



Important Dates & Reminders

02

Year 12 Business trip

Sixth Form attendance

National Storytelling Week

03

The weekly STEAM feature

04

Ashcroft's Got Talent

Lunch Menu

Newsround



Ashcroft

02 February
2018

Prize-giving

On Wednesday evening we held our annual prize-giving event in which we celebrate the hard work and achievements of our students, past and present.

A number of our former Sixth Form students who are now currently studying at university returned to the Academy to collect their awards. Congratulations to all of the students who were recognised for their efforts.

If you would like a digital copy of your son or daughter's Prize-giving photo please email info@ashcroftacademy.org.uk, quoting the name and tutor group of your child.

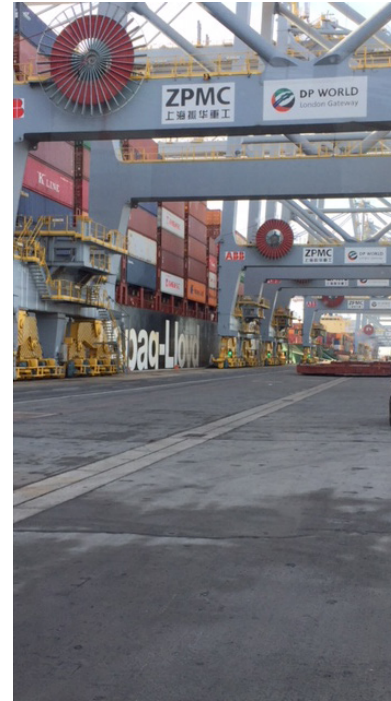


Year 12 Business Trip to London Gateway Port

This week Mr McGuinness arranged a year 12 business trip to London Gateway Port, a project which he worked on from 2000 to 2009 before becoming a teacher. The students were given a presentation about the port logistics business by the finance manager and then given a tour of the state of the art, semi automated port.

The students were excellent Ashcroft ambassadors and asked insightful business related questions ranging from the potential impact of Brexit on the business to the extent of competition in a market with high barriers to entry.

Well done to all involved.



06

Ashcroft's Got Talent

07-8

Year 12 Nettlecombe residential trip

Sixth Form Attendance

A reminder to all Sixth Form students and parents: In the event of illness or unexpected absence, a message must be left on the Sixth Form absence line 0208 812 3513. Calls should be made by 8.15am on the morning of the expected absence. You may also inform the Academy of an absence by emailing sixthformattendance@ashcroftacademy.org.uk

Unreported absences will be classed as truancy and students will be sanctioned accordingly.

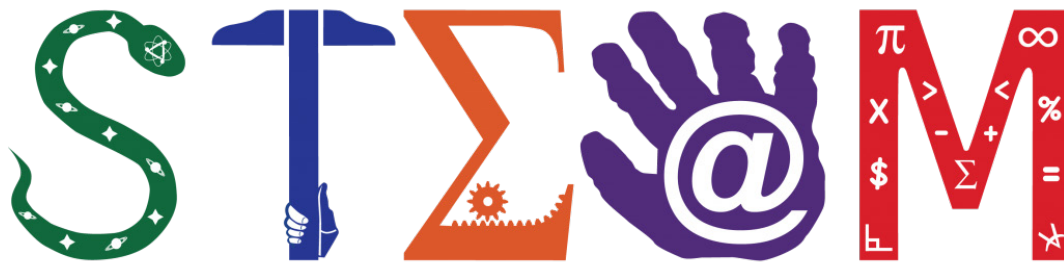
We ask for your support in ensuring your son/daughter arrives to the Academy by 8.25, every day.

A Chadda - Assistant Principal

National Storytelling Week

This week a number of Key Stage 3 students have been participating in National Storytelling Week, a nationwide initiative run by the Society for Storytelling. Teachers such as Mr Wandt (pictured) have worked this week with the LRC staff to put on a number of storytelling sessions. Great work.





The latest STEAM news below and what a STEAM-tastic week it's been at ATA! The first round of the new rotations has been completed and the second round will commence as shown on the STEAM schedule below. Please attend your directed sessions for this next rotations round.

STEAM

Science Technology Engineering Art Math

Tuesday Lunch-Times 1:05-1:35pm

Year Group	Project Rotation	Teacher	Room
7	Tournament of Minds - Annual STEAM House Competition	Miss Dowson & Ms Khan	E301
8	The Robots Are Coming!	Mr Haddleton	E310
9	Geology Club	Miss Niklekaj	E311
10 & Sixth Form	STEAM Academia	Various STEAM teachers	C210

Each project rotation will be for 4 weeks and you will then switch.
Please see Ms Khan in Science to collect your STEAM lunch passes!

The Robots are Coming! - with Mr Haddleton. The STEAMmies competed in pairs against each other for the ultimate accolade of being the Robot Club Drone Pilot champions. They had to choose whether to pilot Jumpin' Max over a twisting maze getting as fast as possible to the finish line or pilot Travis the drone over the 3D obstacle course as fast and accurately as possible. Competition was fierce and hotly contested but in the end there could only be 2 sets of winners. Congratulations to Oliver and Akash who won the Travis drone obstacle challenge. Congratulations to Maria and Amelia who won the Jumpin' Max maze challenge. Year 7 once again proved unbeatable versus the robots! Well done to all!

