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Key Reminders

Just a reminder that the Autumn term for students starts on Wednesday 7th September. Year 7 and 12 are to arrive at 8:40 with the rest of the year groups arriving at 10:15.

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ISSUE 40

SUMMER TERM 2022

A hugely busy and rewarding year

You will, I am sure read this newsletter with great pride at the achievements and experiences of our students this year. The return of so many of the magical parts of school that have been sadly missed in the previous two years have brought smiles to the faces of our staff and students.

We have been delighted with the progress that all of our year groups have made this year and we look forward to their return in September to begin the next stage in their learning. We are equally looking forwards to our new year 7 cohort joining the Arden Family. A very successful transition day has paved the way for a really positive start in September, which will I am sure only be further enhanced by this year's year 6 summer school.

To our year 11 and year 13 students, well done and congratulations on your hard work this year. Returning to national exams after the last two years has felt like a return to normality. Your attitude and approach to your studies and exams has been terrific. We look forward to your results in August.

The success we have had in the sporting arena, in our academic competitions and in the Performing Arts fields have all been a joy to see, culminating in what can only be described as a breath-taking performance of "We Will Rock You".

After what has been both an exhausting and exhilarating year I wish you all a wonderful Summer.

Mr Warwood, Associate Headteacher

An Unusual Find for the Jubilee

In recognition of the Platinum Jubilee, Arden held a non-uniform day to raise money for student-nominated charity Dream Makers ([LINK](#)). Students were encouraged to come to school dressed in red, white or blue. In total £2393.99 was raised which is being used to fund the charity's caravan in Torquay for an entire year and will make a huge difference to their work. We would like to thank everyone for their donations.

In a strange coincidence, workers completing a re-structuring on our old caretaker's house discovered this newspaper page scrunched in an external hole in the brick work just before this year's Jubilee weekend. Upon further investigation it was discovered that this page was published on the day of the Queen's Silver Jubilee back in 1978. What an unusual and interesting coincidence!



Arden is part of Arden Multi Academy Trust: Chief Executive Officer, Mr M Murphy and Executive Headteacher, Mr D Burgess



We Will Rock You

If you had been in school in the last few weeks it would not have escaped your attention (or your ears!) that the school production has been back with a bang. If you had the pleasure of attending one of the performances you would not have been disappointed. Every single student was outstandingly brilliant and blew us away with their talent.

The production was not without challenge, with several leading cast members coming down with COVID in performance week. This led to some hurried cast changes but the students were so professional and to step in at such short notice is no mean feat.

Every single student involved in the production should be hugely proud and we would like to thank all the members of staff who made it happen. It was simply fabulous.



Science Week

It was National Science week in March and in school we engaged students by providing a range of opportunities within lessons and at lunchtimes. There was a special Science Club event on the Friday with Mrs Hammond and Miss Campbell as well as a golden ticket award for the year 7 and 8 students to engage with provided by Dr Cannadine and Miss Campbell. The main winners received science based prizes. Well done to them all! There was also time spent discussing Science career pathways and jobs within lessons.

Science Department



Farewell to Year 11 and Year 13

Just like all of the other COVID disruptions, not being able to host the year 11 Prom and year 13 Ball for the last two years has been a real disappointment. So we were delighted to be able to have them back again this year.

Both events were a great success and a fitting way to say goodbye to these resilient year groups who have coped brilliantly through some incredibly challenging times. We wish all of the students the brightest of futures and look forward to celebrating with them again on their results days in August.

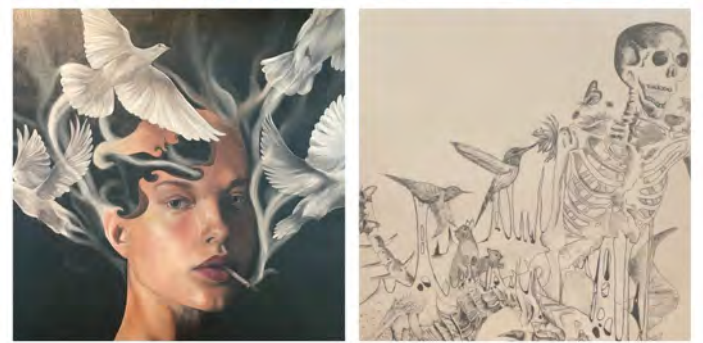
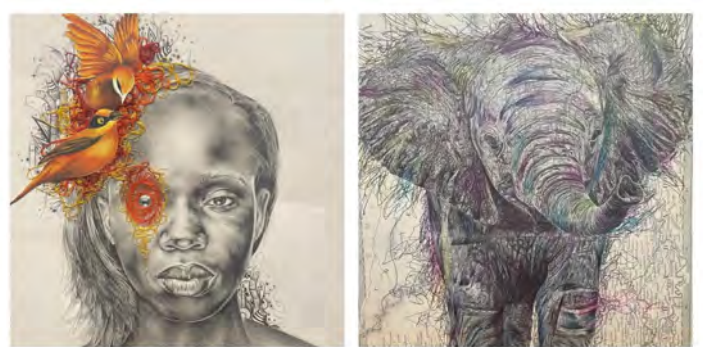


GCSE and A-Level Exhibition

This term we celebrated the hard work of our GCSE and A-Level art and photography students with our Summer exhibition.

As always our guests were blown away by the quality on display. The standard of work is simply incredible and the students should be very proud of the work they have produced. The art and photography teachers certainly are.

Here is just a sample of the work on display:



Year 12 Media Studies go to the Movies

On Tuesday 12th July, year 12 Media Studies students visited the Everyman Cinema at The Mailbox, Birmingham, to watch 'Dear Evan Hansen'. It was a fantastic opportunity to see a film particularly relevant to their A-level course, dealing with the themes of Teenage Representation, Social Media and Mental Health.

