



Year 12 A-Level Biologists Explore Ecology at Regent's Park Field Trip

On Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th July, the A-Level Ashmole Biologists travelled to Regent's Park to complete their required practical fieldwork investigation. The day began with an enjoyable early morning visit to the Queen Elizabeth II Garden, a beautiful and recently created memorial green space within the park, before students were introduced to Ollie from the Field Studies Centre, who guided them through an exciting exploration of ecology in the field.



Working in groups, students carried out ecological sampling in excellent conditions, collecting data from both high-management and low-management areas using a range of techniques, including random sampling and stratified sampling. Ollie shared his expertise and demonstrated how professional ecologists conduct fieldwork, introducing students to specialist equipment such as soil penetrometers, alongside the use of field identification guides and other practical tools.



The trip provided students with the opportunity to develop important biological skills, strengthen their understanding of ecological concepts, and apply the knowledge they have gained in the classroom to a real world environment. We are extremely grateful for this valuable experience and would like to thank Ollie from the Field Studies Centre, as well as our Biology teachers, for organising such an engaging and memorable trip.

Sans, Year 12



France Trip 2026

Sunday

We met at Ashmole early on Sunday morning before travelling by coach to Dover and taking the ferry to Calais. After practising our French on board (and making good use of the restaurant vouchers and shop!), we continued to Péronne. Following a delicious dinner, we enjoyed a relaxing walk through the nearby park before settling in for the night after a very warm day.

By Jude, Yanice, Ellie and Timo.



Monday

Our first full day took us to Albert and Amiens. We visited the magnificent cathedral in Amiens before exploring the fascinating underground World War One museum in Albert, where we learnt about trench warfare, soldiers' lives and the development of plastic surgery during the war. By Jesselin, Zahra, Ella, Jude.

Tuesday

A highlight of the trip was a visit to Parc Astérix. Students enjoyed an exciting day of rollercoasters, water rides and French fast food, with regular check-ins throughout the day. After dinner, there was time for a quick supermarket visit before returning to the hotel.

By Vidya, Freya, Ellie and Cleo.



Wednesday

With temperatures exceeding 40°C, plans were adapted to keep everyone safe. Students visited the local market, practised their French while buying picnic ingredients, and enjoyed lunch in the shade. The afternoon included a visit to the Historial de la Grande Guerre museum before everyone cooled off by watching the latest Minions film, in French! Back at the hotel, the evening featured the much anticipated room inspection, prize giving and a fantastic live performance of Oasis classics by Ed, Oscar and Kenan.



Thursday

On our journey home, we stopped at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial to learn about Canada's role in the First World War. Our final stop was Cité Europe near Calais for some last-minute shopping before boarding the ferry back to Dover. Despite the exceptionally hot weather, students showed outstanding resilience, maturity and enthusiasm throughout the trip. A huge thank you goes to everyone who took part, and especially to the staff! Mr Pearson



Carnegie

Every year the UK's longest running children's book awards, Carnegie, runs a shadow programme that encourages KS3 students to read and review seven books from their shortlist. Our students have engaged amazingly with this activity this year.

Several students - Lorin, Jude, Emily, Anoushka and Anyah - even managed to read the entire shortlist! In addition to all of this reading, students across KS3 attended weekly sessions to discuss their thoughts and complete tasks related to the themes of each book. These are in display in the library for us all to enjoy.

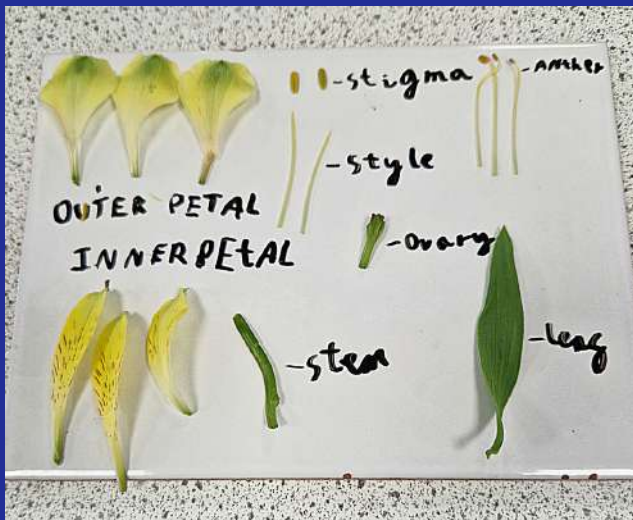


Miss Clack, Miss Gorus and Ms England would like to extend a gigantic congratulations to all Y7, Y8 and Y9 students involved in this year's Carnegie. Well done! Literacy Team

Flower Dissection in Year 7 Science

Year 7 have successfully completed their Reproduction topic in Science, finishing the unit with a practical flower dissection. This hands-on activity gave students the opportunity to identify and explore the different parts of a flower, reinforcing their understanding of plant reproduction through practical investigation. Shown here is an excellent example of work from Isaac, Mira, and Dylan, demonstrating their careful observations and scientific skills.

