

## Bedrock

All of our Y7 and Y8 students spend their library lessons working on the brilliant Bedrock curriculum. This is a vocabulary-building and grammar-improving platform that works effectively to test and retest students in order to embed core vocabulary and grammar conventions into their Long-Term Memory.

These students have achieved the most points on Bedrock this December - well done! - Mrs Georgiades  
Congratulations to our Bedrock Stars:

Y7:

Ayah  
Annay

Y8:

Ayshe  
Shrina



'I really enjoy Bedrock. This is because the way it sources information about me effectively makes me remember words, punctuation and grammar really easily. I also enjoy how it reads the words out to us, which is helpful in understanding how to pronounce them. My favourite part of Bedrock is when you write sentences, including the words you have been taught to retest your memory.' - Ayshe



'I really like Bedrock because it helps me with English and I've learnt lots of new words and phrases. It is really easy to use and it is not boring like other online learning sites.' - Miles  
Miss Vaughan



## Multi Sport Event - Hendon Leisure Centre

Well done to our fantastic group of Year 7 students for their outstanding performance at the multi-sports event held at Hendon Leisure Centre.

The students represented Ashmole and demonstrated excellent cooperation, responsibility, and professionalism throughout the day.

They performed brilliantly in every activity and should be incredibly proud of their achievements. Thank you so much to Mr Scott for organising this experience! Curriculum support, Miss Georgiou



## Christmas Cheer in Our Community

Members of our senior choirs, GVOX and BVOX, have been spreading Christmas joy across Southgate this week. They visited the Memory Lane Café, run by the Alzheimer's Society, and Beaumont House, a local care home, performing well-loved Christmas songs.

Residents and visitors were delighted, joining in and enjoying the festive atmosphere. Our students not only showcased their musical talents but also demonstrated kindness, empathy and community spirit.

We are now looking forward to our lunchtime concert on Friday 12th December, where GVOX and BVOX will perform alongside the Junior Orchestra and Jazz Band. The celebrations continue on Tuesday 16th December, when members of Junior Voice will join them to bring more festive music to the refectory before school.

To end the term, GVOX and BVOX will perform for staff during morning briefing, and our Student Led Bands will play in the Christmas assemblies, ensuring a lively finish to the term.

It is certainly a busy time for Ashmole musicians and we are extremely proud of their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication.

Ms Beacon



## Piano Recital

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December one of our Visiting Music Teachers, Mr Appleton, hosted a small lunchtime recital for some of his students. Miray, Eren and Joshua all played pieces that they had been working on over the term. These small recitals provide a perfect opportunity for students to practice performing, whether it is for a forthcoming exam, or simply for fun!



## Library News

It's been a busy half term in the Library! In November, Year 7 received their chosen BookBuzz books and many have already been reading, swapping, and borrowing more. All BookBuzz titles are on display for anyone who wants to try another great read.

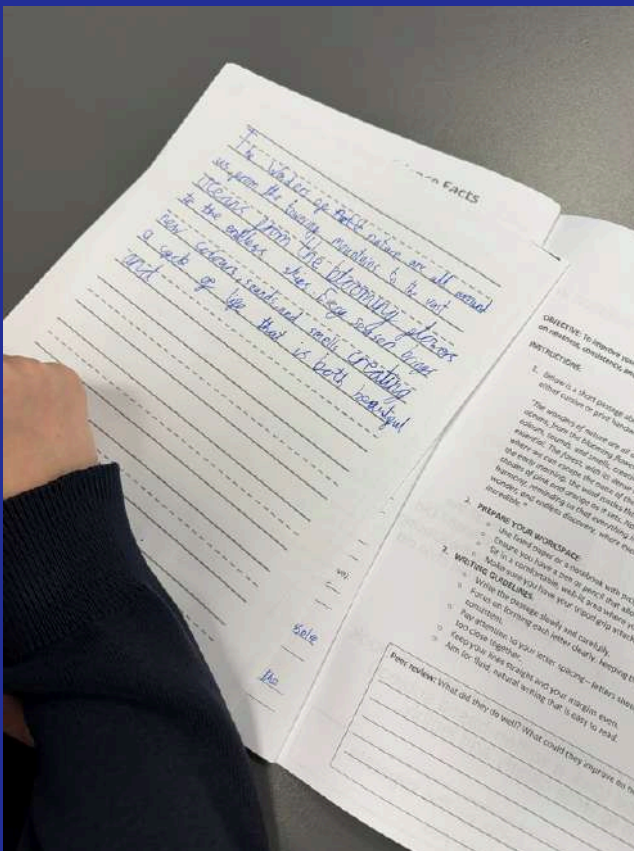


We also held a Scholastic Book Fair in December, which proved very popular—and helped us add some free new books to the Library.

