



THE ASHMOLE ROUNDUP



The London Mini Marathon

On the bright, sunny morning of April 20th, 56 Ashmole students from years 7-11 embarked on their journey to compete in the Mini London Marathon.

It was an incredible experience to run part of the London Marathon route and finish on the Mall in front of Buckingham Palace.

Thank you to all the staff and parents who supported on the route. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped organise this amazing event.

Finally, a huge congratulations to all our students who participated and experienced this fantastic opportunity. We hope to participate in future Mini Marathons moving forward.

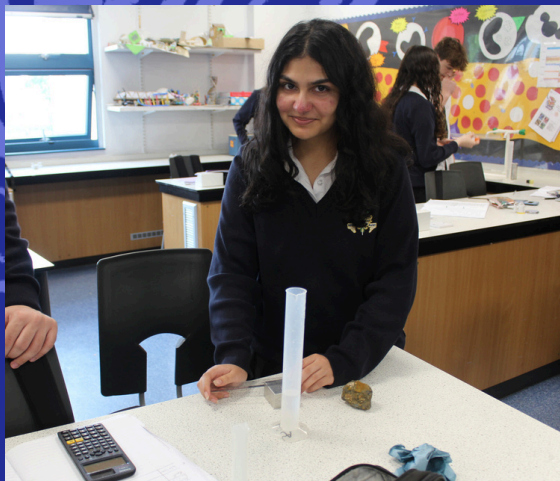
- Mr Scott



tcs



MINI LONDON
MARATHON 24



Year 10 Physics

Year 10s have recently been exploring Archimedes' principle - the relationship between density, mass and volume. They explored different methods for calculating the density of: regular objects, irregular objects and liquids and did a brilliant job! - Ms Hewson



Year 10 Chemistry

Our year 10 Chemistry students have been learning about flame tests as part of their Chemical Analysis topic. They really enjoyed carrying out a practical to see the vibrant colours given off by different metal ions when heated in a flame. The students have been really engaged throughout this topic which has allowed them to carry out numerous practical experiments including one where they had to analyse alien blood samples! Well done year 10! - Ms Patel

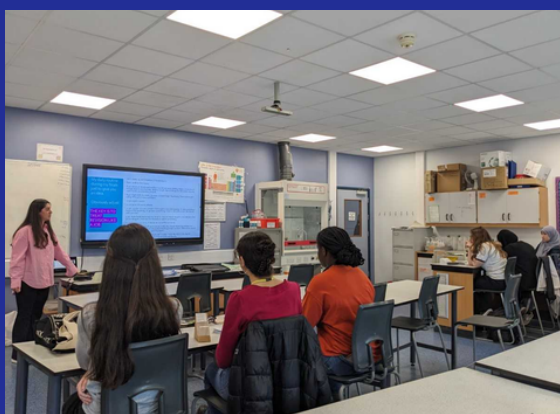
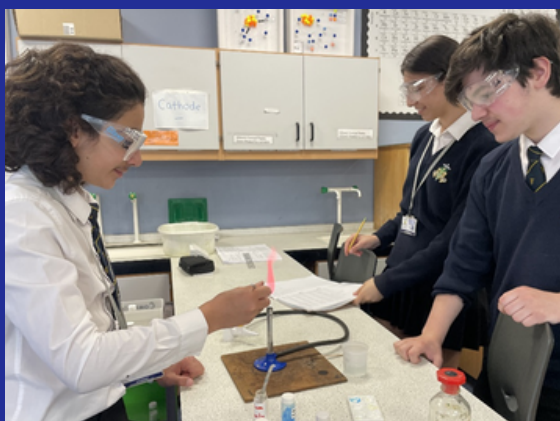


Medsoc

On Monday 13th May, the students of Medsoc were visited by another Ashmole Alumnus, Berivan, or should I say Dr Arikan!

Berivan just completed her final medical school exams at Nottingham University and will be graduating in July. She will start practising Medicine in August. Berivan spoke with our students about her experience of studying Medicine and how it is taught at Nottingham. She gave tips on narrowing down university choices, how to prepare for the UCAT aptitude test, and gave some fantastic advice on revising for A level examinations. We are so grateful to Berivan for coming in to visit us, and for providing us with so much valuable guidance.

Our Medsoc pupils feel much more secure and confident in navigating the complex application process thanks to her talk. Thank you Dr Arikan!
- Mrs D Shah





Junior Mathematical Challenge (JMC)

This term 135 students took part in the UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge from Year 7 & Year 8. This challenge encourages mathematical reasoning, precise thinking, and fluency, prompting students to engage in deep thought. The problems presented in the Junior Maths Challenge aim to stimulate thinking; still offering a challenge to those with greater experience.



The results were as follows: Certificate of Participation - 28%; Bronze - 29%; Silver - 27% and Gold - 16%. This year the proportion of gold certificates doubled from last year!

Below are the students who achieved the best in their Year Group:

Samuel C 113 Gold Best in School (Year 8)

Eda B 107 Gold Best in Year 7



The following students have been entered into the follow-on round; Junior Kangaroo which will be taking place on Tuesday 11th June 2024. Wish you all the best of luck.

