THE DEAN TRUST
Ashton on Mersey School

NEWSLETTER

24th October 2025

Headteacher Message

Mr McConaghie
Headteacher

The first half term of the academic year 2025-26 draws to a close. The school is open next week for Year 11 Holiday School (and a select group of Year 10 pupils). Beyond this, I hope everyone will have a restful break.

When we reopen on 3rd November, we will be planning for many of our fantastic winter events such as Christmas Markets, Y11 Celebration Evening, Carol Concerts and our Sixth Form Open Evening. Our parental progress evenings start in December too with Y10 taking place on the 4th. I look forward to seeing many of you next half term.

Thank you for the support.

Key Dates

- Monday 3rd November – School reopens for pupils
- Monday 3rd – Friday 14th November – Year 13 A Level Mock Exams
- Monday 17th – Friday 28th November – Year 11 Mock Exams
- Thursday 13th November – Sixth Form Open Evening, 6pm-8pm
- Thursday 27th November – Christmas Markets, 6pm-8pm
- Thursday 4th December – Year 10 Progress Evening

As school is closed next week, any enquiries should be made by email via MCAS or to office@aom.trafford.sch.uk

Congratulations to the winners in the ‘Attend to Win’ prize draw

£100 JD Voucher
Sai Vrithika Uppari

£50 Trafford Centre Voucher
Praise Iyiola
Stanley Ikin

£20 Cinema Voucher
Max Mahoney
Jay Alcock
Sam Moth
Ethan Gray

McDonalds Breakfast
Saira Amjad
Sarah Zhou
Imogen Jennings
Harry Carpenter
Samuel Annambotla

Skip the queue pass
Remy Hui
Esme Loney
Holly McCoy
Camron Mpofu
Kerem Kazan

Form Prize
Toby Turton-Wellings
Nicole Horridge
Dante Houghland
Molly Hardy
Zara Rafiq

£10 Greggs Voucher
Ashley Grady
Eloise Lodge
Shahd Elkhazeen
Lewis Hales

Golden Ticket – Rewards film
Morgan Hodkinson
Dayana Karbalaei
Macey-Lea Cecil
Maisie Osborne
Alan Martin

The atmosphere in the sports hall was electric at break time today! Well done to everyone who maintained 100% attendance this week and was entered to the prize draw.

The Dean Trust
Ashton on Mersey School

Christmas Markets

Thursday 27th November 2025
6.00pm - 8.00pm

Mince pies and festive cheer!

Variety of stalls: Handmade gifts, tombola, cakes, jewellery and much more.

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Key Stage 4

Mr Spencer
Assistant Headteacher; Key Stage 4

It has been another busy and productive term for our Key Stage 4 pupils. Year 11 have made an excellent start to their final year, demonstrating maturity and commitment as they prepare for their upcoming in class mock examinations in November. Revision sessions are now well underway, and we encourage pupils to continue making full use of the resources available to them, including subject intervention sessions, revision guides, and support from their teachers. The timetable will be republished after half term.

As part of our continued focus on future pathways, Year 11 pupils should now be exploring their Post-16 options through **Unifrog**, completing careers profiles and shortlisting potential courses and apprenticeships. This will help prepare them for their 1-2-1 careers appointment. It has been fantastic to see so many pupils taking responsibility for their next steps and discussing their ambitions with form tutors and careers staff. Our prefects have also been playing an important role across the school community, leading by example and supporting events such as open evenings and welcome evenings.

For **Year 10**, this term marks the beginning of their journey towards leadership and preparation for the challenges ahead. Details about **Work Experience Week (29th June – 3rd July 2026)** have been released today and pupils are encouraged to begin sourcing placements that align with their career interests. You can check our careers newsletter as well for guidance on this. Work experience is a valuable opportunity to gain real-world experience and build confidence in professional settings.

