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## Remembrance

Year 9 students Troy Yu and Esme Chatwin represented Arden back in November to lay our Remembrance wreath at the front of school.

As always poppies were sold in school to recognize this important event.



# ad altiora news

ISSUE 30

NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2019

## The Most Wonderful Time of The Year

We would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful new year.

As always it's been a pleasure over the last week or two to have taken part in our end of term festivities. We have this week seen all the children in Church and wished them well for a lovely break. We urge all of our students to have a good rest over the festive season after a long term. We have also spent our time in church reminding students about the importance of kindness with the message being that small gestures cost nothing but have huge impact on others. We hope that you see some of this in practice over the next two weeks!

We would also like to thank our fantastic musicians who kicked off the festive season in style with our Lower School Concert last week and our absolutely superb Upper School concert this week. A great way to finish the term.

Once again, best wishes for a fantastic Christmas and New year. Have a good rest and enjoy the time with family, friends and loved ones.

Mr Warwood, Associate Headteacher

## Presentation Evening

Presentation Evening was a delightful affair as we welcomed back our 2019 GCSE and A-Level students.

We were thrilled to have former student Ross Young, co-founder of the Zuri Project Uganda as our guest speaker.

We would also like to thank the Knowle and Dorridge Lions who have become the latest organisation to generously sponsor one of our awards - the *All-Round Achievement Award*. The inaugural winners of this award were Year 13 students Samuel Jones and Alisha Sharma.

Pictured are Corey Allen and Kyle Watt, winners of the Governors' Cup and Governors' Prize For Academic Achievement respectively.



Arden is part of Arden Multi Academy Trust: Chief Executive Officer, Mr M Murphy and Executive Headteacher, Mr D Burgess

**Arden values:** Determination : Excellence : Courage : Inspiration : Friendship : Equality : Respect

## Restart a Heart

The annual 'Restart a Heart' campaign is an initiative led by the Resuscitation Council (UK) in partnership with The British Heart Foundation, British Red Cross, St John Ambulance and Yorkshire Ambulance Service. The aim is to improve the low numbers of people surviving out-of-hospital cardiac arrests.

As part of this national drive to increase public awareness of cardiac arrests and to increase the number of people trained in life saving CPR, a team of Community First Responders from the charity Fastaid joined us on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 to deliver an informative and interesting presentation to all our Year 7 pupils.

During the Fastaid CPR training presentation, pupils watched the British Heart Foundation 'Little Vinnie' advert and gained a basic understanding of the functions and workings of the heart before they had the opportunity to practise effective CPR techniques

on manequins, whilst the Fastaid Community Responders circulated to provide additional guidance to each group practising their CPR skills.

It was a super opportunity for our students to learn this important skill and we would like to thank all of the visitors who came to school to facilitate the event.

<https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/how-to-save-a-life/restart-a-heart-day>

<http://www.fastaid.org.uk/>

Mrs Crane



## Christmas Concerts

The Upper School and Lower School Christmas Concerts were a joyous occasion as ever. We were treated to a whole range of music from vocal solo performances to soloists on the Double Bass and Harp to the rock bands Destination 6 and Evolution X.

All of our musicians and vocalists were exceptional. It was a great way to begin the festive season. Well done to all of the performers.



## Author Visit

On November 20th, Years 9-11 English Rewards students were treated to a workshop with Holly Jackson, author of the Carnegie Medal nominated book "A Good Girl's Guide to Murder", organised by the Solihull Children's Book Group, of which Arden is a member.

In the talk, students were informed about the process of being a writer (it's not all Netflix and Nutella – there's also deadlines and painstaking research!) and involved the audience in solving a "who killed the headmaster?" scenario. After discussing their theories, the students were able to crack the case. Both the SCBG and Holly Jackson herself were impressed by the articulate contributions from the Arden students.



# Library News

The final term of the year is always a busy one and this 2019 has been no exception. Firstly, congratulations to Vishakha Kumar for being nominated for the School Library Association's Pupil Library Assistant of the Year for her outstanding contribution to Arden Library. Secondly, congratulations to our Year 7 & 8 Kids' Lit Quiz teams for winning 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place respectively. Finally, I am pleased to announce the launch of the Year 7 Publishing House: Lionbrary: "Roaring with great ideas!" I am looking forward to seeing the Y7 Creative Writing Club's first publication in 2020.

