real credit to the school and thank you to East Coast College for hosting us. - Mrs Skarin







## Key Revision Support- Year 10 and 11

We have a wealth of incredibly useful and proven revision resources at our disposal to help GCSE students attain highly. I also understand that as there are so many ways to revise and apps to use that this can perhaps be a bit overwhelming for both pupils who are expected to revise and you as parents who are supporting them at home.

Therefore, as a key starting place, I would suggest pupils use **GCSEPod** and the **Acle Academy Revision Zone** as the main two revision support apps.

GCSEPod is a fantastic online resource which we have bought in this year for our students, and it involves watching short 3-5 minute 'pods' (revision videos). They can then complete 'Check and Challenge' questions which quiz them and test their revision knowledge. I would also strongly recommend that pupils use GCSEPod proactively and use the videos to create other revision resources such as flashcards, mind-maps, and Cornell Notes. Teachers will be using GCSEPod to set specific revision tasks for many subjects but equally, pupils can and should use this independently to revise key subjects.

I would always strongly recommend that pupils watch 3 GCSEPod videos each day to help build in the content they learn into their long-term memory. As I mentioned on GCSE Information Evening, it is important that pupils build up their mental stamina and Year 10-11 pupils are expected to complete about **an hour and a half home learning each day**.

I have launched a Year 10 and 11 GCSEPod competition to win small prizes and motivate them to engage with this resource. They win points for the number of 'pods' they watch and also for the number of follow-on 'check and challenge' questions they complete. I will follow this up with a leadership board and prizes after the October half-term.

If you want to find out more about how GCSEPod can support your child's revision/home learning please do not hesitate to contact me. In addition to this, GCSEPod offers regular webinars for parents and pupils on how best to use GCSEPod to maximise impact. If you follow the below link you can see the various webinars and book one of the upcoming events. <https://www.gcsepod.com/gcsepod-webinars/>



Finally, the Acle Academy Revision Resource Zone can be found via the school website. Pupils simply need to hover over the 'students' tab on the home page and then click on 'Revision Resource Zone'. They then can log in via their school email and this will take them to Google Drive full of revision resources for all the subjects we teach at Acle. This is a bespoke set of resources for our school and includes revision guides, PowerPoints, past exam questions and model answers. This is regularly updated and a brilliant but underutilised resource.

## Year 11 Careers Drop Down Day - Miss Cunliffe

Last week year 11 took part in a Careers Drop Down day, where they had the chance to meet representatives from different sectors. We were joined by a member of the RAF, NHS, and experts in T levels, and apprenticeships from the county council.

In the afternoon students were given the opportunity to have a mock interview and get feedback from the professionals who interviewed them. All students gave this a go, and the interviewers commented on how well the year 11s responded to questions.

The year 11 students also had the chance to attend a post 16 options fair in the hall, where they were able to meet, and talk to representatives from all the local colleges including: East Norfolk, Paston College, Issac Newton, Access Creative, Notre Dame, East Coast College, and many more. Students were also able to talk with alumni students on our 'student experience table' about their journey after Acle Academy. The students were well engaged in the activities and had some really valuable conversations with the visitors. All of our guests were really impressed with the students!





## Head of Year Structure

Our pastoral team ensure students are happy, healthy and well supported. Please contact your child's Head of Year for any pastoral queries.

Head of Year 7- Miss Walsingham [gwalsingham@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:gwalsingham@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

Head of Year 8 - Miss Nichols [snichols@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:snichols@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

Head of Year 9 - Ms Jarvis [kjarvis@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:kjarvis@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

Head of Year 10 - Mrs Perkins [cperkins@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:cperkins@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

Head of Year 11 - Ms John [ijohn@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:ijohn@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

## Medication

Should you need your child to take any temporary medication at school, this must be dropped off to the office with a note. Long term medication permission will be required where we hold medication on an ongoing basis, please contact Ms Frary [lfrary@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:lfrary@acle.norfolk.sch.uk) or Mrs Thompson [kthompson@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:kthompson@acle.norfolk.sch.uk) for this.





Homework Club is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 9 until 4.30pm. There is always a member of staff available to help with homework, classwork and coursework.

Pupils can sign up for the late bus on the day.

We would really like to see students come along so they are able to complete their work in a quiet space with support available if needed.

Any questions please contact Mrs. Mills at [lmills@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:lmills@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

### **Reminder for all students who use County transport buses**

Students can only travel on the bus they have a bus pass for, friends who don't normally travel on the same bus cannot use the service to meet up after school.

### **Uniform donation**

If your child has outgrown their uniform, we would gladly accept any donations so we can help other families with our second hand uniform shop. Please pass any donations to the main school office.

### **Rag Bin donations**

Please remember we have a rag bag bin at school and will gladly accept donations of clothes and shoes. The rag bag bin is now a permanent heavy duty collection bin and is situated near the bike sheds for ease of making donations.

### **Polite reminder about our mobile phone and earbuds policy**

We operate a policy of no mobile phones or ear buds/ headphones at school. All students are reminded of our 'See it, Hear it, Lose it' policy. This rule does extend to any part of the school premises and after the bell has gone when students are waiting for buses or walking across the field. Staff will confiscate these items if seen and will ask parents to collect them.



The PTA's Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place at 7pm on Tuesday 29th November at school. The PTA warmly welcomes any parents or carers who would like to attend.



Please remember to check ClassCharts for daily updates and messages. ClassCharts is used to communicate house points, behaviour points and interventions. We also use this platform for parent announcements. 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. Please note you can no longer exchange instant chat messages with teachers or support staff.

### Dates for your diary

21<sup>st</sup> October – PTA Halloween Disco (**year 7 only**) 7-9pm & school closes for half term

31<sup>st</sup> October - All students return to school

15<sup>th</sup> November - Self Harm Parent Workshop 6 - 7pm

17<sup>th</sup> November – Year 11 Leavers 2022 Reunion

24<sup>th</sup> November – Year 10 parents' evening 4.30-7.30pm.

15<sup>th</sup> December – PTA Christmas Disco (**year 8-9 only**)

16<sup>th</sup> December – School closes at 1pm for Christmas break.



### PTA

Acle Academy PTA is looking for new members and would love to hear from any parents or carers that are interested in supporting. The contribution of your time can be as little or much as you are able to offer. We are particularly looking for a treasurer. The PTA can be contacted via [pta@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:pta@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

### 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 home address, email address or phone number, please inform the school office so we can ensure you receive important information.



## We are recruiting!

We currently have the following vacancies in our team:

- Lead Invigilator
- Invigilator
- Mid-day Supervisor
- English Progress Tutor

If you would like to find out more details about either of these posts, please see our website for further details or feel free to contact the school for an informal chat.

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



Product Design requires more High Density Polypropylene for their Polymers recycling project. If you are willing to contribute please could we ask that the items are washed out before being brought in.



Many thanks  
Mr Green