

HIGHLIGHTS

Summer 2018

HEADLINES...

IN THIS ISSUE

Some statistics from the last 12 months...

Total visits (not including very local)	147
Student days spent on visits	8,820
Overseas visits	19
Residential visits	32
Sports visits	40+
Countries	9
Continents	5

...so a big thank you to everyone who has been involved in the vast array of trips this year and the many, many activities in school - too many to count - which have been *Highlighted* in these pages and in previous editions.....you definitely deserve a good holiday now!

Alan Rosen

Home and Away

Activity Days

Recent Successes

Curriculum

Sport

For the latest school news, visit:

www.ahs.bucks.sch.uk

Follow us on Twitter: [@aylesburyhigh](https://twitter.com/aylesburyhigh)

Year 9 Trip to Picardy

From 22 to 26 June, Year 9 visited Picardy, in Northern France. On the morning of the 22nd we were wondering why we had decided to go as we had to be at school by 5 o'clock in the morning, but once we had boarded the ferry that feeling had gone and a new feeling, excitement (and sea sickness) had replaced it.

After arriving at the centre, we were straight into the activities (either sailing or archery). I did sailing, which as it turned out we weren't very good at! For the rest of the week, with the exception of the third day, we visited key places in World War One and the museums and palaces of Napoleon, where we saw how he lived his life, as well as his tomb, which was surprisingly big! Also we visited some sites related to the battle of the Somme, including walking in one of the only

preserved trenches, as well as memorials and graveyards, which was a very emotive experience and one we will never forget.

Our favourite visit was on the third day, which was Paris. We saw the Eiffel Tower, and took loads of photos in front of it, visited the Louvre, where we learnt lots about the Mona Lisa and realised how small it was! But the highlight of our trip was the French evening, where everyone had to perform. These performances included, songs, raps, dances, re-enactments of famous films and even a human pyramid! It was a great trip, and we would like to thank the teachers for making it so much fun and for giving up their time to take us!

Daisy Lorimer 9H



Valencia Trip

On our first day in Valencia, we woke up to the distant sound of birds, which was way too early for our liking. We walked around the local harbour, visited the Science Museum, went on a boat trip around the Albufera lake and went to the beach via a walk through the pine forest. This was when we realised that the teachers' plan was to fit as much as they could into one day, so that we would go straight to sleep in the evenings!



The following day we practised our Spanish in the Central Market and, more importantly, bought lots of sweets to last us the day! Then we did a walking tour and tried horchata, which is a local Valencian drink. After some time for shopping we went back to the hotel, ate dinner and tried on all the clothes we had bought.

On the Saturday we went to the Bullring, or Plaza de Toros, which gave us an opportunity to learn about an important aspect of Spanish culture. After this we explored the slides in the Parque Gulliver and then watched the dolphin show at the Aquarium. Then we walked back to the hotel to pack for our journey home.

Sunday came much more quickly than we expected because time truly does fly when you're having fun. So once we'd finished our packing, we went to the Fallas Museum and said our goodbyes to Spain. The Spanish trip has been the highlight of my year and maybe even Key Stage 3. I have made so many memories and met so many great people! **Zara Brooks 9H**



HOME AND AWAY

Duke of Edinburgh

On 19 May we all went on our practice expedition for our Bronze DofE. Our group started in Haddenham and trekked 14km to Ellesborough guide camp. On our journey there, we encountered lots of wildlife, including cows and goats and after getting lost in the middle of some fields, we finally arrived at the camp. Needless to say, we were all thrilled at the sight of the camp and we were glad to be able to relax. The time we spent at the campsite was a lot of fun! We played cards, cooked, and ate a lot of food. Our group decided to make spaghetti with tomato sauce and then we all drank some hot chocolate.



Our second day was definitely more eventful than our first - we got lost and ended up at Chequers where some kind policemen helped us out, which was followed by an exciting walk through a forest where there was no footpath so we had to climb over fallen branches and trees. After playing through the entire High School Musical soundtrack on our kazoos, we finally arrived at Great Hampden Cricket Green where our parents were waiting for us and we were very happy to be able to go home. Overall, while challenging, the experience was a lot of fun and we learnt a lot about ourselves during the process. We are very excited for our next expedition!

