



**WELCOME TO OUR FINAL AIXEMINISTRA OF 2022** – There has been no let up in the vast array of events here at Axe Valley Academy. It is literally non-stop and we love every minute of it as a community.

Our Year 7s are well and truly part of the family here. With every event I see, I find it hard to remember a time when they weren't part of AVA life, whether it be music, drama, art, food, crafting or writing, they are absolutely throwing themselves into the activities here with gusto!

It has been particularly special this term to be able to come together as a school and honour traditional dates in the school calendar. Remembrance was a moving event. To see our school congregate in perfect silence was very special. We were proud of our students who honoured events in the community on 11.11.22. To receive such special recognition from our local clergy for the conduct of our House Captains Caitlin and Kyran was especially heartwarming (see page 3).

Our second Christmas in the Quad, was a fabulous event and got us into the festive spirit from day one in December! Residents from our local care home enjoyed the performances of our choir and musicians. Our students did us proud by manning the craft stalls selling AVA wares. The hot chocolate and gingerbread stands were very popular once again. Our raffle had amazing hampers as a result of the generous donations from our community, This event is definitely set to become a regular for our calendars. So, thank you, for supporting it.

The last few weeks have been so busy with musical events, sporting competition, trips and preparation for our production of Bugsy. This edition of Aixeministra should give you a snapshot of the wonderful things that happen here on a daily basis.

In addition to our social media, you can keep in touch via our new website, so please do bookmark:

#### www.axevalley.uat.ac

I do hope that you are all able to get some well earned rest.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Yenkus

LAURA JENKINS | HEADTEACHER



#### THIS TERM AT AVA

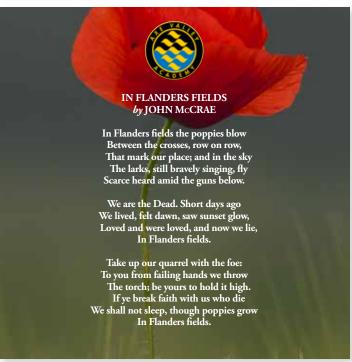
#### PROUD MOMENTS...

**ON REMEMBRANCE MORNING** we met as a school to honour those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Mrs Jenkins spoke of the history of the two-minute silence and the significance of the poppy. Our house captains read beautifully, and our students observed in perfect stillness. Thank you to all who bought their poppies from our reception this year, we raised £56.00 for the British Legion. #wewillrememberthem









#### THIS TERM AT AVA

#### PROUD MOMENTS...

**TWO OF OUR HOUSE CAPTAINS** represented our school in the community. We were delighted to receive the following letter: Dear Mrs Jenkins

What a privilege and delight it was to have Caitlin and Kyran with us this morning. They were so polite and charming and ready to help.

Initially they availed themselves to ensure that everybody, we had 100+ plus, had an Order of Service (we ran out,) and then helped all the school children, representatives from the 6 primary schools within the area, to 'plant' the named poppy crosses into our Garden of Remembrance.

I was sorry that, after the photo shoot, in the mallei after the service, I was not personally able to thank them. Please do pass my very grateful thanks onto them.

Yours faithfully

Fr Geoffrey Chaplain and Honorary Secretary RBL Axminster Branch





#### **OUR CORAM HOUSE CAPTAINS**

were proud to hand over the £80 raised on their card stall at Christmas in the Quad today. Mary Kahn from Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support met with our students, and they hope to make further links when the charity set up home opposite our school next year.









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

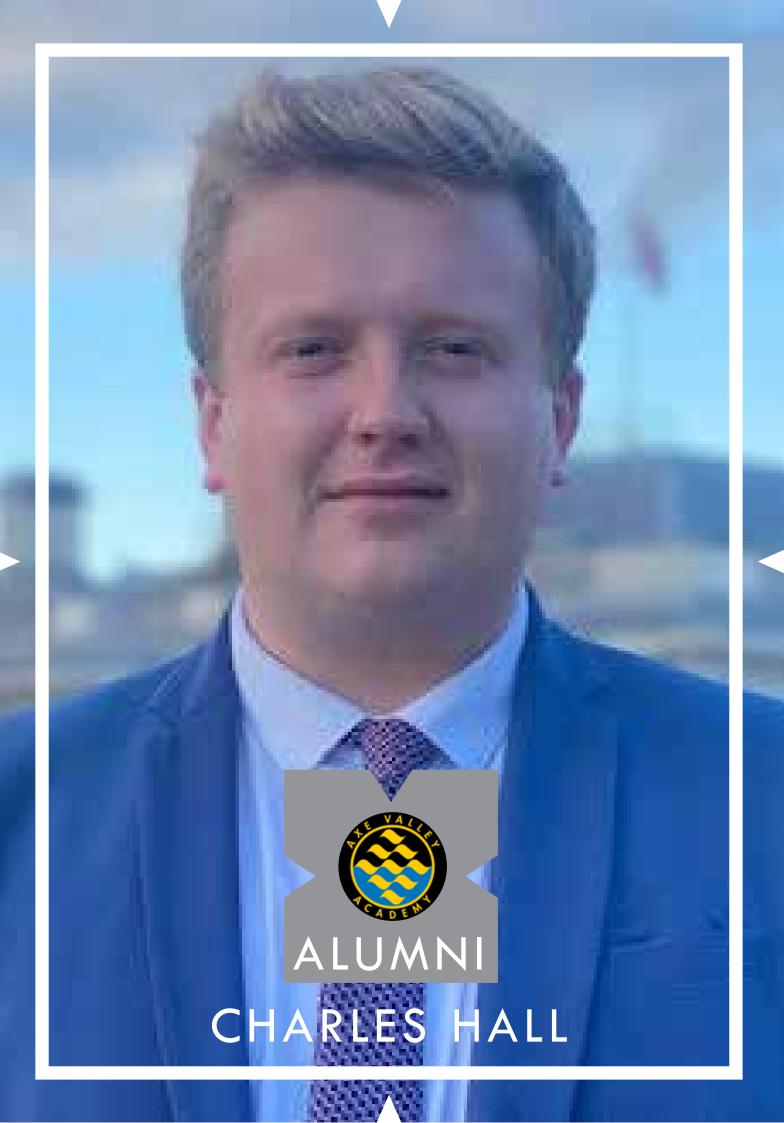
## TOTAL RAISED £1245

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP

#### THIS TERM AT AVA

Year 11 History students donned their cowboy boots and hopped on a stagecoach to experience the 'American West in a Day' experience at the American Museum and Gardens in Bath. Students were given the chance to handle genuine historical artefacts from 19th Century America, including Stetsons, gold pans and bear traps (!) before touring the museum rooms to see how different groups of people lived as the United States expanded Westwards in the 1800s. Students returned with a greater understanding of the diversity of experiences the period and invaluable insights that will help in their summer GCSEs.







