

APRIL 2022



# AXE VALLEY STAR



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:** 30 pages celebrating another busy term at Axe Valley Academy.



**THE LAST FEW WEEKS** have passed in true super-busy Axe Valley style. The students have been enjoying many enrichment activities. As I write this 25 of our Year 10s are on a practice walk for their Duke Of Edinburgh Bronze awards. The rest of their year are at the National Apprenticeship show in Exeter. Young musicians from local primary schools are here for an 'Orchestra in a Day' experience. Meanwhile, there are some very tired staff and students who returned to Devon in the small hours from a trip to Wembley to watch England play the Ivory Coast.

We were delighted to welcome Matthew Maslen from AECOM to talk with our Year 9 groups on their STEM day.

Year assemblies briefly resumed and it was so lovely for me personally to reconnect with the students in this way. I think all thoroughly enjoyed my famous one-handed toilet roll unravelling and pea blowing challenges!

Some new clubs have really started to take off. The 10x Challenge club, this week reveals our most successful entrepreneurs. Mr Irvine has been quite astounded by the silky sales skills of our KS3 students. Personalised wooden bookmarks are a big money spinner here.

Fashionista Club attracts a creative group of fervent upcyclers. We have been gifted some amazing fabrics and accessories from a local costume maker. The students plan to show off their creations to music to our full cohort of Year 7s for September who will be joining us for transition events over the coming term.

Our library held a poetry and art competition for students, with the gold award winner, Faith Boxer having the opportunity to meet and perform her poem with Simon Armitage, the poet laureate. A special mention to Lola who won Silver prize for her stunning painting, which is on display in St Andrew's church, Colyton.

Sporting success has been dominated by cross country running in recent weeks. The Grizzly is a road and beach run across the glorious East Devon coastline and the major event in the calendar of Axe Valley Runners. We were very proud to have had so many well-placed runners in the Junior Grizzly. We were also delighted to hear that after finishing our students encouraged much younger primary school children in their own races.

Notably, Innes Fitzgerald, Year 11 has had incredible success (*see page 2 and 13*) and is now right under the radar of English Athletics and Team GB. We are very proud to have her as member of the Axe Valley Academy community. Her fellow students are especially encouraging and proud of her. We hear this as we have been taking her out of classrooms for photoshoots. Her peers always have words of encouragement for her. This spirit is all that we strive for as a school community.

Finally, we are truly humbled by the generosity of the students, their families and the staff of this school as we collected supplies for Ukrainian refugees. Mary Cleare took seven very full car loads to the Polish shop in Chard. Supreme acts of kindness were shown by our students who helped load the goods and made incredibly generous donations of their own.

Have a wonderful Easter break.

*L Jenkins*

LAURA JENKINS | HEADTEACHER



AXE VALLEY  
STRA



# THIS TERM AT AVA

*A MOMENT  
IN TIME...*

Text t/c



We wanted to honour the enormity of the achievement of INNES FITZGERALD. As a school we are so proud to witness your seemingly effortless rise to success as a runner. However, it is important to recognise that the sort of success she has achieved is because of her single-minded, committed and determined approach to all she does. We are very proud and wanted to mark this moment in with a special timepiece. *Congratulations Innes!*

