

ASHLAWN

NOVEMBER NEWS 2024



ASHLAWN
SCHOOL

Our best, always



Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2024-25 academic year!

We have had an incredible start to the year, with everyone returning from their summer break with renewed pace, purpose and a passion for making things happen.

As you'll see in this newsletter, we have several new initiatives beginning that are designed to showcase and celebrate the skills, talents and achievements of all our students, encouraging them to live out the Ashlawn Values and take pride in what they do. I can't wait to show you all the many different ways in which our students shine.

Our intrepid GCSE and A-Level students are really engaging with their learning and soon exam preparation sessions will be underway.

There's much to look forward to as well, in the terms to come – from showcases to shows, trips, clubs and other exciting enrichment opportunities, along with getting stuck into learning and developing academic skills.

Paul Brockwell
Principal, Ashlawn School



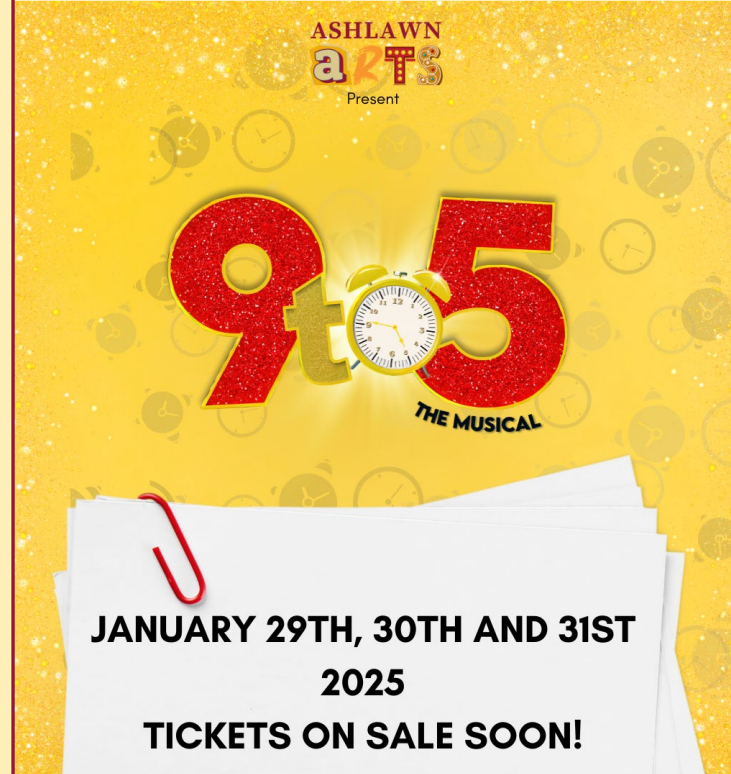
GET READY FOR ASHLAWN'S '9 TO 5: THE MUSICAL'

We are thrilled to announce that we will be presenting our version of **9 to 5: The Musical** on 29th, 30th and 31st January 2025.

This lively production, based on the hit movie and featuring music and lyrics by Dolly Parton, will showcase the incredible talents of our students, serving as a key part of their KS5 Performing Arts Exam.

9 to 5 tells the story of three women who work together to take control of their office, tackling injustice and fighting for equality. With its unforgettable songs and empowering message, this is a show you won't want to miss!

Tickets will be available to purchase soon, so keep an eye out for more details on how to secure your seats and get ready to enjoy an evening of fantastic entertainment!



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

We are so pleased to announce that we will once again provide our students with the opportunity to complete The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE). This year, we are offering the Bronze Award to students in Year 9, the Silver Award to students in Year 10 and the Gold Award to students in Year 12.

About the DofE

The DofE is non-competitive and open to all young people – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of the DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Through their DofE, students will make memories and build traits like confidence, resilience and self-esteem, which benefits mental health. They will gain skills and attributes for work and life, like problem-solving, teamwork and self-

motivation. Students will achieve an award that's recognised by top employers to help them stand out when applying for university, apprenticeships or jobs.

To achieve their award, participants must complete four sections: Skills, Volunteering, Physical and their Expedition. At the Gold level, students complete a fifth section, the Residential.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them, they can choose what they would like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and most activities can

count. We will provide guidance and support, and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new.

We are so excited to see how our students get on this year and wish them the best of luck with their awards.