#### NOW

#### CHARLES HALL

AXE VALLEY
ACADEMY
WAS AN
INTEGRAL
PART OF
MY JOURNEY
99

CASEWORKER AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

I currently work for Anna Firth MP, Member of Parliament for Southend West. My office is based in the Houses of Parliament and I have a dual role as Anna's Senior Parliamentary Caseworker and also as her Communications Officer.

As a Senior Parliamentary Caseworker, I am ultimately responsible for ensuring the 66,000 residents of Southend West have their concerns addressed by their MP in the best way possible. I am regularly dealing with major cases involving international elements, severe criminal incidents, complex health service matters, or multiple Government departments.

This may also require attending meetings with Government Ministers and Southend City Councillors, as well as organising constituency surgery appointments in Southend. Most recently, I met with the Home Secretary to talk about nitrous oxide abuse.

Alongside this, I manage a Junior Caseworker who deals with other matters including highways and passports.

In this role, I am also responsible for major project delivery relating to the NHS in the constituency. This has included helping to secure 111 new paramedics, 11 new ambulances, and a 12-bed extension to an A&E department.

As a Communications Officer, I am responsible for social media and press relations. This includes writing social media posts, organising media opportunities, attending interviews, preparing press briefs, writing statements and publishing articles. Alongside this, I manage a Junior Communications Officer who operates our Facebook and Twitter streams.

I also advise the Children's Parliament Project and recently organised the first Children's Parliament Select Committee in Westminster which covered water sustainability. The Children's Parliament is opening democracy to 7–11 year olds and involving them in debates around some of the most important issues of our time.



### & THEN...

CG
REACH OUT
TO THINGS
THAT MAY
SEEM TOO
FAR-FETCHED

The subjects you studied at Axe Valley (GCSE and/or post 16):

I studied English, Maths, History, Geography, R.E., Chemistry, Physics, and Biology at GCSE level. At A-Level, I studied English Language, Politics, and Psychology.

The year you left Axe Valley: 2017

The name of any further college/university or training provider. What did you study or train in:

From September 2017, I studied Politics and International Relations at the University of Exeter. I graduated with a 2:1 in 2021, after taking a placement year at Devon County Council to join their Democratic Services and Scrutiny Teams.

Explain what you have done since leaving Axe Valley:

After leaving Axe Valley and attending the University of Exeter, I joined Devon County Council as a Members Services, Committee, and Civic Support Officer.

This was a multi-faceted role working across a variety of departments. Duties include organising committee meetings, formulating and publishing agendas, taking minutes, administering grant processes, policy research, carrying out legal & DBS checks, assisting the Royal Household in award ceremonies, data analysis and general administration. Alongside this, I was an Axminster Town Councillor and Vice Chair of the Planning Committee. Duties include chairing meetings, advising fellow Members on processes, voting on policy, and hosting public meetings.

In March 2022, this all ended after I was offered a job in London. I now live near Canary Wharf and have loved every moment so far.

Explain how Axe Valley helped prepare you for the next stages in your life? (e.g. opportunities you took, experiences, teachers, lessons, enrichment, volunteering etc).

Axe Valley was integral in my journey. Firstly, the level of personal care teachers show in the classroom.

Far from the detached and ruthless education we all might fear when heading into secondary school and GCSE's, Axe Valley is about around a very personal style of education. Teachers don't just show interest in what you are studying, but why are you studying it and what makes you tick. I always had my ambitions and interests catered for, with great teachers such as Mr. Perks and Mr. Knott ensuring that these were nurtured for.

I also involved myself in a variety of extracurricular activities, including being a prefect, leading to the student union, writing for the school newsletter, and attending a regular debating club. Whilst the classroom is always the most important place, attending these on the side puts you in a much better place for university and work – I know Axe Valley has more on offer than ever before, so encourage everyone to attend!

Volunteering was a massive part. One of our greatest moments in the school was organising the Dementia Friends Christmas meal in 2016. Together, we managed to secure free food and entertainment for a dozen local and elderly residents who had a Christmas to remember.

Tips/Advice you would give current students to help them to prepare for life after AVA (e.g. preparing them for their next steps, how they can maximise their time at school. etc).

Leap at every opportunity. Sometimes growing up in a small town might feel quite claustrophobic, but I can assure the local area has so much to offer – both in and out of school. You should say yes to as much as possible that is offered to you as it will enhance your knowledge and understanding of the world. Whilst you're having fun, you'll be making yourself even more attractive to future employers and universities.

Don't be afraid to go above and beyond, reaching out to things you might think are too far-fetched. In 2015 I secured some work experience in Westminster – I was terrified, but I went for it. In my UCAS application, it gave me a massive edge over other candidates, so every minute was worth it.

Finally, networking. It is without doubt the most important skill you could ever learn. Summon whatever confidence you can muster and really get to know people – you can do this at any age and one day it will pay you off when you need a favour!



#### **NEWS**



We have an exciting new project happening here at Axe Valley Academy. If you or someone you know would like to be part of our Alumni campaign, please contact Mr Scott, our Assistant Head, email: jscott@axevalley.uat. ac. We'd love to hear about the journey you have been on since leaving AVA.

