

# The Update

The Axe Valley Community College Newsletter: Friday 6th February 2015 - Issue 9



ASPRE students on stage with a member of the cast of War Horse learning the principles of puppetry.

## Head teacher's message

### Welcome to new Parent Governors

Congratulations to Martin Huscroft and Julie Paddick who were recently elected as parent governors. We are extremely fortunate to have a highly dedicated board of governors who provide a high level of support and challenge to myself and the college as a whole. Martin and Julie have a wide range of skills and experience which will further strengthen this. Thank you to all the parents who took part in the election.

### The benefits of community

Our aim is to be an 'outward facing' college. To make this a reality we focus on building strong links with local businesses and organisations, who are more often than not, only too keen to share their time, skills and experiences with our students.

This approach enables us to add value to our students learning in many ways. For example, The Project is a mental health charity based in Axminster supporting young people in Devon. The charity is run by Debbie Humberstone and has been extremely successful in its first years of operation. Through working with Debbie and her colleagues we have been able to deliver affordable workshops as part of our PSHE days to nearly 50% of our students.

Other experiences that we run, such as mentoring for

REACH and ASPIRE, rely on community support (Please see list of new mentors for REACH on p7). In return, we hope that our community partners benefit from raising awareness of their organisations aims and inspiring young people to go into their profession.

### Finally

I would like to thank Mr Everington (History) for his contribution to the college while providing maternity cover. Welcome back to Mrs Lee who started on Monday. Miss Martin (English) is off for six weeks following an operation. Mrs Robertson will be covering Miss Martin's classes during this period.

Congratulations to all the students whose achievements are celebrated in this *Update*. Lastly, if you are passing the college of a Tuesday after school please don't be alarmed if you hear explosions emanating from the Science department - it will be Mrs Bishop's KS3 Science Club!

**Martin Smith - Head teacher**

### **Diary Dates:**

- 12 February - Year 7 & 8 PSHE performances
- 13 February - Year 9 PSHE Performance
- 16-20 February - Half Term
- 24th February - Year 9 Options evening
- 5th March - ASPIRE Trip to Macbeth



# Student Update



## Science Club

Due to clashes with sports clubs and maths activities, KS3 Science club has changed to Tuesday evenings.

After the last session of "Squeaky Pops" where we enjoyed making and exploding Hydrogen, this week was the "Science of Sound". Students from year 7 and 9 worked together on some very noisy experiments with coat hangers. We endured Mrs Bishop singing into a microphone and visualised the sound waves with an oscilloscope.

The session ended on a low note as we made beautiful music with rubber glove bassoon instruments we made ourselves. Apologies to

any parents who have been entertained by these delightful musical instruments. Ear plugs will be supplied on request.

Next week we are dissecting hearts for valentines day. How romantic!

**Mrs E Bishop –Science Department**

## Cook Club

We got into a wonderfully sticky mess last week when we made fudge in Cook Club, but with some beautiful and delicious results.

This week we had a go at apple rose pastries, I didn't expect there to be such a range of different results, the students were so creative! Some of the roses were more like rose bushes, but it didn't matter at all, they were all yummy and we had so much fun!

**Mrs K Pemberton - Cook Club Supervisor**







**YEAR 11 ART**

**Clubs have started on a Wednesday and Thursday lunchtime and after school in B7.**

**We are working on improving coursework and completing a very high standard of work. You are invited.**

### **Artist of the week**

A special mention to Ellie Anning-Becket. Her critical mind has been developing an excellent contextual understanding of J W M Turner and is currently learning how to apply his unique style to her own work. Well done Ellie.

**Mr M Bowskill—Head of Art**

### **Year 9 Visit to Exeter University**

Today the whole of Year 9 visited Exeter University and attended workshops and seminars throughout the day.

Having been greeted by the Exeter University student ambassadors their first talk was called "Student Survival and Dispelling University". Students were split into two groups and they

had true and false cards to answer questions and worksheets to work through.



