



ASHINGTON
Academy

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

July 2021



WELCOME to our summer newsletter

As we come to the end of the summer term, we are so proud of the resilience, focus and determination of both our students and staff, whether learning in school or remotely. Once more, I would like to extend my thanks to every parent and carer who has supported our work in school over the past few months.

We have been incredibly impressed by our Year 11 and Year 13 students' efforts in their controlled assessments and we felt incredibly proud to celebrate with them and wish them all the best of luck in their next chapters a few weeks ago.

All other year groups have also been hard at work

completing their summer assessments, as well as enthusiastically getting stuck back into extra-curricular activities around school!

We've been active, creative and nurturing this term and we have even been proud to witness the birth of ten chicks! Read on to find out more...

I wish you all a very well-deserved, restful and peaceful summer break; I look forward to welcoming you back to school in September.

Gyonne Weston
Headteacher

Goodbye Year 11

On their final day of school, we had a wonderful day with our Year 11 students.

It was absolutely fantastic to celebrate all of their hard work over the past five years and especially during the pandemic.

We enjoyed a lovely leavers' lunch and then had the opportunity to take some photographs before the final assembly and awards ceremony.

Before leaving, students signed shirts and wished each other well. It truly was a special day, filled with kindness and joy. We wish each and every one of the Class of 2021 the very best of luck in their futures!

#NE6Together

Once again, our Sixth Formers were not able to have their Leaver's Prom, despite a brilliant effort to try and organise a COVID secure event from the Student Executive.

Nonetheless, students from Ashington and Bedlington came together to mark the occasion. We held a pizza party with music and invited staff along too. Whilst it was sad not to have a big, luxurious send off, it was so lovely to have the whole cohort together one final time before students embark upon the next step in their lives. Good luck, Year 13!



Putting our stamp on it!

We're so proud of the huge number of Key Stage 3 students who produced their own incredible designs for the Royal Mail's Stamp Competition this term.

Students took the opportunity to celebrate and show their respect and appreciation for their own personal heroes during the pandemic. We loved seeing all your entries - it was a sea of rainbows! Here are just a few of the wonderful designs our talented students have created...



We're social!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up to date with all of the latest news from around the Academy!



@ashingtonacad



@ashingtonacademy

IMPORTANT DATES *for your diary*

Tuesday 7 September: Year 7 and Sixth Form students return to school (Induction Day for Year 7 and Year 12 students)

Wednesday 8 September: Year 10 and Year 11 students return to school

Thursday 9 September: Year 8 and Year 9 students return to school

Please keep checking our website and social media channels for the latest updates.

HELLO TO OUR NEW YEAR 7 STUDENTS!

We are so sorry we couldn't invite you into school this term. Here at Ashington Academy, we are very excited to meet you and we have a warm welcome awaiting you in September!

Until then, we have been busy creating as many virtual welcomes to make your transition that bit easier.

Check out our website or Facebook page where you will find lots of helpful videos and information on the move to 'big school'.

Don't be nervous: everyone is lovely and you will be right at home from day one!

See you all soon - we can't wait to get to know you all!



Student Leaders!

We have recently advertised the coveted posts of Head Girl, Head Boy and Student Leaders to join our Student Leadership Team.

