

Acle NEWS



Newsletter - 4th October 2024




We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST

RESPECT, ASPIRATION AND DETERMINATION

W: www.acleacademy.co.uk

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Welcome to our new look Acle newsletter.

We have had a fantastic start to the new academic year and we have been so impressed with the attitude to learning shown by all our students. It is a pleasure to walk around the school and see such a calm and purposeful learning environment. We are so pleased that students are making the effort to access their independent learning activities in their Year group Google classrooms. We are very proud of how well our Year 7s have settled into life at high school and by the way that our students in Year 8-11 have been supportive and helpful in assisting our new students in their first few weeks at school.

Our busy start to the new academic year has also included welcoming Year 6 students for Transition days and parents, carers and students to our Open Evening on Thursday. Open Morning tours for next week can still be booked by contacting the school office on 01493 750431.

Mrs Helen Watts
Principal



Department for Education- Curriculum and Assessment Review

Spanning from Key Stage 1 through to Key Stage 5, the [Curriculum and Assessment Review](#) will look closely at the key challenges to attainment for young people, and the barriers which hold children back from the opportunities and life chances they deserve – in particular those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged, or with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

The review is seeking the views of young people, parents, teachers and leaders, education experts and employers on the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and how it can be improved.

As such, the [call for evidence](#) has launched and encourages you to take part and share your views and insight, based on your own experiences, by filling in the survey before the deadline on 22 November 2024.

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/curriculum-and-assessment-team/curriculum-and-assessment-review-call-for->



Donations needed

As we move into the colder months, we would love to set up some clubs and activities that students can do at lunchtimes.

Board Games- If anyone has any board games suitable for students to play during a lunchtime club, we would be very grateful for any donations. Ideally these would be games that can be played within about 30 minutes, such as Scrabble, Boggle, Guess Who, packs of cards etc.

Video games and Consoles- If your children have upgraded any games consoles and you have old consoles sitting at home gathering dust, we would gladly receive them for a gaming club. Old Playstations, Wii's , X boxes and any games would be much appreciated

DVDs- If you have any DVDs that are suitable for 12–15-yearolds we would love to receive them so we can use them for our film club.

Please pass any donations to the main school office- thank you.

Year 7 Shines in Study Skills Challenge!

We've been incredibly impressed with our Year 7 students, who have eagerly embraced the key lessons from their recent study skills sessions with Mr Sayce. These sessions focused on essential strategies for success in Year 7, with a strong emphasis on getting organised, particularly with homework.

A key highlight was the introduction of mind-mapping as a tool for revision. After learning the technique, students were challenged to create their own mind-maps at home. The results have been outstanding! We received many fantastic entries, and the level of technical accuracy and thoughtful application of study skills has been remarkable.

Well done Year 7 - keep up the great work! Mr Sayce

Sponsored walk 2024: Re-float the school boat

The 2024 Sponsored Walk that took place during the Summer term was, once again, a great success. The weather was kind, spirits were high, and the feedback from our local community indicated pupils conducted themselves admirably whilst representing the Academy in and around Upton.

As many of you will be aware the sponsored event was to raise money towards an in-school project aiming to “re-float the boat” our school owned traditional wooden half decker “Elf”. The event raised an impressive £834.00 so on behalf of the Academy we would like to say a big thank you to all our pupils and parents who contributed towards this effort.

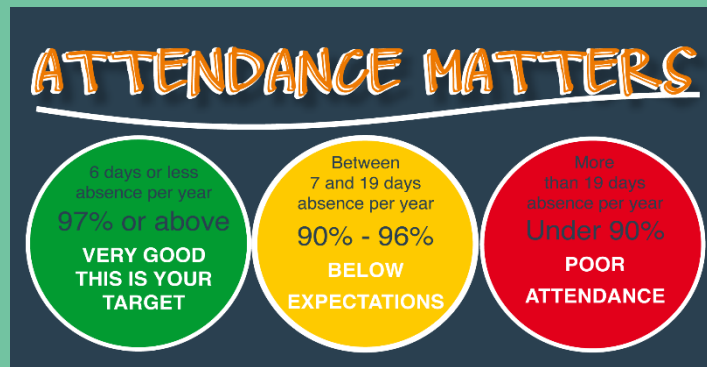
Over the Summer Elf was, for the first time since 2017, exposed to the light of day and was taken to Martham Boats, who kindly put her back in the water for the first time in over six years, allowing us to assess her condition. The good news is Elf still floats, but is in need of some minor restoration before she will be broads worthy once more.