Now on to the Accelerated Reader winners for this term!

This term, the Year 7 prize draw winner won a signed copy of *The Star Outside my Window* by Onjali Q Rauf; the Year 8 prize draw winner won a signed book from Holly Jackson. Both winners also received a goody bag with posters, bookmarks and a signed messages from authors including Cathy Cassidy, Sophie Anderson & Peter Bunzl.

## Year 7

Most Books Read: Isaac Yeats (8) and Ryan Woods (17)

Most Points: Sami Chaudri (60.9) and Jack Hewitson (119)

Most Effort: Keertan Sondh

Prize Draw: Beatrice McCorry

## Year 8

Most Books Read: Charlie Evans (6) and Zac Shafii (8)

Most Points: Zaynub Noor (79.8), Casey Sutton (48.2) and Joe Davis (48.2)

Most Effort: Ethan Broster

Prize Draw: Holly Watkins

Well done to the winners. Keep reading!

# Kids' Lit Quiz 2019

The Kids' Lit Quiz is an international competition known as the 'Sport of Reading' where students answer questions about children's literature. Schools can enter two teams to compete. The regional champions are invited to Nationals in London and the National champs then attend an International competition. On Mon 18<sup>th</sup> November, one Year 7 and one Year 8 team were entered to compete, coached by librarian, Miss O'Brien.

Here is a round-up of teach team's experience at Regionals:

## Year 8 Roundup by Amy Carter

I was very excited to go to the Kids' Lit Quiz as the Year 8 team (Lola Farrell, Laura Hampson, Sabian Day and myself) had been



preparing for months. A lot of effort had been put in and it showed when we got the results. There we were, nervously awaiting and choosing our double point round. We chose 'Setting' and it was a good choice because we got 7 out of 10, which

was doubled to 14!

This really sky-rocketed us to the top of the leaderboard and at the end, we came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 14 schools. As well as the over-



all competition, Laura and I also won a book voucher each for the bonus rounds, the team won a stack of books for coming top on one of the rounds and Lola won a signed book on the raffle. A great effort from everyone – well done!

## Year 7 Roundup by Ellen Egan

We were a late addition to the quiz, having only two weeks to prepare! Josh Dunne, Matthew Bowley, Claudia Cribb and myself beat 23 other Arden Year 7s to make the team and were very grateful and excited! When we arrived, we were seated in a room with 12 other schools. As we started the rounds it was soon clear that everyone was extremely competitive. We did very well in the Shakespeare round (9 out of 10!) and our Joker round (Superheroes) gave us 18 points. The time flew by and the quiz soon came to an end with Arden Team A (Year 8s) winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place and Arden Team B (Year 7s) winning 6<sup>th</sup> place.

## Year 7 Home Learning

Miss Le Saint has been delighted with the work that Year 7 have been producing this term. Amongst the highlights are the fabulous clocks they made as part of their Home Learning. The task allowed the pupils to show off what they had learnt in their topic of time and as you can see the variety and quality of what was produced was superb. Well done to all pupils for their hard work.



## Charity Thank You

This term we have been absolutely blown away by the generosity shown from our community in the form of two donation events. Our Harvest collections were a huge success with 217.8kg of food being sent to Sparkhill foodbank.

This was followed by an enormous haul of presents collected at our church services. These will be sent to Birmingham City Mission after the cash donations have been used to purchase some more toys and games.

Thank you very much for your kind donations which are so important especially at this time of year.



A big  
**THANK YOU**

To Arden Academy for donating 217.8kg of food for Harvest 2019, equivalent to 473 meals.

to support Sparkhill foodbank.  
Your donations make a **BIG** difference to local people in crisis.

Sparkhill foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK wide foodbank

## Geography Ambassadors

The Geography Ambassadors have been running a crisp packet collection competition for Year 7.

The students wanted to run the competition as they have an environmental focus in the club and wanted to find ways to reduce our impact at school. You can't currently recycle crisp packets, they all just end up in landfill, so Walkers have set up nationwide recycling centres, partnering up with companies that then make plant pots, benches, watering cans and cool bags out of the packets to combat this issue.



