#### OCTOBER 2022



INSIDE THIS ISSUE: 32 pages celebrating another busy term at Axe Valley Academy.



**WELCOME TO OUR FIRST AIXEMINISTRA OF THE 2022/23 ACADEMIC YEAR** – Our Autumn Term has set off at a blistering pace. This piece has given me a chance to reflect on all that has gone on here at Axe Valley Academy and I cannot believe we are nearly at half term.

Our Year 7s have been utterly amazing. They have settled in so well. On their first day, every member of staff lined their route to the hall and welcomed them in. That set the trend and they are well and truly part of our family here. They have absolutely revelled in our club offering. Choir practice is packed. Volleyball takes up three courts. Craft club is so over-subscribed it has a rota system. The library is buzzing with book worms, chess and movie fanatics. It really has been a very happy start to the year.

On top of these clubs, we are also preparing for a production of Bugsy Malone. This has been embraced by all years. The music is much appreciated by staff around the buildings too!

Our Open Day and Evening were super busy this year. The morning tours were more popular this year – this gave families a chance to see the school in calm, purposeful mode, although we did have to race to classrooms to borrow students to do off-the-cuff tours! Our students were absolutely incredible and showed off their school with pride and enthusiasm. The feedback we have received has been fabulous, which we hope will translate into great numbers again for us. We are gaining the reputation we strive for as being a small school with large expectations and great results.

This year we started a new tradition with a Year 7 walk. It was a truly beautiful day. The students had an amazing time with new friends and old. It was generally a great bonding experience and a chance to enjoy the stunning countryside we sit in.

Another source of great pride has been the work of a group of Year 11 students fundraising in order to raise money for Brain Tumour Research Campaign. This is a charity very close to our hearts as one of the student team sadly lost a cousin to a brain tumour recently and cancer has touched all of our lives in some way and so raising awareness and some money for the charity is very important to us.

In order to raise awareness and funding for the charity, across October they have a series of events planned to include a non-uniform day at school where students wear pink or purple to represent the charity, a soak the teacher event, a senior student vs staff dodgeball match and a sweet and cake stall in the run up to our main charity walk. At the end of October, they will be walking as a student team from Dalwood to Axminster and camping out overnight.

Their goal is to raise £1,000 across October. They are asking people to sponsor them for this Charity walk and camp out on our GoFundMe page:

https://gofund.me/1e1df46d. Have a wonderful half term.

LAURA JENKINS | HEADTEACHER





### THIS TERM AT AVA

#### PROUD MOMENTS...



**WE ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD OF MITCHALL SLANEY.** Year 11 Mitchall is a keen photographer and has a particular interest in trucks. He has been commissioned to take images for many large trucking organisations such as Scania. His reputation is growing and he has recently been commissioned to take photos for Bulk & Tipper, a trade magazine. He has 4.5k followers of his brand on Instagram and a whopping 26k on TikTok. He runs his photography and marketing business around his studies and spends his evenings editing images. He has secured an apprenticeship in the truck industry in Bridgewater when he completes his GCSEs. Congratulations Mitchall.













We are very proud of Jess, our House Captains and 18 friends who are walking 18k for Brain Tumour Research to honour the memory of their friend.

GoFundMe: https://gofund.me/leldf46d

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# THIS TERM AT AVA

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#### INTEGRITY | KINDNESS | PERSEVERANCE



# YEAR 7 WALK

**OUR YEAR 7s** was a truly beautiful day at Axe Valley Academy. Our Year 7s went on an 8k walk together. This was a fabulous team building exercise. As you can see there were big smiles all round!



























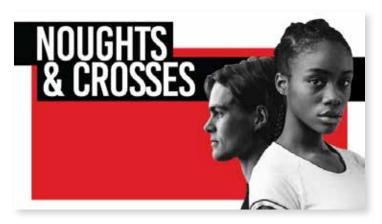






### THIS TERM AT AVA

**WE WERE VERY FORTUNATE** to be able to offer Year 9 students the opportunity to see a live production of Malorie Blackman's Noughts and Crosses at The Northcott Theatre, Exeter. It has been awarded the 'Winner of Excellence in Touring' and was a finalist for 'Best Show for Children and Young People' in the UK Theatre Awards. Our students had a great time and were an absolute credit to us.