Using the money raised and hopefully some local expertise, we aim to repaint and varnish the boat ready for next season. With the aim of seeing our pupils once again navigate her along local stretches of the broads.

We are keen to source local support and expertise with this effort not simply to lower costs but also to try to involve some of our pupils in the restoration project itself. If you are aware of anybody who is able to support us with this next phase then please do get in touch with us via email: snewstead@acle.norfolk.sch.uk

Below are a few pictures charting the steps of the journey so far.





I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of some key areas regarding attendance.

If you would ever like to discuss issues affecting your child's attendance then please do contact Me by email jbryant@acle.norfolk.sch.uk so we can identify the issues your child is experiencing and work together to support an improved attendance.

Punctuality

The school day starts when the bell goes at 8.55am when all students should be in school and ready to head straight to form. Students arriving after 8.55am will find the back and side gates locked and they will need to sign in at reception, giving a reason for their lateness. I will follow up these reasons with parents in the hope of securing improved punctuality, issuing Behaviour Points and lunchtime Head of Year interventions if the student continues to arrive late without a justifiable reason. If a lunchtime intervention is issued then the student will spend that time completing a google form detailing the reasons for lateness so I can work with them and their parent/carer to resolve any issues the child has getting to school on time. Punctuality is an important life skill in general, and missing out on form time can lead to the pupil missing vital information for the school day. It also disturbs the rest of the form when a student arrives late.

Leave of Absence Requests

Guidance has already been shared (via ClassCharts) regarding the changes to the legislation and the way that Fixed Penalty Notices will now be applied. Any requests for absence need to be submitted in advance of the leave being taken (ideally with at least 7 days' notice.) I would advise you that reporting your child as being sick when they are actually on holiday is not recommended. Usually, the student will have mentioned the holiday to their friends or form tutors, or they will post something on social media that is seen and reported to me by a member of the school community. I will ALWAYS challenge these absences and refer them to Norfolk County Council if I strongly believe the child to be on holiday. The emphasis will then be on yourselves to prove that you WERE NOT on holiday in order to prevent a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued.

Medical Appointments

Please can I remind you of the need to notify me of any medical appointments in advance if they are going to affect your child's attendance, whether they will be in to school late or if they need to leave during the school day. The easiest way is to report the absence on Class Charts, which can be done in advance but please ensure that you put the entry on the day of the appointment and remember to attach evidence of the appointment. This can simply be a screen shot of a text reminder or a photo of a letter etc.

Reporting Absences EACH AND EVERY DAY Your Child Is Not In School

The best way to report your child's absence is on Class Charts. Alternatively, you can leave a message on the absence line (01493 750431 Option 1). If you need to explain the absence in more detail, have a medical update or need help supporting your child's return to school, then please email me. jbryant@acle.norfolk.sch.uk

It is really important that you report your child's absence before 9am if they are not going to be in school. When the register is taken at the start of form time, I produce a list of students that have been marked absent and check this list to see if I have been given a reason for the absence. If not then I will send texts. The text has 2 purposes. The first is to establish whether you as a parent/carer are aware the child is not in school, the second is to find out the reason. This is important EACH AND EVERY DAY that your child is absent (unless it has already been established that they need to be off for a certain number of days)

I cannot emphasise enough how important this is. It would be wrong of me to assume that the child is still at home unwell just because they were off the day before. If they have left home and not made it to school this would be of serious concern, and I am sure you would want to be alerted to this as soon as possible, so I hope you can appreciate the reason for daily contact and why we will text you if this is not provided.

Working Together to Improve School attendance is everyone's responsibility and this is the link to [WTISA summary of responsibilities](#) which came into effect on 19th August 24.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this article, and once again please do reach out if you need support or have information affecting your child's attendance that it would be useful for me to know.

Jane Bryant
Attendance Manager

Missed minutes =

missed learning =

missed opportunities

Guidance for Parents / Carers

Good attendance at school is one of the most important factors in ensuring that children and young people have the best opportunities in adult life.

justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/attendance

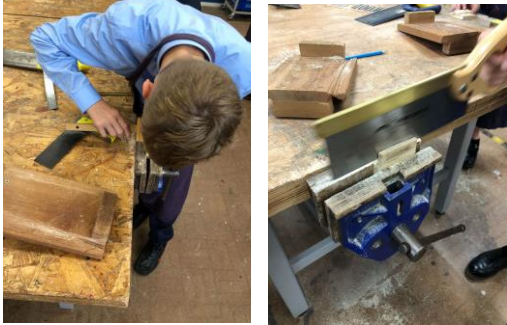


Norfolk
County Council

Key Stage 3

Year 7 students have made a really good start to their Creative Industries carousel. Students will be learning about Computer Science, Food, Product Design and Textiles throughout the academic year.

