

Winter 2021

# Community

The newsletter of Landau Forte Academy Amington



AMBITIOUS • BRAVE • KIND

## A great deal for us to celebrate here at Amington Academy.



As we come to the end of this term, I wanted to thank you all for the support you have shown over the past few months. This has been an extremely challenging time for the entire country, and I am very proud of how our wider school community has faced every obstacle in our path.

There is a great deal for us to celebrate and I am delighted to be able to share our notable student highlights in this newsletter. We were all delighted with the glowing report we received from Ofsted following their inspection commending the academy on the improvement seen to date. The inspectors highlighted that Amington is well on the way to being judged a good school, and we look forward to welcoming them back soon to confirm this.

It has been fantastic to see the academy community join in so enthusiastically with our efforts to support various incredibly worthwhile causes. We have raised significant amounts for notable charities, including Children in Need and the St Giles

Hospice. I am very impressed with how our students have taken to these causes and we are all very proud of the compassion and generosity shown by our community.

We have further good news when it comes to academy recruitment. I am delighted to announce that in January we will welcome a new Deputy Faculty Leader for Maths, a Lead Practitioner in Science, and a Key Stage Leader in English. These colleagues will add experience and expertise to our already talented staff group and will prove hugely important as we continue to move from strength to strength.

We take students' emotional wellbeing very seriously at the academy. As a result, we have enhanced our pastoral care to ensure every student feels safe and supported while at school by appointing two highly experienced Pastoral Leads. In addition, our Academy Counsellor has also been working with our students to fill the gap left by the reduction of health and support services in the community.

To complement our strong pastoral support, the academy has appointed a Child and Family Support Worker to liaise directly with the wider Amington community as we continue to live with the challenges of the pandemic. If you have any questions about the support we can offer please do contact the academy office or any member of our safeguarding team. Please note that all enquiries will of course be handled with the utmost discretion.

....continued overleaf

## INSIDE

### ODD SOCKS?

FOOT ATTIRE DOESN'T QUITE MATCH UP IN ANTI BULLYING AWARENESS WEEK

### THE GREAT AMINGTON RUN 2

OUR AMBITIOUS, BRAVE & KIND PUPILS ONCE AGAIN RUN TO RAISE MONEY FOR A WONDERFUL CAUSE



### CURRICULUM NEWS

THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR EXCITING CURRICULUM INCLUDING THEATRE TRIPS AND SPORTS NEWS



THE QUEEN MUSICAL COMES TO AMINGTON IN AN EXCITING NEW YEAR PERFORMANCE



## Community



Inspired by the COP26 summit, our student leadership team have launched a project to reduce single use plastics on the academy site and we look forward to announcing an update to this project shortly. This is an issue that our young people feel very strongly about and we want to encourage their efforts to make their community a greener place.

In addition, our LGBT+ group are working with Stonewall to ensure all members of our academy community have a voice in the development of academy policy. This is hugely important for all of us at Amington as we celebrate the diversity of our academy community and work to make sure that every student and staff member feels supported and comfortable being themselves.

I have been delighted by the success of our Principal drop-in sessions which have been very well attended. These offer a great opportunity for me to hear more about all aspects of Amington life and to see how we can improve students' daily experiences. Please do consider attending these in the future if you want to express an opinion on Amington life.

I am also delighted to announce that the Amington Fete will return in the summer! We'll be announcing more details on this fete soon.

There's no question that this has been an incredibly exciting term and there is a tremendous amount for us all to look forward to in the New Year.

I hope you all have a restful break, and I'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**PRINCIPAL**  
**Andrew Deen**

# Raising money for Louie Birkin and Donna Louise

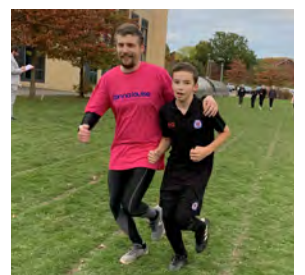
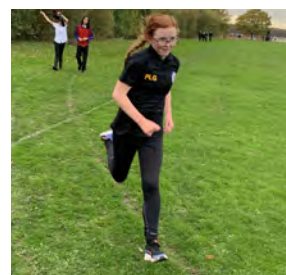
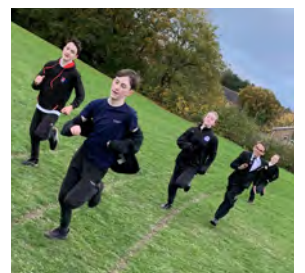
On the 5th November 2021, students and staff helped raise money for Louie Birkin and the Donna Louise Hospice by taking part in the Great Amington Run. As part of the day a collection was taken as well as selling cakes and the total raised by the school was £170 which was a massive effort.

