

[View this email in your browser](#)



Welcome to the Inscape newsletter!

Dear families and students,

What a successful year we've had! It's been wonderful seeing everyone enjoy end of year treats such as the prom, school trips and sports day, but it's even more impressive when we think about how much progress everyone has made since September. We are absolutely delighted that Ofsted have recognised the hard work of the students and staff and we are pleased with our "Good" grading. Well done for all your efforts and best of luck to students waiting on exam results.

The staff are looking forward to a well-deserved relaxing summer and we hope that you too have a happy holiday. To any students and families leaving us, we hope you will keep in-touch and let us know which amazing things you move on to in life and, for everyone returning, we'll continue to make Inscape House the best school you deserve. We have a number of staff moving on to pastures new and we wish them all well in their future careers.

We look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 6th September.

Sara Bayley and Hannah Stollar,
Executive Head and Headteacher

News stories

Inscape Art students excel themselves!

Despite the difficult times and disruptions of the last two years, four students managed to successfully complete their GCSE Art exams and three completed A Level!

GCSE students involved were - Charlie Burt, Talia Marcus, Jessica Thatcher and Leo Ye and A Level students were Mackenzie Smith, Jamie Taylor and Zephyr Gee Campbell.

The exhibition of students' work was held in the conservatory of Belmont; Together Trust's head office, and visitors were full of praise for the beautiful work.

Cathy Malcolm, Specialist Art Teacher says: "All students have worked so hard and with such enthusiasm to produce a diverse range of spectacular artwork this year and each one of them fully deserves the praise! Well done to all of you!"

It is the goal of Inscape's art department to provide students with an outlet for their creativity and we try to celebrate students' differences by linking their individual interests to their art projects; something that might be difficult to do in mainstream education. Just look at the results!



An update from the library

We have had many exciting library events this term. Our pupil librarians hosted Empathy Day, offering literature-themed activities to help us think about understanding the emotions of others. It was a wonderful event, and it was lovely to have some parents join in the fun too!

The inspirational Kev. F Sutherland, who has worked on comics such as Marvel, Beano, and Doctor Who, (just to name a few) came to school to deliver his Comic Art Masterclass. Kev delivered two classes, each lasting two hours; the students worked together to create their own comics, learning new techniques, and mastering new skills. This was a hugely successful event consisting of lots of laughter and lots of learning!

The library has been a vibrant place to be with lots of Storytime sessions and book borrowing taking place.



Animals everywhere

There isn't an Inscape party without an animal or two making an appearance! Simba our tortoise made sure they attended the recent Diversity event for staff, students and parents. As tortoises are a species that cannot be gendered as male or female for up to 10 years, they made sure their pronouns (them and they) were written on the butterfly wall along with Inscape community.

We also had a game of animal LGBTQ+ top trumps, hook a duck, dress as a butterfly and animal tattoos (temporary of course) to show how the animal community also experience different genders and experiences.

We also made sure that the guinea pigs, Pandora and Patch popped into say hello and met our existing and new students starting in September. Pandora and Patch certainly enjoyed the attention and the yummy vegetables went down as a squeaking success. The animals also spread their magic and linked into the sciences, forest school and art transition days providing lots of animals sensory activities and animal art.

Our AAI animals entered into sports day. Davey the tortoise won 1st place in the race, while Simba won some tasty spinach as they stopped for a pit stop half way. Patch and pandora tried to enter the egg and spoon race and a game of football. Patch scored the winning goal and celebrated with a lap of their hutch before tucking into a tasty piece of pepper.



A new arrival

Simba the baby tortoise had proven such a popular animal in the AAI department that we thought we should multiply. This has lead to Simba bringing their mate along to Inscape. We would like to welcome Davey our latest addition, who is a similar size, however, unlike Simba who is a Horsefield tortoise, Davey is a Hermann tortoise.



Students have measured, weighed, fed, cleaned and bathed the tortoises in AAI sessions. They have also recorded the temperature of the tortoises' special lamps and sprayed the tortoise table twice a day to ensure the utmost care is provided to our smallest members of Inscape.

The dog whisperer

We have had the exciting opportunity to work in a local mainstream primary school this term. Talia and our reading dog Rylie visited the school and read about a therapy dog to the year 2 classes. It has shown the school that with the right support from Rylie the dog, Talia could apply her strategies to present the story she was reading in a confident, mature and professional manner.

