

AIXEMINSTR

Axe Valley Academy Newsletter



In this issue..

SOWING SEEDS

5

ALUMNI UPDATES

3

BOOKWORM BUDDIES

10

WELCOME TO ISSUE 4

Headteacher's Message

I feel delighted to again proudly present the latest addition of our newsletter. I love the fact that we can showcase our amazing community. We have been delighted to welcome everyone back to AVA and the way students have responded to their lessons and wider enrichment across the last term has been phenomenal.

I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new Year 7 students who have successfully gained a place at AVA for September.

CONTINUED P. 2



Headteacher's Message continued

We cannot wait to start transition with you and meet you and your families and we hope you love reading about all the exciting things that go on at your new school. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need any information.

We can't wait to welcome you into this fantastic community!

MARTHA'S CHARITY SKYDIVE



Martha Shuell is embarking on an exciting adventure for a wonderful cause. On the 24th of April Martha is doing a sky dive from 15,000 feet in aid of Marie Curie. She has been inspired to do something so brave by her Aunt Linda who has been a dedicated nurse for over 10 years.

Martha set herself a fantastic target of raising £200 when she set up her Go Fund Me page and we are delighted that she has already exceeded this target. We would love to support Martha in getting to an incredible target of £1,000.

Please look out for a non uniform day next term (to be confirmed) in honour of this brave awareness raising and fund raising sky dive. If you are able please do sponsor Martha to help her get to this phenomenal target.

ROCKING THE MAGIC NUMBERS

We are excited to announce that Axe Valley now subscribes to Times Tables Rock Stars!

Every child in school has a log in – they can see their maths teacher to get their username and password if they don't already know it. They choose a Rock Star nickname and 'play shows' by practising their times tables, earning rewards and titles as they go. Already, some of our students have earned the title Rock Legend due to their speed and accuracy on their times tables!



Fluency and accuracy in times tables is foundational and fundamental to being successful in maths. To name a few, knowing their times tables inside out helps students to: simplify fractions, calculate with fractions, factorise expressions, expand brackets, change the subject of an equation, manipulate ratios, work with percentages... and much more! These skills spill into other subjects like science and geography, too.

Many children will be familiar with Times Tables Rock Stars from primary school, so they already know how fun it is.

If you want to know more, there's a short video introduction to the website at the link below.

trockstars.com

“ *some of our students are 'Rock Legends'!* ”

AVA ALUMNI UPDATES

Three AVA alumni update us on their lives after Axe Valley...

Kelly Burns writes:

"After leaving Axe Valley, I went on to study Law, Philosophy, History and English Literature at Exeter College; gaining A Levels in the first three subjects. I was then offered a place at Exeter University to study Law, of which I am now in my second year. At University, I am involved in societies, projects and competitions such as becoming a peer mentor, student representative and a committee member on two societies. This hard work has allowed me to win mooting competitions and to be awarded a place on a prestigious legal mentorship program. I have also written articles that have been published in an online newspaper in my spare time. I have accomplished so much since my Axe Valley days through loads of hard work and determination. If I could offer a piece of advice to the current students of AV it would be to keep striving for your dreams, embrace learning and to never shy away from hard work."



Thomas Driver & Ollie Barret

Two ex Axe Valley students who left in 2016 have been Special Constables in East Devon for the past year.

Thomas Driver and Ollie Barret both look back at their time at Axe Valley with really fond memories and are a great example of how brilliant teaching have moulded them into the young men they have become today.

Thomas leaves his role as Special Constable this month to start a degree in policing with the aim of becoming a fully fledged police officer. The education, support and life lessons they received at Axe Valley have stood them in good stead for a really bright future.



GETTING ACTIVE OVER EASTER

Mr Owen shares his latest PE news

It does not seem possible that we are breaking for Easter! It seems like only yesterday that we were returning from the Christmas break. This half-term has seen our efforts concentrated on providing activities that focus and motivate students to participate in physical activity. Students have taken part in football, netball, badminton and basketball - all of which began with the customary short timed run! Looking forward to the summer term, the planned activities include athletics, striking and fielding, rounders and cricket.

