

Snow Day

On Monday the school made the decision to close the school for the safety of both staff and students. Our site team alongside members of the Leadership Team, including Mr Sullivan and Mr Dhinsa, worked tirelessly all day to make the site safe for Tuesday, where the whole school enjoyed a Christmas lunch! 1,100 Christmas lunches were served in 1 hour and 30 mins, thanks to our brilliant catering team! Photos taken by Mr Sullivan early on Monday!

Ashmoleon Scholar Programme Winners 2021-22

The Ashmoleon Scholar's programme is designed to enable sixth form students to pursue their own academic interests beyond the immediate requirements of the curriculum. It is an ideal way to prepare students for the world of independent study and to encourage them to create an independent portfolio to show case their skills. Winning participants are selected by our Head Teacher; Mr Sullivan was highly impressed by the quality of entries this year. This year's finalists put together impressive and imaginative portfolios. Their projects showcased their unwavering commitment to both their academic studies and our school community well done all! This year's Ashmoleon Scholars Winners are:

Photo Credit: Ms Hamirani

1st Place - Maya T - 13 MOE 2nd Place - Elena E 13 BRA 3rd Place - Tara D - 13 FOR

Maya: What made this programme particularly rewarding was the amount of freedom available to me. I had the opportunity to immerse myself in whichever aspects of literature and writing that intrigued me the most, with the support of various members of staff. Upon completing the programme, I strongly believe that I have become a much more well-rounded and knowledgeable person as a result.

Tara: The scholars programme enabled me to broaden my knowledge outside of the classroom and create synoptic links with my other subjects. As part of my exploration into different aspects of geography, I got the opportunity to participate in a number of events such as Cambridge masterclasses, seminars given by various FTSE 100 companies, and deliver presentations. I particularly found writing the Geoportal newspaper article on the climate crisis fascinating since it revealed the reality about how major corporations have a greater negative impact on the environment than the typical consumer. Being a geography scholar was a great experience for me since it exposed me to fresh concepts and skills that I can further utilise in sixth form and university.

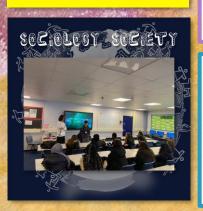












Charity Book Sale

On Thursday 8th and Friday 9th December, the Charity Committee held a book sale of surplus, second hand Library stock. The sale in the Library, was very popular and many customers left pleased with the bargains they had found. In total, the sale made over £120 and all proceeds are to be given to the Pink Ribbon Foundation which supports a range of Cancer charities. Well done Library monitors and Charity Committee! – Ms England

Cross Country

On 8th December, Ashmole students participated in the Barnet Schools Cross Country Championships held at Stone X Stadium. There were some excellent performances from all Ashmole runners. Most noteworthy were the following successes. Jessica T (Y10) who won the Y10/11 Girls Race with Holly L. finishing 3rd. In the Yrs. 8 & 9 Girls Race Ella B. finishing a creditable 4th. In the boys events , Josh A. (Y10) finishing 2nd in the Y10 & 11 Boys Race. Timo J. finished 3rd alongwith Marley L. in 6th in the Y8 & 9 race. Finally in the Y7 Race Sam C. raced to an excellent 3rd with Ruben T. finishing 6th. All these runners have qualified to run in the Middlesex Schools's Cross Country Championships at Harrow School in January. – Mr Scott

Year 9 Anti Bullying Week

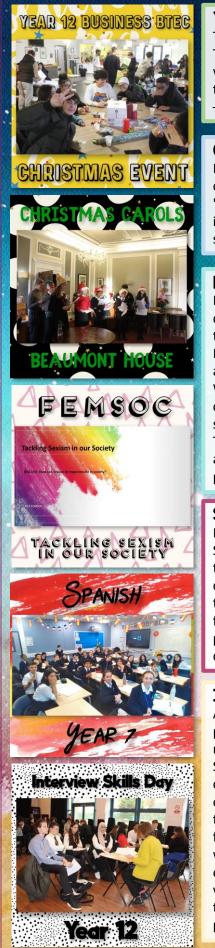
During Anti-Bullying week, our Year 9 students spent some time during registration considering what forms bullying can take and the harmful impact that this can have on individuals. As part of our programme, students came up with form pledges to stand up and speak out against bullying in our community and to take responsibility as both individuals and forms to be kind to one another and prevent this from happening. A particular theme across all the forms was being upstanders, reporting wrong-doing and recognising the harmful impacts that bullying has. Being an upstander means not being a bystander when you hear or see something wrong and to tell a member of staff immediately. I am very impressed with the mature way in which the year group approached these sessions and I went round to the forms to hear their pledges. These have been proudly displayed on tutor boards and on form doors. – Miss Cork

