

# Atlantic Academy Secondary

## Newsletter



### Developing Character, Confidence and Commitment

February 2020

Dear Parents

Performance tables were released last Thursday 6th February. We are delighted to announce that Atlantic is in the **top 10% nationally for progress!**

We have nearly completed all the parent evenings for this academic year with just the Year 11 Progress evening to go after half term. We are really pleased that this year has seen the best attendance to all our parent evenings since we opened as Atlantic in 2017:

Yr 9 Nov 2019	<b>55%</b>
Yr11 Dec 2019	<b>79%</b>
Yr 8 Jan 2020	<b>61%</b>
Yr 10 Jan 2020	<b>80%</b>
Yr 7 Feb 2020	<b>76%</b>

### Parent Questionnaire Feedback

Your feedback was extremely positive and we felt it provided reassurance that we are moving in the right direction as a school in the Portland community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who completed the questionnaire as you have helped us identify our strengths and our areas we still need to improve. We have had 249 responses and I felt it was only right to share these key findings with you and report on the % of those parents that either **strongly agree** or **agree** with the following statements:

1. **My child is happy at this school: 85%**
2. **My child feels safe at this school : 91%**
3. **This school makes sure that it's students are well behaved: 88%**
4. **My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively: 77%**
5. **The school make me aware of what my child will be learning during the year: 82%**
6. **When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly: 73%**
7. **The school has high expectations for my child: 94%**
8. **My child does well at this school: 90%**
9. **The school lets me know how my child is doing: 86%**
10. **There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school: 89%**
11. **My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school 90%**
12. **The school supports my child's wider personal development: 74%**
13. **Would you recommend this school to another parent? 86%**
14. **Are you aware of the Academy's reward policy? 82%**
15. **Does your child receive Academy rewards frequently? 68%**

Finally, I would just like to say thank you for your continued support - together we can all make Atlantic the first choice of school for everyone on the Isle of Portland.

*Mrs Bishop*



### Key Dates

#### February

- 25th - **Yr11** Dance drop down
- 26th - **Yr 11** Drama drop down
- 27th - **Yr 11** Progress Evening
- 28th - **Yr 11** Drama drop down

#### March

#### **2nd - 13th PPE Fortnight**

- 2nd - **Yr 8** Lego STEM Day
- 2nd - Chelsea's Choices Assembly
- 5th - **Yr 10** Macbeth live
- 5th - JP Morgan Work session
- 9th & 10th - **Yr 9&10** Siddiqui Education
- 9th - **Yr 11** Dance drop down
- 12th - JP Morgan Work session
- 12th - **Yr 9&10** Speaker trust event
- 12th - Cabaret Performance
- 13 - **Yr 9** Forensic Science day BU
- 13th - **Yr11** Dance drop down
- 13th - **Yr 11** Dance drop down
- 18th **Yr 7-11** Ballet Boyz Performance @ Poole Lighthouse
- 18th - **Yr 8** Big Bang Fair
- 19th - JP Morgan Work Session
- 26th - JP Morgan Work Session
- 26th - Dance drop down
- 27th - Principals' Drop in
- 27th - **Yr11** Dance Performance to Parents
- 31st - **Yr 9&10** The MadWoman of Lyme Performance
- 30th - JP Morgan closing event @ Weymouth College

#### April

**4th - 19th Easter Holidays**

## 15th January 2020 The Brilliant Club Launch



The Brilliant Club's Scholars Programme gives students from non-selective state schools the opportunity to work with a PhD researcher to experience university style learning. It helps students develop the skills, knowledge and confidence needed to secure a place at a highly-selective university. They work with students aged 10 to 18.

### The Scholars Programme offers:

- Challenging supra-curricula courses taught by a world-class researcher
- Experience of university-style learning in small group tutorials
- Two visits to highly-selective universities

### Current Offer

We currently have 12 Year 10 students who applied for the programme and were successful. Students are studying a programme called **Emperor Augustus: Power and Patronage in the Roman World** with a PhD graduate from the University of Southampton's Department of Archaeology - and who has a first degree in Classics from St John's College, University of Oxford.

We are also pleased that we have recently received applications from students in year 8 to participate in the summer term scholars programme

## Environment Group: Hard work from our global citizens

Students in Atlantic's Environment Group have taken part in a variety of activities such as: a bi-weekly litter pick across the school, creating posters and writing letters to Richard Drax to raise awareness of their campaign. This is part of their work towards achieving Plastic Free Schools Status from Surfers Against Sewage!