Year 7 Product Design:



Computer Science:

Amazon has developed a really good online platform to help students to learn coding. Classroom have been created for KS3 classes to use;

Year 7 Class code: RDLPLN

Year 8 Class code: RLWPDE

Year 9 Class code: VQAXEN

Students have no way in which to communicate over this platform

Year 8: Product Design

Students learn about recycling polymers and create a door sign using High Density Polyethylene. If you could check for any plastic products showing the No. 2 logo and collect on behalf of the faculty that would be greatly appreciated.



Year 9 Product Design:

Students have been learning about different metal types and have recently completed their aluminium bottle openers.



Key Stage 4

Option subjects have started well in Art, Computer Science, Construction, Hospitality & Catering, Product Design. Textiles have created some great examples below.



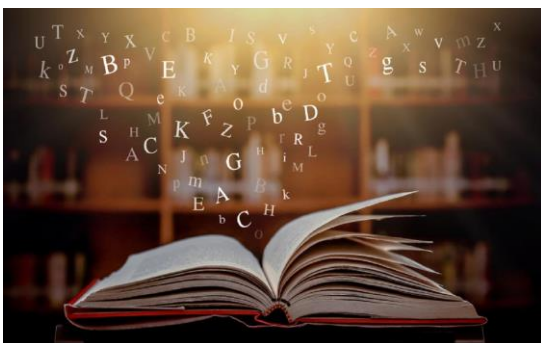
The Creative Industries has launched a YouTube channel to help students gain a deeper understanding of the subjects delivered to them. More subject linked videos to follow. Please use the QR Code below to navigate to the playlists created;



- Mr Green



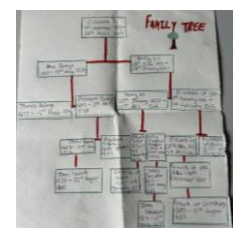
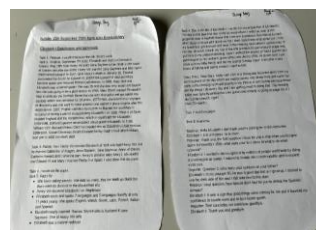
In English, we have loved meeting our new classes and introducing year 7 to how we teach through whole texts. They have made such a positive and enthusiastic start and are embracing the texts we have introduced them to. In other year groups, students have enjoyed meeting new and familiar teachers and finding out which texts they will be learning through, with some exciting new additions, like Black Flamingo for year 9. We have also been introducing and reminding students about our 15 by 15 reading programme-to read 15 books from our selection in the library, by the age of 15! Students have had time to go to the library and renew and select books-this forms part of their equipment and they will have form time allocated to reading. They can still collect up to 10 Pride points for completing a book review at the end of any they read-these can be submitted to Mr Carrier. We are so excited about our trip to see An Inspector Calls with Y10 in January-we will have finished studying it by then and the opportunity to see it on stage will be invaluable. - Mrs Nethersell-Webb



History – Year 8



Students in Year 8 have impressed History teachers with their skills in independent learning already this year by engaging brilliantly with the Elizabeth I Enrichment Grid as part of their home learning. This enrichment grid gives students flexibility with the kind of tasks they'd like to complete and provides an opportunity for students to develop a range of historical skills and get creative! Beyond this, students have demonstrated their determination to excel and further their understanding of key concepts and content from the Tudor period. Some of the amazing work submitted has been included here. Well done to all students who went above and beyond with this home learning task, we look forward to seeing more of the same throughout this year! - Miss Evans



The faculty has had a really busy start to the term with a range of Music/Drama and PE clubs and opportunities available to students.

We have just undergone a two day faculty review which will feed into the new faculty Development plan, with some exciting ideas in the pipeline to look out for this year.

PE

The PE department have been busy sorting teams for early Football and Netball competitions as well as some excellent rugby activity led by Mr Orton. We also have a new running club which has started with excellent early numbers.

Lunchtime clubs have started with a mix of Lower and upper school table Tennis/ Dodgeball and basketball opportunities available to all.

We have recently conducted our first Student voice survey - with over 500 pupils responding giving us some amazing insight which will help to shape the PE and Performance studies offer over coming months. Look out for some future surveys which will give students a great voice to see positive change across the faculty.

