

This newsletter is a celebration of the vast array of opportunities that have been available to our students over the past term ranging from Year 7's re-enacting the Battle of Hastings, the Year 8 trip to the National Space Centre and the Year 11 trip to the National History Museum.

We have been very impressed with how well our Year 7 students have settled into life at Aldercar High School. They have quite clearly risen to the many challenges that their first term at Secondary School has thrown at them.

Our Year 11 students have just had their Parents' evening where student progress was discussed. As a result, students are taking part in focussed intervention sessions in their vocational subjects just before Christmas so that they can work on their coursework submissions. After Christmas, students will embark on a short, sharp intervention programme focussed on their GCSE subjects in preparation for their Mock exams in February.

Our Year 13 students are in the process of applying for their next steps in their career, be it at university, to embark on an apprenticeship or starting work. Year 13 are also preparing for their mock exams in February.

With regards to staffing, Mr Turner (School Business Manager) is retiring after having completed just over 3 years at the school. In addition, Mrs Davies (Teacher of Maths) and Mrs Fletcher (Head of Maths) will be leaving us at Christmas to go on Maternity Leave. We look forward to seeing them both back in the future.

Finally, I would like to remind you of the remaining Inset days for the next academic year which are as follows:

Inset Day 4 Friday 23rd June 2023

Inset Day 5 Monday 26th June 2023

As a result of joining the Embark Trust there is an additional Inset Day (Inset Day 6) on Friday 30th June 2023.

In addition to these dates, the school will be closed for the extra Bank holiday on Monday 8th May 2023 to mark the coronation of his Majesty King Charles III.

We hope that you have a wonderful festive season, and we all look forward to seeing all of our students when they return in the New Year on Monday 9th January 2023 at 8.20am.

Mrs Hatto Head Teacher

Sixth form news

Dress to impress

Each year, Post-16 students are encouraged to 'dress to impress' to mark remembrance day. This year a large number of our students took part and donned their smartest clothes. Next year, we are hoping that our Post-16 students will be able to not only 'dress to impress' but lead a number of other remembrance events.

UCAS

Our Year 13 students have been busily applying for university with applications to Universities of Oxford, York, Nottingham and Coventry to name a few. Subjects as diverse as Physics, Nursing and policing have proved popular and we are thrilled that all of our applicants so far have received offers for their chosen courses, some having lower or unconditional offers on the strength of their applications. We look forward to seeing the other offers come rolling through over the coming weeks.

Phoenix Partnership

Miss Cracknell was thrilled to be invited to a launch dinner for the Coventry University Phoenix partnership and to be able to join this fantastic scheme for Post-16. By becoming part of the partnership, our students across all years, but especially Post-16 will be able to access a wide variety of careers and University education both at the University and in school, they will have access to Coventry University Library and the opportunity for collaborative working with other partnership schools. We are already lining up an economics workshop on the University trading floor and some 'Street Law' events in the New Year. This really is a ground-breaking scheme and, with most of the costs of trips, events and visits covered by the partnership, we are hopeful that most of our students will be able to better explore what University can offer them.



Sixth Form news

Student council

This year we have seen the relaunch of the Post-16 student council. In the meetings so far, we have discussed what students want the Post-16 environment to look like, have asked all students for their opinions via a google survey and have tried to address issues which have arisen. We are currently looking into what trips and visits we can arrange for Post-16. Currently students have suggested the zoo for a subject based trip and a possible end of year trip to a theme park. All being well we will soon have news of some real developments in the future of the Post-16 environment including better designated study spaces and more exclusivity for Post-16 students so watch this space!

Mocks

After Christmas, Year 13 students will have their mocks in the first 2 full weeks of February and subject staff will be letting students know before the break what to revise and how to revise in their subject. Miss Cracknell will also be offering revision masterclasses at lunchtimes across January for students who need further guidance on revision strategies. Mocks are an important chance for students to focus on how to approach the real exams (especially as students may never have sat formal exams before) and we encourage all our Year 13 students to take every opportunity to achieve their best in these exams.

Tuition funding

Many of our students meet the national criteria for receiving tuition as part of the government's covid catch up tuition fund programme. So far the tuition has been subject based but, after Christmas, a number of students will be selected for academic mentoring with Mr Bououd. These will be 15 minute sessions every fortnight for academic coaching to allow students to develop in their independent learning and academic skills and will be an excellent opportunity for more focused support. Students will be informed in the new year if they are part of this exciting programme.

Sixth Form news

Year 12 next steps

On January 16th, representatives from Nottingham College are coming into school to talk with Year 12 students about apprenticeship opportunities once they leave Post-16. This marks the first of many activities to support our Year 12 students as they make plans for their 'next steps'. It may seem early but it is essential for students to have plans and ideas for their future before we start back in Year 13. Also planned is a trip to Nottingham Trent University on 10th February and a number of activities with Coventry University through the Phoenix Partnership later in the term. Any Year 13 students interested in apprenticeships have also been offered the chance of one to one meetings with Nottingham College on 16th January to find out more.