Parents, carers, friends and grandparents... we need you! We are trying to re-establish our PTFA. We have so many ideas for community events we wish to hold and reinstate, such as the Minster Challenge. If you would like to play a part, please do get in touch with our School Business Manager, Jacky Lomax (jlomax@axevalley.uat.ac)



### THIS TERM AT AVA



Thank you to Axminster Rotary who provided us with the crocus bulbs to plant. The purple crocus flower is a symbol of the polio vaccine. The colour purple signifies the colour dye used on the little finger of a child who has received their life saving polio drops on mass polio immunisation days in many countries. These plants will continue to flower each year to create a fantastic purple carpet display and remind us of the international project happening worldwide to eradicate polio. Thank you to our wonderful Year 7s for their help with planting these.







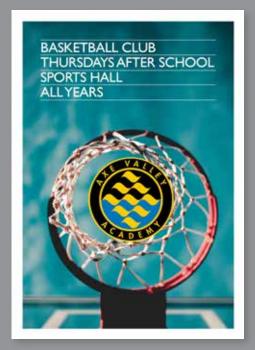






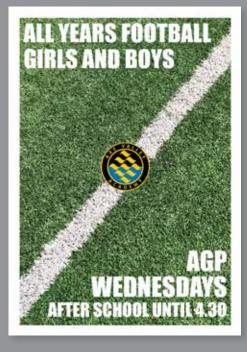
purple for #polioawareness

### **CLUBS AT AVA**

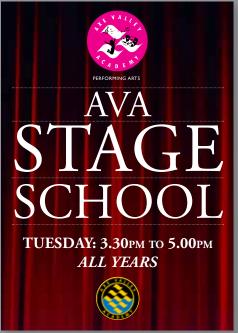














### **CREATIVE ARTS**



# PERFORMANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES: 1st, 2nd, 3rd March 2023



#### MUSIC

YEAR 7 have been getting into the festive spirit, learning keyboard skills whilst playing Christmas tunes! So many students have got involved in our extra curricular clubs and peripatetic lessons which is fantastic.

YEAR 8 have been learning the 12 Bar Blues and forming their own bands. They've all had a go at writing their own Blues lyrics too. Onto Rock 'n' Roll next term!

YEAR 9 have had a series of World Music workshops, including African Drumming, Calypso and Samba. We've had some interesting Christmas fusion music emerging too!

YEAR 10 have made an excellent start on their solo performance preparation and have had fun exploring pop music and music for film and game.

YEAR 11 have been busy completing a solo performance recording, and composition piece for their coursework. Their focus and attitude has been excellent!

In the extra-curricular world, things have been very busy indeed. Our Year 7 Cello Club has over 20 members. The Powderham Castle Trip was a huge success, Bugsy Malone rehearsals are well under way and our Axe Valley Voices and Band came together to perform at Christmas in the Quad, along with a couple of soloists. Nearly 100 students enjoyed watching 'Wicked' the musical in London and the following day, The Axe Valley Voices joined with Axminster and Colyton Primary schools to perform at 'Sing Your Heart Out'. Many of our students performed at the Waffle House before all coming together for our wonderful festive Christmas Concert in the Minster.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





#### IT'S CHRISTMAS! SING YOUR HEART OUT!

Axminster Primary Academy	Year 5 Brass Group	Jingto ands
Axminster Primary Academy	Yra 5 Cello Group	T. ve String ≪righ Ride
Colyton Primary Academy	Choir	Boogi¢ W`ogi¢ Santa
Shute/Thorncombe/St Mary's	String Tzio	Alaskan Sle/gh Ride
Shute Pr' ary School:	Saxophone Solo	God Nest Ye Merry Goodessen
Colyton Primary Academy	Coir	What a G reious Night
Are Valley Academy	Axe Valley Voices	Oh How Lovely is the Evening All on a State Night When Christmas Genes to Town
As., valley Community Orchestra		The Clean No.
Axe Valley Community Orchestra and Mixed Choir		The Sussex Carol
Axe Valley Community Orchestra and Mixed Choir		African Noel
Axe Valley Community Orchestra and Mixed Choir		Christmas Canon



### CHRISTMAS IN THE MINSTER

#### Congregation ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

First Verse Solo: Eara Jefferies
Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed
There a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed
Mary was that mother mild
Jesus Christ her little child

READING: Luke 2: 1-7

Axe Valley Voices

Oh How Lovely is the Evening/All on a Silent Night –
Trad/Becky Slagle Mayo

When Christmas Comes to Town – Moore & Hall

Jingle Bells – Trad. Amelie Bright & Sophie Bevan

#### Congregation O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem Come and behold Him Born the King of Angels

God of God, Light of Light Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb Very God Begotten, not created

READING: Twas the Night Before Christmas – Clement Clarke Moore Read by Natasha Vincent & Ezra Jefferies

Snowman – Sia Alex Tulloch, Sophie Locke, Ezra Jefferies & Megan Reed

Christmas Concerto – Mozart Niamh Lampey & Sydney Sleeman

3 String Sleigh Ride – Peter Martin *Year 7 Cello Group* 

#### Congregation ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

And our eyes
Ar last shall see Him
Through His own redeeming love
For that child, so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone

READING: Luke 2: 1-7

Axe Valley Voices

Oh How Lovely is the Evening/All on a Silent Night –
Trad/Becky Slagle Mayo

When Christmas Comes to Town - Moore & Hall

Jingle Bells – Trad. Amelie Bright & Sophie Bevan

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3 String Sleigh Ride – Peter Martin Year 7 Cello Group





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OVER THE LAST MONTH we have witnessed some great sporting occasions from around the world. The rugby league world cups, the England ladies rugby team finishing agonisingly runners up in New Zealand. At present we are all wondering whether we have the team to beat France as Southgate's England squad are progressing nicely through the gears. What has made the biggest impact on us as a school is to see that Innes FitzGerald is once again a national champion U17 for Cross Country, Marcus Wyatt has won his first skeleton World Cup race at Whistler USA and Tyler Dibling has played for England at Football.

