



## Armfield Academy Opens its Doors

Armfield Academy opened its doors for the very first time on Monday 3rd September 2018. The opening of FCAT's brand new school was an historic day for the trust, the town and most importantly the young people of South Shore, Blackpool; your amazing sons and brilliant daughters.

The building contractor Conlons, did an incredible job ensuring that we were ready to open and receive children on the first day of the new academic term. We gave assurances to you our, parents and carers and the wider community that we would be open. The contractors delivered the primary building and most importantly, on time. As one would expect there has been the odd bit of 'snagging' to complete here and there, but nothing of any great importance. The classrooms were ready to use, the tech was up and running, the WI-FI is active, the telephone system was fully operational, the heating and lighting systems worked as they should, the fire alarms and school bells were fully operational and the perimeter fences and security locks were all in place.

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**Inside Stories** *an exciting start to the new term for all departments*





In the previous week to opening all our staff; the leadership team, teachers, support staff, administration staff and site colleagues busily prepared classrooms and resources, ready for the Monday morning when our first children were set to arrive.

On Monday 3rd September 2018 our first intake of Armfield Academy Year 7 students arrived; the first child entered the school buildings at 8:05AM closely followed by 161 boys and girls impeccably dressed in their brand new Armfield Academy uniforms.

One week later on Monday 10th September 2018, twelve Year 7 Ambassadors welcomed our first cohort of Early Years children. Parents and children were welcomed through the playground into the Early Years' Classrooms. The Early Years children are an absolute delight and instantly won the hearts of all the staff and the Year 7 students alike.

Armfield Academy students have been incredible over the course of the last seven weeks. They have all bought into the idea that Armfield is 'An Academy to be Proud of'. They have worn their uniforms with pride, conducted themselves around the building with maturity and wherever possible they have done everything they can to support the Early Years children. Most importantly their behaviour in lessons has been fantastic, attitudes to learning have never faltered, which parents will fully appreciate as this is reflected in the standard of their work. When I pop in and out of lessons I ask a very simple question 'Why are we here at Armfield Academy?' to which the students reply, with tremendous enthusiasm, 'TO LEARN!'. Every Day Counts; Every Second, in Every Lesson really Matters.

The staff and I could not be happier with our first half-term and it's with most humble gratitude that I thank you for your continued support and I look forward to working in close partnership over the academic year and in future years to come.

Our journey together has begun...

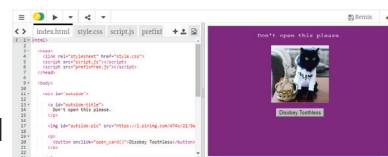
Computer Science at Armfield Academy has got off to a flying start. Students have been looking at the parts that make up



computers and how they work together so that we can use them. Students have shown great skill in using the Chromebooks to complete their work, adapting to new software very quickly. We're looking forward to getting stuck in to some programming and learning problem-solving skills that can be applied across the school.

Code club is designed to help a few students cultivate their skills with different programming languages. This has started with us using Trinket to build websites and interactive cards. Students use tutorials to encourage independent learning, with intervention from the teacher where it is needed.

We hope to move on to programming NAO when we have mastered the basics!



## Armfield Academy Choir

The sixteen voices of the Armfield Academy Choir have been tuning up nicely in rehearsals, working hard under the vocal coaching of choir conductor, Miss Parkinson, and accompanied by Mr Bache on acoustic guitar. The choir, who will be making their stage debut at the Globe Theatre as part of Mr Kilmurray's presentation at the Armfield

Academy open evening on Monday the 15th of October, will be performing an emotional, and tear inducing rendition of one of Mr Bache's all time favourites; the Cindi Lauper classic, True Colours. Get your box of Kleenex at the ready folks!

We are pleased to announce we have selected our senior prefect team!

Over 20% of our school applied for the role and we are pleased to say what an amazing round of interviews we had.

Mr Kilmurray and Miss Parkinson said the final decision was incredibly tough and feel their senior prefect team was outstanding. Thank you all for your applications. We are looking forward to working with you.



Pupils were set a challenge to research a cool/unusual job that involves Maths and produce a poster. The winner was William. His chosen job was an Ocular Technician and he produced a great

poster with lots of information. He was very happy with his prize, a neon rainbow puzzle ball. Well done William!

The response was so good we also had several runners up who each received a small prize. Congratulations Leoni, Ruby, Thomas, Christian, Addison and Ethan.

## MATHS







So far this term, I have been blown away with the skills of our year 7 students. In Art, we have been looking at self-portraits and learning how to draw our features accurately. This will lead onto the final piece after half term as they will be using photographs of themselves to draw their own faces.

In DT, we have been learning all kinds of drawing skills. We have been learning colour theory and about what colours work well together in designs. We have also been drawing many different city scape scenes using one point and two point perspectives. I have been so impressed with the work that has been completed so far!

After school on Tuesdays, the Art Club students have been busy designing our Armfield logo that is displayed on the wall. We have been using tissue paper, paints, hand prints and crayons to recreate the school logo in our own creative way!

**RE**

What an amazing half term we have had in RE. To really challenge our students, we thought we would start with a bit of philosophy to get them thinking. We have explored the design (teleological) argument for God's existence, looking

at William Paley's watch analogy. To ensure a balance we have also looked at challenges to this argument from people like David Hume and John Stuart Mill. They have done an amazing job stepping up to the challenge. Well done Year 7.