On the 14th November 2021 Mr Birkin ran in the Tamworth 10K in order to raise

money for his son Louie Birkin and the Donna Louise Hospice. Family, friends and the community sponsored Mr Birkin and with the money raised from the academy, in total £1,300 was raised. This meant £650 went to Louie for equipment. he may need for his disabilities and £650 went to the Donna Louise Hospice to help other families in need of respite care. A big thank you to everyone who supported the cause.



Our amazing pupils & staff start the 'Great Amington Run 2'



Our amazing Mr Birkin







# Pudsey in Paint

Amington students were all set to take part in a nationwide printing of the world's largest Pudsey Bear on paper. Sadly, due to logistic issues, the materials didn't arrive in time. Undeterred by this, our students, with the help of the art department, set about creating their own fabulous Pudsey paintings that were put on display and a collection made.



## ACADEMY PAYS ITS RESPECTS ON REMEMBRANCE DAY



Students James Pickering and Ciaran Lacey (Air Cadets) are joined by Mr Byrne (ex- forces) on Remembrance Day

The Academy fell silent at eleven o'clock on the 11th of November as pupils and staff paid their respects to members of our armed forces past and present.

The Last Post was sounded and a two Minute Silence was observed. This was followed by the sounding of Reveille. The Foyer was adorned with garlands of poppies made by students.



Both students and staff made the academy vibrant through an array of colours when the academy took part in 'Odd Sock Day' on the 15th of November to raise awareness in the academy.

Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!



Students understand the importance of linking our academy's values into everyday aspects, to ensure that everyone always feels Brave, Ambitious and Kind.

Students took part in various tutor time activities all in relation to Antibullying and to raise awareness in our Academy.



# Curriculum News

## ENGLISH



This term, our KS4 students have finally been able to pull back the curtain, sit back and immerse themselves once again in the world of theatre.

We began with a production of 'Macbeth' at the Albany in Coventry. The compelling performance helped our Y11 students to

understand how Shakespeare's work can be interpreted, delivered and experienced in order to support their GCSE Literature studies.

Following this, our GCSE Drama students made the journey to the Birmingham Hippodrome to see Willy Russell's 'Blood Brothers'.

The tragedy's dramatic conclusion left our students stunned and inspired when returning to the academy and preparing for their mock exams.

Keep your eyes peeled for more English Faculty trips next term!



The stage is set for a compelling production of 'Macbeth'



GCSE Drama students at the Birmingham Hippodrome watching Willy Russell's 'Blood Brothers'



## PHSE

### Current Topic (Term 2):

- Year 7: Developing skills and aspirations Careers, teamwork and enterprise skills, and raising aspirations
- Year 8: Community and careers Equality of opportunity in careers and life choices, and different types and patterns of work
- Year 9: Setting goals Learning strengths, career options and goal setting as part of the GCSE options process
- Year 10: Financial decision making The impact of financial decisions, debt, gambling and the impact of advertising on financial choices
- Year 11: Next steps Application processes, and skills for further education, employment and career progression

### Coming up after Christmas (Term 3):

- Year 7: Diversity, prejudice, and bullying
- Year 8: Discrimination in all its forms, including: racism, religious discrimination, disability, discrimination, sexism, homophobia, biphobia and transphobia
- Year 9: Respectful relationships Families and parenting, healthy relationships, conflict resolution, and relationship changes
- Year 10: Healthy relationships Relationships and expectations, myths, the impact of the media
- Year 11: Communication in relationships Personal values, assertive communication (including in relation to contraception and sexual health), relationship challenges

Further information can be found on the Academy website or contact Miss Fox via [cfox@lfata.org.uk](mailto:cfox@lfata.org.uk)



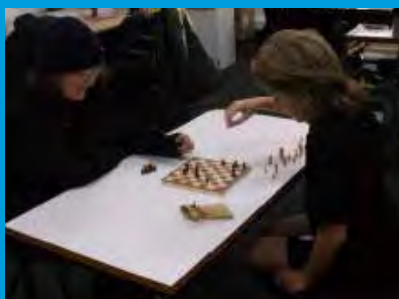
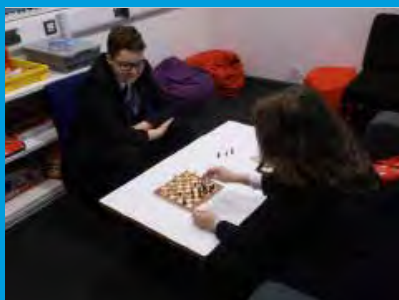
## SEND



A select number of students have been coming into the new DEN, every Friday morning to play chess.

