

Newsletter – 29th September 2023

Introduction to our new staff

We are delighted to welcome a wealth of talent to our staffing team this year. Please find out more about some of our new colleagues below.



Harriet Pring – Teacher

Hello, my name is Harriet Pring. I am the new Head of Girls' PE and Extra Curricular Coordinator. I have relocated back to Norfolk after having been a teacher of PE for the past 5 years at a London academy. This is my seventh year teaching and I am looking forward to working at Acle Academy to promote an inclusive ethos and offer as many opportunities for students across the whole school. I have a passion and sporting background in swimming and gymnastics but throughout my career so far have enjoyed teaching a wide variety of sports to introduce students to (ultimate frisbee has been a favourite!). I want students to have as many opportunities to experience as much as they can in all subjects during their time at Acle. I wish for students to take a moment throughout their time at school and share their interests with their peers in the school community to learn something new from each other!



Michelle Jacotine – Teacher

Hi, I'm Michelle Jacotine, Head of Performance Studies. I've recently relocated to the area after working as Head of PE for 8 years in a Secondary Academy in Manchester. I've been teaching for 11 years and have a sporting background competing at a National level in gymnastics and athletics, amongst participating in a wide range of recreational sports including netball and rugby. My vision is for all students to love PE, regardless of ability, and I will strive to achieve that goal here at Acle! I look forward to affording the students many opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities, both competitive and just for fun, to facilitate an ethos of lifelong participation in sport and physical activity.



Fay Denny – Teacher

Previously trained in London and taught in primary, secondary and sixth form college environments. I am keen to support the students at Acle achieve their very best in Geography and wider school life. I look forward to working here.

We are part of...

WENSUM TRUST



Cathy Payne - Teacher & Cover Supervisor

Hello everyone! I'm Miss Payne and many students will know me from having covered various lessons at Acle Academy since last January. I am so pleased to now be working here permanently as a Teacher of Product Design and Cover Supervisor. I am passionate about teaching and learning and always strive to do my best for all students, whatever the subject.

I have a French degree and this is my 23rd year of teaching. I have taught both French and Spanish to GCSE level. In that time I have been a Head of Modern Foreign Languages, I have trained new teachers and I completed a Master of Education in Leading Teaching and Learning. Every day is a learning day and I love to be challenged! This year I am very much enjoying tapping into my creative side through teaching Textiles and Product Design. I aim to bring a smile to others (often with my terrible puns) whether in the classroom or when chatting with students around school.

When not working, my 2 main passions are playing badminton and spending time with nature - mainly my garden birds and wild hedgehogs. I adore hedgehogs!



Anya Kent – Teacher

My name is Miss Kent, and I gained my degree in Biochemistry in 2016 with University of Essex. I began my teaching journey in Colchester, also in 2016, where I qualified with a focus in Chemistry in 2017. I moved back to Norwich after qualifying, and secured my first post as a Teacher of Science at City Academy Norwich. During that time, I also secured an internal post of Head of Year which I did for two years. In 2020 I was offered the opportunity to join the Mathematics department at the same school. I stepped down as Head of Year to allow me to focus on Mathematics, and enjoyed teaching Maths for just under three years. I have always had a passion for both Maths and Science, so when I saw Acle Academy looking for exactly this, I jumped at the opportunity! Despite only being at Acle for a couple of months, I already feel like part of the community and look forward to the future.



Sharon Boon – Teaching Assistant

I live locally with my husband and two teenage children. I have previously worked & volunteered with children in various settings; including Nelson's Journey, Brownies, Church Club and Filby Children's Home. I previously worked at Acle Academy as a Teaching Assistant, Clerk to Governors, Lead Exam Invigilator and MSA.

Reminder of Uniform Expectations

The majority of our students look really smart every day and wear their uniform with pride. We are having to remind a few students of uniform expectations and would really appreciate all parents checking that your child adheres to the uniform code of conduct before leaving home. The most frequent infringements are jewellery, designer belts, hoodies and skirts rolled up. A reminder of our rules are below.