Esha Tamhane 10S

GCSE Drama Trip to see *The Jungle*

On Thursday 28 June, my drama group and I, along with Mrs Hughes, Mrs Queralt and Mr Braniff, went to the Playhouse Theatre in London to see a play called *The Jungle*. The play was based on horrific but true stories of the many refugees from different countries that resided in an area of Calais in France and it included stories told on the news such as the Syrian boy, who was found dead on a beach in Turkey. The refugees called their camp *The Jungle*. Two years ago, in 2016, *The Jungle* was bulldozed to the ground.

The theatre had been totally refurbished to resemble a refugee camp, with some of us seated in the Afghanistan café; another group was sat in the section known as Sudan, where you were either sat on the stage or at least, very close to the action of the play. This proximity to the intense action on stage brought most of us to tears and I believe that it touched a place in all of our hearts. **Jessica Standen 10H**



HOME AND AWAY

SPANISH EXCHANGE ... THE RETURN TRIP!

At the end of June, we were delighted to once again welcome our friends from IES Alfonso X in Murcia, for the return leg of the 2018 Spanish Exchange. We had such a fantastic time visiting them in February and everyone was keen to return the favour.

The Spanish students enjoyed a variety of excursions, including a river cruise in London, a trip to Harry Potter Studios and a visit to Warwick Castle. Their English partners joined them on the last day for a walking tour of Oxford, including visiting Balliol College and the Divinity School.

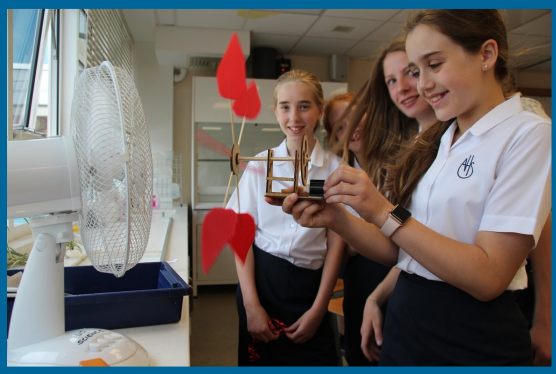
Three Spanish girls took to the mic on the coach back from Oxford to read out a speech they had prepared, thanking their partners for a wonderful week and what they described as “probably the best trip we will ever have in our lives”. Everyone was sad to see them go but the planning has already started for next year’s exchange, which will be open to those in Year 10 and 12 in September. **Miss Oatley**



ACTIVITY DAYS

Year 7 STEM Day

Year 7 put their science, maths and technology skills to the test by designing, making and testing wind turbines. I really enjoyed the teamwork aspect of the day. Congratulations to Hannah, Florence, Shaiyana and Ellen in 7C, who won by generating the highest potential difference of 0.66 volts! **Tayiba Khatun 7C**



Year 7 Creative Olympics

Year 7 enjoyed working outside of their form groups and opting for their favourite area of the Creative Arts. After tennis and fencing, the PE students had a well needed cool down with a game of Drip Drip Drench! The Trestle Theatre Company led an excellent masks workshop, the dancers learnt a whole dance and performed it brilliantly and the music group wowed us with their drumming skills. Do look out for the wonderful 'AHS Rocks' creations around school. Thank you to all our Creative Arts teachers for a wonderful day. **Mrs Queralt**



Year 8 at Ashridge

We had a lovely sunny day in Ashridge, where, as well as doing some Geography field work, looking at the way the woodland is used and managed, we also learnt about bio-diversity, practised our French and used mathematical formulae to calculate the height of trees. I really enjoyed having lessons outside of the classroom for a change. **Nadine Spencer 8A**



Year 8 at The Black Country Museum

As we are learning about the Victorian period in both English and History, it was very useful to visit the Black Country Museum to gain more of an insight into this period. I'm glad I wasn't around at that time, though, as it seemed a very dangerous period in history and I definitely wouldn't have wanted to go down the mines! **Katharine Esslemont 8A**



ACTIVITY DAYS



Year 9 Docklands

We enjoyed a very sunny day exploring the Docklands for our Geography fieldwork. I really enjoyed being out of the classroom and seeing Geography in action.