In school we have our Year 11 CNAT course preparing for their January exams and then concentrating on completing the coursework they have remaining. The Year 10's are producing some promising work and have made a solid start to their studies.

On the practical side of sport we have seen the school represented by numerous students at the East Devon Schools Cross Country Championships 2022 held at Bicton College 9th November. Everybody really gave their best effort and five students earned selection for the East Devon team to run against the Exeter Schools team at Blundells School on 24th November. (Seb, Lily, Freddie, Mariia and Harry) In terrible conditions they all ran well with Seb and Harry achieving times to go on to the County trials in January at the Exeter Arena, good luck.









Miss Walker and Miss Baker have been working hard with the netball teams and we have started to play fixtures against other schools with mixed fortunes at present. It would be great to see more girls present at clubs to develop healthy competitions for places and to continue this at the Axe Vale netball club that takes place on Tuesday in the sports hall.

The football club run by Mr Horn and Mr Palmer has been well supported by students and there have been County Cup matches organised for all year groups. The Year 10s were drawn away at Torquay Boys Grammar School a game that saw the Grammar School go two up in a short period of time. Matt R and Bailey G rallied the team and after goals by Owen C and Bailey fought back to be level. Some notable performances by Cian M in goal, Joey in defence and slider king Jacob the team went down battling to 5-2 defeat. All agreed first game out and with practice future looks good.

The last week has witnessed some intense inter house dodgeball matches with students showing their tactical and evasion skills in a very enjoyable throwing game. It seems to be a game that is enjoyed by both boys and girls and brings the best out of students working together as a team and encouraging and supporting in their quest to win. Winners Yr 7: Chudleigh, Yr 8: Chudleigh, Yr 9: Anning, Yr 10: Anning. Well done to everyone who took part.

As the year draws to a close please could I ask for your help firstly in maintaining your support in ensuring students are prepared for PE lessons especially in the likelihood of lessons being indoors. Students are expected to wear a change of footwear (trainers not shoes worn for school) in the sports hall as it has new flooring. Secondly if you have any kit that no longer fits or isn't used anymore (moulded boots for AGP) we can make use of it.

Finally I would like to wish you all a very peaceful and enjoyable festive period and look forward to sharing and celebrating future sporting success with you.