Bursary

Just a reminder that families in receipt of free school meals and/or certain benefits are eligible to apply for the bursary to help with the costs of remaining in education. This can support with any costs relating to school including bus fare, books and equipment and contributions to educational trips. Students should see Mrs Brighton in the Post-16 office to find out more.

Year 11

As we write, we are working through interviewing all Year 11 students about their plans for next academic year and are thrilled that the majority of Year 11 students are currently opting to stay with us for their Post-16 studies. We are also pleased to announce that, subject to numbers, we will be offering Business Studies, Graphics and Animal Care at level 3 BTEC for the coming year and would welcome any changes to applications based on this. Students are encouraged to speak to Miss Cracknell or Mrs Brighton to discuss their choices.

Please remember the deadline for Post-16 applications is Tuesday 10th January and we would advise students to apply even if they are still considering other options to ensure that their courses are taken into account when timetabling. Offer letters will be sent out in early March. Please remember we really do have a pathway for everyone but if you're not sure what's right for you talk to subject staff as well as Miss Cracknell or Mrs Brighton. We are really looking forward to the induction events planned for our upcoming Year 12 students over the coming few months.



Post-16 application
deadline is 10th
January 2023

Peer mentoring

Peer Mentoring at Aldercar launched this year with a number of the current Year 10 and Year 13 students having received training for the role in July last year.

Twenty mentors from Year 10 meet regularly with a Year 7 mentee. The objective of the scheme is to support Year 7 students who may need a little extra help in order to have a good transition from primary school to secondary school.

The success of the scheme has been largely down to the organisational and leadership skills of the Year 13 students who were each charged with leading a house group. It has been amazing to see older students taking on responsibility for a whole school initiative. The Year 10 mentors have made a huge impact on the success of Year 7 transition this year and as the lead for the project in school, We could not be happier with the way that it has been rolled-out. We will look to build on this for the Year 7s coming up to us next year. It has been a great success!



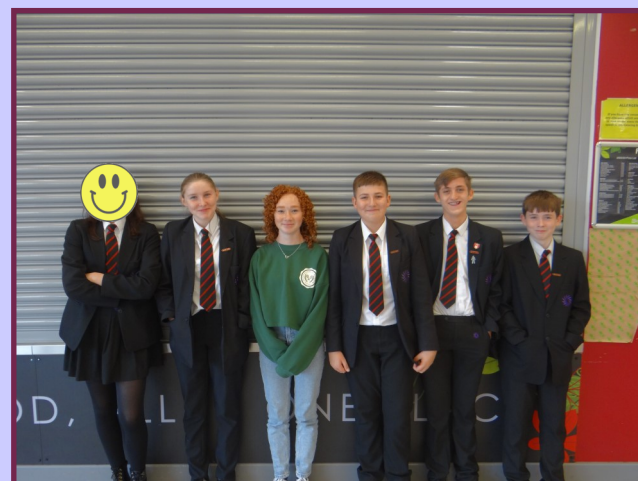
Gregg



Howitt



Shipley



Ormonde

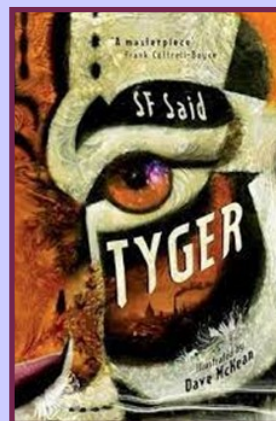
Accelerated Reader news

November's Star Readers - the Word-Millionaire Club.

The following students deserve our congratulations for reaching some mighty reading milestones this half-term. A huge well done to Cora, who is our first word millionaire of the year and to Max and Zac who have both read well over 250,000 words. Praise also goes to Oliver, Grace, Ewan, Abby, Harry, Kelsey, May, Grace, Kristina, Anne, Summer, Charlie, Isabella, April, Ella S and Ella G who have all read at least 100,000 words.

Tyger by RF Said

This is a dark and magical story about two children who find a mythical creature - a Tyger - in a rubbish dump in London - set in the near future of the 21st Century. An altered, dark London, where the Tyger is in danger and our protagonists Adam and Zadie are driven to save the Tyger, and in the process save London too. This is a book that looks at spirituality, and ideas of community, whilst the Tyger teaches Adam and Zadie about the sheer wonder of the universe, of nature and about interpersonal relationships. The Tyger helps the children find all their hidden skills and courage and release it all to fight against the awfulness in their world. It is a unique book full of adventure, joy and hope.



Reading

As part of our initiatives to improve reading and literacy here at Aldercar High School, we have introduced two new schemes; Direct Instruction and Thinking Reading.

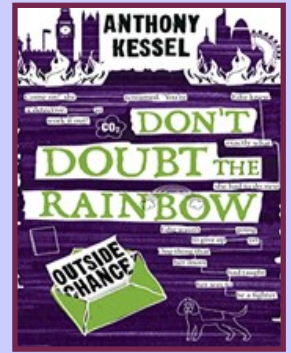
Direct Instruction is currently being used with students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 and is designed to improve student's reading pace, increase their reading accuracy and help to improve their understanding of what it is they are reading (comprehension). In this first term, we have seen all students make progress in these areas and are confident that students will continue to do so as we move into the spring term.