The student ambassadors worked with small groups of students and discussed exactly what lectures and seminars are and how they differ from classroom teaching at secondary school.



# College Notices



## School lunches and Nutrition

Devon Norse is the catering provider at Axe Valley. In conjunction with the college they aim to provide a daily hot and nutritionally balanced, two course meal which contributes to the health of pupils and staff which promotes the benefits of healthy eating to the wider learning community in accordance with Government Nutritional Standards.

Four weekly menus have been produced and checked by county to comply with allergy and nutritional standards and these rotate every four weeks. Please see an example attached. Further details and the full policy can be found on the college website.

DevonNorse	
M	Spaghetti Bolognese or Quorn Bolognese Rice Pudding with Jam
Tu	Country Vegetable Pie or Homemade Chicken, Ham & Leek Pie served with Jacket Potato, Carrots/Peas Orange Flan
W	Roast Pork & Apple Sauce with Sage & Onion Stuffing or Stuffed Peppers Ice Cream with Sliced Fresh Banana
Th	Chicken Korma or Vegetable Korma served with Rice & Naan Bread Bread & Butter Pudding with Custard
F	Westcountry Sausages or Cod or Quorn Sausage served with Chips & Baked Beans Chocolate & Pear Sponge with Custard

# eSafety Advice

## Gaming

Computer games can be great fun for children, but there are several risks involved, which you can reduce with the correct approach.

Research game websites that are specifically there for children and get advice from people you trust about those that their kids use.

More and more children – especially older ones – are playing online multiplayer games, even though many have age certificates. You may be able to monitor and control this, but if your child is at a friend’s house, you may not know what they’re playing with.

Talk to your child about why games publishers put out games for people of certain ages ... to protect them from things they would be best not to see. Talk to them about communicating with online strangers in games: even though they may seem friendly, their motives may not be. If they play games that involve buying and selling ‘in game property’, there’s a risk of

fraud, as many parents who have had their credit card maxed out have found.

Some more specific advice can be found: <http://bit.ly/1h1Gh9S>

Additional eSafety guidance can be found on the weblinks listed on:

<http://axevalley.devon.sch.uk/parent/esafety/>



# TAVCC PTFA Update

## Local Giving

Thank you to everyone who made a donation for clubs and activities on the "Give me 5" match funding day we raised £91.00.

Donations can be made at any time, easily and safely online and by using this method the PTFA will also benefit from Gift Aid.

[www.localgiving.com/charity/tavccptfa](http://www.localgiving.com/charity/tavccptfa)

## Jumble Sale

Sadly we had to postpone the jumble sale last week as we had too little jumble. We are hoping to fix another date in March so please keep any unwanted clothes, shoes, books and toys.

## Help needed

The PTFA is planning to host a 5-a-side football tournament in the summer term on the new AGP. If any parents have been involved in similar events before we would be grateful for your help. Please get in touch with Jacky Lomax or Kate Pemberton.

**The next PTFA meeting will be held on:**

**2nd March at 7pm.  
Everyone is welcome!**





# REACH Update



component parts of the stoves, the robotic welder and the huge folding machine that bent and moulded metal pieces as if they were mere sheets of paper. Other areas included the finishing, painting and packaging. On an average day the factory will produce 50 to 100 stoves depending on the style and size and the company's warehouse contains thousands of finished stoves with racks and racks of spare parts and components.

The management and marketing office was our last stop where

we met the accounts team and talked to the office based staff. The students were shown a video and a demonstration of some of the sophisticated software that the company uses to produce its sales brochures and virtual reality prototype stoves.

We would like to give a big thank you to Arada Stoves for supporting the school in many ways, including these unique and insightful tours available to our students.

## REACH Tours and Talks

### Arada Stoves, Axminster

This week we visited one of Axminster's most significant manufacturing companies Arada Stoves. Commercial Director, Mark Brettell and Marketing Manager, Louise Goldsworthy gave us a tour of the offices, factory and warehouse.

