

The Ashbeian

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Ashby School Remembers...

Remembrance events at Ashby School were featured on BBC East Midlands Today after the school was gifted 122 poppies by Acres Engineering, a local company run by former student Luke Parker (pictured below).

The metal poppies, which were planted in the lawn on the Sixth Form campus, each symbolised a former student who lost their life in conflict.



Across the school, students and staff fell silent at 11am on the Friday ahead of Remembrance Sunday.

In form time, a slideshow reminded all members of the school community about the horrors of war and the sacrifices made by soldiers and their families.

Some students took part in lunchtime craft sessions to make poppies for a Remembrance display in the library (pictured above).

Headteacher Dr Jude Mellor said: "Showing respect is one of our core values and it takes on an even greater resonance at this time of year."



Sponge Cakes and Flying Sponges: It Must be Children in Need

Cake sales, a basketball shoot out and the return of 'sponge a teacher' all helped to raise funds for Children in Need.

Staff and students could also choose to come to school in 'non uniform', in exchange for a donation to the charity.

The fundraiser, which took place over both lunch breaks, was one of the first events to be organised and run by the new Student Council.



Student Council leader Alice Dodd said: "The Student Council is a really important platform for students to raise issues and make suggestions, as well as being a great way to get involved in fundraising for good causes like this."



Year 7... Winning Ways

Well done to the five winners of the **Black History Month** poster competition! Students were asked to design a poster celebrating an inspirational Black figure. The winners

(three pictured top right) chose role models including Nelson Mandela, Sister Rosetta Tharpe and Marcus Rashford.



In **sport**, it's been an impressive start for the Year 7 girls' netball team (pictured below) which has recorded some staggering scorelines, beating Newbridge 19-0 and Ivanhoe 18-1. The Year 7 girls' football team has also enjoyed tournament success.



Congratulations to Harrison Caller and Elise Spears, who were **golden ticket** winners for the first half term. They won a free pizza lunch for themselves and three friends!

Members of Form 7Y won the inter form competition, earning themselves a free form time breakfast. Jake Kendrick and Eliza Craggs were presented with a bronze award for achieving 100 positive points for consistently embodying the school's values.

Year 10...Hitting their Goals

The Year 10 girls football team are currently North West Leicestershire **champions** and will go through to the Level 3 knock out stage of the competition after seeing off local rivals including Newbridge and Castle Rock.

The first **rewards** breakfast of the year was enjoyed by students in form 10L1 who amassed the most positive points for upholding school values and adhering to high standards of attendance, punctuality and uniform. Form 10N4 was in second place. Healthy competition between forms is encouraged!

In a special rewards assembly, two students from each form were commended for demonstrating the school's 'three Rs' -respect, responsibility and resilience.

An award for **progress** since arriving at Ashby School was presented to Ruby Webb who was selected by pastoral year team staff. Tom Hill picked up the prize for the most positive points in Year 10.

Golden ticket winners Frankie Bullock and Eleanor Lewis will get a lunchtime pizza party for themselves and their friends after their golden tickets were drawn from the hat.

A day out in Birmingham for Year 12 **artists and photographers** provided enrichment and inspiration for their upcoming coursework. The students looked closely at architecture and urban spaces as well as visiting two exhibitions at the IKON gallery.

Year 12 **sports leaders** got an added boost when they were all rewarded with golden tickets after hosting a multi skills festival for local primary schools and receiving so many positive comments! The event also helped students to develop their understanding of what it takes to be an effective sports leader.

Other students are also working on their employability skills through the **Career Ready UK** programme which has now been launched to this year's Year 12 students. The scheme pairs students with a mentor from industry and offers feedback and workplace experience.



Year Team Leader Alan Tsang said: "We encourage all students to enhance their employability skills in addition to their studies."

For information on support for **high attainers**, turn to back page.

Faculty Focus on...Maths



Six students have made it through to the next round of the Senior Mathematical Challenge, a UK-wide competition run by the UK Maths Trust.