Our CNAT students continue to work through their courses enthusiastically and look forward to being able to put their theory lessons into practice next term. The year 11 group are working hard to complete their coursework ready for submission in May. We are all impressed with the focus and resilience demonstrated by all our students during the last year and are looking forward to celebrating their achievements in the summer.

As a department we are very lucky to have access to a fantastic artificial surface (AGP) but to use it we must all wear the correct moulded stud footwear. If any students have stud boots that they have outgrown, please could you donate them to the school PE dept to ensure that everyone benefits from using the AGP.

Have a great Easter and enjoy some quality family time outdoors!



Easter Holiday Football Camps



Cloakham Lawn Sports & Social Club, Chard Road, Axminster, EX13 5HW

Coaches: Daniel Murnane, Dominic Goodhew, Harry Thresher & Jody Tucker (All coaches information is on the website www.dm-coaching.co.uk)

Day/Date	Drop Off	Football Camp Timings
Monday 5th April	8.45am	9am - 3pm
Monday 12th April	8.45am	9am - 3pm

*****Children 5-13 years old are welcome*****

YEAR 7&8 UPDATE

All the latest news from Mr Carr...

It has been an absolute delight to see Year 7&8 returning to school with renewed energy and determination. I don't underestimate how unsettling the period we were off school was, particularly for our Year 7s who had only just got used to their new school. I think, however, that the students have once again amazed us with their resilience and adaptability - quickly, calmly and without fuss adapting to new routines and rules. They are a huge credit to our school and the wider community.

One thing that lockdown has given many of us is a greater appreciation for 'normal' life and it is great to see students recognising their fortune to be back in school, enjoying spending time with each other and going about the business of building their futures in the classroom.

As the country sees the 'green shoots of recovery' in a wider sense, the reestablishment of school clubs and the wider curriculum is a very clear sign that we are getting back to where we would like to be. Whether it's in Grow Club (where we see actual real green shoots) or the really well attended sports clubs, it is great to see the school working its way back to normal.



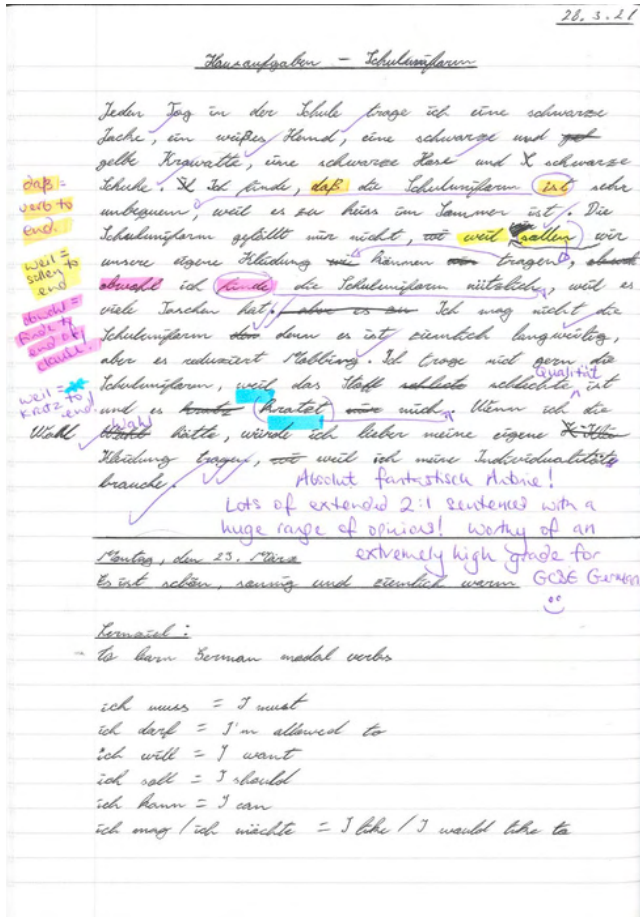
It is particularly nice to see students driving this movement, helped and encouraged by our ever brilliant librarian Mr Brown. Alongside the fantastic student formed and driven Manga club we now have a reading club for Year 7&8's called 'The Bookworm Buddies' which is the product of the imagination and enthusiasm of just a few keen readers in Year 7.

I am really pleased to see such good engagement in the various catch up activities that are going on. The after school clubs are a great way to give your learning a boost and perhaps take care of some of the bits of work that you weren't able to get done over lock-down. They are well staffed with adults to help you through the work.

