

Acle NEWS



Newsletter – 28th February 2025



ACLE ACADEMY'S

CANOPY *Campaign*

2025

We are launching a fundraising campaign to install a new canopy in the outdoor space for our students, providing them with a shaded and comfortable area for learning, socialising and outdoor activities. Every contribution, no matter the size, brings us one step closer to our goal. Join us in making this project a reality and improving the school experience for everyone!



We are part of...

WENSUM TRUST

RESPECT, ASPIRATION AND DETERMINATION



www.acleacademy.co.uk



Acle Academy Norfolk



@Acle Academy



Welcome to our latest newsletter.

I hope you and your families had a restful and enjoyable half-term break. As we step into the second half of the term, I want to take this opportunity to welcome our students back and share a few important reminders.

With studies continuing in full swing, this is a crucial time for students to stay focused and committed to their learning. We encourage them to maintain good study habits, stay organised, and seek support whenever needed. Our teachers and staff are here to guide them every step of the way.

We also appreciate your ongoing support in ensuring that students arrive on time, are well-prepared for their lessons, and remain engaged in their studies. Your partnership is invaluable in helping them achieve their full potential. As a school, we have seen that our whole school attendance has dipped below the national average this year. We appreciate that there are varying reasons for this, and we are always happy to support. However, we would appreciate your support at home in helping students understand the importance of good attendance, both in terms of the impact of missed learning and in terms of gaining important skills for later life.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Helen Watts

Executive Principal

Acle Academy 

ATTENDANCE MATTERS





Recently, we welcomed actors from Collingwood Learning who delivered an engaging performance and workshop to year 7 and 8 students about alcohol awareness.



**IT'S ILLEGAL TO SMOKE IN A
VEHICLE WITH ANYONE
UNDER 18**



**Please read the government information on
Smoking in vehicles**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/smoking-in-vehicles>



Debating Competition Champions at ENSFC

We had a fantastic day at East Norfolk Sixth Form College where we entered two teams of year 10 students into a debating competition.

The topic was climate change and sustainability and although there was a workshop and a planning session on the day, our students were extra prepared as they had carried out their own research in advance. Their hard work paid off as we topped the table as champions with our other team finishing in second place. Well done to everyone involved!





DementiaUK
Helping families face dementia



We supported Dementia UK for our Non uniform day on Friday 14th February - You can still donate to our Just giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/page/acle-academy-nonuniform-feb2025>

Norfolk County Council would like families to get the help and support they might need as early as possible. Please see the Flowchart for families below.

Flowchart for families



Mandarin at ENSFC

Our Mandarin class celebrated Chinese New Year! They tried their hands at calligraphy, paper folding, and exploring traditional Chinese dress, plus tasted authentic spring rolls. Happy Chinese New Year!



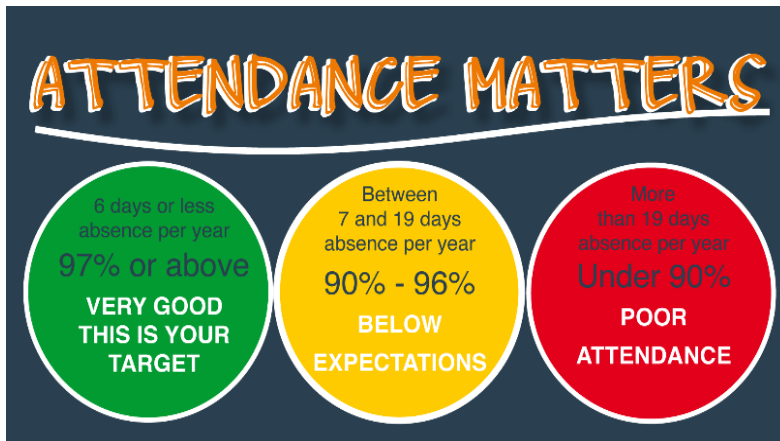
Year 9 Study Skills Competition

A huge shoutout to Avril, the winner of our Year 9 Study Skills Competition! Avril wowed us with an outstanding concept map diagram that perfectly blends key information, images, and a clear, creative layout to make revision for the upcoming assessments a breeze.

We were so impressed by the amazing entries from everyone—it's fantastic to see Year 9 developing such effective revision techniques as they gear up for their GCSEs.

Thank you to all who participated—your creativity and effort were inspiring. Keep up the great work, and let's continue mastering those study skills!





At Acle Academy we strive to improve the outcomes of all our students by promoting the importance of good attendance. Whilst we appreciate that a score of 80% in an exam would be praised as a good result, attendance of only 80% is not viewed as positively. **Attendance of 80% over a whole school year would amount to nearly 200 missed lessons.** By equating attendance percentages to missed lessons we hope you can appreciate the impact that missing school will inevitably have on your child's academic achievement and personal development.

