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ASHMOLE SCHOOL @shmole

Spring 2009

Volume 2, Issue 2

Message from the Head



keep parents/carers and students well informed.

Since the last newsletter, the school has continued to provide many exciting after school events, trips and activities, the success of which you can read about in this newsletter. Our commitment to provide such an extensive 'beyond the classroom' programme will continue throughout the year. I also would like to draw your attention to the success of our sporting teams.

Ashmole is committed to be excellent in all our activities. The sports teams have taken this commitment to succeed very seriously. This year, so far, Ashmole has won the following trophies: Year 7 Football and Senior Girl's Football. Also the Year 7 and Year 9 Boys Football have just won their respective leagues.

Well done to them all, and best wishes to those teams still involved in competitive events.

Derrick Brown
Head Teacher

Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Welcome to the Spring edition of the newsletter. I am sure you will agree with me, it is about time that spring arrived. The wintry conditions earlier in the term were a test for many public services. We regret closing the school for two days when the snow and the weather were at their worst but sometimes the health and safety issues facing a school in these extreme conditions have to take priority over opening the school. I hope our use of the web site and Schoolcomms helped to

Snow @shmole



As you can see from the photograph above, along with most of the schools in the borough, Ashmole was brought to a halt by the snow at the beginning of February.

The Schoolcomms system was most effective and every student

was informed of the closure. The success of the system has highlighted the importance of keeping our records up to date in case of a similar emergency. Please notify the school office of any changes to e-mail and mobile phone numbers.

Toad of Toad Hall



ASHMOLE School presented AA Milne's adaption of *Toad of Toad Hall* as this years Christmas whole school production. The result was three fabulous nights of entertainment. Toad was played by Sam Howard in a tour de force performance, appearing on stage throughout and with six different costume changes. His manic energy blended just the right amount of humour and pathos. He was admirably backed by Charlie Cox as a 'Terry Thomas' inspired Rat; Hannah Barnett as the bewildered and nervous Mole and Caroline Humphrey as Badger, played as a cross between Hyacinth Bucket and Margaret Thatcher.

Special mention needs to go to the house band who composed a number of original pieces to accompany the play and to the Technology and Art Departments for all their help on the glorious set.

Watch this space for next year's show stopper.



Year 7 Concert

ON 23rd October we held our first ever Year 7 concert. Every single student in Year 7 was given the opportunity to perform. Each tutor group sang a song that they had been practising in music lessons throughout the first half-term. There were performances from the Year 7 choir led by Miss Jones, the chamber string group, the orchestra and the jazz band. The finale was all of Year 7 singing "*We Are the Champions*" accompanied by the orchestra. It was a very successful evening that both students and parents alike enjoyed very much. Some students had never had the chance to perform in such a big concert before. Below is a list of songs that each tutor group performed.

- 7J1 – *I'm a Believer*
- 7J2 – *Theme from Fame*
- 7M1 – *God Only Knows*
- 7M2 – *River of Dreams*
- 7N1 – *Hi Ho Silver Lining*
- 7N2 – *From Us to You*
- 7S1 – *Siyahamba*
- 7S2 – *It's My Life*

Mrs Turvey
Director of Music



Performing Art @ Ashmole

Ashmole School *Christmas Concert*



On 4th December 2008 we held our Christmas Concert. It was a lovely evening of music-making by our extremely talented music students. It was Mr Egan's first concert at Ashmole School and very sadly Miss Jones' last concert. The evening was opened by Arash Sayedi playing "Prelude in G Minor" by Rachmaninoff. In the first half the audience was charmed by the recorder group, the flute choir, and the chamber string orchestra. The newly formed brass band was really impressive, playing the theme tune from "Pirates of the Caribbean", "Jolly Old St Nicholas" and "Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer". The Year 7 choir sounded beautiful singing "O Holy Night". After

the interval the programme began with a beautiful version of "Silent Night" which was sung by Hannah Barnett (13/N2) and Anthony Constantinou (7/S1). Ashmole Choir, Ashmole Orchestra, the Jazz Band all sounded fantastic as they played various Christmas classics such as "Sugar Plum Fairy", "Merry Christmas (War Is Over)" and "Jingle Bells Bossa Nova". The evening finished off with the audience singing "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" along with the two choirs and accompanied by the orchestra. It was a lovely evening that got everybody who attended into the festive mood.

