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Welcome to the Inscape House School newsletter!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite the weather having been dreary, this half-term has been anything but, with our students continuing to work on numerous exciting projects. Our budding team of journalists have worked alongside [Digital Advantage](#) and launched their second online Inscapism magazine, you can take a look via this link:

<https://sites.google.com/digitaladvantage.org.uk/digitalgroup/home>. These students should be immensely proud of the work they have undertaken to produce the magazine.

In other news, we continue our careers programme with [Gusto](#), the team from Gusto hosted a careers day and Marie Young has numerous students lined up for work experience opportunities with the restaurant.

Inscape have been successful in achieving the Nurturing Schools Accreditation through Nurture UK. This means that it is officially recognised that as a school we support all of our students through the [six guiding principles of nurture](#). A huge thank to all the staff who supported the assessment day, in particular Emma Walsh, who led on this.

Staff training on current practice remains a high priority for us. This half-term

we have had a focus on low demand interaction and intensive interaction, this will support staff in engaging effectively with students. Additionally, we recognise that importance of staff wellbeing and we have all been engaged in a training package of support around developing resilience.

In January we were lucky enough to have a visit from the Mayor of Stockport, who wanted to come and see the work that Inscape House School do as well as share some local business links with us to support our work experience and employability offer.

We have had two parents put themselves forward for the vacant Parent Governor role. Please use the link to vote for your preferred candidate: <https://forms.office.com/e/53SL7kdwBW> by the end of the half term holiday. **Please note that we can only accept one vote per parent/carer.**

I wish you all a lovely half-term. We look forward to welcoming the students back after the break on Monday 19th February.

With best wishes



Hannah Stollar,
Head Teacher, Inscape House School



An update from Animal Assisted Intervention (AAI)

Animal Explorers

Did you know we allow our students the opportunity to gain a qualification in Animal Care? This allows students to turn an area of interest into a formalised qualification.

We work on accessing animals at offsite locations in our practical sessions as well as fun, exciting and engaging activities in our theory sessions. This term we have focussed on the 'Safety Around Animals' module which included looking at sea creatures, horses and reptiles.

We had lots of fun through a variety of activities going horse riding, letting a shrimp clean our hands at SeaLife in Manchester and learning to defend ourselves against a shark attack!



Farewell and Hello

As many of you may be aware, just

after Christmas we said goodbye to our beloved, Patch (our therapy guinea pig) who passed away peacefully in his sleep. This was a very sad time for the AAI department and all the 150 + students that Patch had helped over the past few years, from Inscape, Ashcroft and Bridge College. We will forever remember the happy memories Patch helped us create, which of course is an important life lesson.



We have a new baby guinea pig, Pepper, who at 6 months old, is bigger than Pandora, our resident guinea pig.

Pepper is enjoying meeting all the students at Inscape and we look forward to the love and joy that Pepper will bring the students to continue to help break down the barriers that they face.



News stories

**Hospitality skills with
Gusto**

Students got to put their chef hats on and learn more about the skills required to work in the hospitality industry this term. Gusto delivered another day which was lead by Mikey, Gusto's Training Manager and his team from Gusto Cheadle Hulme.



The day started with an engaging mocktail making class. Students got to practice the expert skills needed on a bar such as speed pouring, shaking drinks, mixing, and the difference between ingredients. They each had a go at making two delicious mocktails: a refreshing no-jito followed by a delicious strawberry soda.

Afterwards, students learned about waiting in a restaurant – from taking orders, checking in on tables and carrying plates. Amber, one of the students said **“I’ve learned to carry a lot of plates, all at once – like a proper waiter!”**.

However, everyone’s favourite part was getting to make their own pizza! After a brief history of pizza making, Mikey gave everyone a practical lesson. He helped students shape their sourdough base, then decorate their pizza with their choice of sauce and toppings.

Gusto is a big supporter of our work experience programme. Leading on from this day six pupils will participate in Gusto's eight week training programme in their Cheadle Hulme restaurant.

“Today I learned that mocktails taste very nice and they’re also fun to make” - Oliver

“I’ve learned a valuable lesson today: if you give me unlimited supplies, I will keep making delicious drinks.” - Nat

Inscapism is back!

Welcome back to Inscapism 🙌

Thank you so much for your positive feedback on our first edition of Inscapism, the student online magazine created by the amazing team within Inscape House and Together Trust. We are delighted to introduce our second edition of the magazine where we cover what's trending for us.

