

News Round



Keeping parents and students informed

Term 4 Letter 9 Friday 05 May 2017



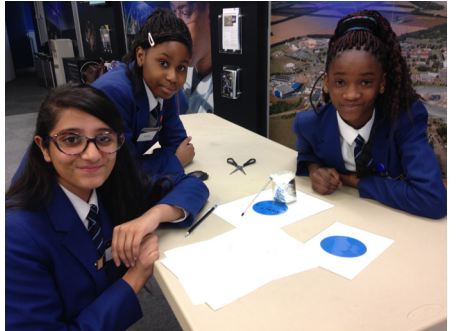
STFC RAL Trip

Sixty one students from Years 7-9 and staff attended an award trip to the STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) this week. This formed the second part of the STEM Inspiration Award we won last November.

On arrival, Dr Andrew Taylor, CEO of STFC RAL, gave a special welcome presentation to the students, commending them for their marvellous achievement as the Most Dedicated STEM Club 2016.

During the day, the students engaged in several interactive group activities including 3D printing, metrology, virtual reality, ATLAS, a mock Mars landscape where the EXOMars rovers are tested before their journey across the surface of Mars, a thermal engineering for space challenge, wind turbines and cryogenics. This was a fun and valuable enrichment opportunity and our students have returned even more inspired with Science, with several considering related future education and career pathways.

Our hosts were highly impressed by our students' behaviour and positive participation throughout the day. Well done STEAM Club and a big thank you to the staff who accompanied the students: Mrs Khan, Mr Gallagher, Mr Revelant, Ms Haviland, Mr Sellars, Mr Haddleton and Ms Manderson.



Army Reserve Centre Trip

As part of the STEAM Club Rocket Car Club and subsequent recent test trial, 18 students attended the Bloodhound SSC regional finals at the Army Reserve Centre, West Ham this week. Bloodhound SSC is a nationwide schools STEM competition and we are very proud that our STEAM Club members made it through to this stage.

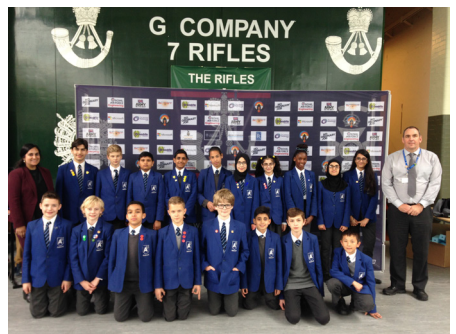
Pitted against 13 other schools, our students worked in six teams of three students to design and construct their rocket cars with a given time frame. They had to work independently, without outside help, and set about with confidence, showcasing a secure mix of all their 'STEAM' skills.

All rocket cars were tested in the grounds outside of the centre by the Army personnel using rocket fuel on a specially constructed track using electronic sensors to detect the speed in mph of each rocket car. All six Ashcroft rocket cars achieved impressive speeds but were not enough to win 1st place position. We were pipped by just fractions of seconds and placed 3rd overall with Billericay School taking 2nd place and St Olive's School as the winners.

Our best car, named 'Jet Car' was made by Harriet Mensah, Mashood Khokhar, Faiz Khawaja and had a speed of 39.04 mph. Considering that 5,000 rocket car kits had been distributed to schools originally, we are very proud that our students achieved this success. They thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and enriching experience and have already begun to plan their entries for next year. They are certainly eager to nab 1st position in the future.

During the trip the Army personnel introduced some of their military weapons and allowed the students to practice holding them with an emphasis on how heavy military guns are and how lethal these weapons can be.

A special mention of thanks to Mr Morrissey for planning and delivering the Rocket Cars project to our STEAM Club in his rotations, as well as for helping STEAM Club to make it to the regional finals.



Poetry Workshop

We were fortunate enough to have a poet in our midst this Friday. The renowned poet, Adisa the Verbaliser, came to Ashcroft and held a poetry workshop to a group of Year 7 and Year 8 students.



Students listened to Adisa as he read his own poetry, before enthusiastically sharing some of his own trade secrets with them. Adisa encouraged students to think about themselves and their place in school and the wider world. He then taught them a range of interesting ways of expressing their individuality, before giving them a chance to share their own poems as if they too were poets.

Adisa was kind enough to note that all the students who attended were well mannered and had incredibly interesting ideas. The students in turn showed their appreciation of his visit and said a very warm goodbye. We very much look forward to him coming back for National Poetry Day in October.



You can go to Cambridge

An inspirational photograph of a handful of black students who made it to Cambridge University has struck a chord with thousands who have shared it online. The photo was inspired by a similar image taken by students at Yale University in the US last month.



