

## E-safety

Please keep an eye on your son/daughter's mobile phone use and monitor their activity on social media sites? Go to <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/> who have helpful tips for parents.



# NewsRound

Keeping parents and students informed

Term 4 Letter 12 Friday 26 May 2017

## Short Story Competition

Last week saw the conclusion of the 3rd annual English department Short Story Competition. Students were asked to submit entries in categories of children's story, graphic novel, non-fiction and fiction, and we had a staggering number of entries across KS3 and KS4, reaching well above 350 in total. Overall the English department was very impressed with the quality of entries, and this is reflected in the number of commended entries. Staff commented on the skill of illustration, range of imagination and the ability to form interesting and original perspectives in a number of pieces, with the final decision across all categories being very hard to reach. Nonetheless, overall winners for fiction were Mariam Zadaane (10T5) and Hope Somers (8T4) for their excellent use of perspective and atmosphere, both pieces published on page 2. The full list of winners is included below and reflect the range and depth of creative talent amongst the students of the Academy.

Graphic Novel (KS3) – Chenwen (Wendy) Xia 9T3 (with very special mentions for Mungo Mylcreest 8T2 and Safiyya Najami 8T2 for their superb illustrations)

Graphic Novel (KS4) – Morgan Wroe 10T5

Children's Story – Zohaa Sheikh 'A Day in the life of Larry the Lasagne' 8T6 (special mention Abdalla Said 9T7 & Alicia De Silva 9T1)

Non-Fiction KS3 – Wajiha Umar 9T5

Non-Fiction KS4 – Hashir Rana 10T3 – (Special mention Krzysztof Szapiel 10T6)

Short-Story KS3 – Hope Somers 8T4

Short-Story KS4 – Mariam Zaadane 10T5

(with special mention Samir Chowdhury 10T7)

## Ashcroft Rowing Club

The rowing programme has been going from strength to strength with the new recruits. In their first session they started inside learning some of the basics of rowing. Last week they had their first full session on the river and although they struggled with the wellies, they have made fantastic progress.



This week the crews managed to go further up to the river, almost all the way to Hammersmith Bridge, and the rowers are learning to work as a team. The co-operation that they are building has started to create a real sense of community in the group and although they have had one collision with another boat on the river, their skills are improving significantly. We hope to enjoy more sunshine as the

season progresses with hopefully not too many more crashes into other boats and mastering the job of pushing the speedboat back to the boathouse.

Well done rowers, we look forward to seeing if we can row all the way under the bridge next term.



## Extraordinary Achievement

Both Sydney Sanderson 8T6 and Holly Flook 9T4 have been selected to represent Wandsworth in the London Youth Games for the Para swimming Gala!

After swimming for Ashcroft at the Wandsworth qualifying leg earlier this academic year, they were selected for some specialist training with top swimming coaches. This group was then whittled down (it included two of our other students, Matie Koba 8T6 and Otis Raymaker 11T3, who didn't quite make it) from 8 to 2 of which are Holly and Sydney! Good Luck to them both.

The Gala will take place on Wednesday 7 June at Beckenham Spa.

## Year 13 Leavers

We have just said a fond farewell to the best upper sixth students we have had in Ashcroft Sixth Form. We eagerly await the results of our IB students in early July and wish our A level students all the very best as they embark on their finals.

What words spring to mind to sum up our upper sixth?

- Inspirational
- Perceptive
- Aspirational
- Diligent
- Gregarious.....the list goes on.

Whatever words one uses, they have been so rewarding to work with and can move forward into the universities of their choice with confidence. We have had the pleasure of working with students from a range of schools, including those previously in the fee-paying or selective sector and this group, along with Ashcroft students from Year 11, have truly enriched the Sixth Form and the Academy as a whole.

We are so proud of our students and staff and pleased to inform you that Ashcroft Sixth Form has now won the Wandsworth Award for best sixth form results in the borough for the past 5 years as well as winning a national award for student progress.

Our final briefing was truly an important landmark. The briefing combined the serious and the light-hearted and culminated in the award of the Sixth Form Assistant Principal's Cup. The cup was presented to Shanequa Andall-Gibbons. Shanequa has aspirations to read Geography at Durham University and, needless to say, we wish her and all students the very best for their future.



