



ASHMOLE ACADEMY TRUST

# @shmmole

Spring 2019

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Scan the code with your smartphone to take you straight to the school website.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

The Spring Term is so busy with Parents' Evenings, Year 7 Poetry Evening, the Music concert and so many more events. The typical attendance at Parents' Evenings for example is often in the range of 95%! That is an impressive turnout. Thank you for your support and commitment.

This term has had its sets of challenges, security at Southgate being one of many issues facing the school and community. We have worked hard with you and the police to see if improvements can be achieved. As we approach the end of term, the police have reassured that extra police presence will be available during this time to ensure that Ashmole students can go home safely. Our staff will continue to be vigilant and have a presence around Southgate.

This year's round of admissions has seen a bumper year of siblings, the biggest ever. It is great to see so

many parents wanting to continue to send their other children to the school. Based on distance, the number of offers has declined as a consequence, now going out to around 0.4 miles. Governors will be looking carefully at the admission criteria for future years to maintain siblings as an important criteria for the school and achieve more admissions on distance as well.

Some of you have raised the issue of halal food at the Academy. Governors have agreed to offer halal food within our range of options twice a week. Students can choose a halal dish if they wish. All other offers on our menu will continue so students can still choose non-halal food on those days.

Best wishes to you all for an enjoyable Easter break.

Derrick Brown | CEO

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRIMARY HEAD

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends

We have had a very busy term at Ashmole Primary School, with so many exciting events in which the children have participated. The APPTA have kindly donated £10,000 to support the purchase of the new climbing equipment for KS1 and a further £1,000 towards the Early Years Outdoor Play area. This term we have focussed on Road Safety, with children creating banners; Bling Your Bike to school day; a Superhero day and we participated in the Big Pedal. The children have also produced some fantastic posters based on our Values of Positivity, Humour, Respect and Appreciation.

With the support of the Academy's Music Department, instrumental lessons have commenced for pupils in Year 2. We look forward to hearing all about their musical achievements over the coming weeks.

Since the school opened in 2016, the DfE and various Challenge Consultants have constantly monitored us. The school has many great features that have put us in a very strong position to be judged outstanding in our

future Ofsted inspection.

Our pupil results in attainment and progress indicate that we are on track to be outstanding. The Early Years Foundation Stage results in the last two years have been well above the national average, with 85% of the cohorts achieving a 'Good Level of Development'. In Year 1, our Phonics' results were 98.3%, which again was well above the national average. Our targets for the current Year 2 cohort in Reading, Writing and Maths are also on track to be outstanding in July 2019, and well above the national average.

We are very pleased with the overall direction of the school and will always aim to offer an outstanding education for all our pupils.

Wishing you all an enjoyable Easter and a restful break.

Mr Chris Tofallis | Head Teacher, Ashmole Primary



## OXBRIDGE TALKS



Dr Ana Hastoy, from Christchurch College Oxford came to speak to Years 11 and 12 about applying to Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Both talks were well attended, and during them Dr Hastoy discussed why students should consider applying, what Oxford and Cambridge look for in potential students, what the

application process involves and what students can be doing in the meantime to prepare themselves for their application. There was time at the end of both sessions for Q&As, and many students expressed a desire to apply to Oxford or Cambridge as a result.

Mr Gardiner

## IMPERIAL ROADSHOW



A group of students who shared an interest in Medicine were lucky enough to be part of a talk led by three Imperial medical students. The students have each been studying Medicine for three years and were able to answer any questions we had about applying for Medicine and what it is like to study at university. During the talk, the students provided us with advice for our UCAS applications, focusing on personal statements. This included examples of general structures we could use as well as key information we should mention. Many of us found this extremely useful because we

will soon be starting our UCAS applications in Year 13. In addition to this, the students informed us about the BMAT and UCAT, these are entrance exams required for medical schools. As the students have experienced these entrance exams themselves, they could provide helpful tips that may not be found elsewhere. Personally, I found speaking to the medical students a unique opportunity, as I will now go on to use their first hand experience and advice to enhance my own application and I am sure many others will too.

Aurora | 12/M2

## GABRIELLA GIVES TALK TO YEAR 12 OXBRIDGE HOPEFULS



In February, ex-Ashmole student Gabriella visited to talk to prospective Year 12 Oxbridge applicants about her experiences studying English Literature at Cambridge.

Gabriella advised students to read around their subject and conduct as much independent research as possible. She also told students not to be 'put off' applying by the, often inaccurate, image of Oxbridge portrayed by the media.

Ms Moon | *Gifted & Talented Manager*

## YEAR 12 VISIT TO CMS LAW FIRM



Year 12 Law Society recently participated in an informative workshop at CMS law firm, the sixth largest in the world, which was run in conjunction with the King's College, London Pro Bono Society. The workshop consisted of critical thinking activities, group discussions with current law students, personal statement analysis and conversations with CMS lawyers. It definitely enhanced our understanding of the career route we intend to take, as well as providing guidance and direction. We are all extremely thankful to the company, the volunteers and Ashmole Academy for providing us with this opportunity.

Laura | Year 12

# YEAR 11 TRIP TO HARROW SCHOOL FOR 'SUBJECTS MATTER' TALK



HARROW SCHOOL

On 10th January, a group of Year 11's including myself, attended a 'Subjects Matter' A-level talk at the prestigious Harrow School. Harrow School is one of the most esteemed educational institutions in the country and the facilities were absolutely amazing. Upon arrival, we were led into the large main hall and seated amongst a host of other schools. The speaker, an Admissions Tutor from Christ College, Cambridge, discussed A-level options in terms of the 'keystone subjects' relating to specific degrees such as Law or Medicine. We were also given an insight into what Russell Group universities look for in personal statements and

applications. There was a 30-minute Q&A at the end where students and teachers were given the platform to ask questions regarding any aspect of Post-16 education. All in all, it was an extremely informative experience which gave us a new perspective on pathways we can take beyond GCSE's.

