

THE ASHMOLE ROUNDUP



Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day

Approximately 1200 Christmas dinners were served to students and staff on Tuesday 19th December on our Christmas Jumper Day. The day raised over £1400 for Save the Children! We wish all staff and students a very Merry Christmas!



Beaumont House Christmas Carols

On Monday 11th December we had the pleasure of visiting Beaumont House Care home for the elderly, to sing Christmas carols and songs. We had such a lovely time, and the residents sang along, clapped and even had a little dance. We were very proud of all of our singers.



Year 10 Elf on a Shelf

The Year 10 pastoral team have been spreading some Christmas cheer over the long half term to the Year 10 forms and their tutors with Elf on a Shelf!

Naughty Elf has been climbing trees, having snowball fights and been late to school...Year 10 have really enjoyed seeing where Elf will be every morning, as have the tutors!

- Miss Cork



Food Bank Donation

This week Ashmole Staff and students brought in non-perishable food to give to the local food banks. We had volunteers from Southgate Mosque and Christ Church Southgate come in to collect hundreds of bags full of much-needed food to help support our local community and its families at Christmas. Thank you to everyone who helped. - Miss Clarke

GCSE Textiles hooded jumper construction project

Over the past few weeks, our Year 10 GCSE Textiles students have been showcasing their creativity through the construction of hooded jumpers, from selecting fabrics to mastering sewing techniques, they were able to gain a comprehensive understanding of the various elements that contribute to the creation of a successful textile product.

They learned how to measure and cut fabric accurately, interpret patterns, and construct garments using sewing machines.

Additionally, they acquired knowledge about different types of stitches, fastenings, and finishing techniques. From aligning patterns and seams to perfectly attaching hoods and pockets, their commitment to perfection was evident in the finished products.

Year 12 Interview Skills Day

On Wednesday 29th November, all of Year 12 took part in 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 5 and took it in turns to be interviewed by one of our 60 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 group, 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! Well done to all of Year 12 on a fantastic day. - Mr Louca and Mrs Kyriacou

Year 12 Interview Skills Day.



Year 7 Music

Pupils in Year 7 have begun to explore the inter-related dimensions of music through the lens of Curriculum Pillar 5. This Pillar focuses on developing pupils' music literacy, equipping them with the skills to read, write, and understand music in their notated form. Crucially, they are learning to realise and perform music (Pillar 1) from notation.

In this lesson pupils played a spoken pulse game, where they learned to subdivide each beat into four, using different syllables for each subdivision. The four syllables, ta-ka-di-mi, are derived from the approach traditionally used to teach and learn rhythm in Indian classical music. During the course of the lesson, pupils learned how to communicate each syllable in its written format, and ended the lesson by challenging one another to perform rhythms they had notated using mini whiteboards. - Mr Christmas

YEAR 7 MUSIC





Fem Soc

Maia and Tracey Havas came into school to speak with our FemSoc students about their work in the refuge Solace which supports women who have been victims of domestic violence. We discussed how severely underfunded safe spaces are for those who are victims of domestic abuse and why it is so important to campaign to change this. Every year, our FemSoc students run our 'itsinthebag campaign' where we gather bags and fill them with toiletries and other products to give to the women who arrive at the refuge. These are given out as both Christmas gifts but also for women who first come to the refuge who have almost nothing. I am always very proud of our society who give so much time and energy to such brilliant and overlooked causes.

it'sinthebag

Choose a handbag you no longer use or buy one specially, fill it with things you would like to receive and donate it to make a woman feel special and show her someone cares.

Your bag will be given to a woman who has fled domestic violence; she may be living in a refuge with her children or have had to move into temporary accommodation to escape her abuser. Either way, your generosity will help a woman in need to know that she isn't alone and other women support her.

Everything in the bag should be new and in sealed packaging for hygiene and health and safety reasons. Suggestions for what you can include are listed below, but this is by no means exhaustive – think about things you use every day, find useful or just treats that might be unaffordable for someone on a very tight budget.