Thinking Reading is designed to help students make similar advances, however it is taught on a one to one basis. This half term, we have seen all chosen students make gains of a whole year on their reading ages, again, something we are confident will continue as we move into the new term.

For more information on all areas of reading at Aldercar High School, visit our website at <https://www.aldercarhigh.co.uk/students/reading/>

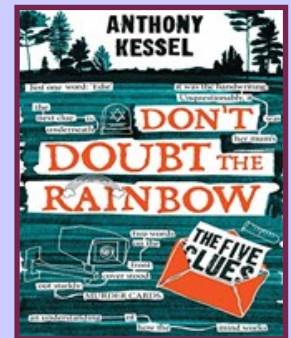
Author visit

Back in October, Year 7 students were treated to a visit from London-based author Anthony Kessel. Anthony is the NHS Public Health Director and Trustee of Booktrust and writes fiction books to support young people improve their mental health.



He entertained the year group by reading some extracts from two of his books in the 'Don't Doubt the Rainbow' series.

The first book in the series, *The Five Clues*, is a real-time murder-mystery thriller and family drama, combining an exciting race against time with a heart-rending story about a teenager learning to live with the loss of a beloved parent.



The second book, *Outside Chance*, is a fast-paced thriller in which teen detective Edie Marble is tasked with solving four very different but equally puzzling mysteries.

Some of our students then got the chance to participate with Anthony in a dramatic reading which was very funny. They did an excellent job!

Anthony also stayed behind for a book signing with students who had purchased one of his books. Anthony said that he had enjoyed meeting our students who were thoughtful and interesting.

Both of his books are available to borrow from our school library.



What's new in the Library?

The 'Get Caught Reading' raffle rewards students for reading well and encourages others to start reading during their free time. During break and lunch times, any student reading for fifteen minutes or more will be rewarded with a raffle ticket and be entered into the half-termly prize draw.



Clubs

This half-term has seen the introduction of an after-school homework club in the library on Mondays to Thursdays. If your child is struggling and would like some support or just a quiet place to get their homework done, they can come along to the library. Also watch this space to learn more about our Year 7 Book Club coming soon.

500 piece jigsaw challenge.

The students are making progress with our Christmas themed jigsaw. There are lots of activities on offer in the library at lunchtime including mindful colouring; Scrabble and other board games. In the weeks up to Christmas, our Reading Ambassadors will be running mini-workshops making origami stars and baubles. Research has shown that learning new skills like origami can help improve mental well-being by boosting self-confidence and by building connections with others.



Year 7 Battle of Hastings re-enactment

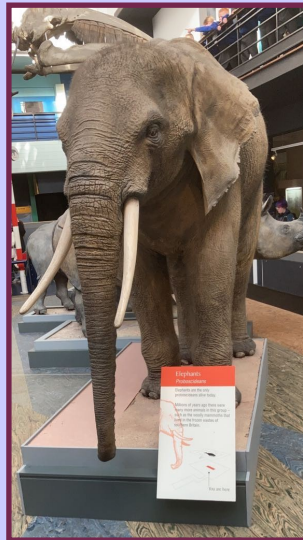
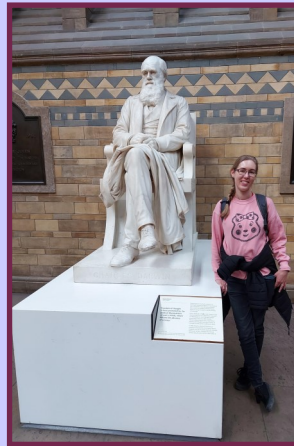
On Monday 14th November, Year 7 students took part in the annual Battle of Hastings re-enactment.

Students made either a Saxon or Norman sword and shield and acted out the core phases of the battle. All students were well behaved and had a lot of fun getting messy. However, this is actually part of helping our students understand the battle and come to a conclusion on the significance of different events in preparation for them writing an historical essay, 'William won the Battle of Hastings because of his superior tactics' Do you agree?



Year 11 trip to the National History Museum

On December 7th, 48 Year 11 students had the opportunity to visit the Natural History Museum in London. It was an early start and a long journey, but the views in the museum were well worth it. Students saw dinosaur skeletons, life size blue whale models, and other amazing exhibits. Lots of McDonald's meals were eaten on service station stops, and all were back safe at about 730pm. Well done!



Science

Some Year 10 students have carried out some creative learning. They used play dough to model out how our white blood cells produce antibodies.



Year 8 Science trip to The National Space Centre

On Thursday 13th October 55 Year 8 students went on a trip to The National Space Centre in Leicester. This was a very interesting day for our students. With six interactive galleries, the UK's largest planetarium, and the iconic 42m high Rocket Tower, the award-winning National Space Centre is an out-of-this-world experience and the Year 8 students thoroughly enjoyed it.



Languages

We had great fun in Languages, celebrating the European Day of Languages. We had a wonderful bake off where the students baked some amazing cakes.