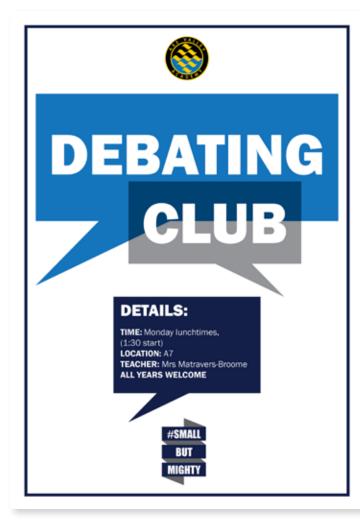


**OUR KS4 STUDENTS** enjoyed a fabulous trip to Kew Gardens. What an inspirational place. We can't wait to see how this will translate into some of their GCSE coursework.





# **CLUBS AT AVA**



**DEBATE CLUB** is where we do parliamentary-type debates. It gives us skills of talking to others without feeling nervous and winning arguments. This is a good life skill because even if you go into a job without any form of debating, the talking skills you develop will always be used.

In debate club, we do several different types of debate, for example balloon debates, alley debates and parliamentary debates. You will be given a motion by the teacher/leader and will be given a side to be on. You have 5 minutes to prepare your arguments and then will present them to the house/rest of the house. When everyone has presented their arguments, the other people will vote whose arguments were the most convincing and therefore which team wins, regardless of whether they agree with the motion or not. Also, there will be opportunities to go up against other schools in competition debates.

Write up by Eliana Robinson and Summer Burgess







# CLUBS AT AVA



AFF WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL UNTIL 4.3



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**TUESDAY: 3.30**рм то **5.00**рм

ALL YEARS

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**Y7 have been creating Stormy Soundscapes** to explore the elements of music. These have been fantastic, and has also given them the chance to perform in front of their classes for the first time.

**Y8 have been exploring African Music**, putting together marimba riffs and Djembe rhythms. One piece was even selected to be the entry music at our Autumn Concert!

**Y9 have been exploring film and stage music**, composing their own themes and underscore, and

experimenting on Logic Pro X, under the digital guidance of the famous Hans Zimmer!

**Y10 have made a great start to their GCSE course**, studying Rock 'n' Roll and Rock Anthems. Their most recent success was a whole class performance of Sweet Child of Mine.

**Y11 are soon to record their solo performances** for GCSE and have been working incredibly hard. Thank you to the students who performed at the Year 6 Open Evening; you impressed and inspired them all. They have also decided to start a band together, so watch this space!

In the extra-curricular world, we have had a great turn out to all our clubs so far. We have been able to merge Band and Voices together to create Axe Valley Big Band. A day to launch this saw 120 students coming together to make music, and the song Little Talks was also performed as the finale to our Autumn Concert. The concert was a great success, and offered a mix of Drama, solo music, bands and instrumentalist.

Our AVA musicians supported our first Primary Orchestra Workshop, led by Mr Jevons and great fun was had by all, culminating in a concert at the end of the day.

We have started rehearsals for Bugsy Malone, after a fabulous audition workshop day, where we had the pleasure of working with lots of talented students.

Finally, some of our GCSE musicians and Year 7 Choir members performed in a Lunch Time Concert at the Minster Church for the public. This was a small, intimate concert and each performer had a solo moment as well as contributing to the emotional and uplifting finale 'Hallelujah', by Leonard Cohen.













#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Selected students are joining us for a trip to Powderham Castle on the 11th November. There are still a few spaces left!
- Our termly Waffle House takeover will be on the 9th December.
- Our annual Christmas Concert will be in the Minster Church at 7pm on Tuesday 13th December.

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#### ENTRY MUSIC: 'XOLISWA' - YEAR 8 STUDENTS

Year 10 Drama Andrew Johns, Alex Shepperd and Brody Rendell – Cigarette Daydreams Lilly Rattew & Harriet Jones – Mister Forgettable Brennan Walker – 7 Years Old Axe Valley Voices – Hallelujah

#### INTERVAL

Steel Pan Band – Under the Sea Taliah Marais– Primavera Willow Tulloch – Granite Ollie Letten – French Carol Bea Cloud – Someone Like You Logan Rodford – Frost Harriet Jones– Gaelic Melody Rock School – Wonderwall Axe Valley Band – Bang Bang & Watermelon Man Axe Valley BIG BAND – Little Talks

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ANY STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-10 wishing to go on the Spain trip 8-16th July 2023 – Cost £860 please contact Mr Owen ASAP. **SUMMER IS BECOMING A DISTANT MEMORY** now but we as a department must say well-done to the ex-students who completed their CNAT Sport Science on achieving a very pleasing set of results. At present our year 11 group are studying hard for their exam module to be sat in January. The year 10 group have started the new CNAT course and are completing their first assignment covering the Components of fitness and how each can be tested.