Essentials:

<input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste	<input type="checkbox"/> Tampons
<input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary towels
<input type="checkbox"/> Shower gel	<input type="checkbox"/> Face wipes
<input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant	<input type="checkbox"/> Cotton wool
<input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo & conditioner	<input type="checkbox"/> Make up remover

Extra treats (one or two of these extras would be amazing):

<input type="checkbox"/> Baby wipes	<input type="checkbox"/> Stationery
<input type="checkbox"/> Face wipes	<input type="checkbox"/> Jewellery
<input type="checkbox"/> Tissues	<input type="checkbox"/> Toilet
<input type="checkbox"/> Perfume	<input type="checkbox"/> Hair scrunchies
<input type="checkbox"/> Moisturiser	<input type="checkbox"/> Hair brush/comb
<input type="checkbox"/> Book	<input type="checkbox"/> Gift vouchers
<input type="checkbox"/> Fluffy socks	<input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant vouchers
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarf	<input type="checkbox"/> Anything else you can think of!

Please don't include:

- Razors, knives or scissors
- Food (even chocolate and sweets)
- Pharmaceuticals (including paracetamol and ibuprofen)

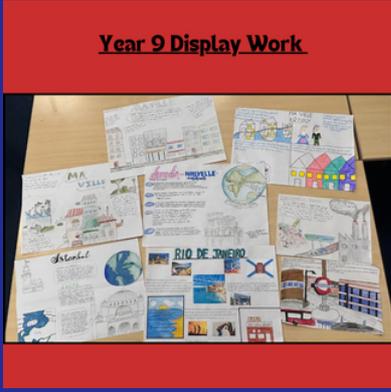
Email itsinthebag@psai.com if you would like more information or need the address to deliver your bag. Thank you so much for donating.

Last week in Fem Soc we discussed current issues facing women globally such as rising femicide rates and continuing restriction to abortion rights. As a group, we were thinking about what we can do on a macroscale to tackle these issues and then what we as individuals can do. We considered how harmful everyday, casual sexism can be and how it feeds into these wider, more damaging issues for women. As a group, even just being in a space having these conversations makes a difference. We ran our #ItsInTheBag campaign for Solace again this year to provide women in need with a present for Christmas, this in itself makes a huge difference. – Miss Cork



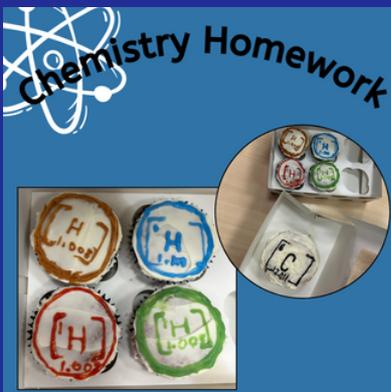
Philosophy Society

Nehir, one of the RS scholars in year 12, led a fascinating discussion on Thursday, prompted by her watching of the Netflix documentary Keep Sweet: Pray and Obey. She encouraged us to consider a number of questions that led to mature and reflective responses among those attending. We considered: the role of religious leaders; the abuse of power that sometimes takes place in the name of religion; whether people judge the religion of the individuals based on these accounts; and the psychology of faith. As always, there was thoughtful and balanced debate. Well done to all those who attended! – Mr Sanders



Year 9 French

Year 9 have been working on the topic of town and environment in their French lessons. They have covered lots of new vocabulary and completed a mini speaking test about their own town. To finish they have worked very hard to produce some wonderful display posters using all the language they have learnt. Bravo la classe! – Ms Heymans



Year 9 Chemistry

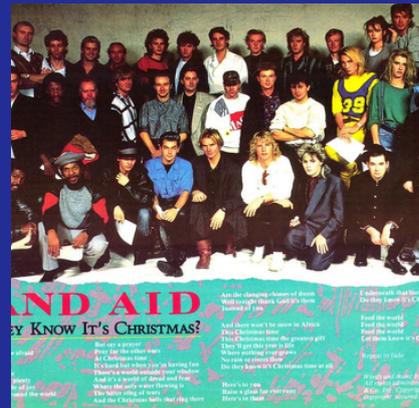
Alexia A and Rianna P in 9NSA had to create a project on greenhouse gases for their Chemistry homework and so they baked a cake and cup cakes for each element of the periodic table which are greenhouse gases! As their form tutor I was super pleased with this! – Miss Saloustis