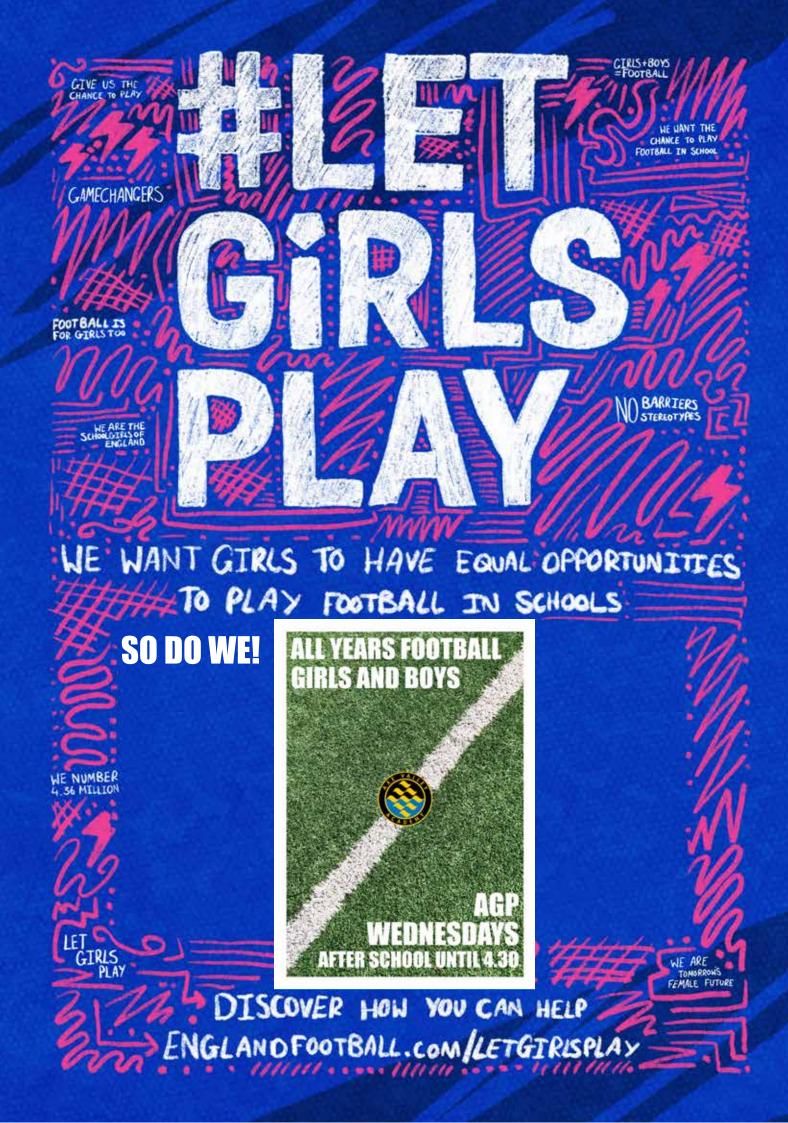
Dave Owen, Head of PE

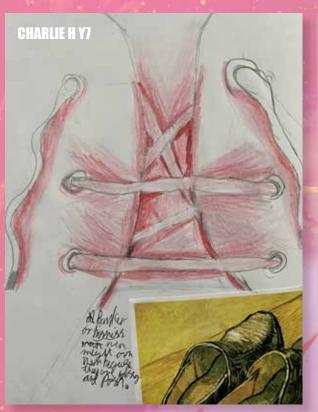




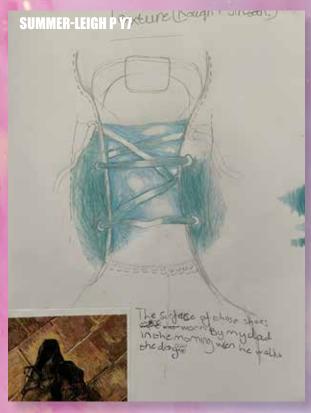












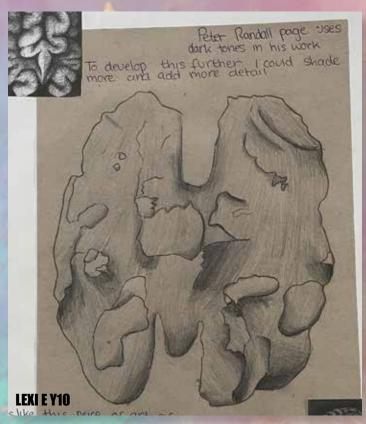


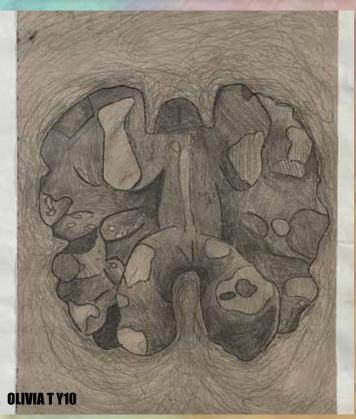
















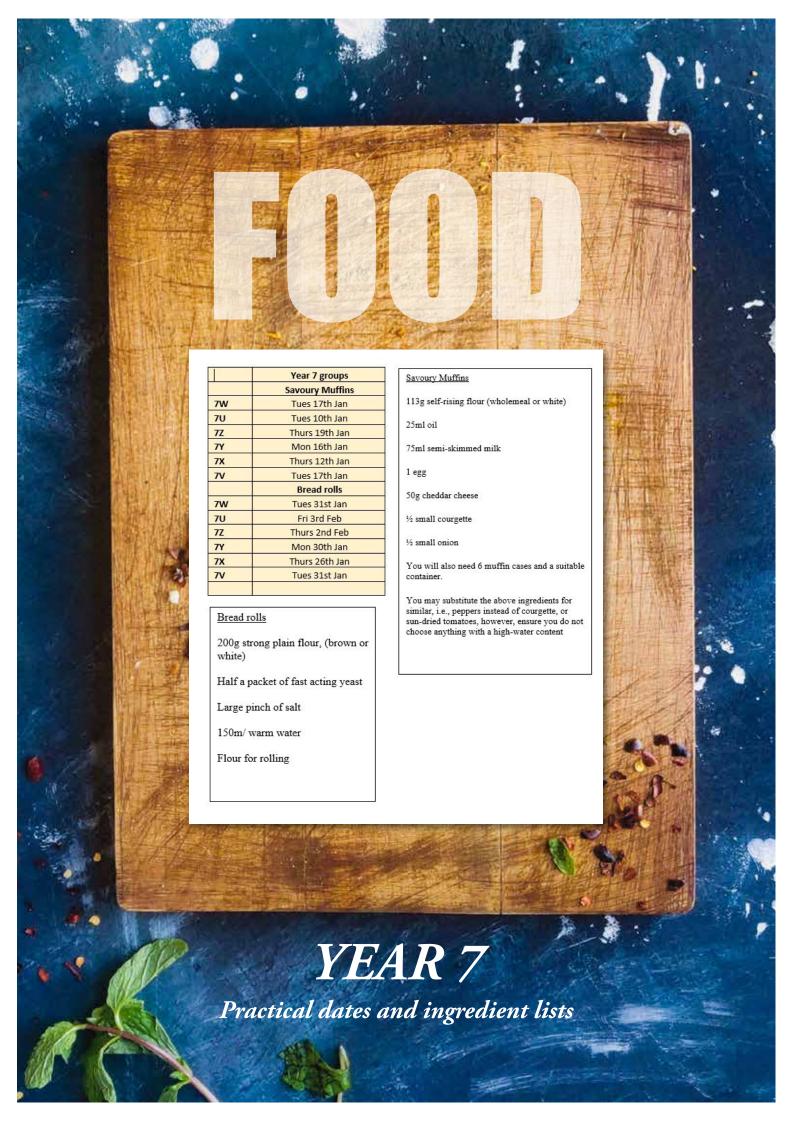


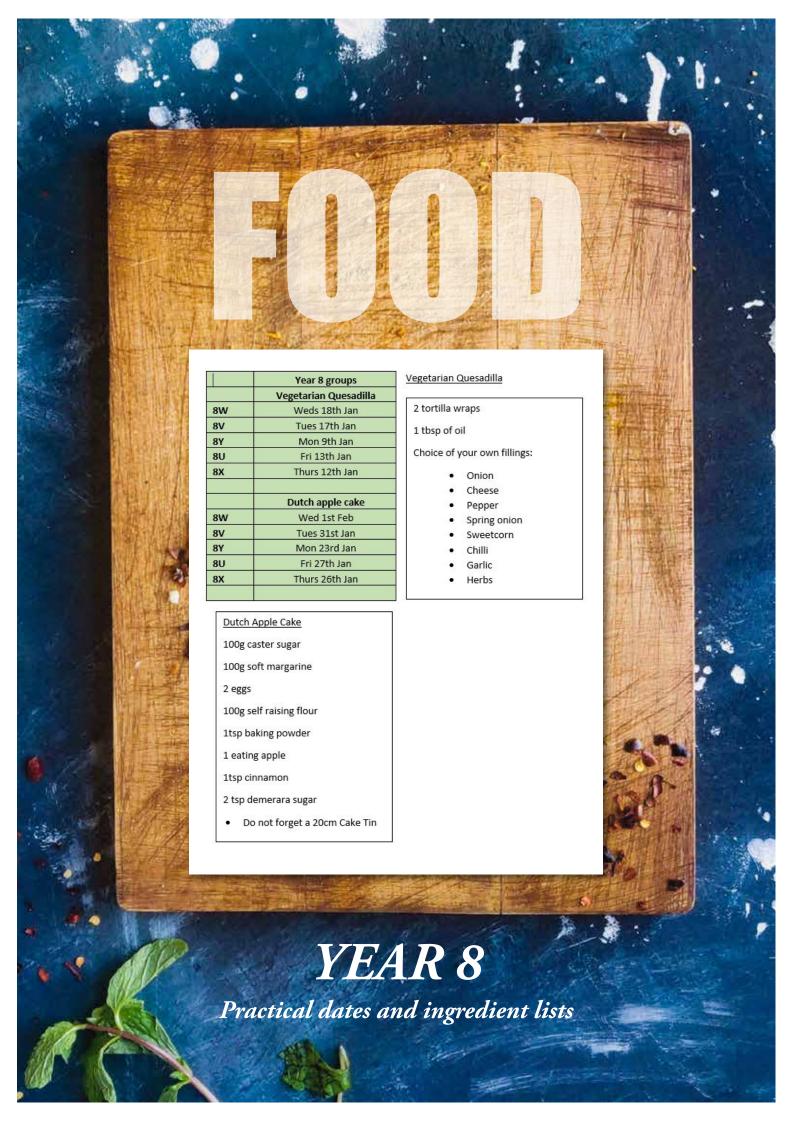


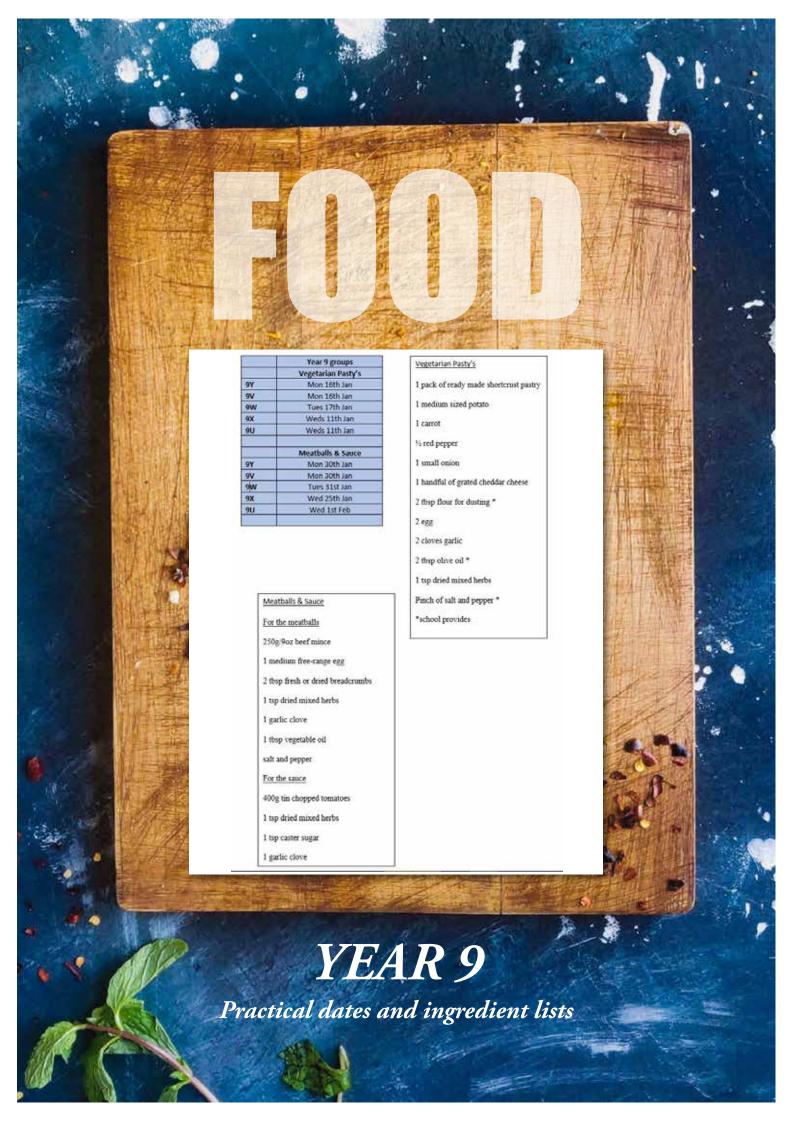












Free-Arm and Industrial Drawing On the two top lines of Plate ery difficult to draw, chiefly and perhaps solely NATURAL AND COMMON OBJECTS secount of their legs. Those, therefore, re devoid of legs, or of any very destart, and the third gives a THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES HAPPEN **EACH WEEK IN THE LIBRARY:** conspicuous, for therein and emulation for their simple line tells as part of the e-MONDAY: Bookworm Buddies Domestic, & mals, and a fe TUESDAY: Chess Club WEDNESDAY: Manga Club THURSDAY: Quiet reading FRIDAY: Movie Club est of all be represented in the more uniform spar one of the upright (as indicated), and for variations left of things and of all be repre-indicated, curvature plate, as slight of the ne) as in and for in are slight of the letters; thous Price List NATURAL AND COMMON OBJECTS ABUSES IN DRAWING I. TYPICAL BOARD OF EDU Certificate Biro £0.11 andidates will be required to undergo Handwriting pen £0.23 er from a natural object. 