As we are nearing the end of our first topic "familiarising ourselves", it is a great time to reflect on how brilliant the pupils have done in their first half term of French. Miss Linney has been truly impressed by pupils' knowledge and resilience. Whilst covering the basics such as name, age and birthday, pupils have challenged themselves by talking about others, using two tenses and adding opinions. Pupils have also succeeded in understanding differing grammatical structures such as the gender of nouns and built an excellent core foundation of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. Next half term will provide more challenge and development when we will be starting our next topic 'au collège' (at school).



## Community News

On behalf of Armfield Academy, FCAT, our parents and students, Mr Kilmurray was pleased to accept a defibrillator, which Conlon Construction has kindly gifted to Armfield Academy. It is greatly appreciated.

Should it ever be necessary, Armfield Academy, through Conlon's generosity, can help to save a life, whether that be a member of our school or indeed a member of the public, who may be in the vicinity at the time.

Keep up to date with school life  
Follow our Twitter account  
[@armfieldFCAT](https://twitter.com/armfieldFCAT)

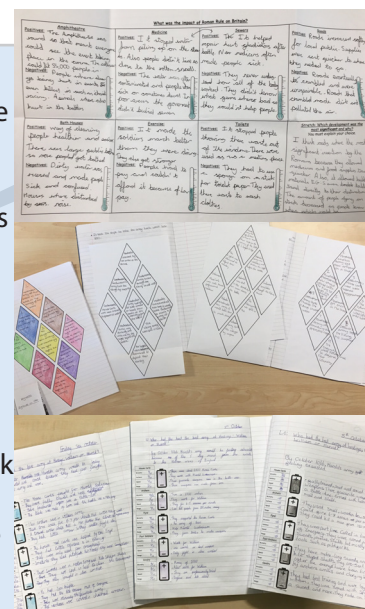




# History

Students at Armfield Academy have made an outstanding start to History during the first half-term! To begin, students completed a short study of the impact of the Romans on the history of Britain including: the Roman invasion, the Roman army, resistance to the Romans and the legacy of the Roman Empire in Britain. This mini-unit allowed students to hone their skills and understanding of concepts such as: interpretations, inferences, chronology, sources and causation. Currently, students have transitioned into studying England in 1066. Throughout this half-term, the emphasis has been upon encouraging students to become independent, confident and meticulous historians, by responding to questions such as: Was Boudicca a victim or villain? Who should be King of England in 1066? Why did William win at the Battle of Hastings? Mr Renouf has been overwhelmed by the positive attitude towards learning, the contributions of students in class and the level of work being completed. Often, when students begin studying History at KS3, they are encountering completely new content and skills. However, students have met this challenge head on and shown great PRIDE in their work – keep up the fabulous effort!

History club also provides an opportunity to challenge students even further to reflect upon work within the classroom. Throughout October, Students will be considering the importance of remembrance and considering how Armfield Academy should remember the centenary of the First World War. Mr Renouf regularly shares outstanding student work via twitter: @BRenouf\_History **The History department** is also on twitter: @Armfield\_History



# SCIENCE

Armfield science team have had a busy start to the term with students quickly engaging with and understanding how exciting the subject is. Mrs Hall and Mr Bache have been very impressed with the meticulous working methods and the high regard for health and safety which students are already showing. Despite having no official laboratories, students have still completed a variety of excellent experiments. These have included learning how to determine the density of different materials, looking at the conduction of thermal energy through different metals and watching how changes in gas pressure can be used to alter the shape of a can! As we have now completed the first physics based unit of learning, students and staff are looking forward to working with cells and microscopes and developing our biological understanding of key principles from the world around us.

STEM club has attracted a solid number of students who are working hard to complete different challenges on a Thursday evening. The hard work and dedication has so far seen us developing spaghetti bridges and 'space egg' delivery methods. Mrs Hall and Mrs Beach have been impressed with the resilience students have demonstrated and are excited to watch their problem solving skills developing further. Watch out for these young engineers in the future!

Follow our adventures and learning on Twitter @armfield\_sci

To enhance the transition phase - and to help introduce each other to new peers and new teachers - Armfield Academy's

English students have embarked on an 'Autobiography' scheme of work. In September, students studied the key features of descriptive writing, exploring and using techniques such as similes, metaphors and personification. Drawing on Roald Dahl classics such as 'Boy' and 'Matilda', as well as famous scenes from films like Mrs. Doubtfire, pupils have considered how language can create imagery in a reader's mind. Supporting this work, learners at Armfield Academy have placed focus on sentence mechanics and the use of commas and speech marks in narrative writing.

When October approached, our budding authors started to concentrate their attention on producing their own creative writing in the form of their personal autobiography. After designing their front and back covers, complete with personal pictures and an insightful blurb, students planned their chapters on a chronological timeline, thinking carefully about their vocabulary and choosing which descriptive devices they were going to apply to describe people, places and objects. Once completed, students then sat in a circle and took turns sharing a chapter with their new classmates; it was a great way to introduce themselves, and their lives, to classmates and friends. It is hoped the books the pupils have produced are cherished for a lifetime and shared with sons, daughters and grandchildren in their later years.

Behaviour across all classes has been exemplary - not one behaviour sanction has been issued in over 125 lessons. A magnificent 1,500 raffle tickets for excellent work, good manners and kindness have been awarded. Furthermore, the presentation and care within exercise books have been hugely impressive, making Mr. Moon a very happy English teacher this half-term.

If parents and carers wish to follow the work students are learning and producing in English, Mr. Moon runs a teaching and learning blog on Twitter (@MrMoonUK).