This term's Young Writers competition, "Stranger Sagas," has now closed, with students submitting 100-word mini sagas in the hope of seeing their work published.

Don't forget to pop into the Library for holiday reading—new arrivals and winter-themed books are waiting!

Ms England



## Handwriting

30 students across Y7, Y8, Y9 and some Y10 have been working hard during handwriting intervention every Thursday during lesson 1. They are supported by their excellent 6th form buddies, who have been paramount in stressing the importance of clear, legible handwriting. The 6th form buddies have also been modelling good examples of handwriting and encouraging these lower year students to work efficiently during these sessions. We look forward to continue working with this group of students and 6th formers in the New Year. - Mrs Georgiades



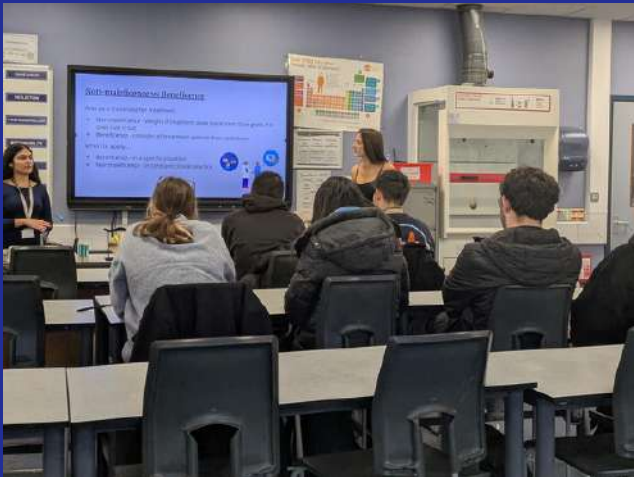
'I've been very careful about the legibility of my handwriting after attending these sessions. My pen grip has improved, along with the clarity of my handwriting. All of my subject teachers have noticed a massive improvement. All of my exercise books show evidence of legible handwriting and I'm now really proud of the work I produce. I know that all of my great ideas are easily read. This has had such a positive impact for me and I'm glad I attended these sessions to benefit from the improvements.'

Sam yr10

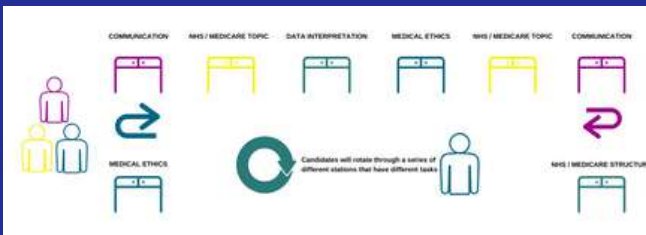


## MedSoc:

Year 13 MedSoc has been incredibly busy and had a productive half term, full of mock interviews. We ran MMI stations for 14 hopeful Medics around the science corridor, with staff supporting to run the interview stations. We also welcomed back Dr Antony Zacharias, who ran panel-style interviews for 8 of our Medics, providing them guidance and feedback. All of these mock interview experiences will hopefully ensure our students feel ready for their real interviews - lots of luck Y13!



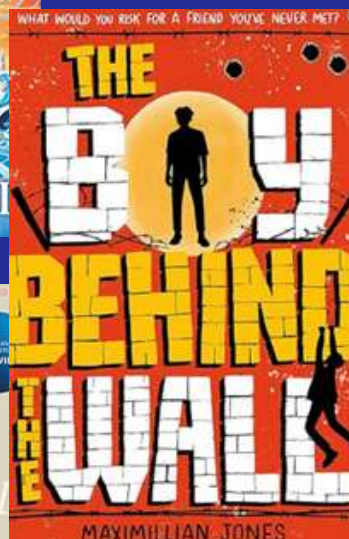
Meanwhile, Year 12 continued to present NHS HOT topics on a weekly basis. Meisha & Ella presented the medical ethics pillars to their peers, using scenarios to demonstrate their significance. Sans presented with professionalism on the topic of euthanasia. All students in attendance engaged positively and productively in discussion. Looking forward to more of these in the new year! Anyone interested in joining Y12 MedSoc is welcome to attend on Tuesday lunchtimes in S3.



Mrs D Shah

## Book recommendations

Konstantinos in Year 7 recommends 'The Kingdom over the Sea' by Zohra Nabi because "it has great descriptions, good plot twists and amazing characters"



Dylan in Year 7 recommends 'The Boy Behind the Wall' by Maximillian Jones because it is a book with "great characters and a well written story, with lots of twists and turns".



Ella in Year 9 recommends 'The Summer I Turned Pretty' by Jenny Han because "it's a really gripping story, with so many characters to root for, and I don't want to stop reading it!"