We were overwhelmed with the amount of students that turned up to do a litter pick for the environment group's work towards achieving plastic free status! ❤️ We have one awesome community emerging. One of our Year 8 students made this poster for our campaign too! 🙌



Enrichment Mountain bikers rest beside Pulpit Rock and the lighthouse.



Students got to try out pop lacrosse in Enrichment.



## Attendance this Half Term:

Secondary attendance this half term was:

**91%**

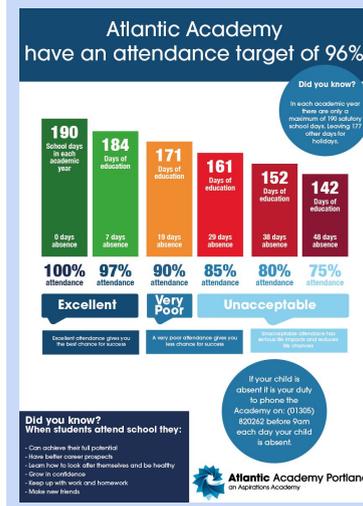
### Attendance champions:

Thus far this year, 20% of our students have achieved 100% attendance, and over 50% of students are meeting our attendance target of 96%. Two resilient and ambitious students, who have both overcome considerable challenges and still have 100% attendance are Mark Annetts (Year 9) and Issy Heybourne (Year 11).

### Importance of attendance:

Good attendance at school is important for academic progress, social interaction with peers and the opportunity to participate in clubs and try new activities. If students miss going to school, they miss out.

### Attendance



## Top 10 Positive Points Champions

Belcher, Ronnie	502
Hiscocks, Amelie	449
Powney, Benjamin	408
Darbyshire, Nathan	405
Houston, Aria	402
Griffin, Max	393
Holt, Harley	388
Harvell, Oakley	383
Davey, Joel	382
Newton Emilia	378

### 15th Jan 2020 University Visits:

40 students across Years 9 and 10 participated in a day of inspirational TEDx talks at an event at Southampton University. Students heard from a range of speakers including a vet who spent three years running across America and LGBTQ+ speakers. Students also heard from a life coach who works with the NBA (National Basketball Association) in America. He travelled from California to speak at the event and spoke about the power of taking responsibility and creating a life with intention.



**Climate Strike on 14th February** – Rather than students not being in school, we have agreed the idea of the students coming out on to the grass to form a ‘Heart on the Grass’ in support of raising awareness of climate issues.



**Environment Fair – Provisional date Saturday 11th July**

### National Youth Parliament Elections



The result of the National Youth Parliament elections was announced on Thursday 6th February 2020. Portland student Shae Cronin ran for office and we are pleased that Shae did so well, polling nearly 2000 votes from students across the county. Taking part in a national election is an important aspect of learning to become a citizen and we are proud that all of our students from Years 7 - 11 played a part in this democratic process. In December, the Academy held a mock General Election the day before the real one; the outcome of our election was very similar to what actually happened the following day. Our students are familiar with talking about and being involved in the democratic process which bodes well for the future.

### Portland Mayor visit



The Mayor of Portland visited the Academy to talk about a fantastic opportunity for students to create their own Portland Youth Council.

**Portland Youth Town Council:** Sue Cocking (Portland Mayor) attended the senior student council meeting on Wednesday 29th January and officially launched the Youth Town Council. The meeting was well attended and all students learned about the sequence of events that will lead to 15 young people (aged between 11-15) becoming representatives on the Youth Town Council. The following week Sue revisited the senior student council to announce the timeline for expressing an interest in standing for election, the hustings and the voting. Richard Drax, the MP for South Dorset, supports this initiative. He will be hosting a guided tour of the House of Commons in April for the 15 students who get elected as Youth Town councillors.

## Sports Events

### Year 7 & 8 Girls' Cricket

Atlantic athletes travelled to Colfox for the first cricket tournament of the year. The girls won 2 out of the 3 games as well as all girls conducting themselves professionally and showing a real passion for the sport. All of the students contributed in one of the disciplines of the game whether it was batting, bowling or fielding. Although our athletes won two of the games, the one loss meant they narrowly missed out on progressing to the second round of the tournament.



### Boys Handball Tournament



On Wednesday 5th February, Atlantic took part in the Handball Qualifiers at Wey Valley Academy. Eight Year 8 students participated.

The results:

Atlantic 4-3 Budmouth

Atlantic 8-5 Wey Valley

Colfox 5-4 Atlantic

Hard work, dedication and some cracking saves from Izaak wasn't enough to qualify as the team missed out by just 2 points on goal difference. Nevertheless, the day was a fun and competitive experience and the boys conducted themselves with professionalism. Well done, boys!