Mr Spencer



Celebrating Success in Ashmole Senior Scholars

Curriculum Support would like to celebrate Patryk for his outstanding work in Ashmole Senior Scholars this year. Throughout the programme, Patryk has shown excellent curiosity, dedication, and enthusiasm for learning. As part of his final project, he created a thought-provoking presentation exploring the question, "What would happen if we were immortal?" His presentation demonstrated creativity, critical thinking, and confident research skills. We are all incredibly proud of your achievements this year—well done, Patryk! Curriculum Support - Miss Georgiou





Say it loud and proud!

As a multilingual learner, Arslan has worked exceptionally hard since joining Ashmole Academy this year. His growing confidence and willingness to learn, despite the language barrier, have been a pleasure to see. We look forward to working with you in Year 11! We asked him to reflect on his transition and his experiences so far. This is what he had to say:

I moved here recently from abroad, and my experience at Ashmole Academy has been good. I feel like the support has helped me throughout the year. My favourite subjects are Science, Maths, and Computer Science.

Thanks to the incredible support I received at Ashmole Academy, I am no longer nervous about being the new student. I am excited to work hard, live out the school values, and make the most of my time here. Thank you to everyone who has made my transition so smooth. By Arslan.

We are pleased that Arslan has settled so well into school and has made a positive start to his learning journey. Literacy Team



Year 12 Drama Exams

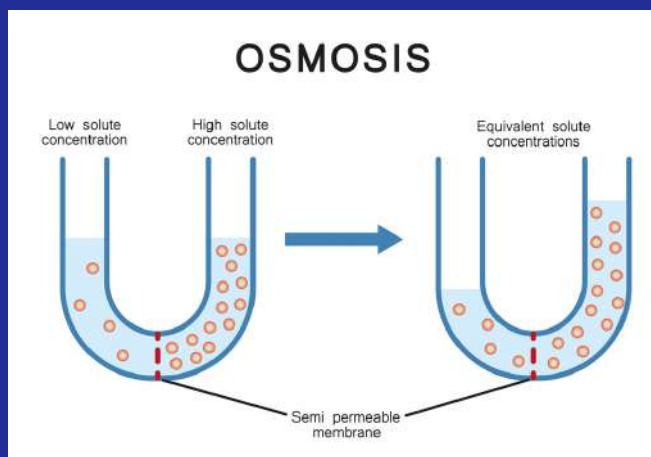
Last Friday 3rd July, our Year 12 drama students performed their devised pieces which alongside their working notebooks equates to 30% of their final grade. The students chose different drama practitioners to inspire their performances with one group picking Gecko (a physical theatre company) and the other choosing Polka (a children's theatre company). The students worked incredibly hard, often rehearsing for many hours after school. We were blown away by their final performances and proud of what they achieved! Drama Department



School Show 2027

The countdown to the next whole school production is now on! Mr Ozgun has created a display in the Performing Arts foyer containing the musical amongst many red herrings. Each day after school, two false musicals will be removed leading up to the announcement on Monday 13th July. Keep your eyes peeled on the display board for the big reveal...

Performing Arts Faculty



Osmosis and Cells in Biology

Year 9 have started the first GCSE topic in Biology cells. This week classes have been completing the required practical on Osmosis. Using equipment like cork borers, scalpels, mass balances, stopwatches, varying concentrations of salt solution, and potatoes. Our students have shown real professionalism in completing the practical. They have calculated changes in mass and percentage changes in mass and developed lots of essential skills going into the next academic year. Well done Year 9!

Mrs D Shah



A Visit from Our Local MP

The local MP, Dan Tomlinson, visited the school to give students a valuable insight into the role and responsibilities of a politician in the UK. Drawing on his own experiences, he spoke about his work as a Member of Parliament and the challenges of representing constituents and shaping public policy. Following his talk, our Year 12 Politics students asked a wide range of thoughtful and well-informed questions on topics including taxation, education funding, and other key policy issues, leading to an engaging and informative discussion.

Mr Halford



25,000 books!