Read the second edition of Inscapism by clicking the button below:



[Read the latest edition of Inscapism](#)

Updates from the library

Our students had a fabulous time celebrating National Storytelling Week. All classes participated in storytelling workshops and our student librarians did a wonderful job of hosting the sessions for their peers.

The students worked in their classes to create some incredibly imaginative stories using story dice as a prompt, enhancing the communication skills used during the storytelling process. Students also created their own fairy tales by arranging fairy tale puzzle pictures and connecting them in a line to create a story.

The students really enjoyed the freedom to decide where the story goes; our Inscape Fairy Tales have been rollercoasters of emotion taking on many dark twists and turns! In another activity, students created characters on wooden spoons, then discussed their character with their classmates to collaborate to build their class story including their new wooden friends.

Some of our students participated in the National Literacy Trusts' 'Dream up a Gaming World' project. This involved attending a virtual event hosted by

professionals in the gaming industry, then continuing the project throughout the week to develop the story of their own game.

Well done to everyone!



Students are in for a treat next term; Spoz the poet is visiting us on the 5th of March for an early World Book Day celebration.

More information can be found below...

Hello

We are thrilled to tell you that poet Spoz is coming to your school!

Spoz's sessions aim to nurture and develop students' skills and enthusiasm towards reading, writing and poetry.

Books are available to order now - scan the QR code to buy online, or order through school if this is supported (cash/parentpay etc).

Spoz will sign and personalise the books!

Authors Abroad



Spoz

Spoz has been astounding audiences with his poetry, both young and old, since 2005. In that time he has been Birmingham's Poet Laureate (2006/7), performed at Glastonbury Festival and Cheltenham Literature Festival to name just two of many and has facilitated poetry workshops at hundreds of schools, both in the UK and abroad. He has also been commissioned by the BBC on several occasions and even popped up on The One Show.

His enthusiasm for the spoken and written word, as well as his previous victories in Slam Poetry competitions ensure he is able to excite even the most reluctant reader about poetry.



Spoz's Shorts... and the Occasional Long One £5.99

A collection of 52 poems by the ever enthusiastic poet, writer, performer and musician, 'Spoz'.

Described by poet A.F Harrold "Birmingham's most surprising poet laureate has failed to grow up adequately. He writes for children without adults getting in the way."



Canalligator £9.99

'Canalligator' is a graphic novel set in the canals of Birmingham and tells the rhyming tale of Casey, an unlikely reptile hero and his friendship with four young people. With scannable QR codes that take you to YouTube films of the book, which are narrated by Spoz with music by Loz Rabone.



Christmas fair a huge success

We would like to say a huge **Thank You** to you all for the support you have gave to the school Christmas fair.

The event was a huge success and we were able to raised a massive **£842.62**

Thank you all once again!



A trip to ESTC Centre Liverpool

Written by student James Brand

On the 22nd of January 2024 we travelled to the Emergency Services Training Centre in Birkenhead which is across the river from Liverpool. We were invited to do very exciting activities including putting out gas fires. The centre itself was a firefighters paradise, in fact it works with doctors and police officer training as well!

I got to try on the firefighters outfit and then choose the right helmet to wear. We got to control the fire hose connected to the fire engine, testing the water on an open space. I found it astonishing to ride in the fire engine across the site to refill the water tank using a reservoir near the entrance. After having our snacks in the indoor canteen, we walked to the north area of the centre to practise hosing down real controlled fires.

The centre was a huge warehouse that had structures that the firefighters would use to train for real blazes. This experience was very unique for any school. Most people would not be able to do these activities, but I'm very lucky!

National star survey

We want to hear your thoughts about how you feel about your child preparing to leave education.

The Together Trust have created two surveys with charity National Star to

gather feedback from you (and your child) which we will then share with the government to try and improve the way families are supported throughout this time of transition.

The parent and carer survey can be accessed here: [Fill in the survey](#)

Our student survey is designed to be user-friendly, allowing responses in both written and verbal formats. You can access it here: [Fill in the survey](#)

Both surveys will close on the 16th of February 2023. If you have any questions please email lucy.croxtton@togethertrust.org.uk

What comes after education?



If your child has a disability and has left or is about to leave education, then we want to hear about your experience.





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House
School** | **TOGETHER
TRUST**

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