In addition, Year 10 pupils should be starting to completing key **Unifrog tasks** to help them identify their strengths and explore future opportunities. We would also encourage them to look for ways to take on **leadership roles,** both within and beyond schools, in preparation for their prefect applications later in the academic year.

It has been a pleasure to see both year groups showing such enthusiasm and focus. Many are attending additional sessions over half term and we look forward to seeing them continue to make progress in the run up to the Christmas period.

Fantastic Artwork

Well done to all the Year 7 pupils who designed some fantastic Pumpkins ready for carving this Halloween! They really enjoyed this homework task.

Key Stage 3 Art Club pupils produced some fantastic 'Spooktacular Artwork' this week. Pupils really enjoyed the chance to use charcoal and chalk pastels this week. Well done to the pupils who came along and enjoyed chatting to friends and being creative.

PE

We ended last week with a Friday fixture for our Year 7 girls football team. The team made a solid start to the season beating a strong BTH side, 3-0. Goals from Kalina, Evie and Elsa. A huge well done to the team and POTM – Evia A.

The Ashton on Mersey Cross Country team made a fantastic start to the season. They competed in the first race of the Trafford school's cross-country league at John Leigh Park. In the first race of the day for Year 7 and 8 girls, with a large turnout from across the Trafford schools, Erin and Maia claimed 1st and 2nd position respectively. In the Year 7 and 8 boys race, Harbin competing in his first cross-country race, claimed 3rd place and the best finishing Year 7. There was also a strong team performance in the Year 9 – 11 boys race with Sam M finishing 5th.

Our Year 7/8 girls football team played against the Lowry Academy in the Greater Manchester Cup. The team pulled together to end with a strong 5-0 win. Shoutout for POTM – Elsa B. Elsa dominated on the left wing throughout the game and created many goalscoring opportunities. A huge well done to all those involved and good luck in the next round.

PE

Mr Colbert's Year 7B football team completed the week with a huge 13-1 win over Broadoak. What an exceptional performance from the team. Goals from Will K, Max N (2), Louie L (2), Luke H (2), George B (3) and Harbin M (3). Shoutout for POTM , George B who scored a hat-trick in 3 minutes! A huge well done to the team and good luck for the rest of the season.

We have had a great start to the year with extra-curricular. All recreational clubs can now be signed up to using the MCAS app (*clubs & trips > 'PE 25/26 : Sport*). Please see below our timetable for the next term.

Monday			
After-school	Basketball (7&8)	Sports Hall	Player Craft Coach
Tuesday			
After-school	Badminton League Night (7-11) Football (Team: 7A/7B) Football (Team: 8/9) Girls Rugby (7-11) Netball (Team: 7-11) Fitness (9-11) Dance (7-9) OCR Catch-up (10&11)	Sports Hall Field Field Field Courts Fitness Suite Dance Studio Rm 2	Miss Pemberton Mr Henderson Mr Milner/Mr Doody Mr Stabler Mrs Bruce/ Miss Connolly Mr Moors Miss Lawson Mr Jackson
Wednesday			
After-school	Basketball (Team: 7) Football (Team: 10/11) Netball League Night (7-11) Rugby (Team: 7-9) Girls Football (Team: 7-11) Sixth Form Football Scholarship Sale Sharks ACE Programme	Sports Hall Field Courts Field Astro TBC TBC	Miss Lloyd Mr Jackson Miss Connolly/ Miss Edwards Mr Locke/ Mr Worsfold Miss Pemberton Mr Henderson Mr Stabler
Thursday			
After-school	Football League Night (7/8) Basketball (8&9) Table Tennis (7-11) Fitness (9-11) Rock Climbing (7-11)	Astro Sports Hall Gymnasium Fitness Suite Climbing wall	Mr Milner/ Trainee Mr Graham/Mr Doody Mr Locke Mr Moors Mrs Bruce
Friday			
After-school	X-Country	Field	Mr Szekely

Congratulations

Well done to Joshua H in Year 8 who competed in the Northern Athletics Cross Country Relays on Saturday in Sheffield, representing Sale Harriers in a team of 3 boys. There were 43 teams in total from all over the north of England. Following a successful replay run, Joshua's team won making them the northern champions for the u13 category.