Eda B Year 7

Jacob C Year 7

Yasir A Year 7

Brian W Year 7

Samuel C Year 8

Max D Year 8

Aleksander P Year 8

Aimee B Year 8

Kelvin B Year 8

Jamie J Year 8

Eugen P Year 8

Hailey K Year 8



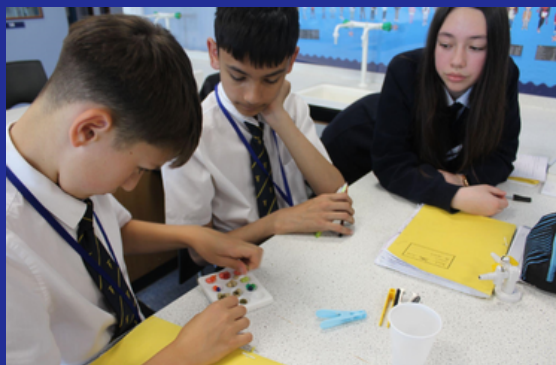
United Kingdom Mathematics Trust



Year 12 Mexican Cooking Lesson

Last Thursday my year 12 students and I did a Mexican cooking lesson. They are analyzing the book 'Como agua para Chocolate' by Laura Esquivel. Every chapter has a Mexican recipe.

I thought it would be a good opportunity to have a practical lesson on making tacos, tortillas, and guacamole practicing their Spanish, and enjoying the Mexican culture at the same time. It was very successful. - Ms Dinmahomed



Carnegie Reading Gathers Momentum

Our group of around 50 readers from Year 8 and 9 are now half way through this year's programme. The group are busy shadowing the Carnegie judges, reading the 8 shortlisted YA books and are now meeting weekly to discuss and share our responses or carry out various activities linked to the texts. Students are also uploading their written reviews for public viewing.

In addition, this year the scheme has been extended to all KS3 students and a spin-off reading group is currently challenging themselves to read last years Carnegie shortlist. We have plenty of copies in the Library if you'd like to join in!

All participants are being rewarded and will be invited to the end-of-Carnegie lunchtime celebration in June. This is when the winner is announced and our readers get a chance to agree or disagree with the judges' decision.

Keep going Carnegie readers - you are doing so well!

Year 7s modelling natural selection

Tweezers, clothes pegs and staple removers were used to mimic different types of beaks.

Different shaped beads represented different seeds.

The task: to establish which type of 'beak' was better adapted to collect which type of 'seed' and thereby understand how birds may adapt if their food source changes...

Year 7 Science Fair

Thank you so much to all those Year 7 students who submitted potential names for our science fair. After much consideration, we have chosen **Amazing Ashmole Atoms Science Fair** as our 2024 winner. Congratulations to Josephine 7SMK for her winning suggestion.

More exciting science fair news coming soon! - Ms de Saint-Quirin



Year 13 Leavers

On Thursday we celebrated the final day of schooling for our Year 13 students. Ashmole thanks each and every student for their commitment, dedication and drive for success over the past two years. We have no doubt that collectively and individually, your examinations will be a huge success and pave the way for the next few years of your lives. Take care of yourselves whilst revising and we will see you all in school over the coming weeks for your exams. - Mr El Sayed



Year 10 exploring specific heat capacity

Studying specific heat capacity helps us understand how different materials respond to heat and thereby how we can use them more effectively.

For instance:

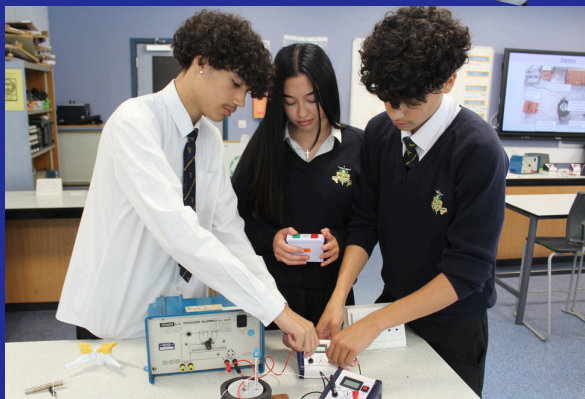
Water is often used in radiators and central heating systems due to its high specific heat capacity making it an efficient medium for transferring heat around a building.

Different foods have different specific heat capacities, which affects how quickly they cook.

Understanding this can help calculate cooking times and temperatures more effectively.

Metals with a low specific heat capacity, such as aluminium, heat up and cool down quickly, making them ideal for use in car engines and other machinery where rapid temperature changes are required.

Materials with a high specific heat capacity, like concrete, are used in building construction because they can absorb and store heat, helping to regulate the temperature inside buildings.



Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip

Year 12 Geographers visited King's Cross last week.

The area has undergone significant regeneration and rebranding since the 1990s, completely changing the function and perception of the area. This provided students a concrete example of their learning on Regenerating Places, as well as Globalisation.

Students also took the opportunity to either collect data, or complete a pilot study, for their Independent Investigation - worth 20% of their final grade. - Mr Makopa





Year 8 PGL Trip

On Friday 17th May, Ashmole gave students in year 8 the opportunity to go to PGL Liddington. The purpose of the trip was to build relationships with other people in the year who we were not yet close with.