RUGBY FOOD BANK

A huge thank you to all our families who have donated to Rugby Food Bank this term. It really does make a big difference to our community.

With the help of our school community, we have donated nearly 350 kg of food!

If you would still like to donate food, there is a basket in our reception area where you can drop food items off.

They are particularly in need of:

- tinned/ packet snack meals
- shampoo
- washing up liquid
- tinned fruit
- rice
- tinned sweetcorn

If you need a food bank voucher, then please contact our reception team.



SUCCESS FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT!

What an amazing bake sale we held to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support! Our staff came together to bake, buy, eat and generously donate to this incredible cause. So far, we have raised a fantastic total of £180!

Well done to everyone who participated and contributed. Special recognition goes to Mrs. Booth for organising such a wonderful event that brought our community together for a great purpose.

Together, we are making a difference and showing our commitment to supporting those affected by cancer.



ENRICHMENT SPOTLIGHT: WHAT MAKES YOU SHINE?

The Ashlawn Community wants to celebrate YOU!

Whether it is your dedication to sports, arts, theatre, cadets, Duke of Edinburgh, hobbies, or any amazing skill you are learning - this is your time to shine. We are excited to launch a half-termly spotlight to showcase the incredible achievements happening both inside and outside of school.

Share what you are proud of and let the whole school community celebrate with you! Submit your stories of competitions, performances, events, and personal or team accomplishments. Be sure to include a photo, a brief explanation, your name, and your year group.

How to Share:

Email your achievements to: enrichment@ashlawn.org.uk. We will feature your spotlight in the form bulletin, on social media and in the school newsletter!

To get the ball rolling, Ms Hobson has spotlighted her achievements this term!

Now, it's over to you - let's shine the spotlight on your achievements!

Ms Hobson has recently taken up Cricket. She has been enjoying learning and practicing all of the skills associated with the Sport and getting to grips with Batting, Fielding and Bowling.

Ms Hobson has joined the newly formed Alderman Smith Cricket Club based in Nuneaton/Hinckley. The team has upcoming fixtures against other local teams.



Ashlawn Pillars Award

Your Pledge to the Ashlawn Pillars
An Award scheme for Year 7, 8 & 9 students

A programme to foster the holistic development and independence of our students.

"Creating an Ashlawn culture which demonstrates the values of **CARE** at its heart"

Community **Aspiration** **Respect** **Excellence**

The next half-term marks the prestigious launch of the Ashlawn Pillars Award, a new initiative designed for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Students are encouraged to make a pledge linked to each of the Ashlawn Care Pillars.

- Community** – students will select a volunteering opportunity to pledge their commitment.
- Aspiration** – they will commit to learning new skills.
- Respect for Nature** – students will choose a pledge that demonstrates their care for the environment.
- Excellence** – students will pledge to showcase their talents in physical, creative or musical activities.

To achieve their pledges, students must provide evidence of their participation and the time they have dedicated to fulfilling each pledge. They are required to demonstrate this on 3/4/5 occasions or commit to 3/4/5 weeks, depending on their year group (Year 7, 8 or 9).

Upon successful completion and submission of evidence, students will receive the Community, Aspiration, Respect, or Excellence Pillar Award. All students have the opportunity to earn all four Pillar Awards. The pledges made can be personal and unique to each student.

Certifications will be presented during the Celebration Assemblies to recognise your achievements. We look forward to seeing your progress in the coming term!

FLU VACCINATION

Don't forget Years 7-11 are able to get their Flu Vaccinations on Wednesday 18th December 2024.

ART

THE ASHLAWN ARTS FACULTY PRESENTS THE AUTUMN SHOWCASE!

Thank you to everyone that joined us for our recent art showcase.

It was a wonderful chance to celebrate the talents of our incredible students.