Mrs Turvey
Director of Music



GCSE Music Concert

ALL Year 10 and 11 students who study Music performed at our first ever GCSE Music concert on 12th February. This was an opportunity for these students to develop their performance skills which is important because performing is a large component of the GCSE course. Students had chosen an eclectic mix of pieces ranging from Bach to Oasis. Many of the students, who performed at this concert, had never played in front of an audience before and were very nervous beforehand. This did not show however in their recitals.

All students played exceptionally well and demonstrated what outstanding musical talent we have at Ashmole School. Performances of particular note came from Thomas Jones 10M1 who played a "Hungarian Dance" by Brahms on the violin; "Chasing Pavements" sung by Rachel Wilkes 10N1; and "What Can I Do?" by The Corrs performed by Louise Busby, Athina Christou, Molly Coulson-Chard, Alescia Ferrari, Arita Kastrati, Maya Purchase and Bobby Wiafe who are all Year 11 students.

Mrs Turvey
Director of Music



The Magic of Space

RUSHING off after an Ashmolean Christmas lunch was pretty testing; Parliament was no longer a distant vision but now a reality with its unimaginable interior grandeur.

Clutching our special invitations, we were whisked through security and then ushered through long corridors and grand halls leaving us in awe. The House of Commons members' private dining room was a splendid room with heavy curtains, massive wall hangings and a table laden with afternoon delights fit for the Queen. Distinguished guests buzzed around nibbling and drinking whilst engaging in friendly conversations, but of course this was a special event: an extraordinary celebration for scientists, astronauts, government, media, and for all humankind reaching out into the world and far beyond.

Forty years ago, on December 21st 1968, humanity celebrated the first manned Moon orbit with Apollo 8 and the rocket Saturn V. Today, we celebrated The Magic of Space – the special guest was Richard Garriot, a space tourist and a second generation astronaut who has taken the initiative to encourage students from around the globe to participate with experiments and new ideas for the benefit of space sciences and a new space era.

Garriott's space mission was partly sponsored by Associated News bringing the 'Metro' into space. Nicholas Lucas, who is one of the winners in a recent space science competition, was given the honour to present the first newspaper in space. We were so proud, not only for his achievement but also for seeing him standing there at the



podium, calm and collected, next to the astronaut and the Science Editor of the Metro in our so familiar Ashmole School uniform.

Overall, it was a rare opportunity to hang out with pioneers at the dawn of a new civilisation, a new generation for Space, a time to

celebrate man's insatiable appetite to reach further afield to the world around us and beyond.

2009 is celebrated as the year of Astronomy.

Georgia Lucas 10/M2

Nuffield Bursaries



TOM de Ville, Falak Hussain and Fufu Fang were awarded Nuffield Bursaries to participate in the Summer School for Research at the National Institute of Medical Research. They worked for four

weeks during the summer holidays on research projects. Posters describing these investigations were presented at Imperial College in October.

Mrs Sargent

Astronomical Society

BACK in November the School, in Association with the Astronomical Society of Haringey (A.S.H.), was proud to host a talk 'Cosmic Quest: From Babylon to the Big Bang' by noted astronomers Heather Couper and Nigel Henbest.

Best known for their contributions to various scientific documentaries on TV and radio, the pair provided a very engaging and informative review of the history and origins of astronomy, bringing their review right up to the present day with cutting edge revelations and the application of cutting edge technology. The talk was complemented by

some rarely seen photographs of deep space including the 'birth' and 'death' of star systems.

