



July 2021 Newsletter

The Duke of Edinburgh Award – practice expedition 2021

8 students from year 10 successfully completed their COVID delayed practice expedition in May.

Group 1: Charlotte Gordon, Amelia Jennings, Haylee Campbell and Heidi Mitchell

Group 3: Alice Joynes, Erin Sherrington, Rosie Diamond and Emily Mansbridge

Both groups were in good spirits at the start point, despite the gusting wind and the forecast of torrential rain. The groups set out on the Saturday morning, excited for the day, but weighed down by their heavy packs. Walking from Rhinefield drive, with their staff leaders checking their navigational skills on the way, much of their training came flooding back. When they arrived at the underpass beneath the A35, the groups set out unaccompanied, their fate in their own hands.



After a few navigational hiccups, both groups arrived safely at the campsite near Pickett's post – tired, but pleased that the predicted storm never arrived. They erected their tents and assembled their stoves. Spirits were lifted quickly by a hot meal and desert in particular, so much so that washing up didn't seem like too much of a chore.

COVID restrictions meant that rather than spending the night under canvas, the groups had to head home overnight, before returning to cook breakfast in the morning. I know that it would have been difficult to leave the home comforts behind so early on a Sunday morning. Both groups go packed quickly after a leisurely breakfast and were keen to complete their walk in good time. Their skills had obviously improved during the weekend as both groups finished ahead of schedule.

The groups are scheduled to complete their assessed expedition in July – this time being able to camp overnight. Some of the participants will have completed their Bronze award at this point, having already finished the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections.

Thanks to Mr Greet, Mr Saunders, Mrs Lamkin, Mr Woods and Mrs Godfrey for giving up their time at the weekend.

The Duke of Edinburgh award will be offered to our current year 8 and year 9 in the Autumn term – it could be an excellent incentive for students to re-start those sports and hobbies that have been disrupted over the past 18 months or the spur to try something new!

Mr D Mitchell - DofE manager



GCSE History

Wednesday 7th July was a 'watershed day' as the first extra –curricular visit since the lockdowns. GCSE History students from Y9 and Y10 travelled to Stamford in Lincolnshire to marvel at the splendour of Burghley House. This was the home of William Cecil, Lord Burghley who was one of Elizabeth I's most loyal and longest serving ministers. More recently it has been used for filming 'The Crown' and 'Pride and Prejudice'

The focus of the visit was to discover more about Burghley's endowment of the Alms-houses at the time of increasing poverty and hardship in late Elizabethan England. A clear case of charity beginning at home.



LRC Events



Despite the Library not being fully operational for the majority of the year, we have still managed to encourage reading with our students and have ensured that books have been made available to them either in class book boxes, with a book request service or using our E-book system. We are pleased that the Library is now open once again for Library lessons and the introduction of our Accelerated Reader scheme.

As part of our commitment to encourage Reading for Pleasure across the whole school, we have introduced a Drop Everything and Read session for 20 minutes each day. We have also been recommending different authors each week so that students have a wider range of books to choose from. There are over 8,500 resources in our Library so we hope there is something for everyone. Please take the time to talk to your child about the books they are reading and what they have discussed in class during these sessions. If you would like advice or booklists, please contact our Librarian, Mrs Wooldridge via e-mail: a.wooldridge@applemore.hants.sch.uk.

We are disappointed that we are unable to invite visitors in to School this year for our annual Literary Festival, however we did not want the students to miss out and have therefore arranged a programme of virtual events for them to enjoy, such as:

- Virtual author visits from Alex Wheatle and Kirsty Applebaum – books from these authors are available in the School Library.
- Fake News Zoom workshops with The Guardian – looking at whether the stories in the news and on social media are all they seem!
- Illustration workshops with local author and illustrator, Simon Chadwick.

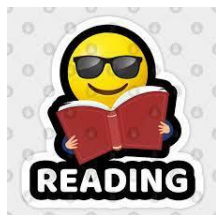


On arrival at Applemore College, all Year 7 students are given a free book as part of the Bookbuzz Scheme. Every child in Year 7 is given the opportunity to choose a book from a fantastic range of titles sent to us by BookTrust. The students really look forward to receiving their new books in the Autumn Term and all the resources will be available to borrow from the school library.



We have been running the Accelerated Reader scheme with Year 7 and 8 students and some of them have made amazing progress. In the past month over 100 books and over a million words

have been read – which is a fantastic achievement! **CONGRATULATIONS** to all of the students who have worked so hard to increase their reading levels. Over the Summer they are encouraged to continue to read and quiz on Accelerated Reader at home, our school link is here <https://ukhosted7.renlearn.co.uk/1894997/>



Summer Reading Challenge Inspire yourself to discover new books and authors over the Summer break. We hope the words you read will open doors to new worlds and ideas. You can use any reading format (books, e books, audio books). Reading Challenge sheets will be available in the Library, English Department and on the Student Hub. Tick off all the different books you have read and make a list of them, give this to the Librarian or your English Teacher next term to be in with a chance to win prizes!

We look forward to seeing you all when we return to School in the new term, until then keep an eye on our Library Twitter feed and Instagram for recommendations and most importantly, keep reading! Have a great Summer!

Mathematics Challenge 2021



Exciting news from the Applemore Maths department this year. The Intermediate Maths challenge took place during the most recent lockdown and three mathematicians in year 9 tied, taking the coveted 'Best in School' award. Congratulations to Finn Hoskins, Sam Burford and Jack Everett as well as all of the other students who chose to take part at home.

The Junior Maths challenge was held at school and this year we have two students who scored so highly that they have qualified for the next level, the Junior Kangaroo.



Congratulations to Konstantin Milankovic and Jake Mostran for this fantastic achievement. Both achieved a gold award and Konstantin achieved 'Best in School'. Our silver award winners were Kayden Brooks who also achieved 'Best in Year', Thomas Evans and Harry Von Landau. The bronze award winners were Joshua Chivers, Isla Clark, Jonas Josiah, Elsie Roach, Zac Taylor, Ethan Caley, Thomas Gahr, Darcy Gilfillan, Maddie Norman and Daisy Weston.

A wonderful result and a big well done to all participants.

Due to the lockdown, our Free-Standing Maths Qualification in Additional Maths, which we run as an extra-curricular club, was put on hold. We are keen to get this up and running again with top mathematicians in year 10 hopefully starting this term.