The product design team were the first we met with engineers and product designers, and then the buyers of raw materials and spare parts.

As we moved into the factory there was a blast of noise as we went through the door – all of us had been issued with high-viz jackets and ear defenders and we definitely needed them!

Mark showed us the vast industrial laser cutters that cut huge sheets of metal into the

## Forthcoming Tours and Talks

The next talk will be on the 11th February when guest speaker Vicky Moss-Crump from Cosmic will be talking to us about the IT industry, social networking and web design.

This will be followed by a visit on 25th February to Newton Abbot to visit IDS, the largest wholesale dancewear company in the UK and to meet founder and owner Anne Walker MBE who was awarded this honour for her contribution to business.

On the same day we will also be visiting the Hair and Beauty Skill Academy for a taster session in hairdressing with Nikki Boone. This trip is fully booked.





**Mentoring**

Professional coach and mentor Jane Hepper came to the college this week to talk to the students who have signed up for the REACH mentoring programme.

Jane explained how to make the most of their mentoring sessions. She used the image of a path leading to mountains as a metaphor for our life journeys, with the mountain peaks as the final goal. She explained that a mentor is someone that can help you to clarify your options and consider all the possible ways you can reach your goals and well as setting you back on the path when you lose your way.

She also stressed how important it is to own the process, to make a commitment to getting the most out of the discussions and to approach the sessions with an open mind.

**Mentor appointments**

We have been working really hard to recruit a fantastic team of both male and female mentors from a wide range of industries including IT, Retail, Manufacturing, Hospitality, Finance, Leisure, Marketing, Sales, Music, Finance, Midwifery etc. as well as several in HR departments of large companies.



This is an amazing and unique opportunity for students to receive friendly one-to-one advice and support and to gain reassurance about their career path or academic choices, or simply for any students that might be worried about their exams or who just need a confidence boost!

The first appointments will be starting next week. Please contact me if you would like to meet one of our brilliant mentors but haven't yet signed up.

**Mrs K Pemberton - REACH Co-ordinator**





# ASPIRE Update



## War Horse from Page to Stage

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 50 ASPIRE students took part in a fantastic day of theatre. The group travelled to Bristol Hippodrome and started the morning with a workshop with the actors and puppeteers from the award winning show. Topics for discussion covered script writing, stage production, music, lighting and props.

The actors worked with the school groups and two lucky students got the chance to go up on stage and bring a newspaper puppet to life, sneaking a peek behind the scenes at the same time.

After lunch the group enjoyed the matinee performance, made even more special because they had met the actors now on stage. It was a fantastic show and an excellent chance for

students to get a taste of dramatic live theatre. They loved it so much that the Axe Valley students led the standing ovation at the end!

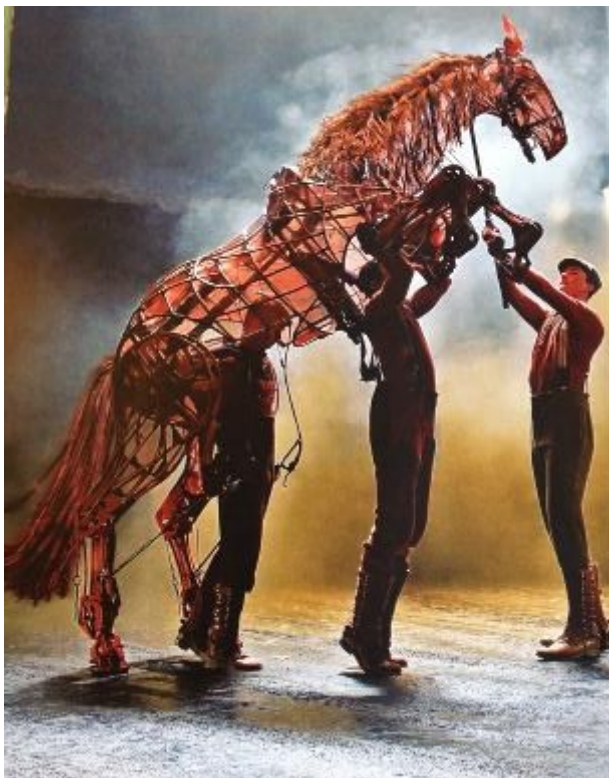
James Windsor (10EB) – *Being a GCSE drama student it really helped to see the different lighting and sound techniques used and how this affected the puppets and gave different emotions.*