LAURA JENKINS | HEADTEACHER

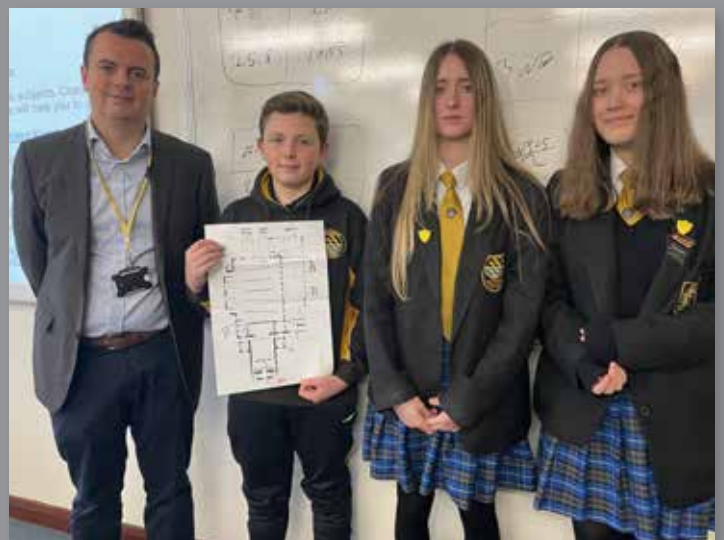
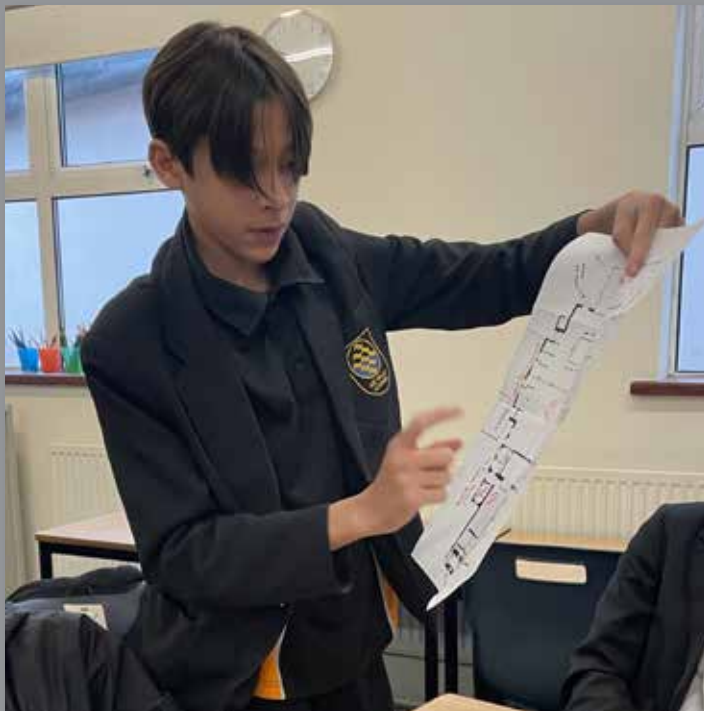
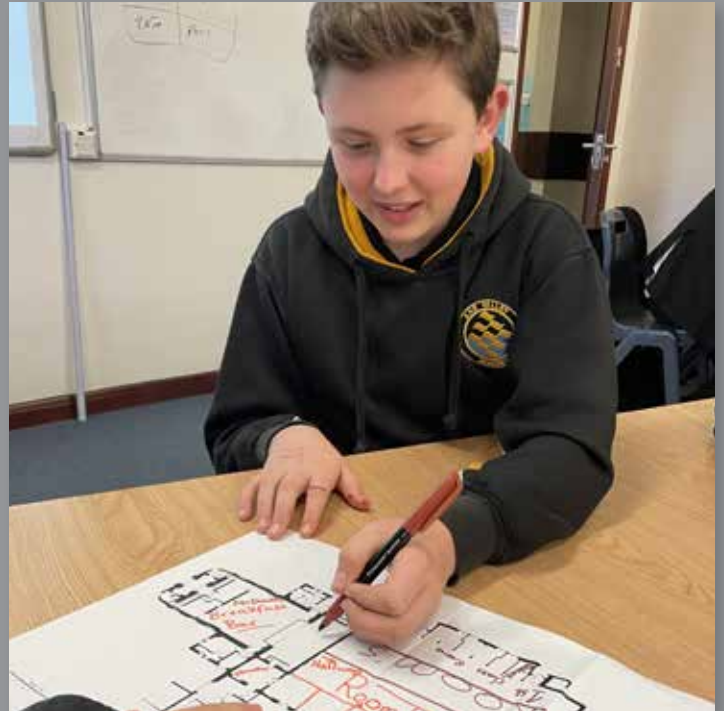
**#SMALL**

**BUT**

**MIGHTY**

# THIS TERM AT AVA

**WE WERE DELIGHTED** to welcome Matthew Maslen from AECOM to talk with our Year 9 groups on their STEM day. The students listened intently as Matthew talked through the variety of careers associated with the construction industry. Our budding architects, designers and engineers designed work and leisure spaces in groups and then were 'put on the spot' to present their ideas back to their colleagues.



# CAREERS

The logo for Axminster Tools features the company name in white, uppercase letters on a red rectangular background. The letter 'X' is stylized with a white, hand-drawn brushstroke that extends downwards and to the left.

*We share your passion.*

**WITH THE SAD** and compelling events happening in Ukraine there is much focus on people and their kindness in supporting Ukraine, something that is key to all our lives.

I have always known Axe Valley Students to be kind and caring; something that is instilled in you from the Culture of your school. Here at Axminster Tools it is also something that we believe in; remember in the past newsletters I have talked about Values? One value is to support each other, something we have done through the pandemic and now we are looking at ways to support the people of the Ukraine, whether that is donating money, clothes, blankets, sleeping bags etc

Recently we celebrated Random Acts of Kindness Day which was on Thursday 17th February where we wanted to encourage all our employees to dedicate the day to kindness and take that extra, conscious step to brighten somebody's day. Being Kind can bring many important benefits. First, and perhaps most obviously, practising kindness is immensely helpful to our friends and colleagues. We also know that being kind promotes a very positive environment which supports a reduction in feeling worn out and dull so it improves our well being!