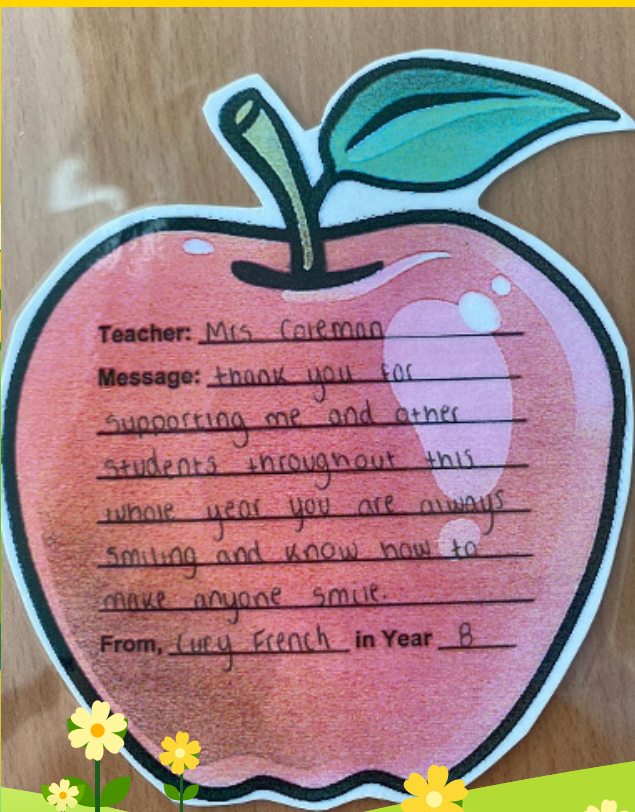
Roles on the Student Leadership Team include: sports ambassadors, creative ambassadors, performing arts ambassadors and academic ambassadors. Members of the team will act as role models for students and their experience as student leaders will help with future applications for university, apprenticeships and job opportunities. We've been absolutely wowed by the applications we have received and we cannot wait to officially introduce you to our team in the next edition of the newsletter!

Thank you!

This term, staff and students across the country celebrated National Thank a Teacher Day.

Students here at Ashington Academy were offered the opportunity to show staff members their gratitude by writing them a message on an apple.

We were overwhelmed by the response - it was amazing! We were touched by all the incredibly thoughtful and kind messages that were shared by students.



Academy upgrades!

We are really excited to update you on progress with our £1.64 million project to refurbish and upgrade our school!our school buildings!

As part of the first phase of the project, improvements were made to the training shed. The existing heating and lighting within the training shed was replaced, meaning that the building is not only now better lit and warmer, but also, more energy efficient.

Work is currently being finalised on the second phase of the project, which involves relocating the current canteen and dining area to the old changing rooms and gym. The new design will allow more students to access the canteen and the facilities provided will enable us to offer a wider selection of food.

Over the summer holidays ,work will continue around the school site. A new, modern 6th form canteen will be created which will provide high quality food in a cafe style environment. Food technology classrooms will also be upgraded allowing students to experience cooking in a fantastic environment with the most up to date equipment.

To complete the work, the outside yard will be resurfaced and covered seating will be installed; this will allow students to use the facilities safely all year round.

We cannot wait to welcome you to our new environment soon!



Egg-citing news for the science department!

This term our science department were thrilled to receive ten eggs which were almost ready to hatch.

We all waited with bated breath until four male chicks and six female chicks arrived! Our male chicks are lemon in colour and our females are more golden. All Year 7 and Year 8 students have completed a lesson with the chicks, allowing students the opportunity to hold, photograph, clean out and weigh our new feathered friends!

As the chicks have grown, we have needed to provide them with space to exercise as well, so we have also been supervising them in the paddling pool for short periods of time and making some small obstacles for them to play with in order to build their strength up! Students have also had the opportunity to name the chicks and we've received 'egg-cellent' suggestions, including Egg Sheran, June, Hei Hei and Noodle!



NE6 corner

Fabulous photography!

A Level photography has been offered for the first time this academic year and has been a resounding success! Mrs Bell has had the pleasure of dropping into the lessons during the course of the year and has been incredibly impressed with the work that the students have produced for their portfolios.

Students have produced outstanding photographs of Newcastle for the topic 'The Urban City' which they have displayed on a variety of materials such as Perspex, cardboard and metal. The enthusiasm, work ethic and imagination our photography students have shown has been a real joy to see. The students should be very proud of the work that they have produced, and we cannot wait to see their completed portfolios!



Extra-curricular activities

In addition to working hard in their studies, our NE6 students have been busy this term with all sorts of exciting extra-curricular activities including Magic Club, Coding Club, Photography, Maths Challenge, Running Club and a huge range of sporting pursuits! Year 12 students Georgia and Louise reflect on why this is an important part of their day:

"Throughout the week, we attend running, netball and Wednesday afternoon sports, as we find the activities a great way to de-stress. The sports clubs allow us to enjoy fresh air and re-energise whilst socialising with our friends. We're really enjoying these extra-curricular activities and we're so grateful to staff for giving up their time!"