We were able offer the opportunity to watch this film for free thanks to **Into Film**, a nationwide educational film organisation who, through their 'Summer Screenings' programme offer thousands of free cinema tickets to school children throughout June & July. For more information about the programme and into Film themselves, please visit:

<https://www.intofilm.org/news-and-views/articles/summer-screenings-2022>



Geography Fieldwork

After a two year break because of COVID, this term has seen the return of Geography fieldwork. Year 12 have been out to Birmingham and the River Blythe whilst year 10 have been to Stratford-Upon-Avon and the River Blythe. All of the students were really engaged in their field studies which are a compulsory element of their GCSE and A-Level courses.



Year 12 German

Year 12 German students have been studying the film 'Good Bye, Lenin!' which focuses on the reunification of Germany and its consequences for the people of East and West Germany. Pupils were set the task of creating their own vision of the Berlin Wall in order to help them better comprehend the life of former East German residents. Below is a photo of their creations.

Tolle Arbeit!

Gruesse, Herr Allport



Enrichment Week

Enrichment Week was an opportunity to do some of the things that we had been prevented from doing over the last couple of years. The students were engaged in a huge range of activities, with an overarching theme of enrichment and personal development. Some of the activities were CPR training, drama productions from Loudmouth on mental health and staying safe, sporting competitions, a “Natural High” concert, STEM sessions from the NAVY, well-being and mindfulness sessions and the highlight for many being the trip to Drayton Manor. A lot of year 9 went on a residential to Yorkshire and year 10 went on Work Experience or had careers input in school – it was a busy week!

Many thanks to all students and staff for making the week so enjoyable.



During the enrichment week years 7-9 took part in community service and did an absolutely fabulous job of cleaning the school site.

Many staff commented at their hard work and graft and it is hoped that next year we can venture to Knowle park to help keep this part of our local community clean.



Mr Murphy judging the Bake-Off competition

Year 9 100km Charity Bike Ride

This year a group of year 9 students took on the challenge of doing a 100 km bike ride to raise money for Cancer Research UK. To complete this bike ride we had to fill in applications to say why we would want to take part in this bike ride. We then had to take part in a 27-mile selection ride for Mr Singh to choose who would be most able to participate in the actual 100k bike ride. The next part of the preparation for



the 100 km was a 45-mile training ride. Then all of that led up to the final 100 km bike ride which took place on 9th July 2022.

For the first ride we cycled to and from Kenilworth in a big loop. The practice ride was similar in that we did a loop but it was a much longer loop with a lot more hills and rain. But in the end, it was very fun and we all had a good time. On the big 100 km ride we went Stratford-upon-Avon and back. We ate lunch in Stratford and looked around we even got to watch a rowing race. It was very hot on the way back to Arden but we all completed the ride. Our friends and families were at the finish line to cheer us on. In the end the main reward was the money we raised for Cancer Research UK.

In total we raised over £6000 between the 15 of us and we did so with the support and love of our almost 300 supporters. Whilst on the ride we had the help of Mr Mitchell who drove

our support vehicle on the 100 km ride and Mr Sengupta who drove the support vehicle for the 45-mile ride. Plus a big thanks to the teachers who helped on the 100 km - Mr Singh, Mrs Batten, Miss Leadbeater and Mr Goldenfeld.

The cyclists who have raised such a large sum of money to go towards Cancer Research UK are

Joshua Dunne, Harry Wood, Alfie Whatmore-Underwood, Leon Harris, Chloe Wood, Connie Stott, Izzy Robinson, Beatrice McCorry, Luke Gale, Harry Cheetham, Thomas Bamforth, Peter Mitchell, Yusuf Ahmed, Charlie Baden, and Deep Sengupta. This amazing team has taken on a massive challenge and all of them have completed it as a team.

Written by Josh Dunne



Year 9 Maths4Girls Trip

On Tuesday 12th July a group of 12 girls from year 8 and year 9 visited Birmingham's Thinktank and attended a workshop called Jewellery Heist where a gang of robbers had stolen some valuable goods from a jewellery shop. We had to become forensic investigators and use a variety of real life techniques to help crack the case!

I applied to the Maths4Girls competition to go to Thinktank because I thought it would be enjoyable to do activities and spend time with other women in STEM. My poster that I entered into the competition with was focused on facts about women in history that contributed to the field of maths. Also, I researched the history of stereotypes in maths and science.

In the workshop we were introduced to some aspects of forensic investigation, the types of evidence and what it can tell us. We then had to

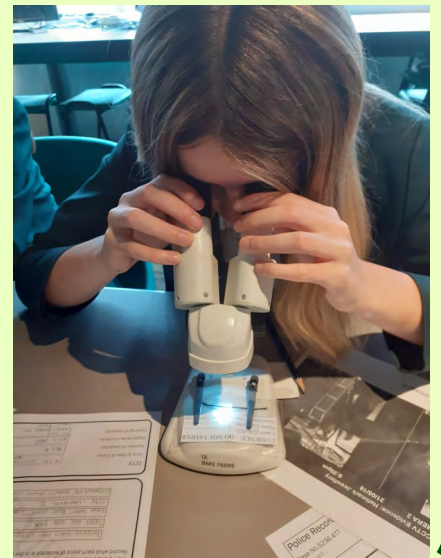
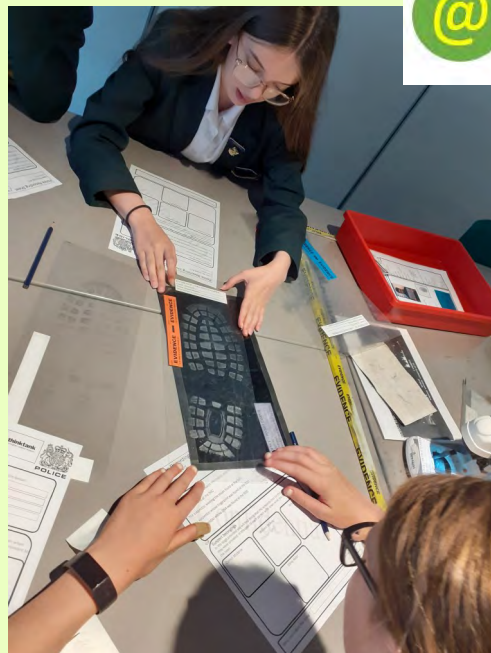
use this to interpret the scene of crime evidence and CCTV footage to work out who committed the crime. This involved dusting for fingerprints, examining footprints and fibre samples and using DNA evidence to figure out who the evidence pointed towards. It was challenging and made us think, it was also very fun and interesting. We found out how forensic scientists and the police work together and as a group we solved the crime!