Two of the students are former Ashcroft students, Daniel Oluboyede and Olumuyiwa Olumuyiwa who were model students and worked hard and achieved their goal to study at an Oxbridge university.

One of the students involved said, "The aim of the picture was really to encourage more black students to apply here because many people get discouraged by a particular image or stereotype of a Cambridge student that they have in their mind, thinking that they won't fit in or be accepted."

The post has received 4,000 likes on Facebook and nearly 1,000 more on the group's Twitter feed.

Spotlight on Achievement

Praise for Viktoria Hunter who competed in the British Youth Championships in Fencing last weekend at the Sheffield Arena. She competed against 7 athletes in her pool and ranked 4th in the competition.

From the pool she went straight into the disqualifications round and needed to beat her opponent in the first round. Her opponent was left-handed which was a disadvantage for Viktoria being right-handed. Despite a fierce battle she lost her place.

Viktoria is a member of the Wimbledon Fencing Club, Kingston Fencing Club and Kings College Fencing Club.

Her next competition is the English Youth Championships - Good luck Viktoria.



Borough Athletics Success

Well done to the students who represented Ashcroft this week at the Wandsworth Borough Athletics Tournament held at

We had a very successful sporting day winning an array of gold, silver and bronze medals. Well done to all who took part.

Borough Athletics Results

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|
| Malachi Barnett | Gold | Long Jump |
| Mohamed Nour | Gold | 1500m 4.32 and a personal best |
| Minnie Greaves | Gold | High Jump |
| Emmanuel Boketsu | Gold | 800m |
| Gerald Lamptey | Silver | Long Jump |
| Nathanael Pongalati | Silver | 200m |
| Kerease Howell | Silver | 200m |
| Madeline Blinkhorn Jones | Silver | 200m |
| Diana Kostenko | Silver | 300m |
| Year 9 Boys | Silver | Relay |
| Matthew Noel | Bronze | 100m Hurdles |
| Solomon Asare | Bronze | Javelin |
| Callum Thomas | Bronze | Javelin |
| Gerald Lamptey | Bronze | 100m |
| Madeline Blinkhorn Jones | Bronze | Javelin |



WEEK 7 MATHS CHALLENGES

ARE YOU READY TO FOR THIS WEEK'S MATHS CHALLENGES?

Well done to everyone who solved the Week 5 challenges

The winners are:

Week 5 questions obviously proved very challenging as we had no fully correct answers for the KS4 or KS5 questions!

Our KS3 winner is Danish Zeb 7T1 who also deserves recognition for his very good attempt at the KS5 question. Well done!

Problems for Week 7 are here for you to start thinking about. Make sure you get involved! You have until Monday 15 May the solve problems so put your thinking caps on and see how you get on.

Here are the solutions to the Week 5 challenges.

KS3

MATHS CHALLENGE



Q1 Exactly how many minutes is it before six o'clock if...

... 50 minutes ago, it was four times as many minutes past three o'clock?



Use the green slips to submit your solutions in the post-box in the Maths corridor by Monday 15th May (break time).

KS3

WEEK 5 SOLUTIONS



Q1 If two typists can type two pages in two minutes, then each typist takes two minutes to type one page.

This means each typist will type three pages in 6 minutes.



So six typists will be needed to type 18 pages in 6 minutes!

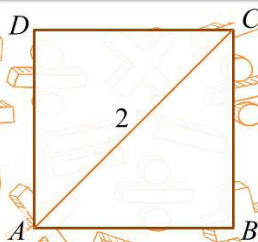


KS4

MATHS CHALLENGE



Q1 ABCD is a square with diagonal length 2...



Q2 If a square has diagonal length d , give a general formula for its area.

...what is its area?

Use the orange slips to submit your solutions in the post-box in the Maths corridor by Monday 15th May (break time).

KS4

WEEK 5 SOLUTIONS

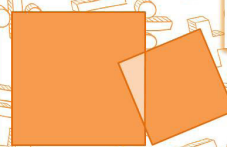


Q1 The difference between the darker areas is 5cm^2

If the white area is $A\text{cm}^2$, the larger shaded part is $(9 - A)\text{cm}^2$ and the smaller is $(4 - A)\text{cm}^2$ and so...

$$(9 - A) - (4 - A) = 9 - A - 4 + A = 5$$

So the difference is always the same, no matter how they overlap.

