



THE ASHMOLE ROUNDUP



THE FINAL!

Wednesday 18th June

3:30 – 4:15

Assembly Hall

Guest Host – Harry Scully!
Winner of University Challenge in 2023!!!

The Cheeky Monkeys
VS
The Iguanas
VS
The Hounds



Scholar Challenge Final

The final of the Scholar Challenge was held last week in a tense and wonderfully entertaining contest that eventually saw the winning team, The Iguanas take the 2025 title.

The Scholar Challenge started back in February, when students from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 were asked if they would like to form mixed teams of four. Interest was high and 26 teams were created to battle it out every Thursday lunchtime, until eventually the final three teams remained. The standard of quizzing has been incredibly high throughout the competition, especially in the semi-finals and final rounds.

We were absolutely delighted to welcome Harry Scully, former winner of the real University Challenge in 2023. Harry kindly agreed to be our questioner for the final, as well as talk to our students afterwards about his experiences in winning and how he goes about retaining so much knowledge!

All the students were amazing during the final, showing off some impressive general knowledge and working as a team when the pressure was really on.

We look forward to running the challenge again next year!

This years finalist were:

Iguanas	Cheeky Monkeys	Hounds
Jude P 7GRC	Freya B 7PET	Anoushka S 7MIC
Albert B 7EDY	Harriet B 7PET	Naz A 7PET
Adan H 7GHN	Spike H 10BAF	Cerise H 10SPE
Naima M 10ALB	Max Y 10BAF	Ruby C 10HAH





Politics Society

A-Level Politics scholar Jayden gave a superb presentation to the Politics Society on the current Governmental system of El Salvador. The presentation was very well informed. Jayden explained the rigorous fact-checking process he went through in his research and then expertly answered a number of questions from the audience.

Mr Halford



Sampling Practical

On Tuesday 10G went onto the field to look at the distribution of plants on the school field and how abiotic (non-living) factors can affect this. This is a required practical for GCSE Biology and demonstrated the need to back up classroom theory with practical experience in order to fully understand it.

Mrs Morley



Safer Phones Bill

On June 12th Year 7 took part in a focus day supporting their understanding of the Safer Phones Bill and how to keep themselves safe on line. They had a fantastic session with Childnet which discussed different aspects of online wellbeing. Students were then given an oracy focused task on creating speeches for and against the passing of the Safer Phones Bill. Lots of students spoke extremely articulately using the language of a Parliamentary debate in the assembly hall. Well done Year 7!

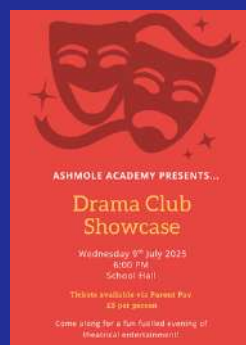
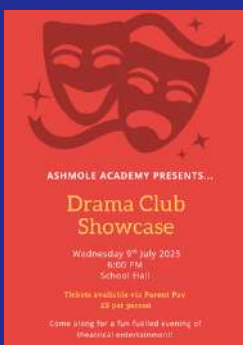
Miss Cork



Heredity & DNA

8B have been studying Heredity and how DNA plays a role. They were asked to create a model of DNA structure and as you can see, they were very imaginative - 3D printing, pipe cleaners, sweets and loom bands were just some of the material used. I was impressed how some students had clearly researched way beyond KS3 terminology

Mrs Morley



Drama Club

Rehearsals for the upcoming Drama Club Showcase are now well underway! Students have been working hard on their pieces and are excited to share their performances with friends and family soon. Tickets are on sale and we're looking forward to seeing many people there.



Buraks account of his Oxford Scholars Trip

My Time during the Oxford Scholars trip was a huge achievement for me and I found it very beneficial and engaging. Even though it was during a hot and unbearable day, it was still positive and enjoyable. The one thing that I have taken away from this experience, is what one of the current University students shared with us, is that despite the prestigious reputation Oxford University has, It is still a lovely and sociable place, and a diverse university to attend. It has loads of courses and societies to get involved in during your spare time. Finally, I would like to thank all the teachers for organising and allowing me to take the opportunity to attend this trip. I hope to attend more trips like this in the future.

