



A message from our Executive Principal

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter.

As you will see there has been a wide range of amazing things happening at the Academy. I am delighted to showcase a few examples of the hard work of staff and students.

I would especially like to mention the fantastic Christmas Cabaret which has kick started Christmas. There are more exciting things planned for next term.

I look forward to welcoming students back in January in full uniform, proud of the school and ready to make a difference.

I hope that you have a peaceful and restful Christmas break.



Academy launches Peer Reading

Year 9 took up the challenge of becoming Peer Readers this term and 27 of the brightest and best were trained by Mrs Rafferty-Clark. They were then paired with a Year 7 student and have been meeting them twice a week, for 30 minutes at a time, in our newly refurbished library to practice reading and comprehension skills.

"I feel like I've got a new friend," said Mika, Y7 who works with Clarinha, Y9. "She helps me understand new words and asks me questions about what we are reading."



The idea behind the project is to boost the confidence and skills of young readers who have struggled to keep up in class.

“If a student is a struggling reader in Y7, they will find it more and more difficult to catch up as they go through secondary school. This project will help them see themselves as readers and hopefully, they will become the peer readers of the future,” explained Mrs Rafferty-Clark.

All students taking part in the programme have also been selected to receive an Advent Book as we count down to Christmas.



Performing Arts this term

Our Performing Arts Department have been very busy this term; with our students experiencing a range of different opportunities.

In September, we were informed that Arts Council England had funded a large project with The Lowry and our school had been selected to take part. Only two Secondary schools in Salford had been chosen to take part and The Albion were lucky enough to be one of them. The project ‘Stage Directions’ gives students the opportunity to experience different ways of performing. So far, our students have taken part in workshops which look at puppetry, theatre in education, physical theatre, comedy, outdoor arts and music theatre.



These workshops have given our students a taster in various different art forms in preparation for next term when they will begin creating their own piece of theatre to showcase at The Lowry theatre, this coming July. Our students have also been and will continue to work with industry professionals to create this performance. Some of the professionals they have worked with have extensive CV's. Such as creating performances for Commonwealth Games, Olympic Games, Manchester Day and many more amazing events. Thank you to all your support throughout this project so far.



During November, our Academy was extremely lucky to be visited by The National Theatre who performed one of their well-known plays, A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time, which is fresh off The West End in London.

The National Theatre is based in London and they create some amazing work such as, War Horse, One Man Two Guvnors, A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time.

In addition, The National Theatre often re-create well known plays for National Theatre Live which can often be seen at your local cinema.



On Tuesday 17th December, we performed our Christmas Cabaret which was a sell-out performance. The Christmas Cabaret was an opportunity for students across the school to showcase their talents and their hard work during the term. Many students in the performance had never performed before and they took it in their stride. Thank you to everyone involved and our audience for your support.



Year 10 Art students have started the Creative Encounters programme where they explore opportunities in Higher Education and employment through workshops in school and visits to the University and art related employers.

Year 11 students have been busy visiting local college open days to choose their post 16 courses. Year 11 are completing their post 16 applications; and will all have a destination interview with Mrs Baker as they prepare for leaving school next year. The Career Fair was also an opportunity for parents and students to speak to the colleges, training providers and universities.

In the spring term, we will be visiting universities including Leeds, Oxford and Manchester. The students will also be attending workplace visits to different employers in the area.

Careers at The Albion

The Careers Hub was opened this term where students can drop in before and after school for information re careers and pathways. Parents are welcome to make an appointment with Mrs Baker (Career Co-ordinator) to discuss the career opportunities for their child.

This term the students have been involved in the following career experiences:

Year 8 students have looked at different career paths with a 'Have a Go Day' where different employers discussed the opportunities available within their companies. Year 8 have also started the Barclays Life Skills workshops looking at skills needed for future employment.

Year 9 have started Work Ready sessions with Salford Foundation the first session looked at personal branding.