Talia helped Rylie to feel calm and comfortable. Talia is definitely a born dog whisperer and has a promising career ahead of her. The primary school are now looking into getting their own reading dog. We are extremely proud of Talia and Rylie for helping us on our exciting journey to see how our partnership develops.



Duke of Edinburgh expeditions

In June 2022, three Upper School students went to Linnet Clough Scout Camp to work towards their Duke of Edinburgh Awards over 3 days. They walked every day in beautiful countryside carrying their rucksacks.

To do this they needed to:

- Work as a team.
- Be self sufficient as much as possible.
- Carry all their own equipment on their backs in a rucksack.

- Assemble their own tents.
- Carry, cook and prepare their own food.

New Skills:

- They learned how to use and cook with camping gas stoves.
- Chop wood safely and make a fire using a flint not matches.
- Learned Basic Navigation and Map Skills.

Some of the things our students said:

“Enjoyed the wildlife.”

“Liked all the responsibility.”

“Loved sleeping in a tent.”

“Cooked and made “Smores” and pizza.”

“Enjoyed cooking and eating my own food.”

“Enjoyed the independence.”

“Liked making my own choices.”

“Liked making fire with the flint.”

“It felt cleaner and more hygienic in the countryside, as everything is supposed to be there.”

“My pasta tasted better, tasted brownie cupcakes that I’ve never had before.”





Gusto careers day

Gusto provided a great Careers Day to end the year. They gave the pupils an excellent flavour of the jobs and roles that you find in a restaurant. Their positive energy was infectious! Our students from across the school worked together as part of a team to provide a silver service standard of waiting on their clients.

Pupils had the opportunity to make fresh mocktails, including the hidden science behind making and mixing mocktails for example, releasing aromas from herbs, arrangement of garnishes and the skill behind a speed pour. They then learnt about the history behind the authentic dough and the secret to a perfect pizza. Skills such as how to carry trays and plates and serving drinks were showcased by even our youngest students, all looking like professionals and the team from Gusto agreed they would be honoured to have our students working alongside them.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day and are looking forward to working on the skills they have learnt in our school café and no doubt producing more pizzas.

It's amazing that we have made a partnership with Gusto who are enthusiastic as we are around seeing our young people have the opportunity to become confident in a work environment, learning skills and getting them to think about

future jobs. We are excited for further careers days, training in the cafe and pupils engaging in work experience at Gusto and possible employment.



Inscape are proud together!

Our weekly lunchtime student group has continued to meet all year round. We have focused on some particularly important dates to prompt discussions. This included Anti-Bullying Week, Trans Awareness Week or Lesbian Visibility Day.

The first school event we did was in support of the Rainbow Laces campaign. We organised a mini sporting event and talked about bullying in world of sports.

For LGBT+ History Month in February, we looked at various film clips to have a better understanding of how the LGBT+ community has been portrayed before and after the Sexual Offences Act (1967), notably The Imitation Game depicting the life of Alan Turing. Students were shocked to find out he was offered hormonal treatment to avoid prison. We had pronoun badges to hand out and some fun activities such as identity flag matching or guess who. Students also baked “genderbread” biscuits and fundraised £30 for the Proud Trust, a Manchester-based charity.

We visited the Proud Trust to hand the money fundraised and we had a great few hours in their brand new building. They organise youth groups and a range of activities and I would love to work closer to them as I think our learners would benefit from some kind of partnership. For most of our students, it was their first time accessing a purposely built safe space to welcome members of the LGBT+ community. Students had the chance to do some hammerbead craft but most importantly meet and talk to new people.

On May 17th, which is the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia & Transphobia (IDAHOBIT), we organised a poster competition. Students were encouraged to make illustrations around the theme “our bodies, our lives, our rights.”

By Stéphane Maitrejean, Inscape teacher



Pride Month

June is internationally known as Pride Month. In school we have celebrated especially in the last week of June, which is School Diversity Week in the UK. We had daily events and special activities planned throughout the week, along with a huge bank of lesson plans and resources available to all staff to use with their class.

Students had the chance to join hundreds of students across the U.K. and take part in a virtual writing workshop with Benjamin Dean, author of The Secret Sunshine Project! Benjamin even answered a question prepared by one of our young people!. There was also a screening of Heartstopper, the teen drama based on Alice Oseman's graphic novel series, which has been highly praised as one of the most important LGBT+ shows in recent years. We also did lots of fun and crafty activities including rainbow play-doh, colouring, flag matching, bookmark making ... and listened to a fab sensory story about Pride!



Award winner!

