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## Yr 11 Revision

Our teaching staff across the school are working extremely hard to support our Year 11 students in the final weeks before their exams. As part of this we have created a Google Site dedicated to revision. The site can be accessed by following this [link](#). We would encourage you to look at the site with your child over the Easter holidays.

We have also been using Tuesday morning registration periods to revisit key revision strategies with Year 11. After Easter, this time will be dedicated to putting these strategies into practice. Year 11 need to remember to bring some revision for Tuesday mornings.

We would like to thank parents for their support at this important time.

# ad altiora news

ISSUE 16

MARCH 2018

## End to an Egg-citing Term!



Another exciting term has passed and each month our newsletter highlights the breadth of activities which take place here at Arden. We pride ourselves in creating, 'Successful Learners, Confident Individuals and Responsible Citizens' and here is the evidence!

Easter is a time for new beginnings, new hope, new joy and new aspirations. You may have heard the Easter superstition that eating Hot Cross buns will bring you luck and sharing a bun with someone will ensure friendship for the next year. What a lovely thought to take into the Easter holidays to think about how we can share this special time with our friends, family and the community.

There are two school visits taking place over the Easter holiday; the Sixth Form Ski trip to America, and a study visit to Poitiers, France for students in Years 9-11. We would like to wish all of the students and staff taking part in the visits a fantastic time, and a safe journey.

We also have a number of staff running study days for Year 11 during the holidays and we hope that the students take a lot from these sessions, in order to prepare them for their examinations.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and healthy Easter and I look forward to seeing you all in the Summer Term.

Mr Murphy  
Arden Principal

## Arden Wins National Award for Excellent Results

Arden has been recognised nationally for its excellent results in 2017 based on data from the Department of Education and Ofsted, analysed by SSAT (the Schools, Students and Teachers network).

Arden was found to be among the best performing secondary schools in the country, receiving two awards for being in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for attainment and the top 20% for progress.

The SSAT Educational Outcomes database compares all state-funded schools in England, with the highest performing for a range of key measures presented with SSAT Educational Outcomes Awards, sponsored by Lexonik. Arden will be presented with their awards in the summer term at a ceremony attended by winners from across the region.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said: "I am delighted that Arden has won two Educational Outcomes Awards. This

recognises an important aspect of the schools' work, but, as we know, there is much more to recognise in a school like Arden. SSAT is pleased to recognise the quality of leadership and the hard work of all staff to ensure the success of every child. A big thank you and well done to pupils, parents, staff and governors."



## English Theatre Trip

Mr Kirby, Mr White and Miss Corbett from the English Department took 13 Year 13 students up to Stockport on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March to see *Equus*, Peter Shaffer's play which they are studying for Language and Literature Combined A-level.

It is an uncompromising, brilliant work which explores the causes of the teenager Alan Strang's shockingly violent act of blinding six horses. Set in the psychiatrist Dysart's surgery in the 1970s, it shows present and past in juxtaposition through innovative staging, as the power of Alan's personal 'Equus' religion is shown to have been

shaped by his parents' conflicting attitudes to his nurture.

The production was thoroughly engaging, with standout performances from the two leads, and the fact that the quaint playhouse looked like it had been beamed out of the 1970s itself only added to the period charm of the occasion!

The students will now be able to write with greatly improved analytical authority on the play's theatrical aspects.



Arden students meet some of the cast

## Installing a Love of Reading

This month we have been encouraging the pupils to develop good reading habits. We began the month with World Book Day and our English department took the opportunity to dress up for the day. A number of events took place including a 'hunt the character' trail around school, as pupils searched for teachers wearing special character badges.

World Book Day was also an opportunity for us to launch our reading tree mural, which is being created in the Cadbury building. The initiative is the brain child of Miss Corbett and her book club. They have invited pupils and staff to write a summary of their favourite or most influential book and these are being written on the leaves of the tree. It is already looking fabulous and we cannot wait to share the finished mural with you.

