Friday 19th December 2025

Issue 15

Archbishop Temple Church of England High School

Message from Mr Catlow

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank pupils, staff and families for their continued support and commitment to our school community.

This term has been particularly full, not least due to a significant period of recruitment. I am delighted to share that we have made a number of high-calibre appointments that will further strengthen leadership, teaching and pastoral care across the school.

From April, Mrs Wozniak-Rush will be joining the leadership team as Senior Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Curriculum and Teaching. Her expertise and vision will be a real asset as we continue to refine and develop our curriculum to meet the needs and aspirations of our Pupils.

From January, Miss Murphy will take up the role of Head of Year 8. I know she will bring energy, care and high expectations to the role, ensuring our Year 8 pupils are well supported as they progress through this important stage of their education.

In addition, Mrs Parkinson will be adding the role of Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead to her existing position as Head of Year 7. This reflects our ongoing commitment to placing pupil wellbeing at the heart of school life, alongside high academic expectations.

Headteacher's Pupils of The Week

Year 7 - Faza	Fantastic effort with SPARX Reader
Year 8 - Madison	Fantastic effort with SPARX Reader
Year 9 - Nathan	Fantastic effort with SPARX Reader
Year 10 - Aahel	Fantastic effort with SPARX Reader
Year 11 - Adonae	For his confident, mature and thoughtful attitude

Weekly Notices

Celebrating SPARX Reader Success at Archbishop Temple – Half Term 2

Archbishop Temple is thrilled to celebrate the incredible achievements of our pupils in the SPARX Reader programme during Half Term 2. This initiative continues to make a remarkable impact on reading engagement and literacy development across all year groups.

SPARX Reader encourages pupils to immerse themselves in reading while earning SRP (SPARX Reader Points) for their efforts. The enthusiasm and dedication shown this term have been outstanding, with pupils demonstrating not only commitment but also a genuine love for reading.

Top Achievers This Term:

- Year 7: Faza – an impressive 16,230 SRP so far!
- Year 8: Madison – leading the way with 21,361 SRP!
- Year 9: Nathan – achieving 9,201 SRP!
- Year 10: Aahel – earning 9,954 SRP!

These numbers reflect more than just points—they represent hours of reading, exploration of new ideas, and the development of critical thinking skills. SPARX Reader is helping pupils build confidence, improve comprehension, and foster a lifelong passion for books.

The positive impact is clear: pupils are reading more frequently, engaging with diverse texts, and sharing their experiences with peers. This culture of reading strengthens academic performance and enriches personal growth.

As we move into the next term, we encourage **all pupils** to keep up the fantastic work. Every page read is a step toward greater knowledge and creativity. Congratulations to everyone who has contributed to making Half Term 2 such a success—your efforts truly make Archbishop Temple a community of readers!



Festive Cheer at Archbishop: Christmas Lunch with Year Groups

On Wednesday, Archbishop Temple was filled with festive spirit as pupils gathered in their year groups to enjoy a traditional Christmas lunch. The dining hall was alive with laughter and the joyful sound of crackers being pulled as everyone came together to celebrate the season.

Pupils enjoyed a full Christmas meal, complete with all the trimmings — roast turkey, vegetables, and the classic festive favourites. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming creating a truly magical experience.

The highlight of the afternoon was the sense of community and togetherness. Pupils shared jokes from their crackers, wore colourful paper crowns, and enjoyed the chance to relax and celebrate with friends. It was a wonderful way to mark the end of a busy term and spread joy before the holidays.





Festive Cheer at Archbishop: Christmas Service A Magical Morning: Our Year Group Christmas Carol Service

There's something unmistakably special about the final days of term—the soft glow of fairy lights, the buzz of excitement in the corridors, and the sense that everyone is ready for a well-earned break. But nothing captures the spirit of the season quite like our Year Group Christmas Carol Service, which took place this week and brought together pupils and staff for a celebration filled with music, reflection, and festive cheer.





Out of School Achievements

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic sporting achievement of **Harriet A (7L)**, who represented **Preston Swim Club** at a competitive swim meet over the weekend. Facing strong swimmers from clubs across Lancashire, Harriet delivered an outstanding performance, securing **two bronze medals** in her events.

Her success didn't stop there. Thanks to her impressive times, Harriet has also **qualified for the Lancashire County Championships**, a significant milestone for any young swimmer and a testament to her dedication, discipline, and hard work in training.

This is a brilliant achievement, and the whole school community is incredibly proud of her. We wish Harriet the very best as she prepares for the county championships and look forward to hearing more about her progress.

We are incredibly proud of Adonae in Year 11, as well as Holly and Arishel, who were part of our Year 11 cohort in a previous year, for their fantastic appearance on the BBC last week.