Layo | 11/52

# YEAR 12 LAW TALK



On 11th December, as part of our LawSoc programme, an outside speaker from the University of Law gave our Year 12 students a highly informative introduction to the Legal profession. This talk outlined the many

interesting specialist areas within Law, the benefits of becoming a lawyer, and different routes to qualification as a solicitor or barrister.

Ms Moon | *Gifted & Talented Manager*

# G&T ART CLUB

To help Year 8's get a taste of GCSE Art, Year 12 students have been volunteering to help set up and run a G&T Art Club every week for the past term. Our focus in these sessions was initially to introduce new painting techniques whilst also learning to use acrylic paints, which will come in useful in their GCSE years. Week by week we developed these skills into learning how to create tones and paint different objects using a

range of methods. This is beneficial for younger students as it helps express their individuality and creativity on canvas. We also let them explore the different themes: nature, objects, places and people, which GCSE students would normally focus on. We also gave them the independence to bring in their own pictures to draw and paint.

The G&T Art Club will continue to run until the end of this term and I strongly encourage any Year 8 students who have the slightest interest in Art to come along and have some fun painting.

Eliz | 12/51

# YEAR 9 TRIP TO CLIFFORD CHANCE LAW FIRM



On 17th January, selected Year 9 students had the chance to visit the offices of the prestigious City law firm, Clifford Chance. The purpose of the visit was to give students the opportunity to meet with legal professionals and to find out why they chose their current roles. They also found out what they studied at university and heard about a day in the life of a Clifford Chance employee. The students also learned more about careers in a law firm and took part in a workshop to identify the skills and characteristics that employers look for. The organisers also gave students a tour of the firm's impressive building, including a visit to the indoor swimming pool on the top floor.

Ms Moon | *Gifted & Talented Manager*

## 6<sup>TH</sup> FORM NEWS

Thank you to all students in the Sixth Form for a productive and successful spring term. Year 12 have found their feet and I can see real progress and determination coming through their work and attitude towards their A-levels. Successes outside the classroom have seen Year 12 participate in the school production, sports teams, exhibited work in the Bank of Cyprus alongside a real thirst for the new Enrichment projects launched this year.

Year 13 have led the way in terms of focus and exhibiting the academic drive we expect from the top of our student body. The final few weeks of school for Year 13 will be packed with both revision and the opportunity to say their goodbyes. The Sixth Form team and whole school wish them all the best in their summer exams and we have every belief that they will each reach the potential and goals that have been set for them.

Mr El Sayed | *Head of Sixth Form*

## EXPLORING A-LEVELS

In January, the Sixth Form hosted the 'Exploring A-levels' event. This gave Year 11 students the opportunity to visit the Sixth Form Centre and meet with all A-level subjects and their Year 12 student subject ambassadors. Deciding on what subjects to study at A-level can be a daunting task and it was great to see our Year 12 students giving good advice about what each course is really like and how that might impact their future educational and career options. I wish all of Year 11 a successful final term and look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form very soon.

Mr El Sayed | *Head of Sixth Form*



## ALUMNI NEWS

### David Gaskin

**University:** Newcastle

**Course:** Medicine

#### What are you doing now?

I left Ashmole in the summer of 2015 and started at Newcastle in the September. My first two years were mainly lecture based but for my 3rd year, I was on clinical rotations in hospitals and GP surgeries in and around County Durham.

At Ashmole, I mostly gained a tenacity to achieve. I had to work hard, but I may not have achieved as I have without it. In the Sixth Form, there was so much guidance from staff on how to enrich your application for university. This definitely improved my confidence to apply for a Russell Group. There were also many opportunities to improve public speaking skills



with mock interviews and lunchtime activities like Philosophy Society. This helped me to deliver a strong interview to secure my place at medical school.

The most valuable part of MedSoc was having ex-students come and speak to us about their experience of applying for Medical School. This definitely gave me the motivation and necessary knowledge to make my own successful application to medicine. Current affairs debates were engaging and brought me up to speed with changes in the profession.

## VISIT TO GREENWICH THEATRE



On 12th February, Year 12 and 13 English students viewed a modern adaptation of the Shakespearean classic: *The Tempest*. The unconventional setting of the theatre added to the abstract choices of the director, enabling him to incorporate and celebrate elements of the 21st century. The Lazarus Theatre Company presented an entirely different interpretation of the Shakespearean play, for example in the re-gendering of the characters. It is interesting to think that in the 1600s only men were allowed to perform on stage; witnessing a new creative interpretation of the play enabled us to see the play in a totally different and modernised light. The director reflected the current concerns around gender fluidity through unconventional casting choices. Similarly, we saw minor characters, Sebastian and Antonio, take on a female perspective too, the director's subtle nod to female empowerment and its importance.

Chloe | 12M2 and Jess | 12/S2

# POET VISIT YR 7



On Tuesday 12th February, published children's poet Coral Rumble visited Year 7s at Ashmole Academy and delivered a series of poetry workshops and performances in preparation for the Year 7 Poetry Festival. Students were

encouraged to find their creative voices through writing poems about their experiences and identity.

Ms Michael

# REMEMBERING THOSE, THAT WISH TO FORGET

Southgate remembers.

We remember those who laid their lives for us  
 We remember those who fought on the front lines for us  
 We remember those who drove those tanks, provided the aid, saved lives... for us

Southgate remembers.

But do they remember?

Remember fighting for a country they left long behind, in a land with no laws, morals, restrictions  
 Living in conditions that can never be defined, witnessing events known only to be fiction  
 Children at home, waiting so patiently, for the letter to arrive, with an explanation for the latency  
 A mother and wife left alone, the life of her lover still unknown  
 A soldier fighting, uniform rotten, a life lived, eager to be forgotten

Southgate remembers.

