

We say a fond farewell to Mr Mike Roberts who is leaving us to pursue other interests. He has been Sixth Form Assistant Principal for 20 years and has strived to make our Sixth Form the best in Wandsworth. We wish him all the best and thank him for all his hard work, loyalty and vision. Mr Amit Chadda will take over this role in September

For your reference Mr Joseph Anson will be taking over as IB Co-ordinator for the foreseeable future.

NewsRound



Keeping parents and students informed

Term 5 Letter 7 Friday 21 July 2017

ARTS WEEK 2017 17 July - 20 July

Workshops for All

Arts Week began with various workshops where students could indulge their musical, vocal, dance and art talents and encourage their creativity.



The orchestra workshop, led by Ms Di Bartolo, focused on working as a team whilst concentrating on playing their chosen instruments and following the orchestra conductor's signals. It was pleasing to hear students playing a variety of instruments such as trombones, violins, flutes,

cello, drums, guitar and piano producing professional orchestral sounds.

This was followed by a Jazz workshop for invited musicians to put their skills to the test in playing a difficult genre of music.

Next on the workshop timetable was a chance to participate in a singing session with Mr Chadda focusing on how to stand and breathe to produce vocal quality. Students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and as we heard at Ashtival obviously learned a great deal.



Some students prefer to play an instrument whilst others enjoy practising their vocal chords. But for some a more energetic pastime is their choice – dance. Dancers were not forgotten as we had our regular dance instructor from 'Step into Dance' come along to choreograph a routine for those students who signed up for this workshop. She put them through their paces step by step until they were able to master the whole routine.



A most enjoyable four days of a plethora of events for all artistic talents and for the first time Art was also part of this exciting end to another academic year. Thank you to the Performing Arts team and the Art & Design team for all their hard work in organising this annual event.

Year 9 Drama Workshop – Social Media

BTEC Performing Arts students in Year 9 participated in an actor's workshop looking at how to create effective and controlled use of slow motion and mime in a performance which they then applied to a variety of picture and musical stimuli. The students were incredibly creative with their responses and were able to expand and develop their actors skills set.

Year 10 Drama Workshop – Frantic Assembly's Chair Duets

BTEC Performing Arts students Year 10 participated in an actor's workshop based on the Theatre Company Frantic Assembly and their devising technique 'Chair Duets.' They created some emotive and mature chair duets in response to a musical stimulus – showing just how intelligent and creative they are as a cohort! Well done Year 10.

The Platform – Matilda

The participants of our drama club, The Platform, have worked incredibly hard throughout term 5 to put together an imaginative production of Roald Dahl's Matilda as a reward for students of KS3 who have done well in their Performing Arts lessons. The performance was a huge success and the students performed like true professional child actors! Well done to all involved!





“Best Friends” by Rachel Clarke

Our very own Miss Clarke showcased a superb performance for our Year 9 and Year 10 BTEC Performing Arts students, this week. Miss Clarke, who is an active writer and actor (as well as a drama teacher!) performed alongside her friend and colleague, Heather Agyepong. The engaging performance comprised a colourful combination of poetry, spoken word, song and movement. Best friends and school girls, Charlene and Vicky from 'L Town', take the audience on a journey that explores the high and lows of their friendship.

The piece explored the themes of British girlhood, sisterhood, culture, growth, love, pain and memories. Students engaged in a fantastic Q&A session after the performance; asking a number of mature questions about the production process and the way in which the actors developed their characters and prepared for the performance. A truly fantastic opportunity for our students - thank you Miss Clarke and Heather.



Each year group had the opportunity of joining in a Silent Disco. The way Silent Discos work is you are given a pair of wireless headphones on arrival through which you can listen to music being streamed - sometimes having the choice of several music playlists.

Those without the headphones hear no music, giving the effect of a room full of people dancing to nothing. It is the most surreal experience.

You could wonder why it is called a silent disco as the noise level of out-of-tune singing was extremely high and amusing to the staff just watching. The students loved it though.



Art into Arts Week

The Big Draw

KS3 students were able to wile away their Wednesday lunchtime taking part in the 'Big Draw'. A roll of paper running the width of the playground was laid out for them to draw from given objects to produce a continual work of art. Seeing a crowd on the floor saw other students eager to add their 'Pablo Picasso' touch and we soon had our own Ashcroft Mural.



Raku

Seven students from Years 11-13 had the opportunity of visiting Stepney City Farm to attend a Raku Firing Workshop.