The three students were interviewed on *Politics North West*, where they talked with confidence, maturity, and thoughtful insight. Opportunities like this don't come around often, and it was wonderful to see our pupils contributing to an important regional discussion and showcasing the talent and character within our school community. We are delighted to celebrate their achievement and the positive impression they made on a major public platform.

www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m002nns8/politics-north-west-14122025

Attendance Matters

Friday December 19th 2025 Issue #04

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

PUNCTUAL
- Arrive at school on time
- Arrive to lessons on time
- Aim for 100% attendance

Daily lateness equates to...

3 — 5 minutes late = 15 hours of learning lost = 3 days of learning lost

6 — 10 minutes late = 30 hours of learning lost = 6 days of learning lost

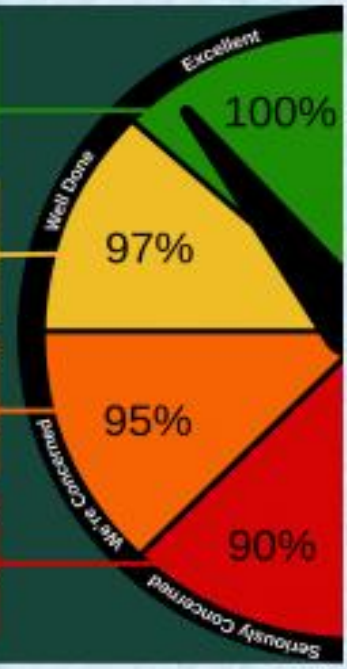
10 — 15 minutes late = 50 hours of learning lost = 10 days of learning lost

100%
Excellent attendance! Our aim for all students.

6 DAYS ABSENCE
30 hours of learning lost. On the right path - keep it up!

10 DAYS ABSENCE
50 hours of learning lost. Poor attendance gives you less chance of success.

19 DAYS ABSENCE
95 hours of learning lost. Poor attendance gives you less chance of success.



All Day, Every Day

One day off means five missed lessons. Just one day off every few weeks would add up to over 50 missed lessons in a year!

Top Attendance Forms By Year

Year 7: 7L – 96.5%
Year 8: 8P – 93.1%
Year 9: 9L - 93.5%
Year 10: 10T – 93.9%
Year 11: 11I – 95.3%



Here we are, the end of the 2025 term! Wishing you and your families a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We look forward to seeing all our pupils back on Monday 5th January 2026 and thank them, and you, for all your efforts and support this year. Let's make next year even better!

It has been a challenging year, with lots of cold and flu flying around. Still, we had nearly 400 students hit the target of 97%, and even had 150 students score 100% attendance! A huge congratulations to all of them.

We know next term we can do even better, and we will have plenty of rewards for all students that manage to do so.

Absences:

Absences can now be reported using Synergy. If you look on Synergy there should be an option to create new message in the Inbox section of the app.

Medical Appointments:

- Whenever possible, schedule appointments outside of school time
- Avoid making appointments between 8:20am – 9:20am, or 12pm – 1pm
- For any appointments during school time, please provide evidence such as an appointment confirmation

Requesting a Leave of Absence:

- Any request for absence should be submitted at least two weeks in advance
- Complete a leave of absence request form, available on our website or from Reception in school, and email it to attendance@archbishoptemple.com or hand in the form to Reception.
  Absences for holidays can not be authorised and may incur penalty notices from the Local Authority



If you have any attendance related concerns please get in touch, we are always here to help in any way we can!



Knowsley
City Learning Centres

Online Safety Newsletter January 2026

Instagram Teen Accounts - update

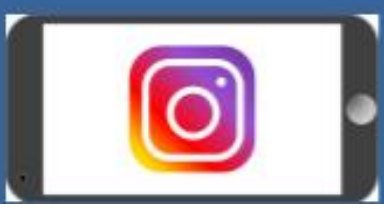
You must be over 13 years of age to set up an account. Instagram is used to post photos and videos as well as send direct messages, make voice/video calls, and send disappearing messages.

Teen accounts are automatically set up for users aged 13 – 17. Instagram have announced that teens will now see content similar to content that they would see in a PG-13 movie.

Instagram have also updated their policies around content to include "hiding or not recommending posts with strong language, certain risky stunts, and additional content that could encourage potentially harmful behaviors"

Finally, for parents who would like to apply more stringent settings, Instagram are also introducing a new, stricter setting called 'Limited Content.' This setting will mean your child is not able to see, leave, or receive comments under posts as well.

You can read about the updates here: https://about.instagram.com/blog/announcements/instagram-teen-content-safety-pg-13



Playing games online



Does your child play games online? We have outlined some risks that you should consider:

Chatting to strangers / risk of inappropriate language

Some games will allow communication via text chat, direct messages or chatting. Some games do offer the ability to switch communication off and/or the option to restrict bad language, so make sure settings appropriate to your child are applied. If your child is playing online with strangers, then you need to be aware that there is a risk of grooming. Some games do allow you to restrict communication to 'friends only,' however you would need to monitor that their online friends are real life friends. It can be difficult to moderate online chat so ensure your child knows how to block and report other players.

