



ARENA
ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

Friday 12th March 2021

Proudly sponsored by **CORE** Education Trust

Good afternoon parents and carers,

This week we have welcomed back all our students for the first time since December, and we cannot fully express how good it is to see them all in our classrooms once again.

Monday was our final testing day and thanks to the logistical skills of Mr Newman & Mr Pyatt, we were able to get the entire school through our doors to allow us to make a start on Tuesday, and what a great restart to the school year we have had!

Our attendance figure on Tuesday was 97.3% which is a testament not only to the students but also to you as parents and carers in keeping your children safe and ready for their return.

Our focus for the remainder of this term is on the well-being of students and getting them back in to the routines of school life, and then from Easter we will be focussing on making up for the lost time, and addressing the knowledge gaps.

We would like to take this opportunity to once more pay tribute to all the parents and carers who were involved in any way, however large or small, in the home education of their children during this lockdown. Many of us here are parents as well as teachers, and we know how challenging that can be, especially if you have more than one young person at home, but it is a testament to you that so many of our students have returned to school talking about their online learning experiences and demonstrating what they have learned during that period.

Another aspect of school life we are focussing on this term is standards in and around the building and classrooms. We would be grateful if you could remind your children that coats must not be worn in the building at all. Students must carry them when moving from classroom to classroom and may only put them on once they are outside.

Mobile phones must be switched off and placed in coats or bags at all times, except for break and lunch.

Students must arrive to school ready to learn with all the equipment they need such as pens, pencils, rulers, and any books necessary for each lesson. Timetables were given out to all students on Tuesday morning to remind them of their lessons.

Students with PE on a particular day are to arrive to school wearing their PE kit. This is a safety issue during these times due to the close confines of the changing rooms.

Students have been reminded about all these expectations but we would be grateful if you could reinforce them at home for us.

As we have now returned to school, our newsletters will revert to a fortnightly basis. We hope you have found them useful during the lockdown.

Wishing you all a safe and warm Spring.

All at Arena.

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Return to School News

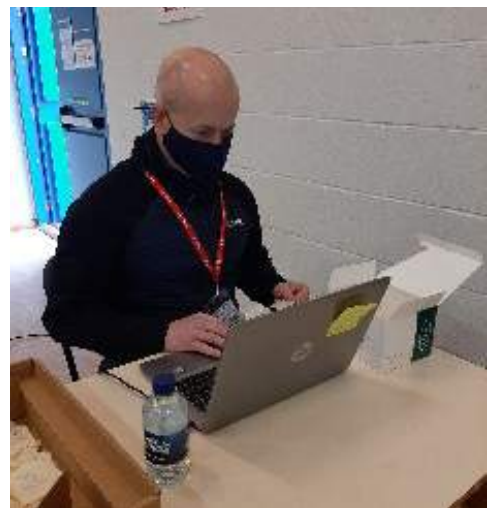
We completed our testing programme on Monday of this week, following on from the previous week in which all students came in for two tests over four days.

To get all of our students through for their final test all in one day was a logistical challenge to say the very least, but Mr Newman and Mr Pyatt moved mountains to ensure that this was done effectively, efficiently and safely.

However, a huge thanks must go to the parents who volunteered to give up their time to help us on Monday, showing the true spirit of Arena's community.



Many thanks to Michelle, Richard, Veronica, Penny & Keyleigh. We are all genuinely grateful for your help.



Home Testing

Students are to be issued with home-testing kits and these will contain all you need to complete and record Covid tests at home.

Students will be required to test and record twice per week. The results will then need to be logged with the school and on the government website.

We appreciate that this may seem daunting for many, so we have a webpage with videos that explain how the tests are to be done, along with the links to record the results. Go to:

<https://www.arena-birmingham.academy/home-covid-testing/>

The Home Testing Kits and Recording Results.



Return to School News

It is essential that students are wearing masks in school at the current time. Masks were previously being worn in corridor areas of school, but government advice is that masks are now worn in classrooms too. This is a temporary measure and is to be reviewed at Easter.

We have been able to provide all students in school with a washable and reusable mask that has been generously donated to the school by 1TcA Masks.

If you wish to purchase additional masks they are available from www.1tca.com



Please wear your masks in all classrooms and corridors in school.
Stay safe!

Year 9 Pathways

Year 9 - Pathways

zoom

Wednesday 17th March 4.30pm – 6.30pm

Thursday 18th March 4.30pm – 6.30pm

The evening will be conducted wholly on Zoom (<http://zoom.us>) where you will need to enter a Meeting ID and passcode as you select "Join a Meeting". These, as well as the links to each meeting, can be found at:

<https://www.arena-birmingham.academy/parents/>.