1) Drawing from Natural Objects. e candidate is able to Candidates are required to make a dr with any materia Highlighter £0.15 raling, measuring, bacing, or off sal knowledge of n Candidates should have gone through and other natural objects, for the purpose of acof mitural object knowledge of the form, structure, collier, and other the £1.66 A4 lined refill pad power of drawin of these, together with an appreciation of their beauty, and (b) £0.60 (2) Drawing from Hand-made and Artificial Objects Shorthand notebook condidate HB pencil £0.05 Clear pencil case £0.58 and a knowledge of the form £0.12 Eraser of perspective in modifying only while the objects are The exercises should not be reall £0.28 Pencil sharpener is suggested by the Ring binder £1.05 te pigme Free-Arm and In Report file £0.18 affect to painting (which is entirely a syntem of rousing with the brush), but it is also chosely a state of the brush and the concept as reric tribes in general. Lastly, by Japan in common with freely employed, i.e. by all to whom expert draughtsn widest, deepest sense. Therefore, what the child asks for, ever delights in by its sturity, let it cultivate from the very beginning under o of graphic expression, that which is the life and soul of shading objects with the pencil, the lines should not drawn with the rubbed-down blunt edge of a fairly soft evslson obtained by varying the pressure in order to secure emphasis where being intensified, distant ones softened. "Lining in" is not a separate process, and in nature-work is never emp ly means the securing at last, if not at first, of the fir