Cyberbullying

It can be very easy online for children to behave in a way that they would not if they were face to face. Talk to your child about how they speak to others online and encourage them to talk to people online with respect. Other forms of cyberbullying whilst playing games could be excluding others, criticising the ability of other players and ganging up on others.

In app purchases

Many games include the option to purchase additional items/ subscriptions so ensure you do not have payment cards saved or set up restrictions/ a password to approve purchases.

What can I do?

- **Set up parental controls** - as well as setting up appropriate parental controls through the game's settings, ensure you have set them up on the console/device your child is playing on.
- **Check age ratings** - before buying the game, check that your child is old enough to play it. All games will either have a PEGI rating or be rated by the App Store/Google Play.
- **Chat to your child regularly** about the risks above so that they are aware of what can happen online and remind them to always talk to you or a trusted adult if they have any concerns

Further information

CEOP provides further guidance and support regarding this topic: https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/

Snapchat



Snapchat is a popular social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. **You must be 13+ to sign up.** Users can send messages (snaps) to others that are only seen for a set time, and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours.

Key Concerns

There are potential risks such as:

- the risk of your child viewing content that is not appropriate for their age.
- location sharing (via Snap Map).
- cyberbullying.
- contact from strangers.
- excessive screen time – children may have a fear of missing out (FOMO) as well as pressure to maintain "streaks".
- "disappearing" messages can lead to more risky behaviour and a "false sense of security." These messages could be screenshot or another device used to take a photo, so they're not actually deleted as the sender believes. The image could then be shared.
- in app purchases.

Parental Controls / Safety settings

Snapchat's Family Centre is a set of parental controls and includes tools such as allowing you to:

- see who your child is friends with.
- see who your child has sent messages (not the contents of conversations though), photos or videos to in the last week.
- view a list of group members for groups that your child has been active in.
- restrict content to limit access.
- report any accounts that you are concerned about.

You can learn more about Family Centre here:
https://parents.snapchat.com/parental-controls?lang=en-GB

If your child is using Snapchat, then make sure the appropriate privacy settings are set up, including who can see their location and who can contact them. Also ensure your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary:
https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/7012343074580-How-do-I-change-my-privacy-settings-on-Snapchat

More information

For more detailed advice and information:

- https://parentzone.org.uk/article/snapchat
- https://parents.snapchat.com/safeguards-for-teens

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Sharing Explicit Images

Bark have published an article about teens sharing explicit images without fully comprehending the risks. The article discusses why teens share images , what you need to know and how you can chat to your child about it. Find out more here:

https://www.bark.us/blog/teens-sharing-explicit-images/

Cyber security

Cyber security is the process of protecting your information and data whilst online against scams and cyber-attacks. Cyber-attacks are the process of maliciously targeting individuals or organisations to disable networks or steal data for example.

The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) have an area on their website with guidance to help protect you and your family. The guidance includes how to manage your digital footprint online, information about anti-virus software as well as top tips for staying online such as:

- Using a strong password
- Setting up 2step verification

You can find the resources here:

https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/advice-guidance/you-your-family

The NCSC also provide advice on what you should do if you are the target of a scam or cyber-attack. Find out more here:

https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/respond-recover/you

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/january-2026-secondary/

English

Weekly English awards

Archbishop Temple

Year 7 Award

Name: Vanessa U
Reason: for fantastic effort and enthusiasm! (GBE)
Name: Alisha B
Reason: excellent attitude to learning. (JST)

Year 8 Award

Name: Lottie T
Reason: Consistently outstanding effort this term (SST)
Name: Krishiv C
Reason: excellent participation in lessons. (JST)

Year 9 Award

Name: Emma X
Reason: for a wonderful essay on conflict in Romeo and Juliet (GBE)

Year 10 Award

Name: Alana M
Reason: Fantastic effort, attitude and skill in literary analysis! (SST)
Name: Eva T
Reason: excellent attitude to learning(JST)

Year 11 Award

Name: Fraiser C
Reason: consistently outstanding effort, determination and achievement! (SST)

Celebrating progess, effort and excellence in English each week!

English Competition Winners!



Creative Writing Superstars!

This term in English, our Year 7 pupils took on an exciting challenge: writing their very own allegory, and wow, did they deliver! We were blown away by the imagination, symbolism and creativity on show.

🏆 Huge congratulations to our winners: Ania C and Aiza H!

Meanwhile, Year 8 set sail on a daring writing adventure, crafting 'The Lost Pages' — diary entries discovered after surviving on a desert island. One entry stood out for its rich, vivid descriptions that truly whisked us away to a tropical land.

🏆 Well done to our winner, Rebekah P!

Important Dates for your Diary

Parent's Evenings

Year 7	Year 8	~~Year 9~~	Year 10	Year 11
12th March	**15th January**	~~4th December~~	26th February	22nd January