



Ashmole Academy

THE ASHMOLE ROUNDUP

**STUDENT LED
EDITION!**



This term, our Year 8 students partnered with the Publications Department to launch the very first student-led roundup!

Taking on the exciting challenge of journalism, they reported on school events and current affairs, drawing inspiration from their English lessons this half-term. This initiative not only gave them a platform to share their perspectives but also celebrated their creativity, writing skills, and hard work.



We received an overwhelming number of submissions—far more than we could fit into this edition! But don't worry—every piece will be published in our brand-new student blog section on the school website, under "News and Events" → "The Ashmole Blog."



To round things off, there's also a special section where teachers share highlights at the bottom of this roundup.

Congratulations to all our talented student journalists!

(Please note: All articles will be uploaded to our website over the Easter Holiday—so stay tuned and happy reading!)



The Hidden Treasure of Ashmole: Its Extraordinary Library -

Have you ever stepped into a place so magical it feels like stepping into another world? Ashmole's library is exactly that—a sanctuary of knowledge, adventure, and inspiration.

From towering bookshelves to cosy reading corners, this library welcomes every curious mind. Whether you seek a gripping mystery, historical wonders, or scientific discoveries, there's a book waiting just for you. More than just a room of books, it is a gateway to imagination!

Not only does it offer a vast collection, but it also provides a peaceful space to think, learn, and create. Who wouldn't want to study in a place filled with wisdom and wonder? The library is the heart of Ashmole, beating with stories, facts, and endless possibilities.

So next time you walk past, step inside. You might just find the book that changes everything. After all, isn't that what great libraries are for?
By Arabella C



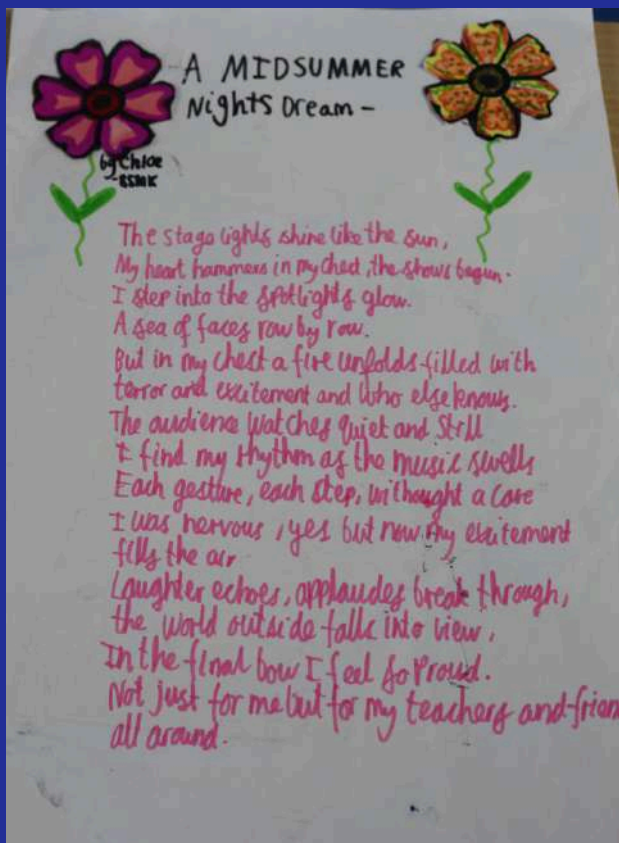
The School Production from a musician's perspective-

At the start of the school term, Ashmole students from all year groups performed a magnificent and memorable performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The play, written by William Shakespeare, is a comedy set in Athens. It follows the story of four Athenian lovers and six amateur actors rehearsing a play. The storyline is romantic, witty, fascinating and so was their spectacular performance.

The rehearsals for the actors and musicians began in October and finished in February. We rehearsed for hours, in which we were professional and focused. As I was in the band, we rehearsed with Mr England to play suitable folk music. It was a new and unique experience for me to play folk music which was interesting and exemplary.

The actors and actresses in the play were very talented, passionate and enthusiastic which you could see in their acting. Their performance made me quite fond of Shakespeare; an unforeseen opinion!

I am looking forward to seeing what the rising stars of Ashmole will perform next!
By Jess R (a member of the Midsummer Night's band)





A Year of the Astro: The Best Addition to Ashmole Yet!

How the all-weather pitch has changed PE and football for the better

It's hard to believe the astro turf has been at Ashmole for a whole year now! As a student, I can say that it has completely transformed PE lessons and football at our school. No more slipping on muddy grass or having lessons cancelled because of the weather—the astro means we can play all year round, no matter what.