The ambassadors gave a box to each form about a month ago and they have been really impressed with how many Year 7s made such an effort to collect packets!

**7N** collected an impressive **869**, followed by **7O** with **563** and then **7S** with **387**. **IN TOTAL THEY COLLECTED 1591!**

Miss Perkins will now deliver these to the recycling centre to be made into new products. Well done to all involved.

## Christmas in Science

The Science department have been getting into the festive spirit with their very own take on the Christmas Tree. Maybe this could be a department competition next year. How about a book tree from English or a global tree from Geography....



## Christmas Jumper Day

The Sixth Form students held a Christmas jumper day this week. They each made a donation and in total over £400 was raised. The money will be sent to the Neonatal unit at Heartlands Hospital which does so much to support families at terribly difficult times and has a very special place in the heart of the Arden Family. We are grateful to all the students and staff who supported the event.

# Sports News

## Cross Country

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

 @ArdenPE

Back in November our Cross Country runners went to the ESAA regional finals. Both our boys and girls ran superbly with our junior boys' team qualifying for the national final! Well done to everyone who ran in such tough conditions.

The national final event took place in December. All of the boys put in a great performance with the team finishing 25th in the country overall. Our top finisher was Dan in 21st place. Well done to all.



## Swimming

Well done to all of the students who have put in super performances at Swimming events this term. Miss Sheppard was so proud of our swimmers who won many of the categories at the recent Solihull Swimming Gala. More details of individual performances to follow in a later edition.

## Football

Some great results this term!

**The Sixth Form team** started off well with a 3-2 win over Tudor Grange. Goals came from Enrique Beneytez-Martinez (2) and Taylor Hicks. Unfortunately their winning streak came to an end when they were defeated 7-2 by Coleshill. Despite two goals from Alex Groves, Mr Pillinger had to concede that the better team won on the day.

**The Year 11 boys** played Shropshire School Belvidere in the National Cup and won 4-1. The goal scorers were Jake Collins (2), Harvey Lyne and James Bean. Congratulations to the team who now progress to Round Four.

**The Year 9 team** had a difficult start to their match against Bishop Challoner when Friday night traffic meant a 40 minute delay to kick-off! This obviously had an impact on the boys as they were 'still in bed' so to

speaking. We went into half time 2-0 down. After making some radical changes, the boys got one goal back through Ben Stiles. The game looked finished with 2 minutes to go but Jack Campton had other ideas; he buried a cross goal strike, low and hard past the keeper to take it to penalties. Due to failing light we agreed on a knockout penalty shootout. Their player stepped up first and missed. Max Johnson had to score to win the game for us, he put it away with ease. Bishop Challoner were runners up last year in this competition so this was a really good result for the Arden team.

The Year 9 boys then travelled to Leicester to compete in the National Cup. They played Rawlins Academy and won 4-1 with goals from Lucas Whitney, Isaac Moore, Dan Driscoll and Matthew Carter.

The final match of the term was against John Henry Newman in the Solihull Cup which we won 2-1. We

were 1-0 down at half time.

Following the break the boys came out with a lot more passion and aggression and managed to get an early equaliser through Max Johnson's powerful run and finish into the top corner. Arden with their 'tails up' rallied together to score a late but deserved win through a great team goal: started at the back with Zac Johnson, followed by at least 6 passes before ending up at the feet of Nathan Davie, who dispatched as he has done so all season.

Special mention has to go to Heath Madurai who is Year 8 and doing a fantastic job in goal playing a year above himself.

**For Year 8 and Year 7** it has been a tricky term with both teams losing their matches but all of the boys did us proud in their efforts.

Well done to all of the boys who have played in a football team this term.

## Gymnastics

Arden competed in the West Midlands round of the Milano gymnastics competition back in November. We sent two teams to the event, both of which competed brilliantly.

The U16 team of Anna Bambrook, Katie Minal and Ben Seago came second and the U13 girls team of Hatty Connelly, Mia Conduit and Lily Conduit came first. We have never won this category before, so a real achievement for the girls.

The top two teams in each category go forwards to the national competition in March so all pupils are through to represent the West Midlands in the next round. Arden's gymnastic success continues! Well done to all of the competitors.