The talk was enjoyed by staff, students, and members of A.S.H. alike. 2009 is the International Year of Astronomy and the school will be having a number of activities to recognise this. Watch out in the media too as there are many documentaries timed to coincide with this important year as the world unites to share the wonderment we all feel when we look up in to the night sky.

Mr. Hague

External Lectures

THE Science Faculty is proud to be hosting a number of external lectures by noted scientists throughout 2009. The talks are designed to give our students a better understanding of contemporary science and the nature of scientific enquiry itself. Speakers have been invited across a broad range of scientific disciplines so that our students may appreciate the diversity of scientific careers and the exciting opportunities on offer. The talks will generally be aimed at students

in Years 10 – 13 and more details will be passed out by your science teachers. The talks seek to inspire our students and inform them of the exciting opportunities that are open to them when they move into higher education and beyond. A significant percentage of our students choose scientific degree courses when they leave Ashmole and I feel confident that some will be the people to make the major discoveries of their generation.

Mr. Hague

Open University's Young Applicant in Schools Scheme



THE Science department is very pleased to present achievement certificates to 8 AS students who passed an Open University Science Short Course. The Open University's Young Applicant in Schools Scheme provides the opportunity for students to study a range of selected undergraduate modules at first-year level alongside their AS and A levels.

The courses are delivered by the Open University, which provides all the learning materials needed, but under the watchful eye of Mr.

Nallamilli and Mrs. Doyle, each student worked independently for approximately 100 hours to produce one written assignment which was submitted for assessment.

Well done to:

**Tutku Dursun
Georgia Stavri
George Georgiou
Seran Hakki
Alex Doobay
Karis Dunford
Basmah Hussain
Alex Monk**

Outdoor Classroom



THE Spinney project is nearly complete with a little more work being done during Easter break with the building of a pond, a few borders and paths and possibly the installation of a bird hide.

I would like to thank both my old enrichment group from last year for their support and spirit as well as this year's group who are being

led by Mr. Thurley.

To all of those parents and friends who sent in Morrison's vouchers for free gardening equipment – thank you very much. The school was able to redeem them for tools which will prove invaluable to the project.

Mr. Nallamilli

Private Peaceful



When we got to the theatre we sat down ate our lunch, got given our tickets and filed into the theatre. We sat there talking for a bit then I heard the high pitched sound of bagpipes. I turned round to see who was playing them and I saw a man. He was being followed by three other people.

They went onto the stage in single file then they stopped, sat down and one of them started talking, he kept on talking for an hour and I kept on thinking to myself about when the actors were coming on but I still listened carefully to the man. He went through the life of Tommo Peaceful and his brother Charlie. He went through their childhood, friends and their time in WW1.

It was a very fascinating story, at times sad and dramatic and at times happy and cheerful. When the show had finished Ms O'Carroll asked me what I thought of the show. I replied I liked it but I expected it to be a play not just a man talking. Ms O'Carroll then pointed out that the man was Michael Morpurgo!

Joan Peshkepja, 7N1

NEW YORK TRIP

NEW York for all of us was a trip to remember. We can safely say that none of us wanted to come back, apart from Mr Nash. Checking in was hectic. Imagine 47 noisy excited Year Twelve students and five teachers. All of us just wanted to get there. We were all tired from the early start but there was no sleeping on the plane. All we did was laugh and even Ms Barnes was seen to smile a few times. Now that is an accomplishment.

Once in New York the coach journey took us past Times Square and our hotel was just round the corner. Once we checked in we went to our rooms and unpacked. Then we met the teachers and were reminded about our curfew, given meeting times and the usual

lectures teachers love to give. The rest of the day was ours. Some went shopping and bought 13 pairs of Uggs between five people; some went sight seeing; some went to sleep and some got well and truly lost in Times Square.

Tour days were not as bad as we thought they were going to be. We went everywhere, from Central Park with the Friends Fountain (alleged) and Strawberry Fields to the Brooklyn Bridge and then on to Wall Street. We visited the Empire State Building and Ground Zero which no one is likely to forget.