We also visited the 'Made in Birmingham' exhibition where we found out about many interesting things that were made in the local area: spitfires, pen nibs and cricket balls and even the world's first aluminium factory in Solihull.

"My favourite thing was the Science Garden where there were loads of different experiments and cool projects to take part in like the giant hamster wheel that you could run inside to make the wheel spin."

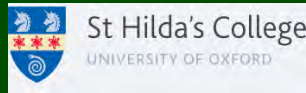
"One of my favourite things about our trip to Thinktank was visiting the Our Changing Planet exhibit. I think it was really up-to-date and inspiring."

Well done to all the girls who entered the competition and made the day such an informative and enjoyable day out!



Year 12 Languages at Oxford

On a very warm Monday afternoon, my French class and I were lucky enough to be invited to a lesson led



by four students who are currently studying French at the University of Oxford. Some year 11 students, who are wishing to study French at A-Level next year, and some students from the French class at Tudor Grange also attended which allowed for a range of perspectives on the issues to be explored. We were split into smaller groups too which allowed our conversations and ideas to flourish.

As part of the session we looked at some images from one of the refugee camps in France. After commenting on the dire state of the accommodation we were presented with, we examined whether we felt that it was Britain or France's responsibility to provide asylum to these people. After a deep discussion (which almost became a debate) many of us came out of the session still pondering as to who should take responsibility. We were also asked to write a short response to the images, in French, considering what we had discussed, the devastating situation that these people are in and why we think that people are not willing to help. It left me, personally, very reflective.

We also looked at an extract of Baudelaire's poem 'Au Lecteur' ('To The Reader' in English) from his collection of poems: 'Les Fleurs du Mal' ('Flowers of Evil' in English). After reading it, we considered what the purpose of the poem was and what it reflected about the culture of France during the time it was written. It was a rather dark poem that felt like a warning to the reader about the evil that existed in the world; it explored the discontent felt by the people after a period of repression under Napoleon, war and poor conditions.

After that we had possibly my favourite part of the afternoon: we looked at four translations of the poem and discussed which translation was 'the best' by looking at the rhyme scheme, form and accuracy of the translation. We then debated what the most important part of a translation was: translating it word-for-word as this would make it most accurate or translating it, making it 'sound English', so that the audience would understand it better. For example, would it be better to translate 'il pleut des cordes' as 'it's raining ropes' or 'it's raining cats and dogs' as the former is the accurate translation, however, English audiences will be more familiar with the latter.

The most important outcome was that I left smiling and thinking, which is all that one can ask for.



Written by Emily Perkins

In addition to this, Emily has now been successful in her application to take part in the Lincoln College Study Days in August. Well done Emily!

Sixth Form Mock Interviews

In June and July every year 12 student was offered a mock interview with an external interviewer to prepare them for real-life interviews after school.

Over 130 face-to-face interviews took place over the course of two weeks. We are hugely indebted to the 15 interviewers who gave up their time to come into school to put the students through their paces.

The mock interviews really do provide the students with an invaluable experience when it comes to university, apprenticeship and employment opportunities. It also helps students to put their A-Level experience in a wider context and enable them to see the importance of developing skills and a work ethic which will follow them through their adult life.

Year 7 Probability Fair

This month saw the triumphant return of the year 7 Probability Fair in maths for the first time since COVID. Students spent the last week designing and creating games that had a low probability of winning and then calculated exactly how many students they expected to win their games.

We then spent two hours playing games across all year

7: spinners were spun, counters selected, claws were lowered, balls rolled and thrown.

Cheering throughout year 7 made £273.83, which will be going to charity.

So well done year 7, you are fantastic!



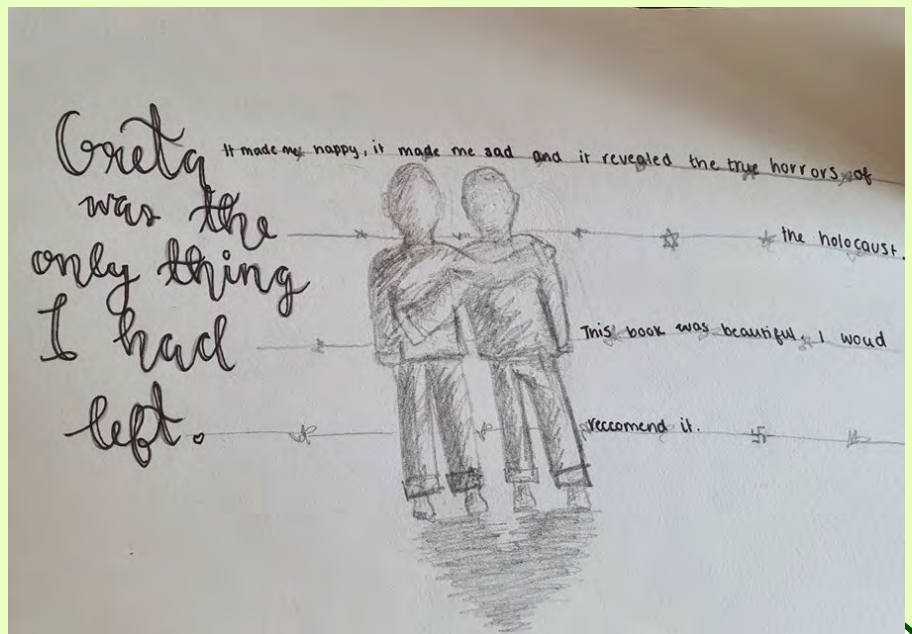
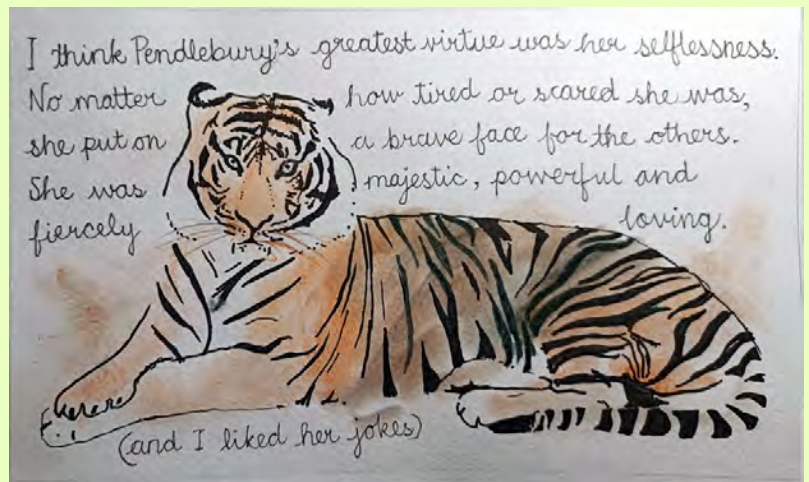
FCBG Children's Book Award