## Athletics

Five Arden students received awards at the Solihull and Small Heath Athletics Club awards event for 2019. Lily Conduit won U13 Jumps, Mia Conduit won U13 Hurdles and Cross-Country, Molly Waver won U13 Middle-Distance, Thomas Watson won U13 Hurdles and Throws and Daniel Scott won U13 Middle-Distance and Sprints. Daniel also received one of the club's special awards.

What a super achievement. Well done to all!



## Netball

This term the Year 9 girls represented Solihull against the top teams in Warwickshire and Coventry.

The girls played King's High School, Solihull School, Bablake, King Henry VIII and Rugby School with Arden being the only state school present. In our first game we came across Rugby school and had a convincing win 10-5. The second of our matches was against our closest rivals Solihull School who beat us in the previous round. We massively dominated this match with us winning 6-2. With this momentum we faced the toughest team in the competition Bablake. It was a tough game, neither team was able to keep the lead with it constantly changing throughout the match. Luckily we were able to score within the last minute to secure a 11-10 victory. Our penultimate game was a draw against King's High School 9-9, the tiredness was showing from a challenging match previously. We knew we needed to win the last match to ensure that we went through to the next round. We played King Henry's and with the score at 5-4 at half time we knew it was all to play for. The score at the final whistle was 9-7.

Out of all of the private schools present we came out first! The girls played exceptionally well, the best Miss Sheppard has seen them play and their conduct on court was exceptional which was commented on by other teachers and umpires. It is a massive achievement to have progressed through to the next round where they will be playing teams from across the whole of the West Midlands.

The team consists of: Evie Moxley, Kate Winn, Izzy Raisbeck, Hanoria Flannery, Jess Fathers, Grace Jones, Eva Robinson & Amy Grantham.

What a fantastic achievement. We look forward to seeing how the team progresses.



## Rugby

The Year 10 Rugby team competed in the second round of the National Bowl last month. They came away 33-21 winners against Light Hall after some great individual performance particularly from four try scoring Ollie. Well done to all the boys who played. They followed this up with a 7-22 win against Dyson Perrins Academy. A great performance especially considering they were 7-5 down at half time!

Well done also to Year 10 students Oli and Jack who have represented Warwickshire this month. Both put in a great effort at the DDP even with Oli scoring three tries over two games in the event.

The Year 9 and Year 8 teams tried their best in their games against President Kennedy but unfortunately came off the worse on this occasion. Well done to all our Rugby teams.

## Badminton

Our KS4 Badminton boys team won the South Solihull Level 2 event this term which means they now progress through to the Level 3 event.

Our other teams also performed well with our second team coming 3rd overall and our third team coming third in the group stage.

Well done boys, a great performance.

## Basketball

We were incredibly proud of our Year 7 Basketball team who are representing Brooklyn Nets in the Junior NBA winning the first four of their games convincingly.

Year 8 also had a fantastic 48-17 win against Park Hall and Year 9 beat Alberbrook 20-8. Well done all.



## Hockey

Congratulations to Flo Collins (Year 8) and Hebe Frisby (Year 9) who have both been selected for the U14's County Hockey team.

Only nineteen players have been selected in total so it is an amazing achievement to have two students in the squad.

It is worth noting that Flo is also the youngest to be selected as most of the other players are in Year 9.

Congratulations to both students. We are looking forward to hearing about their future successes.

## Skiing

Congratulations to Scott Johns who has been selected to represent Great Britain at The Youth Olympic Games competing in ski cross (the only GB athlete in this discipline) to be held in January 2020 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

He has worked very hard both on and off the slope, in his sport and his school work to balance his commitments. It is an enormous privilege to compete for your country and we all wish Scott the best of luck for the competition.

Here is a picture of Scott with the rest of the team.

#TeamGB to follow the team on Social Media.



## Table Tennis

The U16 Table Tennis team won the South Solihull Level 2 tournament this month. Their success means that they will now progress through to the Level 3 competition in the new year.



## Hockey

There have been matches for many of our teams this term.

The Year 7 team put in a good effort against a much more experienced St Martin's team but unfortunately lost 1-9.

The Year 9 and Year 10 team played Shipston High School with the Year 9s winning 5-0 and the Year 10s winning 6-3.

Super efforts from all of our teams.