Film club takes place each Friday after school and students have been really enjoying watching (with popcorn!) a selection of Spanish films.

Students are excited about the upcoming trip to Barcelona next summer - we will be visiting lots of fascinating places.

We have started having a sound of the week in Spanish so that the students can improve their pronunciation. This is displayed on the Daily Echo each week.

We will be looking at how Christmas is celebrated in different Spanish speaking countries over the next few weeks. We hope to learn some Spanish Christmas songs too - Mrs Jepson will be getting out her keyboard!

Feliz Navidad!



Careers Fair evening

On Tuesday 15th November Aldercar High school held their first ever Careers Fair evening. We invited around 40 different organisations to come in so students could seek advice about different careers/career paths. We would like to thank all of those who came to this very successful evening. Feedback from the evening has been extremely positive and there was certainly a buzz created about careers within school. We look forward to holding this event in the future and your continued support is appreciated.



Sport news

Back in September Aldercar High School's Year 11 football team (mixed with some Year 10 students) played John Flamsteed school. It was a close battle with John Flamsteed coming out victorious. The game was played at a really high intensity and our team fought with everything they had. There were some star performances from Zac, Dylan and James.

The following week the Year 11/10 team were at Belper School. The boys found themselves 2-0 down after 10 minutes and it was looking like it was going to be a long evening. They pulled one back at the end of the first half which raised their confidence levels. Once they regathered and started the second half, the quality came through from the lads and they comfortably won 5-3. Goals for Zac, James, George and Dylan. Well done to the team.

A massive well done to these 6 students who spent an after school session at Heanor Leisure Centre in October, helping out at a Key Stage 1 indoor athletics event. They gave up their time to help out Amber Valley School Sports Partnership.



Well done to our Year 10/Year 11 Football squad who beat David Nieper 2-0 with an all round solid performance at the start of October. An early goal saw us 1-0 up in the first half. We finished off the game towards the last 10 minutes of the second half, making it 2-0. Well done team!

11th October saw a tough night for Aldercar's Year 8 football team, the first of two rounds of a round robin at Belper School, with the second part after Christmas. Ripley won the first game, John Flamsteed School the second and Heanor Gate the third. A great experience for our young players.

Some Year 7 and Year 8 students went to a netball fixture on 13th October at Swanwick Hall. We lost the matches to Ripley Academy and John Flamsteed School, but won to Belper School 2-0. It was a Year 8 tournament but the Year 7's stepped up after only having a few lessons of netball. They were all a credit to the school.

Amber Valley Cross Country Championships were held on 19th October. Students who took part did very well. Aldercar High School came 5th overall. The top 12 finishers for each age group will be given the chance to represent the County in February. Well done to Zac, Ethan, Tansy, Lilly-Mae and Lilly, for all making the County team.

Sport news

A massive well done to our Year 10 and Year 11 boys who came out as champions in the futsal tournament on 7th November by winning all 3 of their games!

Aldercar High vs Heanor Gate 3-1

Aldercar High vs Swanick Hall 4-3

Aldercar High vs John Flamsteed 3-2

A special mention for Zac and James who were superb all night. Well done!



Students from Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 went to a girls' futsal tournament at Ecclesbourne School on Wednesday 9th November.

The Year 7 students played in the sports hall and performed excellently. Unfortunately they only played with a team of 4. Results:

Aldercar High 0- 0 Swanwick Hall

Aldercar High 0- 2 Belper School

Aldercar High 0- 2 John Flamsteed

Aldercar High 1-2 Ecclesbourne

A good effort which they enjoyed!



The Year 8 and Year 9 team were INCREDIBLE. There were 8 teams split into two leagues. Results as follows:

Aldercar High 2-0 Ecclesbourne A

Aldercar High 1-1 John Flamsteed

Aldercar High 2-0 Ecclesbourne C

These results meant we won our league and went on to play in the final and won.

Aldercar High 3- 0 Ecclesbourne B

The girls only let in one goal during the evening and played so well. We played 5 a side with no subs so all girls were on the pitch the whole time. Amazing.

The girls were buzzing when they left. Congratulations to them.



Sport news

The Key Stage 4 girls played a futsal tournament on Wednesday 16th November.

They all played really well. It was a league competition based over two evenings with the next one being after the Christmas break. Scores were:

Aldercar High 3-1 Heanor Gate A

Aldercar High 3-1 Ripley

Aldercar High 0-1 Heanor Gate B

With winning two games they have put themselves in a good position for the next evening!



Seven schools were in attendance for the Year 9 boys Futsal in November, so it was split into 2 leagues with the top spot of each league playing for 1st/2nd, and 2nd in each league playing for 3rd/4th etc.

Game 1 - David Nieper 2 - 1 Aldercar High. A lapse of concentration cost us a draw but then the boys kicked on from this and were faultless.

Game 2 - John Flamsteed 2 - 2 Aldercar

Game 3 - Aldercar High 3 - 0 Heanor Gate - A great game

Game 4 - we had to beat Ripley Academy to finish 2nd in the group. We were 2-0 down with 2 minutes to go but we then had the comeback of the century and ended up winning 3-2!