### Gatsby Benchmarks & Careers Education

In order to meet the statutory requirements for careers education, schools aim to meet The Gatsby Benchmarks.

### Year 8 Girls Netball against Budmouth



Atlantic's newly formed netball squads gave an amazing performance at our very first home fixture on Wednesday 15th January. Although we were playing a very experienced Budmouth team, our two Year 8 teams came in with confidence which was demonstrated through their incredible game play. After the loss of our first match, the two teams worked together and discussed key targets for improvements for the next match. Atlantic put their theory into practice successfully resulting in an Atlantic win in the second match! Considering this was Atlantic's first ever game, both teams were outstanding and did our school very proud. Well done, girls!

Atlantic's netball squads continued their great form giving another fantastic performance against a very tough Budmouth team on Tuesday 28th January at our first away fixture. Our two teams consisted of both Year 7 and 8 athletes. After the 9-2 loss of our first match, Atlantic knew exactly what their targets were leading into the second match. The girls acted on these targets and put the team discussion into practice with a resulting 4-2 Atlantic win in the second match. Another great result for Atlantic!

### Extracurricular activities in the spring

This spring time, the Academy is working in partnership with both the National Sailing Academy and Weymouth Outdoor Centre. Two exciting schemes, 'Windsurfing for £5' and 'Sailing for £5', are currently being offered by these organisations and already many of our students have expressed interest in these opportunities.



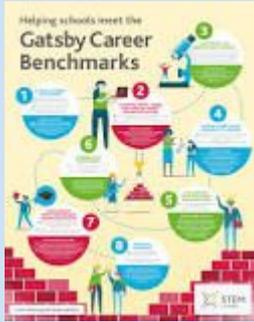
### The Portland 4 The Planet

This youth project is a new collaboration between ICA, Portland 4 The Planet and Atlantic Academy (and supported by Portland Town Council). The project, which will work with 30 young people from across Portland from January to July 2020, focuses on the current climate and ecological emergency and aims to empower young

We have just become the first school in Weymouth and Portland to achieve 100% on all 8 Gatsby benchmarks!

**Gatsby Benchmarks: What are They?**

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information.
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance



This is a fantastic achievement and signifies the importance of students being aware of their next steps post 16. In the upcoming PPE fortnight, students will experience STEM related career insights with a Lego day for Year 8, and Forensic Science workshops for Year 9.

people to find out more about the problems and the solutions. It also aims to inspire young people to lead the way on local projects that will have a positive impact on a global level.

During the project, students will learn more about climate change, biodiversity / wildlife, pollution, single use plastic and sustainable food. Students will also take part in conservation activities, media training and volunteering and will create their own campaign.



**Year 11 Raising Achievement Sessions**

Day	Week A	Week B
Tuesday	Maths Design Technology Art	French Design Technology Art
Wednesday	English	Science
Thursday	History	Geography
Friday	Sport Dance	Sport Dance

**Year 11 Progress Clinic - Thursday 27th February 2020**

On Thursday 27th February, we are holding our Year 11 Progress Clinic from 4.00pm until 6.30pm. The purpose of the evening is to provide you with the opportunity to meet your child's Subject Co-ordinator or Faculty Director in order to discuss your child's progress, the plans in the countdown to the summer examinations and how to support them in achieving their best possible grades by the end of Year 11.

Please encourage your child to make their own 10-minute appointment with their relevant Faculty Subject Coordinator or Director. As additional support, we will always follow up any students that have not made an appointment to see them on this night. Please make sure you have made your appointments by **Monday 24th February 2020.**

**Year 11 PPEs**

Unit 2 Year 11 PPE and Assessment Timetable

10th February 2020 - 13th March 2020

[Year 11 PPE timetable](#)

**February**

26th - Yr 11 Drama drop down day

27th - Yr 11 Progress Evening

28th - Yr 11 Drama drop down day

**March**

27th - Yr11 Dance Performance

**Year 11 Hoodies**

There is still a chance to order Year 11 Leavers' hoodies. If you would like to order a hoodie, click [here](#) to follow the link to order.



**100% in 50 question KO test**

Postcards were sent out to celebrate the secondary students that scored 100% in



**Peer Mentoring**

After six months of intensive and fulfilling training, the Academy now has 23 Peer Mentors who are a first point of contact for any student who is



their 50 question KO Tests at the midpoint of Unit 2. Keep up the good work!

