



# THE ASHMOLE ROUNDUP

## HAPPY RETIREMENT!



### Miss Holliday's 10HLY Reading Club

To foster a love of reading, so far this academic year 16 members of Miss Holliday's form group have received a book as a part of the form's reading club. This month Miss Holliday has bought a free book for Cassie, Summer, Sana, Emre and Ronnie and she hopes all the students continue to enjoy their reading!

### Mr Bridges Retirement

Mr Bridges, our Data Manager, will be retiring on Friday 1st March after nearly 20 years of dedicated service to the school. During his time here, Mr Bridges has been an integral part of our school, working in various roles and we are grateful for his years of service and the invaluable contributions he has made. Thank you for your unwavering loyalty to Ashmole Academy. You have made so many impactful contributions over the past two decades that it would be impossible to list them all. Your hard work and dedication have been instrumental. We are incredibly fortunate to have had you as a valued member of our staff. We wish him all the best and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

### Chess Tournament

We held our first KS4 and KS5 Chess tournament of this academic year on Thursday 30th January in the refectory. It was a very successful event with many students participating in the tournament from years 10, 11, 12 and 13. It was a very exciting and tense tournament with students competing in 3 rounds each with only 5 minutes on the clock for each player. The finalists will be invited to compete in the final, date to be confirmed soon. Well done to all the students!

- Ms Gul

### KS3 History Society

Logan in Year 9 introduced a highly original topic to the society this week with a wonderfully researched presentation on the history of Minecraft. The resulting debate covered lots of complex concepts in a highly entertaining way. - Mr Halford



## Fem Soc

A recent FemSoc was led by Connie (Year 13) who posed the question about whether Feminism is still relevant in today's society. We considered where Feminism is most prevalent across the globe and why there has been a stark decline in the United Kingdom. We discussed how social media is having an impact in spreading misogynistic messages to young people and how feminists can tackle this. Connie delivered a fantastic presentation that was incredible thought-provoking and poignant. - Miss Cork



## Student Achievement

Rico M (10HLY) showed his appreciation last week for the Year 10 team by baking us cupcakes! They were greatly appreciated. Rico is a budding chef who really enjoys cooking and is really enjoying his catering lessons. Thank you Rico! - The Year 10 team



## Ski Trip Killington 2024

The Ashmole ski trip revisited Killington in half-term, and after a long flight into Boston Logan airport and a similarly long drive through Massachusetts and New Hampshire we arrived in Vermont. One sleep, and we completed our ski-fit and got onto the slopes. Our instructors were amazing and so very patient with our students, all of whom could ski by the end of the trip.



After a deliciously American breakfast each day, we skied all over the Beast of the East and in the evenings we did a range of activities which included bowling and watching the SuperBowl, as well as visiting WalMart.

Thank you to Miss Best and Miss Mootosamy for supporting the trip, and we look forward to launching our next ski trip to Les Deux Alpes, France in April 2025. - Mr Pearson





## Year 7 Easter Egg Challenge

This half term Year 7 will be competing in the Year 7 Easter Egg challenge. All students will have the chance to win an Easter Egg. We will be focussing on the Ashmole Values: Endeavour, Professionalism, Respect, Cooperation, Reflection and Responsibility. Whoever receives the most achievement points this half term in each of these values will win an Easter Egg. The eggcellent challenge is on so let's get cracking! - Ms Miller



## Year 9 Eco Homes

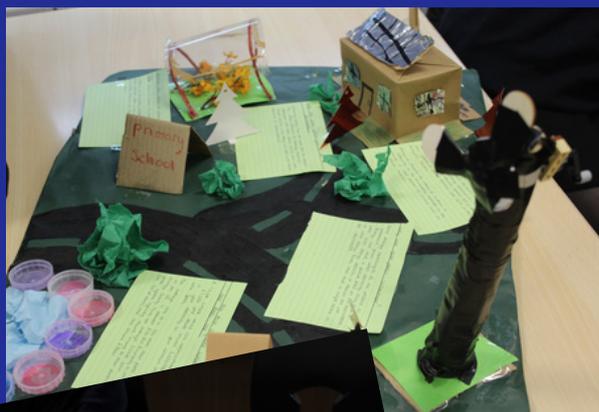
Year 9s have demonstrated an extensive knowledge of the environment and ways of reducing energy consumption. They have built their own eco friendly homes and towns using ideas such as:

- Domestic windmills and solar panels to generate renewable electricity
- Insulation to protect against heat loss
- A rain barrel to gather and save water
- Home made compost - using leftover food to produce soil which in turn is used to grow fruit and vegetables
- A greenhouse to provide a suitable environment for growing plants
- A pond to welcome wildlife
- Flowers to attract wildlife and increase pollination
- Piezoelectric underfloor heating to generate an electric charge in response to pressure