Junior Ashmole Scholars Programme

Year 7 and 8 Scholars met Mr Falconer last week to debate whether football could be considered a religion. Students were very engaged in the discussion, establishing what the criteria for a religion are and then applying them to football. There were some strong opinions! Students have thoroughly enjoyed the programme so far. They have evaluated modern art, learnt about the forces that shaped our solar system and the impact censorship has on a historian's ability to make accurate deductions (among other things). It has been expertly planned by subject leads and supported by very engaging Year 12 Scholars who have been excellent role models.

Thank you to all involved. - Mr Littleford



Year 8 Geography

In Geography, Year 8 students have been studying the causes and impacts of extreme weather. Drought is a prolonged period of time with abnormally low rainfall and can lead to famine, as seen in East Africa in the 1980s. A response to this famine was setting up the Live Aid concerts, along with the Band Aid song "Do they know it's Christmas?". Although it raised millions for the relief effort, many have suggested the lyrics of the song misrepresents Africa and reinforces negative stereotypes. In lesson, students have been analysing the lyrics to understand how this may be the case, and overall evaluating the song as a response to the extreme weather. Well done Year 8!

- Mr Makopa



Sixth Form Centre "Concert"

A number of staff were treated to an early morning classical concert from Derryn before school last week. Our wonderful baristas Tracey and Androulla said "it's like we're working at Harrods/Selfridges"!



Politics Society

Politics scholars Sabeen, Anila and Mariam expertly led a session on current affairs this week, updating the audience on all the latest domestic and international news. They answered a wide range of questions on the current policies of the major UK parties, the economy and the state of the US political system. - Mr Halford



Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

On Tuesday 21st November a group of 30 year 10 students took part in a Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge to build confidence and fluency when speaking in front of others. Over the course of the day they refined speeches and delivered them to the group. From this workshop, four of our Year 10 students were selected to take part in the second round of the challenge, performing their speeches in front of their year group during assembly last Monday.

We were extremely impressed by the creative and powerful speeches on design, time, cultural diversity and period poverty, expertly delivered by Finley, Huseyin, Anika and Katerina. We are extremely proud of all four candidates. We are pleased to announce that Anika K in 10CHF is our chosen winner and will go on to represent Ashmole Academy at the Barnet regional finals in January. - Miss Smith



Year 7 achievements

Firdaous B in 7AGN won a gold medal in Karate recently at the European Championships, so she is European champion for a second year in a row. An amazing achievement!

Year 7 have had an incredibly successful first full term at Ashmole. I'm so proud of how they have adapted and developed as professional students. I would like to wish all of them a Happy Christmas and New Year. - Miss Miller



It's in the bag campaign

Every year our amazing Fem Soc team puts together bags for women in the refuge Solace. Often these women arrive at the refuge with little more than a few items in a plastic bag. To give back and show our solidarity, we collect bags during the 16 Days of Activism that raises awareness to end violence against women.

These bags are filled to the brim with essentials and goodies for women who need it most. Special thanks to Eliza T (Year 12) for designing our campaign poster, and to Mrs Webster for donating beautiful home-made jewellery to the cause. All donations are greatly appreciated.

- Miss Cork



MedSoc

Medsoc had the pleasure of welcoming Ms Alison Bowman, Therapeutic Radiographer and Project Manager for the East of England Radiotherapy Network. Alison talked us through the incredible work she has done over the last 25 years in treating different types of cancers. She talked the Medsoc cohort through the procedure for delivering radiotherapy, using props which she kindly brought in! We were also fortunate to be shown scans of tumours that required radiotherapy.

