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Welcome to the Inscape House newsletter

Dear families,

As we reach the end of another busy and exciting half-term, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful achievements and events that have brought us together as a school community.

We kicked off the season with a heartwarming Children in Need coffee morning, where the generosity of our families and staff shone through,

To end the term on a festive note, our carol service at St. Mary's Church was a stunning and reflective occasion, while the Colour the Clouds Theatre Company's performance brought laughter and joy to our students. Finally, I'm thrilled to invite you to our Parent Partnership Afternoon Tea on Tuesday 14th January 2025, from 1:45 to 3:00 pm. This will be a fantastic opportunity to meet, share ideas, and

raising vital funds for an important cause. Our school council's bulb-planting gardening project has added a splash of promise to our outdoor spaces, and we eagerly await the flowers that will bloom in spring thanks to their hard work.

Art and creativity were in full swing with the Christmas card competition, and the winning designs are proudly displayed at the top of this newsletter. Congratulations to all participants for their beautiful and thoughtful artwork! Winning entries from Summer, Ethan, Oliver, Joseph, Maddie and Harry.

Staff development has also been a priority this term, with training on Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA), autism in females and masking, emotion coaching, and attention autism. These sessions have equipped our team with even more tools to support our students.

We were honoured to host a visit from the Liberal Democrat MP during National Parliament Week, as well as welcome Deputy Lieutenant Sue Lomas, who joined us for a Poetry Together event that celebrated the power of words across generations.

strengthen our collaboration. Please RSVP using [**this link**](#).

Thank you all for your ongoing support, and I wish you a restful and happy holiday season and a very Merry Christmas. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year and welcoming our students back on Tuesday 7th January.

Warm regards,



Hannah Stollar
Head Teacher, Inscape House School



Dear Students, Families, and the School Community,
As I prepare to step into a new role within The Together Trust, as Service Director, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to all of you. It has been an

incredible privilege to serve as part of our remarkable Inscape community for the past nine years. I began as Deputy Headteacher, before being promoted to Headteacher and then Executive Headteacher and have loved each role, working with all our wonderful staff and students.

During my time here, I have cherished every opportunity to work alongside such inspiring students, dedicated staff, and supportive families. Together, we have navigated challenges, celebrated achievements, and continuously strived to create a positive, inclusive environment where every learner can thrive. I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished, from enhancing the education offer to ensuring that each young person is given the tools and opportunities they need to succeed.

This is not a farewell in the traditional sense, as my new role as a Director within the Trust allows me to remain deeply connected to our shared mission. I am excited about the opportunity to influence change on a broader scale, championing transformational improvements that will benefit not only our school but also other services within The Together Trust. I remain committed to ensuring that all students continue to receive the outstanding education and support they deserve.

While I will greatly miss the day-to-day interactions and being a part of this community's vibrant life, I take with me countless cherished memories and the profound knowledge that the work we've done together will continue to grow and flourish.

Thank you for your trust, support, and partnership over the years. I look forward to seeing the amazing progress this community will undoubtedly continue to make, with Hannah Stollar and all the leaders and staff, in the future.

**Warmest regards,
Sara Bayley**



Assisted Animal Intervention



New additions

This half-term we welcomed an **axolotl** to our animal family. In the wild axolotls are critically endangered. The students voted on a name for the axolotl and settled on **Axolotl Rose**.

In their AAI sessions the students feed fish and bloodworms to the axolotl using different safety equipment. The students also test the pH levels of the Axolotl water. Axolotl rose is certainly settling in with lots of swimming around and even comes to the front of the tank glass when students arrive to see them.

[Learn more about animal sponsorship](#)

Chester Zoo – Walking on the wild side!

On Wednesday 6th November, 188 students and staff went on a trip to Chester Zoo!

It was fantastic to see students from all four pathways being able to access

the community to experience creatures from around the world all in one school day.

A great day out for all!



Festive period embedded into AAI sessions and learning

This term, students have been creating animal food treats and boredom breakers; including everything from creating pumpkin peppers to monster apples in the group AAI sessions building on fine motor skills.