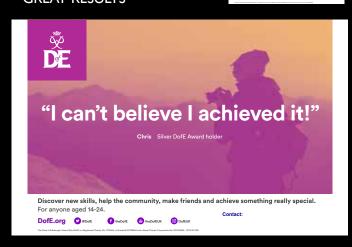




Congratulations to Phoebe, Maisy and Willow for achieving their DofE Bronze Awards. Well done! – you have worked really hard for this.

SMALL SCHOOL LARGE EXPECTATIONS GREAT RESULTS









### ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS



AURAYA-MAY A 10VM



EMILY B
10RB



MEGAN C 10RB



FLETCHER D 10RB



RHYS H 10RB



JAMES J 10VM



JOEY J 10LM



POPPY N 10DO



OLIVIA S 10LM



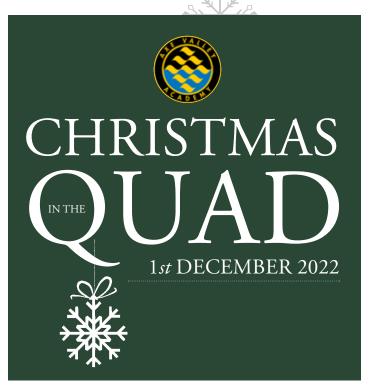
MORGAN S





























































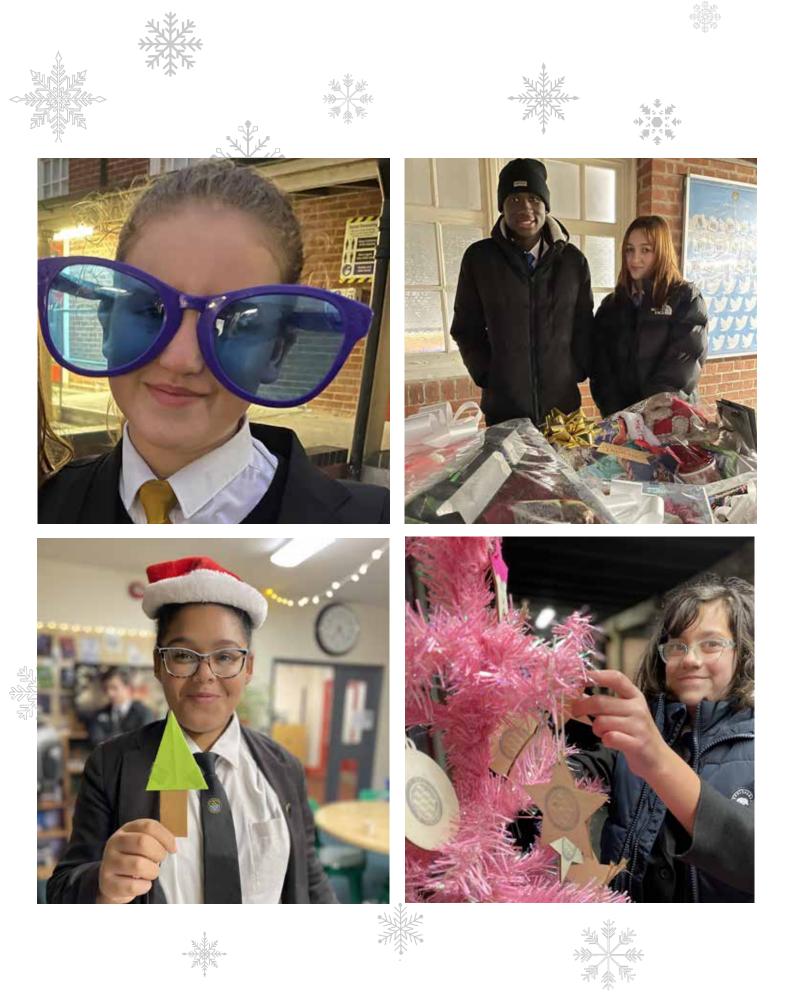












• CAROL SINGING • STUDENT CRAFT STALLS • HOT DRINKS & SNACKS • LIVE MUSIC A FABULOUS COMMUNITY EVENT FOR ALL

#### 1st: MILLIE C - 8NF

The Forgotten Abbey

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is the

Man

Roac

Thickening, menacing fog shrouded the valley floor leading to the derelict abbey. Mysteriously, a full moon lit the way through the large, dense forest. As twisting, decaying branches cast shadows, claw like hands moved in the strengthening breeze. To the left of the abbey entrance, a tenebrous, grotesque statue lurked in the half-light. Inside, great stone pillars and arches stretched upwards towards the darkening, autumn sky where the roof would have been hundreds of years ago. Behind the abbey's protective, towering, brick wall was an abandoned graveyard; dead ivy intertwined through the cracks of the gravestones of the forgotten dead.

#### 2ND: KITTYV - 8NF

The trees whispered to each other as I stepped through the rusted, creaky gate. I didn't shiver as the fog swirled around my legs like fire, dancing up past my knees. The callous wind whistled as I trekked through the graveyard. As tenebrous as it all was, I stalked closer to the clandestine castle. I reached the stairs quickly, yet I had walked so slowly to get here. The moon stared down at me, ravishing in my unshown fear, as I walked up the stairs, giving myself as much time alive as possible. I wasn't ready to die, was I?