Raku firing is a unique way to finish pots often resulting in glazes which have a lot of variation to them. The students had a great time being creative and produced some fantastic pots with interesting designs.



KS3 Printing Press Workshop



Invited KS3 students enjoyed a different type of art when they participated in a printing press workshop. They were able to experience the art of linograph and collograph to produce some splendid colourful and creative work. The workshop enabled the students to learn a new dimension of art to add to their skills.



ASHITVAL

Although the weather was against us holding this annual event on the grass field, being in the Auditorium took nothing away from the fantastic talented students who performed - not to mention the hidden talents of our own staff.

The vast audience of the whole school packed themselves into the auditorium to be entertained for nearly two hours. A multitude of acts performed and all were rapturously applauded. One particular act, Ally Stuart singing 'I Will Always Love You', was greeted with a standing ovation as she sang the last line of the song. Mi-Mi Aulagi also raised an enormous cheer for her rendition of Adele's 'Someone Like You'. Her singing has improved immensely and the audience were stunned with her performance.

The audience enjoyed performances from the Scholarship Orchestra, duets, a dance routine and solos. All individually worth a standing ovation.

It is incredible that we have so much musical talent at Ashcroft.





Ink Well Magazine

This year the English department has been working with a group of Year 8 students to bring to reality an online magazine where some of the best writing and work of Ashcroft Technology Academy students can be displayed. Given the number of talented writers we have in the Academy this is an exciting opportunity for both students to share their writing with their peers and families.

Today I would like to share with you a selection of the winning entries for the Short Story Competition as well as some other articles written by our small but dedicated staff. Over the course of next year we hope to grow the magazine to include termly themed issues and examples of excellent writing and ideas that students have generated in English lessons, with regular summaries of new content appearing in Newsround. <http://inkwellmagazine.wordpress.com>
Mr Collins, Curriculum Manager English

Uniform Shop



If you need to replace any items of uniform or PE kit please note that during the Summer break the uniform shop will be open at the following times only:

- Friday 28 July from 9.30-12.15 by appointment only
- Monday 7 August from 9.30-12.15 by appointment only
- Friday 25 August from 9.30-12.15 by appointment only
- Tuesday 29 August from 9.30-12.15 by appointment only for late admission acceptances only

Payment can be made in cash, cheque or debit/credit card. If you are in receipt of a clothing voucher this can be used in part payment for uniform and sports kit to the total of £55.

Rock Wrangle

Elliot Johnson t2, Anass Ashaoui t3 and Safeer Mirza t5 represented the Academy in true Rock n Roll style at the London Times Table Rock Wrangle!

Our top three Year 7 timestablists showed off their timestabbling skills in a competition against London's crème de la crème at Bolingbroke Academy in Wandsworth. Although we didn't win, a good time was had by all and the boys exhibited a positive attitude throughout. Here they are before and after the event!



Active Girls Day

Praise for the following students who spent the day at Southfields with the GB Tennis player Laura Robson and then experienced a session with 'Bounce', the strength Conditioning company which included Trampolining, Zumba and Climbing.

This is celebration of their hard work at the girls lunch time fitness sessions. The girls were a pleasure to take and Mrs Ward hoped they really enjoyed their very active day! Certificates to follow to Louise Barnett 8T4, Lois Levi 8T7, Mia Carter 8T1, Sajeelah Butt 8T5, Hannah Colwell 8T2, Harriet Mensah 8T6, Amina Riamah 9T4, Sope Johnson 9T6, Olive Jones 9T5 and Millie Trsic 9T5



Rowing Club

Rowing has had the last session for the term. Students in the club have been extremely dedicated and have really bonded as a crew. They have been improving at a steady rate and should be proud of the progress they have made. The students have gone out on the water in the rain, wind and also on occasions have enjoyed some dappled sunshine. Some students have even signed up at the Barn Elms rowing club for the summer sessions. If any other students are interested in the summer sessions please contact Barn Elms Rowing Club.

Staff also came rowing on the last week; however, the students showed them that they still had a long way to improve to reach their level. The staff crew ended up being blown onto the mud in the side of the river bank and had to walk back to the sheds, hopefully next time they will manage to row back.

Congratulations to all the students and staff who have made this possible. We will be starting again the second week of the new term and we have 2 places in the crew that have opened up. If you are interested in joining the team please see Miss Dowson to collect a permission slip.