- Hairstyles should not be extreme in either style or colour and make up must be subtle and discreet
- Makeup should be appropriate for school- natural day look - no false eyelashes/ eyelash extensions or heavy eye makeup/bright lipstick.
- Students should not wear nail varnish or false/acrylic nails or nail tips.
- If a student chooses to wear a belt, it should be navy, brown or black.
- Shirts should be buttoned to the top button and ties should reach belt length.
- Skirts must be worn on or just above the knee. Students must not roll their skirts up in order to make them shorter.
- Students must wear sensible black shoes. Trainers, canvas shoes, boots and open toed sandals are not allowed.
- Students may wear white, navy or black socks, or black or flesh coloured tights. Students are not permitted to wear contrasting coloured socks over tights.
- No extremes of hair colour/styles - including dip dye.
- All coats should be suitable waterproof coats. Sportswear jackets, hoodies or tracksuit tops are not permitted to be worn as outer garments.
- Students are not permitted to wear coats, scarves or other outer garments inside school buildings, after the start of the school day unless in transition between classes.
- Students will be required to wear their blazers around school and for formal settings. Students may remove their blazers with permission in class.



This year's school production

The drama department is pleased to announce that this academic year's school production of Shrek JR will go live on 13th, 14th and 15th December, from 19:30! Ticket sales information will be published in due course. The students have worked extremely hard on the production, and have been leading workshops, rehearsals and designing props and set throughout the process - a real student-led project! We can't wait to show you the talented performers Acle Academy has and hope to see you there at the show in December.



Costume / Props: Community Plea from Mr Frost

Mr Frost and his drama ambassador students are working hard this year to ensure that our drama department is as good as it can be. As part of this, we are always looking for costumes and props to add to the department. Therefore, if you have any old clothes or items that you are willing to donate, they will be gratefully received by Mr Frost. Please contact him via email on gfrost@acle.norfolk.sch.uk and he will be happy to arrange collection. Many thanks in advance.

Year 8 Sailing

On Thursday, the year 8 sailing group took to the water at Upton. It was a beautiful sunny day with light winds, which gave everyone a chance to practise their steering and tacking skills on the river.

Our two instructors, Els and Edward (an ex Acle student) said that the two groups were working really hard and progressing well towards their level 1 sailing qualification. They also praised the students for their positive attitude and approach to the new challenges that they were given during the afternoon.

Well done to all the students – you should be really proud of what you have achieved!

Mrs Carrington



Open Evening- Thursday 5th October

This year we will be holding two sessions for our Open Evening on Thursday 5th October.

Session 1 – arrival from 5.00pm for a welcome presentation at 5.15pm. Guided tours will commence at 5.45pm

Session 2- arrival from 6.45 for a welcome presentation at 7pm. Guided tours will commence at 7.30pm

Open Morning Tours

Experience our learning environment first hand during the school day by pre booking a family tour. Open Morning tours are available from 9.30- 11.00 on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th October. Please pre book by contacting our school office- info@acle.norfolk.sch.uk 01493 750431

Please note- due to the level of preparation involved for Open Evening, school will close early at 1pm on Thursday 5th October, buses and taxis will depart from school at 1pm.

ACLE ACADEMY OPEN EVENING THUR 5 OCTOBER 2023

Session 1 – arrival from 5.00pm for a welcome presentation at 5.15pm. Guided tours will commence at 5.45pm

Session 2 – arrival from 6.45pm for a welcome presentation at 7pm. Guided tours will commence at 7.30pm

We invite you to join one of our Open Evening sessions and meet our wonderful staff and students. Acle Academy was rated 'Good' by Ofsted in 2022 and has been oversubscribed for the last two years. The school has celebrated eight years of consistently strong GCSE results.

"Pupils benefit from the high ambition leaders have for their education. Pupils develop rich knowledge because they receive effective teaching." Ofsted 2022

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For more information...
Visit our school website and follow us on Facebook
www.wensumtrust.org.uk/acleacademy/join-our-school



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LYFTA time this fortnight

Last week students learnt about an artist Rob, who lives in Cornwall, and makes sculptures from discarded plastic that is found in the sea. The film and activities helped raise students' awareness on environmentalism, active citizenship and entrepreneurship. This week students have been learning about the life of Hossein in Awra Amba, Ethiopia. The film and activities explored the concepts of ageing, care for the elderly, responsibility and happiness. Please ask your children what they have learned from Lyfta time this fortnight.