Millie Rae 9A



Year 9 Enterprise Day

We had a great day, run by Big Green Enterprise, where we had to come up with an idea, design a prototype and then pitch it to the judges. It gave us a great insight into the world of business and really helped us improve our presentation skills.

Jemima Yuloyok-Job and Emma Sainsbury 9A

Year 12: University Visit

On Friday 29 June most of Year 12 got on a coach to Nottingham as part of an effort to encourage us to explore our higher education options and start looking towards the future. After having meticulously planned our day to make the most out of our time there we arrived at Nottingham at 10:30am before splitting up to explore different academic avenues, armed with a map and some sun cream. Being a brilliant example of a campus university we got a great feel for what campus life was like and now have Nottingham as a valuable point of comparison when exploring our options further.

After an action packed day with everyone looking into their own specific areas of study, we left with a greater understanding of our subjects at degree level. Primarily, our visit to Nottingham reminded all of us that there was a very appealing end goal to our arduous battle with A-Levels, motivated us to keep on pushing with the grind of revision and reminded us that the future is bright and exciting.

Yasmin Bali 12A



ACTIVITY DAYS

Year 10 International Day

Year 10 spent the day organising workshops based around a variety of different countries, ranging from Peru to India and Greece to Japan. They prepared a series of activities for 120 Year 2 pupils from Bedgrove and 30 Year 5 pupils from Waddesdon. A lot of hard work went into the workshops - even the last minute ones! The primary schools arrived at AHS and had to go through passport control. Then they were guided by their buddies around 6 different workshops, where they learned snippets of language, did different dances and songs, made a variety of weird and wonderful artefacts and generally had an exhilarating day. Some students acted as journalists and photographers and were able to produce a magazine for the primary school children to take home at the end of the day. One form, 10W, went to the Park School, where they worked with all the students at the school in a similar way, designing workshops around their chosen country of Spain. The end of the day saw a lot of exhausted Year 10 girls, who perhaps have gained a slight amount of understanding of what goes into a teacher's working day! **Mr Baird**



Year 10 Wellbeing Day

Wellbeing day was one of the most interesting and eventful activity days I have partaken in. The whole year immersed ourselves in participating in enjoyable and educational activities such as yoga, self defence, mindfulness, relationships and motherhood and many of us have learnt beneficial key life skills. We also had the privilege of getting inspiration from the motivational talk given to us by Hannah Beharry (ex GB Boxer). **Shuhan Chen 10A**

RECENT SUCCESSES



Year 7 House Maths

House Maths is a competition where all the houses compete for bragging rights (and house points). This is how the competition works: each house has a marker who checks their house's answers and gives the next question out. If you get the question wrong you can have a second go but after that you have to move on. You get 2 points for getting the answer right but you get no points awarded for getting the answer wrong. You could feel the tension and excitement in the room with so many mathematicians hard at work. With only a few minutes left everyone hoped they had done their house proud. And the winner was HUGHENDEN!

Jennifer Gibbons and Lyla Davies 8A



FormulAHS

After overcoming technical issues FormulAHS experienced their first race in the Formula 24 category of the Greenpower electric racing car tournament at the famous Goodwood track. Moving on to the second race of our season at Rockingham the team passed scrutiny first time and made good progress in heat 1.



After a major incident (not involving us) in heat 2 the race was restarted and the team continued to make good progress, perfecting their pit stops and clocking up the miles. Unfortunately our race came to an abrupt end when another car went into the back of us and bent our rear axle. All good learning experience ready for the next race at Dunsfold (Top Gear track) in September!

