

— Term 2 - Newsletter —

# Inspire Academy

Winter 2025 Edition



## Headteacher Comment

Dear Parents/Carers,

Inspire Academy is delighted to announce it has officially joined Rivermead Inclusive Trust, a move the school believes will bring significant benefits to students, staff, and the wider community. The decision, which follows a period of extensive consultation, due diligence and support is effective from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

This strategic partnership aims to build on the school's existing strengths while providing access to a wider local network of support, resources and expertise within the Trust.

As part of Rivermead Inclusive Trust's family of schools, Inspire Academy will benefit from enhanced professional development opportunities for staff, the ability to share best practices and economies of scale, all with the central focus of improving the educational experience for every child.

We hope each and every family has a wonderful Christmas and fantastic New Year, and we look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

All the best,  
Mr O'Donnell

## *A message from Rivermead Inclusive Trust*

*Rivermead Inclusive Trust (RIT) and Inspire Academy (IA) have merged under the Rivermead Inclusive Trust name.*

*Following a period of close collaboration and due diligence, the process highlighted shared values and a commitment to education. RIT has provided support across the Chatham Academy during the past year, which ultimately led to a successful merger.*

*The Trust is committed to ensuring that each school under its umbrella retains its unique identity, while benefiting from improved processes that come from being part of a larger organisation.*

*Tina Lovey OBE, Rivermead Inclusive Trust's Chief Executive, said: "We are delighted to welcome Inspire Academy into our Trust. This merger represents an exciting opportunity to extend our commitment to a holistic and therapeutic approach to education, ensuring that every child receives the care, support, and inspiration they need to thrive. It is wonderful to have Inspire Academy join our family of schools and we look forward to working closely with staff, pupils, and the wider community as the school becomes an integral part of our Trust. Together, we will continue to build a nurturing environment where excellence and wellbeing go hand-in-hand."*



# Attendance - A message to our Learners

**We need you to be here that's why we exist!**

- We can't help you progress if you aren't here
- We can't support you with things if you aren't here
- We can't reward you if you aren't here

**If you are here we can**

- Support you and advise you with any issues you may have
- Reward you for your successes
- Take you on school trips and bring in visitors
- Help you make progress and build towards your future
- Give you time to spend with your friends and staff
- Enjoy great lessons in number of subjects
- Help you look for a career path and visit colleges

'Pupils with no absence are over twice as likely to achieve their potential grades!'



'There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower achievement.'

90% of young people with absence rates below 85% fail to their potential grades and get the qualifications they need.

## Why Attendance Matters?



Being late 15 minutes every day is the same as missing 2 whole weeks of school over a full academic year.



Being late means you miss out on your learning - then you feel behind, then you get stressed....

## Why Punctuality Matters?



However - if you are running late, DO still come in. There will be less catching up to do then.



Inspire  
Academy



Be  
Here!

**EVERY DAY. ALL DAY. ALL THE WAY!**

**ATTENDANCE COUNTS**

*Remember, you have a whole support network around you—whether you need advice, a listening ear, or just someone to talk to. Please reach out to us—we are here for you. No matter how big or small your worries may feel, you don't have to face them alone.*

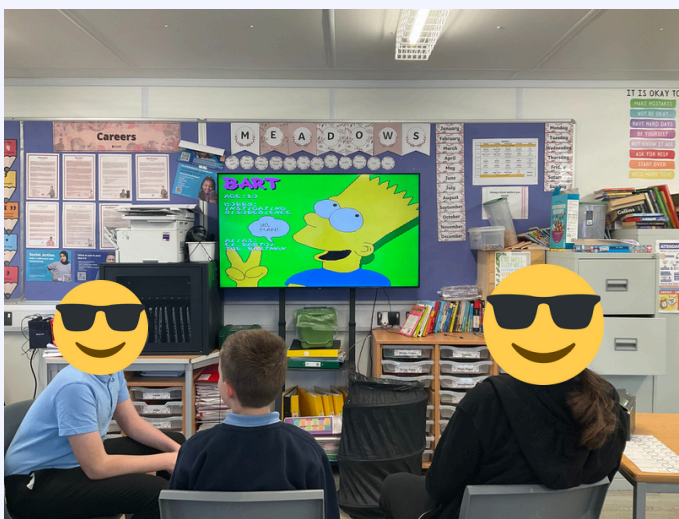
*Mrs Edwards*



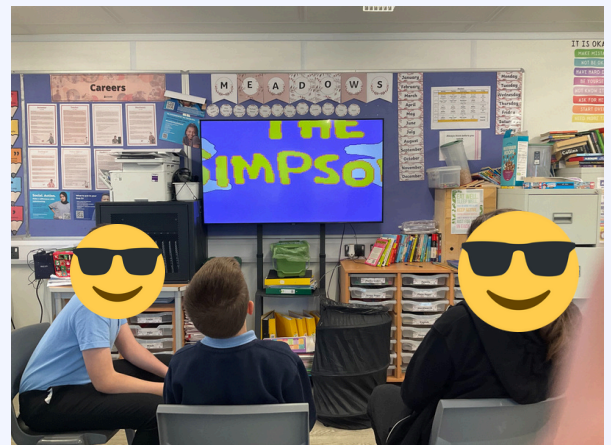
## Term 2 Rewards

This term we have seen students enjoying the consoles we have to offer as well as nerf wars. Our students work towards achieving 90% of points throughout the week in order to enjoy one of the fun Friday rewards on offer each week.