In fact, what really highlights this is the fact that an attendance of **80% over the course of a child's 5-year high school life would equate to them missing a Whole Academic Year.** I hope you can agree it would be unrealistic to expect them to achieve their target grades at GCSE if they have missed a whole year of learning.

We will therefore be sending monthly emails to all parents/carers to highlight their child's overall year to date attendance and the potential impact in terms of the number of missed lessons if they continue to have absences at that level for the remainder of the academic year.

As always, I ask for your support as parents. It is vital that we work together to encourage and advocate regular school attendance, identify any barriers that may be affecting your child's attendance and create an action plan for sustained improvement.

Please do reach out to myself or the relevant Head of Year if your child needs any support with their attendance. Contact details below-

- Reception - 01493 750431 (Option 2 for Attendance Manager)
- Attendance Manager – Mrs J Bryant - jbryant@acle.norfolk.sch.uk
- Head of Year 7 - Mrs S Kinnarney - skinnarney@acle.norfolk.sch.uk
- Head of Year 8 – Ms I John - ijohn@acle.norfolk.sch.uk
- Head of Year 9 – Miss C Granger cgranger@acle.norfolk.sch.uk
- Head of Year 10 – Ms K Jarvis - kjarvis@acle.norfolk.sch.uk
- Head of Year 11 – Mrs C Perkins - cperkins@acle.norfolk.sch.uk

CHANGE TO ABSENCE REPORTING PROCEDURES

Please be advised that we would like **absences reported by 8.30am each day** - this enables the attendance to be updated prior to registers being taken, allowing for any unexplained absences to be followed up earlier etc. It also gives the Heads of Year the opportunity to make phone calls home if further support is required. **Our preferred method is via ClassCharts** please, however the absence line and emails to Mrs Bryant are still accepted.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jane Bryant (Attendance Manager) 01493 750431 (option 2) or jbryant@acle.norfolk.sch.uk



**A message from Stevensons- our uniform supplier
School ties will be replaced within a reasonable time
of purchase should they break. We do not provide a
lifetime replacement or repair service.**

Please note school ties are £8 to purchase new.

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Acle Academy has a PTA preloved shop and may often have second hand ties

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

Faculty News



Battlefields Trip – Wed 29th – Fri 31st January 2025

The History department's recent WWI Battlefields Trip to Belgium and France was a huge success and students were truly a credit to the school. A very full itinerary kept us on our toes and made sure that students were able to get the most out of their time away.

A very early start on Wednesday saw us depart from Acle at 4am, and make our way down to Dover to catch the ferry. Our first stop when we arrived in Ypres was Lijssenthoek CWGC Cemetery where students explored the causes of the First World War (in line with their recent learning on this in the classroom). This was followed by a visit to Bayernwald trench system, where students had the opportunity to explore a trench for themselves and learn more about the equipment soldiers carried and their experiences on the Western Front. We finished Day 1 with a visit to the Menin Gate, chocolate shopping in Ypres and attendance at the Last Post ceremony. Nivani, Tomas and Oliver represented the school within the ceremony and laid a wreath on our behalf.

Day two was spent exploring the battlefields of the Somme in France. Students visited Sunken Lane and the Hawthorne Crater and our expert guides helped students to understand more of what the experience of fighting at the Battle of the Somme would have been like. After lunch, students learned more about medical care and processes on the Western Front and Logan, Theo and Noah took part in a demonstration of the role of the stretcher-bearer. In the afternoon, we visited the Newfoundland Memorial Park and ended the day at the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, where students had the opportunity to use the registers and search for names they may recognise.

On our final day, we headed into the nearby town of Poperinghe to visit Talbot House. This carefully maintained house was a 'home from home' for British soldiers during WWI, a quiet and unique place behind the British lines where men could spend time relaxing, writing letters and meeting with serving friends, brothers and fathers. This unique opportunity allowed students to see a different side to the war and learn individuals' stories and experiences, as well as enjoying a well-earned cup of tea! From Poperinghe, we headed to Langemarck German Cemetery where students were able to make comparisons between German and Allied cemeteries and learn more about the different approaches' countries took to honouring their war dead. We paid a visit to Vancouver Corner, where students were given a presentation about the development of gas and Liam, Tomas and Farley took part, demonstrating the different types of gas masks that were developed throughout the war. Our final stop was Tyne Cot CWGC Cemetery, where students learned more about the Third Battle of Ypres (1917) (Passchendaele), explored the memorial and heard about the brave actions of the soldiers buried there.