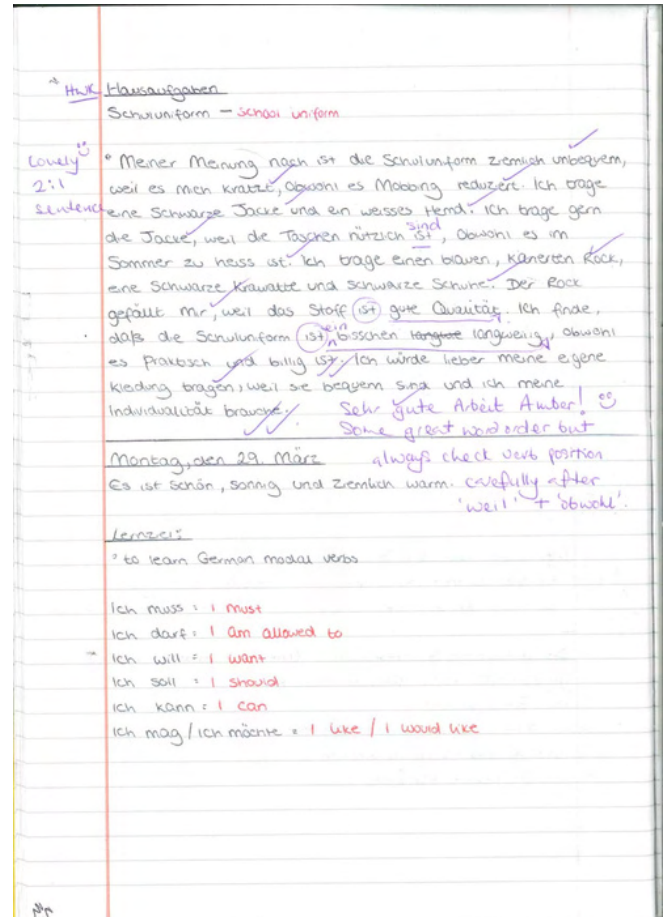
Although it feels like we haven't been at school long we need to remember that this is actually the end of a term full of challenge. I hope our amazing students are able to enjoy the holiday they deserve. See you all in a few weeks time!

GERMAN DELIGHTS

Frau Sheen shares her favourite work from the term



Antonie Nita



Amber Morgan

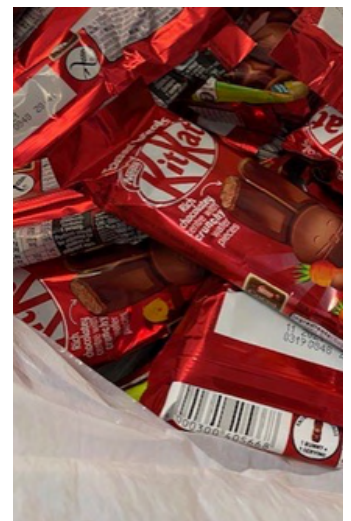


ASSEMBLY WINNERS!

Our online assemblies concluded this term with a question: How will we be remembered? It raised important issues of behaviour, treatment toward others, working hard, standing out and making sure that we are all remembered for the right reasons.

At the start of the assembly there was a challenge set: How many countries can you name that end in two consonants? The winning tutor group was 7DP who won a bag of Easter treats.

How many can YOU name?




LILY'S EPIC 28 MILE CHALLENGE!

Lily Anning-Beckett (Year 7) has completed a charity challenge for Pancreatic Cancer UK. She ran 28 miles in 28 days, a mile every single day throughout February - in ice, sleet and rain! We are all incredibly proud of her as she raised £500 for the charity, with donations still pouring in!



“ ..she ran 28 miles
in ice, sleet and
rain!




The Bookworm Buddies

Loads of book related fun,
chat and special events in
the library!

Every Tuesday 12:25-13:05

Open to all students in Years 7&8.
Speak to Mr Brown to join ASAP!