On Monday the 9th December they had 2 furry friends fly by Inscape, in the shape of two reindeers. Students had the opportunity to meet the beautiful Dasher and Cookie Dough. A perfect festive treat!



A helping paw!

This term students had a fantastic

opportunity in the form of a visit from Katie and Bruiser from 'Support Dog for For Autism, Epilepsy and Disability'.

They brought along 'Derek' the Labrador assistance dog who has been working for them for 12 years within schools, homes and out in the community.



Updates from across the school

From the library

It was a special start to the term in the library. Students who took part in the bookmark exchange in celebration of International School Libraries month back in October received a bookmark from our friends at our partnership school in Ghana. What a lovely way to share our love for libraries across the miles!

Our student librarians have been busy cataloguing lots of wonderful new books which were kindly donated by Avanti West Coast. So many new titles to inspire and nurture a love of reading for life!

We hosted our first Poetry Together event. It was an emotional gathering, with students sharing their poetry reciprocally with their elders. It was so lovely to welcome grandparents and families into our library. We were honoured to be joined by a representative of HM Queen Camillia, Deputy Lieutenant, Sue Lomas. It was a memorable, heartwarming occasion for all in attendance.

Entries for our annual Christmas Library Competition have been such an immense joy to read. Our students were encouraged to write a Christmas themed story, create

a Christmas Comic Strip, or develop a story using artwork. We are excited to choose our winners; creativity and passion have been in abundance with the submissions so far!

We cannot wait to welcome everyone back to the library in the New Year! It is going to be a vibrant start, beginning with workshops, script writing clubs, and then onto our National Storytelling Week celebrations in February.



An update from C7

Ben from our C7 class has been working on a new image in post 16 using life skills to help him fasten his button on his jeans and wear a belt for the first time.

All this work has been leading up to him changing his hair style!

Great work Ben!



An update from Inscapism

The Inscapism team has been busy this term. They have produced one and a half

editions of our printed magazine, as well as giving the readers updates online as well, through inscapism.co.uk.

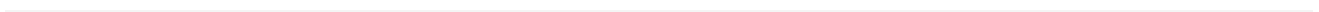
The team put together a special Christmas edition in just a month, working tirelessly in their spare time!

An update from Occupational Therapy

In the mornings this term, students have participated in a Christmas-themed sensory circuit led by OT, designed to help them regulate and prepare for the school day ahead.

The circuit was filled with festive activities, such as the Santa dash (bouncing on a space hopper), building a snowman, snowman skittles and engaging in calming deep-breathing exercises and yoga accompanied by soft holiday music.

These activities are carefully chosen to stimulate the student's senses, promote focus and helping them to feel grounded and ready to learn. By incorporating the holiday theme, the circuit also brings an element of fun and excitement, making it a positive and enjoyable part of their routine.





ITV careers day

Upper School and Post-16 students attended a Careers Day in November at ITV studios, in partnership with the ITV Academy. The students met and had a Q&A session with producers and writers at Coronation Street.

They also took part in a storyline writing competition, coming up with creative ideas and plot twists. A student then told the story line to the ITV script writers who were very impressed – crowning us the winners of the competition! In the afternoon, students were given an exciting tour of the Coronation Street set.

Play Factore trip

On the 12th December, three of our classes had a fun day out at Play Factore as part of the Manchester United Foundation's Christmas celebrations!

They spent the morning excitedly exploring the play area and going down the huge slide. They then



International day of persons with disability event

On Monday 2nd December, students from Middle School took part in a Sports Event at The Cliff, to celebrate International Day of Persons with Disability.

They positively participated in sports such as football and cricket, as well as new sports including Kinball, Blind Baseball, Golf and Taekwondo. The students were also given the amazing opportunity to meet a Paris 2024 Paralympian and try their different medals on. Everyone had a great day out!

Christmas cinema trip

Students from Nurture and Lower School were thrilled to be invited to go to the Everyman Cinema, for a Christmas viewing of The Grinch!

Staff and students were given popcorn to enjoy during the film and pizza to keep them full!

finished their time there with chicken nuggets and chips! Staff and students had a great time!