We remember those who wish to forget the pain, the uncertainty, the fear  
 We remember the men that marched to war  
 The men that returned, their stories unclear

Southgate remembers,

Remembers the stories of the men that wished their past to be suppressed



The actions of one man, wished not to be addressed.

Southgate remembers,  
 We remember.

By Annalise | 9/V1

## Southgate Remembers

In the lead up to the commemorations marking the end of World War 1, Year 9 students wrote poems exploring and reflecting on the experiences of people during and after the war. 107 poems were put on display at Christ Church, Southgate as part of an exhibition. The creativity and empathy shown by the students was admirable, with many visitors commenting on their thought provoking and moving poems.

Miss Chandler

# JACK PETCHEY SPEAK OUT CHALLENGE

In the autumn term, 30 Year 10 students were selected by their English teachers to take part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge,



a competition aimed at giving young people the skills, confidence and desire to speak in public. At the end of the workshop, five winners went through to an assembly round and performed their speeches, with no notes, to all of Year 10. The speeches were fantastic and ranged from mental health to gender inequality to the importance of asking questions. The decision was extremely difficult for the judges, but finally Iqra in 10/J2 was selected to represent Ashmole Academy at the Regional Final.

On taking part, Iqra commented: 'Doing Speak Out was a very good experience. I got to develop skills which I know will help me in further stages of my life. During the workshop, we had a host called Joe who was incredibly funny and helped me and 29 other students develop our skills. At the next stage, performing in assembly, I had a few nerves but was really excited to speak about issues I care about. Through doing the Regional Final, I made some great friends and had such a good time performing on the stage. This was such a great experience and I would do it all over again if I could.'

Iqra's speech entitled 'The Art of Complaining' was absolutely amazing, receiving rapturous applause in the final. We look forward to another group of Year 10s taking part and amazing us with their public speaking skills next year.

Mrs Smith

## ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME 2019

In January, former student Shaan-Meet Mangat formally launched the new 6th Form enrichment programme. Having personally benefitted from enrichment projects during his school career, Shaan-Meet created the nationally acclaimed and recognised QTRKR App.

Faculties across the school have developed exciting and diverse enrichment projects designed to broaden students' interests and enable them to develop the core skills necessary for successful further study and future employment.

Projects include: participation in the prestigious CREST awards; creating a historical documentary; writing an opinion piece to be judged by a Managing Editor of The Financial Times; learning a new language and gaining an

internationally recognised TEFL accreditation. For those creatively minded students, the Arts faculty has already implemented a project that will see students' designs branding the food packaging in the 6th Form Centre. Numerous students have also been involved in the creation of innovative and truly inspiring sets for our recent school production 'The Sound of Music'. Students considering a career in the leisure industry or sports management are being given the opportunity to create, manage and implement a sports tournament for our younger students.

Projects are open to all Year 12 students, regardless of their chosen academic studies, and we are looking forward to celebrating their enrichment successes.

Ms Nelson

## MEDIA ENRICHMENT PROJECT: ASHMOLE RADIO

Media's enrichment project is designed to teach students broadcasting and editing skills.



*"It is an interesting experience to plan, be creative and use our media knowledge."* – Andrea | 12/M2

*"It's a good way to experience a professional media environment"* – Elena | 12/M2

## SCIENCE ENRICHMENT PROJECT

Year 12 students are currently developing research projects for the CREST award; the award aims to inspire creativity and promote student led STEM projects. Dr Simonovich is supporting students to develop their research and investigative skills. Students are working

collaboratively on diverse projects including: investigating the effects of tooth whitening agents; mapping the presence of acid rain across the capital, to designing and building an innovative skateboard.

Dr Simonovic

## ART ENRICHMENT PROJECT



Current Year 12 Art students and some volunteers were in charge of designing and painting the school set for the 'Sound of Music'; I led all four groups. Painting the set was unexpectedly stressful, and for that I am grateful as it taught us all how to handle stress whilst still having strict deadlines to meet. Through the short amount of time we had to complete the set, we quickly learnt to adapt to each other's ideas and painting styles – as a result teaching each other communication skills and teamwork. We also became closer as classmates and friends, which made our hard work every day after school more enjoyable. I, personally, learnt to take initiative when hit with unexpected problems, such as running low on paint - but from this I quickly picked up the idea of thinking 'outside the box'. Also, leading and managing all four groups helped me develop my leadership skills, which I think will be extremely useful when working in future group projects, whether that would be in university or at a job.

Kellie | 12/S1

# ROTARY SPEAKING CLUB COMPETITION YOUTH SPEAKS — WINNERS 2019

I participated in the Rotary Speaking competition – as the main speaker – along with Nyah in 10/N1 (vote of thanks), and Claudio in 10/N1 (Chairperson) against Barnet and Enfield schools. We are so pleased to say that we won the competition. It was an incredible experience working on this project; we decided to write about critical thinking, and chose to link this topic to the story of Spiderman. We believe young people are capable of creating a better future by thinking more creatively, seeing the bigger picture, and using their ‘superpowers’ to bring about change.

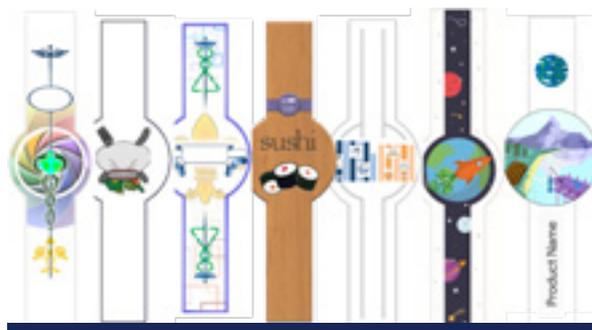
Habiba | 12/N1



## PRODUCT DESIGN COMPETITION WINNER



Over the first half of the Spring Term, the Product Design Enrichment Project was launched to give the opportunity to one very talented designer of having their design become the face of Ashmole Sixth Form's food packaging. After seven weeks of design proposals and developments, the final presentation and judging took place to reveal the winner. We were lucky to have ex-Head Boy and current 3rd year Product Design student at Brunel, Chris Magoba in to judge, alongside an industry Graphic Designer to select the winner.



