



Newsletter

Welcome!

Hello from us all here at Ancora House School,

We have had a busy time since our last Newsletter. Our amazing Year 11 learners have sat their GCSE exams which is a fantastic achievement. Many have had offers from their chosen colleges, and others are looking at alternative pathways, including apprenticeships. A group of year 11s will be volunteering at Chester Zoo, enjoy! We wish them good luck with their future, and would love to hear how they are getting on over the coming years (admin@ancora.cheshire.sch.uk)

We have said goodbye to our first cohort of post-16 learners. The course has been a great success with the young people on the course growing in confidence over the year. They are going on to great things and we wish them well on their journey.

Our younger learners have been taking part in a variety of activities too. In Science they have been learning about caterpillars turning into butterflies, taken part in a virtual day of work experience related to hospitality, attended the Countess of Chester for an NHS careers day and been to the Ellesmere Port Boat Museum for a water safety session. We have also had Gareth Cheeseman from ACET in to deliver RSE sessions with small groups.

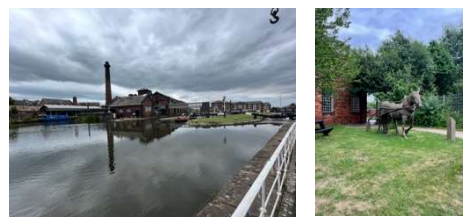
This term we have also had an OFSTED inspection, for which we received a grading of OUTSTANDING. I would like to thank all our learners and their parents and guardians for the amazing feedback we received. Our staff work hard every day to make sure every young person feels a welcome part of our school community and works towards their full potential, and it was heart-warming to know that this is so appreciated. We could not be the school we are without all of your support. I would like to thank all of the staff. They truly give their all and it is a pleasure to work with such a fantastic team.

I hope you all have a restful summer break and I look forward to seeing all of our learners on September 5th.

Carli

Boat museum visit

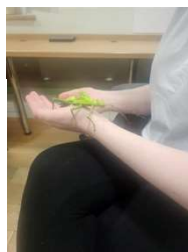
Post 16's and Year 11's had an end of term trip to The Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port in collaboration with The Canal and River Trust. We used underwater cameras to see what was in the canal- we couldn't believe it we actually saw fish! Lots of them! We asked what was the strangest thing found in the canal, can you have any guesses? We also had training in safety line throwing – three of us hit the target on our first go! You never know when that might be needed to help someone in the future- an important life skill. It rained but we still had great fun visiting somewhere different.



Year 11 leavers



Our year 11 celebrated the end of exams with two weeks of activities, including a visit from some interesting reptiles! On their final day they enjoyed an afternoon of food, drinks, games and music in the park...



OFSTED



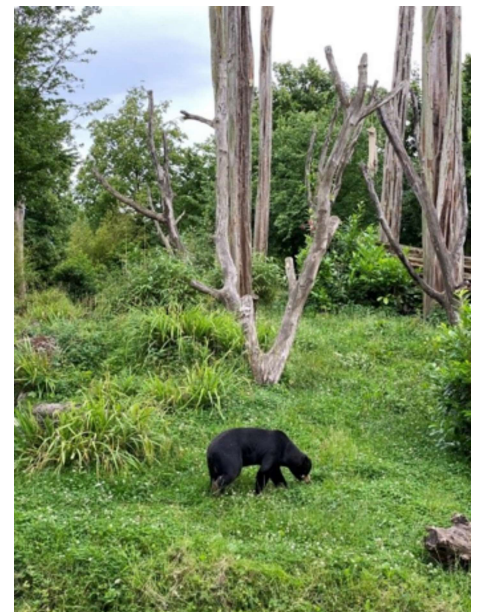
By now you should all have received a copy of our OFSTED Inspection Report. The inspection took place over two days and the inspectors visited both of our site. I wish to offer my thanks to all of you who gave feedback to the inspectors, either face to face or online. The inspectors were in awe of our young people and of you as parents and carers, they acknowledged, that with your help and support, we work as a team for the best outcomes for our children and young people. The judgement of 'Outstanding' is something we can **all** own as a school community and feel rightly proud of our achievements.



NHS visit



NHS Insight Day - our students from Castle Park and the hospital site joined the Education and Training team at the Countess of Chester Hospital for an NHS Insight Day. We were able to hear from guest speakers from different departments including Radiography and Theatres. We also had the opportunity to practice our nursing skills by using the blood pressure machines; study x-ray photos and scrub up for theatre! A great insight into the different job roles and career opportunities within the NHS.