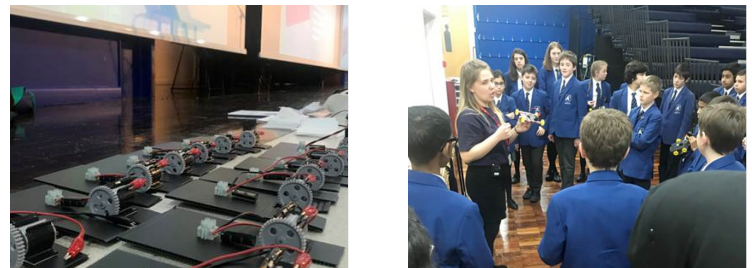
Drone Pilot Champions



to design and create shoes for an astronaut to use on Mars. There were fantastic presentations and products by every team! One team even included a promotional video. Our Sixth Form STEAM Ambassador judges enjoyed viewing all the entries and had a lot of critical questions for our teams, who explained their design concept and usefulness. The Year 9 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be announced at a Year 9 Assembly coming up! Very exciting! Will it be an Endeavour, Discovery, Challenger or Voyager win? We'll find out next week! Next up, is the Year 7 ToM house competition. We look forward to seeing the fantastic ideas the Year 7 STEAMmies come up with.



STEAM Academia & Sixth Form STEAM Ambassadors Programme - This week's session with Ms Khan included a special guest visit. Liz Danner from Understanding Animal Research presented about the UK's animal research regulations and laws compared to other countries from across the world. The Academics were fascinated to hear that in the UK no animal testing is allowed at all for any product! All trials or tests are done via regulated models, including virtual models, so that accurate and reliable data is collected. The sentient rights of animals was discussed, along with genetic engineering, and lots of stimulating Q&A ensued. Well done to our wonderful STEAM Academics!



Special STEAM event – Energy Quest:

A special STEAM event took place with Ms Khan in the Auditorium for 60 students from Years 7-9 with a visit by STEM Ambassadors Cristina Plant from Shell's Learn by Design Programme and Charlie Eales from energy provider EDF. Our STEAMmies learned about the diverse and exciting career pathways in Engineering, the various educational routes available to successful Engineering careers, renewable and non-renewable energy resources, and the promotion of women in STEM/STEAM/Science. Hands on active workshops kept our students stimulated, challenged and busily engaged. They practiced their data analysis skills as they researched energy production and energy efficiency from a range of different countries and concluded on the best energy resources to use for location. They tested their "STEAM" skills and built mini electric cars, investigating how far their cars would travel by changing the voltage applied and analysed their data by drawing a line of best fit graph and writing a scientific conclusion. Ned Delo's (7T4) group evaluated that the width of the Auditorium just wasn't enough distance to test their very impressive mini electric car, which was able to travel the furthest distance and was stopped only by the Auditorium wall!

It's certainly been full STEAM ahead! Well done, everyone! Looking forward to more STEAM-azing sessions next week!

Ms Khan

Geology Club – with Ms Niklekaj. This week the young geologist STEAMmies put the theory into practice. Through a discussion, they reminded each other of the different types of rock and grouped our collection into igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks. Ms Niklekaj was really impressed with how well they recalled what they had learned last week. Raffaele Aiello 8T6 brought in his geology kit, which has a whole range of different rocks in it and was very appreciated by all. Thank you, Raffaele!



STEAM Annual House Competition - Tournament of Minds (ToM) 2018

Are you ready to take on the challenge? Competition open to STEAM and non-STEAM students. Deadline for Year 7 entries is: Tuesday 6th March 2018. See Ms Khan/ Ms Dowson to enter.

With human missions to Mars looking more and more likely, this year's STEAM ToM challenge scenario is to design and create a shoe for an astronaut to wear on Mars.

1st place – 300 house points
2nd place – 200 house points
3rd place – 100 house points

Special prizes and certificates will be awarded too!

Further information will be released in the STEAM Transition lessons.

Year 7 ToM House Competition Round

Tournament of Minds (ToM) – with Ms Dowson and Ms Khan. It was the final session of the Year 9 ToM house competition, which challenged our STEAMmies

PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT



Ashcroft's Got Talent – tickets are selling fast!

Don't forget to get your tickets for AGT 2018 from Reprographics! All tickets cost 50p and the money raised will be donated to charity. Don't miss out on what promises to be an outstanding talent show with performers from years 7,8,9,10 and 11 taking part. The whole event will be hosted by 6th formers who will also provide the interval entertainment.



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
1	Chicken & Sweetcorn Lasagne with Garlic Bread Vegetable Quesadilla	Sausages & Onions, Potato Wedges Vegetable Layer Pie	Beef Curry and Rice Veggie Mince Pitta Bread and Salad	Roast Lamb and Roast Potatoes Cauliflower Cheese	Homemade Tuna Fish Cake with Potato Wedges Vegetable Pasta Bake	Multi-choice menu MEAL DEAL 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
	Stone Baked Pizza Jacket Potato	Pasta King Jacket Potato	Chicken Joe's Wrap Jacket Potato	Pasta King Jacket Potato	Chicken Joe's Wrap Jacket Potato	
	Green Beans and Salad	Baked Beans or Macedoine	Broccoli and Sweetcorn	Carrots and Cabbage	Salad and Peas/Sweetcorn	
2	Thai Butternut Soup	Pea and Mint Soup	Tomato and Basil Soup	Minestrone Soup	Vegetable Soup	
3	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)	
4	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)	
5	Fresh Fruit Salad	Fruit Sponge and Custard	Fruit Gateaux	Apple Pie and Custard	Selection of Cold Desserts	
	Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit	
	Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	



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