## Death

I throw stressings in your direction, I steal blessings from your possession. A hardship. I know you're going to cry; I know you're going to wonder why, whilst I sit back and sip my tea. A few weeks from now you'll progress, a few days later however, you'll regress. From the kindness of my heart, I might sprinkle a few rewards here and there to temporarily fill your heart with happiness, but when I see you getting too happy, I'll silently whisper, "hold your horses" and progressively abduct your most prized possession.

Death, perhaps? Potentially of a loved one... or even worse, watching your beloved wince in pain until the day my dear companion, Death, visits and ruthlessly captures their soul, leaving them breathless, short of words and significantly gone. Do you remember being young and carefree? Do you remember when the only pain you felt was the graze on your knee, whilst playing the most intensive game of IT? I had sympathy for you in those days, I eased you into thinking life was full of fluorescent, flourishing flowers. But it's not. And at the peak of it all, you'll experience a storm which silently, but loudly demolishes your entire garden – leaving nothing but the remains and residue of what you once thought was your secure life. But let me tell you, my friend, all of this happens for a reason, and despite my brutality, whatever's happening is for the absolute best.

Death. That's my name. When I tell people this, everyone winces, they scowl, screw their face as if I'm a disgrace. Pure evil, they think of me. Everyone runs away from me, tries to escape me, actually prays to God when thinking I'm close to them. However, one thing I never seem to understand is why I'm so hated, I constantly wonder why I'm not rated. I have good intentions believe it or not. Life is a constant struggle, and I'm everyone's permanent escape. Humanity constantly complains about their trials and tribulations, however when I knock on their front door, they try their best to avoid me – they pretend they're not in, as if I'm a fraudster knocking on their door. Why invite me? Why entice me? I know life can be hard – I understand – which is why I try to be humanity's refuge. When you've reached your potential limit, I save you. Flashbacks? I can't have you thinking my dear companion Life was entirely horrible. After meeting me, everything will turn out fine, everything will make sense. Your closest people may be sad right now, but their time will come too. One day. And we'll all be together. Happy. Content. In a way life could never make you. I lead to eternal happiness, so why am I perceived as sadness? Eternal happiness is inevitable. If you just change your perspective, you'll realise I'm your only one true friend, who sticks to my word. If you haven't met me; you will one day.

Time. I am the friend who mediates the war between life and death. However my dear, don't be fooled. I don't want the best for you. I run things. You can't stop me. When you're bored in lesson, I'm deliberately slow to ensure you experience every second. When you're having the time of your life, I'm as fast as lightning to subtly remind you happiness is temporary. Just when you think you have all the time in the world, you don't. I'll dramatically leave your life whenever I wish, leaving you timeless. Without a warning, I'll silently tiptoe away, leaving you no time to say your final goodbyes. When you think it's time to go, and you're laying on your deathbed 365 days after your predicted expiration date, I'll laugh. I'll laugh at the fact that humans think they know me. They try to put boundaries on something so boundless, on something which consistently defies expectations. Moral of the story is, you don't have as much time as you need, let alone what you think. By the time you finished reading this sentence, you've wasted me.. Go and make the most of life before death metaphorically stabs you with a knife.

**MARIAM ZAADANE 10T5**

# OVERALL SHORT STORY WINNERS 2017

## When I Met the Moon

Last night, I met the moon. She wasn't loud and chaotic, but neither was she quiet. Her footsteps echoed through the street- drowning the routine sounds of the city. Silvery light touched each crack in the road and brushed across the houses that stood sleepily in the street. She seemed so delicate, yet the leaves that swayed in the wind stared, the trees that stretched out to the night sky watched, the very air swirled around her in interest, everything was captivated.

The stars waltzed in her eyes, which were staring at the sky. The wind moved through her hair, each lock on her head was like a silver thread. Her thin hands moved with grace as she ran her fingers along the walls that she passed. Everywhere she touched left a shimmering trail that twinkled in her light.

I had so many questions to ask her, as her eyes had seen every parent's bedtime story, every kiss goodnight, and every dream that filled our heads. She had watched humanity sleep from every corner of the earth. She had waited every night while time continued marching, bringing the morning behind it.