Here, Miss Corbett shares her personal thoughts on why reading is so important:

*As an English teacher, a teacher, an adult, I believe that everyone can have a connection with books. I also believe that it is one of the*



The English Department on World Book Day

### Miss Corbett and her book club



*main activities that you can do that will help with examination success and life generally.*

*On a practical level, reading helps with literacy. It helps with being able to be confident when encountering any reading material that we will inevitably have to in our lives and it helps with all manner of verbal communication, be it with formal speeches or everyday conversations, some of them important to our everyday existence.*

*It also helps us gather information and learn as we go. When reading Agatha Christie, we learn about inheritance laws. When reading about American history, we can perhaps understand the current political system.*

*When reading Charles Dickens novels, how can we not pick up what London life was like in the Victorian period?*

*But it is on a humane level that I think reading helps us most. It connects us with the human condition: what it is to be sad, lonely, happy and joyful. It helps us with our emotional health and it teaches us that we are not alone in the world. For that very reason and all of the above, reading should be championed again and again and again.*

## Reading Rewards

This half term the Year 7 and 8 pupils have been making great strides with their reading programme (Accelerated Reader). This term's winners of an early lunch pass and a bespoke bookmark are:

### Year 7

**Most Books Read** - Maddie Jennings and Izzy Cullen.

**Most Points** - Bella Heselden-Hamer and Madeline Harper.

**Most Effort** - Idris Ibrahim and Corley Jones.

### Year 8

**Most Books Read** - Kirsten Duthie and Isaac Nharo

**Most Points** - Anoushka Fisher and Adam Hashi

**The Outstanding Club (Prize Draw) book prize goes to:** Esme Whitney (Year 7) and Annie Chu (Year 9).

Pupils will also be able to take quizzes over Easter from home during school hours. Details are on the school website.

Further to this, the winners of the World Book Day book review competition are Mia Barber and Lavinia Shepherd -Ellis.

Bookmark Design Competition Winner: Thea Hitchcock 7A.

The winner of the Bookmark Competition not only received Achievement Points, but their design will be issued to every new Y7 student in September. Well done all!



## Science and STEM events

It has been a busy month for Science and STEM. Here is a taster of what has been going on.

### Science Ambassadors

Our science ambassadors showcased their experimental skills to their parents by putting on a lesson so they could experience some of the experiments KS3 pupils get to do here at Arden.



We had nans and granddads, mums and dads and even brothers and sisters observing some of the demonstrations our eager ambassadors had to offer.

All our ambassadors did an amazing job; it's great to see so many budding Scientists that are enthusiastic and enjoy science.

### Navy Outreach

We were delighted to welcome representatives from the Royal Navy to deliver sessions on aspirations, futures and opportunities for employment. The focus was on jobs for the future and the fact that many of our pupils will be involved in jobs that haven't even been invented yet. It was a very interesting session and there was lots for the pupils to take away and think about.



### Science Week

This year we celebrated Science Week with our Year 7s and 8s learning about some exciting recent discoveries. They made some great posters and showed such enthusiasm that we were able to send several praise postcards home to parents.

We held our yearly competition to make some 'science' cakes too. Have a look at just some of our entries! We had a sun with some planets around it, science apparatus cookies, and some edible cake eyes.

Thank you to everyone who took part!



## Year 7 STEM Challenge

Year 7 students have been participating in a STEM challenge known as 'Race for the Line'. They have been attending extra-curricular sessions during which they have learnt about aerodynamics and acceleration. They then designed and built their own cars in preparation for race day on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018. In the end, 13 groups successfully managed to build a safe car that could participate in the race. These students met with a military representative to fit rockets into their cars and fire them. The teams did the school proud in the attention to detail on each of their cars and as a result were able to produce some encouraging times. These times will now be put into

the national competition to compare against results from over 300 other schools nationwide. The reward up for grabs is the school's name on the Bloodhound car, a vehicle looking to break the 1000mph barrier on land. It was fantastic work from all students involved.



### BAE Systems Roadshow

On 14<sup>th</sup> March, BAE Systems in partnership with the RAF and the Royal Navy came to Arden to deliver their "It's a Numbers Game" Roadshow to Year 7. Throughout the show the pupils were introduced to a series of fun and fascinating ways in which Maths is used in everyday life.

The presentation included the most up to date technologies to demonstrate the importance of Maths in the future of Engineering.

The amazing robot MIA showed off her mathematical genius, facial recognition technology and ability to converse in a natural way. Pupils were invited to participate in some of the demonstrations and problem-solving games as BAE Systems aimed to demystify the subject and help embed the learning that they encounter in school.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable event that will hopefully inspire some of our year 7s to pursue a career in one of the STEM subjects.