The team finished 2nd in our league and then played Swanwick Hall who finished 2nd in the other. We drew 1-1 and shared 3rd place.

Sport news

We had a really good night of football in the middle of November, with some excellent players on show. The Year 7 boys played really well and had a few close results and games which could have gone either way. Archie and Alfie played really well all night. We ended up coming joint 3rd overall so close.

Game 1 Aladercar High 0 - 4 Ripley Academy

Game 2 Aldercar High 4 - 3 Heanor Gate

Game 3 Aldercar High 3 - 3 David Nieper

Game 4 Aladercar High 2 - 3 John Flamsteed



Well done to our Year 10 boys who took part in a handball tournament on December 6th.

Results were:

Aldercar High vs Belper 2-8 - The game started really well but the Belper Year 11 students were just too big and strong for any team on the night and won every game they played.



Aldercar High vs Heanor Gate 2-0 - Great performance from the lads, scoring 2 quality goals working the ball up the pitch, as well as not conceding.

Aldercar High vs Flamsteed 1-3 - we were unfortunate to go straight into this game after 12 minutes against Heanor Gate. The lads were tired but showed great fight in staying in a very close game.

It was a very cold night in December at Ripley for our Year 7 football students in the first round of their tournament against Heanor Gate, John Flamsteed, Swanwick Hall, Ripley Academy and David Nieper.

They drew the first 2 games then lost the last 3 games 2-0, 1-0 and another 1-0. We were unlucky at times not to pinch wins in the first two games.



Well done to the students. This was a great experience for them.

Art house competition

Here is the most recent house competition, which was to design a Christmas Stocking! Already this term we have had the English Spelling Bee, Languages Bake off and Tug of War. Well done to everyone who took part. We have some charity events coming up so please look out for these. Current standings are 1st - Ormonde, 2nd - Howitt, 3rd - Shipley and 4th - Gregg but all to play for as we enter the Spring Term.



Spelling bee house competition

On Thursday 1st December Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 pupils took part in a Spelling Bee competition. The quality of the spelling was very impressive with Mr Garratt quite often having to refer to his dictionary to check the accuracy!

Included in the photo are our top 3 for each year group. The overall winner in Year 9 was Dylan, Ethan in Year 8, and (after a very close showdown with Lily) Daisy in Year 7.

Well done to all who took part!



Tug of war house competition

The annual Tug of War house competition was a fun packed week before October half term. Year 7 started the week and results were Shipley 1st, Howitt 2nd, Ormonde 3rd and Gregg 4th. Tuesday was for the Year 8 students. Results were Howitt 1st, Ormonde 2nd Gregg 3rd and Shipley 4th. Wednesday saw the turn of the Year 9 students. Their results were Ormaonde 1st, Shipley 2nd, Howitt 3rd and Gregg 4th. Thursday's Year 10 teams may have had a bit of help form some of the staff, especially Mr Parry who wanted to give a helping hand, but ended up slowing his team down more than helping them! Results were Ormaonde 1st ,Gregg 2nd, Howitt 3rd and Shipley 4th.

Lastly were the Year 11 students. Their results were Shipley 1st, Ormaonde 2nd, Gregg 3rd and Howitt 4th.

Well done to everyone who took part. The overall winners for the week were Ormonde.



Chess club

In the last week of the Sumer term, 12 pupils took part in Aldercar High School's chess championship.

There were lots of great matches. Ewen and Grace were unlucky to go out in the first round. Louii battled to a surprise semi-final place and Vinny was sweeping all before him before being narrowly edged out in his semi final.

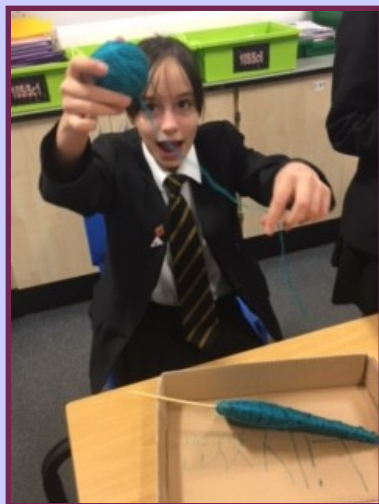
The final was between Kaydyn and Harry, with Kaydyn eventually emerging triumphant (before seconds later dropping his winner's trophy!).

A well done to all and roll on next year's competition.



Science craft club

Mrs Roe and Mrs Mee are running a Science craft club. They have been making and decorating Christmas trees.



Animal care after school club



Animal science after school club is offered to all Key Stage 3 pupils interested in animals, animal care and ecology.

The pupils explore different aspects of animal care each session, ranging from animal adaptations, animal identification, animal habitats and biomes.

This club is fun, engaging, interactive and suits all. Any pupils that would like to join please speak with Mrs Spray.

Inspires project at Derby County Football Club

On Thursday 30th November, some of our Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 students took part in the Inspires project through the Derby County Football Club community engagement team.

We were welcomed, with 2 other schools, into the players' lounge. The students were given breakfast and were told the itinerary for the day.

Firstly we were given an interactive careers talk by the Army, where they tried on the kit and looked at different career paths and training within the Armed Forces.

