



Challenging Times

As we near the end of our first half term of this extraordinary year, I feel we should reflect with great pride on what we have achieved thus far. We returned with an intention of making school feel as normal as we possibly could for our young people, despite all the slightly strange arrangements, and we have collectively adhered to this principle. Staff have set about engaging students with their in-school learning again, whilst also undertaking training on Microsoft Teams to prepare for any future disruption; students have responded admirably, welcoming the interaction with teachers that they missed so much during lockdown; and parents have shown great appreciation for our efforts, as well as faith in our safety measures. This has been reflected in an attendance figure of 93%, way above the current national average.

In addition, we have even had a visit from Ofsted to contend with, although not a full inspection. On Tuesday 6th October, two Ofsted inspectors spent the day at Alec Hunter, meeting senior leaders, verifying the steps we have taken to sustain safe education and gathering feedback on how we feel we are coping with the daily challenges we face. They seemed completely satisfied with our strategies and a brief letter will be published in a couple of weeks to reflect their findings.

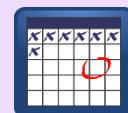
However, there is no escaping the fact that various limitations on our activities remain. At this time of year, we are normally delighted to showcase our school through our annual Open Morning, which was sadly not possible. We have still welcomed some visitors for Parent Tours, in a carefully managed, out-of-hours format, but these have been restricted so we have also produced a Virtual Tour of the school which can be accessed via our website.

I should like to conclude by wishing our Year 11 students well for their Formal Exams this week. These will be crucial to us in identifying priority areas for teaching in the remainder of the year and in providing data in the event that we should be required to contribute our own assessments to the final grading of students. I'm sure they will give it their best shot.

Best wishes to everyone for a restful half-term break,

Mr Lawn (Headteacher)

Diary Dates



OCTOBER

26th October – 30th October HALF TERM

NOVEMBER

5th November, INSET DAY

24th November, INSET DAY



We were delighted to take part in #HelloYellow earlier this month, to raise awareness and show our support for young people's mental health.

We raised **£844.96** for the Young Minds charity, by holding a non-uniform day with the added twist of wearing something yellow. Yellow hairbands, mustard jumpers and neon socks were among the items being sported for a very worthwhile cause. The money we raised will be used to fund mental health support for an entire class of young people for one year.

Student Absence: Please remember to report any student absence via:

Tel: 01376 559356 / **Text:** 07598 393348 / **Email:** jjackson@alechunter.com.

Headteacher's Surgery: Unfortunately, we are unable to hold the Headteacher's Surgery in its traditional format, however parents are able to make an appointment with Mr Lawn for a Zoom call if they have any issues they may wish to raise. We ask that parents request an appointment by contacting the school office.



Brilliant Club Graduation

The Brilliant Club works with schools to increase the number of students from under-represented backgrounds progressing to highly selective universities. Last week, Mr Lawn presented graduation certificates to a group of Year 10 students who had been involved with the scheme and they all enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies to celebrate.

The students first visited the University of East Anglia for the launch of the Brilliant Club in January.

During the day, they had an opportunity to explore the university on a tour, met with current students and learned more about university life. They also had their first tutorial with academic staff, introducing them to their PhD Tutor and the new topic that they were about to explore (see below). During the Spring Term, students attended seven in-school tutorials to emulate university learning conditions, giving them a chance to challenge their critical thinking and develop their communication skills. Congratulations to all students for working so hard on this project and for achieving such impressive results!

Thomas Allen, 1st
Alfie Amos, 1st
Cydney Morris, 2.1
Bryony Bell, 2.2
Ellie Baines, 2.2
Alex Efreme, 2.2
Luke Gurteen, 2.2
George Hewings, 2.2
Adam Houghton, 2.2

The students studied '**Brain Health - How Neurons Protect Themselves Against Disease**' and gained an understanding of how cell biology research can help the development of treatments for neurobiological disorders. They studied how cells protect themselves against diseases and covered the cellular and genetic background that led to the manifestation of various neurobiological diseases.

Grade

1st - Performing to an excellent standard at A-level
2:1 - Performing to a good standard at A-level
2:2 - Performing to an excellent standard at GCSE



Jack Petchey Winners



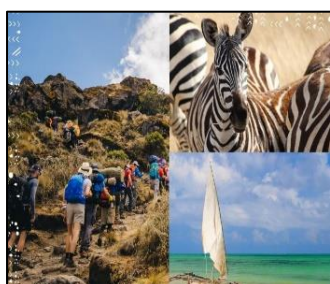
Bradley Paxton in Year 9 was one of six of our students who was recently awarded the Jack Petchey Award – an initiative that recognises students who have contributed significantly to school, community life, or who have helped others. Bradley was nominated as he regularly donates to charity, is always willing to support his fellow students, and can be relied upon to put a smile on anyone's face.

Bradley has taken over the running of the RAAP (Raising Awareness Against Prejudice) Group this year and chose to spend his prize money on purchasing books for the library from BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) and LGBTQ+ writers, or that feature BAME and LGBTQ+ protagonists. These purchases will ensure that the library's stock is diverse and that all students feel represented in the fictional works that they read. Thanks to Bradley, the AHA community is now that little more inclusive!