On the first night, we were taken to a campfire where we sang songs and roasted marshmallows with our friendly group leaders. Afterwards, we played a big game of splat and did relay races to win Haribo's from Mr Pearson and Ms Humphreys!

On the next day, everyone participated in four main teambuilding activities: zipwire, axe throwing, archery and climbing, which were all extremely fun. We got a few hours of free time each day and most students used this time to play sports on the field.

On the last day, we were woken up early in the morning to eat breakfast. We then got on the coach and sang all the way back to Ashmole. It was a very fun trip which we are sure everyone will remember for the rest of their lives. Thank you to all of the staff members who made the trip even more memorable! - Lily M & Nicole B (8WAL)

Senior scholars - Geography

On Thursday after school the Senior Scholars investigated local Geographical issues.

Students were split into small groups to interrogate two local maps, firstly considering how the land is currently used, and also how it might be used in the future. Students were then introduced to two proposed developments on the sites. Students conducted a decision making exercise, considering whether the developments should go ahead or not, or if it could, with some amendments.

We were so impressed with the groups critical thinking - considering current and future needs alongside the sustainability of the proposals. - Miss Vaughan, Mrs Sullivan & Mr Makopa



Your task

Using the information sheets, reach a judgement on whether:

- A. The development should go ahead?
- B. Go ahead, but with amendments (justify your decision)
- C. Why it should not go ahead

AIM HIGH

1. Explain the view of different players with these issues.
2. To what extent is the concept of the 'greenbelt' appropriate today?

Be prepared to feedback!



Religious Studies

This week the Religious Studies department were delighted to host the year 6 students from Ashmole Primary for a transition lesson. They explored three big questions: What happens after death? Who was Jesus? How did we get here? They considered their own answers to these questions, and then reflected on some artistic responses. This led to some very thoughtful discussion as the students considered the difference between opinion and truth. As such, it was a great introduction to our approach to RS and we were really impressed by the students' engagement and responses! Well done year 6! - Mr Sanders



Christ Church College - Oxford

Visiting Christ Church College at the University of Oxford as a Year 10 student was both an exciting and informative experience. Being chosen to visit the college for an Oxford Horizon Exploring Humanities day allowed me to gain deeper insight into both the educational and social aspects of attending such a prestigious university.

When we first arrived, I was instantly captivated by the stunning architecture of the college. It really made you feel as though you were visiting one of the most distinguished and historical colleges in the country. First, we attended a lecture (held in a real lecture hall!!) where we were given a presentation on the pathway to university and many helpful application tips. We were also given an outline of a "day in the life" at Oxford and the many different courses you can take. Then we were escorted to the dining hall, where we ate lunch. The dining hall at Christ Church is truly magnificent and it felt like such an honour to be able to sit and eat amongst the professors and students.

Then we attended taster sessions of a various humanities subjects. First, we attended a session about English literature where we were given a poem to read and annotate. We were then able to collaborate and share ideas with the rest of the group. Next, we attended a session about Hadrian's Wall led by a student currently studying Roman History. This session mainly focused on critical thinking skills and using common sense as well as historical knowledge. Finally, we attended a session where we were shown images of an old children's board game which glorified colonisation. We then used our own historical knowledge to determine the origin and purpose of the game.

We were then given a tour of the college by students who currently attend Christ Church. We saw the dorms, the library and even the meadow. They also told us about the many superstitions and traditions at Oxford. I found this incredibly helpful, as we were able to ask questions and receive honest answers and opinions. - Anika, Year 10





PE Interform

Look out for the upcoming interform tournaments and rounders trials happening after half term, it would be great to see lots of you representing your forms!



The Ashmolean Project Competition 2024

A huge congratulations to all the Year 12 students who participated in the Ashmolean Project Competition this year. Over two days, 40 groups and individuals presented to a panel of judges on an incredible range of independent projects. Topics included medical research, computer programming, artificial intelligence, art, history, economics and many more.

All the students were amazing and will have gained invaluable experience in presenting in pressure situations and answering questions about a subject they are passionate about.

The standard was incredibly high again this year and everyone who took part should be very proud. Well done! - Mr Ford

Here are some images of just a few of the 40 presentations we enjoyed...



Special recognition was given to:

Amelie F - The perception of Taste, Haris S - Gut Health, Luna D-L - Postmodernism

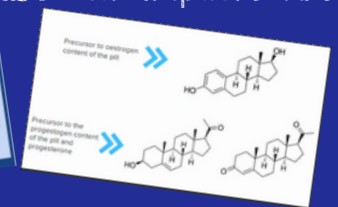
Jennifer C-B - Iconoclasm and the destruction of images, Zak Z and Ilyas R - The Impact of AI on the Film Industry

The three runners up were:

Eliza T - Does Art lie in the Eye of the Beholder?

Zaynab A - The Chemistry of Hormones

Charlie J - Are Recessions Inevitable?



The winner of the Ashmolean Project Competition, 2024 was Raya Petrova

Raya designed, built and evaluated her own telescope inspired by her research into physicist James Webb.