The schedule for both evenings is shown below. There are up to six subjects per session. Each session will last for 15 minutes allowing you time to take in as many different subjects as possible, potentially attending twelve sessions across the two days.

- You **do not** have to pre-book a place, but it is advisable you have the links ready before the evening starts.
- You will be greeted by a five-minute pre-recorded presentation followed by the opportunity to ask any questions you may have to our subject leads.
- We kindly ask for a prompt arrival to each session as the presentation will start at the allocated time.

Please email pathways@arena-birmingham.academy if you have any questions in advance, or following, the event.

OPPORTUNITY



Year 9 - Pathways

Session 1	16:30 - 16:45	English & English Literature	Computer Science (GCSE) & Digital Information Technology (Level 2)	History	PE (GCSE) & Sport (Level 2)	Fine Art	Textiles
Session 2	16:50 - 17:05	Maths	Business (GCSE) & Business Enterprise (Level 2)	Geography	Child Development	Photography	Food Preparation & Nutrition
Session 3	17:10 - 17:25	Science	Computer Science (GCSE) & Digital Information Technology (Level 2)	History	Health & Social Care	Engineering	
Session 4	17:30 - 17:45	English & English Literature	Business (GCSE) & Business Enterprise (Level 2)	Geography	DT - Product Design	Religious Studies	
Session 5	17:50 - 18:05	Maths	French	Music	PE (GCSE) & Sport (Level 2)	T&T	Sociology
Session 6	18:10 - 18:25	Science	French	Drama	Dance	Psychology	

OPPORTUNITY



Year 11 Parents Evening

Year 11 Parents Evening is on Thursday 25th March. Arena has introduced a new intuitive and easy to use online parents evening system called SchoolCloud. This allows you to choose your own appointment times with teachers, you will receive an email confirming your appointments and appointments will take place via video calls.



Parents' evenings, simplified

Please visit: <https://arenaacademy.schoolcloud.co.uk> to book your appointments.

Appointments can be made from Monday 8th March and will close on Friday 19th March. Should you wish to make any changes after this date please email enquiry@arena-birmingham.academy.

There is an instructional video on how to book appointments on our website. You can view this at <https://www.arena-birmingham.academy/parents/>

Post-16 Webinars

A purple and pink poster for 'POST 16 WEBINAR' by CORE Education Trust. It features a circular photo of two students in school uniforms. Below the photo are six circular logos for participating colleges: UCB, Joseph Chamberlain, Walsall College, Sandwell College, BMet, and Central Saint Michael's Sixth Form. The text includes the dates 'THURSDAY 11TH MARCH & THURSDAY 18TH MARCH FROM 5:25PM' and a description of the webinars.


CORE
EDUCATION
TRUST

**POST 16
WEBINAR**

**THURSDAY 11TH MARCH &
THURSDAY 18TH MARCH
FROM 5:25PM**

We will be holding online webinars for CORE Education Trust students, with several colleges in Birmingham. This will be a great opportunity to hear about the variety of courses and career paths available and ask any questions that you may have.

Hosted by Mr Mann,
Headteacher at Arena Academy

**DELIVERING A
CORE EDUCATION**

We have a number of Post-16 webinars taking place over the next few days.

These are aimed at year 11 students who are looking for information about their next steps.

On Thursday of this week, Mr Mann hosted a webinar on Teams with several of our local colleges.

A further webinar will be taking place on Thursday 18th March from 5.25pm.

There will be information from:

- University College Birmingham
- Matthew Boulton College
- James Watt College
- Sutton Coldfield College
- Walsall College
- Sandwell College
- Central St Michaels college
- Joseph Chamberlain college

Please join us if you can.

Laptop Return

During the lockdown Arena lent out all of our laptops and devices to enable as many of our students as possible to access their online learning.

As we are now back in school and back in our classrooms it is necessary that we are able to use these devices as part of our regular education provision.

If your child or children were loaned a laptop for use during the lockdown can you please ensure that this is returned to school as soon as possible. Please make sure that the charger is also returned alongside the laptop.

This will ensure that we are able to deliver our curriculum and reduce those knowledge gaps that may have appeared over the lockdown period.



PSHE

We have appointed Arena Academy's first set of PSHE Ambassadors!! The student leadership role will include them having a say on the topics which are taught during PSHE and how they are delivered.

During the first remote meeting last week they already come up with some fantastic suggestions which Miss Blackwood will start to incorporate into PSHE lessons. If any other students have any ideas or thoughts around PSHE please see the ambassadors within your year group so that they can make sure your voice is heard.

PSHE Ambassadors

- Is an Arena Academy student leadership role where students are able to have a say and input on PSHE lessons
- They will be the student voice of your year group when it comes to deciding how and what topics are taught during PSHE so please see them if you have any ideas or suggestions!