This year, our aim was to spark reading for pleasure across all year groups. We worked on transforming our library into a welcoming and engaging space which encourages a love of reading. Recommended reading lists including popular series, quick reads and classic literature have been compiled and put on display allowing for enthusiastic discussions about reading experiences. It has been wonderful to see reluctant readers become frequent visitors in the library and inspiring to hear students discuss a much-loved book they highly recommend. It is a pleasure to confirm that we, as a school community, reached our target of 25,000 books read in the academic year 2025/2026; a fantastic achievement that demonstrates our collective love of reading here at Ashmole.

Ms Athanasiou





Year 12 Chemistry

Year 12 students planned and carried out a practical investigation to test how concentration affects the rate of reaction. They prepared a series of dilutions with different concentrations and measured the time taken for sulfur to form in each reaction. Students were highly engaged throughout the practical, working collaboratively to prepare solutions accurately, collect reliable data, and discuss how changing concentration influenced the rate of reaction. They demonstrated good practical skills and were able to link their observations to collision theory during in their conclusions.

Dr Terziu



Music Workshops

Our Year 7 Music Scholars rounded off the year with an inspiring West African Drumming Workshop, where they explored traditional rhythms and ensemble performance while learning about the rich history and culture of West African drumming. Students also had the opportunity to improvise, developing their listening skills, creativity, teamwork and musical confidence through this exciting hands-on experience.

Co-Curricular Timetable
Autumn Term 1 - 2026-2027

You would like to look at extra rooms, please see Mr. Gun between 8-10am and 8-10am in the foyer of Performing Arts.

	Before School 8:30am-9:00am	Lunchtime 1:45pm-2:15pm (see music dept for skip the queue lunch pass)	After School 3:20pm-4:30pm
Monday	Senior Choir Year 9, 10 and 11 Musicians Mr Christmas Mu2	Build a Band Year 7 Students only Mr Christmas, Mr Angland and Ms Callamon Mu2	'Yolos' (Choir) Year 7 and Year 8 Musicians Mr Angland and Ms Callamon Assembly Hall
Tuesday	Year 9 Scholars' Projects Mr Christmas Mu2	String Ensemble Ms Baker and Ms Callamon Mu1	Staff Meetings No Clubs
Wednesday	Year 8 Scholars' Projects Mr Christmas Mu2	Student Led Bands (Please book rooms with Mr. Ozgun between 8:00am and 8:30am)	Senior Orchestra Grade 5+ Mr Christmas Mu2
Thursday	Year 7 Scholars' Projects Mr Christmas Mu2	GCSE Composition Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Music Students only Mr Christmas Mu2	Junior Orchestra Grade 2+ Mr Angland Mu1
Friday	GCSE Coursework Mr Christmas Mu2	Jazz Band Mr Simpson Mu3	SVOX Barbershop ensemble for male voices Mr Christmas Mu2

Wider Community

We are also incredibly proud of our musicians who have performed beyond Ashmole Academy, with The Storm, The Red Stairs, The Witness and Eko Chamber entertaining audiences at summer fetes across our Trust's primary schools and strengthening our links with the wider community.

A huge well done to all students who have rehearsed, performed, composed, accompanied and represented the Music Department this year. We look forward to welcoming our musicians back in September.

Please take a look at our 2026-27 Co-Curricular Music Timetable and consider joining one of our ensembles. Whether you are experienced or simply want to try something new, everyone is welcome. Finally, thank you to all our parents, carers, friends and families for your continued encouragement and support. Your enthusiasm and generosity help make our musical opportunities possible.



Win a Football Competition - in the Library

To celebrate the World Cup, we invited students to borrow from our display of football / sport related books and also, to enter a competition to win a football! To enter, students needed to write an open letter to a figure or group of people who have inspired them. This was in turn, inspired by the letter Gareth Southgate wrote to the nation a few years ago : " Dear England, ..."

The results are now in and are as follows:

Winner - Racquel (Yr8) For a lovely letter addressed to pastoral staff and friends.

Runners Up - Furkan (Yr7) , Konstantin (Yr8) , Muhsina (Yr8) and Emma (Yr10)

Well done to all entrants!

Ms Engalnd



Imperial War Museum

On the 1st of July, 29 year 8s had a fantastic time at the spectacular Imperial war museum in London. We travelled by tube to Lambeth North then walked the rest of the way there. In the museum we mainly looked at the WW1 section and got to see all the weapons they as well as realise how many people sacrificed their lives for our country. We also got to be creative and we made short films about WW1 which was really fun, we also got to use a clapperboard so it was like we were shooting an actual movie. Thanks to all the teachers who made this fascinating trip happen as well as help supervise us in the museum.