Year 10 Plug Wiring

On the 8th December year 10 were looking at mains electricity and how to wire a plug. The class learnt the importance of the Earth wire and how plug configurations may differ in other countries, such as the European 2 pin system. I was pleased that the class were professional and no electrocutions occurred! – Mrs Morley

Sociology Society

Sociology Society started last week and was hosted by year 12 scholars Max and Alex. Students from year 12 and some from years 9 & 10 joined in the discussion as to why there is still a gender pay gap in 2022. By analyzing statistics and detailed research, students were able to put forward brilliant explanations and came up with some solutions to the problem. Sociology Society is every Friday 1:30-2pm! Year 9 - 13 are welcome. – Mr Louca



Year 12 Christmas Event

The Year 12 BTEC Class hosted the Year 12 at their Christmas Party last Tuesday. The event raised money for Age UK, their chosen Charity. It was fantastic to see the brilliant organisation and planning that went in to create a fun filled afternoon with lots of games. Well done Year 12! – Miss Gardner

Christmas Carols

Members of our Senior Choir vistied Beaumont House last week to sing carols to the residents. Beaumont House said:

"It was such a beautiful concert and the residents really loved it. Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you again in 2023!"

KS3 FemSoc

KS3 fem soc was led by the amazing Millie and Connie last week. They discussed sexism within our community and the duty that we have to tackle this.

Part of the discussion was centered around the media and social media and the impact that this can have on casual sexist language.

We also discussed micro-aggressions and what action was needed to call these out and stamp these out within our own community and society.

The discussion was extremely focused and brilliant, thank you to Millie and Connie for creating such a thought provoking and insightful presentation! – Miss Cork

Spanish Presentations

Last week 7J1 worked in groups to prepare a presentation on school in Spanish. They chose to create a fictional school, use their primary or do their presentation about Ashmole Academy. They all showed amazing cooperation skills in school and at home and gave their presentations to the class, in Spanish, with total confidence. The whole class discussed feedback together and debated the different elements of the presentation with fantastic professionalism shown throughout. Well done! - Miss Miller

Interview Skills

All of Year 12 took part in the Interview Skills Day. Students had prepared for their day by creating a CV and covering letter and researching Marks and Spencer, the company the position was with. Students were in groups of 4-5 and took it in turns to be interviewed by one of our 65 business volunteers. The rest of the group listened in and offered their advice on how to improve their interviewing skills and their wider employability. Within each groupg the business volunteer fed back individually and announced a group winner, a student who would have got the job. Many students found it a nerve racking experience but they grew throughout the day, many remarking on how valuable the whole experience was. The business volunteers were taken aback with how the students conducted themselves, their professionalism and endeavour was on full show! – Mr Gilfeather



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Geography Scholar Review

<u>Geography & Environment: The Next Mass Extinction - Inevitable?</u> In this eye-opening talk about biodiversity from lecturers at the University of Hertfordshire, you could sense the urgency to do more to save our environment and ecosystems.

Whilst there are many causes of species mass extinction, humans are by far the driving force and are the reason why the 6th mass extinction will inevitably occur unless we do something now. From climate change, bark beetle outbreaks, intensifying of wildfires and water pollution which destroys our water ecosystems, we can see that humans are not only putting other species at risk, but we are also putting our own future generations in danger.