Zoo Project

I have joined up with a few other students to take part in the Youth Champions project at Chester Zoo. I have been given the opportunity to join up with a designated volunteer to assist in helping guests make the most of their visit. Next week I begin my training where I will be given the Chester Zoo uniform! I am hoping to get stationed with the lemurs as I love the new walk-through experience.

DH – Post 16 student.

STORYHOUSE

I started attending Storyhouse in October for their 9 month Young Leader programme that takes place every Wednesday afternoon. After completing this, I will receive my Arts award. We were assigned with completing a project a project of our own choice that had to relate to any art form. I chose set design and created a crime scene based on Greys Anatomy, it is a medical murder scene with scattered evidence.

Local foodbank and other useful links...



**PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1)
DURING THE 6 WEEKS SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2023**

COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

TESCO

Kids eat free with a purchase of 60p+ from Mon 24th July - Fri 1st September 2023

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

TRAVELODGE

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays & up to 2 Kids get free breakfast with 1 adult breakfast

PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 & get one free kids meal all day, every day.

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

BILLS

2 kids eat FREE all day, every day from Monday 24th July - Friday 1st Sept 2023

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Valid All Day Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

YO! SUSHI

From Mon 17th of July until Fri 11th of Aug kids eat free with every £10 adult spend

TO BE CONFIRMED...

M&S and Farmhouse Inns

Cheshire Autism Parent Training

ChAPS has been commissioned to offer autism parent training programmes in the Northwich, Winsford, Crewe and Middlewich areas on behalf of NHS South Cheshire CCG & NHS Vale Royal CCG. We have also been commissioned to provide the same courses in Chester & Ellesmere Port on behalf of NHS West Cheshire CCG. To register your interest, please use the link below:

<https://www.cheshireautism.org.uk/ccg-parent-training/>

Holiday Activities with Food programme

Edsential are delighted to be coordinating the Holiday Activities with Food programme for 2023 for Cheshire West and Chester Council – Funded by Department for Education.

Edsential's Holiday Activities with Food programme provides enriching activities, delicious nutritious meals and a chance for young people to meet new friends in a safe & fun environment, during school holidays across West Cheshire.

For more information visit:

<https://edsential.com/haf-cheshire-west/>

Carers Trust – Cheshire and Warrington. Cheshire and Warrington Carers Trust are the lead providers of the Cheshire West Carer Support Service. Their offices are in Northwich, Chester and Crewe They work to improve the lives of carers. Their mission is to shape a better future for the lives of unpaid carers across the UK. Examples of support on offer are Carers Helpline, Weekly drop ins, Working carer groups and carer support, Carer in crisis fund.

Helpline: 0300 102 0008

Email:

advice@cheshireandwarringtoncarers.org

Website:

<https://cheshireandwarringtoncarers.org/>

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child whilst school is closed please call the Integrated Access and Referral Team (iART) or the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) for help and advice.

• Telephone: i-ART - 0300 123 7047

The team can be contacted 8.30am to 5pm from Monday to Thursday and 8.30am – 4.30pm on Friday.

If you have an urgent concern outside these hours, or over a bank holiday, please call the **Emergency Duty Team (out of hours) on 01244 977277.**

Alternatively call **Cheshire Police: 101 for non-emergencies or 999 in an emergency.**

Transitions...on to pastures new...

Hello, I'm Rachael, the new Education Transitions Worker at Castle Park. This term it's been wonderful to meet the team, learn the ropes and most importantly get to know the students! As part of our transitional support, I've accompanied students on a number of college visits, including Coleg Cambria -Yale Campus, Northop, Reaseheath and Cheshire S&W - Handbridge and Ellesmere Port Campuses. We've also supported the transition into Ancora through home visits and school sessions.

We're very lucky to have the support of The Cheshire and Warrington Pledge, who help us to link with employers and careers to widen our students' experiences and develop transferrable skills. Before the summer break we have had a Virtual Work Experience Workshop with our Year 10 students, where they took part in a hospitality project set by Brunning & Price. They successfully planned a wedding and did a great job keeping within the budget! Last week we were invited to Chester Zoo, where a number of our students joined the Conservation tour and careers exhibition. Our first ever NHS Insights Day over at The Countess of Chester Hospital also took place. This was a great opportunity to explore careers within the NHS and gain some experience of the workplace.