Product Design Competition - Finalists

Congratulations to Harry in 12/M2 for winning the challenge.

Miss Gordon | Head of Technology

[www.ashmoleacademy.org](http://www.ashmoleacademy.org)

## 6<sup>TH</sup> FORM ENRICHMENT PROJECTS

1

### Completed Projects:

- ▶ Graphics Packaging Design
- ▶ NCH Essay Writing Competition
- ▶ Art and Technology Set Design
- ▶ Drama and Music: *'The Sound of Music'*

2

### Projects Underway:

- ▶ *'Have Your Say'* Journalism Project
- ▶ Media Studies' Relaunch of Ashmole Radio
- ▶ The CREST Award

3

### Projects for the Spring Term:

- ▶ Maths' game production competition
- ▶ Languages' 'Beginners' Italian'
- ▶ Humanities' produce your own documentary



# ASHMOLE PRIMARY

## BOOK WEEK



World Book Day took place on Thursday 7th March 2019 and we invited all our pupils and staff to make the most of this special occasion. Throughout the week, there were many exciting activities and events around the school and within the classroom focusing on our theme of 'Investigating Dinosaurs.'

We enjoyed a visit from the popular author Timothy Knapman. Timothy led some fun and engaging writing workshops, which he delivered to all year groups. There was also the opportunity for the children to buy signed copies of his books on the day.



We took the children back millions of years to discover the wonder of the Dinosaurs and brought prehistoric life into our school by having a visit from an animatronic T-Rex. Each year group took part in workshops locating and identifying fossils from some of the most iconic Dinosaurs from the past.

The week closed with a Book Character Day on Friday 8th March, where all pupils and staff dressed up as a book character of their choice.

## SUSTRANS BIKE IT PROJECT AND THE BIG PEDAL 2019

As part of our ongoing Bike It Project, throughout February we ran the 'Golden Lock' at Ashmole Primary School. To encourage children to travel to school by bike, one bike was randomly selected from the cycle racks on five separate secret days to be adorned with the Golden Lock.

We also held a coffee morning, a Dr Bike session where pupils and parents brought in their bikes to be fixed and adjusted, a bring your bike to school day where we were able to ride around the school building and take part in a competition to see which schools travel the most in an environmentally friendly manner.

In April, the children were asked to use their superhuman powers to cycle, walk and scoot to school. Our pupils joined thousands of children across the UK and transformed



into their favourite superhero to celebrate the final day of the challenge. We used this as an opportunity to fundraise for Noah's Ark Charity.

## RECEPTION SPRING NEWS

Reception have enjoyed an exciting and busy term. We learnt all about Chinese New Year back in February and even had the pleasure of one of our parents coming in to talk to us about how her family celebrates Chinese New Year and why it is important. We went on to make our own decorations and turned our classrooms into Chinese restaurants. In the month of February, we also celebrated and learnt about Valentine's Day. We made and decorated some heart biscuits and gave ours away to a friend to spread joy and kindness.

In March, we learnt all about 'People Who Help Us'. We arranged for some special visitors to come and talk to us about what they do in their jobs. We welcomed fire fighters, police officers, doctors and dentists.

Mrs Pavlakos | EYFS Leader



## YEAR ONE SPRING NEWS

In Year 1, we have had a great first half of the spring term. Our theme this term included 'There's no place like home'. In History, we compared Victorian and modern houses. We looked closely at the different features (both inside and outside) of these houses. We have also begun building and furnishing our very own Victorian houses in Art/DT using skills such as

printing and weaving. In our Science lessons, we investigated different materials and their properties through carrying out a variety of experiments. The children very much enjoyed our R.E. topic of Islam and we were very lucky to have had a talk from parents to explain some of the rituals and traditions in more detail.

Miss Costas | Year 1 Teacher

## YEAR TWO SPRING NEWS

This term, Year 2 have been learning all about dinosaurs in their Dazzling Dinosaurs Topic. In History and Geography, they have been learning about where dinosaurs lived, their habitat and all about the various different types of dinosaurs that existed. Both in school and at home, the children spent time researching dinosaurs using a variety of sources such as fact cards, non-fiction books and the internet. They worked hard during Literacy lessons to create their own non-chronological reports to help Mr Bennett with the fossils that he found in the playground. We have also enjoyed a fantastic

trip to the Natural History Museum where the children found out more about the life of dinosaurs.

In Science, the children have been finding out about what seeds need to grow. They have made fantastic predictions and carried out experiments with seeds to test their predictions and record their findings. Over the next few weeks, the children will be planting a variety of seeds and bulbs and will observe the changes as they grow.

After half term, Year 2 were extremely excited



to try out the new climbing frame. They spent time exploring the different areas of the climbing frame and had lots of fun experimenting with different, safe ways to travel on, over and under the equipment.

Mrs Charalambous | Year 2 Teacher

## ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

The new climbing frame and fixed playground equipment has been installed for KS1. Thank you to the APPTA for their generous donations towards the Bowfell Climber; Roll Over Bars; Walk and Stretch and Rope Swing Traverse.



## ASHMOLE PRIMARY PTA (APPTA)

Ashmole Primary PTA (APPTA) have enjoyed putting on a host of events that both the children and parents could enjoy this spring. With a growing school, and a new building, the PTA place importance of a strong school community.