A Sunday Times best political and current affairs book of 2022

# THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE FIVE EYES

## THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPY NETWORK

'An impressively detailed account of a remarkable alliance'  
*Jeremy Bowen, New Statesman*

### RICHARD KERBAJ

'A scandalous tale of mistrust and misjudgment'  
*The Observer*

## SEXISM IN BOLLYWOOD

Amelie and Maya



## Geography scholars

As a part of the Geography Scholar Programme, students have each been lent a book that will allow them to deepen their understanding of geography beyond the curriculum. Books students are currently reading are: *The Secret History of the Five Eyes* (Richard Kerbaj), *The Future of Geography* (Tim Marshall), *The Almighty Dollar* (Darshini David) and *Factfulness* (Hans Rosling) and *When the Dust Settles, Searching for Hope After Disaster* (Lucy Easthope). Students have really engaged in their reading and are bringing in elements of understanding to lessons. In the Spring, students will discuss what they have learnt from their wider reading as part of the wider scholar programme - Miss Vaughan

"*The Secret History of the five eyes* is a really interesting and gripping book that looks into how the USA, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand secretly share information and intelligence. The Author explains things in a way which is easy to follow and understand, using real stories and experiences from former spies. This creates a sense of understanding what happens even with all the censoring. Some parts feel a bit biased towards the British side, however apart from this it's a gripping story which educates on Spying, Security and Global Politics" - Erik Y12

## FemSoc

Maya and Amelie in Year 11 led our Fem Soc this week focusing on sexism in Bollywood. We discussed the concept of 'colourism' and its impact on Beauty Standards. We also discussed how the Caste System still pervades Indian culture and society and can lead to sexism and discrimination. Miss Cork

## Year 10 Chemistry

Our Year 10 Chemistry students have been carrying out a titration as part of the Quantitative Chemistry topic. The alkali was added until the acid was completely neutralised at which point the indicator instantly went from being colourless to a bright pink colour. Next lesson, the students will be using the results they obtained to calculate the concentration of the unknown alkali. Well done Y10! Miss Patel



## A level Biology Super-Curricular Lunchtime Talks

The Biology Super-curricular club launched last week on Thursday with a fascinating talk from the Lead Coordinator Sans Mustafa. Sans took us on a journey through the world of the Gut Microbiome and its importance including on our psychological well-being. His talk was full of Bacteria jokes which had the room waiting eagerly for the next joke.



This week we were taken into the world of understanding Schizophrenia, its Biological basis and how it can be managed. Joelle from year 12 presented with authority and left us with as much knowledge as desire to find out the answers to the variety of follow up questions asked by the audience. We look forward to a talk on De-extinction next week from Summer.

Mr Kozah



## Careers@Ashmole

Letters were sent home to parents in regards to work experience weeks in Year 10 and Year 12.

Dates:

22nd June - 26th June 2026 - Year 12 Work Experience

29th June - 3rd July 2026 - Year 10 Work Experience

The work experience form is available for students to collect from the Humanities Office or can be downloaded from Google Classroom. This needs to be returned to us by Tuesday 10th February 2026. Part of the experience is students finding their own placements and contacting companies directly to enquire about opportunities available.



## Labour Market Information

Researching and knowing the latest LMI (Labour Market Information) is a great way to help students make informed decisions about their future career. LMI includes data on the demand for workers in different industries, salaries in job roles, the qualifications you need to secure a particular job, etc.

Below is some of the latest LMI for Barnet produced by the Labour Market Information team at Education Development





Trust:

### 1) Employment:

- Most people in Barnet work in:
  - o Health (e.g. hospitals, medical centres, care homes)
  - o Education (e.g. schools, prisons, online)
  - o Retail (e.g. shops, supermarkets, online)
  - o Accommodation and food services (e.g. hotels, restaurants, cafes)
  - o Professional, scientific and technical (e.g. universities, laboratories, law firms)
- Average annual salary is £35,959



### 2) Recruitment

- In the last year:
  - o There were 14,700 jobs posted
  - o Skills in demand: communication, teaching, management, customer service and leadership
  - o Employers recruiting the most online were NHS, Council and other local governments, colleges and universities



### 3) Apprenticeships:

- Between 2023 and 2024 there were 1,300 apprenticeships
- Most start in the following subjects:
  - o Business administration and law
  - o Health, public services and care
  - o Information and communication technology
  - o Retail and commercial enterprise
  - o Engineering and manufacturing technologies



You can explore Careers on the National Careers Website - <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/> or through the Careers Library on Unifrog



## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

We wish all of our students and families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

May your holidays be filled with joy, rest, and celebration. We look forward to welcoming our students back in January and beginning another wonderful year of learning together.

Happy Holidays!