A huge thank you to all members of staff who supported the trip and to all the students who came along and demonstrated the utmost respect for these hugely significant places. I hope that the trip will enhance students' understanding of the First World War and the experiences of the individuals that served.

Miss Evans - Head of Faculty for Humanities and History



Students have returned to English lessons this week full of enthusiasm. For year eleven, they are completing their third round of mocks, which means another opportunity to sit an English language past paper. We know students have been working hard to improve on certain skills and we look forward to reading the scripts and seeing their progress.

Key Stage three students will all have the opportunity this week to take part in some heart week activities in English lessons. For year seven, this means looking at the poem 'Valentine' by Carol Ann Duffy and writing some heart poems themselves and for year eight and nine focusing on dramatic readings of poems and learning a poem by heart.

We are lucky to have a visiting teacher from the University of East Anglia working with us in the department for the next few months and several of our classes will experience his teaching. Many groups are in the process of completing assessments so some units are coming to an end with others starting. Year ten are beginning to move onto their study of the poetry anthology and most year seven groups are coming to the end of their study of the novel 'Trash'. Year nine are enjoying the novel 'Black Flamingo' and we have been impressed and enlightened by the students' engagement with this text and their mature observations about the world we live in.

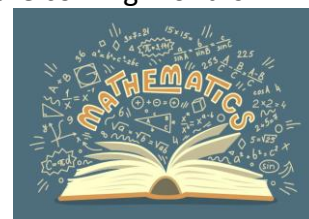


As we come back from half term, we realise that this means we are halfway through the year already-how time flies! And for year 11, we are even further than that. This half term brings their second set of Core Mocks and we hope everyone has been busy over half term keeping up the revision. Last half term, we started our first round of revision conferences with 8 students working with Mrs White and 7 more with Mr Greene.

More to come over the next half term. Unfortunately, we had to postpone our walking-talking mocks but these will be rescheduled later in the term as well.

Other years groups have continued to work hard through the curriculum with 8s, 9s and 10s doing their second assessment, year 7s will be taking another sometime before Easter.

We hope that now the days will get lighter and warmer, we can look forward to using the outdoors more and trips and activities we have planned for the coming months.



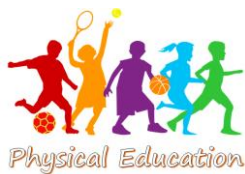


As the dust settles on Mr Frost's Beauty and The Beast performance, planning is firmly underway for next years' production, which we can announce will be Oliver Twist! An absolute classic and it will be exciting to see the upcoming auditions and rehearsals which will begin shortly.

In the Drama department, Mr Frost is also working with an organisation to provide support for pupils to develop their Drama skills in 1:1 support similar to that offered in Music lessons - watch this space for more information on this.



Talking of Music - the new Choir group has started and we look forward to future performances from this group in the coming months. Once such performance may be within the Cluster OPEN event with feeder primary schools later in the spring/summer months.



As part of our ongoing work with the local cluster, our sport studies students and PE ambassadors will be preparing to support different events for the feeder schools including a KS1/Reception multi skills festival, cricket - football and athletics events in the coming months.



In PE, this week as part of the school's Heart week - we have been completing CPR training for all pupils - giving all students the basic skills of CPR. Students have taken really well to this training and its fantastic to see them engaging with this important area so well.

New clubs are growing with the addition of Dance and Dodgeball to our lunch/after school offering this term.

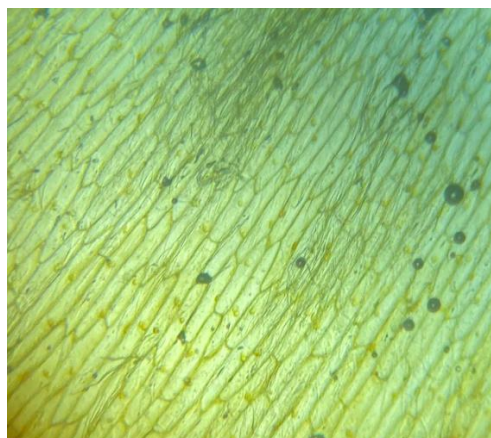
On the playing field - the Y7 Football team have a big game in the county cup this week to try to progress to the county Semi Finals in the Plate event (Vs Alderman Peel). In Rugby our Y8s and Y11s have excelled in County 7s competitions in recent weeks, notching up some excellent performances and wins against much larger schools with bigger Rugby programmes - thanks to Mr Orton for his work with all the players to date! The Year 8s in particular were superb in beating a strong Wymondham College side in their recent event.