APPTA are very happy to see the instalment of the new playground apparatus for both Reception, and Years 1 and 2. Three years of fundraising has ensured we have a climbing frame for our children, so a huge thank you to everyone who has donated to APPTA. Our

future projects involve further development of the Playground, the School Wildlife Garden, and supporting a fully stocked Music Department.

If you would like to know more or get involved with any APPTA initiatives, please do get in touch via [ashmoleprimaryPTA@gmail.com](mailto:ashmoleprimaryPTA@gmail.com)

A big thank you to all who have supported APPTA. Looking forward to many more fundraising events.

Zina Shah | Chair

## PRIMARY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### SUMMER TERM 2019

29th April	International Dance Day
3rd June	Second Half Term begins
6th June	Happy School Bag Collection
w/c 10th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
14th June	Year 1 Trip to V&A Museum
22nd June	Summer Fair
w/c 24th June	Arts Week
w/c 1st July	PE Week
3rd July	Sports Day
5th July	Inset Day
8th July	Open Day (for current parents)
18th July	Last Day of Summer Term

## ART EXHIBITION AT THE BANK OF CYPRUS



Art work is selected and exhibited every year by the Bank of Cyprus – this year being another successful exhibition, displaying many beautiful GCSE and A-level Art pieces. The students are then invited to attend the evening along with their friends and family to enjoy the walk-through exhibition. Mr Brown and teachers attend the evening as well, so discussions about art with other teachers are always interesting and give students the opportunity to express their personal passion and pride of studying Art.

Personally, I have attended their annual evening art exhibitions twice and it is inspiring to see other A-level pieces. I use this as an opportunity to inspire myself and observe other painting methods and themes. Although we are there to represent the school, we get to enjoy our other classmate's work as well, feeling proud of ourselves for creating such amazing pieces. The exhibition also gives us an opportunity to have relaxed conversations about our pieces during the evening, accompanied by the complimentary canapés provided throughout the night. It is always nice to see your artwork proudly displayed and framed by the Bank of Cyprus after not seeing it for six months.

I am always impressed by the standard of Art that students work at and maintain, I even surprise myself.

Kellie | 12/S1



## ART TRIP TO TATE MODERN



In October, Year 12 Art students went to an exhibition held at Tate Modern where we explored the revolutionary changes within our society that contemporary art helped us to achieve – this includes movements within the art world and social movements against dictatorship and oppression. One of the main themes of the pieces on display was to dispose of standard and routine ways of looking at ordinary objects, to observe them from unparalleled points of view and recognise them for another item completely. For example, 'The Fountain' by R. Mutt introducing modern art to the creative world, and the 'Lobster Phone' by Salvador Dali – an authentic and unconventional surrealist artwork giving inanimate objects arbitrary liveliness and inviting the audience to think. This trip was inspiring and taught us that modern art is



about conceptualisation and deeper reflection and how meaningful it can be, given the right context.

Tasnim Nur | 12/M1

## ART COMPETITION



Back in November, I applied for Barnet's Poetry, Photography and Art Competition that was titled 'Our Youth - Dreams of Tomorrow' along with Anastasia in 12/M1 and Kellie in 12/S1. It was a competition to celebrate 70 years of Finchley Youth Centre and National Youth Work week by showcasing and rewarding the talented work of young people in Barnet. There were three different categories you could enter; aged 7 to 11, aged 12 to 15 and aged 16 to 18 (up to 25 years old for people with disabilities and/or autism). I decided to enter one of my artworks and wrote a brief description of what inspired me to create this piece. I discussed how my art was inspired by the power of our voices as young people, and how standing up for what we believe in can have a meaningful impact. This is because my piece depicts a teenage girl breaking free of societal restraints, with her hands reaching out of the canvas, which symbolises how we should be proud to show our emotions and let our voices be heard. After submitting my application, I received the news that I was invited to their 'Our Youth - Dreams of Tomorrow' event on 23rd November 2018 where they were going to display all the art, poetry and photography submitted. The event was a lovely evening with light refreshments and beautiful pieces of art and photography. Near the end they announced the winners of each category and I was ecstatic to hear that I won 1st place in the 16 to 18 category for my piece and Anastasia won 2nd place for her wonderful piece of poetry. This competition was an amazing opportunity and I am so glad to be involved in Finchley Youth Centre's celebration of young people's artistic endeavours.

Johana | 12/J2

# THE ONE SHOW

We met Miss Chandler at 6:00pm after a one-hour trip on the tube. It was a cold night in London but the lights were on and there was a very Christmassy feel about. After a little bit of waiting at the BBC headquarters, we had to go through security to get into the BBC café. That went smoothly and soon we were looking over the live BBC newsroom in awe. This was where the real magic happened. Presenters were right in front of our eyes presenting the live news. Editors were editing the live news and people were doing live BBC news interviews.

Before we were allowed on set, we were called to a safety briefing where we were told how we had to act on set. We were told that on certain gestures we had to clap and laugh at particular times in the show to heighten the experience and emphasise the atmosphere in the background of the set. Afterwards, we were taken to put our bags inside small lockers just outside of the set. Then we were led into a small room where *The One Show* was filmed.

When we first entered the studio, the lighting was very intense and overwhelming, the colours were very bright and everything was extremely saturated. The room was very small and no bigger than a classroom. The audience was about 20 people including our class, and we were told where to stand so we were not in the direct shots of the presenters. The presenters were Matt Baker and Alex Jones. We watched



them get their hair and makeup touched up constantly, and we saw them rehearse what they were going to say. There were many cameras and lights in the studio in certain positions to ensure the shots were correct. There were also so many members of the crew and it was amazing to see how many there were just for a 30 minute show.