DRAMA CLUBS & REHEARSALS

TUESDAY
3.30pm to 5.00pm
Years 7&8

WEDNESDAY
3.30pm to 5.00pm
Years 9&10

THURSDAY
Week 2, Period 6
Year 11/10

FRIDAY
After School
Bookable as required

RIVERS

by Thomas Jones (Year 7)

They come from up high,
down from the mountains.
Splishing and splashing
in beautiful fountains.
At the foot of the mountain hills,
they drift apart.
This signifies
their journey's start.

Some go to sea,
where they can be calm.
Some go to flood,
and cause people harm
Some are straight and know the way,
Some are bends
and go astray.
Some become waterfalls
and have pride to show
Some become lakes
and want no one to know
Some are clean
and green as grass can be
Some are dirty
and filled with debris

At the end of the day,
they climb to the sun.
Floating as clouds,
Sluffy & Sun.
They drift slowly,
in the blue of the sky
Then eventually,
They come from up high.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD UPDATE

A huge congratulations to the following Year 11 students: Isobel Simpson, Aimee Summerbee and Aerin Batt who have completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

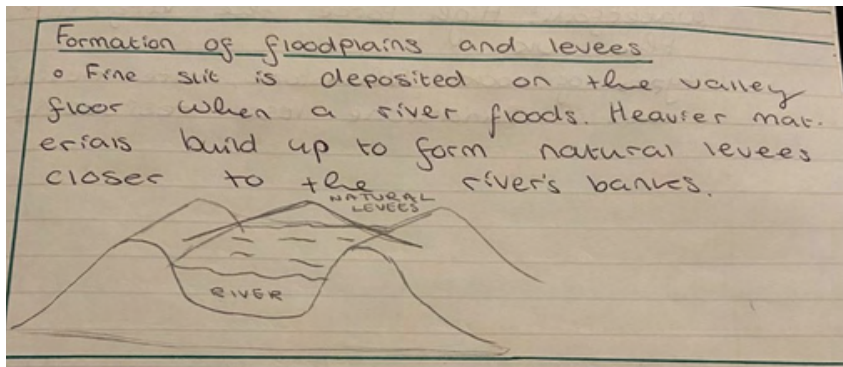


This July we will have over twenty Year 10s completing their Bronze qualifying expedition and ten Year 11s on Silver Expedition on the wilds of Exmoor. In September it will be the turn for our new year 9 cohort to qualify for their Bronze award in the Blackdown Hills.

Mr Knott.

FASCINATING GEOGRAPHY


Mr Perks shows off some excellent students work



Maisy Highfield explains the formation of floodplains...


...a factfile about Typhoon Haiyan by Ewan Gibbins...

- 6000 deaths
- 10,000 injured
- 1.9 million homeless
- \$5.8 billion in damage



mass grave

- 300 tonnes of aid flown in by US army
- 5 hot bins and included food, medicine, water and shelter
- The UN raised \$190 million for 'Cups for Life' schemes, seeds and food assistance
- 4 months (Long term) after the disaster:
 - 520 schools and 30 hospitals were re-opened
 - roads and canals had been rebuilt