The students were enthralled and asked some really insightful questions. As a result, we currently have a number of students in Year 12 now considering this rewarding Allied Healthcare Profession. We are very grateful to Ms Bowman for taking the time to visit our Medsoc.

- Mrs D Shah



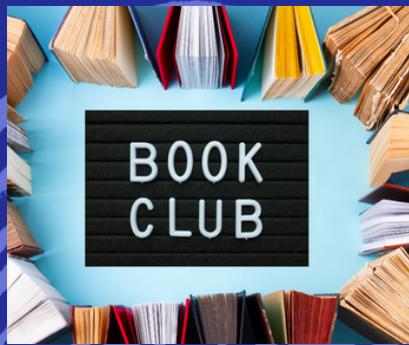
Economics Society

Year 12 students have been presenting economics in the real world in the Economics Society. They have discussed and shared opinions on various current affairs such as how conflict in the world has and continues to impact the global economy, how the rising industry of artificial intelligence impacts domestic economies and the cause of the financial crash in 2008. Kahoots are created for the end of the presentation, meaning there is a competitive end to the session! - Miss Sharif



Jazz Workshop

On Wednesday 13th December a selection of Ashmole musicians were invited to take part in a Jazz Workshop. The workshop was led by three of our very talented and experienced Visiting Music Teachers. The group learned about improvisation, form, accompanying, and the importance of communication and body language within a music ensemble. They worked on three jazz 'standards' and everyone in the group got a chance to perform an improvised solo. Year 10 GCSE students also had the chance to observe the workshop.



Library News

Enjoy some reading this holiday: Whether you choose to borrow a book from the Library, listen to an audio book or read magazine articles, make time to read for pleasure this Winter break.

Poetry Competition:

Congratulations to Leah R, Florrie W, Malaika B, Skye T and Chloe M in Year 7. They entered the "This is Me" Young Writers poetry competition and have been successful in having their work chosen to be published in an anthology next Spring.

Book Club:

Year 7 and 8 Book Club is moving to Monday lunchtimes next term. Look out for the reading list and dates in tutor bases. You are of course, welcome to borrow copies of the books over the holidays. Alternatively, you can join our fortnightly meetings for more general book chat! A 'Thank You'.

Finally, thanks to the many Year 8, 9 and 10 helpers in the Library this term: Library monitors and Duke of Edinburgh volunteers... you've all done a great job!

We are currently recruiting again for Spring 2024. - Ms England



Year 7 Product Design - Desk Organiser

We are incredibly proud of our Year 7 students' achievements this week in Product Design whereby our students have been constructing desk organisers. Their dedication, attention to detail, and creativity have produced exceptional results. The products they have created will not only serve as practical tools for organisation but also as lasting reminders of their growth and accomplishment in Design and Technology. From measuring and cutting wood to sanding and finishing, they meticulously executed each step of the construction process. The use of wood joints, such as butt joints, mitre joints, and lap joints, allowed them to create sturdy and visually appealing desk organisers that are built to last. We look forward to witnessing their further exploration and success in the field of design.

Year 10 achievement

I have been conducting a lot of learning walks and sitting in with Year 10 classes over the past few weeks and am so impressed and proud of their work ethic, even during this long term! In particular, Year 10 students have been working extremely hard during their Options subjects and it is always a delight to pop in and see them when they are learning about something they are passionate about and engaged with.

Year 10 have had a really positive term and I wish them all a restful break and look forward to Spring Term where I am sure they will approach their studies with maturity and enthusiasm. - Miss Cork

Music Showcases

On Thursday 7th December we had the first of our newly introduced termly music 'Showcases'. These informal concerts are held to provide students with a safe space in which to perform. Students of all ages and standards are encouraged to perform, whether it is to practise an exam piece, showcase an original composition or simply share music that they enjoy. It also gives our extra curricular clubs a chance to show our parents, carers and students what they have been working on.

It was a wonderful evening that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone that attended. We will be holding the next Showcase in the Spring Term.