Jude Y8

The Eureka

The Eureka

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Highly Commended: My Home is the Worst Home Ever

Congratulations to Ariana from Ashmole Academy, who received a Highly Commended Award in the Age 11 category. In her entry, My Home is the Worst Home Ever, Ariana explored how science and new technologies could improve homes like hers in the future. Take a look at her entry and cover letter:

I explore how science can improve homes like mine for the future through new technologies.

National Eureka Competition Winner

Congratulations to Ariana in Year 7, who has been named the winner of the national Eureka Competition in the 11-year-old age category!

Ariana's engaging and humorous video, exploring how homes could be adapted for the future, was selected from thousands of entries across the country. Her winning video is now featured on the Eureka! website.

As part of her prize, Ariana received £250, which she hopes to put towards a new camera. A fantastic achievement—well done, Ariana!

Mr Costello



Summer Concerts

The annual Bands Night once again celebrated the creativity of our student-led bands. Expertly hosted by Bill and Ruby, the evening featured performances from Aftermath, Almost Tomorrow, Andy's Basement, Blacklist, Broadcast, The Control Freaks, Eko Chamber, Ellipsis, Jevera, LMLA, M4RCH, The Red Stairs, Shell Shock, Spite, Strangely Serene, The Storm, The Witness and Whiplash. From rock and indie to metal and original music, the standard was exceptional. A special mention goes to Strangely Serene, whose original composition, Clockwork Person, showcased the songwriting talent and originality of our students.

The Summer Concert, also superbly hosted by Bill and Ruby, showcased the breadth of music-making across the school. Performances from our Year 7 and Year 8 Music Scholars sat alongside the Junior Orchestra, Senior Orchestra, String Ensemble, Jazz Band, Senior Choir, Voice, and our BVOX and GVOX barbershop groups.

One of the evening's highlights came from Year 10 vocalist Jahdel, whose performance of Ray Charles' I've Got a Woman with the Jazz Band brought the house down. Another memorable moment featured Voice performing Afterglow, accompanied by Matteo on grand piano and our string trio of Jess, Skye and Zahra. Skye and Zahra also accompanied the Year 7 Music Scholars in It Must Be Love, highlighting the wonderful collaboration between students across year groups.

A special thank you goes to our House Band—Edward, Jonny, Jude, Kenan and Matteo—whose outstanding musicianship accompanied many of the ensembles throughout the evening and helped make the concert such a polished occasion.

The penultimate performance saw music department staff join students as the Ashmole Trad Collective for a lively rendition of The Irish Rover. The concert concluded with a moving finale of All About You, led by Bill and Ruby, accompanied by the House Band and Senior Orchestra. Musicians from across the evening's ensembles returned to the stage for the chorus, providing a fitting end to another wonderful year of music-making.



MedSoc

On Wednesday 8th July we were fortunate to welcome back alumnus Mohammed G - he has just finished his first year of Medicine at Queen Mary's. Having passed his exams for year 1, Mohammed returned to Ashmole to support the current year 12 students by running a UCAT workshop. He provided extremely useful advice and tips to ace the aptitude test, necessary for all Medicine and Dentistry applications.

We are so grateful to Mohammed for coming back to guide our next cohort of aspiring healthcare professionals.

Mrs D Shah



Year 12 Work Experience

Year 12 were on placements recently developing their wider skills, knowledge of the workplace and being inspired in potential future careers. Here is a selection of what they got up to:

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/P7qi6t9mBPi4UHV?ref=Link&loc=play>

Mr Litteford



Junior Mathematical Challenge (JMC) - 2nd Round Results

Earlier in June, a number of Year 7 and Year 8 students took part in the UK Mathematics Trust Junior Mathematical Challenge. Following their excellent performance, nine students qualified for the next stage of the competition, the Junior Kangaroo. This invitation-only round is reserved for students who achieve outstanding results in the first challenge.

We are delighted to recognise the students below, who were awarded certificates in recognition of their excellent mathematical achievement. We are incredibly proud of their hard work, dedication and success throughout the competition.

Name	Year Group	Maths Class	Challenge	Total
Imran	Year 8	8MF	Junior Kangaroo	112 - Silver Best in School
Ethan	Year 8	8MA	Junior Kangaroo	107 - Silver
Samuel	Year 8	8MF	Junior Kangaroo	106 - Silver
Ethan	Year 8	8MF	Junior Kangaroo	105 - Silver
Jude	Year 8	8MA	Junior Kangaroo	68 - Qualification
Anya	Year 8	8MA	Junior Kangaroo	67 - Qualification
Kadim	Year 7	7MA	Junior Kangaroo	64 - Qualification Best in Year
Yasmin	Year 8	8MF	Junior Kangaroo	59 - Qualification
Seth	Year 8	8MF	Junior Kangaroo	58 - Qualification

Ms B Shah