Positively You - Year 7 & 8

We were privileged to work with Jay from Positively You last week. He led sessions with Year 7 on creative approaches to learning. All pupils worked really well together looking at fun and helpful study techniques to improve memory and revise creatively.

This week we had Alan from Positively You lead sessions with Year 8 on effective study strategies. It was great to see all the year group engaged ahead of GCSE preparations.

We look forward to holding more sessions with Positively You throughout the year to help all of our students develop and refine their study skills!



Well done Jensen!

Jensen H in year 8 had his hair cut over the holidays. Jensen had been growing his hair long for a number of years and decided to donate his hair to a charity that makes wigs for cancer patients. We think this is a fantastic charitable act and wanted to congratulate Jensen on his kindness.



PE

Both our year 7 and year 11 football teams made a fantastic start to their seasons, beating Sprowston 8-1 and 4-1 respectively with Tyler-Jay B and Ben S being named players of the match – well done!

We have also seen some great netball performances against Flegg from our year 8, 9, 10 and 11 teams with the year 8s emerging victorious. Players of the games were Skylar C, Esme A-H, Rosie H and Amelia D – again, well done to all!

Some of our year 8 boys were selected to attend a rugby day at North Walsham Rugby Club where they received some high level coaching from some first team Vikings! They were absolutely brilliant and we are excited to extend this opportunity to year 7-9 boys and girls over the coming weeks.

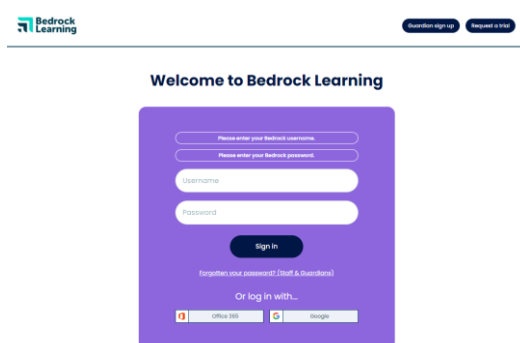


Bedrock Mapper

As part of our goal to develop students' vocabulary for both reading and writing purposes, last year we introduced a new online solution called 'Bedrock Mapper'. Mapper is a great online tool that affords young people the opportunity to embed key vocabulary introduced and made use of in lessons across the curriculum by serving a selection of subject-specific words to explore and be tested on.




So far we have primarily made use of Mapper as part of English, History and Geography homework but we intend for the software to be expanded to encompass as many subjects as possible so that vocabulary tuition can be centralised and easily accessible for all students, as well as prompting young people to recognise the literacy connections between separate subjects.

All students have a Mapper account which can be accessed by first navigating to <https://app.bedrocklearning.org/>. It is best to use the Google Chrome browser and for the student to be signed in with their school Gmail account for this as they will then simply need to click on 'log in with Google' without the need to enter a separate username and password. If this Google sign in does not work, please contact rcarrier@acle.norfolk.sch.uk for individual log in details.



Following this step, the student will then be presented with the following options, where they should select 'Mapper':

What would you like to learn today?

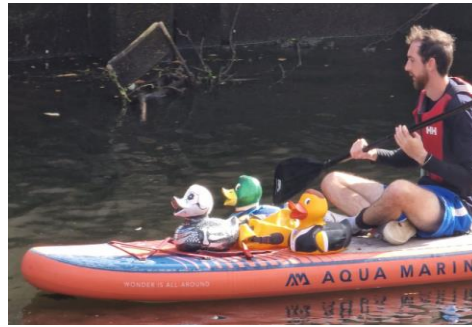
		
Vocabulary	Grammar	Mapper
<small>Learn the academic language you need to succeed.</small>	<small>Learn about the way we arrange language to show meaning.</small>	<small>Learn the language across your school's curriculum.</small>
Let's go	Let's go	Let's go

The student will then see a dashboard with any subjects for which they have been set Mapper work listed. Selecting the correct unit under the subject heading will then begin the learning with a brief pre-teaching test to gauge prior knowledge before a range of reading and testing tasks to help familiarise them with the key vocabulary.