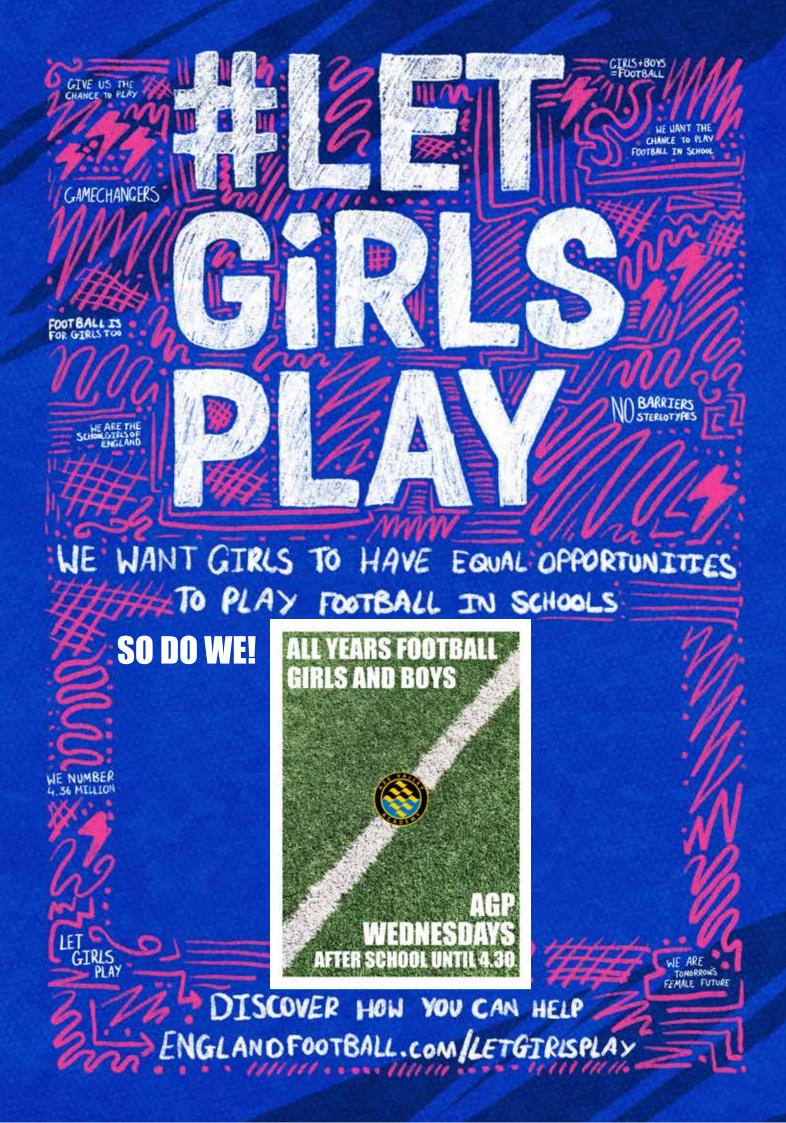
In core PE lessons students have been taking part in a range of activities including fitness, rugby, netball, axes gym, virtual gym, swimming, and cross country. We are completing a House competition for cross country from which we will select the teams to represent the Academy at the East Devon Schools Cross Country Championships being held at Bicton College on Wednesday November 9th.

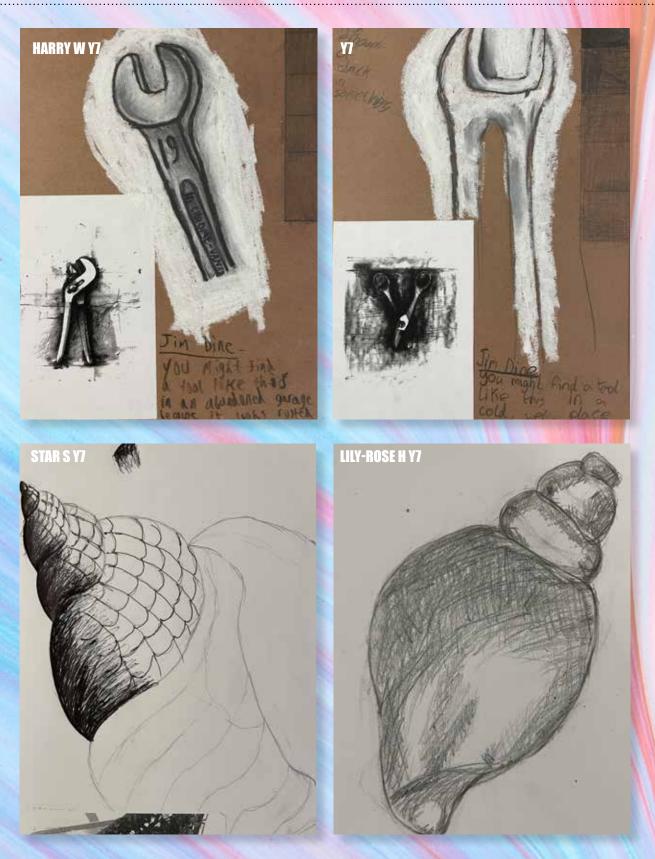
Our swimmers have been back in action over the last month or so competing all over Devon achieving impressive times in their chosen strokes. The medal tally steadily increasing especially for Noah O'Reilly who was a second outside National qualifying time for backstroke, great stuff Noah really exciting to watch your progress. Well done Niamh, Noah, Harvey, Megan and Esme.