Christmas sensory story from the SaLT team

Students in our Champions and Explorers classes enjoyed a Christmas sensory story 'The Unicorns Came to Town' from our Speech and Language Therapy team.

Sensory stories help to promote engagement and joint attention by including repeated phrases, signing and sensory experiences. This helps some of our students who may find it difficult to listen to a story being read to them to engage with the experience.

Students used an iPad to request which part of the story came next, and had fun exploring the sensory trays of jelly, light-up toys, jingle bells and even some 'snow'!



An update from our Vocational College

Students and staff at Inscape Vocational College came together to celebrate Christmas Jumper Day 2024 with festive activities, delicious food, and lots of fun. Laura and Rhianna prepared a traditional Christmas dinner, while Linden hosted a Christmas-themed Kahoot quiz, sparking friendly competition.

The day ended with a creative craft session led by Rose, where students made adorable Christmas hats using wool and recycled materials. The event was filled with festive cheer, showing our strong sense of togetherness at Inscape Vocational

College.

Next week, Lisa and Cath will cook for our other learners - let the competition begin!



Inscape Vocational College also embraced the festive spirit by wowing the audience at the carol service with incredible performances that captured the season's magic!

Demario Dacres-Cox and Caroline choreographed an eerie yet funky Grinch dance, while Kyle Cooper performed a cool indie mash-up on guitar. Summer Johnson's beautiful keyboard compilation, including Für Elise, brought heartfelt emotion. Staff wrapped up the event with a fun dance to Mariah Carey's All I Want for Christmas Is You.

We're incredibly grateful to Caroline for her dedication and brilliance in organising, bringing together our talented students for such a memorable event. Digital Media students Kayden Boyd and Jayden Cheslett recorded the pieces and helped Linden edit the performances with impressive cinematography, while Rose and Hair & Beauty students created a stunning Grinch backdrop.

Some of the College attended the Together Trust Carol Service at St. Mary's, where their video was showcased. Summer and Demario delivered heartfelt bidding prayers, showing confidence in front of a supportive audience.

Their contribution to such a beautiful event highlighted Inscape Vocational College's creative and collaborative spirit, making it a true festive highlight. They already can't wait for next year!



A trip on Safari

The students in class C1 recently went on a trip to Knowlsey Safari Park and Chester Zoo. Natasha went to Knowlsey Safari Park and enjoyed the experience.

Natasha has been learning the names of the animals she would see at the Safari Park prior to the trip. She engaged in looking at the animals during the visit and chose to go twice around the park.

On returning to school Natasha enjoyed looking at the Safari Park book with a member of staff and

MP visit to Inscape

As part of UK Parliament week, a local MP, Tom Morrisson, came in to speak to students about what life as an MP is like and what his plans are for the local community.

Students engaged well and asked some great questions. The event was also broadcast to classrooms so that all students could be a part of the event.

Some of the main discussion points were to improve care at Stepping Hill hospital and look at having the tram network come to Cheadle.

identified the animals that she had seen.

Happy Christmas from C2

Students in C2 have been using printing techniques to make 100s of Christmas Cards that have been shared with our friends in Ghana, the local community and our staff team!

Great work everyone!

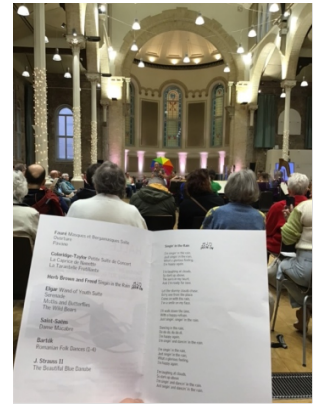
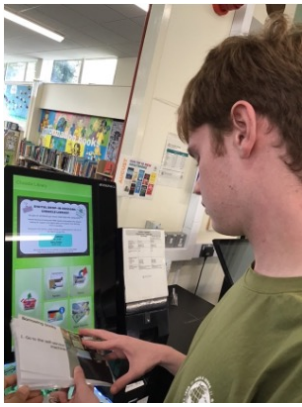