These rewards are a great time to promote teamwork and positive interactions with each other.



Trees rewards have seen them working together and supporting each other in Consoles. They have access to a range of retro games and successfully take turns in playing.





## Term 2 Rewards

### This Term's Rewards

This term's rewards have seen our students join in with Nerf Wars, IFC and Cooking, along with offsite rewards such as Jumpin Fun, Laser Tag and Ice Skating.

We are proud to provide our students with opportunities to develop their communication, teamwork and social skills with a broad range of reward choices each week.

We hope to continue to provide enrichment experiences for all of our students throughout the academic year.



## Odd Sock Day

### Odd Sock Day

ABA are official organisers of Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Anti-Bullying Week 2025 took place from Monday 10th - Friday 14th November, with the theme: Power for Good. The week kicked off with Odd Socks Day on Monday 10th, with adults and children being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

As a school we took part in wearing odd socks to support and raise awareness of Anti-Bullying Week.

As a school we encourage our students to be kind to one another and to treat each other how we would like to be treated ourselves.



## Children In Need

Inspire Academy raised over £65 for Children In Need on 14<sup>th</sup> November by wearing non-uniform and donating a pound.

Our Year 7 students found out that the BBC's first ever broadcast appeal for children was a five-minute radio broadcast on Christmas Day in 1927.

The response was phenomenal and it raised money for a prominent children's charity.

The first televised appeal was the 1955

'Children's Hour Christmas Appeal'. The Christmas Day Appeals continued on TV and radio right up until 1979, with Terry Wogan presenting from 1978. In 1980, the appeal was broadcast on BBC One in a new telethon format. It captured the public's imagination to such an extent that the donations increased dramatically and broke the million mark for the very first time.



## Young Minds

At Inspire Academy we are working to support Young Minds. Young Minds is a charity that supports families across the UK. Young Minds provides families and children with the support and advice they need to help them make positive choices for their mental health and know what to do next when they are struggling. The charity provides young people with the tools to look after their mental health. They are proud to empower adults to be the best support they can be to the young people in their lives. They give young people the space and confidence to get their voices heard and change the world we live in.

# YOUNGmINDS



## Term 1 Visitors and Trips

### Healthy Relationships Visitor

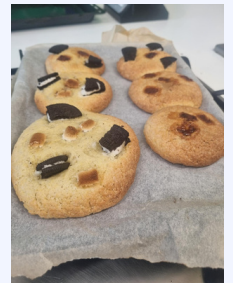
This term, James Newton met with students across the school to discuss topics such as healthy relationships and puberty. This gave our students the opportunity to have a sound understanding of the topics and the chance to ask any questions they needed answers to. As a school we pride ourselves on encouraging our students to ask questions to develop their knowledge.

The workshops were successful, and we are grateful to James Newton for sharing his knowledge and understanding at Inspire.



### Food Technology

The Trees have been working well in Food Technology, demonstrating an impressive depth of understanding and practical skills. This term, The Trees have excelled in cooking both sweet and savoury dishes, including cooked breakfasts, cakes, and innovative stuffed cookies, which they developed independently. The Trees communication skills have developed massively when presenting dishes, clearly explaining the cooking process and rationale behind ingredient choices. Well done Trees for engaging in cooking this term!





# Christmas Jumper Day

## Christmas Jumper Day

At Inspire Academy, we encourage our students to wear a Christmas jumper whilst they enjoy their Christmas dinner.

Our students got to enjoy festive music, Christmas crackers and a full Christmas dinner with staff and their peers.



# Miss Buckberry's Bulletin 📢

## Science Updates

Meadows, Chaucer and Adams have sat their first exams of the year for physics. Holmes have also sat their biology exams and all classes have completed their science coursework with maturity, resilience and care. Miss Buckberry also did a reward lesson with Blake, Ronny and Harry with the Bunsen burners.

## Sustainability Shoutout 📢

### Our Aim

As a school, we know that the little things make a big difference and to start off our Sustainability efforts, we have begun by adding 6 new food waste bins around the school. Students know the importance of disposing of food waste properly and now have this opportunity in their own classrooms.

We will continue our great efforts to raise awareness and help our planet.



## Maths Shoutout 📢

Louie C became the first student to reach 'Full Knowledge' in the Sparx Maths Multiplication levels, shortly followed by Lascell.

Other students that have increased their Sparx multiplication levels are:

Gabriel – 80 Club	Michael Daniel – 80 Club
Alfie D – 60 Club	Luke – 60 Club
Tamara – 50 Club	Harry – 60 Club
Lucas – 70 Club	

The student with the highest XP points was Lascell and in second place Michael Daniel.

**Sparx  
Maths**

## SLT Shoutout 📢

I would like to give a shout out to Gabriel, as he continues to try his best even though others in his class are very disruptive.

**Mrs Edwards**

My shout out goes to Taylor and Aros who have both turned their behaviour around over the term and shown some real improvements with their attitude towards staff.

**Mr Searle**

My shoutout goes to Harry H and Gabriel V as they have both shown consistent positive behaviours and are amazing role models to others in their class. Well done to you both and keep it up!

**Mr Peck**