#### 3RD: HOLLIE B - 8EBU

The trees were brown and bare while their leaves laid on bumpy, colourless, dead lichen. Blinding fog covered the landscape as the crows cried in the dim, tenebrous shadows. Obnoxiously, the tree's roots encroached all over the mossy forest floor. Mysterious moonlight loomed and we were surrounded by an ethereal glow during such an eerie night. The air was crisp and cold which created frost on the sad, dead, droopy leaves. Vicious wolves in the distance could be heard faintly howling to the fully lit moon. It was petrifying, yet somehow comforting, to hear nature's children of the night sing.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS** To all who entered, you obviously really enjoyed this competition -Well done!

WRITING COMPETITION

### YEAR 7 AWARDS



# YEAR 7 AWARDS

















## YEAR 8 AWARDS



### YEAR 8 AWARDS















### YEAR 9 AWARDS



# YEAR 9 AWARDS











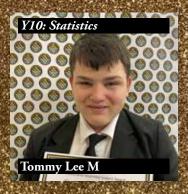
YEAR LEADER AWARD: YEAR 9



### YEAR 10 AWARDS



## YEAR 10 AWARDS







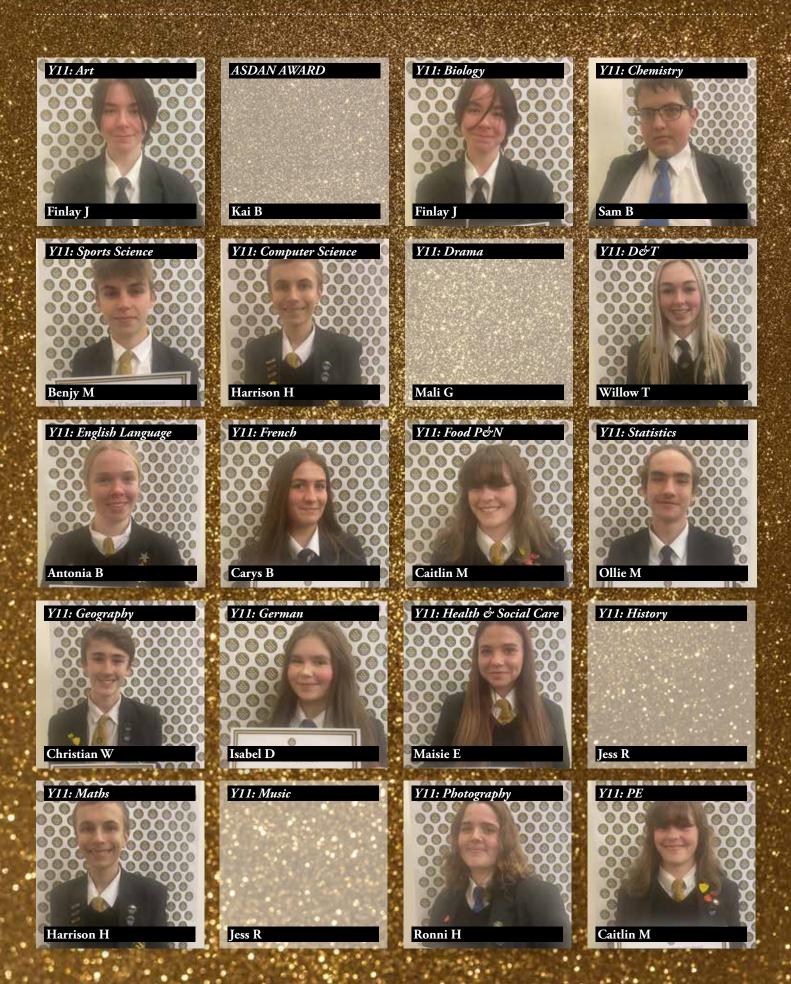








## YEAR 11 AWARDS



# YEAR 11 AWARDS









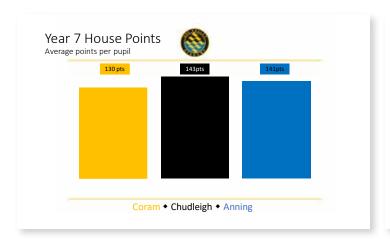


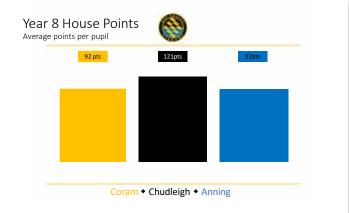


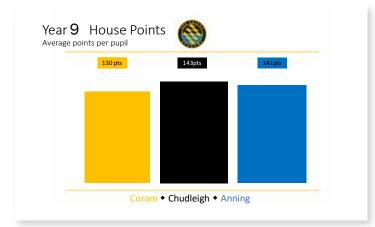


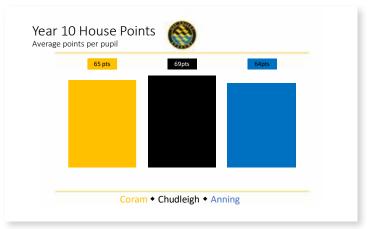


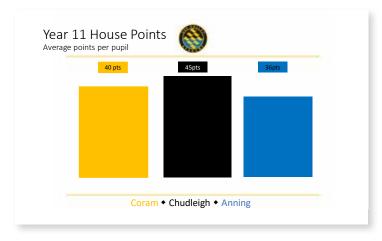
### **HOUSES AT AVA**











#### **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 <a href="https://rnli.org/">https://rnli.org/</a>

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

Headlight – Our Services – Action East Devon <a href="https://www.actioneastdevon.org.uk/headlight/">https://www.actioneastdevon.org.uk/headlight/</a>







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EST. 1965

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- Excavations and Groundworks

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