

PDE termly newsletter



**ASHFIELD
SCHOOL**

PDE is Ashfield newest Faculty area and is directly responsible for promoting student wellbeing and development opportunities via curriculum, pastoral provision, and extra-curricular activities.

Personal Development Education features on student timetables as PA.

During this session, students are taught invaluable life lessons and develop their skills portfolio, preparing them for life in modern Britain.

A copy of the parental information programme can be accessed here:

<https://www.ashfield.ttct.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2022/01/Parental-Pack-on-PSHE-at-Ashfield-School.pdf>

Curriculum:

This half term has been very positive for all year groups, and we have some fabulous work!

During PA lesson, our Y9 cohort have recently attended a 'Tackling Youth Homelessness' workshop run by Broxtowe Youth Homelessness Charity. The speakers were really impressed with the contributions from our students and their mature attitudes toward sensitive topics.

To prepare our Y11 students for their exams, our cohort have taken part in a 'Revision Sprint'. This series of lessons focussed on revision skills, building resilience and stress management, in conjunction with key content from core subjects.

We wish our Y11 the best of luck in August and hope they get the results they deserve.

Finally, we conducted our first PSHE Parent Panel. This was a fantastic and insightful experience for myself, Mrs Hillyard and the wider PDE team. We came away from the session feeling confident our curriculum meets the needs of the cohort, in addition to a wealth of ideas on how to enhance our offering further.

Our curriculum focus for the academic year will be on community action and communication with stakeholders.

Teams:

Below you can read a short explanation about each team and find out what they have been up to this term.

School Council

The School Council have been hard at work this Half Term completing a variety of different things:

1. They have discussed all the ideas that have come through 'Tell Us' which has led to some changes in the JLC - sandwich queue and drinks queue.
2. They helped with the lolly sales for Florence.
3. They have finished 3 display boards in Year 8 and 1 in Year 9. This entailed the School Council researching and then making everything for the displays including proof reading everything.

They have also been working on some exciting projects for September that they can't wait to share with everyone.

SPACE

Here at Ashfield we have a special group of people in the LGBTQA+ community. We value everyone in this club, and we treat everyone with respect. This space is open every Thursday at lunch time in L4.

This term we've done a variety of activities such as:

- Learning about LGBTQA+ icons. Y11 students put this together and it was very interesting.
- Quizzes
- Crafts for the display board
- Researching information about important people in the LGBTQA+ community
- Learning about the Rainbow Flag Award that Ashfield will be working towards



The students that attend this club have a chance to be them self around the most caring and supporting staff : Miss Ward, Miss Hoole, Mrs Heeks and other members of staff who have attended. It has been a great place to be this year and hopefully we get to continue this next year.

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

The Antibullying Ambassadors have had an incredible term with many actions and initiatives launched:

- A Student Friendly version of school's Antibullying Policy has been written
- A video version of the student friendly policy has been recorded including staff and students, with subtitles to make it fully inclusive
- A whole school student Antibullying survey has been completed
- An Antibullying Photo Booth event took place on Friday 8th July to raise awareness and promote upstander culture

All of these fantastic initiatives have contributed to the Antibullying Ambassadors being awarded the Wellbeing badge by the Diana Award! This is what they said:

'We were overwhelmed with how much thought and effort you've put into your anti-bullying initiatives. It seems like all of the activities have had a great impact on the students in your school'

The Photo Booth event really was the highlight of the term for the Ambassadors with almost 300 students from across the school coming along to show their support... here's just one of the fantastic photos that was taken on the day, more to follow!



ECO-Committee

Our Ecocommittee has been busier than ever for the second half of this Academic Year. The half term up to Easter saw them preparing for our Spring Celebration. This involved creating games from recycled materials (e.g. using tin cans to create a knock down the pyramid game) creating craft items from recycled and preloved materials. The lanterns made with jam jars, and the daffodil bunting made with egg boxes proved particularly popular. In addition the held a raffle and tombola using preloved items as prizes. The event was held on 31st March and raised £134, which was donated to the DEC Red Cross Appeal for Ukraine. Thank you to any of you who donated prizes or materials for this event.

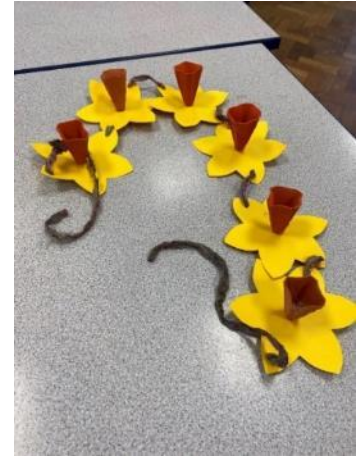
Since Easter we have been preparing items to make a new display about the Big Battery Hunt. The Battery Hunt continues all year round, and so far this academic year we have collected about 500kg, all of which have been sent to be recycled. The winning individual student collector and winning tutor group will be announced in September. Please do continue to send any used batteries in for your child to contribute towards the competition.

Our big project for the Summer Term has been to make a mural out of bottle lids (thank you to all of you who have sent lids in to help). This project is well under way, and the students are extremely grateful to Mrs Stone who has

helped to design the mural. The finishing touches will be put to it in the next couple of weeks. Watch this space to see the final piece.

The weather has been against us this year when we have tried to get out to complete our litter picks, but our team has finally been able to get out and complete one. We went up Sutton Road towards the Fire Station, crossed over and came back down to the crossing outside school. We included the side roads in our pick, and one completion had collected 28 bags of rubbish, 2 wheel hubs, one tyre, and many other unusual items. We will be completing another litter pick before the end of term, and then moving in to next year we will be aiming for one litter pick per half term.

Looking ahead to next year we will be starting our preparations for our annual Christmas Jumper Swap, by creating our craft items, such as lanterns and pompoms. The Big Battery Hunt will continue, as well as the tutor group recycling scheme which we have been running for the last two years. In addition we will again run our Spring Celebration, and are hoping to hold another Day of Action. So next year is looking to be very busy and exciting.



MAT

The HPQ qualification was launched with our Y9 MAT cohort this week. Mrs Fry has been overwhelmed with the number, and quality of applications she has had! Applications are currently being reviewed and all students will be contacted individually.

From September students are invited to stretch and challenge their thinking by attending 'Blow your Mind' sessions at lunch time, each half term. This will entail teachers giving short lectures on something new, different and exciting, to widen students thinking and knowledge alongside a short question and answer section. Watch this space for updates on what theme the sessions are on.