THE ASHMOLE ROUNDUP

Advanced Ashmolean Scholars' Programme Awards 2025-26

The 2025-26 Advanced Scholar Programme came to an end last week with the final awards for the top subject scholars of the year.

Starting this time last year, our Advanced Scholars have spent the past 12 months gathering evidence and examples of the wonderful range of extra-curricular learning they have independently engaged in.Nearly 50 students submitted portfolios of work at the end of October, and the top scholars from each subject were selected. The winners from each subject were:

Art Scholar	Cassie C
Biology Scholar	Sans E
Business Scholar	Anika K
Chemistry Scholar	Praise A
Economics Scholar	Connie L
Geography Scholar	Ameerah O
Literature Scholar	Sana H
Maths Scholar	Christos F
Philosophy and Theology Scholar	Isabella H
Physics Scholar	Dario K
Psychology	Ulyssia T





The top portfolios from each subject were then given to our Headteacher, Mr Dhinsa to choose our overall winners from.

The winning portfolios were of an incredibly high standard. The range of work, dedication and incredible independent learning from our scholars was nothing short of outstanding.

After much deliberation, Mr Dhinsa selected his First, Second and Third place winners. These were:

1st Place: Sofiya, The Politics Scholar - Headteacher's Ashmolean Scholar of the Year

2nd Place: Nico, The Drama Scholar

3rd Place: Narin, The History Scholar

Mr Ford





First Aid Training

On 5th November our Year 8 students participated in a First Aid and Medicine day. All Year 8 student learned how to deliver life-saving support using defibrillators with our St John Ambulance team. They were also introduced to a range of different medical careers from Clinic Managers, Nutritionists and Radiotherapists. Our aim was to encourage our Year 8 students to think about different careers in STEM beyond becoming a doctor! Our MedSoc students also delivered sessions on Public Health Campaigns and ran a debate on AI in healthcare.
Miss Cork



BDO Debating Champions!

Ashmole has been crowned champion of the inaugural BDO Debating Competition, bringing together more than 22 schools and 76 pupil representatives. Organised by the firm's partners, the competition gave students the opportunity to debate and judge alongside leading debaters and professionals from BDO. The initiative is a fantastic example of how partnerships with private-sector firms can open young people's eyes to new opportunities. A huge congratulations to Naima, Ameana and Vihansa, who brought the trophy home and won the entire event!



From Ashmole to the International Stage

A special congratulations to Hilal, who has been selected to represent Team Bulgaria in international debating. An incredible opportunity to take Ashmole's debating talent onto the international stage. Hilal is now one of three students representing a national debating team



Through to the ESU Public Speaking Regional Round

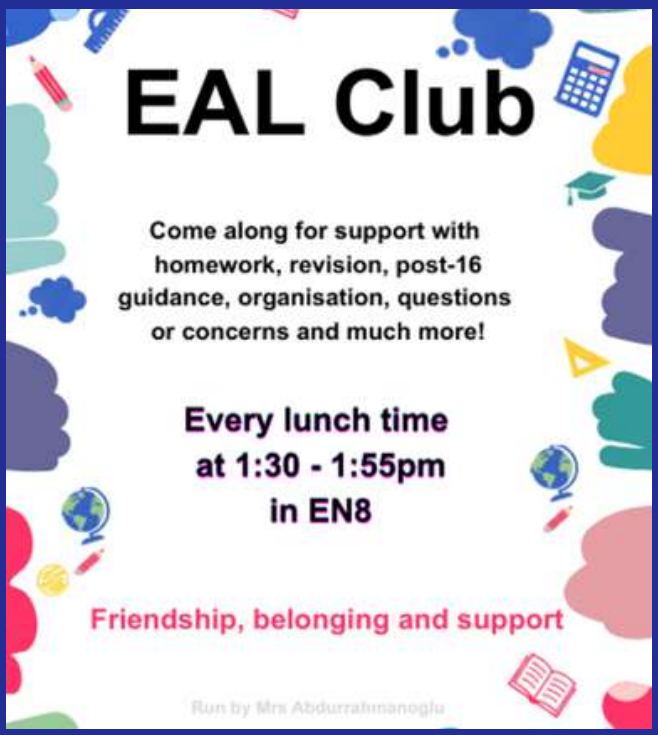
Our Year 10 public speaking team has progressed to the second round of the English-Speaking Union (ESU) Public Speaking Competition, the UK's largest public speaking competition with over 1,300 young people. Sofia impressed with her speech, "Sometimes Asking for Help Is a Sign of Strength", supported by teammates Elizabeth and Jacob. A fantastic achievement and an exciting opportunity to progress further! Mr Sergiou











Brine Shrimp Investigation

Year 9 have been using a light microscope to observe brine shrimp (aka sea monkeys) and identify key structures. They then produced biological drawings to record their findings using the standardised conventions. I was very impressed with their engagement and professionalism.

Mrs Morley

Anti-Bullying Week

The week of the 16th November was Anti-Bullying week. During this week all students received an assembly on anti-bullying as well as pastoral sessions. All of our Year 7 and 8 students had an extended assembly led by an external facilitator Stand up! The session was excellent - reflecting on types of bullying, why people might bully others and how we can be upstanders. Our students were extremely engaged and participated brilliantly throughout the workshops.