YEAR 7

Ethan
Sara
Mannatvir
Beth
Morgan

YEAR 8

Taylor
Chelsea
Faith
Kate
Amelia

YEAR 9

Niamh
Libbie
Adyan

YEAR 10

Kathryn
Tiera
Tejal
Anna
Kelishay
Dina
Ibrahim
Harkiran
Faiza
Aimee
Kara



AMBASSADOR



YEAR 11

Ryan

Science Week

This coming week Arena Academy celebrates British Science Week! There are a range of events taking place. During the week we aim to celebrate the advances British Science has made, particularly in the fight against the novel coronavirus. Using the curriculum, students will have **Opportunity** to debate and confront misconceptions about the virus and see how we are all **Collaborating** through this difficult time.



There are also opportunities for fun, competition, and creativity. On Monday we will launch two competitions. The first competition is supported by the National British Science Week organisation and focuses on creative problem solving and future technology. Our second competition encourages students to get out the house, away from the computer screen and find a healthy **Respect** for nature.. The Arena science faculty has provided sunflower seeds and eco-friendly pots as we want to see who can grow the biggest sunflower!

Finally we have launched the 2021 Science Club. In its current format Science Club will deliver online tutorials for fun, safe and cheap at-home practical activities for students. These will be hosted on the Core Education Youtube channel. We look forward to seeing the **Excellence** our students have to display again!

Check out www.arena-birmingham.academy/science-week for updates from Monday



Family Numeracy

with

**ARENA
ACADEMY**

The last edition of 'Family Numeracy' certainly proved that numeracy is a key skill used by all of you at Arena Academy. Thank you for all of you who sent pictures and got involved.

Please get involved with the tips and challenges and see some of the numeracy fun you can be getting up to over the next couple of weeks.

This Weeks Numeracy Tips:

1. Cooking with Maths! This is a fun way to practice numeracy skills with ratio and proportion. Think about how you can half or double the quantity
2. Everyday mental maths. When you go out the shops calculate mentally how much change you get from buying items.

DISCOVERING THE BEAUTY OF SHAPE

The previous numeracy tip we gave as a challenge to our students was to discover the beauty of shape. Many of our students at Arena found loads of 3D object in their homes and shared them with us. Some students took this further by exploring the nets of the shapes getting a feel about how to find the surface area. Great Job!



COMPETITION

EVERYDAY IM NUMBERING!

Who does maths life? Where is real life maths in my life? Here is my day!

Tuesday morning, I wake up to the blaring of my alarm then set another alarm for 10 minutes later... wait a minute, **NUMBERS!**

Ten minutes later I get up, wash, brush my teeth and all that jazz and move on to my favourite part of the day: making coffee. I buy it ready ground, so I do my usual 1:16 coffee/water ratio and th... **NUMBERS!**

After giving our dog its morning walk, which contained no maths from what I could see, I measure out **NUMBERS** his food which he gobbles with delight. With my laptop on I start scheduling **NUMBERS** my day out, prep what I need and then get going.

It's a lovely day where I'm mostly doing lesson planning. To begin, I open my planning book and draw margins 3cm from the edge **NUMBERS**. Its snack time for me and two children. Is there enough bread and cheese?... **NUMBERS**. Deciding what to eat/cook is based on quantities and proportions. I pop into the shop, grab a bottle of water for later and some Doritos for my children. £3.49, I count **NUMBERS** out my change and pay the exact amount. And it goes on and on!

Get the chance to tell your numbering story.

Write an account of your day using literacy skills to put together full sentences describing where you use numbers. The person with the most numbers used and best diary account will win a prize! Send all entries to Mrs Gogna



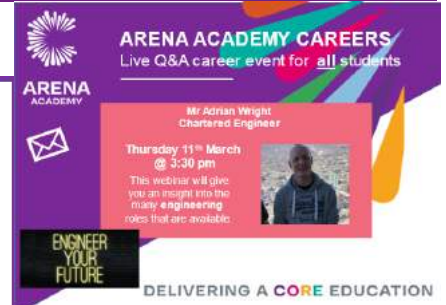
Thank you for reading! If you have any questions, feedback or good numeracy practice you would like to share, please email me at:

Pgogna@arena-academy.birmingham

Careers

This week's live Arena Academy Careers webinar was hosted by Mr Adrian Wright who is a chartered engineer and one of our governors. Students discovered what the role involved and the importance of maths within engineering. Adrian also shared his career journey, which gave a great insight to our students about the options available to them. We would like to extend our gratitude for the time he gave us and we look forward to when Adrian is able to come into school to support students who are interested in engineering as a career.

We would also like to thank everyone who joined the event.