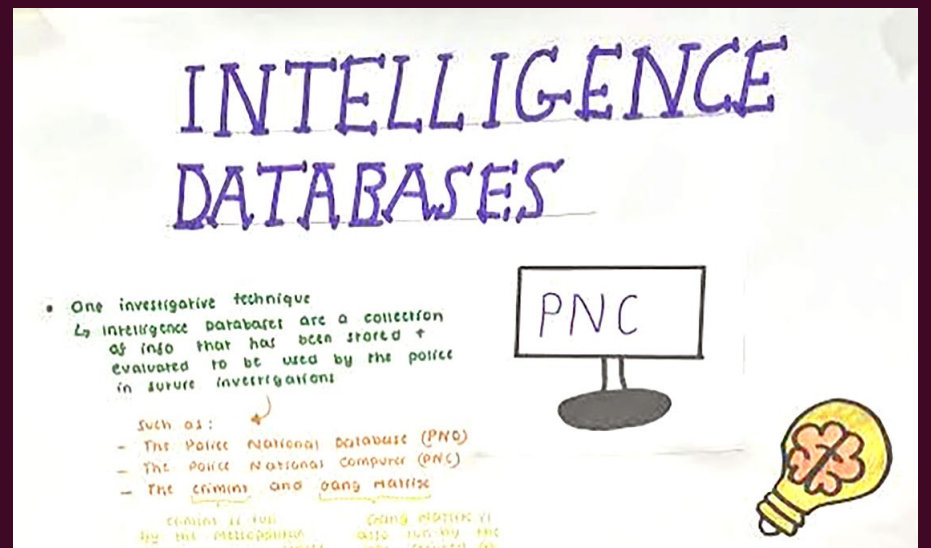
CRIMINOLOGY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

UNCOVERING THE TRUTH

This term, Year 13 Criminology students found themselves taking part in a thrilling investigation as they explored the world of crime scene analysis with a new mystery to solve.

From dusting fingerprints to analysing trace evidence, students stepped into the roles of investigators and examined scenarios where every clue brought them closer to cracking the case.

Working together under the pressure of a ticking clock, they scrutinised each piece of evidence, testing their theories and sharpening their detective skills. Will they reveal the culprit behind this term's mystery?



ENGINEERING

INSPIRING FUTURE ENGINEERS AT WARWICK UNIVERSITY

11 of our aspiring engineers recently attended an exciting careers evening at Warwick University.

Students listened to a series of talks from industry professionals at Triumph, JLR and Brompton, providing a fantastic opportunity to explore the engineering profession, connect with experts in the field and get inspired to make engineering a career option.



GEOGRAPHY

YEAR 13 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK TRIP TO SHREWSBURY

This year, our Year 13 Geographers were lucky to catch a break in the weather for their fieldwork trip to Shrewsbury. After days of rain, they enjoyed sunshine and clear skies for their NEA preparation and data collection.

The A-level Geography course requires students to complete an independent investigation worth 20% of their final grade. To develop essential skills in urban studies, carbon storage and infiltration rates, students visited the Preston Montford Field Study Centre. Each student then created their own unique investigation title before heading out 'in the field' for data collection. The trip provided opportunities for A-level content revision through scavenger hunts and games, making it both productive and fun.

Now, the NEA write-up begins in lessons, and we look forward to seeing the completed submissions at Christmas. Best of luck to our Year 13 Geographers as they start on this exciting project!

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

CELEBRATING EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

On Monday 30th September, we organised a language-themed 'Bake Off' to celebrate European Day of Languages.

Our Year 7 students baked and decorated cakes inspired by various languages and cultures, while Year 12 and Year 13 students sold these treats during break and lunch.

The event was a great success, raising £106 for our school charity, 'Our Jay'. It was a fantastic way to celebrate linguistic diversity while supporting a meaningful cause!



European Day of Languages 2024

Monday 30th September
break - lunchtime
outside South Block

**The Great
Languages Bake Off**

Come and celebrate the
European Day of Languages

All slices of cake = 50p
all money will go to the charity "Our Jay"



FRENCH

A DAY TO REMEMBER WITH OUR FRENCH PEN PALS

This term we had the pleasure of welcoming our French pen pals to Ashlawn! Our Year 11 students proudly led their new friends on a guided tour as well as attending some lessons together to give an insight into life at Ashlawn.

Impressively, the tour, which was entirely planned by our fantastic students, was conducted in French to make their pen pals feel at home.

The day continued with a special assembly led by our headteacher, Mr. Brockwell, who left everyone amazed as he delivered his speech in flawless French.

In the afternoon, students participated in lively 'get to know each other' activities, where English and French flowed seamlessly, allowing students to connect across cultures and language barriers.