Mr De Souza, Curriculum Support



Curriculum support Athletes!

Last week, we had the pleasure of accompanying 10 fantastic Year 7 students on an exciting sports trip to the StoneX Stadium. The day was packed full of energy, enthusiasm, and smiles as students had the opportunity to try out a wide variety of sports in a fun and supportive environment.

From rowing and American football to boccia, dancing, volleyball, and tennis - there was something for everyone to enjoy. It was brilliant to see the students embracing each new activity with confidence and teamwork, showing great determination and spirit throughout the day.

The trip was not only about sport, but also about building friendships, boosting self-esteem, and trying something new. The students represented Ashmole incredibly well - showing respect, kindness, and enthusiasm at every turn.

Well done to all who took part - you were amazing! - Miss Colbeck, Curriculum Support



Year 7 Geography

Earlier this year, Year 7 students studied to answer "Should plastic be banned?". To help consolidate their learning about the responses to ocean plastic pollution and the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, students completed a creative homework task where they turned recyclable waste into artwork. We had so many incredible submissions, demonstrating the amazing creativity and endeavour of our Year 7 cohort. Well done!

Geography Department





Carnegie Winner Announced and Ashmole Celebrates.

On Thursday 19th June, Judges announced the 2025 winner of the Yoto Carnegie book award for the YA Fiction. This marked the end of a 3 month reading event at Ashmole where over 40 Year 8 and 9 students have been racing to read as many of the Year's shortlist as possible. We have also been meeting weekly to discuss the books and write reviews to be published in a magazine.



At lunchtime on Thursday, we held our annual celebration to recognize the achievements of our reading group. Particular congratulations went to those students who had read all 8 books and gone the extra mile participating. Then it was time for the big reveal: Reading groups across the country and Ashmole students voted for their favourite... "King of Nothing" by Nathanael Lessore. This was a hugely popular read - both funny and moving. If you enjoyed this author's first book "Steady For This", you're bound to like this one too. As for the Judges, their official winner for 2025 was... "Glasgow Boys" by Margaret McDonald - a KS4 coming-of-age story looking at young masculinity and exploring how even the most fraught childhoods are not without hope. Remember all the Carnegie shortlisted books are on the shelves in the Library and available to borrow now!
Ms Clack, Ms Gorus and Mrs England



Medsoc

The last half term has been extremely busy for MedSoc. We have finished presenting our final NHS HOT topic to ensure our students are as informed as possible for future Medicine interview questions. We welcomed back Ashmole alumnus Mohammed Gure, who will be starting his first year of Medicine at Queen Mary's University. He ran a really helpful UCAT workshop to prepare our Year 12s for the upcoming aptitude test. We have also had monthly personalised workshops for Oxbridge Medicine applications being run by Zaynab Amin for some of our current MedSoc cohort. Zaynab is well placed to run these as she is holding an offer to read Medicine at the University of Cambridge.



We are so grateful to Mohammed and Zaynab for supporting our aspiring Medics and wish them luck for the start of their degrees!

Mrs D Shah





Year 7 Poetry Festival

On Thursday 12th June, our Year 7 students put on an outstanding show of their incredible work by performing some of their own poems, written during English lessons this year. The audience of parents, staff and friends were impressed by the thoughtful, engaging and moving work they produced. Congratulations to all young poets who performed, including Thomas E (12SHS) who helped judge the competition and performed some of the poems he regularly performs in spoken word events across London.



Our winners from this year's Poetry Festival are:

Best Anthology - Gulichan C 7ISN

Best Individual Poem - Muhsina H 7NOJ - The Media

Best Group Poem - Ariya G 7ISN and Athena L 7NOJ - You are enough

Best Performance - Anoushka S-P 7MIC - Sonnet for my Mum

Special Award for reflecting the Ashmole Values - Martha M-G 7ZYL - Why?