Next was the Inspires project, where the students were given the task of making a sustainable environmental impact into their local community. With the winning school being given £150 and the use of Derby County Football Club to complete the project.

HSBC bank were next to give a financial talk with the students, of how best to manage money, what a credit score is and also what career opportunities there are available to them in the financial sector.

Lastly, the students were given a VIP tour of the phenomenal Derby County Football Club stadium. Some of the highlights were both The changing rooms, where the students were shocked to see the difference in home and away changing room facilities, the pitch, media suite, community corner, executive and director boxes.

The students loved it, as you can see from their faces, and we cannot thank David Goulding and his team enough for inviting us and being so hospitable.



Minibikes championships 2022

Year 9 student, Harrison Haslam has been riding minibikes since he was very young, entering his first championship competition when he was just 6 years old.

Minibikes are small off-road motorcycles. Harrison races in the youth seniors category.

The championships consist of 10 rounds, a number of races are held for each round, points are achieved through the rounds. The overall totals for all 10 rounds decide the championship winners for the season.

Harrison won the 2022 championship youth seniors category, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him and wish him all the best for his future races.



2022 Youth Senior Minibike British Champion -
Harrison Haslam #26

This is what Harrison had to say about this season's championship:

"At the start of the season I had bike issues, meaning I had bad results in the first round. After the first round we got a working bike and I managed to win the second round.

In the third and fourth round I won every race over the weekend. Round five and six were close races, however I still managed to get the overall win. Coming into the last 2 rounds I had a lead of 85 points. My dad then told me I had to win the next two races to win the whole championship. I won the first race but in the second race I crashed twice. After I crashed the first time, on the first lap, I managed to work my way back up to the lead. When the last lap board was out I carried on riding really fast and ended up getting taken out by a backmarker. In the last race I was in the lead then I stalled the bike on one of the corners, but luckily I didn't lose my position and I won that race meaning I had won the whole championship!

The next day on the last round my friend borrowed my bike so I went on his. Another one of my friends has not had a trophy from there yet so I decided to let him past so he could get his first trophy."

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

A big well done to Heather, Sophia and Alicia, who were the first from their year group to achieve the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award! They completed sections in volunteering, physical, skills and the all important expedition to gain this fantastic award!! Well done.



Dance competitions

Year 9 student, Grace is no stranger to dance competitions, and she has a number of trophies too. You can quite often see Grace dance at our school events and, if you have seen her, you will appreciate just how talented this young lady is. Here are some of the competitions she has entered:

Under 14 National League sequence winner 2021/2022

Vice Champion under 16's Latin Sequence at the British Championships 2022

Finalist in under 16's tango solair/countess waltz at the 2022 British Sequence Championships in Blackpool.

1st place under 14 ballroom at the Great British Open Cup.

1st place under 14 ballroom at the TLF Dance Titles 2022.

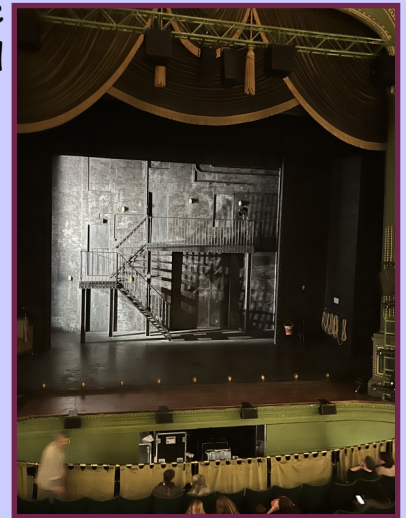
Finalist when in an all girl partnership in under 12 all girl Sequence - British Championships Blackpool 2019

1st place all girl Sequence Champions of Tomorrow Blackpool 2019.

We wish Grace all the best with her dancing in the future.

Bugsy Malone theatre trip

On Wednesday 2nd November, 78 Aldercar High School students went to Nottingham Theatre Royal to watch the musical Bugsy Malone. The musical had some great props, costume and scenery. The singing was good and the dancing was great. A good time was had by all.



Christmas Show

On Tuesday 13th December The Performing Arts team put together their annual Christmas show. Students from guitar club, dance club, drama club and Years 7-11 performed a variety of acts. The audience joined in for the finale in a singalong. Great fun was had by all.



Sign Song Performance

On 15th December we hosted a sign song performance. Pupils from Aldercar Infants and Langley Mill Juniors joined pupils in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 for a night of Christmas signed celebration. Everyone did an incredible job with some absolutely phenomenal signing. Well done to all involved!



Breakfast Club

A brand new breakfast club has started up, it is by invitation only and is free to students who have an invitation ticket. It is in the Food room every day from 8:00am to 8:25am. A HUGE thankyou to ASDA for the kind food donations.



What is it like to be visually impaired

Mrs Steeples, a member of staff in the ERS department, has been working alongside blind student, Sadie and partially sighted student, Steph. The students got Mrs Steeples to wear a blindfold so that she could understand the challenges they face when dealing with life skills and lessons.