Just a kind word or a thank you can help everyone feel more fulfilled, boost their self-esteem, improve their confidence and even trigger positive emotions. Secondly, practising kindness helps us all feel more meaningful. Helping others improves our wellbeing, brings happiness and a sense of meaning to life - it involves investing in something bigger than ourselves. It shapes both how others look at us and improves our reputations and also how we view ourselves.

With your School break upon you, perhaps you can spend time during the holiday carrying out Acts of Kindness. Remember, by giving compliments and praising your family and friends, you will create a happy environment and brighten someone's day.

## **YEAR 10's Are you looking for Work Experience?**

Please get in contact with

**Miss Sammy Barry, L&D Advisor –**

**[sammy.barry@axminstertools.com](mailto:sammy.barry@axminstertools.com)**

There are a lot of opportunities awaiting you!

**Jane Boulton**  
**HR Director**

# CLUBS AT AVA



Yasmin, Tasmin and Eva (not pictured) launched 'Bits and Bobs' – their crafted items sold really well. They created personalised bookmarks which were a big seller. Their profits will be donated to Cancer Research. To date their profit is £63.38. Well done girls!



Kian, Noah, Cory and Tyler sold chocolate at weekend football matches. To date they have sold £19 worth, but they were confident of a big profit to win the challenge at the weekend.



# CLUBS AT AVA



Ella, Eva, Rhys, Riley, Shannon and Imogen sold sweet cones – their profit to date is £63.30 – so with 8 pence between the winning teams, we look forward to a nail biting final week of the challenge! *\*Please see the page 27 for the WINNING TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT!*



# MUSIC

**THIS TERM** Year 7 have been putting chords with melody to create songs. They've been learning 'Can't Stop the Feeling' and 'Country Roads'

Year 8 have been learning about all things Rock Anthem from guitar riffs to Bon Jovi's Livin on a Prayer. Caitlin even made her own make-shift drum kit!

Year 9 have begun their independent Build a Band unit. They choose the band & they choose the song. We can't wait to hear how these pieces progress and we might even be able to feature some in our Summer showcase.

Year 10 are working on free composition and it's great to hear their ideas. Some students are really starting to make the use of our fabulous Logic Pro software. They also took part in a fabulous Body Percussion Workshop led by Ollie from 'Beat Goes On' – some food for thought for future compositions!

Year 11 had a great set of mock exam results, and are busily preparing for their final Listening paper. We still enjoy lots of practical time, especially on a Wednesday where they have chance to jam together, and prepare for upcoming concerts and Waffle House Music events.



**AVA**  
CREATIVE ARTS



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# MUSIC

In the extra-curricular world, we are still offering lots of clubs and opportunities - so please come and get involved- it is never too late! We will begin preparing for a Summer Showcase after the Easter Holidays, and have The Big Sing on the 16th of June, a lovely collaborative singing event with our local primary feeder schools. Our wonderful community orchestra has started on a Thursday after school, and the Orchestra Day for Primary Schools was a huge success once again! Great fun was had by all at our Spring Concert, where we had a variety of vocal and instrumental acts from all year groups.

Some of our students enjoyed a wonderful afternoon at Powderham Castle on the 18th March; we have many more exciting music and theatre trips coming up so keep an eye out and book if you can.

Music at AVA is thriving inside, and outside the classroom.



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# MUSIC



## MUSIC DIARY DATES:

18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE:

BIG SING

THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

COMMUNITY  
ORCHESTRA IN THE  
MINSTER

SEE SOCIAL MEDIA  
FOR DETAILS



EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> FRIDAY  
OF THE MONTH

OPEN  
MIC  
NIGHT

on

FRI 14 JAN  
FRI 11 FEB  
FRI 11 MAR  
FRI 15 APR  
FRI 13 MAY  
FRI 10 JUN  
and beyond...

YOU CAN PERFORM:

- on your own
- in a band
- original songs
- covers
- any standard, age, instruments welcome

@ THE  
COMMUNITY  
Waffle  
HOUSE Arminster

7:30 onwards

just turn up or see pete for more info...