Music

Loads of students are taking advantage of a huge range of additional opportunities - playing a range of instruments as well as the opportunity to show off their singing abilities - with some really exciting Performance opportunities in the pipeline for the year ahead.
- Mr McCombe.



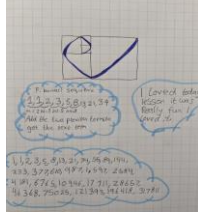
Drama

Students are continuing to work hard on this year's school production of Beauty and the Beast JR ready for the final shows in the last week of December.

Next week, we take our rehearsals to the school stage, where students will have the chance to rehearse with props and costumes, as well as proper stage lighting!

Please keep your eyes peeled across our various social media pages for ticket details coming soon... show dates are Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December @ 19:30.



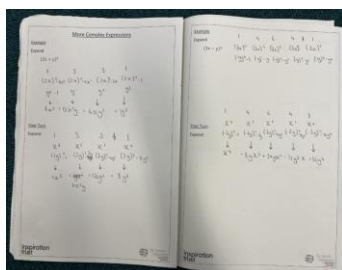
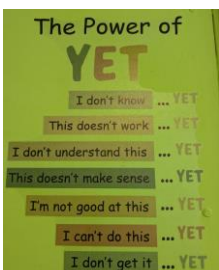


It has been a busy start to the year for Maths as all the teachers settle into their new classrooms as well as meeting all the new year 7s. We have all been very impressed with how they have started and the enthusiasm they are showing for maths. All students have been logged onto Mathswatch in lessons and shown how this can support their learning at home.

Ms White has begun working with Maths leaders from 10 who undertook their training last year. They will soon start their sessions working with their yr 7 and 8 learning partners, in order to support their learning and build their confidence in maths. We know how much of a positive impact this has and how much students from all years really enjoy working with the older year groups.

Key Stage 4 has been especially busy. Ten Year 10 and eleven Year 11 students have been embracing an opportunity offered by Sir Isaac Newton to study some Further Maths as preparation for AS-Level or further study. These students are staying behind afterschool once a week to experience online lessons delivered by different members of the Maths Angles Hub team. Year 10s have been working on Binomial Expansions and Year 11s have enjoyed some Differentiation. The work ethic and enthusiasm of these students have been highly impressive and we hope this will lead to even more opportunities for them and our other students.

- Mrs Lee



The Science department have had an exciting first few weeks back at school:

Our Year 7 students have settled in well and been finding their way around a Science laboratory. They have been learning about lab safety rules and completing their SpongeBob Safety Homework also they have been trying their hand at lighting and using Bunsen burners as well as undertaking a scientific practical for the first time in high school. Now they begin their first full units, learning about forces and the systems in the human body!

In other news, our Year 10 students have continued their GCSE studies in their new classes and have made an impressive start to year 10. Classes have been learning about communicable diseases, structure and bonding and electricity. Students have impressed us with the quality of home learning tasks that we have seen and the flash cards that they have been using to learn the core questions. We have experienced impressive work in lessons from you as you are delving deeper to explore the intricacies of understanding the world around you. Keep up the amazing work!

- Ms McNulty



Acle Academy's Reuben Mack Selected for National Rugby Team in Lisbon!

Acle Academy is proud to announce that our very own rugby captain, Reuben Mack, has been selected to represent the Egg Chasers National Team in the prestigious Lisbon Schools 7s Rugby Festival. This exciting international event brings together some of the best young rugby talent from across the globe, and Reuben's selection is a testament to his dedication and skill both on and off the field. Not only does Reuben captain the school's rugby team, but he also plays for North Walsham Rugby Club and is a part of the Leicester Tigers Junior Academy.

This incredible opportunity comes with significant costs, including travel, accommodation, and kit expenses. Acle Academy is rallying behind Reuben to help him fundraise and make this dream a reality. We would like to encourage anyone who can to contribute and support Reuben as he prepares to represent our school, community, and country on a national stage.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/checkout/help-me-tackle-7s-rugby-in-portugal/payment/k8qM1bLB/details?step=voucher>



Passage to Portugal

To support Reuben with his passage to Portugal we will be holding a bake sale on Wednesday 9th October at break time in the hall. We would gladly welcome any donations of cakes or biscuits (please label ingredients for food intolerances) to the school office. Students may wish to bring in a small amount of cash- 50p or £1 for the bake sale.