13 keen students battle out their wits and strategy with each other to become the best chess player they can be. A couple of star players who haven't missed a game yet are Simon Hall, Leighton Bailey, Cameron and Lauren Atkins.

For any other players who they are brave enough to take on this talented group we meet 8:15am – 8:45am on a Friday morning.



## SCIENCE

This term in science, KS3 have read a research article about the effect of gut bacteria on the brain. Students have been discussing the benefits of certain bacteria in digestion and the harmful types of bacteria that cause disease.



They have seen how we can use mice as models for human behaviour, how to test the changes in behaviour caused by gut bacteria, and have drawn sections of DNA that were used to identify the different types of bacteria in the gut.

Pupils have then written about the article and drawn their own conclusions about the effects of gut bacteria on the brain. These conclusions include links between gut bacteria and the levels of anxiety, social behaviours, and memory, and have shown real criticality about the relevance of the results to humans.

KS3 have enjoyed reading and discussing the article together in class, learning about up-to-date research. The theme of bacteria leads smoothly into next term's journal article about viruses and their use in medicine!



## New House Champion



We are pleased to announce our new Kilimanjaro House Champion **Megan O'Neil**.



# Curriculum News

## PE

### Year 7 Football Team

Our Year 7 Football Squad made it to the quarter final of the Staffordshire Schools FA County quarter final by beating John Taylor High School 3-1 in a tremendous away performance.

The team included: Harry Barlow, Charlie Harding, Reggie Cowan, Lewis Latham, George Rawlings, Junior Wyatt, Daniel Breen, Luke Gilks, Noah Philipson, Grace Cheneler, Louie Phipps, Corin Poyner, Logan Beasley, Freddie Haden



**Year 7 Football Team:** Grayson Bell, Oliver Wilkes, Charlie Hendon, Harry Newman, Harrison Statham, Oliver Kearney, Bethan Foster, Ava Merc, Charlie Hobday, Dylan Swan, Dylan Kennedy, Oliwier Lewczuk

Goals from Dylan Swan x2 and Charlie Hobday secured victory with Dylan Swan collecting man of the match. The team await the draw for the quarter final to be played after Christmas Boys (All Years), Girls (Under 13 & Under 15)

### Year 8 Football

The team played Deferrers Academy last month in the first round of the County Cup Competition. Landau fielded a strong team who displayed good skills and tactical knowledge.

For the first half the team played up a steep slope and earned themselves a 2-0 lead. The second half sounded well and it was only the Deferrers goalkeeper that prevented Landau from converting any further attempts at goal.

Unfortunately, lack of concentration and defensive errors firstly allowed Deferrers to draw level. The third and final goal came after a goal mouth scramble and unfortunately Landau were left holding their head in their hands.

### Year 9 Football Team

Our Year 9 football team were victorious in our Staffordshire county cup first round vs De Ferrers with a 3-1 win away from home. The team are due to play John Taylor Free School on 13th December away in round 2 for a place in the quarter final.

Goals: Fletcher Poole, Oisín Rabbette, Fin Dobson.

MOM: Oisín Rabbette.

Many thanks to the parents who travelled.

### Year 11 Football

The team had a first round draw in the County Cup Competition against Wolgarston School in Penkridge. The team had a few key players absent due to COVID 19 but they still had a strong line up.

It was a fantastic game. Landau went ahead after a penalty but then Wolgarston equalised. Early in the second half Landau went ahead only for Wolgarston to pull the game level. With 10 minutes to go a third Landau goal seemed to clinch the win but it was not to be. Within the last three minutes Wolgarston scored a good third goal and then won the game with an opportunist chance.

The team included; Kingston Avery, Charlie Robinson, Josh Brazier, Woody Ford, Mathew Holden, Louie Owen, Caleb Price, Aston Shannon, Joe Starkey, Jack Wileman, Caden Pegg, Harrison Wyatt, Ryan Tolton



**Year 9 Squad:** Luke Whittaker, Harvey Malpas, Jamie Holden, Daniel Manders, Connor Villiers, Rico Uppal, Lenny Byrne, Charlie Knight, Fletcher Poole, Lucas Palmer, Amarius Miller, Lewis Brown, Finley Dobson, Oisín Rabbette.



## PE

### Girls Football

#### U15's Football team

The Girls U15's played against Repton on Thursday 25th November in the first round of the Staffordshire County Cup, winning 3-2. They are progressing onto the next round to play Thomas Alleynes in January.