Mr Cook

RECENT SUCCESSES

Magic of the Dance competition with Darcey Bussell

On Saturday 30 June, 50 Year 7 & 8 students made it to the final of the Magic of the Dance competition hosted by Dame Darcey Bussell at the WhizzFizz Festival in Aylesbury. Both groups had four weeks to learn a dance fitness routine choreographed by Dame Darcey Bussell and then had to submit a video of the performance. Darcey then picked her top seven entries and our Year 7 & 8 groups were both selected by Darcey to perform in the final. Both groups performed brilliantly on the day and in very hot conditions! Year 7 placed as runners up on the day and even had the chance to dance the warm up with Darcey herself! A very big well done to all the Year 7 & 8 students who competed – you all did so well! **Miss McKendrick**



Rampaging Chariots Robot Event

On Saturday 23 June, three teams from AHS went to Luton to take part in the Rampaging Chariots competition. The Year 8 team created the robot 'Space Rider', Year 9 made a Lego themed bot under the title 'Bill' and the Year 12s re-entered 'R2D2'. The day consisted of four events - assault course, sumo, football and tug of war. Having the robots



take part in these competitions was a great opportunity to see how our robots



held up in different situations, as well as see what other teams did for their robot designs. One member of each team was also interviewed by a YouTube channel as the competition was held on International Women in Engineering day. Rampaging Chariots was really fun and everyone had a good time. **Grace Hammond 121**

RECENT SUCCESSES

Mandarin Chinese Competition Runner up



Recently I participated in the 4th Bai Meigui Translation Competition. This is a Mandarin Chinese translation competition hosted by the University of Leeds, with candidates from secondary schools all over the world. The competition consisted of a Mandarin to English translation of a children's book written by author Meng Yanan, followed by a 400 word answer to a question concerning the cultural significance around the story. The winning translation would be published in a bilingual version of the text. After completing the competition I received the news that I placed in the respectable position of runner up and I was delighted to hear this news and to be presented with such an opportunity.

Ursula Smith 10C

Junior Maths Challenge

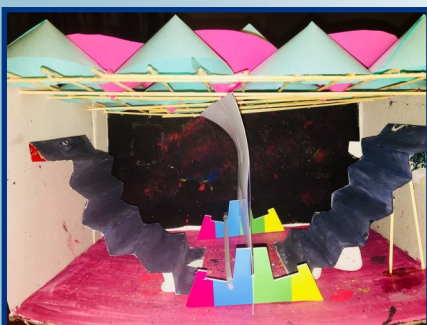
On 19 March, Mrs Lu and a team of four students travelled to Ashlyns School to participate in the Junior Maths Team Challenge Regional final. The challenge consisted of four rounds: group, cross number, shuttle and relay. Of course we had our ups and downs but after the third round we were in the top five. We assumed that knowing how terribly we had performed in the relay we wouldn't make it but it would appear we weren't so bad after all! Our five hard weeks of preparing had paid off as we ended up in second place! **Nyneisha Bansal 8W**



More Maths Merits!

Congratulations to 6 Year 8 students who were invited to take part in the Junior Maths Kangaroo. Well done Cenyuja Wang and Grace Maclean who received qualification certificates and to Abby Marshall, Hannah Garnham, Natalie Cooper, Nyneisha Bansal for their Merit awards. **Mrs Lu**

Young Architect Competition



Congratulations to Year 7 student, Rabia Aziz, who recently entered MK Gallery Young Architect 2018, a competition designed to discover aspiring young architects and their ideas for the future of building in Milton Keynes. The competition was open to schools and individuals across the city. Rabia's design was shortlisted from over 269 entrants and as a result, is currently on display in MK Gallery's Young Architect 2018 Project Space exhibition, available to view 6-28 July 2018. Well done, Rabia! **Mrs Queralt**

Eco Club

Eco Club members are making use of the refurbished greenhouse and have been instrumental in getting the wildlife friendly areas up and running. They water and weed the area as well as planting the trees and shrubs. Also, they have carried out a germination investigation using 6 different seed preparation methods for a variety of lettuces. They are now growing the lettuce on so look out for lettuces for sale! **Mr Nuttycombe**