#### **COME AND JOIN IN**

Extra-curricular clubs are back in full swing with uptake being a bit slow, football has led the way under the guidance of Mr Horn and his apprentice Mr Palmer. All years will be involved in the Devon Cup and it would be great to have teams for both girls' cups once they have been organised. Netball, rugby, dodgeball and basketball have seen mixed attendance levels so if you are not doing anything at lunch or after school why not come along and give them a go. On Fridays under the watchful eye of Mr Petty and Mr Leach volleyball has been growing in strength with students of all ages attending and having fun – maybe a staffV students game is on the cards. Students have been using the Axes gym on Wednesdays (Yrs 7, 8, 9) Thursdays (Yrs 10, 11) being set various challenges on the CV machines and learning how to train safely.

Last but not least, if possible can you Give us the Boot by donating any plastic or rubber studded football/rugby boots not being used (outgrown) that are suitable for our AGP. Please remember to name/label/mark all items of PE equipment and ensure students are fully equipped to participate in lessons. (Gum shields can be purchased from PE office £1) All students are expected to bring their PE kit to lessons because even when excused (unless with GP's note) there are many roles they can adopt to still feel involved in their lesson





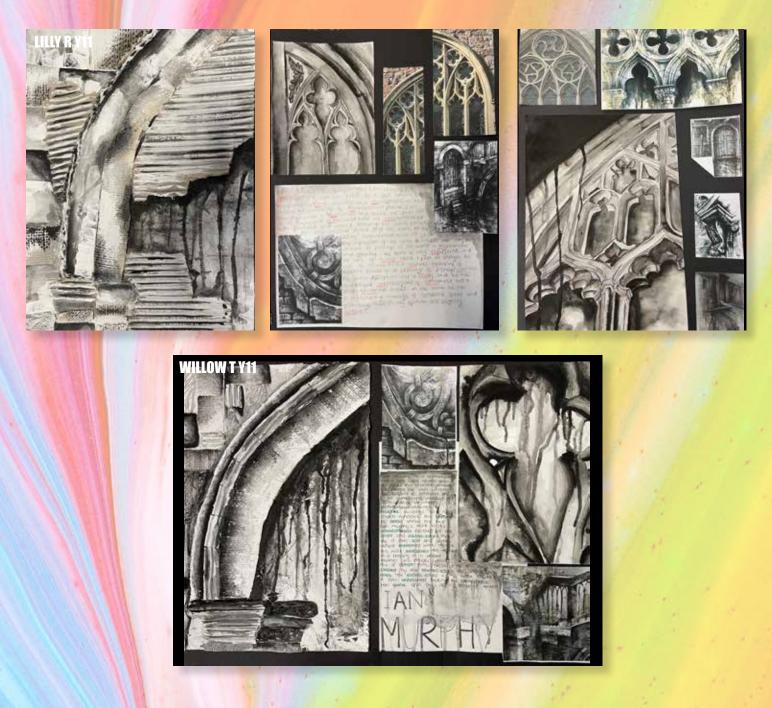
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## THIS TERM AT AVA

**OUR OPEN DAY/EVENING** was really well attended this year. By day tour after tour saw calm, purposeful learning in every department. In the evening a jammed hall listened to Mrs Jenkins, Mr Carr and our brilliant Year 7s and 11s speak with passion about our wonderful school. Our tour guides were astonishing - we are so proud of you all. Guests are always welcome here. If there is anything more you would like to see or know then please call. We love showing off our school!