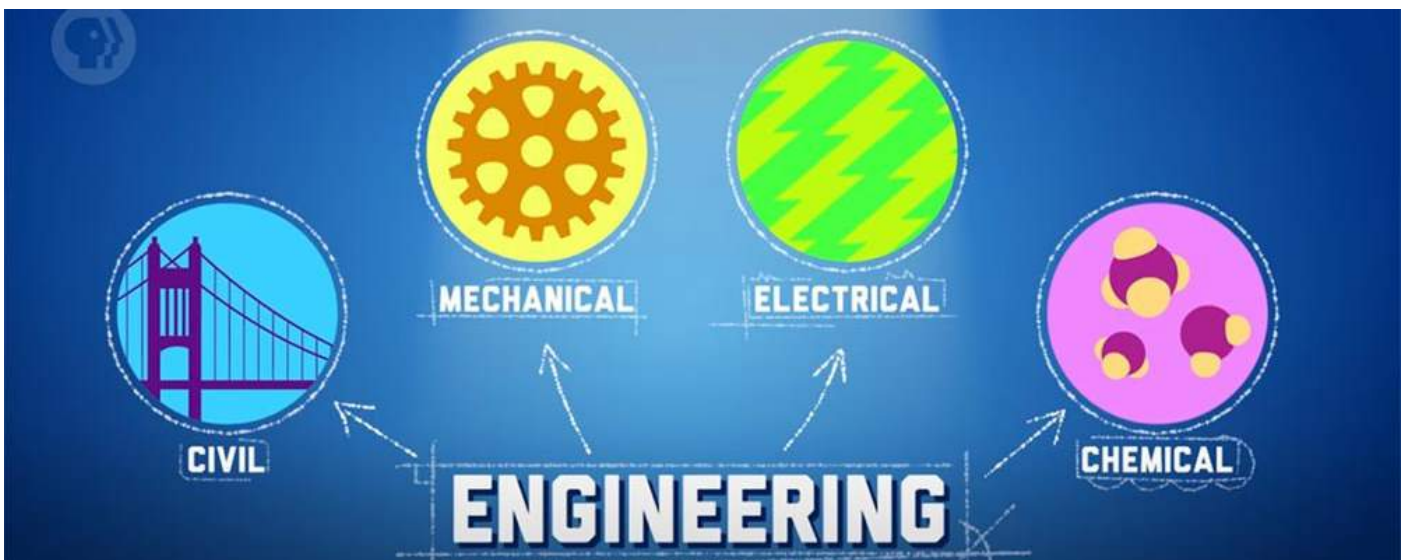


Useful websites relating to Engineering:

<https://mtfy.org.uk/>

<https://targetcareers.co.uk/career-sectors/engineering/12-what-types-of-jobs-and-employers-are-there-in-engineering>

<https://www.theengineer.co.uk/careers-engineering-first-steps/>



Careers

Parents and Carers of Year 11

All students should by now have applied to their post 16 first choice college / 6th form and have also applied to at least 2 back-up options. If your child has not made at least 3 applications, from Wednesday 17th March, the expectation will be for them to remain in school at the of the school day to complete and send applications to colleges and 6th forms (please be advised that many school 6th forms have now closed their applications), supported by Mrs. Batsford, our careers advisor. During these sessions, students will be offered advice about their options and help them to form a career plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Batsford at mbatsford@arena-birmingham.academy



POSITIVE FUTURES

BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL

AVAILABLE NOW! FULLY REMOTE THROUGH COVID-19

Are you 15-24, not in education, employment or training and looking for support?

**GET SKILLED
MOTIVATED
WORKING
MOVING**



**STARTS 12TH
APRIL 2021**

**A FUN AND ENGAGING APPROACH
TO PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT!**

CALL: 07880 192 079 OR EMAIL: cwynter@pet-xi.co.uk

POSITIVE FUTURES

BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL

AVAILABLE NOW! FULLY REMOTE THROUGH COVID-19

Are you 15-24, not in education, employment or training and looking for support?

Gain valuable qualifications and experience to prepare you for future employment with up to 6 months support.

COURSE DURATION: 4 WEEKS
Monday to Friday 10am - 1pm

WEEK ONE AND TWO...

Developing your understanding in:

- Employability
- Maths and English Key Skills
- Finding college & training opportunities
- Getting job & Apprenticeship ready
- Perfecting interview skills
- CV writing & covering letters
- Access to events and job fairs

WEEK THREE AND FOUR

IT USER SKILLS LEVEL 2 QUALIFICATION

Developing your understanding in:

- Digital Employability (*emails, universal credits etc*)
- Microsoft PowerPoint (*business presentation*)
- Microsoft Excel (*budgeting*)
- Microsoft Word (*developing your CV/cover letter*)

**CALL OR TEXT CURTIS TODAY
TO SEE IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE:**

CALL: 07880 192 079 OR EMAIL: cwynter@pet-xi.co.uk