ERS remembrance day poppy display



Aldercar High School students from the ERS department have painted/coloured lots of poppies and have helped mount them, to create the beautiful display for remembrance day.



ERS Christmas wreath making

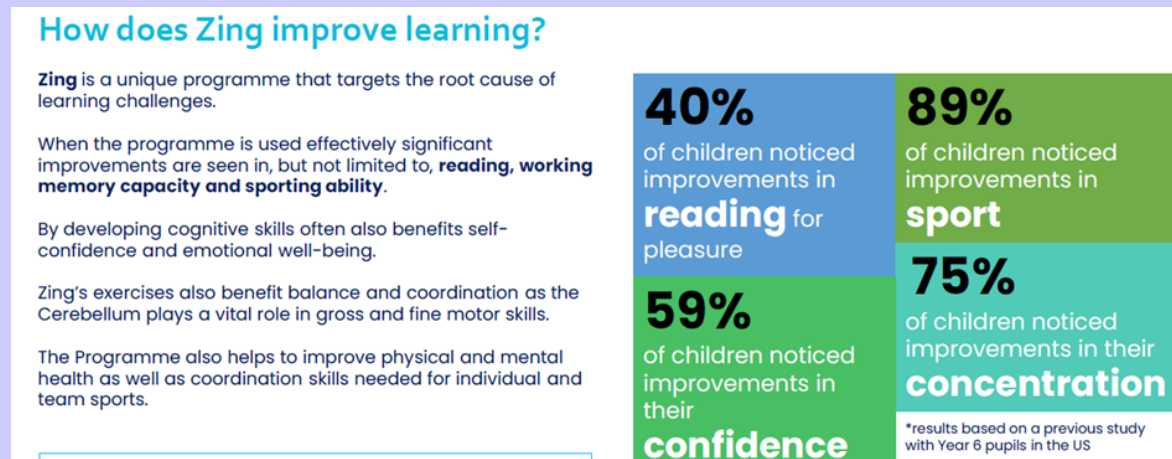
Students in the ERS department based in the Phoenix Centre have been making some wreaths for Christmas.



Zing

Some of our Year 7 students have been given the exciting opportunity to participate in a new program - Zing Performance.

The program is designed to help children with learning, studying and brain development. It involves just 10 minutes of simple daily exercises, completed during tutor time. Participating in this program will hopefully lead to improvements in physical, mental, academic and reading ability, which also improves self-confidence and emotional well-being.



<https://www.zingperformance.com/>

Anti-Bullying Week

November 14th - 18th was national Anti-Bullying week and this year's message was 'Reach Out'.

The key messages were:

- reach out to someone you trust if you need to talk
- reach out to someone if you know they are being bullied

Assemblies were delivered to all year groups, highlighting exactly what bullying is and who the students can speak to if they need to report a bullying issue.

Any concerns a student may have can be reported to their form tutor, Head of Year or any of their teachers.

Below is a link to the Anti-bullying Alliance

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2022-reach-out>

Macmillan coffee morning



Macmillan coffee morning was a success at Aldercar High School. Between the online donation page and the cake sale, a total of £457.70 was raised.

A massive thank you to those of you that donated, baked, or came to show your support by getting goodies.



G3A FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

WE ARE LOOKING TO RECRUIT 15-20 YEAR OLDS TO ATTEND OUR TRIALS FOR OUR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY COURSES. HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH EX PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER AND CURRENT ILKESTON TOWN MANAGER JAMIE WARD AS WELL AS WORKING WITH CURRENT SEMI PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS AND G3A DIRECTORS BRAD GASCOIGNE AND TOM ELLIOTT.

CONTACT TO BOOK FOR A TRIAL/MORE INFO:

✉ G3AFOOTBALLACADEMY1@OUTLOOK.COM

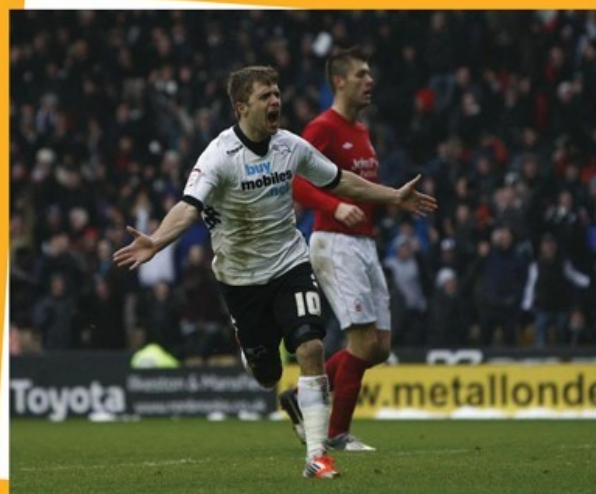
☎ 07902 191 639

🌐 WWW.G3AFOOTBALLACADEMY.CO.UK

📷 [G3A_FOOTBALLACADEMY](https://www.instagram.com/G3A_FOOTBALLACADEMY)

🐦 [@ACADEMYG3A](https://twitter.com/ACADEMYG3A)