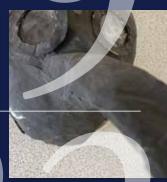




















#LOOK AT US NOW! Facebook & Twitter: @AxeAcademy | Instagram: studyataxevalleyacademy



#### THIS TERM AT AVA

**OUR Y10/11 INFORMATION EVENING** was really well attended. Our students, and their parents/carers were able to meet a full range of post–16 providers. Year 11 students and their families will have a talk from our guest speaker, Sarah Carcillo, on how to get the best from exams and how to manage the pressure of the exam season.



INFORMATION EVENING FOR YEAR 10 AND 11 STUDENTS, AND THEIR PARENTS/CARERS









I am a great believer in continually striving to understand more about the human condition and how we can be happier. I have never stopped learning or attending training as I believe this is key to moving forward and not getting stuck in one mindset.







NATURAL AND COMMON OBJECTS

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LIBRARY NEWS

THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES HAPPEN **EACH WEEK IN THE LIBRARY:** 

MONDAY: Bookworm Buddies TUESDAY: Chess Club WEDNESDAY: Manga Club **THURSDAY**: Quiet reading FRIDAY: Movie Club





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#### TECHNICAL POINTS

Report file

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ould be sought for: it is just as important as varying the pressure in order to secure emphasis where ined by intensified, distant ones softened.

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THE JOURNEY BEGINS WITH YOU



Congratulations to Caitlin and Aaron for achieving their DofE Bronze Awards. Well done! – you have worked really hard for this.

SMALL SCHOOL LARGE EXPECTATIONS GREAT RESULTS



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#### "I can't believe I achieved it!"

Chris Silver DofE Award holder

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## HOUSES AT AVA

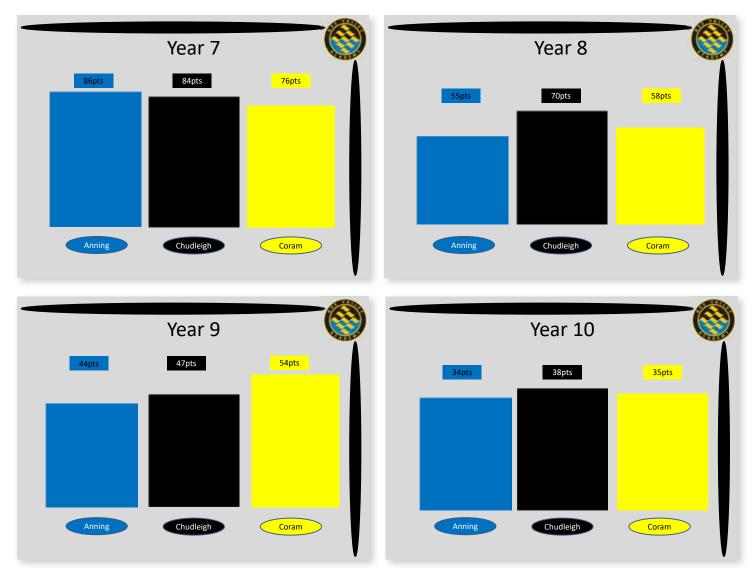
This year has started with a bang with regards to the Axe Valley House competition. All Houses have chosen a charity and they have started to implement their ideas on how to raise money and awareness. (Coram – Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support, Anning – RNLI, Chudleigh – Headlight).

Coram House have led this with the first event of the year (penalty competition). Chudleigh have started with their cake sales and Anning will start their events after half term. Students have also got involved with earning House points by working hard in lessons, getting involved in clubs/activities and taking part in competitions. Houses have also voted for representatives to be part of the student council. This group will now form a large part of the student voice at the school, deciding on the important matters that will help the school improve further.

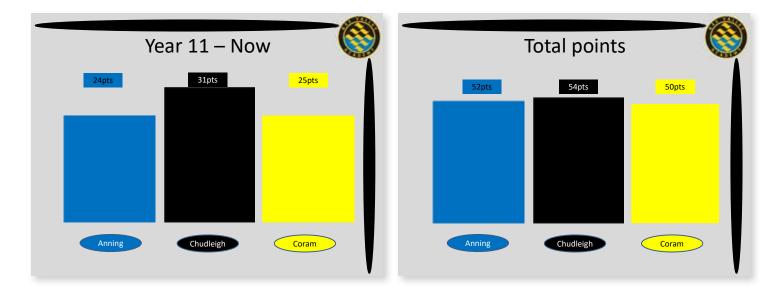
House assemblies have focused on the ideas of teamwork and how

everyone can contribute to the successes of their House. House leaders have encouraged students to get involved in every opportunity that is presented to them. They have also been motivated by the idea of leadership so that they can influence others to participate in events, along with running their own clubs and competitions. Our wonderful House captains and vice captains have been at the forefront of this.