Football has definitely been the biggest winner. Whether it's during PE, after-school training, or just a quick game at lunchtime, the pitch is always in use. It's made lessons more enjoyable and has helped improve skills, as we can actually focus on the game instead of worrying about the ground beneath us.

But the astro isn't just great for students—it's also helping Ashmole financially. On weekends, the school rents it out to local teams, which brings in extra money that can go towards improving facilities for us. So, not only do we get to enjoy a top-quality pitch, but it's also benefiting the school in the long run.



Looking back on the past year, it's clear the astro turf was a brilliant investment. It's made PE better, football more competitive, and even helped Ashmole grow. Who knows what's next? Maybe even more sports facilities in the future!

By Henry S

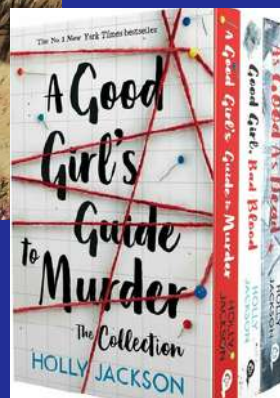
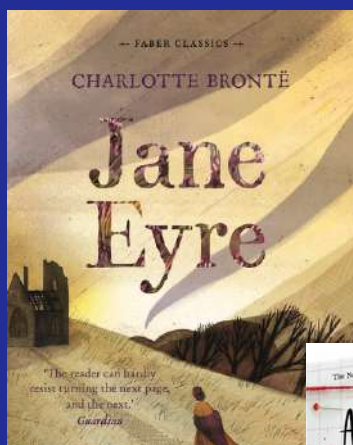
KS3 Book Club Reviews

'Jane Eyre' is a brilliant book because it has a highly satisfying story arc. Jane starts off in a harsh environment, travels to different places and ends in a nice environment. This embodies a classic coming of age story. I would recommend this book to the 13+ age range because it has some complicated language. I would rate it a 6/10.

I found 'A Good Girl's Guide to Murder' one of my favourites as it includes murder mystery and many plot twists, even up until the end of the narrative. It is about a 17-year-old girl who decides to do her school project on trying to prove someone's innocence, as she believes this boy wasn't a murderer. I found the plot twists and the mindset of the main character interesting. I would recommend this book to people who enjoy the murder mystery genre. I would rate it a 5/5!

'Private Peaceful' is a war-based, emotional book with a melancholy tone. I really enjoyed the story because of the exciting setting, the relatable characters and the unique plot. I would recommend this book to students aged 11+. It has simple yet effective language choices and beautiful imagery: 5/5.

Book Club





Poem - "This is me"

As your feet edge closer to the stage,
Your heart begins to pound.

You're in a new place, with a feeling unknown.
Light fades quickly as your thoughts disappear

But... You're not alone.
A hand reaches towards you,

Drawing it closer and closer,
All your fears go down the drain,

A ball of fire, full of hope and courage,
Fills your heart.

The crowd is cheering your name,
A glow fills the room.

You smile with glee.
So, as the curtains come to a close,

You miss that time you had.
But this time will come again, I guarantee.
So don't be sad, be glad,
Because your time will come, wait and see.
By Malaika B



Boys in Yr8 Table-Tennis final show vicious ambition to win, but who actually did?

Late into Friday lunchtime on the 28th, Peter K and Luca A battled in an intense match to decide who would be crowned champion of table-tennis. The match took place in the gymnasium and both boys showed fiery determination to secure a win.

Both boys had fiercely fought their way to the top of the tournament after beating all the people opposing them. In the semi-finals they faced two worthy opponents, Rohan T and Kyri A. Previously Peter and Luca had battled in the finals in Yr7 and although Peter had emerged victorious, Luca was determined to change that this year.

Starting off the match, Luca served brutally and did not hold back, raising the score to 6-0, but Peter combated mercilessly with a series of savage smashes that ridiculed Luca's previous attempts. He leveled the points easily before proceeding to obliterate any hope in a win for Luca. Although he fought valiantly, he could not stop the powerhouse that was Peter, so in the end sadly lost 21-9. Once again, Peter had repeated history and won the Yr8 Table-Tennis competition...

But who do you think will win next year? Guess you'll have to wait and see.
By Arden H





Year 7s, Buckle Up: Your Secondary School Adventure Awaits: Why Year 7 might just be the best year yet!

Let's cut to the chase, starting secondary school is a big deal. It's nerve-wracking, exciting, and let's be honest, a little overwhelming. But here's the thing: Year 7 is your golden ticket to a fresh start. Embrace it, because this is where the fun begins.



Looking back, I vividly remember my first taste of independence on the Year 7 trip to Péronne. It wasn't just about history lessons or practicing a new language, it was about the camaraderie, the belly laughs, and the memories we still talk about today. That trip taught me more than any textbook ever could: the thrill of stepping out of your comfort zone and discovering the world (and yourself).

