



# January Newsletter

## Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2026. We have returned from the Christmas break with continued energy and enthusiasm, and are looking forward to seeing what the spring term has in store.

We have started the year as we mean to go on, and throughout January we have already made memorable experiences as a school community. These have given us valuable opportunities to celebrate our pupils' success and recognise their achievements.

I am particularly proud of our Year 11 pupils, who have recently sat their mock examinations in preparation for their GCSEs. They demonstrated a clear commitment to trying their best, and it was fantastic to witness the seriousness with which they approached the week.

In this newsletter, you will find an overview of what has been happening at The Acorns School this month, as well as key dates and events to look out for in February.

**Mrs Hodson**



## Key dates

- **Year 11 Parents' Evening:**  
Thursday 29 January
- **Assessment week for all pupils:**  
WC Monday 9 February
- **Inset day:** Friday 13 February
- **Mid-term closure:**  
Monday 16 – Friday 20 February
- **School re-opens:** Monday 23 February

### Revision techniques: hints and tips

In preparation for our Year 11's mock exams, we put together our top 10 tips on how to revise effectively whilst looking after your wellbeing. Our Year 8 - 10 pupils may be interested in taking a look at some of these hints and tips ahead of their assessment week that starts on Monday 9 February.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

### WOW sessions

Pupils felt inspired after our latest WOW sessions, as enterprise adviser Antony Grace delivered an engaging careers workshop with Inspira. Owner and Director of Manchester-based ASH Integrated Services, employing over 60 people, Antony shared his journey from leaving school to building and leading a successful business in the industry today.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



**The Acorns School**



## WOW session

## Prevent workshop



## Connect and respect

# Events

This month, we have hosted a range of events to support our pupils' personal development.

### 13 January – Prevent workshop for all pupils with Lancashire's Prevent team

We welcomed Prevent Delivery Officers, Tim Horobin and Rehana Suleman from Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council's Lancashire Prevent Team, who delivered an insightful and interactive workshop for our pupils. Following an introduction to Prevent, pupils took part in a range of activities designed to develop their understanding of key themes.

Pupils asked thoughtful questions throughout the workshop and found the whole experience extremely valuable.

### 15 January – Connect and respect programme with Liberty Centre

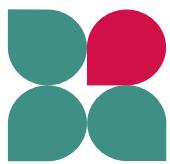
Our Key Stage 4 pupils embarked on their six-week connect and respect programme delivered by the Liberty Centre. Focused on evidence-based interventions, the programme promotes healthy, non-violent relationships and supports young people to seek health and safety should they find themselves in an unsafe relationship.

During their first session, pupils took part in a game of emotional bingo, which they thoroughly enjoyed playing as they were able to take part in thoughtful group discussions.

# Reminder: Year 11 Parents' Evening

This **Thursday, 29 January** we will be holding our Year 11 Parents' Evening. Starting at 3:00pm, it's the perfect opportunity to discuss your child's progress in their mock exams and gain support about the next steps they should take to prepare for their GCSEs that begin in May.

We are also delighted to share that we will be joined by a range of our college partners who will be on-hand to provide guidance on future career interests, answer any questions about post-16 options, and discuss available pathways.



**EXPANSE**  
LEARNING



**The Acorns School**