But the only words that managed to leave my mouth were, "Wait!", as she walked further and further away from me. "You can't leave now!" I called after her. She sent a sad smile towards me, "The sun is on his way," she replied with a voice that fluttered like a bird, "and we can never cross paths."

This morning, I met the sun. His confident light filled the world. A golden glow washed over the silver gleam the moon had left behind. He danced past the houses and waved at each car that now bustled past. The street was no longer empty. It no longer had the peaceful feeling that the moon had set.

His smile was blinding with sparkling flashes that bounced off of everything around him. He flung his glow onto every tree- creating patterns in the shadows each leaf cast. He painted the sky a proud shade of blue with a simple wave.

I wasn't convinced by each cheerful "Good morning!", the sun called out. He pranced and skipped through the street, but all I could see was a facade. His grin was distracting, it was all anyone looked at. His shining smile that was filled with such a blinding joy that nobody saw the split second where there wasn't any. A small moment where his excitement was replaced with pain. Barely noticeable unless you were looking closely. I was.

Looking into his eyes, I didn't find happiness. Instead, I found loneliness. You see, the moon may have the stars, but the sun had nobody.

**HOPE SOMERS 8T4**



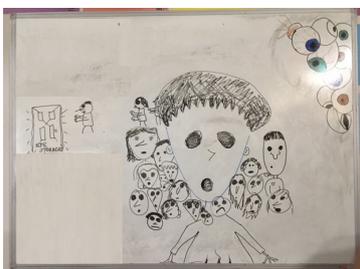
**STEAM Club continued with their STEAM-azing rotations and enjoyed another eventful week!**



In Mr O'Sullivan's Super Structures Club, the Year 7 STEAMmies demonstrated further excellent team work, as they divided the construction tasks between them to efficiently further their build of a super bridge structure. The STEAMmies are starting to feel the

pressure of the limited resources and must try to maximise strength of their bridges. It is also clear from their designs that they are applying the techniques they have learnt on how to build strong structures. Mr O'Sullivan is very impressed!

In Mr Hearn's Anatomy of Film Club, the Year 9 STEAMmies split into two groups this week, with around one group planning a live-action sequel to the horrifying 'Sandman', and the other planning on getting creative and making puppets to animate in their film, as per the original film viewed at the start of the rotation. The STEAMmies will work hard over



half-term to create their puppets and think about how they will be animated, ensuring a clear plot and development of the characters presented. They look all set to create some spooky stories!

With Miss Griffiths, Miss Haviland and Miss Peterson, in the Pin-Hole Camera Club, the Year 7 STEAMmies continued with the construction of their pinhole cameras. Next week



we will be ready to add photographic paper and take some pictures with our cameras.

STEAM Club's house competition, Tournament of Minds (ToM), concluded with the awards for first place at the school

assembly on Friday. This was the first time the Australian programme had been implemented in the United Kingdom, with Miss Dowson

introducing it at Ashcroft, and it has been a great success. The STEAMmies are already asking about the briefing for the program next year. Hopefully we can start getting set up to join the international competition next year. Congratulations to all who entered and did a fantastic job, and a big thank you to Ms Khan and Mr Roberts in supporting this project.



**KS3 MATHS CHALLENGE**

**Q1** Can you match the teams below to their attacking statistics for the 2016/17 season?

Team	Goals	Goals Per Match	Shots	Shots On Target	Shooting Accuracy %	Penalties Scored	Big Chances Created	Hit Woodwork
A	73	2.03	624	231	37%	7	46	22
B	75	2.03	615	226	37%	7	50	18
C	41	1.65	480	184	38%	2	52	12
D	74	2.00	549	192	35%	4	50	17
E	52	1.44	571	207	36%	3	41	18
F	75	2.03	618	207	33%	7	72	20

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**KS5 MATHS CHALLENGE**

**Q1** Can you match the teams to their statistics for the 2016/17 season?

Team	Passes	Passes Per Match	Pass Accuracy %	Crosses	Cross Accuracy %
Team 1	21,538	562.11	82%	795	22%
Team 2	19,253	534.81	84%	834	24%
Team 3	18,989	527.47	82%	726	18%
Team 4	17,158	463.73	79%	734	22%
Team 5	20,956	566.38	84%	689	22%
Team 6	204,336	265.03	82%	8,817	23%

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**Ashcroft  
Technology  
Academy**

An invitation to all parents of prospective  
September 2018 Year 7 students to our

## OPEN EVENING

Monday 26 June 2017  
from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Principal's welcome at 6.00pm and 7.00pm  
Doors will open at 5.40pm

## OPEN MORNINGS

Wednesday 28 June 2017, 9.00-11.00am  
Thursday 29 June 2017, 9.00-11.00am

Open Morning spaces are limited and by  
appointment only, please email or telephone to book.