The new PE assessment framework "Pride and Performance" is now being used and improving our PE assessment moving forward. Aligning our school PRIDE focus with practical assessment in line with GCSE PE.

Recent options events have been well attended and we look forward to seeing what new groups we will have in 2025-26 for GCSE PE and Sport Studies.



In science in February, Y11 students have been working hard preparing for their mocks. Y10s have been studying radiation, the effects as well as its wider application in medicine! Additionally, they have been studying plants and investigating the effect of various factors on the rate of photosynthesis. Excitingly, our Y9s have commenced GCSE studies by looking at cells using microscopes and looking at the fundamentals of physics by studying energy transfers.



At KS3 students, Year 7s have been exploring a new chemistry unit on atoms and the periodic table. They are exploring the unseen world of the fundamental chemicals that make up the Universe!

In year 8, students have been working on separating mixtures and have also been studying the periodic table, but in even more detail. They have been looking at how these make up colourful compounds as shown.



[Periodic Table](#)

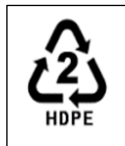




We need your help collecting plastic bottles for our year 8 scheme of learning! Please send in empty, clean plastic bottles that display the No. 2 recycling symbol (♻️ HDPE – High-Density Polyethylene).

Examples of accepted bottles include:

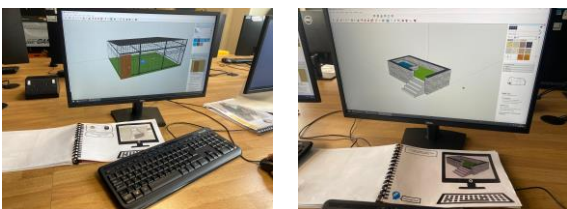
- ✓ Shampoo bottles
- ✓ Detergent bottles
- ✓ Milk bottles



Your contributions will support our sustainability efforts and teach students the importance of recycling. Please drop off bottles at reception or room 8. Thank you for making a difference! 🌍

Year 8 Product Design: Polymers

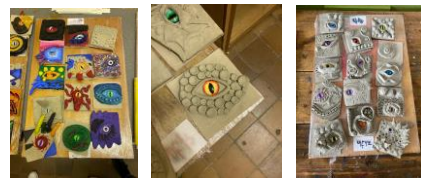
Students are making great strides in developing their CAD (Computer Aided Design) skills, using SketchUp as a key tool in their learning. This software allows them to design in 3D, providing a hands-on approach to creating digital models that can be brought to life through 3D printing. These skills are perfectly aligned with the Polymers scheme of learning, which they are currently studying. As students design, modify, and print their models, they gain a deeper understanding of how materials, like polymers, can be used in real-world applications, preparing them for future opportunities in design and manufacturing.



Year 9 Art: Clay work

Our students in the Art Department have been producing some truly impressive clay work, showcasing their growing skills and creativity.

The standard of work has been outstanding, with each piece demonstrating a strong understanding of technique and attention to detail. As they continue to develop their skills, students are exploring different methods of shaping, molding, and glazing, creating unique and expressive pieces. It's exciting to see their progress as they refine their craftsmanship and push the boundaries of their artistic abilities. We look forward to seeing even more exceptional clay creations from our talented students in the future.



KS4 Creative Industries: Textiles and Product Design

Our Textiles and Product Design students are currently working on exciting projects that showcase both their creativity and technical skills. They are independently developing their designs, with some focusing on creating custom hoodies, while others are designing and making mirrors. These projects are an excellent opportunity for students to express their personal style and creativity while refining their practical skills.

In addition to hands-on tasks such as model making and sewing, students are also diving into more advanced technical techniques. They are utilizing CAD (Computer Aided Design) software to create detailed digital models, followed by CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing) processes to bring their designs to life. This combination of traditional craftsmanship and modern technology ensures that our students are well-prepared for future careers in design and manufacturing.



Creative Industries YouTube Channel

We are thrilled to introduce the new Creative Industries YouTube Channel, designed to enhance student learning and engagement. Subject staff have carefully selected a range of relevant videos that align with current lessons, providing an additional resource for students to deepen their understanding and revisit key topics at their own pace. This platform offers an exciting way to explore creative subjects through high-quality content that complements classroom learning.

Our goal is to create a modern, accessible learning tool that supports students in their studies and revision. Whether reinforcing class discussions or exploring new ideas, the YouTube channel provides a dynamic and engaging way to learn. We encourage both parents and students to subscribe and make the most of this valuable resource. Stay tuned for regular updates and new content!



Scan the QR code to view and subscribe.