A highlight of the day was the visit to Rugby School, where students introduced their guests to the birthplace of Rugby. In this historical

setting, one of the French visitors, Camille, gave an amazing rendition of the main theme from Interstellar on the piano, adding a special touch to an already memorable day.

The evening wrapped up with a fun quiz and a disco. Students danced, laughed and created memories that will last a lifetime. It was a day filled with friendship, cultural exchange, and unforgettable moments!

A special thank you goes to our Year 12 and Year 13 French students for their efforts in organising the day and ensuring that everyone had a wonderful time.



GERMAN

A FUN AND EDUCATIONAL TRIP TO GERMANY!

At the start of the term, our German students had the fantastic opportunity to visit Germany for a few days, where they practised their language skills while enjoying some unforgettable experiences.

The trip began with a visit to the Bay Arena, home of the Bayer Leverkusen football team. The students toured the stadium and gained insight into Germany's deep passion for football.

In Koblenz, they attended a language class at a local school, practising German with native speakers. They also took a scenic cable car ride to a fortress, where they were treated to beautiful views of the Rhine Valley. The trip ended with a relaxing boat ride down the Rhine River.

Overall, this trip was a wonderful mix of learning and fun, providing students with a valuable insight into German living and culture.



PERIPATETIC LESSONS

MUSIC

READY TO UNLEASH YOUR MUSICAL TALENT?

Sign up for Ashlawn's music lessons and begin your journey today!

Whether you dream of mastering the piano, shredding on the guitar, rocking the bass, or keeping the beat on the Drums, we have lessons just for you and so much more!

Don't wait! For more information, please contact musiclessons@ashlawn.tlet.org.uk to learn about what we have to offer.



INTERESTED IN EXTENDING YOUR LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM?



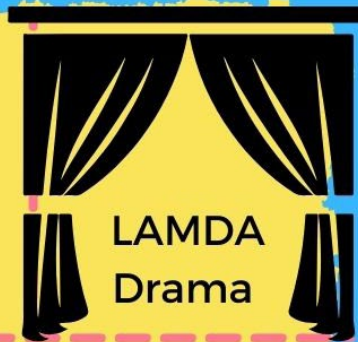
Piano
Keyboard



Voice



LAMDA
Drama



Guitar
Bass



Drum Kit
Percussion



For further information please email the address below:

MUSICLESSONS@ASHLAWN.TLET.ORG.UK

PHOTOGRAPHY

EXPLORING LIGHT PAINTING!

Year 10 Photography students have been exploring the creative art of light painting.

With the changing clocks and vibrant events like Diwali, Halloween and Bonfire Night approaching, this time of year offers the perfect opportunity to refine this impressive skill.

In class, students have been practising their techniques in preparation for individual photoshoots. Keep an eye out for some dazzling displays of creativity!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GIRLS NETBALL TEAM UPDATE

With a delayed start to the netball season, our Year 8/9 and Year 10/11 teams are currently midway through their fixtures, with several matches scheduled this term.

The Year 10/11 team, featuring a mix of returning players and new additions, has started the season with two impressive victories against Avon Valley and Rugby Free School.

Defensive standouts Lily, Kiersten, Jazira and Katherine have played a pivotal role, intercepting passes and turning over the ball.

In the centre court, Faith, Abigail and Lila have been quick and agile, driving the ball forward and finding open spaces.

Up front, experienced shooters Maryn and Grace have consistently delivered, scoring from various positions on the court to secure their team's strong start.

The Year 8/9 team, full of energy and enthusiasm, displayed tremendous determination despite being a relatively new team.

They fought fiercely for turnovers and worked hard to pass the ball down the court, though maintaining possession proved difficult.

Nevertheless, their resilience showed as they steadily closed the score gap each quarter.

However, they were unable to take the lead and ultimately conceded the win to Rugby Free.

The PE department is excited to continue developing all our players during training sessions on Thursdays.

They will be working hard to secure victories in their remaining matches. Year 7 students are also welcome to join training and their fixtures will begin in January.

Additionally, keep an eye out for basketball and badminton training and fixtures starting in November!



BOYS FOOTBALL FIXTURES

The Boys' Football team has had an impressive season, completing over 35 fixtures across multiple year groups. Each year group competes in the Rugby District School League, going up against seven other schools in the area and their results have been outstanding.