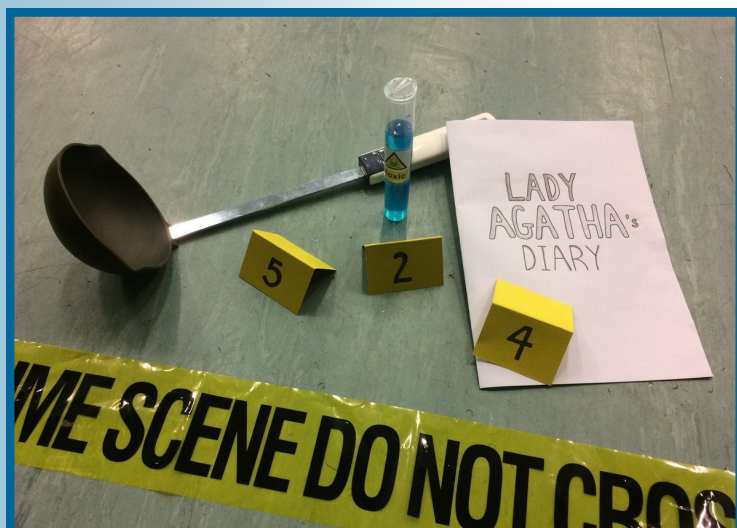


Primary Outreach Celebration

As a culmination to our primary outreach work, where Year 12 students go into local primary schools to run English and Maths clubs each week, we invited year 5 students from local primary schools in to AHS to participate in a Murder Mystery Day and a Primary Outreach Maths Challenge. We started the Maths Challenge afternoon with a Kahoot quiz and then the schools competed against each other in challenges such as Make a Number and the Cross Number Challenge. Congratulations to the winners, St.Mary's School, who were closely followed by Bearbrook and Bedgrove. The Year 12 English group started their murder mystery event by re-enacting the crime and the primary students then rotated round a series of workshops, where they tried to work out who the murderer was. They particularly enjoyed looking at the clues left at the crime scene and working out the secret message left in Lady Agatha's will.

The primary outreach scheme has given us the opportunity to enhance our communicative and leadership skills and we feel very fortunate to have had the chance to be involved in such a fulfilling scheme of work - it is hugely satisfying to see the pupils thrive and gain something from their learning.

Year 12 Primary Outreach students, Mrs Lu and Mrs Queralt



Music, Movement and Muses

Another year has passed and brought with it the 2018 Music, Muses and Movement show, where Aylesbury High School students anxiously stood in the wings of the stage waiting to perform their talent. There was a fabulous array of acts ranging from dark secrets in Memory Of Water to the funky Year 7 hand jive with the two of us being very lucky to be able to present the concert and introduce each act as it came on.

The dance acts were of an extremely high standard - no wonder the Year 7 and Year 8 dance groups being picked by Darcey Bussel. Vocal skills, movement, interaction - all of the drama pieces showed these off magnificently. And as per usual

all of the music acts were outstanding with a huge range of singing, steel pan playing and jazz. Overall the night was amazing and we are extremely fortunate to have pupils with such talents. We would like to thank all of the teachers involved for giving up their lunch times to run clubs, the AHSA, the pupils who performed and anyone who came or supported the show. **Niamh Munday 10C & Zofia Kaluza 10M**



House Drama

This year's entries were based on Malala Yousafzai's famous words: *'We realise the importance of our voices only when we are silenced.'* This inspired some spectacular interpretations and performances from Stowe's powerful call for an end to shootings in America to Waddesdon's imaginative portrayal of forced happiness in a 'dystopian utopia'. Congratulations to Ascott's Sophie Roberts, who won Outstanding Performer and to Claydon for winning overall with their humorous take on three fairytale princesses.

Mrs Queralt



HOUSE ATHLETICS

This year's House Athletics was packed with numerous activities throughout the day. With lots of competitors, spectators and motivators, the day went in a flash!

During the morning of Thursday 14 June, participants from different years in different houses flocked to the field to take part in the field events. Despite the cloudy weather, everyone was motivated and eager to score points for their house.