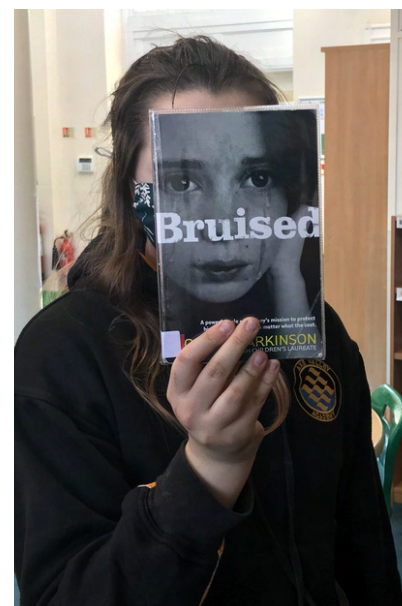
typhoon Haiyan

Biome	Location	Temperat	Rainfall	Flora	Fauna
Tropical Rainforest	Centred along the equator	Hot all year (25°C)	Very High (2000mm+)	Tall trees forming a canopy, wide range of species.	Greatest range of different animal species. Most in canopy level
Tropical Grassland	Between latitudes 5°-30° north and south of equator	Warm all year (20-30°C)	Wet + Dry season (500-1500mm)	Grasslands with widely spaced trees.	Large hooved herbivores and carnivores.
Hot Desert	Found along the tropics ex. center + Capricorn.	Hot by day, cold by night	Very low 300mm-	Lack of plants: few species; adapted to drought	Many animals are small and nocturnal except for the camel
Temperate Forest	Between latitudes 40°-60° north of equator.	Warm summers, mild winters	Variable rainfall 500-1500mm	Mainly deciduous trees; a variety of species.	Animals adapt to colder and warmer climates - migrate etc
Tundra	Far latitudes of 60° north and south	Cold winters, cool summers	Low rainfall	Small plants grow close to the ground - only in summer	Low number of species. Most animals' food on the tundra.
Coral Reefs	Found 30° north + south in tropical waters	Warm water all year 18°C	wet + dry seasons varies	Small range of plant life - algae - Seagrass	Dominated by polyps and a diverse range of fish species

...and Isabella Betterton creates a wonderful table about sustaining ecosystems.

LIBRARY BOOKFACE COMPETITION

Over the past month, students have been making 'Bookfaces'. The closing date has been extended to allow them to have a go over the school holiday. There are some great prizes for the best entries. Email pictures to Mr Brown - MBrown@axevalley.devon.sch.uk



YEAR 7&8 BOOK GROUP - THE BOOKWORM BUDDIES!

Willow, Sophie and Darcy from Year 7 have decided to set up a book group in the library, which is open to all keen readers in Year 7&8.

Over the past few weeks they have been coming up with all kinds of ideas of books to read and activities to do.

The 'Bookworm Buddies' will meet every Tuesday, 12:25-13:05.

Email or speak to Mr Brown to become a member - it's going to be A LOT of fun!

“ ..open to all Year 7&8 pupils!





AFTER SCHOOL SUMMER SPORTS CLUBS 2021!

Week Commencing: 19/04/21

TUESDAY

ATHLETICS CLUB

Years 7 and 8 – Boys and Girls
3.30pm 4.30pm School Field
(Mr Owen/Miss Waller/Mr Ward)

FOOTBALL

Years 9 and 10 – Boys and Girls
3.30pm – 4.30pm AGP Pitch
(Mr House)

WEDNESDAY

ROUNDERS

Years 7 and 8 – Boys and Girls
3.30pm - 4.30pm School Field
(Miss Waller)

ROUNDERS

Years 9 and 10 – Boys and Girls
3.30pm - 4.30pm School Field
(Mrs Baker)

FOOTBALL

Years 7 and 8 - Boys
3.30pm - 4.30pm AGP Pitch
(Mr Bennett)

THURSDAY

ATHLETICS CLUB

Years 9 and 10 – Boys and Girls
3.30pm 4.30pm School Field
(Mr Owen/Miss Waller)

COUCH TO 5K

Year 7 and 8 – Boys and Girls
3.30pm – 4.30pm School Field
(Mrs Jackson)



PLASTIC STUDDED FOOTWEAR MUST BE WORN ON THE AGP

YEAR 9&10 UPDATE

Words of wisdom from Mr Horn

With the summer term approaching, it is time for students to start making preparations for their June exams.

We have introduced students to the June exams through virtual assemblies over the past two weeks and also given them opportunities in tutor time to practice some of the revision techniques they have been taught.

The main messages to students are to get organised, have a plan and make sure they always test themselves. Testing through quizzing, practice papers and look cover check activities are great ways to help remember information. Having a range of resources at home including folders, highlighters, labels and revision cards are also useful to help students get organised. After Easter, we will talk to them about revision timetables.

Parents can play an important role in supporting students during what can be an intense time. Encouraging them to stick to their timetable, quizzing them and making them the odd snack will really help.



Yasmine Haworth creating some stunning art!

THE TRAFALGAR WAY PHOTO COMPETITION

Open to all students - with some great prizes!

Adam Preston, from The Trafalgar Way Heritage organisation writes:

"Pupils are invited to make a picture of something on The Trafalgar Way - the historic route taken by the messenger after The Battle of Trafalgar. Because the school is in Axminster pupils could make an image of anything in the town which catches their eye or in the surrounding countryside.

There are categories for 7-11 year olds and 12-16 year olds - as well as over 16s. The deadline is 16th April.

We made [this short video](#) which explains everything!"



Click on the image above for more information!