



Al-Ashraf Secondary School for Girls
Sinope Street, Gloucester
GL1- 4AW
01452 300465
www.secondary.al-ashraf.org.uk



11th Jumaad-ul-Oolaa 1442 - 15th December 2021

End-of-Term 2 Newsletter, Winter 2021

Dear Parents/Carers, AWW

End-of-Term & Dates for Term 3

School will break up tomorrow, **Thursday 16th December** at the normal time of **4:10pm** and re-open on **Tuesday 4th January** at the normal time of **8:40am** (IA). A reminder to please carry out Lateral Flow Tests at home twice weekly during the holidays and in particular before school resumes on Tuesday Jan 4th.

Interim Reports & Qur'an Assessments

Reports will be given out to all pupils tomorrow. Please take out time to study your daughter's report carefully as it gives important details of your daughter's attainment and effort over the past two terms in addition to valuable suggestions on how she can improve. All pupils (Years. 7 - 10) were also tested on their Qur'an recitation/Tajweed application.

New Key Stage 3 Islamiat Curriculum

As of September 2021, we have incorporated the An-Nasihah series within our Islamic Studies department. Most lessons are now taught in line with the An-Nasihah Islamic curriculum. The series encompasses a range of topics namely: Fiqh, Hadith, Aqaa'id, Akhlaq, Adab and Islamic History, through a comprehensive course book: An-Nasihah coursebooks 6, 7 & 8 are covered throughout KS3.

<https://al-ashraf.org.uk/secondary/docs/IslamicStudiesCurriculumOverview.pdf>

Year 10 & 11 Visit to Westonbirt Arboretum, COP26 Climate Change Youth Summit

Year 10 & 11 Pupils visited the COP 26 Climate Change Youth Summit at the National Arboretum on Saturday 18th September 2021.

Workshops included: Climate mitigation, Adapting forests for the future, Safeguarding sustainable wood, Restoring wildlife habitats and ecosystems, cutting our carbon emissions (waste).

<https://al-ashraf.org.uk/secondary/events-article/year-10-and-11-visit-to-westonbirt-arboretum>

Charity Week - 18th - 21st October 2021

Alhamdulillah, the school raised an impressive £1157 during Charity Week. JK to all staff, parents and pupils for supporting an extremely worthwhile cause. <https://al-ashraf.org.uk/secondary/school-visit-article/charity-week-2021>

"Charity Week isn't actually a fundraising initiative. There are many of those around. Instead, in an age of increasing polarisation, mistrust and conflict - Charity Week is a practical example of what happens when people decide that they will put aside their differences and work together to build a better, more hopeful world." - Dr Wajid Akhter, founder of Charity Week

Annual Citizenship Day - Friday 22nd October 2021

This year we teamed up with the RAF for some exciting and fun PDT & STEM activities for Year 7-9 pupils.

<https://al-ashraf.org.uk/secondary/news-article/year-7-9-citizenship-day-2021>

Meanwhile, Year 10 & 11 took part in a Master Chef competition consisting of six teams who prepared a starter and dessert for our guests from the RAF. Marks were awarded for:

1. Execution - Does the team accomplish what their recipe describes?
2. Presentation - Does it look appetising?
3. Taste & Flavour - Appropriate balance of flavour.

Team 2 were judged winners. Congratulations to A. Razaq, S. Hassan, and H. Firdaws.

Feedback from guests:

Many Thanks for inviting us to attend. We have had such an amazing day with your students, they really are a credit to the school and their families, and hopefully they enjoyed the day as much as we did!

Lunch was fabulous, the effort and pride the students put into their menus and cooking was certainly evident. We feel we have been truly spoilt as visitors (and have left feeling very full). Please do pass on our thanks to your staff and students for making the day so successful.

We look forward to seeing you all again.

Assemblies during Term 1 & 2

In addition to routine assemblies, special themed days including national and international days were selected for assembly.

Two pupils from Year 9 presented a special Remembrance Day assembly on 10th November.

<https://al-ashraf.org.uk/secondary/assemblies/RemembranceDayAssembly.pdf>



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Thursday is set aside for student assemblies. All Year Groups have an opportunity to research, plan and deliver assemblies according to the topic of their choice. Not only does this help to develop self-confidence & public speaking skills, it also aids in personal development of pupils and helps to broaden their awareness of current affairs and the world around them.

Pupils take pride in putting their points of view forward and overall these assemblies have been hugely successful in promoting a positive culture across the whole school. Year 7 won the 'best assembly' for Term 1 & Year 10 Have won 'best assembly' for Term 2 MA.

See <https://al-ashraf.org.uk/secondary/assemblies.php>

Bebra's Computing Challenge - Monday 8th November until Friday 19th November 2021

Pupils participated in this year's Bebra's UK computing competition scheduled from 8th November 2021- 19th November 2021.

Our girls performed exceptionally well. Sara Shera, Anjuma Rahman and Zahraa Sayed (Year 9) have achieved the top 10% scores nationally and have been invited to take part in the Oxford University Computing Challenge. These students have also received gold certificates for their achievements.

Sara Shera (Yr 9) and Yusairah Patel (Yr 7) have been awarded Best in School Certificates. 13 students in total have been awarded certificates of distinction- these are the ones that have achieved top 25% scores nationally.

<https://al-ashraf.org.uk/secondary/news-article/the-uk-bebras-challenge>

School Fundraising Event

We are grateful to parents & pupils for supporting our fundraising event this week to raise much needed funds for staff CPD resources. This will provide our teachers with additional training in pertinent areas such as Ofsted guidelines, Safeguarding, Leadership, Mental Health, RSHE, Teaching and Research.

Finally, I take this opportunity to wish you all a well-deserved winter break and hope to see our pupils in January, I A.

WWW

Mufti Abdullah
Head Teacher