There were many memorable moments over the four days. Ms Barnes reaction when Selma, Anne and Francine were late for signing in. Haries and her countless pairs



of trainers. Lisa and her Uggs. Becky and all her phone numbers. The number of empty boxes outside the rooms as we were packing to come home.

Overall a memorable trip which we all recommend you should go on if you get the opportunity.

**Haries Constantinou
Rebecca Laporte, Year 12**

SKI TRIP TO KILLINGTON



THE ski trip this year was an amazing experience for everyone who went on it. The views of the mountains were literally breathtaking and it was good to be able to spend time with people who you didn't know before the trip. As first time skiers we thought that the instructors were extremely helpful even when you fell over, and believe us it's easier

than you think to fall over. When you woke in the mornings you felt like you had worked muscles that you didn't even know you had. The first day, we had to take a short walk to the ski hire centre. We all thought that this was the coldest thing we had ever done but by the end of the

week we were walking around like it was normal. It's not just the atmosphere which makes this trip amazing; it's the sense of achievement at the end of the week. Plus going to New York was an added bonus which we thought was very interesting. Overall

we found the trip a worthwhile experience and would recommend it to anyone who is thinking about going next year!

**Nadia Beaumont and
Melissa Ray
11/N2**

War Horse



Happy faces all round!



"I think that War Horse was the best thing that I have ever seen in the theatre!"

Alisha Michaels, 8S2

"The puppets were amazing."

Aris Savva, 8N2

"In my opinion the production was spectacular, it's worth you going to see it!"

Shivani Patel, 8N2

Review

War Horse: a gripping, nail

biting and emotional stage play based on the popular novel by Michael Morpugo. A story of love, friendship and the troubles of war between a teenage boy and his horse.

War Horse is set in the First World War, a time of sadness and troubles. A teenage boy comes into ownership of a foal who is miraculously turned into a strong and intelligent horse by his owner. A strong friendship forms, but when Albert's horse, Joey, is taken off to war, "to run into the German guns," Albert is so distraught that he sets off on a journey to find his dear horse, even through the dangers of war.

Cleverly incorporating puppetry with actors, War Horse really came alive. Most would think

that creating a life-sized puppet of a horse would be impossible. However, the end result was outstanding and its movements and features looked very real. I was thoroughly impressed with the way the whole concept was pulled off. Special effects are also something the show could be credited for, they gave the play a whole new dimension and they created a dramatic and realistic atmosphere. The special effects also gave us an eye-opener into what the war was really like with all the explosions and shooting that went on.

I thoroughly recommend the play War Horse. It was emotional, tense, but overall a real insight into the world of war. Definitely something worth seeing!

Shannon Rafique 8N2

Library News

THE Library is currently collecting the 'Books for Schools' vouchers from The Times and The Times on Sunday and would appreciate any contributions. Look out for the blue book monster in Times 2 and the News Review.

The Year Sevens were very excited to receive their 'Booked Up' books just before Christmas, as well as their bookmarks and sticker. The 'Mad for Books' club members enjoyed the privilege of having the library all to themselves for their Christmas party and enjoyed

discussing the books they have read this year and which new titles they're looking forward to.

Preparations are starting for World Book Day on the 5th of March, when all students will receive a £1 book voucher which can be exchanged for one of the specially produced World Book Day books, including new titles in the 'Horrible History' and 'H.I.V.E'

series or can be put towards a full price book. The vouchers can be used at all major book shops.

There's also another Scholastic Book Fair to look forward to in April, when students can browse new titles from a wide range of authors or pick up an old favourite for a bargain price.

Miss Hastie

Ashmole Debates!

A SHMOLE School's Debating Club has been going from strength to strength. This year, for the first time ever, Ashmole entered two students into the Cambridge Schools Debating Competition. This year it was held at Kingsbury School with another member of the KS4/5 Debating Club coming along for moral support and Miss O'Carroll and Mr Winchester providing help and getting us there. When we arrived, we were shocked by the sheer number of schools taking part. In addition, almost all of them were 6th formers!