E-Safety Tip #7

Think carefully about what you say before you post something online. Respect other people's views, even if you don't always agree with their comments. We have read about how an online remark can be upsetting and be blown out of proportion.

School Garden News 2017

During the Spring there were two pairs of blackbirds regularly collecting worms for their chicks. An adult rook was a daily visitor to the water basin by the greenhouse, arriving for a drink and to soften pieces of bread, probably taken from a nearby bird table. It was a surprise to see the rook and its mate arrive on the evening of the very hot Wednesday three weeks ago with three fledglings who they were teaching to fly.

During June, the garden produced strawberries which were mainly consumed by staff. In addition there was a first very small crop of raspberries but these were mainly consumed by a grey squirrel climbing up the stalks and breaking several in the process. A previously unremarkable small tree by the playground fence has produced fruit for the first time, which has enabled the tree to be identified as a cherry plum. With the ripening of these plums, a family of five ring necked parakeets arrived a week ago on the school site announcing themselves with lots of squawking. The plums lasted them a couple of days and they have moved on to begin consuming the prolific pears on the large tree by the green house. The grey squirrel has also been collecting the pears.



Several plants are now flowering including gladioli, dahlias, Echinacea, sea holly along with leeks and they continuously attract bees. Perennial Spirea has also been planted with a view to providing food for bees in the future. Other insect activity includes an ant colony which is farming aphids on one of the blackcurrant bushes and one in the greenhouse.

Vegetables growing include beetroot, carrot, sweetcorn, courgettes and brussels sprouts which have recovered after being partially eaten by the wood pigeon. The photo above shows some students preparing the ground for planting. Potatoes, chard and spinach grow every year from seed in the ground. The greenhouse currently houses several tomato plants, which have begun to fruit.

With so much sunshine so far this summer and collaboration with D & T Grow your Own Club, Autumn will hopefully will see ATA Horticultural Society able to harvest some of the produce.

This October the Royal Horticultural Society are turning 10 years old and ATA has been invited to celebrate by hosting a Soup Share event in D & T using produce from the school to make soup to sell to raise money for charity. More news to follow.

How has the Design & Technology Garden grown?

The DT Garden has been coming along a treat thanks to our group of eager Year 7s attending the weekly Gardening Club. We have some delicious courgettes growing and plenty of young salad leaves and herbs. The club will be continued from September with the new year 7s growing more seasonal produce like Pumpkins!

There are also plans for a second club, From Farm to Fork, focussed on the cooking and eating of the produce grown in the Garden. Enjoy the Summer Holiday & Keep Creating!



House Champions 2017

One of the last assemblies for the academic year is the presentation of the House Champions Cup. The assembly is streamed live throughout the school whilst representative forms are also part of the audience in the auditorium.

Winners of Term 5 events such as the Ashcroft Debate and Poetry Competition were acknowledged as well as the Maths activities and best students.

Winner of the Term 5 House Cup was awarded to Discovery but the House Champions for 2017 were Challenger who scooped an astounding 42632 points over the year.

Mr Hockaday accepted the shield as leader of Challenger House.



Design & Technology Students of the Month

WHO?
Allana Norman
10T5

NOMINATED BY:
Miss Coccidiferro

TEXTILES

WHY?
Allana has put in a tremendous amount of effort into her work consistently researching homework tasks extensively and is a keen contributor to class discussion. Well done Allana!

30 House Points

WHO?
Otto Levi
10T7

NOMINATED BY:
Mr Morrissey

ENGINEERING

WHY?
Otto shows an excellent work ethic in lessons and very good initiative when doing coursework assignments.

30 House Points

WHO?
Jessica Amponsah
10T3

NOMINATED BY:
Miss Bailey

FOOD

WHY?
Worked really hard and took on feedback for the written exam and scored really well in the year 10 examination - really pleased with your effort to improve. Now need to focus on practical and cutting out the chat!

30 House Points

Manga Competition

After Sonia Leong's visit last week students were eager to enter the Manga competition for a chance of winning one of the signed drawings Sonia had donated as prizes. Who knows in years to come the drawings could be classed as masterpieces! We had nine winners in total :

- 1st Mawaa Omar 8T4
- 2nd Wendy Xia 9T3
- 3rd Brandon Vu 7T5
- 4th Shania Tiekou 9T3
- 5th Eron Gaza 7T2
- 6th Subhana Manzoor 7T3
- 7th Sanskriti Mangain 8T6
- 8th Rafiullah Hofeyouni 7T6
- 9th Lois Levi 8T7