APRIL

EVENTS  
PROGRAMME  
2022

01 OPEN MIC

08 AXE VALLEY  
ACADEMY TAKEOVER

15 OPEN MIC

22 SEATON ACAPELLA

28 DROP THE MIKE  
(FAMILY QUIZ)



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# SPRING CONCERT



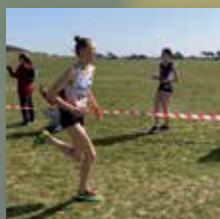
AVA Jazz Band – Blue Panther  
B Sharp – Roar  
AVA Orchestra – Ashokan's Farewell  
Bea Cloud – Like Water  
Axe Valley Voices – Here Comes the Sun  
Callum Chattaway – Writing's on the Wall  
Years 8&9 – Equinox  
Michael Johns & Co – Don't Look Back in Anger  
Lydia Josko – Slippin' through my Fingers  
Faith Boxer & Michael Johns – Let Her Go  
AVA Orchestra – Can You Feel the Love Tonight?  
Year 11 – Gravity by Louis Souttar Stone (Year 11)  
Axe Valley Voices – Imagine  
Megan Reed – Another Love  
Year 10 Band – Jar of Hearts  
The Squad – Can't Stop  
Stephen Johns – Why  
AVA Jazz Band – Soul Bossa  
AVA Rock School – Superstition

Facebook: @AxeAcademy | Twitter: @AxeAcademy | @AVA\_CreativeArt  
Instagram: @AVA\_CreativeArt | @studyataxevalleyacademy



# SPRING CONCERT





**INNES FITZGERALD'S** year of competitive running started with the East Devon Schools Cross Country Championships at Bicton College in November she runs in the Inter girls section (U16) over a distance 4000m. She has gone on to run in five cross country championships travelling the width of England. A humble person once running her passion is clearly there for all to see a steely eyed determination to lead from the front and be the best that she can. Not losing any of her four previous races Innes South West girls inter No1 earned her right to be at the National School Cross Country Championships in March held at Hop Farm, Kent. After a long journey Innes and parents had finished their evening meal when she started to think about the race. Checking her kit she discovered that she had forgotten her running spikes to anyone else it would have been a disaster. Social media to the rescue more truthfully ex-international GB athlete Jo Pavey who had the internet boiling for a couple of hours with athletes and athletic clubs offering their help demonstrating the true power of the sporting community problem solved. Innes ran the next day in borrowed shoes and after recovering from a foot infection that had kept her off her feet for three days in the previous week.

She led the field for three quarters of the race but was eventually caught by Jess Bailey an established athlete with National form from Cumbria. The girl from East Devon had put in a momentous performance and was happy to admit that she had no more to offer but would be ready for her National debut the following week at Pembrey Park, Carmarthen Wales.

The scene set Innes arrives at SIAB International Cross Country Championships running against the top runners from England Scotland Northern Ireland Wales. Some of us were watching the live Instagram links to see Innes take the field by storm – Axe Valley Academy student Innes Fitzgerald not only won she blew the rest of the field away. She recorded a time of 14.41secs for 4000m with her nearest rival 26 secs behind – she is Inter girls champion of Great Britain.

In pursuit of her passion running she has reached out to the running community both locally and nationally and has recognised her need to seek guidance from Gavin and Jo Pavey. Innes commented in her own humble way

The possibilities from now seem endless therefore I don't have any specific plans but just to see what happens, let the enjoyment take me.

We at the Axe Valley Academy have run out of words to describe what she has achieved – she is a fabulous person and athlete who we are so proud to have as a member of the Axe Valley community.



**AS THE SPRING TERM** draws to a close it is a time to reflect on the notable performances of our students past and present both in and out of school. We along with the rest of the community have encountered disruption and disappointment due to things beyond our control but what has taken place demonstrates the power of participating in physical activity and the enjoyment gained.

I would like to congratulate members of our Year 11 CNAT Sport Science group who received their exam results from examination sat in January. Along with the Year 10 group both cohorts are in the final weeks of refining important coursework ready for moderation at the beginning of May. Keep working hard to achieve the grade that you will be happy with.

In the last few days Ty Dibling has been selected to play against France in an upcoming fixture to be played in France. A reward for all the good performances for Southampton FC U18 we look forward to celebrating more success with Ty in the future.

We are pleased to celebrate that Willow Tulloch has been selected to represent the Pony Club Area 15 – at the Barrier Annual Health Championships April 8-10th Lincolnshire. She will be competing in the eventing and show jumping elements. (she is being sponsored by Livery Dole)

As the football season now coming to end for schools opportunity to say a big thank you to all staff who have supported all the teams. Every year group has managed to play with the Year 7's being our most successful and we look forward to watching their progress in years to come. I would also like to give a special mention to Mr House who has not only run the girls practice sessions but refereed above his fair share of fixtures.

Our extra-curricular provision has seen the emergence of dodgeball, the continuing development of netball through local coach Trish, improving interest and participation in basketball and various multi-activity opportunities organised after school. The girls U13 cricket team played in the Devon finals at Exeter University and have all agreed to continue their involvement with cricket under coach Damian Price.