In years 7 and 8, students have the luxury of library lessons and motivation of Accelerated Reader to keep them reading. But at the end of year 8, how do students stay engaged with a community of other readers? At Arden, we offer students in year 9 and above the opportunity to take part in the Federation of Children's Book Groups' Children's Book Award.

This academic year, students in years 9 to 6th Form read over 150 YA books in the Older Readers category and voted to create a top three shortlist. Students then read the shortlist and were invited to create reviews or artwork to be included in a portfolio to be given to the shortlisted authors at the Children's Book Award ceremony in London.

Unfortunately, the rail strike meant we were unable to attend the ceremony in person and the awards were moved to a virtual announcement. However, we are looking forward to attending the postponed ceremony in October 2022 where four Arden students will be able to meet the authors and finally hand over their portfolio of work.

Any Y9+ students who would like to take part in the awards, look out for an announcement via Edulink next academic year, or speak to Miss O'Brien in the library.



DofE Special Mention

At the end of a tiring DofE Silver expedition, Mr Eades and a group of students got involved with a medical emergency, supporting a member of the public who had had a distressing fall. The couple in need of help were Mandy and Adrian who were up on holiday for a few days from Brighton. Mandy was badly injured and the students, along with Mr Eades made a make-shift stretcher to help carry her to safety. Mr Eades then drove her (many miles) to hospital where she needed surgery to fix her injuries.

The couple have stayed in touch and we are pleased to say they are recovering well and wanted to let us know how grateful they are for the help they were given. We are very proud of our students (and staff) for the way they handled the situation.

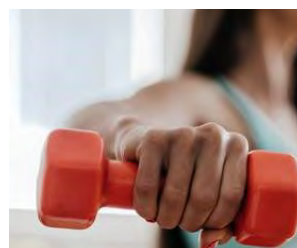
Science Request

The science department are on the hunt for some new equipment to help with experiments in the coming year. In particular they are interested in donations of the following items:

- Exercise weights with a maximum mass of 5Kg
- Globe on a stand, a large solid (not inflatable) one of around 45cm.

If anyone would like to donate any items then please bring them to school reception for the attention of the science technicians.

Many thanks, science team.



Duke of Edinburgh Award

Arden Academy runs a very successful and popular Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) programme. Students are invited to apply for enrolment onto the Bronze Award in September of year 9. Students coming to the end of year 8 can find out about The Award Scheme through the DofE website if they are interested, so they are ready to apply at the start of the school year. The Award Scheme is an extracurricular activity that students can join if they have the self-motivation and independence to complete the required amount of volunteering, physical and skills activity before an expedition. The Bronze Award is self-supporting; full guidance and deadlines are given at the outset.

The DofE gives students a chance to make a difference; get fit; learn a new skill and get out in the countryside. Arden is very proud of DofE students who last year contributed 2327 hours of service in the community!

Whilst COVID restrictions meant some activities had to be curtailed, students were still able to do their DofE and have a great time. The Award Scheme launched *DofEwithadifference* to support students completing activities from home; these variations apply until the end of 2023 so now is actually a good time to start activities, whether they are home based or in clubs etc.

Arden has students at Bronze, Silver and Gold Award levels. The last few weeks have seen students on Silver and Gold expeditions and in September we are running Bronze expeditions. The expeditions are generally seen as the reward at the end of the work for the other activities. They are challenging but with preparation students gain a real sense of achievement. Silver students completed their Expedition from Long Mynd, Shropshire so there were hills, views and good Samaritans to applaud.

We congratulate the following students who have completed their Awards in the last school year:

Gold:

Eleanor Simmons, Heather Olsen, Harvey Sutton, Josie Wheelhouse, Catherine Harris, Priya Sihota, Alex Sutherland, Rosalie Carter.

Silver:

Rachel Walker, Emily Tomkins, Matthew Price, Deeksha

Anand*, William Lockett*, Alyssa Kakoullis, Matthew Cowling, Lucy Poole-Rich, Olivia Sheard, Aimee Tsang*, Harry James*, Daniel Harris, Rosie Davila, Stephanie Edelsten, Shreya Senthilkumar, Finley Wilby Smith, Harrison Wilby Smith, Joshua Daniels, Zoe Taylor, Elspeth Parkin, Temi Akinosi, Grace Parsons, Thomas Leedham, Toby Hill, Rachel Batchelor*.