We were then called and found that we were up against Henrietta

Barnett, Finchley Catholic and a swing team made up of Kingsbury and Christ's College. The motion for the first debate was 'This House would introduce performance-related pay for teachers.' All the other speakers then spoke with clear experience and Henrietta Barnett surprised us all with their extensive research. At the end of the evening the results were announced, unfortunately we didn't get through to the next round.

In the first week of December, Ashmole hosted the ESU Mace Competition in the Training Suite. We were up against Ravenscroft School who we had previously

debated against in last year's competition, so there was already some rivalry between us.

The evening started off with us getting to know each other and an introduction from the Chairperson, Nicole Shroff. The debating kicked off with Christ's College against North London International School debating violent video games. Then came the turn of the hosts and I began the debate as the first speaker and this time I had come with extensive research and a head full of advice from the Cambridge Schools debate. Keeping this advice in mind, I started with my main points and also introduced Alex's. We felt the debate went well.

The judges came back and

announced the results. We waited in anticipation as we had been knocked out of the first round last year. The results were as follows: North London International and Christ's College had been knocked out. The Judges were so impressed with Ashmole and Ravenscroft that they decided to send us both through to the second round. We got our feedback and discussed our win with Ravenscroft and gave our condolences to the schools that had been knocked out. Overall, we were very proud of our achievement since neither of us had ever debated competitively before and we are really looking forward to the second round.

Ahmed Al-Jabir 10/M2

Auschwitz



RECENTLY I was involved in the Lessons from Auschwitz project run by the Holocaust Education Trust. Before going to Auschwitz I found myself wondering how I would react to such a place having knowledge of the level of planned genocide which went on. Would I feel angry or even emotionally detached? I had never experienced anything like Auschwitz, so I didn't know how to even begin to prepare myself emotionally.

When we arrived in Krakow, Poland, leaving the airport we quickly jumped onto the coach and drove through the town of Oswiecim which was given the name 'Auschwitz' when the Nazis invaded. It felt that to some extent I had travelled back in time, I got the impression that the people lived a very simple life, running small farms, chatting in the local market. It then dawned on me the challenges that such people would have faced during the Holocaust.

On our visit to Auschwitz we visited Auschwitz 1, the camp which was used to house mainly non-Jewish prisoners. These included Polish political and religious opponents of the Nazi regime, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses as well as Soviet prisoners of war. We also visited Birkenau, the purpose built extermination camp and the main centre for Jewish, Romany and Gypsy prisoners.

Auschwitz 1 was very much what you'd expect a prison camp to look like; very structured, organised, fenced off by barbed wire. However, as the guide fed us with more information about what went on, I began to discover that it wasn't very 'normal' at all. We walked around the camp in groups of 15 and were lectured on the conditions that the prisoners faced, what struck me the most was a particular room where those who were punished were forced into a bricked off space, about the size of a small shower, and had to stay there standing up all day and night in between the hours of hard intensive labour. Such prisoners usually died of starvation and lack of oxygen. Inside the prison blocks was a collection of some of the belongings that were taken from the prisoners, including small

everyday items such as combs and very personal items such as prayer shawls. There was a room filled to the ceiling with hair shaved from the prisoners and another with shoes. I couldn't help but put a face to those that once wore the millions upon millions of shoes, and the fact I could see 'living proof' made it that much harder to accept. But what was to come was something beyond my expectations.

After a 5 minute coach ride we arrived at Birkenau. As we drove up to the very famous image of the gates of the camp, it made me feel almost angry, the building itself appearing quite normal, however it made me start to think about how such an image would have haunted the millions who suffered and died there, as well as the very few who survived.

It felt very dreary, and the weather was a very solid, overcast grey and it was freezing, which for me was somewhat appropriate as it added to the sombreness of the day. I think the biggest shock of all for me was the apparent simplicity and efficiency of the camp, it almost felt like a giant factory.

