

FEB/MARCH
EDITION



ARENA
ACADEMY

OPTIMISM, AMBITION & ONENESS

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Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to the February and March edition of our newsletter. We hope that you have had a wonderful start to the year and that your children have had a positive Spring Term.

As you may have noticed, there are many exciting opportunities for our students this month. Our Year 11 students have successfully completed their Mock Exams. These exams are an important part of their academic journey, as they will provide a valuable opportunity for our students to test their knowledge and understanding in preparation for their upcoming GCSE exams. I am confident that our students will work hard and achieve excellent results.

As we approach this crucial period, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and guardians of the importance of working together with the school to support our students. We appreciate your ongoing support and encouragement for your children's learning, both in and out of the classroom.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for the hard work and dedication of our staff, who continue to provide excellent teaching and support to our students. It is thanks to their commitment and expertise that our students are able to thrive and succeed.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to sharing more news and updates with you in the coming months.

COLLABORATION

Food Bank Donations - Thank you!!



A huge thank you to Kat Stanford for your donations. Kat collects money and donations locally and distributes to various groups within the community.



Thank you to Cleone Foods, Island Delight, Starbucks (James Watt College), Mr Singh's Pizza's and Midland Langar Seva Society for your weekly donations.

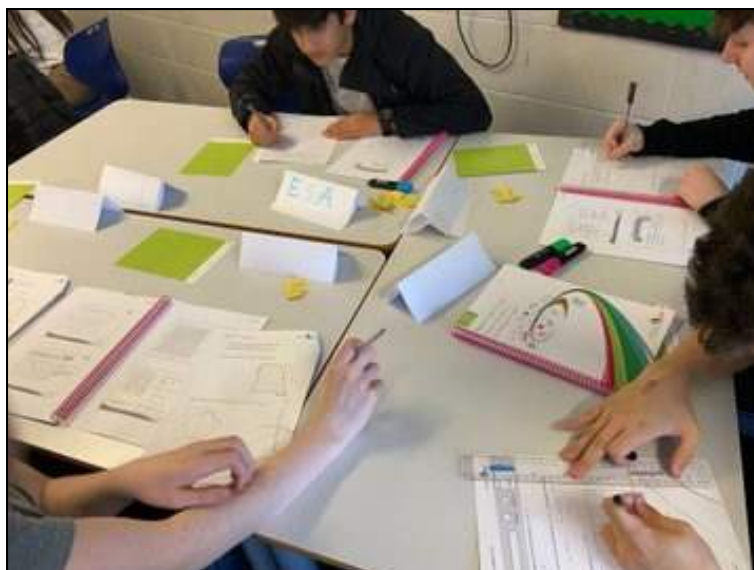
COLLABORATION

Pet Xi Year 11 Revision



During half term we had the Pet Xi team working with our Year 11 students delivering intensive, immersive, motivational and inspirational maths interventions to support our Year 11's with their GCSE revision.

They are also working with our students over the Easter holidays.



OPPORTUNITY

Year 10 Cyanotype Photography



Year 10 Photography students have been creating cyanotypes inspired by Man Ray using sensitive paper and still life objects.

Luckily we had a lovely sunny day to ensure we had a good exposure.

Mrs Freeman - Head of Visual Arts

OPPORTUNITY

Year 10 Performing Arts Drumming Workshop



The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire came into Arena to work with a group of Year 10 Performing Arts students. During this brilliant session, Jeremy and Millicent showed the students how to work as a team on a performance of Stormzy's 'Blinded by your Grace'. The workshop was a huge success and students really benefitted from this experience.



OPPORTUNITY

National Poetry Competition

Our Year 7's have been using their poetic skills to enter the National Poetry Competition.

Pollution

Here's to our world,
Where the skies are filled with smoke.
Where the pollution is consuming us,
This is no joke.

Pollution is "Invisible"
But I am watching it unfold.
Spreading and killing,
And ruining our world

This planet is not our bin,
So, stop letting it die.
Before throwing your rubbish on the floor,
Please. Ask yourself, "Why?".

Making this poem,
Just isn't enough.
I need to spread my message,
Stand my ground and act tough.

Emily Y7

Climate Change

We have twisted our world,
It will forever be scarred

The earth will begin to crumble beneath
our feet.

We are the antagonist in this story that
is bitter-sweet.