### Curriculum Overview

Our curriculum vision is to deliver an authentic education for the 21st century for children from the age of Reception to Year 11. The aim of the curriculum is to ensure all students are inspired with a passion for learning so that they achieve high levels of academic success, in a broad range of subjects, whilst at the same time equipping them with the knowledge and skills required to play an active and successful role in today's highly competitive and fast-changing world.

### Academy Vision and Mission

#### Vision

By providing an outstanding all through provision we will transform the lives of all of our students; inspiring them to have the confidence, character and commitment to realise their full potential.

#### Mission

To improve the character, commitment and confidence of all our students, we will continue to deliver our engaging curriculum, improve outcomes and provide opportunities for cultural enrichment.

### Parent Forum

We would like to invite parents to participate in our Parents' forum. We are keen to get together a group of Primary and Secondary parents **to be a partnership between parents and the school**. It is a valuable way to share ideas, views, concerns and make suggestions for improvement. We are looking for parents that are **effective communicators** and willing to **be a positive voice and advocate** for the Academy and help **continue to build positive relationships** between the Academy and the Community.

As a group, we will meet every term and we will be sharing our discussions on the Academy website. If you feel this is something you would be interested in taking part in, [please complete this link](#). It should only take you a few minutes and your feedback, as ever, is always welcome.

Reminder: stationery items can be purchased from reception before 8.27am.

concerned about their mental health. Each of the peer mentors is now available, on a referral basis, to listen to and support students in having good mental health. [Referral forms](#) for this peer-led service can be accessed both on the Academy's website and from tutors.

### Curriculum Overview

Our programme of education is built as a collaborative process that sequences learning across subjects and Key Stage teams. This ensures our students are equipped with the skills, attitudes, academic qualifications and imagination needed to succeed in the complex and changing world ahead.

An overview of the topics taught throughout the Units and more information can be found here:

[Key Stage 3 \(Years 7, 8 & 9\)](#)

and

[Key Stage 4 \(Years 10 & 11\).](#)

### No Limits Curriculum

The 'No limits: Curriculum for success in the 21st century' is being developed and has been introduced in all Aspirations Academies from September 2019 in Years 4 and 7. The intention is that the main features of this curriculum will eventually inform a common curriculum approach from the ages of 4 to 18. The expectation is for each academy to follow the collective curriculum outlines and philosophy whilst also putting its own personal and local stamp on their own curriculum which meets the needs of their particular body of students. The shared, collective curriculum will enable sufficient commonality of subjects, topics and assignments to enable cross-Trust moderation and raising of standards.

### Personal Development Award

To build on the great work done by students on the 'British Values Award' scheme, the Academy is launching a new secondary award scheme aimed at supporting the personal development of our students.

The new SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) award will encourage students to collect evidence of themselves succeeding in 14 different areas of life. This award will thereby be a record of students developing their character, confidence and commitment. All secondary students will be issued with a SMSC award card after half term which they will carry in their blazers. Parents/carers and teachers will check these cards in order to monitor student progress towards achieving the award.

### British Values Award

At the end of this half term, the highly successful 'British Values Award' scheme will



Atlantic Academy Portland  
proudly part of  
**ASPIRATIONS**  
Inspiring our students to have confidence, character and commitment

Pencil case £4.00 - consisting of	Individual price
2 Black Pens	Pencil Case only £1.40
2 Highlighters	Black Pen 50p
2 Pencils	Calculator £6.00
Compass	Compass 20p
Eraser	Eraser 5p
Protractor	Highlighter 50p
Purple Pen	Pencil 5p
Ruler	Protractor 30p
Sharpener	Ruler 10p
Whiteboard Pen	Sharpener 20p



Prices effective from Monday 20th January.

draw to a close. Students who successfully completed the award are now proudly wearing a Union Jack badge on their blazer lapel. The badge indicates that students have participated freely in a democratic process, displayed respect and tolerance towards other people and followed rules at school, at home and in the community.

### Rotary Club Sponsor Head Boy on Leadership Course

The Academy is proud to announce that Tom Davey, the secondary Head Boy, is being sponsored by the Portland Rotary Club to participate in a week long leadership course on Dartmoor. The course is a residential outward bound programme based at the Dartmoor Training Centre, near Princetown in Devon. The Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) is one of the most successful Rotary programmes and offers the leaders of the future a chance to get a head start at an early age. The RYLA programme gives young people the chance to improve their leadership, team working and communication skills, respect for the environment and learn public speaking skills.