Miss Cork

Antarctic Flag Competition

As part of our enrichment offer, the Geography department ran a competition, collaborating with the UK Polar Network, to design a flag for Antarctica. Amongst the many amazing entries, the two winners, chosen by the Geography Department, were Harry (Year 8) and Ivan (Year 8). The winning flags will travel all the way to Antarctica with researchers, who will send photographs back. Congratulations to Harry and Ivan and all other entrants. Well done!

Mr Makopa

EAL Homework and Support Club

We are pleased to introduce our EAL Homework and Support Club, run by our EAL Co-ordinator and designed specifically for students who speak English as an Additional Language. The club provides a friendly and welcoming space where students can receive support with homework, organisation, Google Classroom and revision. It is also an opportunity to meet other students, ask questions and build confidence in navigating school life.

The club runs every lunchtime from 1.30pm-1.55pm in Room EN8. Students are welcome to drop in whenever they need support!

Mrs Abdurrahmanoglu, EAL Co-ordinator





MedSoc

Thanks to all the wonderful student helpers from Y12 and Y13 at the Sixth Form Open Evening. The turnout was fantastic and you supported us in answering so many questions from prospective students and parents! I am very grateful.

Also, a huge well done to those Y12 students who are now presenting NHS HOT topics to their peers in MedSoc sessions - anyone interested in attending please do come to our lunchtime sessions on Wednesdays in HU6.
Mrs D Shah

Stand up to discrimination

Last half term, an external provider 'Stand up to Discrimination' came in to develop a series of workshops to our Year 9 students. These sessions were aimed at getting students to challenge stereotypes and how to be upstanders in society. Our speakers engaged our Year 9's in open discussions about how to challenge stereotypes and how to use kind language to one another.
Miss Cork





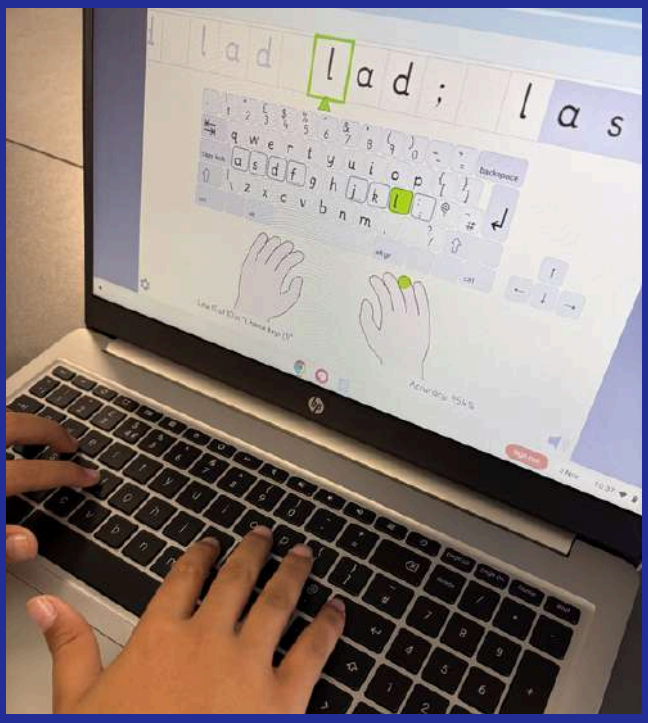


Outstanding Effort at the RSC Top of the Bench Competition!

A huge congratulations to the 28 students across Years 9 to 11 who took part in the RSC Middlesex and Chilterns 'Top of the Bench' competition on the 11th of November. The event was a fantastic opportunity for our students to share their scientific knowledge, work together as a team, and put their problem-solving skills to the test.

Throughout the competition, students confidently applied the concepts they have learned in their Chemistry lessons to tackle a variety of challenges. They were tested across several rounds, which included working with formulae and equations, designing a practical experiment, and demonstrating their general chemistry knowledge.
Our teams were placed in 10th place out of all the schools that took part! Well done to all our budding chemists for representing the school so brilliantly.

Mr Frisoli & Dr Terziu Chemistry Department



Fine Motor Skills Work

Fantastic work from Demircan, Reya, Aron and Tommy during our fine motor skills group! The students showed great enthusiasm, endeavour and determination throughout the activities, working hard to develop their fine motor skills, coordination and control.

A brilliant effort from everyone. Well done



Year 10 Biology

Year 10 Biology students have been putting their scientific skills to the test by investigating the biological contents of four different unknown food substances using a range of biochemical tests. As part of their second GCSE Biology topic, 'Organisation', students explored whether each food sample contained starch, sugar, protein or fat, using practical experiments to identify the different nutrients.

A fantastic opportunity to develop their practical laboratory skills, apply scientific methods and put their classroom learning into action. Excellent scientific methodology and teamwork!

Mr Kozah



Knowledge is Power

On the 10th November, an external provider Knowledge is Power came in to deliver a powerful talk to our Year 9 students surrounding the issue of vaping. Knowledge is Power aim to empower young people with more of an understanding of topics that affect them so they can make informed decisions. The talk was packed full of scientific information, discussions about advertising and marketing and how our students can keep themselves safe.

Miss Cork