Last week Mr Leach led the Wembley visit to watch England V Ivory Coast. 48 students were a credit to the Academy and enjoyed watching some developing stars try and catch the eye of manager Gareth Southgate with the Qatar World Cup looming. Thank you to Mr Ward Mrs Tregale and Mr House for supporting this trip.

Next term all students will be expected to be in school uniform bringing their PE kit with them. All activities athletics/striking and fielding will require the same equipment:

**Boys:** trainers, shorts, white short socks or football socks, t-shirts, hoodies

**Girls:** trainers, shorts/skorts/black leggings, white short socks, football socks, t-shirts, hoodies

Anyone interested in the Wimbledon Tennis Championships 2022 we have received a limited amount of tickets for No1 court on the first Thursday of the tournament.

I am really looking forward to the summer term and discovering more talented students, celebrating their success with the whole community. Please have a great Easter break and I look forward to a productive summer term.



Follow us | Twitter: @AVA\_Sports

# WEMBLEY TRIP



# WEMBLEY TRIP



England vs Ivory Coast				
Premier League		Full-time		
	3	-	0	
England				Ivory Coast
Goalscorers: England 3R, Robinson 4R, Taylor 8R-2				
Goalkeeper: All				

# ART OF THE MONTH

*AMAZING YEAR 7 paintings inspired by Sonia Delaunay.*



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# ART OF THE MONTH

*STUNNING YEAR 10 flowers in chalk.*

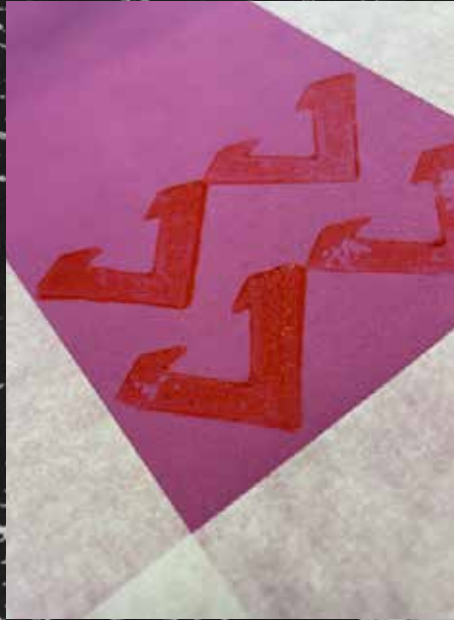


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# D&T

**OUR YEAR 9 STUDENTS HAVE CREATED THESE AMAZING REPEAT PRINTS ON PLA. THEY MADE DESIGNED THE IMAGES IN TINKER CAD AND THEN MADE THEIR OWN 3D PRINTED BLOCKS.**





FAITH B



# LIBRARY NEWS

Here are the winners of the Simon Armitage Poetry Competition:

**GOLD** - Faith Boxer

**SILVER** - Eliana Robinson

**SILVER** - Jasmine Huntley

A special mention to Lola Lessiter who won Silver prize for her stunning painting, which went on display in St Andrew's church between Saturday 26th March – Friday April 1st.

Amazing achievements by all!

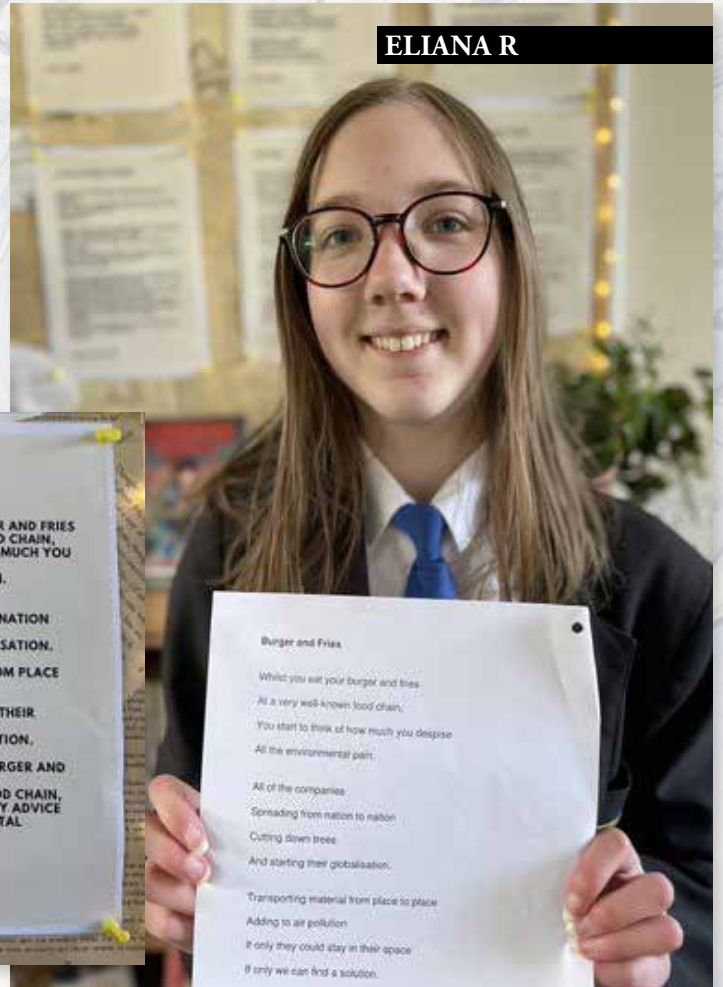
## Special Poetry & Art Competition OUR FUTURE OUR PLANET