The six highest scorers achieved gold in the 90 minute, multiple choice challenge including Year 13 student Alice Cleaver, who was named 'best in school' for her impressive score of 99 out of 100. She will be joined in the next round of the competition by fellow students Rob Bland, Luke Barrett, Josh Cherrington, Alexander Rodrigues-Orme and Scarlett Pole.

In all, 23 Sixth Form students took part (pictured above, centre). Four achieved silver, while eight picked up bronze. Nathan Priestland was presented with a certificate for being 'best in Year 12'.

Alice Cleaver was also the school's top scorer in this year's Mathematical Olympiad for Girls, which was entered by mathematicians from Years 11, 12 and 13 (some of whom are pictured above, right)

Alice picked up a distinction while there were merits for Hazel Jeffery, Emily Jeans and Ffion Thompson, all in Year 11. Hazel Jeffery was named 'best in Year 11'.

The Intermediate Maths Challenge for Year 10 and 11 students will take place after Christmas.



Students from Years 10, 12 and 13 are also taking part in Ritangle, a national team maths competition, tackling three new questions each week. Ashby's team is working on these at maths club which is held every Wednesday after school.

In Year 11, the results of students' trial exams earlier this term are now being analysed to pinpoint individuals' strengths and weaknesses, helping both students and teachers plan the focus of their work over the next few weeks.

There have also been 'in class' tests for Year 10 to assess progress.

The school's full time maths tutor, Miss Gomez, continues to offer additional support to those who need it in both KS3 and KS4.

In Year 13, the results of trial exams are being used to inform priorities for teaching and learning. A Sixth Form drop in session every Tuesday after school regularly attracts as many as 40 students for help and support on questions and topics of their choice.

If parents have concerns about students' groupings or progress in lessons, they are advised to contact Heads of Faculty.

Dates for your Diary

You said you wanted more information about what's coming up so here it is!

30 November—Year 11 parents' evening

1 December—Disaggregated day (school closed to staff and students)

7 December—Christmas jumper day (non uniform)

7 December—Year 11 parents' evening

22 December—School closes at 1pm for all students

11 January 2024—Year 13 parents' evening (face-to-face)

1 February 2024—Year 11 & 13 exam preparation evening



Ho-ho-here's a throwback to some of last year's impressive Christmas jumpers!



A booklet of '**Aim Higher**' activities covering all faculty areas and key stages is now available to help broaden students' appreciation and understanding of the topics they are studying. Subject specialists from all faculties have recommended resources (most of which are free) to read, watch and listen to, including books, films and podcasts. Year 12 high attainers recently visited Oxford University (pictured above).

The **Student Senior team**—Head Students Nathanael Larkum and Katie Menham, supported by Deputy Head Students Jonny Anderson and Parysa Rasoul—are now in post (pictured right with Student Council leader Alice Dodd). You can read more about them on the school website.

Students in Years 7—11 can now register for the **Activ8 scheme** which allows them to earn points for taking part in

PE activities at school - and put these towards the cost of activities at local leisure centres.



Being a good citizen starts with **Personal and Social Development**

(PSD). This half term, students will be covering the following topics in PSD:

Year 7- E2L— Diversity and inclusion, **Year 8- Careers**— Beginning careers journey, exploring jobs and opportunities, **Year 10- Citizenship**— British values, being an active citizen and what makes a good citizen, **Year 11- Careers**— Applications, CVs, personal statements **Year 12- Living in the wider world**— Career opportunities, preparing for the world of work, post 18 options, **Year 13— Independence**— Health and wellbeing including hygiene and cancer screening, responsible health choices linked to diet and religious choices.



Safeguarding Moment

All visitors to school will now receive a 'safeguarding leaflet for visitors' on arrival. The leaflet contains key safeguarding information and contact details for anyone coming onto the school site.

A new student self-help leaflet has also been created by students for students. This is available from pastoral staff and contains details of lots of useful organisations to support students' health and wellbeing.

Vikki Rundle-Brown, Head of School (KS5) & Designated & Safeguarding Lead