Some of these students * have started their Gold Awards (students have to be at least 16 years old to start their Gold Award so generally students apply to start after their GCSEs or as they join year 12).

Bronze:

Thomas Adams*, Gabriel Avery, Aaron Barber, Matthew Bate*, Jess Bray, Ethan Broster, William Brown*, Daisy Burrows, Jack Burton, Max Campbell, Jonnie Carter*, Finn Clarke*, Florence Collins*, Harry Collins, Scarlett Collins*, Mia Conduit, Eleanor Connors, Martha Cornforth*, Muhammed Darawil*, Joe Davis*, Charlie Evans, Mary Furlong, Freddie Gaskin*, Joshua Gold*, Dylan Guest-Nicholls*, Elsa Guy, Laura Hampson*, William Harris, Matthew Hawkins, Carrick Hayre*, Benjamin Hocombe*, Ella Homan, Joe Hyde, Sebastien Jayne, Finley Jayne, Luke Johnson, Will Johnson*, Amy Jolliffe*, Daniel King*, Gracie Koumbilis, Joshua Lerat*, Alex Lockett*, Luke McCourt, Aoife McGoldrick*, Charlotte Miller, Jessica Moxley* Luke Mullins, Emily Price, Isabelle Raisbeck, Freya Read, James Readman, Joe Reilly, Ben Seago*, Bethan Sibbing*, Soriya Sidhu, Evie Siniver*, Grace Smith*, Hayden Stanley, Casey Sutton, Mia Treadwell, Harriet Walker*, Alex Williams*, Drew Woodley*, Holly Woolmore, Megan Wright*, Jack Yorke*.

*These students are working for their Silver Award.

We look forward to presenting Award Certificates next term with all those students who have been on recent expeditions or are to go on their Bronze expedition in September.

You can also read about a special story involving some of our students on their expedition elsewhere in the newsletter.



Year 7 History

Students in year 7 have been learning about developments in the extension of the franchise in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As part of this they have looked at the campaign for women's suffrage. Some of the classes completed creative projects as part of their work. Mrs Ellender and Miss Darcy were thrilled with the work that was produced, which included mini-plays and even a song, and wanted to share some examples with you.



Solutions for the Planet

Over the past year some year 8 pupils have been participating in a competition called the Big Ideas Competition run by Solutions for the Planet. Arden have been competing with teams across the country to make it to the final, which was held at the Houses of Parliament. We were very successful along the way having four teams progress to the regional finals at Aston University and from there we had one team progress to the national finals. The successful team was Eco Tech, who designed a printer that extracted ink from the paper to enable the re-use of both the paper and Ink. Since getting into the final, Eco Tech have put a tremendous amount of work into their idea, working with the science department to test the best way to extract the ink for the paper and produced a fantastic, more in-depth business plan and PowerPoint presentation.



Unfortunately, due to the rail strikes we were unable to attend the finals but to ensure their effort was not in vain, Eco Tech put together a recording of their presentation which was sent off to Solutions for the Planet. This video was then played in place of them being present. Unfortunately we didn't win but each pupil taking part should be very proud as they have represented Arden all the way to the finals showing passion about their Big Idea.

Bookshop Visit

Since I commenced the post of librarian in 2018, I have organised annual visits with the student librarians to specialist library supplier, Peters Books. On July 20th 2022, a group of eight year 10 students and myself visited for our annual trip only to discover we have the privilege of being Peters' last ever student visit. Although we are disappointed to not be able to visit in future, we are so grateful to Peters for allowing us to visit over the years and for giving our students a unique opportunity to enjoy a bookshop open only to them!

This year, the year 10 students worked really hard to analyse our existing book-stock to spot gaps on the shelves, researched new releases and even visited a year 8 library lesson to interview students to ensure the library was reflective of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. Split into two groups, students were allowed to choose £150 worth of books, calculating the generous 30% discount we receive from Peters as School Library Association members, and working hard to stay in budget. This meant some serious and lively debate over which books to keep – an

audible gasp from the students as I dared suggest we perhaps return the Minions the Movie book, "Miss, I guarantee, this will be the most popular book in your library!" Time will tell...

From the Tik-Tok famous *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* to the heart-rending and cathartic *No Ballet Shoes in Syria*, I think the students have successfully chosen a range of books, and found something to delight everyone. We look forward to the books arriving to the library in September.



Ukraine Poetry and Art

Arden launched a poetry and art drive this year to show our support for the countless lives affected by the current conflict in Ukraine. Our Arden values of friendship and equality are what best represents us as a school. The Arden community has already sent thousands of pounds in humanitarian aid; it is important that we continue to promote the message of peace and community.

Students were asked to submit poems and artwork around the theme of *peace and community*. In total there were over forty submissions which were all of a super quality and really encompassed the heart of the message. Well done to all the students who submitted work.



Accelerated Reader Rewards

We have reached the end of another year of library lessons. Congratulations to our overall winners of the Excellence in Reading award:

Year 7

Most Books Read: Amit Senthilkumar and Eshan Rehman

Most Points: Malaika Ejaz and Dylan O'Donnell

Overall winner: Jack Flannery

Year 8

Most Books Read: Isobel Hulme and Molly Pearson

Most Points: Rohan Sethi and Salome Ambrosino

Overall winner: Alice Henderson

Additionally, Miss O'Brien invited the top two readers in every class to attend a Reading Rewards Day. This year, the reward was in school and focused on visual literacy. Thirty-five year 7 and thirty-five year 8 students attended a comics session with Beano artist Kev F Sutherland where they produced a comic together and a Manga workshop with artist Sonia Leong where students learnt artistry techniques in the style of Manga.

When students were asked what they enjoyed most from the day, they commented:

"I loved creating the comic as a class together and choosing the names, it was so funny! I also loved making my own character and comic! It was so fun!"