Ashmole Young Poet of the Year - Arun D 7MIC - The only real monsters

Miss Smith



Year 7 PGL

In June, Year 7 had a thoroughly enjoyable 2-day trip to PGL Liddington. The weather was hot and the days were packed with a variety of activities, from zip wire to axe throwing. It was great seeing the students work so well together in the team building survivor task, and how supportive they were towards each other during all of the physical sessions. Tilly and Noah from PGL commented on how fantastic they had been! A fun time was had by all!

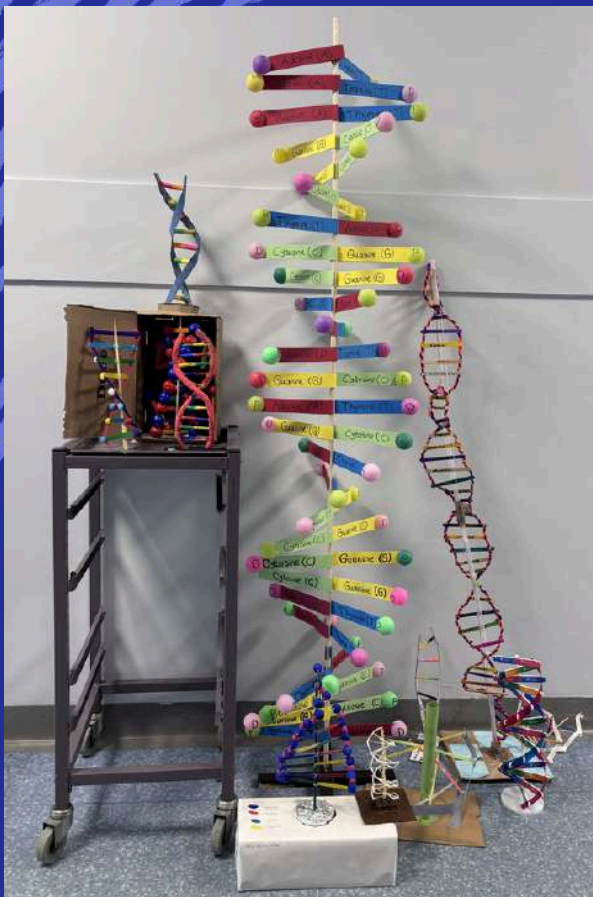


Y8 Science Posters

In Science this term, we have been learning about the adaptations, competition and survival of different organisms. Here are some posters created by the students in 8SH - they presented these beautifully to their peers and teachers. We have been so impressed with your hard work and excellent research and presentation skills. Keep it up, Y8!

Mrs D Shah





DNA Models

Year 8 students have recently been learning about inheritance and variation in their Science lessons. To help reinforce their understanding, they produced some fantastic DNA models as part of their Prep and Consolidation work, demonstrating both creativity and knowledge that extended beyond the KS3 curriculum. An extra special mention to Elzem and Elina who both constructed models that towered over the more diminutive members of the Science Faculty!

Ms de Saint-Quirin

Coming Up Events in the Music Department

We have a busy and exciting few weeks ahead:

🎵 8th July – Gamelan Workshop at the Royal College of Music Year 8 Music Scholars will experience making Indonesian Gamelan music in a special workshop led by expert tutors at the Royal College of Music.

🎵 9th July – ABRSM Exams Good luck to all our students taking their ABRSM practical exams.

🏆 Awards Evening & End of Term Assembly Performances Our talented musicians will be providing live music for both the Awards Evening and the End of Term Assembly, showcasing the fantastic progress and talent we've seen throughout the year.



KS3 Music Scholars - Trip to the Barbican

On 21st May, our KS3 music scholars had the fantastic opportunity to attend the Half Six Fix at the Barbican Centre, featuring a performance of Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from West Side Story. For some students, it was their first experience seeing a live orchestra, an experience that they all found highly valuable. The concert was very audience friendly - only an hour long (!) and with big screens around the concert hall so that our students could see the different instrumentalists close up. The work was also introduced by the conductor.