If students encounter any issues with accessing and using Mapper, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Carrier.

Duck Race Debut

Thank you to everyone who came to support our Acle duck in the Break Grand Norwich Duck Race on Sunday 24th September. Despite a strong start and early hope, he swam off and hid under a tree and had to be rescued! Hopefully next year we may have a stronger swimmer, or better wind conditions!



Congratulations

Congratulations to Harry S following a fantastic weekend of bowling. Harry and the Acle Triple won the QFinal match against a team from Kent, winning 17-13, but unfortunately lost in the semi-final to a very strong team from Egham (20-10). This is a huge achievement for Harry to reach this level after just 2 years of playing bowls.

Harry returned home to play in a charity competition to raise money for Nelson's Journey at Acle. Alongside his team, he won his first tournament and the club and its members raised £865 for the charity.



Reminder - Safe Parking

Please may we remind parents not to park on the single yellow lines outside the school during drop off and pick up points or come into the school grounds or park in the bus lay by.

We have lots of buses and taxis that need to come into the school grounds and additional cars pose safety issues. Please can we urge all parents who collect their children to use the vast parking spaces available behind the Methodist Church. This is only a short distance from the school and will allow children to walk safely to and from school. Additionally, parents may choose to park on Mill Lane behind the school and children can exit via the back field.

We are recruiting!

We currently have the following vacancies in our team:

- Cover Supervisor
- Invigilators
- Progress Tutor for Mathematics

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

[Find Current Vacancies here](#)



<https://tinyurl.com/AAPTA-HALLOWEEN>



Our online preloved uniform shop includes school uniform and sportswear and is accessed via our SumUp Shop by following this link:

<http://acle-academy-parent-teacher-association.sumupstore.com>

Items can be paid for online with suggested donations per item. The item can then be collected at a prearranged time with the PTA.

If you have any uniform donations please drop these off to the school office.

If you would like to join the PTA please contact them by email

pta@acle.norfolk.sch.uk

Our next event is the year 7 Halloween Disco on 13th October 7-9pm

Tickets can be purchased via

<https://tinyurl.com/AAPTA-HALLOWEEN>



Please remember to check ClassCharts

May we remind parents that ClassCharts is our main form of communication to keep up to date with daily progress, updates and messages. ClassCharts is used to communicate house points, behaviour points and interventions. We also use this platform for parent announcements. As part of the home school agreement we ask parents to check this regularly, at least on a weekly basis. 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 the child's timetable via ClassCharts.

Scan the QR code to visit our website and follow us on Facebook and Instagram



Follow us!

Rewards & Achievements News can be found [Here](#)

Useful Resources/Activities & links can be found [Here](#)

More Acle Academy News can be found [Here](#)

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.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 5th October – early school closure @ 1pm to prepare for yr6 Open Evening

Monday 9th October – Open Morning for yr6 transition to us in September 2024 – 9.30-11.30am

Tuesday 10th October – Open Morning for yr6 transition to us in September 2024 – 9.30-11.30am

Tuesday 10th October – Parent workshop - 6-7pm

Thursday 12th October – Year 10 Information Evening -6.30-8pm

Friday 13th October – Year 7 only PTA Halloween Disco – 7-9pm

Friday 20th October – School closes for half term @ 3.30pm

Monday 30th October – School opens – all year groups.

Thursday 2nd November – Year 7 Engagement Evening - 6.30-8pm



Our Rural Hub Term Dates can be found [Here](#)

Our School Calendar can be found [Here](#)



Bingo Night

Join us for a night of fun!
Many Prizes to be won.
Raffle and refreshments available

£6 a book, purchased on the night.
Families welcome
All funds raised go to
Acle United Football Club.

11TH NOV, 2023
DOORS OPEN 6.30PM -- EYES DOWN FOR 7PM

 Acle Social Club, Bridewell Lane,
Acle, NR13 3RA 



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OCTOBER
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