Big congratulations to Leo Ye who was awarded “Most Creative Use of Form” and special mention in this year’s The Portico Library Sadie Massey Art of the Book awards. The Awards are named after Glasgow-born Sadie Massey and her desire to spread a love of reading and writing. While living in Manchester, Sadie and her husband Alex began helping disadvantaged children through various charities. This desire to give opportunities to all young people is continued through the Portico Sadie Massey Awards.

Leo created a detailed Wikipedia page about his life, which this year’s judge, Oliver East, commented the following: “Extensive life story told in a creative manner. In-depth with lots of interesting details. The work of a skilled storyteller with a keen attention to detail.” Leo attended the awards ceremony in Manchester’s Central Library, and he was able to see and hear from the judges and other students who created entries.

The Portico Library Sadie Massey Award is an inclusive competition designed to encourage students at SEND schools and PRU settings to engage with the life-changing power of creation and expression. Students were asked to create a handmade book that contains a story. It can be written, drawn or a combination of mediums! This year’s judge, Oliver East, is an illustrator, who found that drawing allowed him to express himself and overcome barriers, including diagnoses of ADHD, dyslexia and a stutter.

Another big congratulations to Ebony Topham, who also received an award for "Beautiful Cartoon Style".

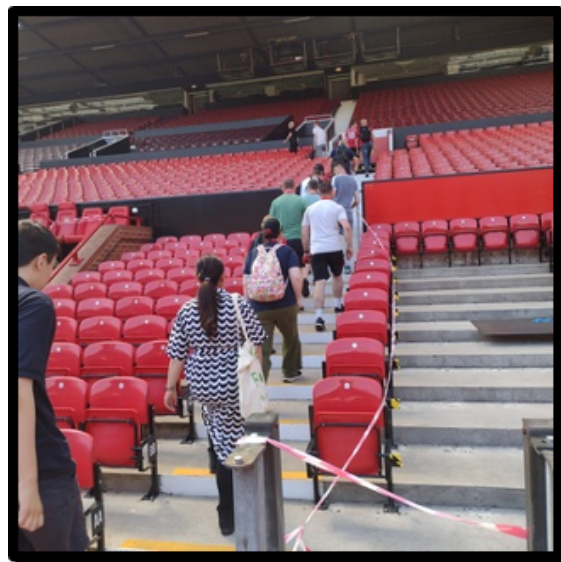
Congratulations to Leo, Ebony and to all other students who created entries!



Manchester United careers day

Emily Read our SEND Officer from the Manchester United Foundation, arranged a careers morning for the pupils at Old Trafford. What a great morning everyone had! We listened to guest speakers talking about the wide variety of jobs available at a football club and that there are so many more jobs than just being a footballer.

They had the privilege of a tour and even our pupils that passionately support other teams joined in lots of friendly banter. Thank you to Emily and the staff at Manchester United, for organising this inspiring careers event and engaging our pupils, we look forward to returning soon.



Plant sale

Inscape post 16 students are involved in gardening this year. They were busy planting and growing different types of vegetables and household plants like tomatoes, cucumbers, radish and peas. They are always on the lookout where to use their skills. One day, they harvested their own grown radishes and Inscape café used them in the salad.

They had a planter competition to make the front of the building nicer and created a wonderful, colourful display. Inspired by this, they already produced 2 hanging baskets for the front of Belmont Hall and are planning on creating 2 more. They were also involved in the organised plant sale, donating over 20 plants!



Adventures of U1

Class U1 enjoyed a trip out to Bidlea ice cream farm, and Jodrell Bank on

Tuesday 28th June. The ice cream farm offered several delicious varieties of ice cream, and the students had difficulty choosing! We then moved onto to Jodrell Bank, and over half a day was spent marvelling at the Lovell Telescope, exhibitions, and the new Light Dome. Lunch , and time to walk the extensive gardens rounded off a great day.



Change a child's life by **becoming a fostering superhero**

fostertogether.org.uk

Registered charity number 200782



Get your free fostering guide

Foster Carers needed!

You don't need much to become a foster carer, just a spare bedroom and a passion for helping young people succeed in life.

Children are in need of foster carers in Manchester, Stockport, Lancashire and Merseyside.

We are a not-for-profit charity championing the rights, needs and ambitions of looked-after children, people with disabilities, autism and mental health difficulties across the North West. And we've been doing it for nearly 150 years!

For over 20 years we've been recruiting foster carers to provide stable homes to young people who may not be able to live with their birth families.

Get your free fostering guide



Copyright © 2022 Together Trust, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