The afternoon brought the track events. After the spectacular House Dancers from Claydon, which geared everyone up for an exciting set of competitions, the parade began. Competitors and House Captains ran around the field behind the AHS School Games torch relay. Starting with the 200m and ending with the fast-paced teacher vs sixth form relay, everyone thoroughly enjoyed every moment of the afternoon. As the day drew to a close, students and teachers gathered to the centre, with Mr. Rosen announcing the winners: **Claydon!**

Monisha Tharigoppula



AHSPORTS GAMES



1st Place: Claydon
2nd Place: Missenden
3rd Place: Stowe



Athletes gain County Selections

Year 8 Student Emilia Rock has been selected to run for Buckinghamshire in the English National School Championships in the 300m. Emilia is a year young for this age group race and had to achieve a time of under 42 seconds to qualify for this prestigious event.

Hatty Bell also represented Buckinghamshire in the inter counties event at 300m and Triple jump achieving a PB in the 300m.

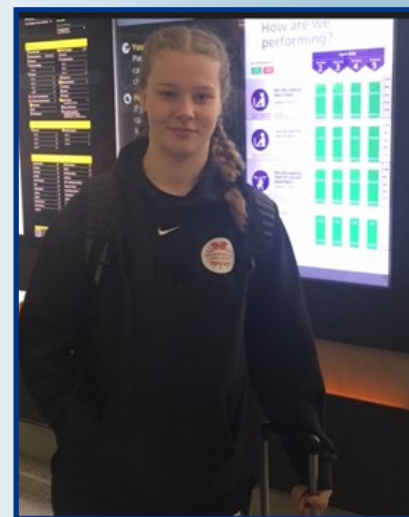
Lucy Perkins and Helena Van Hullen have been selected by Buckinghamshire for the multi events national finals in September. Congratulations to all the girls on their selections and hard work in training. **Mrs Arber**



National honours for Grace and Annabelle

Grace flew out to Copenhagen to represent England Basketball at the Copenhagen tournament in June. This was her first experience at international level and something she hopes to build on in the near future.

Annabelle gained her first international hockey goal for England in their friendly against Belgium this week. She now heads to the Euros in Spain to represent England. In the few days she has had off in between she has been representing Team AHS at the National Tennis Finals in Nottingham. Well done both! **Mrs Arber**



County Championships

In June, Years 7, 8 and 9 competed in the Bucks County championships as individuals. Year 7 student Victorious Ezeh gained 2nd place in the 100m and 4th in the long jump in highly competitive events. Mady Carter achieved 5th place in both the javelin and shot putt.

Emilia Rock became county champion in the 200m after fine performances in both the heats and finals. She also managed to achieve 4th place in the long jump despite being a year young. Anaya Goodman became county champion in the High Jump with a fantastic PB of 1.40m .

However it was multi event Helena Van Hullen who was the busiest athlete of the day competing in 4 events. This meant she had to leave some events to compete in heats and finals. Jessica Ennis would have been proud of her achievements: Shot Putt county champion, 2nd place in both high jump and long jump and 4th place in the hurdles - well done to all athletes. **Mrs Arber**

Triathlons 2018

2018 has been a very successful year for the AHS triathlon team with girls from across the year groups competing in several events. Over the year there have been triathlons in Henley, Chesham and most recently at Dorney Lake in Eton. On 24 June 17 girls from AHS raced in 4 different age groups, showing the growing popularity of triathlon in and out of school.

On 8 July 3 girls from AHS raced to the finish line in the boiling heat (Despite missing the first half of the England vs Sweden match). The



swim section of the race was based in the lake, swimming either 300/400m in a loop. We had great fun!

Emma Phillips 8H



A note from Mrs Carey

Well, it has certainly been a busy Triathlon season with over 40 AHS girls competing in a wide range of triathlon events from Bucks School Games Triathlon, various pool based Triathlons and open water events such as Eton Dorney and Blenheim. We have trained 15 British Triathlon Activators, who led at the School Games but who have also delivered a couple of transition sessions in school, alongside seasoned triathletes, Hannah Alexander and Alice Horton. 25 girls took part in Cycle Training and Transition Training session led by British Triathlon. There have been lots of successes and podium winners but deserving special mention is GB Age Grouper selection for Hannah Alexander in Year 12. Next week we have a number of girls taking part in a Coached Open Water Session to help them take the plunge from pool to open water events. Well done to all of you. Your determination and enthusiasm has been inspiring! **Mrs Carey**