"I most enjoyed the way Sonia engaged with us. It was a style of drawing I had never tried before so that was good."

More details in the following articles from two students who attended the sessions:

"On 29th June 2022, Manga artist Sonia Leong came into Arden to show year 7 students how to draw in different styles. Sonia told the year 7 students that there were four different styles mainly used for drawing Manga, one directed at young boys, another at young girls, a third at men and the last one at women, but people from all around the world read Manga, even if they are not aimed at them.

In the session Sonia drew on a flipchart board step-by-step how to draw Manga characters and we were invited to follow along and draw our own characters in the style of Manga.

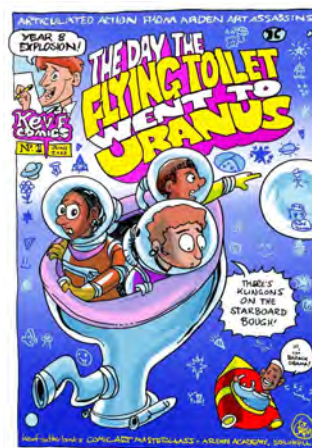
After the session, I felt excited because I had learned how to draw in Manga and was excited to carry on drawing in Manga style. One day, I hope to visit a drawing museum (Manga or Comics)."

Daniel Swann 7L



"We were fortunate to have the chance to attend a workshop with Kev F Sutherland who is an artist for the Beano. In the session we drew a Beano inspired comic where we had to design and create a comic in stages. Kevin demonstrated an illustrator's skills by drawing the Incredible Hulk and Bart Simpson, he talked us through how to draw the characters and how to use the fine liner to add detail to our drawings. We then had a go, we had to design a character and then come up with a storyline. We all came up with very different storylines ranging from 'The Day Gary Slipped on a Banana' to 'Jurassic Mars.' It was a really fun workshop and we learnt how to create a story using a text bar and not just speech bubbles."

Max Warrender 8D



Eco Club Planting Trip

Eco Club have been working on a number of different projects this year. One of these was a conservation planting project in the local community working with an organisation called Ebford Environmental. The students went to local pond in Bentley Heath where they worked hard to plant over 200 plants as part of the ongoing work to regenerate the area.

Next year Eco Club will be continuing their work with a number of new and exciting projects.



Futures Updates

Summer term has seen the launch of the Futures Hub and lots of Futures initiatives including Futures Fridays, where professionals and skilled people come into school during Friday lunchtime to talk to students about their careers, and Futures Week where year 10 enjoyed a whole week of work-related activities, employer insights and work experience. In response to a recent survey,

year 12 students are receiving bespoke advice and opportunities to attend events in areas of interest and teachers can now refer students to our Careers Advisor for one-to-one advice and guidance. Similarly, parents can also put in a

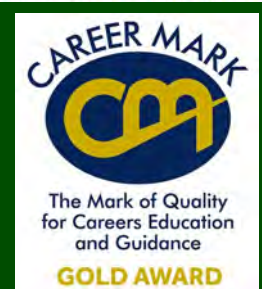
referral for their child to see a Careers Advisor. Mr Carbery, Careers Leader, is responsible for embedding careers into the curriculum enabling our students to understand why they are learning what they are learning and provide real world of work context. Teachers will answer the question, "why are we learning this, how is this relevant to my future?". As well as meeting with the students, Mrs Butcher-Johns, Careers Advisor, aims to facilitate links with industry and local employers and professionals to enable greater insight for our students. It is recommended that parents and students keep up to date with employer opportunities through our website bulletins and if anyone would like their profession or skill featured in our *Careers of the Week* section of the website or submit a video presentation for our Careers Library, please let Mrs Butcher-Johns know. We are

happy to increase links with our wonderful Alumni who are more than happy to give back to Arden students with their wealth of



experience and knowledge. Our aim is to ensure that every student finds their pathway and achieves their own individual success.

@ardenfutures
#FuturesFriday



Culture and Diversity Week

This term we held Culture and Diversity Week in which students took part in a range of activities. Special assemblies were delivered and in lessons students took time to complete activities which showed the cultural and diversity links which exist within different subjects.

In the canteen each day there was a different cultural theme with foods on offer from around the world.

The week culminated in a non-uniform day on which the students were encouraged to wear clothes which represented themselves. It was wonderful to see the range of outfits and really showed what a diverse and inclusive place Arden really is.

The money raised on the day will go to a charity which has been nominated by the family of Ella Swann. The chosen charity is the **Little Princess trust** ([LINK](#)) and the total raised was nearly £3000. Thank you to all your donations.



House Tennis

House tennis is always a competitive affair and this year was no exception. In total twenty pairs made up of staff and year 10 students took part. The groups were decided following a league format of best of three games. The four winning pairs and semi-finalists were Miss Blenkinsop and Monty Bryant, Mr Edgington and Louisa Cross, Miss Corbett and Lucas Glaister, Mr Naylor and Francesca Johnson.

In a tight fought match with an element of grudge (Miss Blenkinsop and Mr Edgington were last year's finalists) Mr Edgington and Louisa came out on top while Miss Corbett and Lucas also won their semi-final.

The final saw a match played of best of five games. In the end Miss Corbett and Lucas were simply too strong for 'The Edge' and Louisa and won 3-1 overall. Special mention for Lucas' spectacular serve!

After a very hot and sunny competition the teams ate strawberries and cream whilst the teachers planned their partners for next year!

It was a great evening and a very fitting victory for Miss Corbett in her final year at Arden. Well done to all the students and a huge thank you to all of the members of staff who took part. Get ready year 9, it is your turn next!



Year 12 Business Charity Event

Year 12 business students organised a charity fundraising event this week. Perfectly timed for the heatwave, their start-up business invested in ice lollies, ice-cream, mocktails including Pina Colodas and Strawberry Daiquiris, lemonade, fruit skewers to sell to staff and students at lunchtime. They also organised a 'Soak the Teacher' event with all proceeds going to



the Ella Swann memorial charities. Lots of fun was had and in total £144.45 was raised. Well done to all of the students for their initiative in setting up the event.