### Your Green Future

A group of 30 Year 8 pupils visited Solihull College this month for the annual Your Green Future event. The event is an opportunity for pupils to participate in a series of workshops linked to business and sustainability. These pupils are all taking part in the STEM and enterprise 'Solutions 4 the Planet' competition. The day provided a lot of useful information



which the pupils can now use in their competition projects. We look forward to sharing their final entries with you later in the year.



## Food Exams

The Year 11 students have been hard at work this month on their practical food exams. Both the Home Economics and the Catering students have had to endure exams which require them to design their own menus to a very high standard. Mrs Herbert and Mrs Bennett were really proud of all of the students and the food that they produced. Here is just a taster of the delights which were served up.



## Promoting Positive Mental Health

The Senior Pupils and Pupil Leadership Team wanted to produce a piece of art to raise awareness about positive mental and emotional health as part of our school-wide development work.

They visited form tutor groups and encouraged students to write down something they do to keep themselves emotionally well, for example: read a book, see friends. Staff were also asked to contribute.

All of the strips of coloured paper were then quilled to form the overall image. Credit to Mr Hook for applying his artistic eye to the final design.

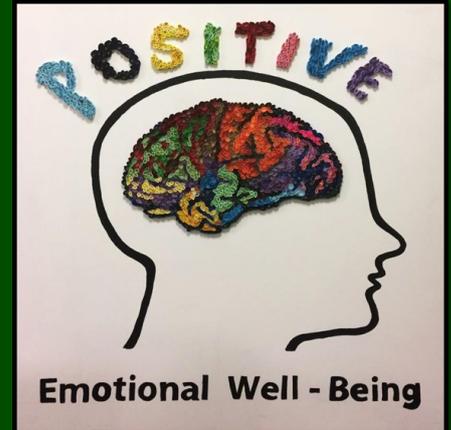
The idea behind it was to create a piece of art that everyone had an involvement in.

The art will be used in posters and assemblies to promote the idea of positive mental health. We are now deciding on where the art work will be displayed in school.

After Easter, our Senior Pupils will also be delivering an assembly which they have put together with the help of some mental health professionals from within



our parent body. We are very proud of the commitment the students have



shown to this project.

Through working with a number of professionals from the field of mental health we have been recommended a number of websites which parents can access for support if they are concerned about the mental wellbeing of their child.

<https://youngminds.org.uk>

<https://www.royalfoundation.com/our-work/heads-together/>

<https://www.cwmt.org.uk>

All of these give advice and support to parents and help to understand children's behaviour regarding emotional wellbeing.

## Charity Day

This month saw our annual charity day to support the Sixth Form South Africa fundraising. This year was a feast of culinary delights with everything from samosas to a chocolate fountain on offer. Food aside, there was also an inflatable obstacle course and the crowd pleasing soak the teacher!

Overall, an absolutely amazing total of £4,607.03 was raised which will go towards the legacy project.



## Future Chef Competition: Deeah's Journey

The Springboard Future Chef competition is in its 18th year and has involved 12,000 12-16 year olds from across the country.

In January, Deeah Chohan (Year 11) competed in the local heat which then took her to the Regional Final at UCB in February. Her winning dishes impressed the judges as did her calm, confident manner; obviously her culinary skills were incredible too.

After the regionals, we were allocated a mentor from Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel. During half term Deeah and I met George Outhwaite to discuss our menu choices and, with the chefs at the hotel, had two cook-offs to learn new skills and techniques.

At the national final stage the

competitors are given basket of ingredients, from which they must create a two course meal for three people, judged on taste, wastage, time, cleanliness and presentation.

The competition was held at Westminster Kingsway College and was very intense. After 12,000 entrants the 12 finest young chefs from around the UK competed to be crowned the FutureChef champion.

Judge and FutureChef chairman Brian Turner welcomed the competitors and celebrated the incredible achievements of the young chefs.

Deeah cooked the following dishes for the competition: Main Course - Sea Bass, purple sprouting, edamame beans, parisienne potatoes, cauliflower and red

pepper puree, tomato concasse. Dessert Course - chocolate tart, raspberry curd, Italian meringue, with raspberry coulis and crème anglais.

Award winning chefs from the UK, including Rick Stein, had a very hard job of choosing the winner. Deeah's dishes were brilliant and her execution so professional.

In the end Deeah was given overall 4th place! I am so proud of her achievements and look forward to watching this talented young chef grow and have an incredible career in the hospitality and catering industry. Her journey has now begun...