Come along to find out about the excellent  
facilities at our Outstanding Academy

## Preparing students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century

The Academy Prospectus will be available for all open events.  
Ashcroft Technology Academy, 100 West Hill, London SW15 2UT  
Telephone : 020 8877 0357 Website: www.ashcroftacademy.org.uk  
Email: admissions@ashcroftacademy.org.uk  
Applications for the Aptitude Test should be returned to  
Ashcroft Technology Academy by 15 September 2017

## Reapplying for Free School Meals

If your son/daughter is currently receiving free school meals and you believe you are still entitled to this for the next academic year (2017-2018) you must complete a new free school meals application form.

A form has also been sent out by post to parents who have applied in the past or you can find a form on the Ashcroft website (<http://www.atacademy.org.uk/page/?title=Free+School+Meals&pid=59>)

If your circumstances have changed please notify the finance office immediately or if you are currently **NOT** receiving free school meals and you think you may be eligible please contact Nicky Campbell from the Finance Department and she can advise you.

## Lille Trip

Can we just remind the parents for the trip to Lille that:

- they need to send their son/daughter's scanned passport/picture to loic.mequignon@ashcroftacademy.org.uk If they haven't done so yet?
- There will be a parents information evening on 6 June at 6:00 (a letter has been sent as well, but just to reinforce the message)

## REMAINING TERM DATES 2016-2017

**Term 4 begins Mon 20 Feb – Fri 26 May**  
Staff Dev Day Fri 31 Mar  
Easter break Fri 31 Mar – Mon 17 Apr  
Bank Holiday Mon 01 May  
Term break Mon 29 May – Fri 02 Jun 2017

**Term 5 begins Mon 05 Jun – Fri 21 Jul**



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Multi-choice menu
<b>1</b>	Chicken Flatbread Spanish Omelette with Salad	Lemon Herb Breaded Fish Vegetable Lasagne	Beef Stroganoff Macaroni Cheese	Roast Turkey and Roast Potatoes Vegetable Curried Naan	Fish and Chips Pasta Bake	<b>MEAL DEAL</b> Choose a hot meal from Option 1 plus something from Options 2 or 5  Choose a soup from Option 2 plus something from Options 3 or 4 or 5  Choose a sandwich from Option 4 plus something from Options 2 or 5  Choose the Salad Bar option plus something from Options 2 or 5
	Pasta King Jacket Potato	Stone Baked Pizza Jacket Potato	Chicken Joe's Wrap Jacket Potato	Pasta King Jacket Potato	Chicken Joe's Wrap Jacket Potato	
	Green Beans and Cauliflower	Baby Carrots and Parsley Potatoes	Peas and Sweetcorn	Carrots and Cabbage	Peas and Sweetcorn	
<b>2</b>	Summer Carrot, Tarragon and White Bean Soup	Vegetable Soup	Tomato and Basil Soup	Spiced Citrus Bean Soup	Leek and Potato Soup	
<b>3</b>	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)				
<b>4</b>	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)				
<b>5</b>	Apple Crumble and Custard	Trifle	Lemon Drizzle Cake and Custard	Victoria Sponge	Selection of Cold Desserts	<b>DELI BAR</b> Freshly made to order each day
	Fresh Fruit Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Fresh Fruit Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Fresh Fruit Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Fresh Fruit Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	

**Meal Deal (Option 1 + 2 or 5) £2.25 students/£2.47 staff Main Meal only £1.95 students/£2.15 staff**

Lunch rota for next week

1st sitting Year 11/7 — 1.05  
3rd sitting Year 9 — 1.25

2nd sitting Year 8 — 1.15  
4th sitting Year 10 — 1.35