After the tour we were taken into a room filled with pictures of a few of the millions who suffered at Auschwitz. Looking at them it made me realize that they were very ordinary people just like you and I doing very ordinary things such as enjoying the simple pleasures of family life. To think that these

people were treated as 'products', stripped and denied of any cultural identity, to meet a brutality so simple and effective makes you begin to question how something like this could have gone on whilst the rest of the world stood still. As survivor Gena Turgel wrote in her book 'I Light a Candle' that '*at Auschwitz, every last remnant of respect and dignity was squeezed out of us. In our loose, striped, insect-ridden clothing and with our hair cropped or shaved, we felt completely dehumanized.*'

It has been 60 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and the other Nazi camps, but have we really moved on? Some would look at the recent election of the first African American, President Barack Obama as an indication that to some extent we have. However, you only have to look over your shoulder to see that we haven't fully learnt the lesson, be it petty jokes that you hear and turn a blind eye to, to the forgotten crisis in Congo where 5.4 million have been killed since 1988 and the ethnic cleansing that took place in the former Yugoslavia. I believe the only way we can move on is through projects such as 'Lessons from Auschwitz' that help to shock, inspire and educate young people, so that we can carry on doing the job that many survivors have done.

Scott Gordon 13/S1

Stand Up To Hatred



Scott Gordon and Grace Bullen (far left) with Boris Johnson at City Hall.

ON Tuesday 27th January, City Hall held the annual 'Stand up to Hatred' Holocaust Memorial Ceremony. Many people attended, including myself, students from other schools, a Holocaust survivor and the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson.

The day consisted of key speakers revealing their own experiences and expressing their own views on prejudice, which affected them directly, either due to their race, religion or physical disabilities. This event was organised in an attempt to raise awareness to the issue and to make progress in preventing such travesties, like the Holocaust, from ever being able to take place again.

The moving account from the Holocaust

survivor, Rudi Oppenheimer, showed how the Holocaust changed his life dramatically even as a small innocent child. Along with the recital of old Jewish songs and prayers the day helped to gain an understanding on how unjustifiable the discrimination of people of the Jewish faith, or any other group of people is. Other accounts of people experiencing prejudice, even in modern day society, emphasised the need for people to 'Stand up to Hatred', and to make a difference by supporting causes and events such as the Holocaust Memorial Ceremony. Actions like this enable people to make a sufficient impact upon ending prejudice and discrimination against people in our society today.

Grace Bullen 13/N2

News from P.E.



A SUCCESSFUL term in all areas of P.E. and school sport has resulted in nine Ashmole students being selected to run for Barnet in the Middlesex cross country, two football teams reaching the Barnet Cup finals and a continued unbeaten run in netball.

On Thursday 15th January teams from Years 7, 8 and 9 and 10 to 13 travelled to Copthall Stadium to take part in the Barnet Championships. A cold windy day with many students running for the first time did nothing to halt the enthusiasm and determination of our teams. Year 7s ran first and got off to an excellent start with all 5 students finishing in the top 9 led home by James Sothcott in 4th place. The Year 8 and 9 team ran well with a good group finish; Andreas Kyprianou leading the way into 5th place. A very young senior team was the last to compete, with all students from Years 10 and 11 competing against many pupils two or three years older than them. The youngest of the competitors, Alex Youngman, came in 9th, closely followed by Tom Pye.

Due to good team positions the Year 8 and 9 team were awarded third place and the senior and Year 7 teams were placed 1st. These excellent results have ensured nine of our fifteen students who raced have been selected to represent Barnet in the Middlesex Championships. Well done to the following:

Michael Rose, Kieran Budgett, David Gaskin and Theodosis Agathocleous (Year 7), Andreas Kyprianou (Year 9), Alexander Youngman (Year 10), Tom Pye, Liam Thompson and Peter Haynes (Year 11).

Football has continued to shine at Ashmole with the Year 10 and Senior teams both reaching the Barnet Cup finals to be played this half term. More impressively both teams won convincingly in their semi finals 5 -1 and 8 -1 respectively. The P.E. department wishes them good luck and I'm sure whoever they play against must be concerned after such impressive results.