Amanda Apsey (9RF) – *I thought the best part was finding out all about the work that is put in to make a show, to understand how much preparation is needed and how many people are involved.*

Jessie Holmes (7RS) – *I really loved the whole show, it was amazing! I thought it was really interesting as I have always loved finding out about World War I and World War II. This show gave me a whole different insight.*







Ethan Huntley (8NB) – *Learning how they make all the puppet characters appear real, they called it “giving life” to them as they make them appear to breathe.*

Gracie Carpenter (12DT) – *I found the trip really beneficial because I am taking A level music and have been in productions. It was good to watch live drama which is my passion.*

### Year 10 Discovering Medicine Day

Four year 10 students accompanied Mrs Whipp for this event in conjunction with Exeter Medical School on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January. The students took part in lectures and were given a tour of the college.



### Villages in Action

The Young Promoters team met last week to talk through plans for the forthcoming visiting theatre event from La Navet Bete. The team are busy producing information packs for each tutor group to display in their tutor rooms and posters to send out to schools in the Learning Community. The show is called Dick Tracy and is a fun packed comedy suitable for all the family. Tickets will be on sale from school reception after half term. The next Young Promoters meeting is Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30pm in the ASPIRE office; please come along if you fancy getting involved.

### Maths Workshop

Wednesday this week was all about “Getting the Point”, as Ms Cleare worked with year 7 and 8 high attaining maths students looking at fractions and decimals. They were reassured not to be afraid of fractions as they looked at fascinating fraction facts and demystified the decimal.



They also looked at cool repeating number patterns, predicted what decimals would do (without the need for a calculator) and looked into mathematical black holes!

**Mrs Slade - ASPIRE Co-ordinator**

# Sports Update

## Girls Football

### Yr7 Axe Valley Girls clinch East Devon School Games Girls Football title!

On Thurs 29th Jan the Yr7 Girls Football team from Axe Valley Community College travelled to Exmouth for the 2nd round of the East Devon girls football competition.

The first round had been held in November and the Axe Valley girls had finished top of the table with 16 points but with a further 20 points per team available it was all still to play for as Uffculme were only 2 points adrift on 14pts, Exmouth (8), Honiton (6) and The Kings (5).

It was a cold, windy evening with some flurries of snow which made conditions tricky and the Axe Valley girls struggled to gain control in their first game losing 1-0 to Uffculme. As these were Axe Valley's closest contenders it meant the girls needed to improve dramatically. Improved form against Exmouth lifted spirits and Axe Valley won 1-0. Honiton were having a great round and had won their first two games

so they faced Axe Valley full of positivity and won 2-1. This meant going into their last game Axe Valley were on 21 pts and knew that Honiton had finished on 21 and Uffculme on 25!

Lose and they would be 3rd, a draw would put them 2nd and only a win would do to clinch the 1st place spot!

Axe Valley took control from the first minute and stayed strong throughout the match to win 2-0 and take the honours. Goal scoring was shared between Poppy Hill and Devon Ellis. Min Dack's goal keeping skills were crucial in the winning games.