Squad: Izzy Bennett, Ellie Parks, Grace Collins, Maia Bull, Mollie Gent, Isobel Hatch, Evie Newman, Taylah McMahon, Grace Cheneler, Ella Reeve, Lilly Bretherton, Millie Russell, Danielle Matthews.

#### U13's Football team

Are awaiting their 2nd round match to be played against John Taylor after a bye in the first round. The squad are training regularly and are looking forward to getting their first game under their belts.

### Girls Netball

LF Amington Netball teams have returned to training and matches with gusto, after being absent for almost 2 years. Netball teams for Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 are currently competing in the Tamworth Schools Tournament, having played so far Rawlett and QEMS in the first round of matches.

### Year 7 Sports Hall Athletics

Congratulations to our Year 7 Sportshall athletics team who represented the Academy at the district championships at Tamworth Enterprise College on 25th November. The team competed in a series of sprint and endurance events as well as jumps and throws. Our representatives are as follows:

#### Boys:

Grayson Bell  
Alfie Keen  
Dylan Kennedy  
Dylan Swan  
Callum O'Mahoney  
Max Manders

#### Girls:

Maisie Wallace  
Constance Carruthers  
Amaleigh Cowan  
Isabelle Rowland  
Ava Merc  
Emily Willmore

### Year 7/8 Boys Rugby

The team played extremely well against a strong Bishop Walsh Catholic School. It was a steep learning curve for all of those who played but they seemed to fully enjoy the experience and were keen to play more games from February.

The team included, Logan Beasley, Daniel Breen, Reggie Cowan, Charlie Harding, Zack Majer, Grayson Bell, Luke Cuttle, Raheem Quinn, Liam Gallagher, Jake Manders, Max Manders.

### Year 10 Rugby

The last time that this team played rugby was 2 years ago against the same team, Bishop Walsh RC School. On that occasion the game had to be ended due to a dislocated shoulder injury to one of our players.

It was fantastic that the students who played in this game generated their passion for the sport from playing in their PE lessons. Inexperienced in game play but certainly not lacking passion and enthusiasm it was an absolutely cracking game.

The final score was 10-10 but the players believe that Mr Murray missed and important well earned touchdown.

Bizarrely, the game had to be ended abruptly due to another shoulder injury but this time to a Bishop Walsh player. Hopefully, this team will continue to grow in strength and numbers in the new year with more fixtures.

The team included; Archie Bolt, Chris Davies-Ciora, Elliot Davis, Braeden Hall, Ethan Read, Harvey Ricketts, Corben Vokes, Warren Thompson, Tyler Wright, Oliver Harding, Logan Evans and Finley Sweet.

## Upcoming Fixtures

07/12/2021 – Year 8 – TSSA Indoor athletics Competition @TEC

09/12/2021 - Year 9 – District 6 a side competition @ TEC

13/12/2021 – Year 9 Football vs John Taylor Free School – Away

18/01/2021 – Year 7 - District 6 a side competition @ TEC

Remaining Clubs (WC 06/12 until end of term)

06th Dec – Table Tennis Year 7 and Y7-10 Girls Football

07th Dec – Y7/8/9 Football and Y7/8/9/10 Netball

08th Dec – Table Tennis Year 8

13th Dec – Table Tennis Year 7 and Y7-10 Girls Football

14th Dec - Y7/8/9/10 Netball

15th Dec – Table Tennis Year 8  
Cambridge National Sport Studies

### Year 10 Students of the Term

Molly Mae Gent, Kolbein Southan and Oliver Harding

### Year 11 Students of the Term

Emily Meanley, James Kealey, Henry Baker





# Curriculum News

## ART

The Art department would like to firstly thank our students for their continued hard work and efforts during this term. Year 7 have been developing some fantastic skills within Collage, inspired by Cultural African Masks. Year 8 have been exploring the work of Artist Jay Manchand, who kindly sent our Year 8 students a virtual video workshop demonstrating how he creates his artwork, which they have been watching in lesson and using to re-create his style and practice in their own Reptile watercolour pieces. In Year

9, they have been developing skills in Design and Composition through creating work influenced by Artist and Graphic Designer, Daymon Greulich.

Our GCSE Art students have been working hard to create work contributing to their GCSE portfolio. Year 10 have been exploring further research into Food themed artists with a focus on text and typography. Year 11 have been developing their experimental skills in their 'Close-Up's project, through fabric sculpting, Wax Batik and Printmaking.