GCSE Textiles Student Spotlight (Anoosh and Ariya)
 In a remarkable display of commitment and passion, Anoosh and Ariya, two exceptional Textiles GCSE students, have been devoting their free time after school and during lunch breaks to complete the construction of their hooded jumpers. Annosh and Olivia's commitment to their craft has been exceptional. Despite their already busy schedules, they have willingly sacrificed their free time to perfect their garments. Annosh and Olivia have not only impressed us with their individual dedication but also with their collaborative spirit. They have worked together offering each other support, advice, and encouragement throughout the project. Their collaborative efforts have not only enhanced their own skills but have also fostered a sense of teamwork within the classroom.



Year 12 Product Design Student spotlight Q&A

Cassius is a Year 12 A Level Product Design student, whose passion for 3D printing and STEM has propelled him to new heights.

Cassius has transformed his coursework designs from mere concepts on paper to tangible, three-dimensional masterpieces using our 3D printer. His unwavering commitment to his work is truly commendable, and it is a testament to his passion for engineering and design.



As Cassius continues to push the boundaries of what is possible with 3D printing, we can only imagine the impact he will have in the field of engineering and design.

Interview:

Q. What university would you like to go to?

A. "My main aspiration is to go to Imperial college London to study Mechanical Engineering".



Q. Why would you like to study Mechanical Engineering?

A. "I have always been good at practical subjects and I really enjoy Maths and Science. It is an engineering branch that combines engineering physics and mathematics principles with materials science, to design, manufacture, and maintain mechanical systems".

Q. How do you think using the 3D printer In the Product Design department at Ashmole Academy might help you in your future endeavours?

A. "I think it helps to take your ideas from a design to a physical object allowing you to feel and identify any flaws or adaptations you may want to make. It also allows us to get an idea of advanced CAM techniques for future careers where we may use them"



We applaud Cassius for his exceptional work and wish him every success as he continues to pursue his dreams.

WINNERS



Jack Petchey November Winners

Jack Petchey Achievement Award winners are young people who have gone above and beyond to achieve - perhaps when others thought they might fail.

Awards mean different things to different people. The Achievement Awards are not solely for academic achievement - they are also used to recognise a personal triumph for someone who has faced a challenge, a young person who has pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone or it may be an opportunity to recognise the outstanding efforts of a team player.

An important part of the scheme is the involvement of young people in selecting the award winners for their hard work and efforts. We want students to recognise and celebrate the success of their peers.

All the winners below were nominated by their peers and voted for by the school council. They have all received a £300 grant to benefit Ashmole Academy! - Mr Watton

Evangelos P 13VAU

Evangelos is a pillar of his community.

He volunteers at Saint Barnabas Church in Wood Green every Sunday. In the past he helped organise a charity run for Cancer Research UK with his football team, and they raised over £5000. He is also a talented footballer and has been playing football for Omonia Silvers in the Watford Friendly League for 7 years. Evangelos is a great role model. Well done!

Jessica G 11SHS

Jessica is a persevering and confident student who has demonstrated resilience and a great level of mental strength. She runs track nationally for her home country Barbados as well as England. She also trains younger athletes three times a week in track running and is a high achieving Y11 student. Jessica is a great role model and inspires her peers and is fully deserving of this award. Well done Jessica!

Rayyan M 13MHN

Rayaan is a pillar of his community and an active member of his local mosque, where he tirelessly volunteers his time and resources several times a week. He has been instrumental in supporting local food banks by collecting, sorting, and distributing food to those in need. He also spends time maintaining the premises of the mosque ensuring it remains a welcoming and harmonious place for all. Well done, Rayyan!

Ella B 10PIR

Ella B this year became the first female student to qualify and represent Ashmole Academy at the English Schools' Athletics Championships in the 300 metres. At the championships, she finished a credible 6th in her heat. She also had the 12th fastest time at the event. Not only is she the current Middlesex and Barnet 300 metre Schools Champion for her age group, but she has also competed in the Middlesex Schools Cross Country Championships as well as the London Mini Marathon. Well done, Ella!