Mrs Herbert



## Year 7 Trip to the Black Country Living Museum

Year 7 pupils recently went on a trip to the Black Country Living Museum to support their learning about the Industrial Revolution.

Here are some quotes from Year 7 pupils about their time at the museum:

*'We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. No matter what we were doing we always learnt something new.'* **Freya Connolly**

*'It was an amazing experience. We learnt about the jobs available at the time, the living conditions, the schooling, the economic elements and income,*

*clothing and fashions and at lunch (my personal favourite) what the food was like! Many of the things we learnt were performed by actors making the whole experience more exciting and easier to imagine what life was like in the Industrial Revolution'.* **Eden Tattersall**

*'In my opinion, the best part of the trip was the mine because there was a lot to learn about how people lived and suffered in those days'.* **Holly Martini**

It was an excellent day all round. The



pupils were fantastically well behaved and a real credit to the school. The history department are looking forward to using what they have learnt in lessons next term.



# Sixth Form News

## Congratulations to our new Prefects!

After a gruelling set of interviews and tasks, we eventually appointed twelve Year 12 students to the position of Prefect last week. They have taken on the responsibility of representing the views of the Sixth Form with great maturity and ambition. We have great faith in their abilities and great hope that they will further shape the Sixth Form into being the best that it can be.

The successful students are:

Katie Ashfield, Ella Bolton, Jonathan Bolton, Lucy Bugg, Emily Cray, Katherine Ginty, Charlotte Howell, Sam Jones, Ilana-Leah Joyce, Will Randell, Alisha Sharma and Freya Walker.

## Webinars in association with Sheffield University

Year 12 have had the advantage of being able to take part in a series of webinars promoted by Sheffield University alongside other leading institutions such as Reading, UCL and many others. The point of these sessions is to introduce students to the different ways a similar course can be taught across a range of institutions. And the best thing? The chance to talk to people leading or taking the courses without having to leave our own Sixth Form Centre. We now look forward to sessions on History, Psychology and Biomedical Sciences after Easter. The sessions are slick and a really

effective use of time for those taking part.

## Oxbridge Conference

Early(ish) on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 13 students from Year 12 boarded the minibus in an attempt to find out whether applying to Oxford or Cambridge really was the best option for them. The Edgbaston conference is a bit of an ordeal in itself simply due to the number of students attending and the pressure of having to try and see as many as subjects as possible but the group passed with flying colours. Most emerged with their aspirations confirmed – even though the average A level grade for those actually gaining a place is over A\*A\*A. This trip forms just a small part of the Oxbridge preparation offered in Year 12 with students already having been to various Oxbridge network events at Solihull School; having had coaching interviews to check whether they're on track academically and in terms of supra-curricular work; having been offered various enrichment sessions and now are being offered mock interviews to start their reflection on the way they present themselves.

## Medical Applications Preparation

On March 26<sup>th</sup>, Year 13 students Meg Burn and Pete Fitzroy led a one hour session for Year 12 students thinking of applying to Medicine next year. Having

had the privilege of attending, I can safely say that it was one of the most informative and useful sessions I have ever attended, dealing with this process from the highs and lows to the nitty gritty of the differences between UKCAT and the B-MAT. The students who attended have been given an awful lot to think about. My sincere thanks to both Year 13s for giving up their valuable time and communicating such important information in such a friendly and effective manner. You both deserve your outstanding record of success with your own application.

## Apprenticeship Conference

We are committed to helping students to make informed decisions about what to do after they have completed their A-Levels. There is a much wider range of opportunities on offer to school leavers now than there ever has been in the past. Students are, typically, well informed about the University route. As a result, we decided to offer Year 12 the chance to go to the National Apprenticeship Show at the ICC. With around 80 different providers, there was a huge range of potential opportunities to explore. From Engineering to Finance, and Health to Construction, there is an increasing number of routes into an increasingly diverse world of employment. Information was gleaned by all and a number of seeds were planted about Post 18 choices.

## Appeal for Donations

The science department are seeking donations of unwanted knex pieces. They will be greatly appreciated for use in science club, robotics club and also for STEM lessons.

Any donations should be left with reception for the attention of the science department or sent in directly to science via your child.



## Year 10 Work Experience

The Year 10 students recently completed their week of work experience. This is a really important week which gives the students an opportunity to experience life outside of school.

We have received some fantastic feedback from employers and it certainly sounds as if the students did themselves, and the school, proud.

This is the start of the conversations which we will be having with the students in the coming weeks about their post-16 options and future

careers as a part of our LifeReady work.