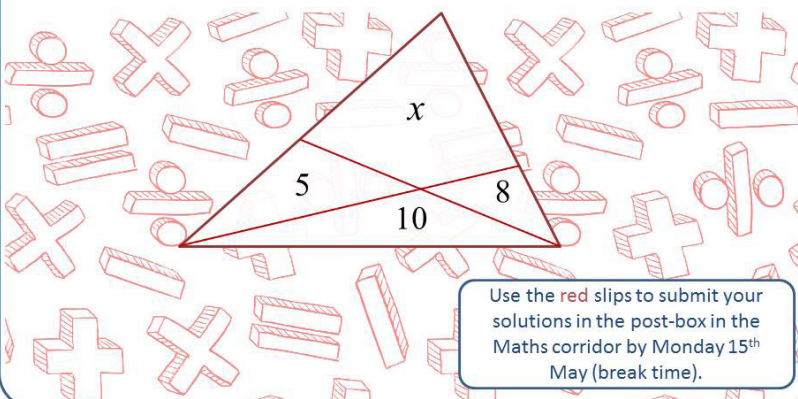


KS5

MATHS CHALLENGE



Q1 What is the area x ?



Use the red slips to submit your solutions in the post-box in the Maths corridor by Monday 15th May (break time).

KS5

WEEK 5 SOLUTIONS



Q1 1 is the first square number in the sequence

If there is another square number in the sequence, then the unit digit of the square root must be 9 or 1.

The number is of the form:

$$(10n \pm 1)^2 = 100n^2 \pm 20n + 1 = 10(10n^2 \pm 2n) + 1$$

$10n^2 \pm 2n$ gives the 10s digit, but this number is even so it can't be 1.

Hence no further square numbers appear in the sequence

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------|
| 1 ² | = | 1 × 1 = 1 |
| 2 ² | = | 2 × 2 = 4 |
| 3 ² | = | 3 × 3 = 9 |
| 4 ² | = | 4 × 4 = 16 |
| 5 ² | = | 5 × 5 = 25 |
| 6 ² | = | 6 × 6 = 36 |
| 7 ² | = | 7 × 7 = 49 |
| 8 ² | = | 8 × 8 = 64 |
| 9 ² | = | 9 × 9 = 81 |
| 10 ² | = | 10 × 10 = 100 |
| 11 ² | = | 11 × 11 = 121 |
| 12 ² | = | 12 × 12 = 144 |

SKI TRIP

February 2018

Ski Trip to 'Bardonecchia' Italy: 9th Feb 2018 – 17th Feb 2018

- 6 days with 4 hours of Ski Lessons
- Hotel next to the ski lifts
- Lessons with professional ski instructors
- All travel and food included
- £975
- Excellent evening entertainment
- All abilities welcome

See Miss Griffiths for an information letter



REMAINDER 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

TERM DATES 2017-2018 Academic Year

Term 1 begins Wed 30 Aug (Year 7)
 Thur 31 Aug (Year 8-11)
 Term break Thur 19 Oct - Fri 27 Oct 2017

Term 2 begins Mon 30 Oct - Fri 15 Dec
 Term break Mon 18 Dec – Tue 02 Jan 2018

Term 3 begins Wed 03 Jan– Fri 09 Feb
 Term break Mon 12 Feb – Fri 16 Feb 2018

Term 4 begins Mon 19 Feb – Fri 25 May
 Easter break Thur 29 Mar – Fri 13 Apr 2018
 Bank Holiday Mon 07 May 2018
 Term break Mon 28 May – Fri 01 Jun 2018

Term 5 begins Mon 04 Jun – Fri 20 Jul

Please note the start date for Years 8-11 is Thursday 31 August 2017. The new Year 7 intake will begin on Wednesday 30 August 2017.



| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | 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 |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1 | Chicken Jalfrezi Vegetable Moussaka | Sausages and Mash Vegetable Quiche | Pasta Bolognese with Garlic Bread Vegetable Chilli | Roast Chicken and Roast Potatoes Vegetable Shepherd's Pie | Fish Cake with Potato Wedges Macaroni Cheese | |
| | 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 | |
| | Sweetcorn and Carrots | Green Beans and Peas | Broccoli and Macedoine | Carrots and Cabbage | Salad and Peas/Sweetcorn | |
| 2 | Carrot and Coriander Soup | Vegetable and Watercress Soup | Minestrone Soup | Lentil 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 | Oaty Apple Crumble and Custard | Marble Sponge with Chocolate Sauce | Jam & Coconut Sponge and Custard | Pineapple Upside Down Sponge with Custard | Eve's Pudding and Custard | |
| | 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 | Fresh Fruit Selection of Cakes and Biscuits | |



Meal Deal (Option 1 + 2 or 5) £2.15 students/£2.36 staff Main Meal only £1.83 students/£2 staff

Lunch rota for next week

1st sitting Year 9 — 1.05 2nd sitting Year 7 — 1.15 3rd sitting Year 8 — 1.25 4th sitting Year 10 — 1.35