Plans have already been made for the next academic year, to ensure we provide a wide range of career opportunities for our students. This includes visits to the Careers Fair and Jobs and Apprenticeships fair; talks from a number of independent training providers and continuing our links with local organisations, businesses and voluntary services. We are also really excited to be involved in a new Needs-Led Mentoring programme, for our Year 11 and Post 16 students to guide them with CV writing, interview techniques and transferrable skills.

Community links...

Ancora Post 16's were invited to a presentation evening to share all of the good work we have done in the local community and sharing with others the impact this has had on the community around us and also the positive impact it has had on us and our wellbeing and confidence. The two local mayors were really impressed and want to come and visit Castle Park community site in future.



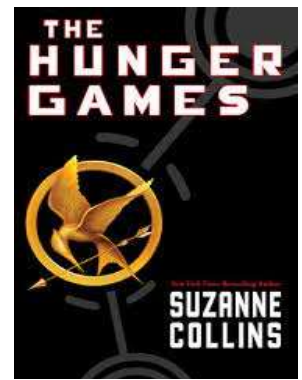
Spirit of the Herd

One of our young people has been attending 'Spirit of the Herd'.

Spirit of the Herd is an oasis for both horses and people, it is an organisation run by volunteers who help to rehabilitate rescued horses, whilst offering a safe haven for people to experience the calm, gentle bond that these loving animals provide.



In English this half term...



The Hunger Games: The young people will be analysing and exploring the text in depth, considering: characterisation, setting and plot development. With the skills that they have identified and analysed, students will then be developing their creative writing skills.



Goodbye, KS4 & 5: The KS4 and 5 students have successfully sat their English and Functional Skills Exam's and have worked considerably hard in the build up to these. We wish them all of the best for the future!



Literacy: The young people have engaged in a range of literacy projects, ranging from: Crystals, Guitar hero's and a history of Merseyrail; to creating a new planet. The projects have engaged the students and allowed them to hone their literacy skills.

In Art this half term...

In KS3 we have looked at the work of Jae Kim, an artist who makes doughnuts to represent the variety of cultures and ethnicities, and made our own interpretations.

We have studied Hannah Bullen who create birds from found flora and fauna.

Year 11 and post 16 students have each created an inspirational page in preparation for the Ancora journey book...watch this space!

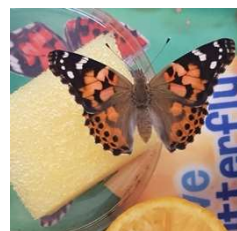
GCSE students have continued to work on their insect and butterfly studies in preparation for their surface pattern designs.



In Science this half term...

Painted Lady Butterflies (Vanesa Cardi)

These beautiful creatures are called painted lady butterflies which we have been looking after at school since they were caterpillars. We have watched them develop through the different stages of metamorphosis, from caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly. After we released them, they will live for 2 weeks eating nectar from thistles and other nectar rich wild plants. Those that are around in the Autumn will migrate to North Africa for the winter and return to the UK in May to lay their eggs. The painted lady butterflies are pretty gorgeous insects and it was lovely to learn about them and watch them develop.



Nunkey the tortoise came into school today and helped Liza this week during practical science lessons, helping our students learn about the anatomy and categorisation of reptiles.

Maths puzzles

Maths puzzles

(1) Move only one stick to make the sum correct

$$6 + 4 = 4$$

Solution

$$5 + 4 = 4$$

(2) Calculate the missing numbers

☺	☆	☺	☆	= 54
△	△	☺	☺	= 46
☆	△	☺	△	=
☆	☺	☺	△	=

		48 =	
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Solution

- 54
- 46
- 49
- 50

53 49 48 49

In PSHE this half term...

In PSHE this half term we have looked at important topics such as Black History Month, Mental Health Awareness and Sexual health and relationships.

I believe it is so important to hear about these topics so that young people understand the progress that has been made and so that we can learn from history and what has happened in the past. If we raise awareness of atrocities that happened i then we can learn from past mistakes and hope that History isn't repeated.

I think it is also important to teach young people what language isn't appropriate and the meanings behind the things they are saying.

By educating young people about all these issues they learn that they can have an opinion that is different from their family, friends and peers! PSHE sessions can make that difference!

AsW year 9