📘 [G3A FOOTBALL ACADEMY](https://www.facebook.com/G3A.FOOTBALL.ACADEMY)



- FULL TIME FOOTBALL/EDUCATION COURSE
- PATHWAY TO MEN'S FOOTBALL
(U18'S > U19'S > U21'S > FIRST TEAM)
- COMPETE IN THE BEST YOUTH COMPETITIONS
- WEEKLY FIXTURES
- CAN STILL PLAY FOR CURRENT GRASSROOTS TEAMS
- PATHWAY TO AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP
- PROFESSIONAL TEAM GAMES/CONTACTS



NOW AT 2 VENUES!
ILKESTON TOWN FC
MANOR ACADEMY, MANSFIELD



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**BUILDING
EFFECTIVE
RELATIONSHIPS
TOGETHER**

We are working towards the BERT Award !

About the BERT Award

Building Effective Relationships Together (BERT) – is the name of the new Derbyshire Relationships and Sex Education Award Programme which our school is working towards.

Through the BERT Award we aim to:

- Develop our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in PSHE in school
- Further develop positive relationships in the school community
- Reduce stigma around asking for help and support on sensitive issues, such as puberty, sexual health, online relationships and consent



Why is this area of education important?

Where children and young people have [good friendships](#) and connections with others, this supports their safety, mental health and wellbeing, ability to take part in lessons and to achieve well in their learning.

[Research](#) tells us that quality relationships and sex education (RSE) helps to keep children and young people safe and reduces risky behaviour.

For more information about the BERT Award please contact Mrs Murray or Mrs Cleveley.

Look out for more resources on our website to support you in talking to your child about Relationships and Sex Education in the Spring Term.

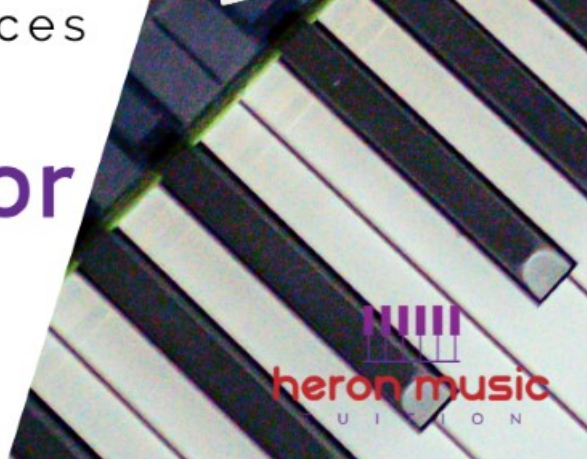


Piano Lessons

Learn to play piano in school.

- Lessons on Monday morning
- Immediate start
- Fees from £10
- Subsidies for eligible pupils
- Friendly teacher!
- Practice app & resources

Ask in school for more details





Come along to our weekly



Warm Wednesdays



10am - 4pm

*Starting Wednesday 16th November 2022
then each Wednesday through to 1st March 2023*



**Greenwich Community Sports Hub
Nottingham Road, Ripley, DE5 3AY**

FREE hot lunch and FREE drinks each week



FREE activities, games, music, TV, bring a book, bring your laptop / tablet and sign in to our free WIFI, bring your knitting, your crafts, or your hobbies along!



All ages welcome, including children with their carer.

**Turn off the heating in your home on a Wednesday and
come and spend the day in our warm hub.**

Disabled access

Baby changing facilities

Free car parking

Warm Wednesdays are supported by Ripley Town Council, Ripley Recreation Ground Charity and the Members Community Leadership Fund at Derbyshire County Council.

Ripley
Recreation Ground
Charity

www.ripleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01773 513456

DERBYSHIRE
County Council



Could you be missing out on

**welfare
benefits**

that you're
entitled to?

Get in touch
for a
benefits
check up.



Don't miss out. Visit:

[www.derbyshire.gov.uk/
welfarebenefits](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/welfarebenefits)



**HELPING YOU WITH
THE COST OF LIVING**

Diary dates

Event	Date
Last day of term	22nd December
CHRISTMAS BREAK	23rd December-6th January
Students return to school	9th January
Year 11 revision evening and post-16 tours (invitation only)	10th January
Year 13 parents evening	11th January
Year 9 options and parents evening	17th January
Year 13 UCAS deadline	18th January
Year 10 and Year 11 Poetry Live trip	31st January
Year 9 options deadline	3rd February
Year 11 and Year 13 mock exams begin	6th February
Year 10 parents evening	8th February
Year 11 and Year 13 mock exams end	17th February
Last day of half term	17th February
HALF TERM	20th - 24th February
Students return	27th February
Year 13 finance evening	28th February
World Book Day and Year 9 Geography fieldtrip	2nd March
Year 11 Photographs	3rd March
Post-16 ERF trip to Centre Parcs	6th - 10th March
Year 12 visit Coventry University	15th March
Red Nose Day	17th March
Student gratitude week	27th-31st March
Year 12 Psychology trip to London	27th March
Year 8 Parents evening	30th March
Last day of term	31st March
EASTER BREAK	3rd-14th April



Aldercar High School
would like to wish you
A Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year