WIN A CHANCE TO READ YOUR POEM WITH  
POET LAUREATE, SIMON ARMITAGE!



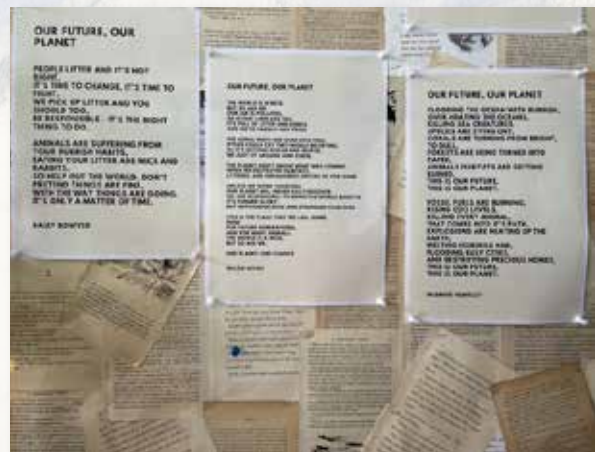
*Faith read her poem alongside the poet laureate at the special event, Simon Armitage, in Colyton Library, which was broadcast live via Crowdfunder.*

ELIANA R





JASMINE H



Lola's beautiful art work is our cover piece this issue.



LOLA L



# THE JOURNEY BEGINS WITH YOU

Last week 25 Year 10 students set off on a practice Bronze DofE walk navigating from Forde Abbey heading South West to finish in Axminster. We enjoyed good weather and students were carrying a good part of their expedition kit, as part of readying them for their two day qualifying expedition in the Quantocks in July. All groups walked well, completing the 15km route pretty much on time. More navigation practice is to follow in our weekly registration sessions on Thursday starting after Easter.



## "Lifelong memories"

Anton DofE Gold Award holder



Achieve something really special in the world's leading achievement award for young people.  
For anyone aged 14-24.

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# THE JOURNEY BEGINS WITH YOU



Doing your Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme really is the time of your life. A training programme like nothing you've experienced, you'll discover something new about yourself at every step whilst broadening your interests, making new friends, creating lasting memories and most importantly, having more fun than you could've imagined.

Make sure you don't miss out. Sign up for your DofE adventure today.

[DofE.org](https://dofe.org)



@dofe



thedofe



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## “I can't believe I achieved it!”

Chris Silver DofE Award holder

Discover new skills, help the community, make friends and achieve something really special.  
For anyone aged 14-24.

[DofE.org](https://dofe.org)