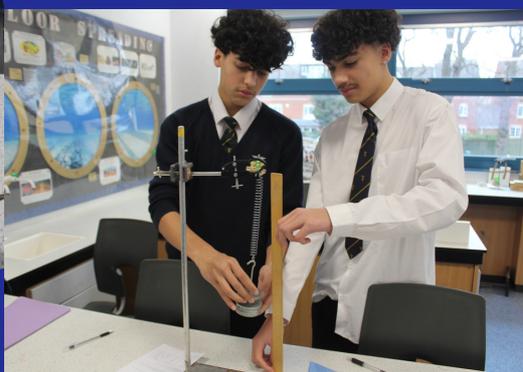
## Year 10 Hooke's Law

Year 10s have been testing Hooke's Law. Hooke's law says that the amount of force you apply to a spring is proportional to the amount the spring stretches. E.g., if you apply twice the force, you get twice the stretch...and it worked! - Mr Cummings



## Politics Society

Esma in Year 12 produced an excellent thought-provoking presentation on the significance of women Prime Ministers. Thoughtful questions and an excellent, high-level discussion followed which Esma managed superbly well. - Mr Halford





## Young Writers Success

Several Year 7 students entered a Young Writers' competition to pen a 100 word mini-saga titled "The Glitch". 16 students have been selected to have their exciting short stories of Sci-fi disaster and technical malfunctions, published. We hope to have their anthology available in the Library soon for everyone to read. Congratulations to all entrants and all students are welcome to look out for more opportunities to enter other competitions soon. - Ms England



## Year 7 Bath Bomb Making

Well done to year 7's in 7GAB and 7MOY on designing and making very creative bath bombs in science last week. The students were able to put their bath bombs to the test to discover the amazing reaction that takes place once the bath bomb enters the water. - Ms Gul



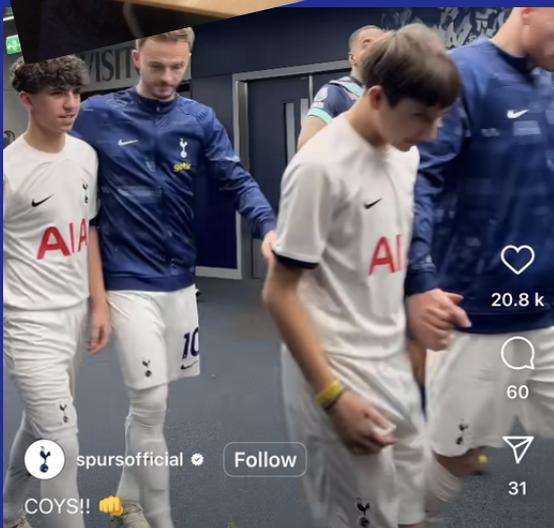
## Year 11 Spanish Revision Lesson

With Year 11 Spanish revision in full swing I used a Trivial Pursuit game to revise core vocabulary for all of the different themes. With all of the themes broken down into different categories, the students worked their way around the board answering correctly and filling in their circles of wedges. The students really enjoyed it and learnt some new words along the way.



## Student Spurs Mascot

Mehmet from Year 10 was lucky enough to be a mascot for Spurs on Wednesday 31st. Mehmet was extremely excited about this opportunity and it was a really lovely moment for the team to see him representing such a fantastic team. - Miss Cork



## A Level Royal Historical Society

On Tuesday we took some History A Level students to the Royal Historical Society to listen to Greg Jenner (famous for writing the Horrible Histories TV series...) speak about his involvement in historical broadcasting and his role as a Public Historian. Jenner was brilliant at bringing history to life and is well renowned for making the mundane everyday absolutely hilarious. We got to listen to him responding to fascinating questions from the audience about the future of history and the best topics to study. We look forward to taking our History students to more events soon - Miss Cork and Mr Isnardi



## Year 12 UCL Division of Medicine

On Friday 9th February, 8 girls from Year 12 were invited to the UCL Division of Medicine in honour of International Day of Women and Girls in Science. They had a fantastic day gaining insightful experiences and were left further inspired to pursue careers in Science. We are so grateful to Dr Vitor Teixeira and his team for inviting us. Here's what some of the girls had to say:

