

NewsRound



Ashcroft
Technology
Academy

Security Access

For the safety of students and staff the main entrance doors to the Academy will be locked from 9am until 3.15pm each day and all staff and Post 16 students will be required to show ID cards to gain access. Parents who have an appointment with a member of staff will be able to gain access via the intercom service on the wall to the left of the main doors to let reception know of their arrival.



Saying Good Luck and Farewell to Year 11

Study leave begins for Year 11 on Friday 15 May and we wish them all good luck in their forthcoming exams.

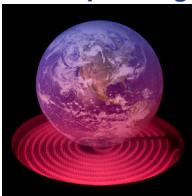
To celebrate the end of their exams we will be saying a fond farewell at a special 'Leaver's Party' on Thursday 25 June at 5.30pm for 6pm in the Main Hall. Invitations have been issued and we look forward to seeing them all in their 'best clothes' whilst they sit back and reminisce over their five years here at the Academy. A lighthearted 'awards ceremony' will also take place and we expect a few musical turns from some of the talented musicians amongst this cohort. Of course, light refreshments and party nibbles will be available on the evening.

Next week we will also issue the students with their own 'NewsRound' letter focussing on news about exams and group revision sessions which they can attend. And remember, you will all be expected to wear full school uniform when you come in for any exams or revision sessions so don't go throwing it out just yet!

Year 11 MFL Oral exams

These exams will take place during the whole of next week. Students involved have been given their personal appointment time and should ensure they arrive promptly for their session

Is our planet getting hotter?



This was the main question on everyone's mind when Dr Liz Bagshaw, a glaciologist from Bristol University,

came along to talk to students from Year 9-13 last week.

Most people recognise that Earth is warmer now than it was 50 years ago and that changes to our climate mean changes in our weather, ecosystems and the melting of glaciers and ice caps all over the world. Many scientists predict that this melting will contribute to a rise in sea level that may drown low-lying countries like Bangladesh, as well as the UK's capital city, so it is important to understand what is happening.

Following an interesting introduction to global warming the students took part in a challenging 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire?' climate change quiz. Dr Bagshaw was very impressed with their excellent knowledge and understanding. Do you know how much the sea level would rise if Greenland's ice map melted?

Inter-School Knock-out Challenge



Our intrepid Year 9 team were due to represent us at our Inter-School Knock-out Challenge this week but

unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control this has been rescheduled to take place in July. With the reorganisation of the challenge more local schools will be able to take part ensuring a more exciting and balanced competition.

Reward for Reading



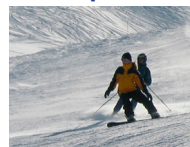
The LRC held their final paired reading session this week and as a thank you to all the 'readers' and 'listeners' a special breakfast party was held

in their honour.

The paired reading sessions have been a great success in helping to improve Year 7 reading skills, boost their confidence and build on their vocabulary. The young students are paired with Post 16 volunteers who begin by reading aloud together, gradually encouraging the younger student to read alone and supporting them if they hesitate on a word they don't know.

Year 7 student Harrie Spurway was awarded a prize for the most improved reader whilst Year 12 student Hassan Al-Abadi received a prize for being the most dedicated mentor.

Ski Trip Reminder



Last chance to join the ski trip being organised for next February. Students in Years 7, 8 or

9 can pick up a letter of information from the PE department and return the permission slip to Mr Hayes as soon as possible.

KS3 French Trip Reminder



Just to remind parents that there will be a special information meeting regarding the forthcoming

trip to Mayenne on Wednesday 13 May at 6.30pm in LRC1.

Please bring your son/daughter's passport and hand to Ms Gallagher for safekeeping until the trip as well as any dietary requirements they may have.

Scolarest to Chartwells

Remember if you pay for your son/daughter's meals by cheque please make it payable to 'Chartwells', the new name for Scolarest.

The company will still accept cheques made out to 'Scolarest' for a little while longer after which the cheque will be returned to you for amendment and this may cause problems with your son/daughter's mealcard credit.

Merit stars this week



The following students have completed their various merit stages this week.

Bronze: Wagas Shargeel 8T4, Luke Ryan 7T4

Silver: Amira Habashi 7T2, Jone-Hunn Tsang 7T2, Khalid Gonzales 7T4, Georgia Prescott 7T4, Dalen Mann 7T5

Gold: Iliass Moulay 7T1, Aiden Steer 7T2, Chanel Toussaint-McLeod 7T2, Mateusz Kulik 7T4, Charlie Ball 7T6

Platinum: Aimable Shumbusho 8T6, Rohail Sheikh 7T2, Tyga Noel 7T4, Kamyla de Oliveira 7T5, Kieran Harrison-Cassim 7T5, Ahmad Zafar 7T6

Well done to the four new Diamond members: Muiyiwa Aiyenuro 7T2, Ben Edmunds 7T2, Sarfraz Bajwa 7T3 and Alexander Dicker 7T4.

Mindbender 252



Amy, Ben and Chris are standing in a row. If Amy is to the left of Ben and Chris is to the right of Amy, which of these statements must be true?

- A Ben is furthest to the left
- B Chris is furthest to the right
- C Amy is in the middle
- D Amy is furthest to the left

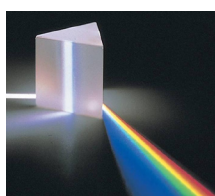
E None of the statements A, B, C, D is true

Answer to Ms Valentine, Student Progress Manager by Wednesday 13 May at the latest.