This is our planet

We are becoming too comfortable in this
disgraceful habit

We are accountable in these great,
scarred nations

Our mistakes thrusting us into deteriora-
tion

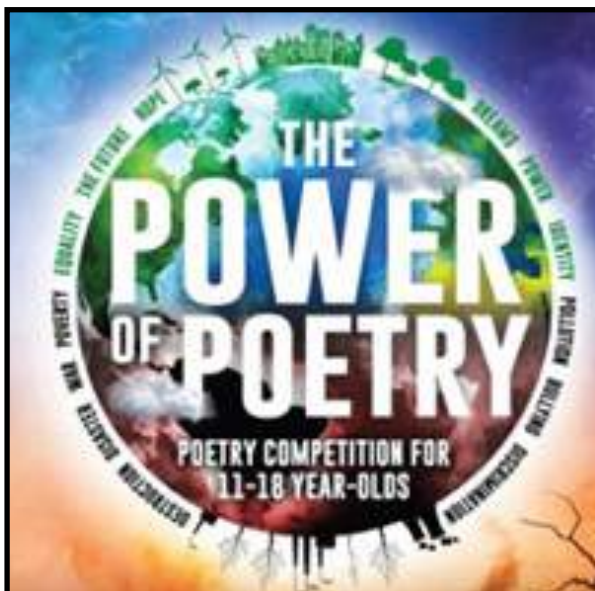
Pollution fills our seas

To Gaia we must seem a disease

Floating, broken bottles and bin bags

The malignant players in this game of
infectious tag

Evie Y7



OPPORTUNITY

ADHD

It's my blessing and my curse. A superpower and a disability. I hyper focus and struggle to focus. I am highly intelligent, just slow to process. An explosion of creativity that can't stay in reality. I get up early but always arrive late. Remember useless facts but forget to pay my debt. Start a million projects and struggle to finish a single - I am driven yet, I procrastinate. Agonising over decisions that I choose impulsively. I organise, then I can't find anything. I care too much, emotions overwhelm me. The fearless fighter worried about all that I see. I want to be social, yet people terrify. I have too much to say so I suppress my voice. I impress, and then disappoint. I am amazing and I am all wrong. I love my brain then wish I was 'alright'. I want to shine bright - I want to hide.

Kayanna Y7

Homelessness

You see it everywhere,
No matter where you go.
People can't bear,
And it makes them feel low.

See them crane their necks in pain,
And their skeleton figure shiver.
Because of some they cannot gain,
And they wonder 'Why aren't you a giver?'

They watch people ignore their signs for aid,
When all they want is a penny to spare.
All these items can just be made,
Even if its just a new thing to wear.

Everyday children see this happening,
The way people are so selfish and rude.
Always hoping,
People shouldn't be this crude.

Shayla Y7

School Prizes

The school that submits the best overall set of entries will win The Young Writers' Award of Excellence and a £100 National Book Token for their class.

PLUS every participating school receives a free copy of the book their pupils feature in!

Student Prizes

Our favourite 5 poets will each win £50 and a trophy!

OPPORTUNITY

Careers Fayre



Thank you to our Careers Advisor Mrs Barlow for planning an amazing opportunity for all of our students.

We had over 20 visitors from colleges, sixth forms and apprenticeship providers who were on hand all day to discuss the futures of our students.

Every student got the chance to visit throughout the day.



OPPORTUNITY

SIX Theatre Trip



On 1st March we took a group of Year 10 and 11 students to see SIX at the Birmingham Hippodrome. The students behaved impeccably and represented Arena with maturity and respect. The show was an explosion of sparkling outfits and sassy lyrics and the students (and staff) thoroughly enjoyed it. We would like to thank the Hippodrome staff and the HEN team for working in partnership with us to provide opportunities such as these to our students.



OPPORTUNITY

Y11 Geography Field Trip



Our Year 11 Geographers were making the most of their physical field work at Carding Mill Valley this month, despite the wet weather.



OPPORTUNITY

University College Birmingham Visit



As part of Opportunities Day, a group of Year 10 students studying Food Science and Health and Social Care, visited University College Birmingham. Students really enjoyed their day and took lots from this experience.