Attending the event was an amazing opportunity for young women who aspire to go into STEM. The hands-on experience in the lab was invaluable - a chance to bridge the gap between A-level theory and real-world application. The guest speaker's story was inspirational, reinforcing that as women in STEM, we're not just learners; we're pioneers shaping the future. I am so grateful for this empowering experience and would love to see more like it in the future. - Amina A

We found the visit very beneficial as it allowed us to gain a wider understanding of the different branches of science through the highly engaging hands on experience that was provided. We especially enjoyed using the microscopes to observe fibrosis in the lungs. The microscopes were much more advanced than the ones we've previously used. Additionally, learning how to use pipettes with smaller measurements was extremely useful as in school we have never been able to use such advanced equipment that is so frequently used in the different medical fields. This allowed us to gain an insight on the level of precision individuals in this field specifically must have to carry out daily activities. - Hani G and Amy L

## Women in Science

Last half term, we had the amazing opportunity to listen to Alexandra, talk about her experience studying physics at university as a woman. She discussed the day-to-day life of a female physics student in a male dominated field and how she dealt with the disproportionate ratio of men to women. We learnt that there are many alternative career pathways you can pursue, when you have a physics degree (she currently works in a law related industry!) and the invaluable experiences you gain from doing a physics degree. We had the opportunity to ask questions about working in industry that our physics teachers couldn't answer as well as asking more specific questions about the way in which physics is taught at degree level. We thank the physics teachers for organising this opportunity for us! - Mr Graham





## Ashmole Academy's production of Oliver!

After a gruelling six months of after-school rehearsals (and a Sunday one!) and countless 'Please sir, I want some more's, on the 6th, 7th, and 8th of February 2024, students from Year 7 to Year 13 performed in Ashmole Academy's production of Oliver!.

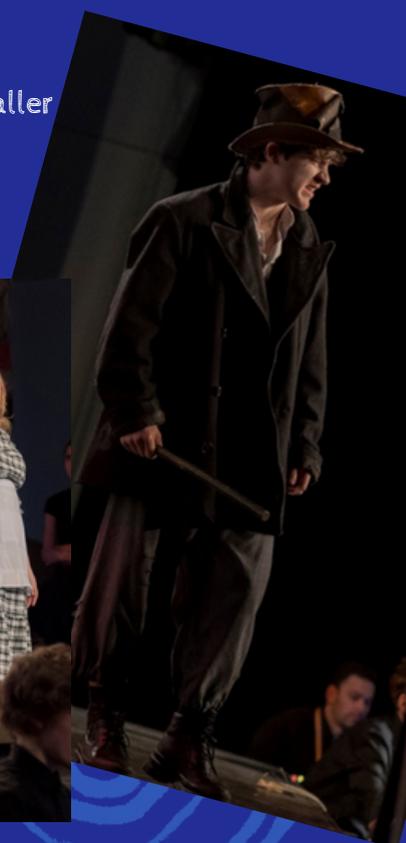
Throughout the process, students gained an array of invaluable skills. As well as honing their performing skills, many students grew in confidence and self-esteem, made lots of new friends, regardless of year group, and got a chance to work backstage as stagehands and in technician roles. Students worked tirelessly on numbers such as 'Consider Yourself' and 'Who Will Buy', which are known to be incredibly difficult to get 'just right', even for the professionals.

All three performances were a huge success and we are so incredibly proud of all students who were involved. A special mention goes to Kayan Ozgun, Joseph Winstanley and Lucy Mammen, who assisted with and performed in their final Ashmole Academy production. We will miss you terribly.

We look forward to launching our next production very soon... Until then, so long, fare thee well, pip pip, cheerio, we'll be back soon!

The Drama Department

Ms Swingler, Miss Humphries, Mr Fosso, Miss Waller





Our Senior Orchestra worked so hard and were so dedicated and professional throughout the lengthy rehearsal process. The instrumental parts that we used were the same as those for professional West End productions and requires great skill and great musicianship to perform.

Playing a West End score is a great experience and gave our musicians a feel of what it would be like to play in a professional 'pit' band. One of the particular difficulties of musical theatre is synchronising the music with what is happening on the stage, and certain musical cues can be different each time they are played: the students were exceptionally responsive and mastered this challenge with great aplomb!

Our musicians also had the chance to play instruments they might not have played before: for example the Cor Anglais, (played by our Oboe player Isabella P) the Bass Clarinet (played by our Clarinet player Abigail E) and the Eb Clarinet (played by our Clarinet player, Jamie W).

We are very grateful to Lynne Baker (our Violin teacher) who helped support the orchestra by playing the Viola part, and by providing many top tips based on her professional playing career.

If students are interested in joining Senior Orchestra, they should be at least Grade 5 standard and should contact the music department for further information.