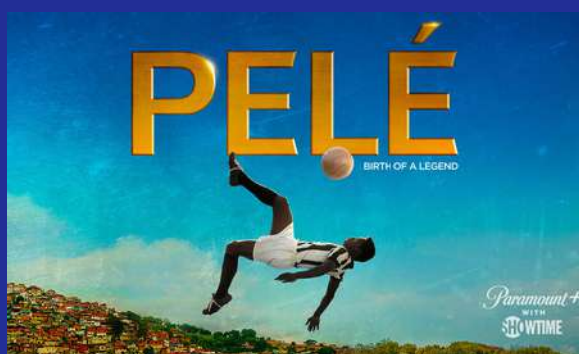
So here's my advice: don't hold back. Secondary school is like an all-you-can-eat buffet, and you should try a bit of everything. Join that club, audition for that play, or sign up for that trip, even if it terrifies you.



Be kind and always make sure to treat others with respect, acts like these will help you navigate easier through not only year 7 but the following years to come.

Some people will tell you Year 7 is tough. And sure, it comes with its challenges; getting lost on your way to maths, forgetting your locker number, or navigating the social jungle. But let it's the start of your epic adventure. Make it count!

By Maya C



Film Review -Pelé: Birth of a Legend (2016)

This inspiring film shows how Pelé rose from poverty to become a world-class footballer. Many believe success requires wealth, but this movie challenges that idea. Pelé grew up in a poor family, playing football on the streets with a ball made of stolen socks. He even resorted to stealing food to help his family survive. The film portrays his childhood struggles with racism, injustice, and poverty, highlighting how he channeled his hardships into extraordinary talent. I recommend this film—it reminds us to appreciate what we have. By Alex S

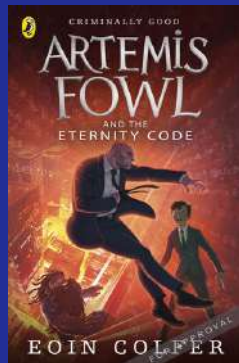
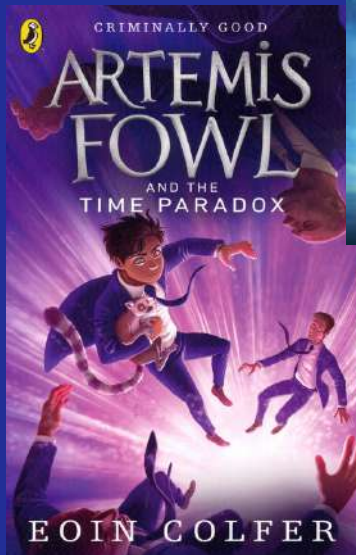
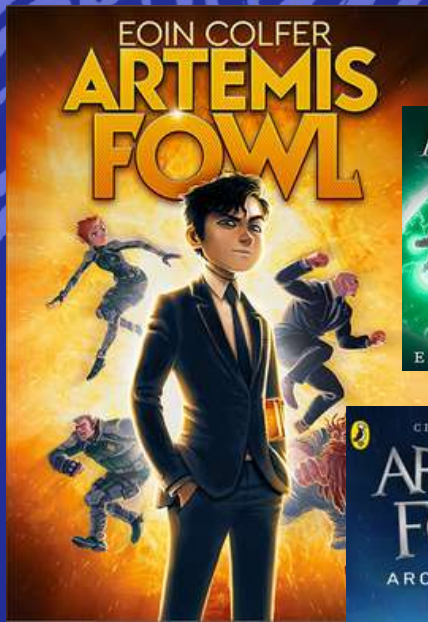


Young Ashmole Poets

Every Wednesday lunch time from 1:40 - 2:20, Ms Agnew runs a poetry club for all students. The club is held in EN4. In the club, you can do a range of activities such as writing your own haiku to using another poem's theme to write your own version.

This is incredibly beneficial to students' literacy skills but also great fun!

By Erin C



Artemis Fowl Books

The Artemis Fowl Book Series are enticing, grasping and honestly outstanding. It's one of Eoin Colfer's best books receiving an amazing 4.5 stars. The Artemis Fowl series, aimed at children, helps them escape reality to a world where anything is possible for young Artemis Fowl with the help of his supernatural friends.

This fantastic fantasy fiction was created because of one question that Eoin Colfer had, if fairies do exist how would they survive? And these books not only invent an extraordinary explanation to this but also show the journey of how these creatures come to create bonds and friendships with the humans who were thought to be just selfish, power-hungry beings.