Please contact Acle & District Foodbank if you find you need assistance. With rising cost of living prices and fuel bills, they are here to help.

Families do not need to be referred, please ring and let them know some details about your circumstances and boxes can be tailored for you. You do not need to live in Acle, surrounding villagers are very welcome to contact them. 0800 774 7286 (freephone) Parcel deliveries are fortnightly on a Saturday.

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Acle Foodbank began in April 2020 as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic. Set up by local volunteers in conjunction with Acle Parish Council and Acle Methodists, to help people in need who live in Acle and the surrounding villages.

ACLE ACADEMY'S
CANOPY
Campaign
2025

We are launching a fundraising campaign to install a new canopy in the outdoor space for our students, providing them with a shaded and comfortable area for learning, socialising and outdoor activities. Every contribution, no matter the size, brings us one step closer to our goal. Join us in making this project a reality and improving the school experience for everyone!



Before half term we launched our fundraising campaign to install a new canopy in the outdoor space for our students, providing them with a shaded and comfortable area for learning, socialising and outdoor activities. You will see a new section on our website,

<https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/acleacademy/canopy-appeal> which explains the project with a link for donations.

Donations can be donated via the QR code or link below



[Donate Here](#)



0300 561 0555

07860 063464

Stalking: know your rights

Stalkers face up to 10-years in prison, and an indefinite restraining order.

If you have experienced stalking by a current or former partner, speak to NIDAS.

If you feel you're in immediate danger, always call the police on 999.



0300 561 0555

07860 063464

Stalking is...

Tracking your movements, 'bumping into' you, syncing phones to see what you're doing, turning up at your home, constantly contacting your friends...

If you have experienced stalking by a current or former partner, speak to NIDAS.

If you feel you're in immediate danger, always call the police on 999.

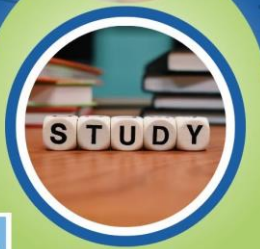


YEAR 11 STUDY ROOM

From 20th January we will be opening up the Year 11 Study Room in room 9. Please sign up by the reception hatch if you would like to attend.



12:55-1:25 in room 9
Every day



Acle Winter Beer Festival

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who contributed to our tombola or supported the beer festival this weekend! Thanks to your generosity, the barbecue and tombola raised over £500 for our canopy campaign - an amazing achievement!

A special shout-out to our fantastic PTA volunteers and our wonderful students who ran the tombola - you made it all possible.



Norse

FRESH

The canteen will have the Spring/Summer menu available from Monday 24th February, follow the link below.

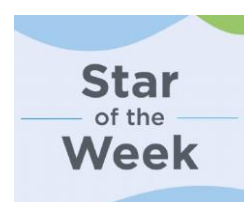
[Norse Catering Spring/Summer Menu 2025](#)

Why should I strive to improve my attendance?

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



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





The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun has been guaranteed a further year's funding!

Thanks to the hard work and lobbying efforts of invested parties across the country, the Department for Education has agreed to one more year of funding for the Big Norfolk Holiday Fun programme, meaning children aged 5-16 (or 4 if in Reception) receiving Free School Meals can enjoy free activities during the Easter, summer, and winter holidays.

The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun (BNHF) activity programme has been run in partnership with Norfolk County Council, thanks to an initial four years of funding which has been extended as of January 2025.

The upcoming Easter programme is set to run from 7 April to 17 April 2025. BNHF has provided holiday activities for thousands of children and young people aged 4 -16 in Norfolk, and made a huge impact throughout that time.

Click below to find out more about the future of the programme and its impact since 2021.

<https://www.activenorfolk.org/public/bignorfolkholidayfun/future/>

Frequently asked questions can be found via the link below

<https://www.activenorfolk.org/public/bignorfolkholidayfun/#FAQ8-trigger>



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



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



Dates for your diary

Thursday 27th March – Year 11
Revision Evening 6pm-7.30pm.

Thursday 3rd April – Year 8 Parents'
Evening 4.30pm-7.30pm.

Friday 4th April – Non-uniform day,
Easter break begins at 3.30pm

Wednesday 23rd April – All students
return today.

Thursday 24th April – Year 11 English
& Maths Revision Evening 6pm-
7.15pm.

Thursday 1st May – Year 7 Parents'
Evening 4.30pm-7.30pm.

Tuesday 6th May – GCSE exams
begin.

Friday 23rd May – Non-uniform day,
half term break begins at 3.30pm.

Monday 2nd June – All students
return today.



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

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



We have no Current Vacancies



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



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