An update from C3

C3 students have been developing their independence by using visual schedules during Travel Training this term:

- To navigate from school to Cheadle Library using public transport
- To join Cheadle Library and get a library card
- To borrow books using the self-service machine

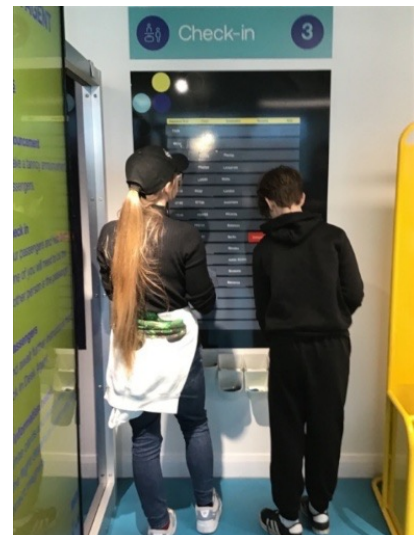
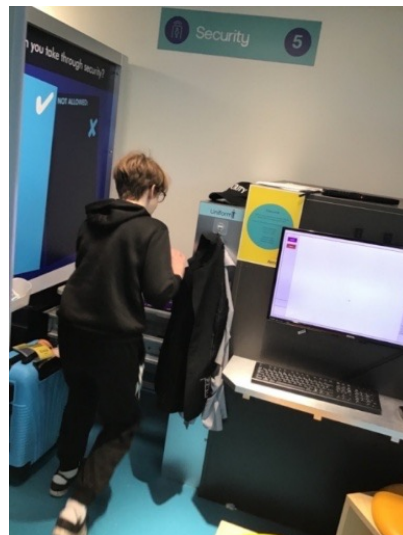
Students also attended a “relaxed performance” at the Hallé St Peter’s. They enjoyed learning about all the instruments and hear how they sound different to one another. They sat down quietly and joined in to sing along “Singing in the Rain.”



An exciting trip to the airport!

This half term some of the students from M5 went on a class trip to the Aerozone in the airport. They had fun learning about all the different roles and professions within the airport and taking turns trying on different outfits and taking part in the role play activities.

The students were able to go on a short tour of terminal two to see the check in and security areas of the terminal. They then went to the airport viewing park where they had some lunch and watched the planes landing and taking off. It was great fun!



A trip to the famous cobbles of Coronation Street!

We are thrilled to share the incredible experience Mason and Oliver had during

the Coronation Street Storyline Writing Workshop at ITV Studios this term. It was an unforgettable day filled with learning, creativity, and exciting opportunities!

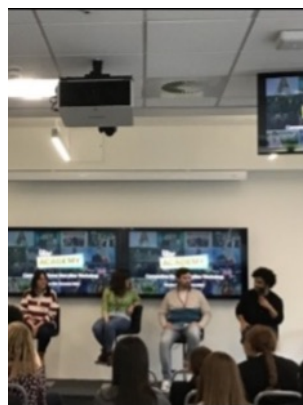
Our visit began with a tour of the Coronation Street exhibition, where we explored the show's rich history and legacy. We then had the privilege of listening one of the show's talented storyline writers. He gave an engaging talk, sharing insights into how he develops the storylines that keep audiences captivated.

Afterward, the students participated in a storyline writing workshop. Everyone worked together to contribute creative ideas to continue a storyline. Mason stepped up to present our work, and we were overjoyed to win Best Storyline Writing!

The day became even more special when we met two Coronation Street actresses, joined by two storyline writers. They shared their experiences working on the show, spoke about their roles, and gave us a glimpse into life behind the scenes. During the Q&A session, Oliver showed great confidence by asking thoughtful questions, which made us all very proud.

To end the day, we toured the studio where the show is filmed, including the iconic outdoor sets. Seeing the behind-the-scenes magic made the experience truly unforgettable.

This workshop was an amazing opportunity for Class U2 to learn about storytelling, teamwork, and creativity. Mason and Oliver represented their class wonderfully, and their contributions were a source of pride for everyone.



Have a great Christmas break!

We'll see you back on Tuesday 7 January



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