Staff News

This term we have seen new family members being welcomed by some of our staff. Congratulations go to Mrs Hussey (and Mr Hussey) on the birth of Alexander which took them very much by surprise at the start of the Easter holidays. Mr Gordon was delighted to welcome his son, Cole in April. Finally Mrs Harris also welcomed a son, Oliver, in May.

As is always the way at this time of year we are sad to be saying goodbye to a number of our staff, many of whom are relocating, changing careers or moving on for well-earned promotion elsewhere. We would like to say a particular huge thank you to the following members of our teaching staff who are leaving us after five or more years at Arden and we wish them all the best for their futures. Miss Smith (Geography), Mr Gordon (Computing), Mr Burrows (Geography), Miss Hawthorn (Music), Mr Allport (MFL, Miss Corbett (English), Mrs Hardman (Psychology), Miss Bain (PE) and Mr Pillinger (PE/Pastoral).

We would like to say a fond farewell to two long-standing members of our pastoral team. Mrs Foulkes has been our exams officer for 17 years and has done an incredible job. We are sad that she is leaving this

role but are delighted that she is continuing in her other role in school which is as the Duke of Edinburgh award manager. Secondly, Mrs Sanders has been an integral part of our Learning Support team for nearly twenty years. Her care and compassion for our students has been immense and she has supported so many of them over the years. We wish her all the very best for her exciting new life in Australia.

Last and by no means least we are also saying goodbye to Mrs Brennan (MFL) who is retiring this year. Over the years Mrs Brennan has taken on a number of different roles from teacher of MFL, to Head of Year to data manager and her contribution to school during this time has been incredible. She really is Arden through and through and she will be fondly missed by students and staff alike. We would like to thank her for everything she has done and wish her the happiest of retirements.

To all our incredible staff as we reflect on another busy and challenging year we would like to say have a wonderful summer and thank you for all that you do to make Arden the special place that it is.



PTFA News

The PTFA are proud to announce a new and upcoming event - an Outdoor Cinema on Friday 16th September 2022.

Tickets are now available to purchase on [ParentPay](#) and will soon be available on Jumblebee for non-parents.

This promises to be a fantastic community event, taking place on the field at school - please see flyer for more details.

Your support in attending this event would be appreciated.

In addition to this we would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the PTFA volunteers who give up their time to support the school. Events like the Prom and the School Production this term have been enhanced by the PTFA and we are very grateful for everything that they do to support us as a community.

OUTDOOR CINEMA EVENT '22



Arden Academy, Station Road, Knowle

Friday 16th Sept 2022, 7.00-10.30pm

Tickets: Family 2+2 - £25; Adults - £10.00; U18s - £5.00; Under 2 - free; Carer accompanying a disabled visitor - free

<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/ArdenPTFAthegreatestshowman>

Or www.parentpay.com

Street food, Bar, Refreshments, Popcorn

(Bring your own deck chairs or picnic blankets)



Sports News

Cross-Country

For all the latest news about all things sports related don't forget to follow the Arden PE Department on Twitter

 @ArdenPE

It was a really brilliant year for our cross-country teams with success coming across the year groups at various stages in the season. At the end of year awards events there were prizes for many of our students both as individual runners and as teams.

The overall shields for both boys and girls were won by Arden and there were special awards for Rachel Batchelor and Peter Mitchell who are both representing the West Midlands at the English Schools' Championships. The following students also received awards for League commitment—Lily Conduit (three years), Mia Conduit (four years) and Tomas Maidment (five years).

Finally, we are delighted that there was a new award this year. The 'Ella Swann' Award was introduced and awarded to an athlete who has celebrated teamwork, commitment and high-level performance. In order to be eligible runners have to be named on all Albutt Relays award lists for their five years of secondary school. This means they finished 1st, 2nd or 3rd every year, as part of their school's relay team. This year's winner is Tomas Maidment.

Congratulations to all of the students who have participated in cross-country this year.

Athletics - Individual Success

Year 10 student Dan Scott competed in the 400m at the English Schools' Athletics competition in July. He performed well and made it through to the final. Well done Dan.

We are excited about a number of students who have great experiences coming up over the Summer and into the Autumn term and look forward to updating you on their progress. Please do keep us updated on what our students are achieving outside of school, both in sport and other ventures.

Tennis

Our tennis teams have been making good progress this year. One of the highlights was the girls' fixture against Solihull School in June. The U15s won overall and the U13s put in a great performance despite losing overall. Well done to everyone who has participated in tennis this year.

Commonwealth Games



Charlotte Turpin, our Head Girl, is our successful nomination for a torch bearer for the Commonwealth Games. You can see Charlotte run through Knowle High Street on 26th July as part of the build up to the games. Charlotte is a fantastic ambassador for Arden and the games. Well done Charlotte!

Moving on Up Festival

Year 9 Sports Leaders supported a team of year 7 students who recently took part in a special Moving on Up Festival as part of the Solihull Festival of Sport in honour of the Commonwealth Games. The students had great fun trying out a range of athletics events and all did really well showing great team work and supporting each other throughout the day.



Girls Cricket

It has been a busy and successful cricket season for our girls cricket teams. They have worked really hard and have shown great progress in their competitions.

The girls were also treated to a very special training session from ex-Arden student and England cricketer Issy Wong. It was a fantastic opportunity and Izzy was brilliant in sharing her advice with the team. We would like to thank Izzy for giving up her time and we wish her well for her exciting summer of cricket.



Hockey - individual success

Congratulations to year 8 student Ben Watson who is making great progress in hockey. He plays for Warwickshire at country level and his team won the Midlands Hockley League for U13s this year. Well done Ben. We look forward to hearing about his future successes.



Golf - individual success

Congratulations to year 9 student Jack who plays golf at Copt Heath and won a monthly men's competition earlier on in the year to qualify for the Final Medal which is considered a major competition at the club.