A mention also needs to go out to the Year 7 football team which is currently top of the league and has only been beaten twice this year in late rounds of the Barnet Cup. I believe it is certainly a team for the future.

Girls' sport is gaining momentum now with success in senior and Year 9 netball. The senior side is currently made up of predominantly Year 11 students who have achieved much success already, with the shooting prowess of Alescia Ferrari, tactical flair of Katy Orriss and with another two years of playing together, this is a team to watch out for. Following in their footsteps the Year 9 team, having lost only once in two years, looks set to match and break school netball records.

Mr Garvey

Barnet Senior Girls Champions 2009



Congratulations to the Senior Girls Football Team who won the annual tournament at Woodhouse College. Captained by Becky Laporte in Year 12, Ashmole played a number of schools and won all their games.

They only conceded one goal throughout the tournament. Georgia Miller in Year 8 played particularly well and scored a brilliant goal. We look forward to defending our title again next year.

Miss Sethi

Netball



Pictured is the Year 9 Netball Team modeling their new Skorts kindly sponsored by a local business.

Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!



On Wednesday 21st January Ashmole School hosted the Borough of Barnet final of the Speakers Bank 'Speak Out Challenge' 2009 sponsored by the Jack Petchey Foundation.

Students from 19 Barnet secondary schools were represented. The speakers were judged by an independent panel and the top three received iPod music players. In addition, the winner will go on to represent the borough at the grand final in July.

Ashmole's representative was Nicole Shroff [10/J2] who gave a moving speech on 'Poverty' which

captivated the audience. Nicole's speech was very well received and she was placed a creditable third place. The eventual winner was the speaker from East Barnet.

In his closing address the Mayor of Barnet commended all the speakers and made reference to Nicole's speech and how he felt the whole audience would be left with the memories of the scenes that she portrayed.

For more information and pictures from the evening, please go to www.speakoutchallenge.com/pages/northlondon

Mr McGinley

Golden Oldies



Each year the Sixth Form hosts the 'Golden Oldies Party' for the elderly of the community. With the previous year's event to live up to, the new Golden Oldies team had a lot to prepare to ensure this year's success. Here is what they had to say...

"The Annual Golden Oldies Party was held on the Wednesday 17th December 2008. It was organised by the Business Enrichment team led by Miss Archeou. It is where the elderly people in the local community are invited to spend the afternoon with us and we provide them with entertainment, food and gifts, donated by the local business, and the generous students of Ashmole School.

The event itself was very successful after all the hard work put in by all volunteers. The performances put on by the various acts were not only enchanting but also entertaining including a magic act from Sam Howard which was not for the faint hearted! Not forgetting that no Golden Oldies Party would be complete without a visit from Father Christmas!

Thanks to the local businesses who donated gifts and raffle prizes, and more importantly a huge thank you to the students, parents and staff who also donated gifts. These gifts were widely appreciated by our guests and we received many letters of praise from them. We would also like to thank all the students in Year 12 who helped out before, during and after the event as well as the staff, especially Mrs Jones and Mrs Willmot for all their help prior and on the day."

Natalie Lemonides, Lisa Elia and James McCaul

Activities @ Ashmole

Cambridge Shadowing Scheme



ARRIVED at Cambridge University for the Shadowing Scheme on Thursday 5th February. After the welcome speech we met the people we would be shadowing for the next three days. My student was called Carl, a Second Year Law student.

In Cambridge there are 19 colleges and each one has its own particular quirkiness. There are old colleges, such as King's and Trinity, where

some of the most famous scientists, including Sir Isaac Newton, studied. Robinson is one of the more modern colleges and that is where I stayed. This was fortunate for me as Robinson is known for having the best food and gardens amongst all the colleges.

On the second day I attended four hours of lectures which were made very interesting by the lecturers. I also attended a 'supervision' during

which a tutor went through a topic with a small group of students.