Once the show went on air, we were told when to laugh and clap almost immediately. It was fascinating to see in the intervals of the show how the crew quickly organised the cameras and lighting, everything was done very quickly. The guests on the show that day were Lily Collins and David Oyelowo, and it was very

interesting to watch them talk about their acting and their careers. They focused on '*Les Miserables*' as well as some letters written by people in the UK which were never delivered. Some of us even managed to appear on camera when the camera panned around the studio quickly.

Overall, *The One Show* was a great experience to watch how a real life popular show is put together. It was fantastic to see a different perspective to how we usually watch it on the screen, and I really enjoyed watching how they recorded a show so professionally in such a small studio.

Olivia | 12/M1 and Harry | 12/J2

# MY EXPERIENCE AT THE BFI

Going into Year 12, I was unsure about what I wanted to study at university or what I would do after A-levels. I chose to study Media Studies and that was when I first became aware of film production. I immediately took an interest and wanted to explore this further. I knew work experience and taking part in courses was the best way to understand more about film and whether it was for me. At school, I was introduced to the British Film Institute (BFI) and the different filmmaking courses they have to offer. It sounded really interesting and a great way to get involved, so I applied to the Eastside BFI Filmmaking Academy course and got in! During the course, we were placed into groups to make a short film. Working with top equipment and experienced film mentors, we managed to create an amazing short film that will be screened at a film event. I also got the chance to meet award winning filmmakers, directors, cinematographers, editors and scriptwriters, who gave us the best advice possible about the industry; teaching us how to film a successful short film. Meeting people my own age who also had an interest in film was great because they will be friends for life. From this experience, I have been able to network with the people in the industry and apply to other courses that the BFI have to offer. In February half



term, I will be taking part in a documentary filmmaking residential. I would recommend putting yourself out there and applying for things like this because they are great to put down for your university application and CV. They are also extremely fun and exciting!

Kate | 13/N2

## SOUND OF MUSIC



Students from Years 7 to 13 worked tirelessly for our whole school production of 'The Sound of Music', which was an incredible celebration of the talent and sense of community we have here at Ashmole Academy. Everyone involved felt a huge sense of pride and enjoyment during the process and when seeing it all come together on the stage. The show was a sell out and audiences were absolutely blown away by the standard and level of engagement from all. Yet another phenomenal show, well done to all involved!

### What the cast had to say:

"It was incredible to have played Maria in 'The Sound of Music'. The audition process was really tough, but actually a lot of fun and absolutely worth it. I loved working with the cast and it was great seeing all the scenes come together. The final product was brilliant and although I was doing this alongside my mock exams, it was a superb outlet and I loved every minute."

Molly | Year 11 – Maria

"On hearing I was cast as the Captain, I was pleasantly surprised due to the sheer talent throughout the auditions. The rehearsal process

was incredibly enjoyable and the finished product was amazing."

Charlie | Year 11 – Captain von Trapp

"The show band were like professionals and the cast and crew were so supportive throughout the process."

Kayan | Year 8 – Kurt von Trapp

"Rehearsals were so much fun. Acting gives you a chance to express yourself and it was brilliant to be part of the wider community."

Lily | Year 8 – Louisa von Trapp

"I took part in 'The Sound of Music' because I love to act and sing and rehearsals were so much fun! Also it was so cool getting to play a main character."

Emily | Year 8 – Brigitta von Trapp

"Everything was enjoyable and I got to sing with an amazing orchestra."

Amelie | Year 7 – Gretl von Trapp

Being in the school show was one of the most enjoyable activities I've taken part in all year. It was a truly magical experience. The auditions were fun and rewarded me with the most fun I've had in a long time."

Joseph | Year 9 – Herr Weller/Puppet

"I loved this year's production because I've made so many new friends."

Arjun | Year 9 – Brother/Puppet

"It allowed me to spend time with friends and pull off something I never knew I could."

Dhillon | Year 9 – Brother/Puppet

## CHICKENSHED STUDENT REVIEWS



On Monday 4th February, Year 8 experienced a live performance from Chickenshed Theatre Company. The play was a true story about one of their past students who was a victim of crime. The play told this story perfectly in an engaging way that appealed to an audience of our age. After the show a selection of students took part in a fun workshop filled with interesting activities such as chair routines, creating raps and reviewing the ongoing problem of crime within a community. Overall, I thought the performance was engaging and highlighted topical issues surrounding youths in and around London.

Kayan | 8/V1



The Chickenshed performance was a very fun and enjoyable thing to witness and their afterschool workshop was very engaging. I enjoyed every moment of it.

Christian | 8/V1

In the Chickenshed performance, we watched six people perform a show about anti-social behaviour. I enjoyed the performance because it was interesting to watch theatre that you do not normally have the opportunity to watch, especially at school. The Chickenshed workshop was really fun as we got to work with the actors from the show and make up a rap, as well as learn one of the movement routines.

Asya | 8/V1

## LION KING



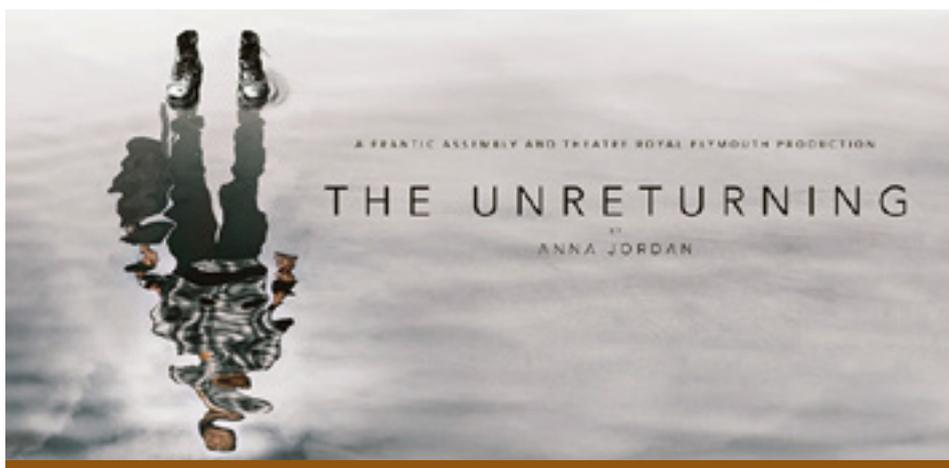
On 22nd January, our Year 9 GCSE Music students took part in a musical theatre workshop delivered by creatives from *The Lion King* musical in the West End. During the workshop, students learnt how to sing a song from the musical, *He Lives in You* and the choreography to match! It was evident that by the end of the workshop, students had

developed their confidence in performing and had thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

In the evening, we saw *The Lion King* in the West End, and even saw the song students had learnt during the day.