### Aspirations Social Media

Aspirations Trust have launched a new Facebook page, which you can follow [here](#). You can also follow them on [Twitter](#). Fantastic news from all of the Aspiration Academies can be found on these social media sites.

### Year 11 Trip to Bournemouth University

Year 11 students were given a taste of student life by Lauren and the team at Bournemouth University. Students took part in a university style seminar with an activity from the Events Management course. This was followed by a tour of the Talbot Campus. Students were able to experience the facilities, explore the wide range of courses on offer at BU, from Forensic Science to Media Production, and

### JP Morgan Project

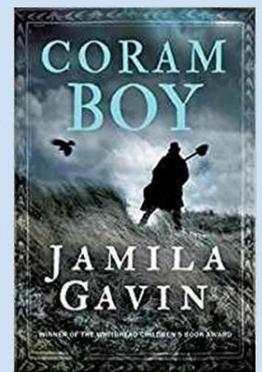
This exciting project will run for half a term in which eight selected students in year 10 will spend 2 tutor times a week over the course of 6 weeks working on a project of their choice with apprentice graduates at JP Morgan. It works out to be roughly equivalent to one week of work experience and is an amazing opportunity.



To apply for this students had to write a small paragraph around 100 words on what they would like to do in the future, what they would like to get from this project and an interesting fact about yourself. The project will be to work to develop a solution to a real life problem. Students will graduate during a ceremony at Weymouth College at the end of March.

### Have you read...? Coram Boy by Jamila Gavin

*Coram Boy* is the story of Toby, saved from an African ship as a child, and Aaron, the illegitimate son of the heir to a great estate. The two boys' lives are linked by the Coram Man, a shady figure who collects abandoned and unwanted children from across the country, supposedly to deliver them to a safe new life at the Coram Hospital in London. In reality, however, the unscrupulous man sells the unfortunate children into slavery, or 'disposes' of them if they are of no use to him. Soon, Toby and Aaron find themselves bound together in an epic journey, fraught with danger and excitement.



### Safer Internet Day 11th February

We joined schools and youth settings across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2020 which took place on Tuesday 11th February. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology. It calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, and policymakers to join together in helping to create a better internet. Students had a varied but very relevant diet of online related learning. They were given a bespoke workbook for the day that provided continuity across every lesson completed. There was a

hear about the exciting enrichment opportunities available to students at the university.



### Jack Thacker

Thank you to poet Jack Thacker at Lighthouse Poole for the lovely mention in the latest [Artful scribe uk](http://artfulscribe.uk) blog.



strong focus on building digital positivity and understanding the social media landscape. For more information on how to keep your child safe online, look at this [link to the safer internet website](#).

### Detentions

We are phasing in the expectation that students should make their own way to detention at the end of the day instead of being collected by the Pastoral Leads. This has proved to be very successful with Years 10 and 11 students and we have now phased in Year 9. We aim to have the same expectations for Years 7 and Year 8 after half term. Your child's tutor will remind students at the end of the day.

### Sanctions Overview 2019-20

Please note that there has been a slight amendment to the Sanction Policy in relation to repeat non attendance to detentions. Non attendance has always resulted in detentions being doubled and reset for the next day. We are pleased that we have very few repeat non attenders as most students choose to take the responsibility to attend detention. Therefore, we have decided that the **third incident of non attendance will be treated as persistent defiance and will result in a referral to the ABE for one day.**

(see our website <http://www.atlantic-aspirations.org/746/policies> for further details)

### Menus

Next term's menus can now be found on our [website](#). The Kitchen team aims to deliver healthy, nutritious meals for the students in our school.

WEEK 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
THE ENTREE	Pasta with Tomato and Basil Sauce	Pork Sausages	Traditional Roast Dinner	Beef Lasagne	Cod fish cakes with Tartar Sauce and Chips
VEGGIE LOVERS	Vegetable Pasta Bake (W)	Vegetable Sausages	Quorn fillet Roast dinner	Vegetable Lasagne	Veggie nuggets and Chips
LIGHT BITES	Ham Salad roll Cheese Salad roll Salad Wholemeal muffins Cookie (D)	Ham Salad roll Cheese Salad roll Salad Wholemeal muffins Cookie			
to the SIDE	Crusty Garlic Bread (W)	Mash and Baked Beans	Crispy Roast Potatoes and root vegetables		Garden peas
TASTY PUDS	Fruit Yoghurt	Warm Citrus Rice Cake	Apple Crumble and Cream	Decadent Chocolate Brownies	Selection Of Desserts