Year 8 and 9 students are taking part in the Inspired to Aspire Employer programme. The students have been looking at employability skills and how to be work ready. The students are looking forward to visiting their employer's workplaces in the new year.





The Albion Cadets

Our cadets have had an amazing start to the academic year working towards their part 1 qualifications, drill practice and volunteering on numerous charity events. We have welcomed 12 new training cadets to our detachment too.

Supporting charities football - The cadets attended the Supporting charities celebrity football match at Wythenshawe Amateur Football club to collect gate money from spectators, take donations and sell signed autographs of celebrities and raffle tickets. The total amount collected by the cadets on the day was a whopping £2,300.00 and these proceeds will go to the British Heart Foundation – Stronger Hearts campaign and MIND.



Wrap it up Manchester campaign – The cadets assisted Salford rotary club by collecting coats for the Wrap it up Manchester campaign. The cadets collected over 60 coats and they will go to people in need across our city this winter.



Poppy Appeal – October is always an incredibly busy month for the detachment as we try to raise as much money as possible for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. The fundraising started with some staff and cadets taking part in the Manchester 5k Poppy run. The weather was horrendous and the park was badly flooded, but we battled through and one of our cadets even won the whole event in a time of 27 minutes! Well done Ben.

Poppy sales then started in school with cadets running break and lunchtime sales sessions.



Our main Poppy collection day was Saturday 2nd November at Victoria train station in Manchester. We spent a full day collecting and the people and visitors of Manchester did us proud with their very generous donations.

Total collections from all our Poppy events this year was a staggering - **£1,870.00**. We'd like to say a huge thank you to anyone who supported us.



Remembrance – The cadets parading on Sunday 10th November at the Salford Cenotaph Remembrance day service. They marched from Langworthy Road legion to the Cenotaph where they stood guard at the service and laid a Poppy Wreath on behalf of the Albion Academy.

On Monday 11th November the cadets held a service of remembrance in the school grounds, where the flag was lowered to half-last during the last post and a Poppy wreath was laid in the school garden of remembrance.



Broughton House – Wednesday 11th December and a visit to one our favorite places! Broughton House residential care home for ex-service personnel. Some of the cadets attended a visit to take the residents some Christmas treats. The cadets took time to speak to the residents and to hear some of their amazing war time stories.

This is Jack telling our cadets about being in the Pacific during the hydrogen bomb testing in 1957. This was a very emotional story and one of our cadets said it was the best History lesson he had ever had hearing this first hand.

As well as meeting the residents, the cadets were able to look at plans for the new building which is currently under construction and look around the museum.



Help for Heroes Bake sale – Wednesday 18th December will be the cadets final charity event for 2019. We will be holding our 2nd Help for Heroes bake sale of the year, this one with a Christmas theme.

Thank you – We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents and staff who have supported us this term. Without you we wouldn't be able to help as many people and charities as we have done so far this year. We would also like to say a special thank you to Mr Matley (school caretaker) who raised just over £300.00 by doing a sponsored beard shave. The funds have been spent on ordering a permanent remembrance memorial for the school garden of an 'unknown Tommy' and a cadet parade drum.

2020 – We have some big events coming up in 2020 so watch this space for updates, the cadets will be going on a adventure residential in January and some of them will also have the opportunity to fly before Easter. March will see our Biennial inspection which is a huge day for the cadets and the school. Our fundraising will continue with lots of local and national events planned including Armed Force day, 75th anniversary of VE day, RAF association day ANDa couple of cadet staff may have been talked into taking part in a parachute jump for the Broughton House charity! (how can you say no to a 94 year old paratrooper).



Dates for your diary



Monday 6th January

INSET Day



Tuesday 7th January

Start of Spring Term



**Thursday 30th
January**

Year 8 Parents' Evening



Friday 31st January

INSET Day



**Thursday 6th
February**

**Year 5 and 6 Parental
Workshops**



**Wednesday 26th
February**

Year 7 Parents' Evening



The Albion Academy
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