We are very proud of Dexter in Year 9 who recently took part in filming 'I Swear', a film about John Davidson MBE who was diagnosed with Tourette's syndrome at a young age.

Star of the week

Well done to all pupils who received star of the week this week, each nomination has been linked to one of our school values.

Equality

Thea Bloss, 8LEL – Nominated by Mr Lawson for showing interest and respect to another pupils experience during a lunchtime club.

Integrity

Ines Yamato, 11KRK - Nominated by Ms Saunders for her work ethic and a consistent approach to tasks in English. Ines showed great integrity. She is really progressing this year and I am sure she will reap the rewards in the Summer.

Archie Roberts, 8RAB - Nominated by Mrs McSweeney for always being polite and helpful towards staff and other pupils in the class. Archie has had an excellent half term in Spanish. Well done, Archie!

Respect

Sienna Bhaker, 8AMH - Nominated by Miss Forber for showing respect and care in Art by organising the Art resources for the department.

Star of the week

Resilience

Lily-Mae Coulson, 10SAS – Nominated by Mrs Evans for her fantastic attendance. A brilliant improvement from this time last year. Keep up the good work!

Frankie Austin, 11RHB – Nominated by Miss Thorburn for her fantastic academic progress in Maths assessment this week. Well done, Frankie!

Toby Robertson-Talbot, 11DAS – Nominated by Mrs Esgaio for his excellent preparation for his Spanish speaking exam. Toby was also nominated by Mr Tabaa for his continued attendance to Business Studies revision sessions, demonstrating remarkable engagement despite sustaining an injury.

Ellie Feltham, 9MEF – Nominated by Miss Thorburn for outstanding application of Maths problem solving demonstrated in the end of term assessment.

Moses Fung, 10MET – Nominated by the Year 10 SEN team for showing great commitment in his photography lessons.

Rebecca Bryans, 8PAC – Nominated by the Year 8 SEN team for adapting well to working independently in her new set and always working hard to meet challenges with a positive outlook.

Ambition

Ivy-Mae Jackson, 7CHP – Nominated by Miss Martin for hard work in Music lessons and being a valued member of a number of performing arts clubs, since starting in September. She is kind and helpful and has been marking great progress. Well done, Ivy!

Michelle Adebisi, 7HAS – Nominated by Mrs Esgaio for always giving 100% in Spanish lessons. Michelle always contributes in class and volunteers to help. Keep up the good work!

Matilda Hadwen-Wright, 10LAP – Nominated by Miss Martin for an excellent start to Year 10 Music. Completing excellent homework, gaining full marks, showing she is able to apple some of her knowledge learnt so far. Keep up the excellent work!

Harrison Metcalfe, 9MEF – Nominated by Mr Jackson for showing ambition in pushing himself through the different sports he has undertaken over the past 2 years. During year 9 Harrison has moved up groups as a result and has shown some brilliant progress during this term in Rugby. Well done, Harrison keep working hard!

Star of the week

Ambition

Max Keogh, 12MIP – Nominated by Miss Thorburn for excellent effort with the Maths mock paper this week. Keep up the good work!

Thomas Williams, 10JEM – Nominated by Mr Moore for making an excellent start to his OCR coursework, showing a high standard of work throughout. Well done, Thomas!

Keira Liu, 11LAR – Nominated by Mr Moore for achieving 100% in her last three Creative iMedia homework's, well above the class average each week. Well done!

Charlie Hatcher, 7CHP – Nominated by Miss Cridland for showing a committed attitude to his English studies in and outside of the classroom.

Henry Mak, 11ELA – Nominated by Mr Robson for excellent contributions in History lesson and for always work hard.

Brooke Marsh, 8PEG – Nominated by Mr Robson for always being keen to get involved with History lesson and going above and beyond.