During my free time I explored the city which is not very large, but there is plenty to see between the colleges and the shopping opportunities. In fact one of the shops sells the best fudge that I have ever tasted. By the evening all of us 'shadowers' were extremely tired but that didn't stop us from going out and having a good time; Cambridge has a wealth of comedy clubs, bars and places of entertainment.

The Cambridge Shadowing Scheme was a particularly enjoyable experience where I learnt a lot about university life. If any student has the opportunity to go to Cambridge for a couple days I advise you to take it.

Liam Bezani
12/M1

Jack Petchey Achievement Awards



www.jackpetchyfoundation.org.uk

October 2008 Winner



The winner of the October 2008 Jack Petchey award was **Eleanor Calver** [11/S1]. Eleanor climbed Mount Snowdon to raise money for Children in Need. Her award was used to supply new resources for the Library.

November 2008 Winner



Eloise Lester [7/S1] won the award in November 2008. She raised £3000 for the Russet House School for Autistic Children. Eloise has asked for her award to be used towards a whiteboard in the Drama Studio.

December Winner



Sandeep Ghelani [13/N2] achieved outstanding results in his Graphics AS and was placed in the top 10 in the country. The Technology Department has benefited from his award with new laser cutting equipment.

University News



CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Ho 13/N2 and Fufu Fang 13/J1 who have been offered places at Cambridge University. Sarah will read Natural Sciences at Downing College in 2010 and Fufu will read Natural Sciences at Pembroke College in 2009.

Many of our Year 13 students have been offered places at other prestigious universities. As a school we wish them every success in the summer examinations.

Mrs. O'Carroll
Gifted & Talented Coordinator

Calling all budding reporters



Any student interested in journalism and who would like to assist with the editing of the school magazine @shmole should put their application in writing to Mr Sullivan.

Christian Union

DO you have any questions about Christianity? If you want answers, join us at the Christian Union on Thursdays in HU5 at 1.30 pm.

DATE	TOPIC
5th March	Why didn't Jesus fight back?
12th March	Is dying on the cross your idea of passion?
19th March	Are you sure you are going to heaven?
26th March	Why is the resurrection important?
2nd April	How will we know when judgment day is coming?
23rd April	How do we know the Bible is from God?
30th April	Is the Bible relevant to us today and how?



Spring Term MUSIC Extra-curricular Timetable

	8.00 – 8.35	1.10 – 2.00	3.30 – 4.45
Monday		Year 11 coursework surgery MU2 TUR/EGA	Jazz Band – EGA MU1
Tuesday	Flute Choir – Ms Renshaw MU2	String Quartet - Miss Davies MU1	Ashmole choir – TUR MU2
Wednesday		Brass group – Mr Hogan MU1	Bands - EGA
Thursday		Year 7 choir – EGA MU1	Orchestra – TUR MU2 Bands – EGA
Friday		Theory Club – EGA MU1	

Examinations



PARENTS of KS3 students please be aware that examinations will be taking place in June, many of which will determine setting for the next academic year.

Old Ashmolean's Quiz Night

DUUE to the severe weather the Old Ashmolean's Quiz Night on 6th February had to be postponed. It will now be held on Friday 27th March. Anyone who would like to come should contact Sue Willmott in the School Office.

Dates For Your Diary

Spring Term 2009

Second Half	Monday 23rd February – Friday 3rd April
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Summer Term 2009

First Half	Monday 20th April – Friday 22nd May
May Day	Monday 4th May
Half Term	Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May
Second Half	Monday 1st June – Monday 20th July
Staff Training Days	Friday 3rd July and Monday 20th July

Other Dates for Your Diary

5th March	Year 9 Option Guidance Interviews
10th & 12th March	Year 8 Parents Evening
31st March & 2nd April	Year 10 Parents Evening
28th April	Year 13 Information Evening
15th May	Last day of lessons for Year 11
22nd May	Last day of lessons for Year 13



Ashmole School FOUNDATION STATUS

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