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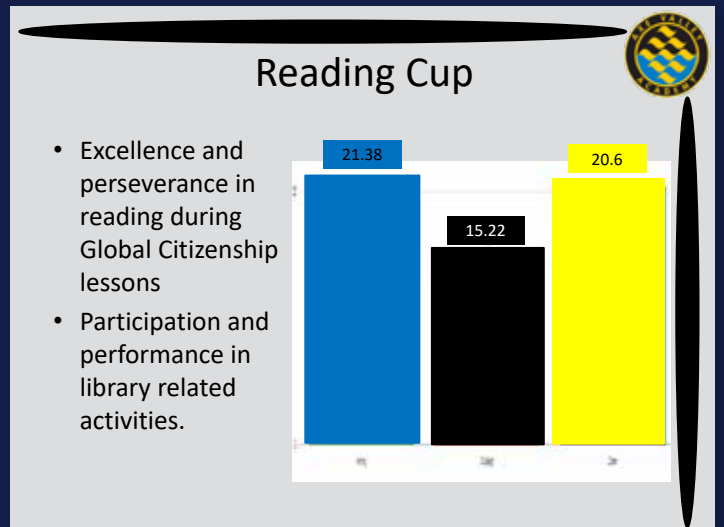
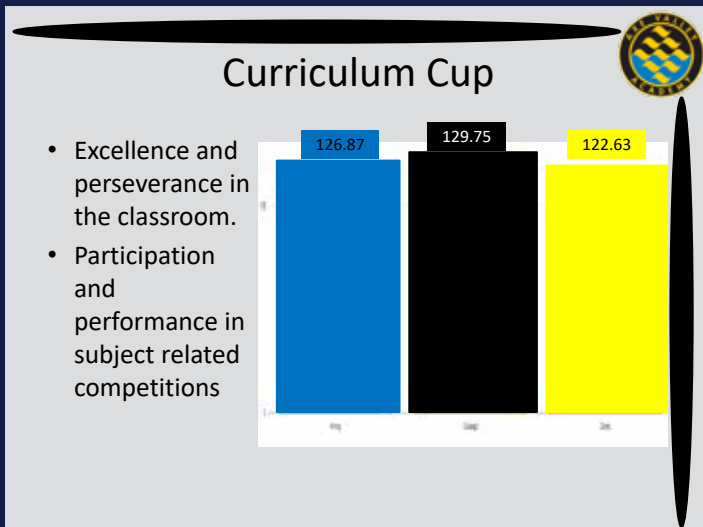
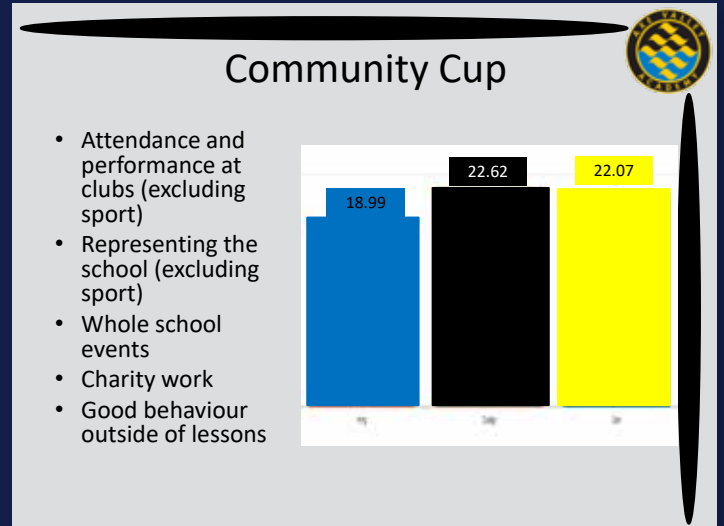
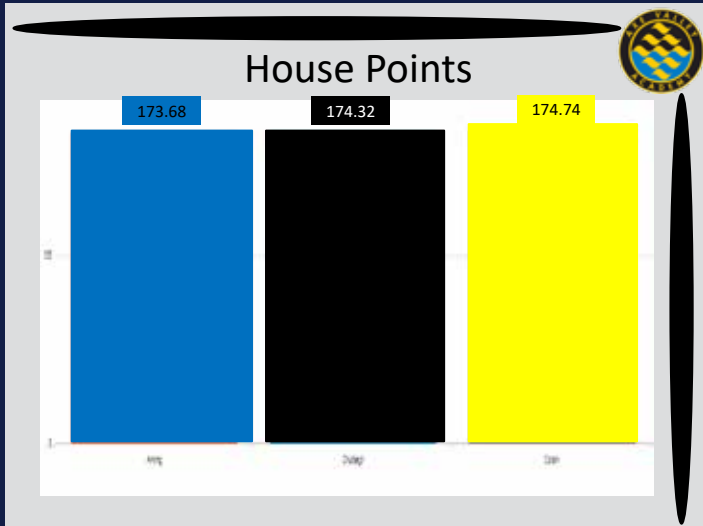
dofeuk

Contact:

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# HOUSES AT AVA

*The House leader board is really close. The Summer Term will provide opportunities for Houses to work together to achieve success. Remember, every point that is earned goes towards the House. Well done to CORAM who continue to lead the overall House points. Can they be caught?*