Malian Drumming Workshop

On 4th June, our Year 7 Music Scholars took part in a vibrant Malian Drumming Workshop, led by a specialist percussionist. The workshop offered a fascinating introduction to the musical traditions of West Africa. Students learned about the history and cultural significance of Malian drums, explored basic drumming techniques, and took part in drumming games and exercises designed to develop rhythm, coordination, and listening skills -





Students learned about the history and cultural significance of Malian drums, explored basic drumming techniques, and took part in drumming games and exercises designed to develop rhythm, coordination, and listening skills. The session also included an exciting improvisation segment, where students experimented with creating their own rhythms and patterns.

On 11th June our KS3 Choir 'Voice' gave a fantastic performance at the Year 7 Poetry Festival, accompanied by our amazing Soul Band. Their lively rendition of 'Dancing Queen' by ABBA had the audience clapping along, while their beautiful performance of 'Fragile Water' by Nancy Kerr bought a tear to everyone's eyes!

A special mention goes to Edward and Jude in Year 7, who delivered outstanding solo performances.



Bands Night

On Tuesday 17th June we held our Bands Concert. It was a true celebration of all of our Ashmole Values and was a wonderful evening showcasing all our Student-Led bands. Throughout the year, our Student-Led Bands had worked largely on their own – selecting songs, arranging music, choosing their own band names and designing logos. Our Music staff only stepped in closer to their performances to help with the finishing touches.



It was an amazing evening full of energy, confidence, and musical talent, showcasing a wide variety of styles and influences. From powerful and wonderfully blended vocals to impressive guitar solos and tight rhythm sections, our musicians delivered outstanding performances that wowed the audience. We are incredibly proud of all our future rock stars, and have reminded them not to forget us when they're playing stadiums one day!



Summer Concert

Our Summer Concert was held on Thursday 19th June - one of the hottest days of the year! And what a way to end an academic year of music making. As our hosts rightly said, this year's Summer Concert truly was "The Glastonbury of Southgate".

The audience was treated to an amazing variety of performances, showcasing the full range of our students' musical talents; from Orchestra playing a Pirates of the Caribbean medley, a Barber Shop Choir singing a song from the 1920s, some Miles Davies from the Jazz Band, songs from Arctic Monkeys, Green Day and the Red Hot Chilli Peppers, to Wagon Wheel and Country Roads from our very own Folk Band - I think we can safely say we covered all genres!





The energy in the hall was electric from start to finish. The grand finale brought everyone together for a rousing medley of Ain't No Mountain High Enough and Tears Dry on Their Own, earning a standing ovation from the audience. Both of our Summer Concerts were hosted by Bill M in Year 9 and Amelie Deenoo in Year 10. They wrote their own scripts and were truly professional presenters. We are incredibly proud of all our performers, staff, and supporters who made this event such a huge success. A perfect way to celebrate a year of hard work and music making



Intermediate Biology Olympiad

Earlier this month our Year 12 Biologists took part in the Intermediate Biology Olympiad and performed exceptionally well. The British Biology Olympiad (BBO) is a national competition that challenges and stimulates students with an interest in biology to expand and extend their talents. It enables students to demonstrate their talent and to be suitably rewarded with publicly recognised certificates.

This year's results were fantastic. 6 Silver medals placing students in the top 10% nationally. 7 students achieved a Bronze medal placing them in the top 15% of students nationally and 2 of our students were Highly Commended. Particular congratulations to Mustafa, Beren and Adam who were all 1% of achieving a Gold award.

Silver Award:

Beren Selcuk
Anais Osae-Akonnor
Christos Vassiliou
Mustafa Kasap
Adam El Moutawakil
Firat Arslan

Bronze Award:

Seyon Selvaramesh
Emily Daly
Megan Lika
Izabella Smith
Sana Grover
Priya Pushparajasekaran
Ariana Themistokli Georgiou

Highly Commended:

Alis Chevket
Megan Light

Mr Kozah

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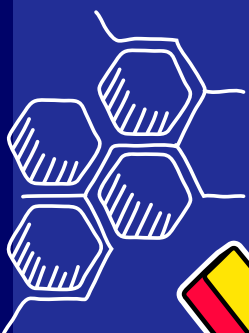
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