One of the strands of ArdenAIM is 'Excellence Students'. Tying in with the Arden Values, this aims to highlight and celebrate some of the astounding achievements made by Arden students, in a range of different activities, outside of school.

We are very proud that a number of our students have received recognition for their outstanding talents in the arts and in sport at local, national and international levels. They are truly inspirational role models.

Every month, we shall be shining the spotlight on one of our Excellence Students to find out exactly just what it takes to excel in their field and to achieve such success.

**ArdenValues**  
aiming higher

## Elise Glynn (Year 11)

*Elise is an incredibly talented boxer. She has recently become the National Youth Champion and is a European Gold Medallist. In three weeks, she will be competing in the European Championships in Italy, where she has an excellent chance of securing Gold. Such success requires enormous commitment, as she reveals in the following interview:*

### When did you first realise that you were such a talented boxer?

I first started boxing when I was 13. I asked my Dad to take me to the boxing gym and immediately seemed to be pretty good at sparring. It wasn't long before I was winning fights and invited to join the England Boxing Programme. I have progressed through their different stages and am now in their Excel Programme, which gives me access to training camps with some of the top boxing coaches in the country.

### How much training do you have to do?

I have to do a range of different types of training. Some of it is boxing specific, such as sparring, pads and bags, but a lot of what I do is to make sure that I am as fit and strong as possible. This includes 10km runs, sprints, interval training and weights. As well as my daily routine, I also attend weekend England squad training camps in different locations around the country e.g. Newcastle and Manchester.

### Describe a typical day.

I try to train on 6 days per week. I go to the David Lloyd club in Solihull and a number of different boxing clubs in Wolverhampton and Birmingham. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Sundays, I go to Warrington (near Liverpool) for coaching with Amanda Groake, who is an internationally renowned boxing coach. On these days, I have to get home from school, quickly have something to eat and get straight into the car. The journey can take anything from 2-4 hours. I usually train from 6pm to around 9pm and then have to drive all the way back, arriving at around 11pm. My Dad drives me. He is also my coach and I owe him a lot; he devotes so much time to support me with my boxing.

### You are in Year 11. How do you fit all of your school work and revision in?

It's hard, but it's OK. I try to go to lots of revision sessions at school, so that I can fit as much into the school day as possible. I am attending up to 3 revisions sessions every day to make sure that I can prepare as well as I can for my exams.

### As well as your training, what else do you need to do to stay successful in boxing?

I have to be really careful about what I eat, as I have to maintain my weight below 57kgs. I have quite a restricted diet, with small portions. I have to make sure I have a well-balanced diet, but one that is based on high protein and low carbohydrate intake. I do treat myself occasionally when I just eat what I want, especially after a win.

### Who is your Boxing inspiration?

Nicola Adams. Not only is she an amazingly successful Olympian, with Gold medals in 2012 and 2016, but she is also an ambassador for Women's Boxing. She has changed the way that people think about such a previously male-dominated sport. I have met her and she is so supportive of girls coming through. I have also met Anthony Joshua at some of the training camps that I have attended. His is also so inspiring in the way that he stays humble, despite his amazing success and is so encouraging for young people wanting to pursue the sport.

### What is your ambition?

To keep winning! I want to keep being successful in international tournaments, including the Youth Olympics in October in Argentina. When I'm 17 or 18, I hope to progress through from the England Boxing to get into the GB squads, so that I can compete at a higher level.

### What is your motto?

Losing is not an option.



# Sports News

For all the latest news about all things sports related don't forget to follow the Arden PE Department on Twitter

 @ArdenPE

## Badminton

Arden's KS3 Badminton team progressed through to the national final for the fourth year in a row (we have won for the last two). This year has seen two players from last year's national champions progress into Year 10 so they are no longer allowed to play, it meant having to create a new group with Poppy Pryor, Lottie Stiles and Eleanor Spain playing through the rounds. Unfortunately we were not able to take Ellie to the regional final so the squad was Mia Kirk, Tessa Franks, Poppy and Lottie.

The competition works with each match being a best of 5 games, each player has a seeding and they play each team in a mixture of singles and doubles games.

Poppy and Lottie had a nervy start to the day, both commented on feeling the pressure and not wanting to let Arden down but they were a credit to the school all day. The team breezed through their group with two 5-0 wins and faced King Edwards High School, the same team we faced at this point last year, in the final.