Mindbender 251: Answer A, the pine ladybird has 4 spots. The total number of spots which the six ladybirds have is $6 \times 12 = 72$. So the number of spots which the pine ladybird has is $72 - (2 + 10 + 14 + 18 + 24) = 4$.

Winner: Barnaby Duggan 7T3. Other winning entries received from Jasmin Chopra 7T5, Joseph Fletcher 8T6, Clarisse Berardier 7T5, Aqib Rashid 7T7

Science Trivia 153



What is the term for the bending of a light ray as it passes between materials of different densities?

Answer to Mr Oforu, Science Department by Wednesday 13 May at the latest.

Science Trivia 152: A microtome is needed to stain tissue.

Winner: Barnaby Duggan 7T3

HealthTip

Recent research has shown that if people take regular exercise during their school years and into their early 20s, they reduce the risk of heart disease, colon cancer, breast cancer and bowel cancer.

Exercise need not be extreme but 30 minutes brisk walking a day will help maintain a basic level of fitness and can keep you healthy for later life. With the summer months nearly upon us why not walk to school instead of taking the bus or train if you live within walking distance to the Academy.

Although your PE lessons help towards your fitness level you do need to exercise on a regular basis.

Of course as you increase your daily exercise you should also think about the food you eat and ensure you eat healthily and cut down on the crisps, sweets and fizzy drinks and substitute with fruit and water.

Take up a sporting pastime which you can easily do several times a week like cycling, running, swimming or even dance classes. Join a PE Club at school. Remember exercise is for life!

Present Academic Year Sep 2008-Jul 2009

TERM 4	Mon 23 Feb - Fri 22 May 2009
Staff Development	Fri 3 Apr 2009
Easter break	Fri 3 Apr - Fri 17 Apr 2009
Bank Holiday	Mon 4 May 2009
Term break	Mon 25 May - Fri 29 May 2009 (incl)
TERM 5	Mon 1 Jun - Fri 17 Jul 2009
Term break	begins Mon 20 Jul

Weekly Menu



week beginning Monday 11 May 2009

MONDAY

Meal Deal	Lasagne served with Jacket Wedges or Sweet & Sour Quorn with Fluffy White Rice	
	Veg: Baked Beans or Seasonal Salad	
	Pudding: Dutch Apple Pie with Custard or Fresh Fruit Pieces	1.90

TUESDAY

Meal Deal	Chicken & Sweetcorn Pie with Mashed Potato or Cheese & Pepper Salsa Tortilla with Cajun Wedges	
	Veg: Sliced Green Beans or Seasonal Salad	
	Pudding: Milk Jelly Dessert or Fresh Fruit	1.90

WEDNESDAY

Meal Deal	Roast Pork with Roasted or Boiled Potatoes or Vegetable Bolognese with Pasta	
	Veg: Fresh Sliced Carrots or Seasonal Salad	
	Pudding: Lemon Cake	1.90

THURSDAY

Meal Deal	Meatballs in a Tomato & Lentil Sauce with Rice or Macaroni Cheese Bake with Garlic & Herb Bread Wedge	
	Veg: Stir Fried Vegetables or Seasonal Salad	
	Pudding: Warm Firecracker Cake with Vanilla Sauce or Fresh Fruit Pieces	1.90

FRIDAY

Meal Deal	Crunchy Topped Fish Pie with Champ Mash or Quorn & Sweet Potato Curry with Fluffy White Rice	
	Veg: Garden Peas or Seasonal Salad	
	Pudding: Peach & Pineapple Crumble with Custard or Fresh Fruit Pieces	1.90

Also available everyday:

Pronto	Trattoria Pizza Selection	from 1.15
Hot	Jacket Potato with selection of hot or cold fillings	from 1.15

A selection of chilled foods:

Daily Sandwich Choice	from 80p
Bloomer Sandwich	£1.35
Filled Wraps	£1.15
Salad Boxes	from 80p
Filled Baguettes	£1.65
Shaker Salads	from £1.10
Pasta Pots	from £1.10
plus Fresh Fruit Box, Melon Slice, Yogurt pots with toppings or fruit yoghurts	from 53p

Lunch Rota week beginning Monday 11 May

1st Year 11 — 1.00	4th Year 8 — 1.30
2nd Year 10 — 1.10	Last Year 7 — 1.40
3rd Year 9 — 1.20	

Next Academic Year Sep 2009- Jul 2010

Staff Development	Wed 26 - Fri 28 Aug 2009
TERM 1	Tue 1 Sep - Fri 23 Oct 2009
Term Break	Mon 26 Oct - Fri 30 Oct 2009 (incl)
TERM 2	Mon 02 Nov - Fri 18 Dec 2009
Term Break	Mon 21 Dec 2009 - Mon 4 Jan 2010 (incl)
Staff Development	Mon 4 Jan 2010
TERM 3	Tue 5 Jan - Fri 12 Feb 2010
Term Break	Mon 15 Feb - Fri 19 Feb 2010 (incl)
TERM 4	Mon 22 Feb - Fri 28 May 2010
Staff Development	Thu 1 Apr 2010
Easter Break	Thu 1 Apr - Fri 16 Apr 2010 (incl)
Bank Holiday	Mon 3 May 2010
Term Break	Mon 31 May - Fri 4 Jun 2010 (incl)
TERM 5	Mon 7 Jun - Fri 23 Jul 2010