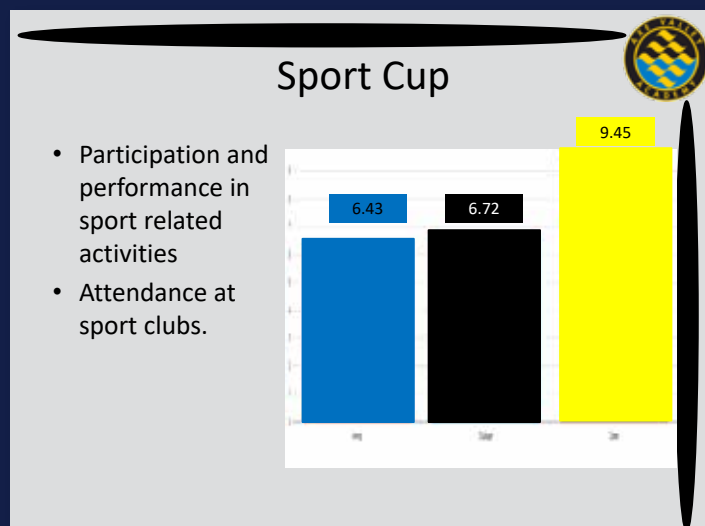


“

*True teams are made when you put aside individual wants for collective good.*

”

**CHINEY OG WUMIKE**



“

*If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.*

”

**HENRY FORD**

# AVA CELEBRATES

**YEAR LEADER AWARD: YEAR 7**



**KADIEMAE BELL: 7NF, CORAM**

**HEADTEACHER AWARD: YEAR 7**



**RILEY DIMOND: 7LIM, ANNING**

**YEAR LEADER AWARD: YEAR 8**



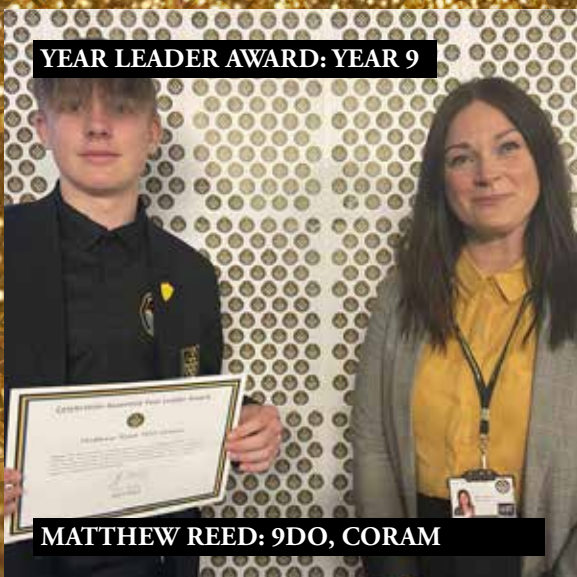
**LOUIS MANLEY: 8STP, CHUDLEIGH**

**HEADTEACHER AWARD: YEAR 8**



**MATTHEW TRUEMAN: 8JW, CHUDLEIGH**

**YEAR LEADER AWARD: YEAR 9**



**MATTHEW REED: 9DO, CORAM**

**HEADTEACHER AWARD: YEAR 9**



**LOLA LESSITER: 9LM, CHUDLEIGH**

# AVA CELEBRATES

**YEAR LEADER AWARD: YEAR 10**



**DARCIE DEANUS: 10EC, CORAM**

**HEADTEACHER AWARD: YEAR 10**



**CALUM CHATTAWAY: 10WB, CHUDLEIGH**

**YEAR LEADER AWARD: YEAR 11**



**CHESTER SMITH: 11DC, ANNING**

**HEADTEACHER AWARD: YEAR 11**



**INNES FITZGERALD: 11RW, CHUDLEIGH**

# \*NEWS JUST IN

## WINNING TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT!

*Congratulations to Yasmin, Tasmin and Eva (not pictured) –  
OUR YEAR 7 WINNING ENTREPRENEURS!*





## SUMMER UNIFORM



### **AFTER THE EASTER BREAK STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO WEAR BLACK TAILORED SHORTS WITH A POLO SHIRT.**

The expectation at Axe Valley Academy is that all students comply with the uniform code. They are expected to wear the uniform appropriately and all items should be in good order. Students should take pride in their appearance, and be smart throughout the school day, including the journey to and from school.

**All uniform is available from:**

**Thomas Moore Toymaster (Open 09.00 – 17.30, Mon – Sat)**

**102/104 Fore Street**

**Exeter, Devon, EX4 3JB**

**Tel: 01392 255711**

**[www.thomasmooretoymaster.com](http://www.thomasmooretoymaster.com)**



# THANK YOU!



We are truly humbled by the generosity of the students, their families and the staff of this school as we collected supplies for Ukrainian refugees. Seven very full car loads to the Polish shop in Chard. Supreme acts of kindness were shown by our students who helped load the goods and made incredibly generous donations of their own.



#SMALL

BUT

MIGHTY

AXE VALLEY ACADEMY Chard Street, Axminster, Devon, EX13 5EA  
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