King Edwards looked confident in their warm-up, aided by their Badminton coach. All I could offer in comparison were some calming words, a few high fives and the occasional quality joke to ease the tension. In a tight first match Mia's superior power was the difference in a 15-11 win. The second match was equally as tight with King Edwards winning 15-13. In match 3 Tessa stepped up to put in the performance of the day, winning 15-0 in a performance that everyone watched in awe. Now in confident mood Mia and Lottie managed to finish off the tie with another doubles win. We went on to lose the final game to win the match 3-2.

With the success we have had over the last 4 years it is easy to play down the girls' achievements but this really is an amazing group who have worked so hard to reach this level. They will play in the national final on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April at the National Badminton centre in Milton Keynes.



## Correction

Apologies to Helene Toone (Year 9) whose name was omitted from the swimming article in last month's newsletter. Congratulations to Helene on her contribution to the Swimming Gala victory.

## Hockey

The Year 10 and 11 hockey team have won the U16 hockey league! Along the way they have had fantastic results against very strong St Martin's teams as well as Solihull School.

The team were captained by Lauren Hobday who led by example throughout.

Congratulations to the squad - a brilliant outcome by a great team.

## Year 7 Basketball

Year 7 played their first ever basketball tournament and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the league out of 6. We beat Heart of England, Smithswood, Alderbrook and lost to St Peters and John Henry Newman who were eventual winners.

The players played really well and only narrowly lost their two matches.

Next year sees us enter in the Solihull borough league where they will play full games and full rules.

Well done to the squad who are: Joe Pemberton, Nathan Davie, George Topham Steele, Kheya Ballantine Brain, Joseph Lynn, Lucas Whitney, Ben Stiles, Ben Mochan, and Jack Hadley

## Football

The Year 10 football team beat St Peters 2-1 in the Solihull Cup semi-final. They progress through to the final where they will play Tudor Grange.

The Year 11 also progressed to the Solihull Cup final by defeating Lode Heath 2-1 in their semi-final. They played Langley in the final where they played a determined match but were beaten in the end. Congratulations to the team for their success over the course of the season.

Following in the success of the Year 10 and 11 teams, the Sixth Form football team played Park Hall in the Solihull Cup semi-final and won 6-3. It's a great achievement for the boys away from their studies. The final will be played after Easter.



The Year 11 team

## Gymnastics

Arden's 3 teams all came home with medals after the Milano Gymnastics national finals. Huge congratulations to the U19 mixed team: Corey, Anna, Robyn and Sophie, who were crowned overall champions in the U19 mixed category. They also came 2nd in the regional competition when their scores were combined with St Edmunds school, the other West Midlands team.

The U16 boys came 2nd overall and also got silver medals in the regional when combined with

Painsley school. The team was Christian, Matt and Reuben with Tom as their reserve.

The U16 mixed team also gained medals in the regional coming away with the bronze. Their team were Adam, Holly and Katie with Joe and Olivia as reserves. Fabulous results all round.



## Netball

Our Year 7 team took part in a tournament this month. Despite missing their first game due to being slightly late back from a school trip, they won their next four games to make it to the semi-final where they lost out to Solihull School in a very tight game.

The Year 8 team also put in a super performance in their tournament. They played brilliantly and showed fantastic effort all round before eventually losing to Solihull School in the final.

Well done to all of the girls.



## Sports Hall Athletics

The following Year 7 boys won Silver Medals at the Level 3 games this month - close runners up to Alcester Grammar: Tom Maidment, Kheya Ballentine-Brain, Luke Reid, Kai Turner, Lucas Whitney, Jake White, and Fabian Warner-Heelas. Congratulations to all of the boys!

On Sunday 11th March, Jess Cox, Poppy Koumbis, Ava Edmeade, Sophie Williams and Eva Robinson were selected with others from different athletics clubs to represent U13 girls for Team Birmingham in the Club Sportshall regional final. It was a long, tiring day with everyone giving 100%.

Team Birmingham were competing against Shropshire, Warwickshire and Worcester.

Team Birmingham won by a clear 50 points. They now go on to the now national finals in Manchester, which will take place on Saturday 14 April, to compete against the other regional winners. We wish them the best of luck!!