Other students who received the prestigious Jack Petchey Award were **Morgan Beard, Zoe Eldridge, Holly Heighes, Ethan Scherer** and **Amber Skingle**. Congratulations to them all.

iPad winners

Congratulations to **Olivia Possee** (11U), **Liam Franklin** (11U) and **Flynn Gardner** (11E), who each won an iPad and a 12-month Microsoft subscription for taking part in an online survey for Make Happen. The students had previously taken part in a project to investigate how Year 10 students make decisions about their future in education and the survey will provide further information about their thoughts on GCSEs, post-16 options and Higher Education. The students completed the survey during lockdown and were surprised and delighted to be presented with their prizes by Mr Lawn.



World Challenge 2020: Tanzania

Last week Year 8 and Year 9 students watched a presentation to introduce them to the next World Challenge opportunity. An expedition travelling to Southern Tanzania is planned for July 2022 - a once in a lifetime opportunity that encourages students to develop life skills and build deeper confidence, resilience, and empathy. For further information and a detailed itinerary for the trip, please visit this link: <https://ourworldchallenge.com/4ajp8275/>

We are delighted to announce the new Year 11 Prefect Team for 2020-21



**Head Boy & Head Girl and
Deputy Head Boy & Deputy Head Girl**

Deputy Head Boy: **Liam Freemantle 11E**; Deputy Head Girl: **Hannah Cartwright 11E**; Head Girl: **Mia El-Fazazi 11U**; Head Boy: **Travis Taylor 11H**.



Year 11 Senior Prefects

Daniel Lovett 11E; **Amy Keeble 11N**;
Olivia Possee 11U; **Olivia Windle 11T**.



Year 11 Prefects:

11H - Isabella Sherman, Molly Anslow-Clark, Abbie Warner, Ellie Wright, Sydney Martin, Abbie Warner.
11U - Liana Eavery, Rianna Self, Grace Gibbs, Emma Overall, Will Parker. **11N** - AJ Coombs, Kacey Corney, Annie Holloway, Priya Ravi, Emily Cobbold, Josh Chapman. **11T** - Phebe Stock, Jasmine Stock, Iga Wach, Megan Pocock, Aimee Barltrop, Brenna Kelly, Oliver Hollingsworth, Kacey Corney. **11E** - Bethany Gooding, Anna Brown, Tyler Barrell, Ione Murray, Mia Barefield, Joe Sutton, Paige Hall, Katie Naylor, Ellie Ruggles, Francesca Burder, Paige Hall.

LINE MANAGEMENT FROM SEPTEMBER 2020

Please find below our line management arrangements for students. The first point of contact for enquiries should be your child's tutor and then their Student Support Leader or Head of Year depending on the nature of your query.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Attendance / Wellbeing / Behaviour /Safeguarding				
Form Tutor				
Mrs Porter (7H/7U) Mrs Johnson (7N/7T) Miss McInerney (7E/7R) Mr Cleevely (7A/7L) Student Support Leader	Mr Cleevely Student Support Leader	Mrs Porter Student Support Leader	Miss McInerney Student Support Leader	Mrs Johnson Student Support Leader
Mr Booth Assistant Headteacher			Mrs Watson Assistant Headteacher	
Learning / Behaviour / Academic Progress / Standards				
Class Teacher				
Head of Curriculum Area *(see below)				
Mr Holland Head of Year	Mr Moreno Head of Year	Mr Lee Head of Year	Mr Spooner Head of Year	Miss Jones Head of Year
Mr Birley (Deputy Headteacher) – Learning & Progress				
Mr Booth - Assistant Headteacher Behaviour & Standards			Mrs Watson - Assistant Headteacher Behaviour & Standards	
Mrs Gillett			SENCO	
Mr Booth / Mrs Watson			Child Protection / Safeguarding	
Mrs Jackson / Mrs Brydges			Attendance Officers	

*** Should you have a subject-related query, for example, regarding homework etc., the first point of contact should be the class teacher. Listed below are the Heads of each Curriculum Area, along with the member of the Leadership Group responsible for each Curriculum Area, to help parents in knowing who to approach for assistance.**

	Head of Subject/Curriculum Area	Senior Leader
English	Mr Doolan	Mr Birley
Mathematics	Mrs Baird	Mrs Watson
Science	Mr Fernandez	Mr Lawn
Geography	Mr Birch	Mr Doolan
History	Miss Depper	Ms Woolnough
RPE	Mrs McEvoy	Mr Fox
Technology/Art/Child Development	Mr Todd	Ms Woolnough
Computer Science/ICT	Mr Butler	Mr Fox
French/German/Spanish	Mrs Steward	Ms Woolnough
PE/Drama/Music	Mr Edwards	Mr Fox
Special Educational Needs	Mrs Gillett	Mr Birley
Learning for Life	Mrs Hewes	Ms Woolnough
Vocational Education/Business Studies	Mr Jones	Mr Fox

Academic Year 2020-2021

September 2020							October 2020							November 2020							December 2020						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
														30													
January 2021							February 2021							March 2021							April 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		
May 2021							June 2021							July 2021							August 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31																					30	31					

= Schooldays / Weekends

= Bank Holidays

= School Holidays

= Non Pupil (INSET) Days
(There is one further date to be confirmed)

Autumn Term:	Thursday 3 September 2020 – Friday 18 December 2020 <i>Half Term 26 October – 30 October</i>	72 days
Spring Term:	Monday 4 January 2021 – Thursday 1 April 2021 <i>Half Term 15 February – 19 February</i>	59 days
Summer Term:	Monday 19 April 2021 – Friday 23 July 2021 <i>Half Term 31 May – 4 June, and May Bank Holiday, 3 May</i>	64 days
		<u>195 days</u>

Please note: The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies. You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.