To do more we have to change how we value nature, educate ourselves on the importance of biodiversity, as well as urge our leaders and governments for stronger, effective legislations, stronger, effective actions. We must make changes and we must do this now! - Deborah O, 12PAJ

Strategy Games Club

'I enjoy going to strategy games club because it is a great lunchtime activity to go to with your friends and to have fun. At strategy games club there are a lot of exciting board games to play such as: King of Tokyo, card games, Blokus and many more. My personal favourite is King of Tokyo because I find it interesting as the roll of a dice can affect the outcome of a game. Some things that I have learnt are: patience, competitiveness, perseverance, tactical strategies and concentration.' - Nikhil B 7M1

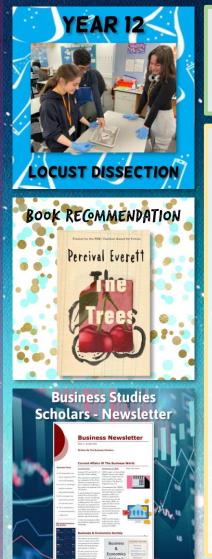
'Whether it's battling as Norse gods, taking control of giant monsters or landing a rocket on the moon, strategy games club is for everyone. With many board and card games like King of Tokyo, Blokus, Santorini and with more being added, you and your mates can play the wide selection of games and sharpen your strategic skills.' - Jonny M 7M1

Strategy Games club takes place Every Friday lunchtime 1:40-2:15 in HU9 Remember to bring your lunch and friends!

- Mr Costello

Local Food Bank

A food bank that has just opened locally at the new mosque opposite Southgate collage. Please can this be sent out to all parents or on the news letter. Parents or children don't need to be on benefits or show proof of low income as its open to all. It starts next Monday and will run all through the Christmas holidays and onwards. - Ms Sattar





Year 12 Locust Dissection

12D have been studying gas exchange systems in various organisms. They were given the opportunity to dissect a locust to observe its tracheal system whereby air moves into the insects spiracles supplying the oxygen it requires to survive. The class were very careful and we have some potential surgeons in the making! - Mrs Morley

Book Recommendation

Christmas Reads - The Trees by Percival Everett

This fast-paced and brutal novel is a blend of several genres and tones, beginning as a buddy-cop crime investigation, cycling through horror, comedy and politics in equal measure. The Trees follows a police inquiry into the gruesome murders taking place in Money, Mississippi and the dead Black man who keeps appearing at the crime scenes, bearing a striking resemblance to lynching victim Emmett Till. I was hooked by the premise and my attention held by the movie-like way the story panned out, with short chapters and striking imagery (of a particularly violent nature). Amidst all the shocking actions, the novel is held together by characters that felt grounded due to their casual humour and personal conflicts. I enjoyed the range of reactions the characters had to the situations and their ways of responding to racism faced in the small southern town. The most haunting aspect of The Trees is how America's history of lynching is laid bare for the reader, challenging us to remember and ultimately questioning what kind of reckoning is required. I found some scenes in the latter half of the book slightly forced and on-thenose, perhaps straying too far into farce, though personally they did not distract from the main plot. While the ending of the novel is left ambiguous and certainly chaotic, my overall experience is one of catharsis, of witnessing a day of judgement in which the sins of the past (and present) are addressed. Everett plays with humour and history in a way that feels natural, creating an engaging narrative with a powerful message at its core. - Olivia D-S 12CAB Booker Prize Shadowing continues to take place in E11 on Wednesdays week 2 at 1:40pm and is open to all KS5 students. Olivia will be presenting her thoughts on 'The Trees' during our first meeting back on the 11th of January.

Business Studies Newsletter

'The Business department wanted to share our Year 12 Business scholars end of the Autumn Term Newsletter which was created by: Murat U, Edi A, Sofia R and Shane M. We are really proud of the effort they have put into the publication (you can read it alongside the Roundup!) and at what a brilliant term the students have had. – Miss Hatira

Christmas Concert

We hope everyone enjoyed our Christmas concert on Thursday 15th December. A huge thank you to the talented musicians who performed, and the Music Department for their organisation. We can't wait to hear more from you all next year!

We would like to wish our Ashmole Community a very Happy Christmas and New Year! See you on Tuesday January 3rd (Week I)