

Acorn Park School



Newsletter



We care, we strive, we grow, we thrive



School Office 01953 888656

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Web: <https://www.acornpark.org.uk/>

Acorn Park - Weekly Roundup

It has been a week full of positivity at Acorn Park this week and this is reflected in a huge amount of good news in our Round Up.

Year 10 have been out and about seal spotting at Horsey Beach today. We hope you enjoy their photos.

Yesterday we had a bootcamp for Superheroes which was a huge success.

From down in my office I could hear that Superheroes are very loud! All the classes taking part were very excited but in the end all engaged well. We knew that this activity was going to be a challenge for all the pupils but, being superheroes they rose to that challenge of course. Pupils encountered many people gathering in a small space, with loud noises cheering for one another, team spirit, taking turns, social interactions with unknown staff and pupils from different classes. We are really proud of all students.

This week I have several deserving School Stars...

Zachary L is nominated because since we returned to school after Christmas, Zachary has been in class for all the lessons, he has been engaging with other students not only during lessons but also playing with them. His achievement is massive.

In Dahl, Denny is the nominated one for his enthusiasm in all tasks and managing his sensory needs well.

In Milne class, Luca - For adapting well to working with new people and trying hard on all stations.

In Kerr, Emma I received a rare Headteacher's certificate for her enormous achievements. Emma is becoming increasingly independent and making choices for herself. She is going through a lot of changes but is managing so well. Last week she went to the theatre to see the pantomime and this week she has decided that she no longer needs her ear defenders all the time. Emma - we are so proud of the young lady you are becoming.

Our staff, not wanting to be left out have also been recognising each other this week.

A colleague emailed us about one of our apprentices, Lauren C in Tolkien.

Acorn Park - Weekly Roundup - continued

'She is so super and amazing. She has been so helpful and flexible with helping our students and they all have such a positive relationship with her. Her knowledge is absolutely outstanding (we call her Alexa because there is nothing she doesn't know). She has taken on helping me teach our students in any absence by teachers and has really amazed me with her capabilities to engage all students. I feel so comfortable with her in the class because I know she's got it.'

Another colleague wanted to remind us how awesome our new Walliams teacher, Sarah is - 'She is calm, firm and just really good.' Welcome Sarah.

Finally - Peter has asked me to share this letter with you...

Dear All,

Firstly, I'd like to share my excitement! The playground works are progressing well and some of the first structures are now beginning to take shape. The whole school has responded so well to the disruption, and the noise, and it's so good to hear conversations about this project all over the service. Please be assured that we have sufficient ear defenders available for everyone should they be needed and we are already 2 weeks into the 12-week programme - so we have lots to look forward to as we head on to Easter.

We have also been busy elsewhere on the site and we continue to grow the school's roll. This growth has been mainly in our primary phase in recent months, taking the available spaces in our existing classes. We are currently 111 young people strong and we plan to grow to 125 places by the end of the year, taking full advantage of the new classrooms and facilities we are currently building. Please be assured that we are managing this very carefully, we impact risk assess all new admissions and provide additional support for the transition period, the feedback on this has been very positive to date. We do not plan to grow the school beyond 125 places and taking planned future admissions into account, we are very nearly full for the 2023/24 academic year.

Further to our successful Inspection of the school in March of this year, I am pleased to share with you a change within our leadership team. Pip, our Head of School, takes the new title of Headteacher with effect from the start of January. In many ways, this will have little impact on the day-to-day operation of the school. The title of Headteacher carries additional statutory responsibilities and accountability for Ofsted inspections. This means that you will see Pip's name at the end of our inspection reports and other formal documents going forward, rather than mine. Operationally, I will continue to work closely with Pip and her senior leadership team so that we can maintain our progress in all areas and do the very best we can for all our young people and families.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Marshall
Head of Service

Horsey Beach Photographs



Breakfast Club Legends for the week

Izzy (Shakespeare) – for being incredibly kind in helping a staff member clear up after breakfast club

Zachary C (Walliams) – with limited support from his support staff, he is now consistently using the sentence strip each morning to produce a 5-word request for his breakfast – we are all super proud

Isaac (Donaldson) – for being kind and thoughtful by making sure that his friends have had their breakfast

Oliver (Ahlberg) – for using his teddy bear to order breakfast. Teddy used the sentence strip and was also able to point to each of the symbols on the strip. Well done Teddy and well done Oliver

You are all amazing!!