The team will now go on to represent East Devon at the Devon School Games Finals at Feniton Football Club in March

Photo back row l-r: Casey Philips, Kimberly Wood, Ellie King, Isobel Coman, Devon Ellis; Front row l-r: Caitlin Minshull, Min Dack, Poppy Hill, Molly Clinch







### Athletics

The indoor athletics team came away from the East Devon competition last week with a lot to be proud of:)

6 schools (72 athletes - 36 boys and 36 girls) from across East Devon attended the Indoor Athletics Competition on Weds 21st Jan.

It is a team event and all 12 athletes scores in every event count towards the final totals meaning that everyone has a crucial part to play in the team result.

The events covered are: Shot, Standing Long Jump, Speed Bounce, 2 lap race, 4 lap race and 1 lap relay.

The athletes had attending a couple of training sessions prior to the event and everyone competed with a superb attitude and effort - they were very supportive of each other and many of them improved their previous performances due to the encouragement of their peers and desire to achieve their best.

There were some particularly impressive results during the event:

- The Axe Valley team WON the Standing Long Jump event and came 2nd in the 4 lap race and 3rd in the speed bounce
- The Axe Valley girls came 2nd in the 4 lap race and 1 lap relay and 3rd in the 2 lap race.

- The Axe Valley boys came 3rd in the 4 lap race
- Hannah White won the girls standing Long Jump with a distance of 2.04m
- Bradley Croton won the boys Standing Long Jump with a distance of 2.40m
- Millie DeBono came 2nd in the Girls Shot with a distance of 7m
- Bradley Croton came 3rd in the Boys Shot with a distance of 7.5m
- Megan Herbert broke the girls record for Speed Bounce by jumping 74 times in 30 secs only to have the record taken away and beaten into 2nd place by an athlete from Exmouth who scored 78!
- Reece McAbe won the boys speed bounce (78) and Brad Croton came 2nd (77)

The overall team results placed Axe Valley in 4th position ahead of Honiton and Cullompton and only 4 points behind Kings School.

Hopefully everyone can build on this once the outdoor season arrives.

Well done to Hannah White, Millie Debono, Katie Burnett, Megan Herbert, Hannah Mead and Megan Woolridge, Bradley Croton, Will Hellier, Reece McAbe, Bradley Conway, Owen Neal and Lewis Burrige

**T Moran—Head of PE Department**

# Community Noticeboard



Tickets £21

## LET'S GET MUDDY!

BOOK NOW AT [ROCKSOLIDRACE.COM/ROCK-STARS](http://ROCKSOLIDRACE.COM/ROCK-STARS)

21st March 2015  
Escot Park, Exeter  
EX11 1LU

Help raise £10,000  
for The Calvert Trust  
as a Yeo Valley Rock Star



A 'fun' family pantomime

# ALADDIN

by Alan Frayn


at **THE GATEWAY**  
SEATON TOWN HALL

**THURSDAY EVENING**  
12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00 pm

**FRIDAY EVENING**  
13<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm

**SATURDAY MATINEE**  
14<sup>th</sup> February at 3.00pm

**SUNDAY EARLY EVENING**  
15<sup>th</sup> February at 6.00pm



Tickets: £10.00 adults £5.00 (age 14 and under)  
Box Office: 10am to 4pm Mon - Fri 10am to 1pm Sat  
Telephone 01297 625699

A few tickets still available!!

## Easter Workshops 2015

*Set your imagination free!*

*Our three day workshops will help you build confidence and theatre skills while focussing on devising a unique play incorporating drama, dance and music.*

*The play will be performed on the last day of the workshop.*

*Broadway Village Hall  
Mon 30th March -Wed 1st April*

*Axminster Guildhall  
Wed 8th-Fri 10th April*

*for 8 – 16 year olds*  
*10am-4pm bring packed lunch*  
*Full Cost £60*  
*Book and pay in Feb £52*  
*Pay via Paypal [musicartdancedrama@hotmail.com](mailto:musicartdancedrama@hotmail.com) or Bacs:  
Sophy Layzell Santander sort: 090666 account: 42552774*