OPPORTUNITY

Easter Club Opportunity

**SPORTS ACTIVITIES • MUSIC • MENTORING
DANCE • COOKING • WORKSHOPS • FIFA**

AGES 9-16

M.A.D. BIRMINGHAM

EASTER Camp

Places will be filled quickly so register your young person beforehand
(THIS IS A REQUIREMENT)
Register using the link below:
www.sportsbirmingham.org
For any more queries contact:
Leon 07587 034783 (A)
Callam 07538 360922 (B)
mad@sportbirmingham.org

DATE: 11th - 14th April

TIME: 10AM - 2PM

Location A: Aston Manor Academy Phillips St, Aston, Birmingham, B64PZ
Location B: Arena Academy Beeches Rd, Birmingham, B42 2PY
Location C: Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School Victoria Rd, Acocks Green, Bham, B27 7XY

FREE LUNCH
*TUCK SHOP ALSO AVAILABLE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

RESPECT

Year 10 Reading Buddies Project with Priestley Smith



Students from Year 10 have been working with students from Priestley Smith on a reading project during Tuesday form times. The project allows students to help younger students develop their confidence with fluency of reading by listening to them read out loud. The students from both Arena and Priestley Smith, have commented on how much they have enjoyed developing new relationships, sharing stories, and gaining confidence with meeting new people. We hope to continue this reading partnership for the rest of this academic year by allowing more students the opportunity to take part.

RESPECT

National Apprenticeship Week



During National Apprenticeship Week we were lucky to have a visit from Millie Barlow who is currently doing an Apprenticeship at Little Ripley Day Nursery. Millie spoke to some of our year 10 and year 11 students about her apprenticeship route and she shared her experiences with the students on what it was like to work in a nursery. Our students found this really interesting and they asked Millie lots of questions.

Thank you to Karen Barlow for arranging this and thank you to Millie for giving up her own time to share her experiences.



RESPECT

International Women and Girls in science Day

During this month our girls at Arena took part in activities to celebrate International Women and Girls in Science Day. Our girls took over the labs to explore the Chemistry of Cosmetics, methods of obtaining clean water and have made DNA inspired bracelets. Throughout the week postcards illustrated by Rachel Ignotofsky of 50 iconic Women of Science were hidden around the school for the girls to find and keep. What's more two Women in Science books by Rachel Ignotofsky were also up for grabs for students in every year group!

Our UNICEF ambassadors also took part and many of our students were awarded a medal for being a Rights Respecting Student!

Well done to all our girls that took part!



RESPECT

UNICEF Ambassadors CPR Training

Our Year 10 and Year 11 UNICEF Ambassadors took part in CPR training which was delivered by Birmingham Community Healthcare Charity as part of our commitment to the Outright Campaign which focuses on children's rights to the best possible health.



EXCELLENCE

Basketball



On Wednesday 15th February our school attended the Birmingham School Games Basketball Tournament at Nechells Wellbeing Centre. The team was made up of Ayden, Romario and Rhys from Year 9, and K'shien and Romeo from Year 8. We did the school proud by winning two, drawing one and losing one of our group games. We then faced Aston Manor in the semi-final and beat them 8-6 so we were through to the final! The team fought hard and played well in the final, however, we lost 8-4. Well done to all the players and thanks to the staff for taking us.

Rhys Year 9.

I am left speechless. I am so proud of everyone who participated in the basketball tournament. I couldn't be happier with the result! Our girls and boys team managed to qualify in the top in both tournaments. That is such a great achievement! I am so impressed, 5 female students competing in a basketball tournament playing against 9 other schools, we managed to grab the 4th place spot. Bear in mind, the girls who have played has had zero experience at playing in a basketball team. I am so happy to of played with these girls, to also call them my friends. Our heads were held up high the whole game. I would like to give out some shoutouts to, Megan, Kiyisha, Kadey and Hanna. I am so happy to of played with you guys and couldn't have chosen any other people to do this experience with. Also, to the teachers and the boys' team for supporting us all the way, I couldn't be great full for everyone that supported us. Keep up the good work everyone!

Alice Year 9.



EXCELLENCE

Lillie-Mae's Brazilian Favella

A huge well done to Lillie-Mae, Year 8 for her outstanding piece of homework for Geography. Such fantastic commitment and effort.

EXCELLENCE

Year 10 Football Success



A brilliant victory for our very own Year 10 football team in the Super Cup Final. They won 3-2 against our friends at Plantsbrook School at Bodymoor Heath yesterday. Well done to all of you.

Key Dates

31st March	Break up for Easter Holidays
17th April	Inset Day
1st May	Bank Holiday Monday
2nd May	Year 10 Paris Trip Meeting 5.30-6pm
8th May	Bank Holiday Monday
16th May	Year 11 GCSE Exams Begin
19th May	Year 10 Trip to BCU
25th May	Year 8 HPV Immunisations
26th May	Break up for Half Term