This term the Art department have been contributing to Charity events across the school, holding an afterschool Art session creating giant Pudsey bear Posters for Children in Need and creating unique handmade lino print Christmas cards to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

We have also held a whole school Photography competition in the theme 'Winter', where our winner and runner up's will be announced before the end of this Term and we would like to personally thank all of the students who submitted an entry into the competition. We also intend to create all submissions into a virtual exhibition so please keep a close eye out for that in the coming weeks.

Our student shout out for this newsletter goes to two Year 10 students who have both evidenced

exceptional classwork and gone above and beyond with the start of their GCSE coursework portfolios, Fran Donaldson and Andreea Popescu. We would also like to highlight one of our Year 11 students William Green and his continued hard work during this Term.



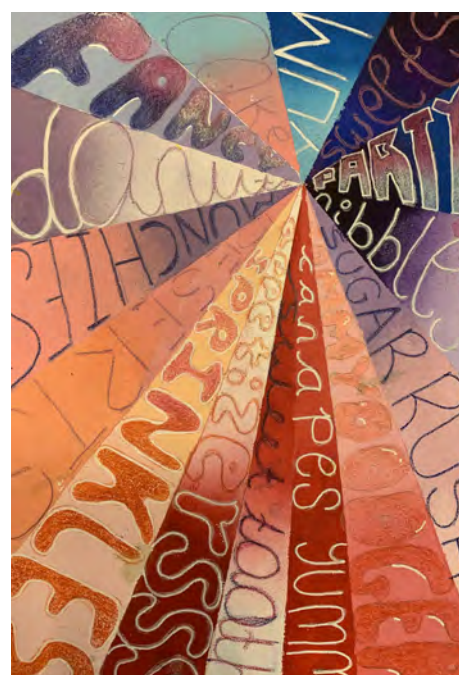
YR10 Andreea Popescu



YR10 Fran Donaldson



One of William Green's responses to the YR11 'Close-Ups' inspired project



YR10 Fran Donaldson



## PERFORMING ARTS



### YEAR 11 BTEC MUSIC SHOWCASE 17/11/2021

One of the highlights this term for Performing Arts has to be our first live showcase in 21 months.

As part of their exam our Y11 BTEC Music has to complete a Showcase Unit and we



were delighted to be able to run this as a live event. The group organised the whole showcase from getting performance, organising light/sound/stage as well as refreshment stall and ticket sales.

Throughout Term 1 they knew there was a risk it had to be moved online and they were working with H&S restrictions that



meant their audience and performances had to be kept to a smaller number than previously.

The evening was a success and the group would like to thank all the performers and the specially invited audience that helped them make it happen.



### LFATA ANNUAL PRODUCTION - WE WILL ROCK YOU

Over the past two terms we have been busy casting and rehearsing for the annual production. This year it will be the well-known musical WWRY (We Will Rock You) – the famous musical based on Queen songs. The cast covering all year groups, are rehearsing 2-3 times a week

The PA staff are impressed with their focus and commitment, the students are all keen to get back on stage and perform to an audience. This year we booked three performance nights and we hope to see you there. We are all looking forward to show you all what students at LFATA are capable of – you are in for a treat.

#### WWRY PRODUCTION DATES

Wednesday 9th of February  
Thursday 10th of February  
Friday 11th of February

### LFATA Orchestra and Choir

This year has seen the return of the LFATA choir and we have opened up an orchestra as well. The choir is open to all students in Y7-10 who likes singing and we rehearse every Monday from 3-4pm. If you are interested in joining us, let Mrs Mogelmose know.

The thought of having an orchestra in LFATA has been brewing for a while.

After talks with some of our instrument students Mrs Mogelmose invited all instrument students (grade 2+) to join the new LFATA orchestra. We rehearse every Friday after school 3-4pm. If you play an instrument and would like to join us, please contact Mrs Mogelmose for further information.

You do not need to have instrument lessons in the academy to be part of the orchestra.

Both groups had prepared Christmas performances and were hoping to do a small concert in December. Unfortunately we had to cancel this event but we are hoping to return in the spring/summer and show you some of the other pieces we have been rehearsing.



# INTER HOUSE COMPETITIONS

**KILIMANJARO**

Brave to climb the mountain  
Ambitious to reach the summit  
Kind to those in our path!

## House Competitions

December saw the start of the Year 7 and Year 8 inter house competitions. The 4 houses battled it out with cross country, netball, football and bench ball. The weather was not kind but our brave pupils battled the elements on the cross country course. Year 10 pupils kindly volunteered as stewards and time officials.







## DENALI

Work together,  
stick together,  
climb together!



## ELBRUS

Reach the peak,  
achieve excellence!



## EVEREST

You are the creator  
of your own destiny





# AMBITIOUS • BRAVE • KIND



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