Well done to the Year 7s for embracing the system and gaining the most House points. Well done to Chudleigh for leading the points table this half term. Anning and Coram will be working hard next half term to close the gap!



## HOUSES AT AVA



If you need the support from our House charities or would like to find out more, please visit their websites:

RNLI – Royal National Lifeboat Institution – Saving Lives at Sea <u>https://rnli.org/</u>

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support - Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support – Providing support for everyone living with and beyond cancer <u>https://axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk/</u>

Headlight – Our Services – Action East Devon <u>https://www.actioneastdevon.org.uk/headlight/</u>







HAPPY HEALTHY COMMUNITIES







RONNI HARRIES HOUSE CAPTAIN



HARRY McMAHON HOUSE CAPTAIN



JESS ROCKETT VICE CAPTAIN



LUCAS SANTOS VICE CAPTAIN

ANNING

LADY MARY CHUDLEIGH 1656 – 1718





WILLOW TULLOCH HOUSE CAPTAIN



CALUM CHATTAWAY HOUSE CAPTAIN



SHEHANAZ JAFFAR-SADIQ VICE CAPTAIN



BAILEY TAYLOR VICE CAPTAIN



THOMAS CORAM 1668 – 1751



CAITLIN MITSON HOUSE CAPTAIN



JACK PULMAN HOUSE CAPTAIN

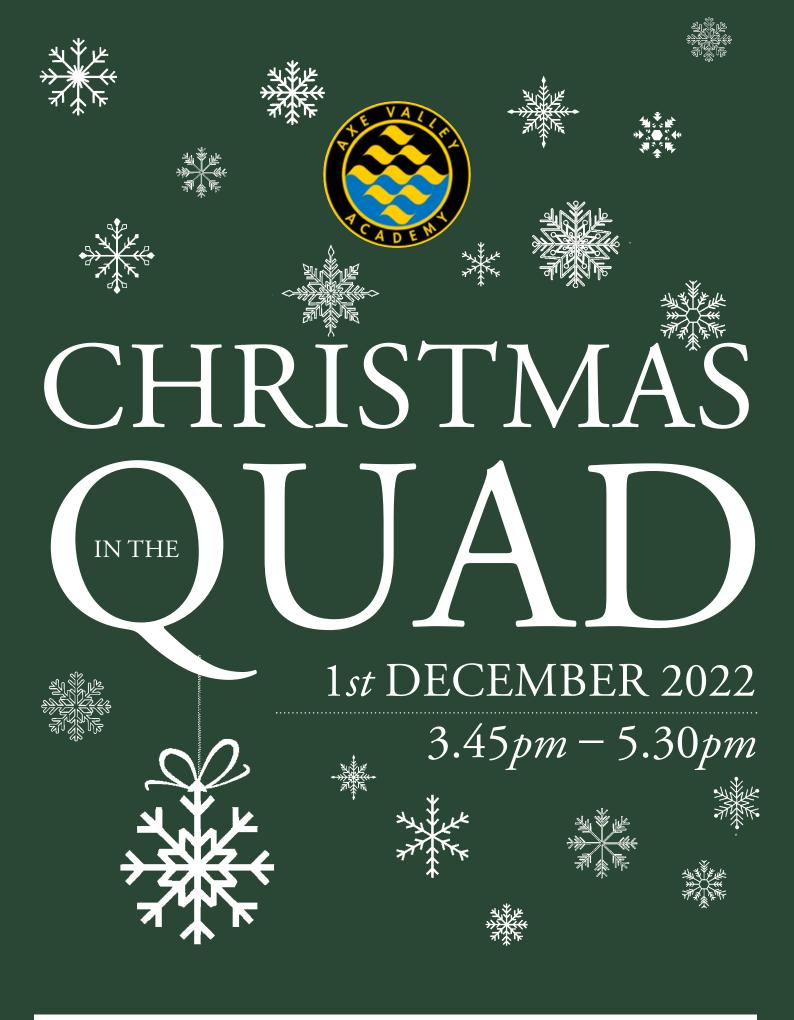


PHOEBE DARE VICE CAPTAIN



KYRAN PAYNTER VICE CAPTAIN

CORAM



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