

Principal's Message

The new term is only two weeks old and already Christmas and New Year seem like a distant memory. I hope you and your family had a wonderful break together. The students have come back to school very positive and ready to learn and we're looking forward to a very successful year in 2019. Each week I meet with a group of students to discuss their experience and sadly too many of them tell me that other students continue to regularly disrupt their learning in some lessons. This is unacceptable to me as our students have a right to learn and make progress and our teachers have a right to teach. As a result of student feedback we have further improved our behaviour system whereby students who misbehave and disrupt the learning of other students are given a reminder of our expectations, and if they fail to meet them, they are removed from their timetabled lessons for the rest of the day. We believe that this is only fair, so that everyone who wants to learn is allowed to do so. So far this has been very successful and the start to 2019 has seen a very calm, orderly school with a focus on learning. The children are happier and The Albion Academy is a much better place to come to school. I'd like to thank parents for your continued support and ask that all parents support us as we strive to help your child to achieve their best. Another thing that students have told us is that at the changeover of lessons, sometimes the corridors can become very congested at busy times. To counter this we will be launching a new one-way system in the coming weeks to ensure all children feel safe and supported throughout the day.

We are continually striving to improve attendance and you are fully aware of the link between attendance and success. If a child misses half a day per week, they will have an attendance of only 90% and this is classed by the government as being persistently absent. Unfortunately too many students have failed to return from their Christmas holiday on 7th January and this is having a detrimental effect on the number of persistent absentees. This level of absence is totally unacceptable and we are obliged to take legal action against parents who fail to send their children to school. Missing school has a hugely negative impact on children and I would urge all parents to ensure your child attends school every day and on time.

There are a number of other significant developments that will be taking place in 2019 and I will be writing to every parent next week to explain this in more detail. Best Wishes, **Mr K Mackey**

Wellbeing at the Albion

This term we have introduced a mindfulness programme across year 7 and year 8. Pupils are spending 5 minutes of form time each day taking part in mindfulness exercises, led by their form tutors. Mindfulness is a technique that can improve wellbeing by teaching students to notice and experience what is happening in the present moment in a non-judgmental way.

Mindfulness in schools has been shown to have a positive impact on pupils. Studies have shown it can increase attention, optimism and social-emotional competence and reduce indications of depression, anxiety and stress. Abrrar Al-Chaab, in 7L, said 'I hadn't tried mindfulness before this term but I am finding it really relaxes me when we do it in form



Year 7 students practicing mindfulness

Upcoming Events at The Albion

Tuesday 22nd January
6pm
Parental Forum

Tuesday 5th February
Year 11 revision
workshop

Exceeding Expectations

The end of last term brought an opportunity to celebrate the success of the many students who consistently try their best to exceed expectations, keep improving and help others at school. Each Head of Year led an assembly on the final day of term in which certificates and awards were handed out for progress in each subject area, attendance and achievement. 265 students achieved 100% attendance last half term. Each and every one deserves congratulations for their commitment. They were all entered into a prize draw and Zak Presley, in 7A, was the lucky student who walked away with a new bicycle, delivered to him personally by Mr Mackey.



Gabriel Tropeano is presented with his prize for winning the Ace Awards prize draw.



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Scores on the Doors



Year 10 Boys Basketball vs Swinton: 8-22

An inexperienced Albion team came up against a well organised Swinton team on Tuesday. Each one of the boys gained some valuable experience and will bounce back stronger with an upcoming double headed fixture against Oasis academy next week. A massive well done to all of the boys involved, especially to the squad members that have not represented the academy before: Mohamad Rhamadan, Ihinrere Oyewale and Jose Balde. **Emanuel Fernandes (Captain)**

Upcoming Fixtures

22/1/19 Year 11 Boys Basketball vs Oasis (away)

23/1/19 Year 11 Boys Basketball vs Moorside (home)

Extracurricular Sport and Fitness

The extracurricular sports timetable at the Albion has never been busier. Students can take part in a wide range of sports and fitness classes, which take place before school, at break and lunch time and after school.

Students have the opportunity to play Basketball, Badminton, Football, Dodgeball, Dance, Handball or work on their fitness under the guidance of the PE staff. Some will have the chance to represent their school.

Regardless of age or ability, there will be a session to suit you! Check out the timetable on the PE notice board or ask your form Tutor for information.

Head of Year Shout Outs

Year 7: Riley Davies, who showed a great deal of empathy recently in ensuring another student could join in with the football game at lunchtime. Just the sort of compassion and team spirit we are promoting in year 7. **Mr Lewis**

Year 8: Well done to Charlie Keogh, Henry Brown and Charles Presley for their commitment in cadets. **Mrs Columbine**

Year 9: 9L for having the best overall attendance since September. Keep it up! **Mrs Dalton**

Year 10: Well done to Keelan Wheeldon and Emily Tang who received the Head of Year Award during last term's rewards assembly, and also to Vincent Omeje who won the Amazon gift voucher due to his attendance, behaviour and punctuality since the start of the year. **Mr Wild**

Year 11: Titina Nanau & Dorcas Tchuda Da Silva for always pushing themselves in extracurricular activities. **Mr Quilliam**

Department of the Week: Performing Arts

Well, what a year it has been so far for the Performing Arts Department at The Albion Academy! Firstly, we have welcomed a wonderful new member of staff, Miss Bonner (junior!) who has brought a new lease of life to Drama at the academy. She has commented that 'I love working here with such wonderful staff and students! There is so much raw talent in Performing Arts. I am looking forward to really seeing what our students are capable of.'

The Christmas show was a great success with a variety of students from all year groups providing amazing performances for a large and enthusiastic crowd. Miss Payne says 'I am so proud of all of the students that took part. The dedication, preparation and rehearsal required often goes unnoticed and the students deserve real credit for their continued hard work'.

There is still so much to look forward to this year. KS4 Performing Arts students will soon take a trip to the Lowry to see the famous musical 'The Band' created by



Choir practice in the Performing Arts Department.

the wonderful Take That (hopefully they will make an appearance on the night!). In June we will be presenting a full scale production of the musical Hairspray! Please come to watch; we promise it will be an extravaganza!

Miss L Payne

Teacher Chat

This week, it's the turn of the Salford's own, Miss Court.

What were you like at school?

I've always been loud, so sometimes I could be a little talkative, but I was also a hard worker.

What did you study at university?

I studied Psychology and Criminology at Manchester Metropolitan.

Why did you want to study there?

It was a good university for my course, giving me opportunities other places wouldn't have done. It was also close to home, so I could stay living in Salford.

Why did you study Psychology and Criminology?

I found it interesting and I thought it would open up a lot of paths for me post-university. It meant I could potentially join the police, go into law or become a psychologist.

So what made you become a teacher?

I stayed and completed a masters in forensic psychology at Man Met but soon realised I wanted to work with children.

What do you like most about working at the Albion?

I wanted to work in Salford, because this is where I grew up. I love working here in particular because it's a friendly and welcoming place to be.

What's your favourite book?

I am going to suggest *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins. I think it appeals to everyone. I even got my dad to read it!

If you were a punctuation mark, what would you be?

An exclamation mark!



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