The Artemis Fowl books use a range of conflicting characters to add different aspects to the story. Some being strong, mountainous humans, others always thinking they're the smartest people in the room but most not even being quite human at all. This allows the reader to connect with different characters whether they're high achieving like the first female police (holly short) or if they're meant to add a little humour to this super story (mulch).

This brilliant book has had over 25 million copies sold around the world and is a best seller of Eoin Colfer. It uses suspense and danger to create a rollercoaster of emotion for the reader as they wonder if the child genius will succeed on his next mind-blowing heist or not?

This book is truly one of the best for adventure lovers with all its unexpected twists and turns. I would rate it a 5/5
By Denisa P



Dribbling through this Inter-Form One bounce at a time.

Ashmole's Year 8 Inter-Form Basketball was an exciting display of talent, teamwork, and school spirit. Students competed fiercely for the title in a night of intense action at the school's sports hall.

The final match between Form 8HIS and Form 8MOH was a thrilling contest, with 8HIS securing victory in a hard-fought battle. Spectators were kept on the edge of their seats by fast-paced play, impressive shots, and strategic teamwork.

Beyond the competition, the tournament highlighted sportsmanship, with players showing respect both on and off the court. It was a true celebration of school spirit, where every participant, win or lose, gained valuable lessons in perseverance, teamwork, and character.

For some, it was a step toward a lifelong love of basketball; for others, an unforgettable school memory.
By Ellie A



TEACHER SECTION

COMIC RELIEF

Comic Relief

As a school, we are thrilled to announce that we have raised £1,250, thanks to the efforts of our PE department. Students participated in a mile run during PE lessons and took on exciting challenges against their teachers, including volleyball, table tennis, penalty shootouts, 2vs2 basketball, and badminton.

A heartfelt thank you to all the staff, students, and parents who contributed and donated to make this achievement possible!

Mr Scott

Science Ashmole Scholar Projects

Last week, the Year 12 students conducted practical experiments in the science prep room for their Ashmole Scholar Projects. One student successfully generated electricity from mud using microbial fuel cells, utilizing bacteria to produce enough power to light a bulb.

Another student built a cloud chamber, a device that makes radiation and subatomic particles visible by creating a supersaturated alcohol vapor inside a sealed chamber. The students showed great initiatives, curiosity and strong understanding of the scientific method.

Well done to the students for their hard work and dedication! Mrs Terziu

"Cheetas" Ashmolean Scholar session

On Wednesday after school, we held an event for year 9 and 10 on the importance of conservation in increasing genetic diversity in cheetahs. In this, we covered the issues associated with inbreeding on reproduction in cheetahs and explored the theory that all cheetahs alive today may have come from 1 lineage. We encouraged the students to consider possible solutions to the issue, to which their answers were fascinating. They suggested that genetic research could be used to ensure cheetahs were bred that were the least genetically similar to each other, and that cheetahs could be placed in different environments so genetic diversity would naturally increase as adaptations and natural selection occurred. It was great to see the students' insights into how we can help solve current and future environmental issues. Massive well done to everyone who attended especially those who shared their brilliant ideas and thank you to everyone who helped out.

Ms Morley

Year 12 Geographers

Year 12 geographers investigating coastal processes and management at Walton-on-the-Naze

Mr Makopa





Curriculum Support Tenpin Bowling Final

This month, six of our Year 7 students had the fantastic opportunity to compete in the Tenpin Bowling Final.

Although we faced some tough competition, our students demonstrated great perseverance and a positive attitude, making us incredibly proud. Their hard work, cooperation and dedication truly reflected the values we promote at Ashmole. A huge congratulations to our Year 7 bowlers for their efforts, and a big thank you to everyone who supported them along the way.

Miss Colbeck



Careers Fair

On Thursday 27th March, Year 12 students attended the Ashmole Careers Fair. We were joined by business leaders from local businesses to multi-national corporations. Representatives from UK universities and apprenticeship providers were also in attendance, as well as Ashmole alumni and parents.

Some of our visitors delivered seminars to students explaining what it is like to work in their industry and the most effective ways to prepare for that career.

In the sports hall and assembly hall, our students wandered around 55 stalls gathering information, prospectuses and tips for the future.

Year 12s described the event as a great step in being well-informed about their future choices.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in making it a brilliant day for our students.

Mr Louca and Mrs Kyriacou



Easter Holiday

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter holiday filled with rest, joy, and time spent with loved ones! You've all worked incredibly hard, and this break is well deserved—so take the time to relax, recharge, and enjoy yourselves.

Just a quick reminder that school will reopen on Tuesday, 22nd April, and we will be following a Week 2 timetable upon our return. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for an exciting new term ahead. Have a fantastic break, and see you all soon!