The Year 10 team, last year's Warwickshire County Champions, finished the league undefeated with a 100% record. Meanwhile, both the Year 8 and Year 9 teams are currently in first place as they approach their final fixture.

The Year 11 and Year 7 teams are also performing well, sitting in second and fifth place, respectively. Special congratulations to the Year 7 team, who performed exceptionally after a rigorous and competitive trial process!

In addition to their league participation, the teams are competing in the prestigious English Schools FA Cup (ESFA).

Both the Year 9 and Year 10 teams have advanced to the third round, an outstanding achievement! We will keep you updated on their progress as they continue in this competition.

Furthermore, our teams will be defending their title in the Warwickshire County Schools Football

A special mention goes to Max and Brody (Year 10), Rudy (Year 9) and Zane (Year 8), who are all involved in professional football academies outside of school.

Max currently trains two full days a week at Derby County and has competed in the prestigious Floodlight Cup against teams such as Nottingham Forest, Stoke City and Leicester City.

Looking ahead, we are excited to introduce basketball fixtures, an extra-curricular Badminton Club open to everyone and Rugby School Badminton Tournaments.

Position	Yr 10	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	GD	Pts
1st	ASH	6	6	0	0	38	24
2nd	AVS	6	4	0	2	9	18
3rd	HA	4	1	0	3	-8	7
4th	LSS	4	1	0	3	-11	7
5th	PC	3	1	0	2	-4	6
6th	RFSS	3	1	0	2	-13	6
7th	BIL	2	0	0	2	-9	2
8th	HOUL	1	0	0	1	-4	1

Position	Yr 9	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	GD	Pts
1st	ASH	6	5	0	1	23	21
2nd	AVS	6	4	0	2	0	18
3rd	LSS	4	3	1	0	8	14
4th	PC	4	2	0	2	-3	10
5th	HA	3	0	1	2	-3	4
6th	HOUL	3	0	0	3	-13	3
7th	RFSS	2	0	0	2	-5	2
8th	BIL	2	0	0	2	-8	2

Position	Yr 8	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	GD	Pts
1st	ASH	4	4	0	0	18	16
2nd	AVS	5	4	1	0	8	14
3rd	HA	3	2	0	1	0	9
4th	BIL	2	1	0	1	4	5

SCIENCE

IGNITING CREATIVITY IN SCIENCE!

Every Thursday this term, we have welcomed KS3 students into L9 for an exciting range of hands-on experiments. From the explosive fun of creating elephants' toothpaste to the mesmerising process of making lava lamps, students have enthusiastically dived into the wonders of science.

In addition to these experiments, students have had the opportunity to design and build their own boats and parachutes. This activity encourages them to use their imagination and knowledge while enhancing their understanding of basic design concepts.

We are thrilled to see our young scientists exploring and engaging with the subject in such creative ways and we look forward to more exciting experiments and projects in the weeks to come!



SIXTH FORM NEWS

Thank you to all the parents, carers and students who attended our Sixth Form Open Evening! We welcomed over 1,000 visitors to the school, creating an incredible atmosphere.

A special thank you to our dedicated teachers who showcased their subjects and provided insights into the opportunities available.

We also extend our gratitude to our students, who represented our school with pride and confidence. Your participation made the event a resounding success and we look forward to welcoming many of you to the Sixth Form!





ASHLAWN
SCHOOL



At Ashlawn we...

CARE

COMMUNITY

We value every member of the Ashlawn family and treat each other with kindness and compassion.

ASPIRATION

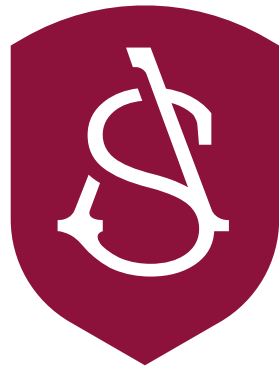
We work hard and make the most of exciting and challenging learning experiences, in order to open up the world around us and achieve our dreams.

RESPECT

We respect each other and our differences. We respect our learning environment and appreciate everyone's right to the best possible experience at Ashlawn.

EXCELLENCE

We are committed to trying our best and achieving the highest standards in our love of learning, so that we can be the best versions of ourselves.



ASHLAWN
SCHOOL

Our best, always

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