Miss Patel | 2 i/c Music

## THE UNRETURNING



On Thursday 31st January, Years 10-13 Drama students travelled to The Theatre Royal, Stratford to see Frantic Assembly's *The Unreturning*.

The performance highlighted three stories of war and the different effects of this depending on the individuals and the time. It was interesting how Frantic Assembly didn't just tell one story at a time but cleverly structured

the piece using their well-known techniques. I would recommend the play as it encourages audiences to think about the message and the impact of war. We are about to start our devised performances in Year 10 and I have been inspired by their piece and taken ideas that I develop for my work.

Beth | 10/S1

## LSSO CONCERT

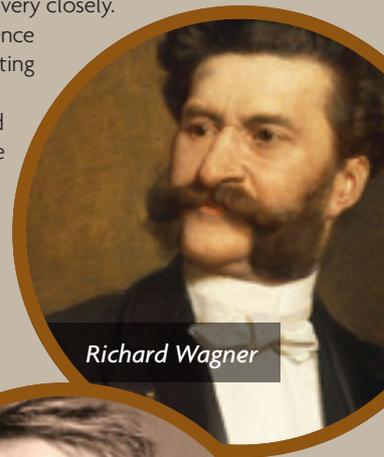


On Monday 7th January, 20 Music scholars from Years 7-12 went to the Barbican Centre to watch the London Schools Symphony Orchestra play Strauss' *'Four Last Songs'* and Wagner's *'Excerpts from Götterdämmerung'*. I really enjoyed the evening, and the soprano, Rachel Nicholls made the performance even more magnificent. It was exciting to see the LSSO play because it showed the talent and achievements of young musicians and how they have worked hard to put on such an amazing performance.

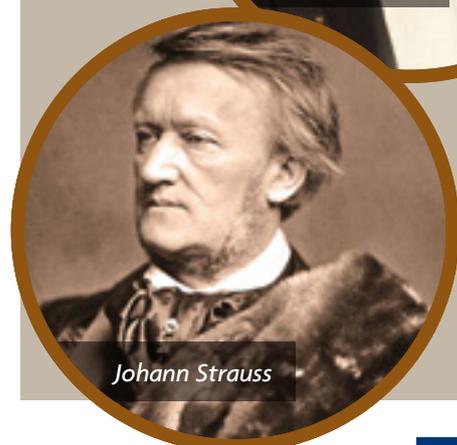
I especially liked that we were sat close to the stage because we could see all the performers very closely.

The experience was captivating and I highly recommend going to see the LSSO.

Tara | 9/J1



Richard Wagner



Johann Strauss

# ONLINE SAFETY FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

The school has been working with students to educate them around the effects of social media. As discussed in the previous newsletter, we have reviewed our curriculum and ensured that we provide refreshers every half term on online safety. On Tuesday 5th February we also enhanced this programme further and discussed national safer internet day. This years theme was 'Together for a better internet.'

## Apps to look out for:



**Yubo.** This app used to be called Yellow and has now been renamed. It has been nicknamed

by some as 'Tinder for Teens'. This app has many new features such as live streaming, group video chats and instant messaging. Yubo allows you to make new friends, chat and meet new people. You swipe right if you like and left if you pass. If two people like each other's pictures, they can chat privately.



you talk to them in a one to one video chat.

**Monkey.** This app allows children to talk to strangers. It connects you randomly to another person who is on the site, and lets



passcode, it will open up a private area, where you can talk to anyone online.

**Secret Calculator.** Calculator hides private photos and videos behind the calculator. It looks like a calculator but if you put in a



**Snapchat Streak.** Is this harmless fun? Snapchat is one of the most popular social media apps used by young people to share photos and videos with

friends. A Snapchat 'streak' is when you have snapchat friends send and return a Snap to each other with a 24-hour period. A number and emoji appears beside a Snapchat friend's name corresponding to the number of days in a row a new picture or video has been sent back and forth. You must Snapchat your friend within 24 hours of receiving the last Snap to keep the streak going. Young people have been pressured into keeping a streak going and when the streak stops, it can cause problems.



**Fortnite.** This is an online shooter that starts with 100 players and leaves one winner standing. Battle Royale sees 100 players

parachute onto an island, and the last player alive wins. Each game lasts for 20 minutes. The National Crime Agency has warned that Fortnite is putting some children at risk due to the chat facility. Players can talk and type what they want to each other and can have the potential to be exploited through grooming.



## What can I do right now?

Look through the guidance that was provided in the last newsletter, as a reminder of the key areas:

- ▶ Familiarise yourself with the privacy settings and reporting features available on popular sites, services and apps.
- ▶ Encourage your child to 'think before you post'. Online actions can impact not only yourself but the lives of others. Content posted privately online can be publicly shared by others, and may remain online forever.
- ▶ Create a family agreement to establish your children's boundaries, and your expectations, when on the internet.

