



February Newsletter

Welcome

Welcome to our February newsletter. We hope everyone had an enjoyable half term!

I would personally like to thank our parents and carers who attended our Year 11 Parents' Evening at the end of January. It was wonderful to see so many of you engaging with your child's progress following their mock exams. We are also grateful to our college partners, who provided guidance on post-16 options, career pathways, and answered questions about future opportunities.

There have been lots of positives this month, and we are particularly proud of the progress our pupils continue to make. Year 11 have shown great focus and determination in preparing for their upcoming GCSEs, and pupils across the school are embracing their learning with energy and enthusiasm.

In this edition, you will find highlights of what has been happening at The Acorns School, alongside key dates and events to look forward to in the coming weeks.

Mrs Hodson



Key dates

- **Easter closure:** Friday 27 March 2026
- **Return to school:** Monday 13 April 2026

Year 11 pupil celebrates success at Bikemech Training

We are proud to celebrate the achievements of one of our brilliant Year 11 pupils who has excelled during her placement with one of our external training providers, Bikemech Training. During her placement, she successfully achieved her Level 1 qualifications in mechanics, health and safety, and car valeting, as well as working towards the ABC Level 1 award in motor vehicle studies.

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NPQ staff success

Following on from the news we shared in November about investing in our staff members' CPD, we are delighted to announce that two teachers have recently completed, and passed, their national professional qualifications (NPQ).

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Success with Bikemech Training

Events

This month, we have continued to host events to support our pupils and staff:

Ongoing – The Liberty Centre: Connect and respect programme

Students have continued to benefit from the connect and respect programme delivered by The Liberty Centre.

The six-week intervention explores domestic abuse awareness, consent, online safety, and healthy relationships. Engagement remains excellent, with access to an out-of-hours live chat. We're delighted to confirm additional weekly workshops supporting Personal Development and RSE.

Upcoming events

- **University of Lancashire, memory session for Year 11:** Monday 2 March 2026
- **Faith friends workshop:** Tuesday 3 March 2026
- **RSE sessions for Year 9 and 11:** Thursday 26 March 2026

Collaborating with our partner schools

The Acorns School proudly hosted first aid response training on Friday 13 February. 24 delegates, including staff from Lathom High School and Burscough Priory Academy, completed a seven-hour course combining theory and practical elements. Delivered onsite by First Response Training, participants achieved the Emergency Paediatric First Aid Level 3 qualification, ensuring staff across our network are confident and prepared to respond in emergency situations.

We also hosted a collaborative CPD meeting at the start of the month, that brought together colleagues from Rainford High, Lathom High School, and Up Holland High School as part of our established network. The valuable session, delivered by Assistant Head Teacher, Mrs Jennie Thomson, and Designated Safeguarding Lead, Miss Fiona Melling, combined research-informed principles with practical examples to encourage participants to reflect on their engagement and communication practices with families in their school's setting.

Looking ahead, we will host our next collaborative CPD meeting on Wednesday 18 March, focused on trauma-informed practice and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Delivered, once again, by Mrs Jennie Thomson, Assistant Head Teacher, alongside Miss Helen Cutts, Deputy Head Teacher, the session will bring together colleagues from our network. The session will offer practical strategies, shared reflection, and discussion to support pupils across our schools.