## Netball

The Year 7 team had a very difficult game against Solihull School which they unfortunately lost 2-20 despite their best efforts.

The Year 8 team have been really busy this term with four matches. They played Langley and came away with a resounding 30-2 win. Next was Shipston High School and an 4-12 loss. They picked it back up again against Lode Heath with a 19-11 win. The final game was against Solihull School and a super performance led to a very tight game with Arden eventually losing out 18-20.

Well done to all of the girls for their efforts.

## So you want to be a teacher?

Did you know that Arden is the lead school of the **Arden Teaching School Alliance**? The Alliance is a group of ten secondary and primary schools located in and around the Solihull area. Alongside The University of Warwick, an *Outstanding* teacher training provider, we turn graduates and career-changers into first-class teachers. With bursaries of up to £32,000 available (varies depending on subject choice), training to teach via the school direct route is proving to be the preferred route into teaching. School direct teacher training with the Arden Teaching School Alliance offers the best in terms of bespoke, one-to-one training coupled with award winning mentorship. With so much in-school training, when you qualify, you really hit the ground running! To be the best, you have to be trained by the best and once you have gained your PGCE and QTS, our aim is to give you the option of employment. And it doesn't end there, our excellent mentorship continues with our NQTs and RQTs. If you want to receive the best start to your career as a teacher, then consider the Arden Teaching School Alliance. For more information refer to details below and please like us on our social media sites.

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**Train to Teach with Arden Teaching School Alliance**

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## PTFA News

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, the PTFA once again held their fabulous Arden Christmas Party which is one of their main fund raisers and a very popular event indeed. "What better way to kick start the party season than going to the best Christmas Party in town! It's an amazing festive and fun event where, without fail, everyone has a fantastic time! We know this from the amount of repeat party-goers! It's lovely because parents and friends of Arden get to enjoy themselves knowing they are raising much need funds for the school"

Jo Guy, PTFA Chair



## Alumni News - Professor Laura Kate Mackay

We were delighted to hear about a former Arden student who has recently been awarded the prestigious Frank Fenner prize for *Life Scientist of the Year* from the University of Melbourne.

Laura was educated at Knowle Infants and Juniors before moving to Arden School, leaving in 1999, and then going to Solihull Sixth Form College. She moved to the University of Melbourne 10 years ago and has risen rapidly in her career. She is now a leader in the field of immunological memory. Her work in understanding tissue-resident memory T cells (TRMs) is changing the way the science world treats infectious disease and cancer - two of the leading causes of global mortality.

Laura is emerging as a professional leader in the field, becoming the youngest ever and first female President of the Immunological Societies of Asia-Oceania (FIMSA), comprising 16 countries, including Japan and China. Her presidency promises to put more emphasis on early career researchers while encouraging much more diversity across the discipline. She says mentoring women in science is important not only to her, but also helps promote diversity of ideas and discoveries in science.

What a fantastic career so far; we are hoping that Laura will visit Arden to talk to students in the Spring when she visits her family in the UK.



## Important dates for January and February

<b>Monday 6th January</b>	Students return to school
<b>7th / 9th / 10th January</b>	Y11 Geography fieldtrip to Stratford
<b>Thursday 9th January</b>	Y12 Politics and Law trip to London
<b>13th - 24th January</b>	Y11 Language Oral Mock Exams
<b>13th - 15th January</b>	Y9 Exams
<b>Monday 20th January</b>	Y10 Numeracy Parents Meeting
<b>23rd - 25th January</b>	Y12 CERN Visit
<b>Tuesday 28th January</b>	Y13 Drama Exam
<b>Thursday 30th January</b>	Pupils Finish at 2.15pm Today - Y11 Parent Consultations (2nd)
<b>Tuesday 4th February</b>	Y11 Drama Exam - all day
<b>5th / 6th February</b>	Y9 Vaccinations
<b>Thursday 6th February</b>	Y12 Psychology trip to Leeds University
<b>Friday 7th February</b>	Y9 Careers Fair (am)
<b>Monday 10th February</b>	Y9 Art and Design Trip (selected students)
<b>Thursday 13th February</b>	Pupils Finish at 2.15pm Today - Y7 Parent Consultations
<b>Friday 14th February</b>	Y10 Ski Trip to Austria departs