There are two men's divisions and the winner and runner up from every monthly medal competition from both divisions qualify for the Final Medal which took place back in April.

Forty-eight qualifiers took part and played 36 holes. Jack played his best round ever and won the competition by 7 shots!!! He will attend a dinner later in the year to receive his trophy and, most importantly to Jack, will get his name on the Board in the clubhouse! Well done Jack.



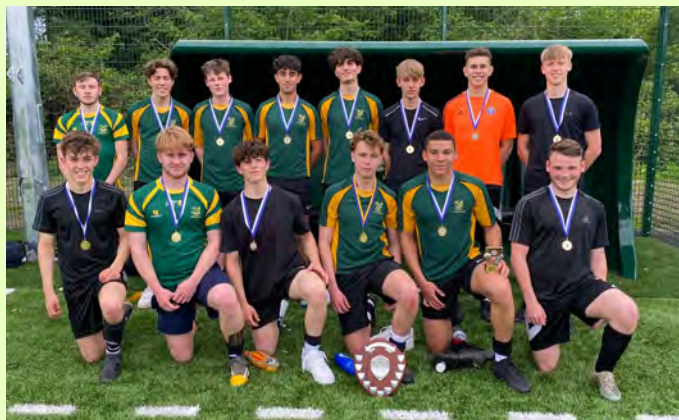
Football

Our football teams have had a fabulous season. The Sixth Form team became Solihull champions after beating Tudor Grange 4-0 with goals coming from James Davies (2), Kieran Cooney and Dan Biddle.

The Year 10 team made it all the way through to the Birmingham Cup final which is an amazing achievement. Sadly though the team were defeated in the final 2-1 by Alderbrook. Despite the disappointment it was a fabulous experience to play the match at Villa Park. The team did well to pick themselves back up because they still had the business of the Solihull cup final against Park Hall to attend to. The game finished 1-1 with Dan Scott the goal scorer. The game then went straight to penalties and Arden won 4-2. Luke McCourt, Tom Bowden, Dan Scott and Ben Mullins all scored their penalties and Luke Mullins was the hero in goal with two saves. He also saved a penalty during the match! A great season overall for the team.

The Year 8 team also made it to the Solihull Cup final and despite a great effort they sadly lost their match but have had a fantastic season none the less.

Finally the year 7 team completed a trio of successes for



this season by winning the Solihull Schools Year 7 Championship in a thrilling game against Tudor Grange which they won on penalties.

Well done to all of our football teams for a great year.

Boys Cricket

The year 9 team have also worked hard on their skills and have made huge strides in their performance. They have had some ups and downs through the season but have all made progress both as individuals and as a team.

The year 7 team have really excelled themselves in their achievements in their first Arden cricket season. In the second round of the Warwickshire County Cup they played Warwick School and came away with a huge win. Warwick made 113-6 off their 20 overs and it took the Arden team just 13 overs to beat their score. In the next round they played Langley and bowled them out for just 36 runs. This time it only took about 5 overs to chase the runs down. The result saw them through to the Warwickshire County finals where they faced the difficult opposition of Princethorpe College. The whole team put in a super performance with both bat and ball coming away with a very impressive win. What a fabulous season with the team showing exciting potential for the future.

Once again well done to everyone who has taken part in co-curricular cricket this year.

Rounders

Students from across year 7 and year 8 have really been embracing rounders as a co-curricular sport with large numbers turning out each week for after school clubs. Back in June they took part in a tournament in which students performed brilliantly both individually and as teams. Well done to all who took part.

Gaelic Football

Gaelic football is quite a new and developing sport for Arden but we have been really please with the club uptake. Both girls and boys have been able to try out their skills competitively at tournaments and have done really well. We are looking forward to how this sport develops next year.

Athletics

Following on from a successful indoor athletics season it has been great to see the return of the major local and national outdoor competitions this summer with Arden being well represented at all levels. Back in June a huge cohort of students from across years 7-10 took part in the Midlands Championships which is a gateway to the National finals. The junior girls had the stand out performance winning their category against some really tough teams. The boys came 5th and 6th out of eight and did very well but with some injuries on the day they struggled to make up the points deficit. Mr Masson is really proud of all of the students who took part in the competition.

Students from across years 7-9 took part in the super 6's Solihull Borough Championships where just six students from each year group are chosen to compete. All of the students performed really well and the support they gave to each other was incredible. The year 7 and year 8 boys both won their competitions and progressed to the regional championships. The year 9 girls also won their competition with the year 7 and year 8 teams both coming in a very close second place against some very tough opposition.

The Level 3 School Games finals were held at the Nuneaton Pingles Stadium in July and once again the



teams who progressed to the finals competed really well. The year 8 boys consisting of Charlie Nash, Charlie Murdock, Tom Fitzgerald, Dan Baker, Ben Watson and Luca Abbots won gold while the year 9 girls (Lily Conduit, Harriet Moss, Molly Weaver, Sam Steele, Gracie Jordan and Amelia Turk) won bronze.

It has been a fabulous summer of sport for our athletes and we are already looking forward to next year when we can do it all again.

House Sports Afternoons

Following the success of last year's format, this year once again saw students competing in House Sports Afternoons across a week in July. It was a great opportunity for the students to compete in their houses across a range of traditional and more 'fun' events.

Seeing the students enjoying their physical activity is a big part of our ethos and it is a wonderful thing that we are able to hold events like this each year. This year's events have been a celebration of all things Arden, with a great mix of inclusivity, competitiveness and good humour. The year 7 event was the stand out of the week with many students commenting that because of COVID this had been their first school sports day since year 3.

All year groups were fantastic in their efforts. Huge thanks to the PE team for putting on the events.

Community Event

The Knowle and Dorridge Round Table Dorridge Day is back with a number of activities taking place. You can find out more about the event on the website: kadd.org.uk