## Table Tennis

The Year 7 and 8 boys did extremely well today at the level 3 school games U13 table tennis event. They had to win the south Solihull championships to qualify alongside 7 other regional winners. In the group stage they won 11/12 matches and qualified for the semis as group winners. They came up against an impressive team from Myton. Despite this the team battled to a 4-4 score line and only lost on points won by a narrow

margin. Immediately afterwards they had to show true resilience and then play the bronze match play off, in which they beat Alcester Academy 3-1 to secure the bronze. Well done to all the boys.



## Solihull Roll of Honour Awards

The Solihull Roll of Honour Awards took place this month. The awards have been running for 44 years and recognise the outstanding achievement of local young sports people. Mr Hunt was delighted to attend to see a number of Arden students receiving awards.

Individual awards were presented to:

Mary Takwoingi – English Schools Athletics (300M)

Kaili Woodward – English Schools Athletics (long jump)

Sarah Crane – National Trampoline Championships

Owen McDougall – Worcester Warriors Academy

Elise Glynn – Tommy Godwin Award for her performance in an Olympic Sport (Boxing)

Tom Parkin – London Legacy Award for Outstanding Leadership (Basketball and Rugby officiating)

In addition, students receiving group awards were:

Mary Takwoingi and Kaili Woodward – Outstanding Team of the year as part of the

Borough Athletics and Cross-Country teams who have won the county competition for the last 7 years (many other Arden students have also contributed to this achievement)

Gregory Gahan – Boys Team of the Year as part of the Under 13s Borough football team which reached the quarter final of the national cup this season (Isaac Moore, Ryan McCourt and Brandon Khela were also part of the team)

Well done to all of the students.



## PTFA News

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April, from 8.00pm onwards, the PTFA will be hosting drinks at the Greswolde Hotel for any parents or friends of Arden to pop along, have a chat and express an interest in joining the Committee or helping at an event. The PTFA have funded over £20,000 worth of equipment already this academic year, not to mention funding our very smart minibuses. To receive a free drink on arrival, register your interest at <https://goo.gl/forms/Aak8XIR0Dx04xD9k1>



Arden PTFA is pleased to announce -

### BINGO & BALTI NIGHT

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Main Hall, Arden Academy  
7.00-11.00pm

£10.00pp (includes entry, Bingo card, delicious chicken or veg Balti)

Professional bingo caller, fun prizes and fully stocked bar. Payment can be made via ParentPay or by cheque (payable to Arden PTFA, attach this flyer to cheque) or online at [www.jumbobee.co.uk/baltingo](http://www.jumbobee.co.uk/baltingo)

Name	
Number of tickets	
Contact Telephone No.	
Email address:	

## Staff News

We would like to say goodbye to a couple of members of staff who are leaving us at Easter. Mr Subires, Teacher of Spanish and French, is returning to Spain (adios Señor Subires) and Miss Pomlett, Teacher of English, is leaving us to teach at a school close to her home. We would like to thank them for their contribution to Arden and look forward to welcoming new staff after the Easter break.

## Important dates for April and May 2018

<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Students return to school
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	Year 10 Examination week
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Year 9 DTP and Men ACWY Vaccinations (rearranged from 2/3/2018) Year 13 Trip to 'This House' at Birmingham Rep
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Year 10 Drama Trip to 'Blood Brothers': Wolverhampton Grand Theatre
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	Year 12 Government & Politics Visit to Parliament, London
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Year 11 Progress coaching (8:45-9:05); all other Years start 9:05am
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Junior Maths Challenge (Year 7/8) Invited students only PE Team Group Photos - sports teams in all year groups (2.15pm) Year 12 Parent Consultations (2.45pm-6.30pm) <i>* School closes to all students at 2.15pm No parking on school site</i>
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Years 10-13 'Spotlights' celebration event (By invitation only)
<b>Sat 28<sup>th</sup>-Sun 29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Year 10 Bronze DofE Practice expedition
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Year 8 Girls First HPV Vaccination (School Immunisation Service) Year 10 Senior Pupil Interviews
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	May Day Bank Holiday (students do not attend school)
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	All welcome - Upper Music School Concert (7.00pm)
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Year 9 Girls second HPV Vaccination (School Immunisation Service) Year 11 Celebration Day (fancy dress)
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Year 8 Examination Week
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Progress coaching for Year 10 (8:45-9:05; other Years start at 9:05)
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June</b>	GCSE & A Level Examination Period
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Year 7 Examination Week
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May</b>	Y12 Geography Visit to Coventry
<b>Mon 28<sup>th</sup> May to Fri 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Half Term</b>