Chess Club

Chess club started up again this week and it was fantastic to see so many students from all year groups coming along to play. Mr Greene even had to go out and hunt for more chess boards to keep up with demand! Chess club is on every Tuesday lunchtime in Room 14 and is open to players of all levels from absolute beginners to advanced.

Mrs Carrington and Mr Greene



Careers & Enrichment Fair

We are holding a careers and enrichment fair on the morning of Friday 6th December 2024 for our year 9-11 students to raise awareness of opportunities in the local area and beyond. If anyone runs a local club or works in an industry that our students might be excited to find out more about, then please let us know and email mjacotine@acle.norfolk.sch.uk

If you are unable to attend this event but are still interested in promoting your club or business then we have lots of opportunities available such as 'Guess my job' or 'Careers Cafe' activities that we can run at alternative times such as in Character and Culture lessons or lunchtimes.

Mrs Jacotine

Junior Prefects

Recently, Mr Sayce and Mrs Jacotine led an assembly for Year 7 pupils, focusing on the importance of leadership and the responsibilities that come with being a junior prefect. We spoke passionately about how taking on leadership roles can help develop key skills such as teamwork, responsibility, and communication.

We're thrilled to announce that the application process for Year 7 junior prefects is now open! The enthusiasm from Year 7 has been overwhelming, with so many students eager to take on the challenge that we actually ran out of application forms! Just a reminder, the deadline for submitting applications was Tuesday, 1st October. We'll also be extending this opportunity to Year 8 and Year 9 pupils in the coming weeks, so stay tuned!

Best of luck to all our applicants!

Mr Sayce & Mrs Jacotine



Safe Parking

Please can we remind all parents not to park directly outside the school in the parking bays at the end of the school day as these bays are reserved for the buses that need to access school. Additionally, please do not park on the double yellow lines on South Walsham Road as this obstructs vision when children are crossing the road. If you need to collect your child from school, please park in the large car park behind the Methodist church which is only a short walk from the school.

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





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



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



Dates for your diary

Thursday 10th October - Year 10
Engagement Evening 6pm-7.15pm

Friday 18th October – PTA Year 7 & 8
Disco 7-9pm

Thursday 24th October - Non
uniform day and school closes for
the half term break at 3.30pm

Monday 4th November - All students
return to school after the half term
break

Thursday 7th November – Year 9
Engagement Evening 6pm – 7.15pm

Monday 18th November – Round 1
of Year 11 Mock exams – Core
subjects



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

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



Uniform donations

We are always grateful to receive uniform donations. If your child has outgrown any uniform and you would like to donate it to the school, please could you pass any items to the school office. Equally if you would like to sell or buy any pre loved uniform you can do this via our PTA Facebook pre loved uniform shop.



**NEW PLAYERS IN ALL POSITIONS NEEDED FOR A NEW
UNDER 13s**

**FREETHORPE FC TEAM FOR SEASON 2025/26, TRAINING
TO START ASAP**

A new coach has just been appointed, so new players are needed to start training, preparation and friendlies ready for the 2025/26 competitive league season. Boys and Girls of all abilities are welcome to join.

**This is for current schooling year 7, which will be
schooling year 8, when we start playing competitively
next season 2025/26**

Training will be on Saturday mornings at Freethorpe FC pitches,
which will commence as soon as we have enough players.

Please contact me, Paul Bray Youth Team Co-ordinator, if your child wishes
to join our new team and for any questions you may have.

Mobile Number: 07469 934251




**YEAR 12
OPEN EVENT**

Session 1 16:30-18:15 Session 2 18:30-20:15

**10TH
OCTOBER
2024**

University Technical College Norfolk
Oldhall Road
NR4 6FF

01603 580200 www.utc.norfolk.gov.uk admissions@utcnorfolk.org

**Come and find out about our Science and
Engineering Pathways in Sixth Form**

BOOK NOW




EAST NORFOLK
Sixth Form College



Open Events



Open Saturday

 Saturday 21st
September
 9am - midday

Open Evening

 Thursday 10th
October
 4pm - 7pm



@eastnorfolk | Book tickets now and discover your future





Acle Academy
Respect, Aspiration and Determination



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



Please remember to check ClassCharts

ClassCharts is our main form of communication to keep up to date with daily progress, updates, and messages.

ClassCharts is used to communicate pride 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 a child's timetable via ClassCharts.

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



Follow us!

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.

We are part of...

WENSUM TRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

Tel: 01493 750431 | E-mail: info@acle.norfolk.sch.uk