Mrs McLaren | Assistant Head Teacher

# SAFER INTERNET DAY



The need to educate our young people about online safety is an important part of our work here at Ashmole. Whilst all years receive regular reminders and key messages about online safety, we think Safer Internet Day is a fantastic opportunity to highlight how positive the internet can be, but also the negative impact it can have if not used appropriately.

On 5th February, we celebrated this year's theme of Online Consent with assemblies and tailored tutorial sessions targeting the needs for each year group. The clear message that was discussed this year was how young people need to consider how they give and receive online consent for posts, communication, uploads and information sharing. Along with this discussion of the positives of safe internet use, was also an exploration of the pitfalls of data sharing and issues surrounding privacy. Students were also asked to focus on considering the impact sharing posts and pictures of others, without their consent, has on those young people involved and how you can avoid friendship issues by being open and respectful when using social platforms. Students shared their top tips for safe and appropriate internet use and we will continue to work with our students to help them lead safe and fulfilling online lives as well as offline.

Mrs Brown | Assistant Head Teacher

## AFC WIMBLEDON LITHUANIA TRIP



I was chosen to represent my football team, AFC Wimbledon, at the Kedainiai Arena Cup in Lithuania last term. My team won the U12 competition having won all of our group stage matches and then the final. In addition, I was

awarded a special trophy as the U12 Player of the Tournament.

Edward | 7/M1

## TAE KWON DO

I was recently selected to represent the National Tae Kwon Do team at the British Open. I did amazingly well and won a bronze medal for special technique and a silver medal for sparring against the current world champion.

Adam | 10/M1



## YEAR 8 BARNET NETBALL TOURNAMENT



*Aiya, Olivia, Leah, Giorgia, Magdalena, Louisa, Anjali, Maisie and Elena*

The girls initially played three matches against Hasmorean, winning 6-2, Bishop Douglas, winning 6-2 and Archer, winning 6-4. This resulted in them reaching the semi-finals, where they played JCOSS. The team were incredibly

focused and managed to win 5-2. This meant they were in the final against Wren Academy. It was a close game and the team knew it would be tough as Wren Academy were in the league. They were incredibly excited, but nervous, as expected. It was a nail-biting game, going from start to finish and on the final whistle, it was a draw! They then went into extra-time, whereby it was still incredibly close, and on the final whistle, still a draw! The team then went into golden goal; Olivia and Aiya worked tirelessly in defence, getting some fantastic interceptions and Louisa and Anjali worked exceptionally well together in attack, aiding the team to score the winning goal and secure them the title! The team played incredibly well together, kept a positive attitude throughout, and were a credit to Ashmole Academy.

Miss Nelson

## MATCH OF THE DAY — FREESTYLE FOOTBALL



Anthony in Year 9 competed in a TV show which aired on CBBC called "Match of the Day - Can you kick it?" The show was looking at finding Britain's best young freestyle footballer. They had to complete a course, doing various challenges along the way and the fastest 10 went through to the next stage of the competition. Anthony made it to the final 10!

After making the finals Anthony then had to compete in various challenges where footballers were eliminated by a panel before making it through to the final 5.

He competed in various challenges and made it to the final task where he finished 3rd overall in the competition.

Mr Scott

## GOLDEN OLDIES



The Golden Oldies was a charitable event set up by the Ashmole BTEC Business team and took place in the Hall on 6th December 2018. It was a great success as the students put huge smiles on the faces of all the guests. The BTEC Business team prepared this Christmas event for residents of local care homes and grandparents, and invited them for an afternoon of food and entertainment. Students worked hard to raise money for the event by going around

forms collecting donations and setting up fund raising events in order to raise extra money to make the event that bit more special. This is something that Ashmole BTEC Business team do every year. Feedback from those who attended expressed how grateful they were that Ashmole held this annual event, and particularly enjoyed the entertainment and interaction with the students.

Solomis | 12/51

## SCHOOL DIRECT



The Ashmole Academy School Direct lead school, within the North London Teaching School Alliance, runs a very successful School Direct Teacher Training Scheme. We offer both School Direct Salaried and School Direct Tuition Fee places. Our HE partner is Middlesex University.

For 2019/20, we will be offering places in the following subject areas: Mathematics, English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, ICT/Computing, Economics, Geography, Design & Technology and MFL.

If you are a parent or carer who is interested in becoming a teacher or have family/friends who are interested in teacher training, please contact Ms Foye at kfo@ashmoleacademy.org or telephone 020 8361 2703 extension 2206 for an informal discussion.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### SUMMER TERM 2019

29 <sup>th</sup> Apr - 24 <sup>th</sup> May	First Half Term
6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day
27 <sup>th</sup> May - 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term
27 <sup>th</sup> May	Spring Bank Holiday
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun - 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jul	Second Half Term
18 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Last Day for Students
5 <sup>th</sup> Jul 19 <sup>th</sup> Jul 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jul	Staff Training Days

### OTHER DATES

9 <sup>th</sup> May	6 <sup>th</sup> Form Dinner
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 8 Options Evening
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Last Day for Year 13
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 8 Options Guidance Interviews
24 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> June	Arts Festival and Music Proms Week
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	6 <sup>th</sup> Form Interview Day

## JACK PETCHEY AWARD WINNERS



### Spring Winners

#### JANUARY:

**Khyan** | 7/M2

Khyan visited a newly set up school in India and took donations, including toys and stationery. To understand what it was like to go to school there, he decided to sleep in the same conditions with the other students, ate as much food as they would eat and walked through the route to their old school for 3 days.



#### FEBRUARY:

**Otis** | 7/M2

Otis has donated presents to children who are at Great Ormond Street Hospital for the last two years. He has also raised awareness for the Little Princess charity, and has had his hair cut for wigs.



#### MARCH:

**Reuben** | 10/N2

Reuben is a very talented musician who always contributes to school events such as the school show, Golden Oldies and end of year assemblies.



## ASHMOLE ACADEMY TRUST

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