



AMSI GOLD EDITION!

I am very pleased to welcome everyone back to school this academic year as we embrace the 'new normal' at AMSI. Although many of our ways of working have changed, some things most certainly have not - the school vision of [every child a scholar](#) remains our firm focus. This edition of [#AMSI News](#) is an excellent example of this as it highlights the learning and progress that our resilient students continue to make, even in these most challenging of times.

I am very proud of the diversity of our students and the creativity that lies within each and every one of them. As testament to this, it gives me great pleasure to report that AMSI has now been accredited with the Artsmark Gold award from Arts Council England; currently the only secondary comprehensive in Islington with this status. The artwork on this front page is a wonderful example of our students' ability. It was completed with their contribution and is located near Wells Terrace by Finsbury Park train station for all in the community to see.

As I am sure you are aware, 'Respect' is one of our school cornerstones and,

as such, integral to our ethos and all that we do. Never has there been a time when this cornerstone has been more relevant and central to school life. I continue to be so impressed by the way our students have adapted to a whole raft of changes to their daily routines since returning after the summer holiday – they have demonstrated their respect for many new rules which have had to be introduced and ensured that school has run as smoothly and as safely as possible during such unusual times. Moreover, they have shown great respect and kindness to one another, whether it be in the wearing of masks, socially-distancing or just appreciating being with each other again at school as friends. We have had many conversations as a staff body about the 'Covid-opportunity' for change and I am hopeful that some positives will flow from the current situation in which we find ourselves and that lessons learnt will make us all stronger in the future.

Enjoy reading this current edition.

Susan Service
Head teacher
Arts and Media School Islington



Artsmark Gold Award
Awarded by Arts Council England



Ms Stephanou
Creative Lead

I am pleased to announce that Arts and Media School has achieved the Artsmark Gold award. This has been awarded to AMSI from the Arts Council England.

Two years ago AMSI set out on a journey to develop Arts and Culture within the school and to embed creativity in every subject. We have come to the end of that first stage of

the journey and I would like to share with you the feedback from Arts Council England about our school:

(Contd P2)

Contd from P1

Arts & Media School Islington are to be commended for their ongoing commitment to arts and cultural activities for pupils. It is good to see how you are continuing to engage with over twenty partners including; Platform, Urdang Academy, Big Creative Education, Italia Conti, Barbican, Cubitt Art, Guildhall, Company 3, The London Ballet School for Boys, IntoUniversity and STEM, to name a few. This has helped to inform pupils of future career choices within the Arts and that 'creativity week' is

now a standing feature of your school calendar. You have also developed cross-curricular projects such as Global Warming, where students have built a large whale to represent the effect of plastic consumption on our oceans, which has helped to both enhance pupils' learning environment and understanding of these global issues.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff body that has helped to develop and embed

creativity across the whole curriculum. Without your hard work and dedication to our two year plan, this would not have been possible. Thank you also to all of the students that have been a part of this journey. Without your voice we would have not been able to make a difference to Arts and Culture at the school.

Congratulations on our Artsmark Gold Award!



Artsmark Gold Award
Awarded by Arts Council England

SEN



Ms Harris Mr Drake Ms Kyauka-Masawe Ms Esnard Ms Akighir Mr Owusu Ms Atkinson

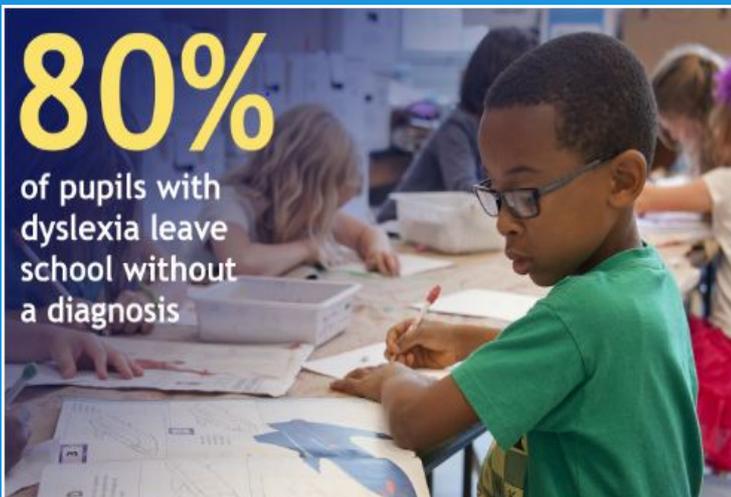
Homework Club

The Pupil Support team run a daily homework club. Students can use the laptops for independent study or get support from the team to complete their homework. Students can complete homework or do revision for any subject they study.

KS3 B105 Mon-Fri
2.15-3.00
KS4 B109/B210 Mon-Fri
3.10-4.00

Dyslexia Friendly Rooms

Dyslexia friendly classrooms Use pastel colours for backgrounds on interactive whiteboards, displays and computer screens. These colours have been found to be easiest for children with dyslexia to read. The most difficult to read is black print on a white background! Sans serif fonts (those fonts without the fiddly bits on the end of characters) are easier to read.



Science



Ms Taqvi Mr Mani Ms Ali Mr Duffy Ms Antwi Mr Willis

How wonderful it has been coming back and seeing all our budding scientists once again.

All our students have made every effort this term to complete all homework set, as well as cooperating fully with the science department to buy those essential books, which are needed for students to excel in science.

We are really excited to announce that we have started our GCSE course in Year 9, enabling students to cover the skills needed to pass the exams over a three year period instead of two.

All students are finding 'educake' interesting and as a result all students are completing homework set by their teachers.

Helpful websites for learning include

- <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage>
- <https://liftlessons.co/home-learning>
- <https://senecalarning.com/en-GB/>



English

"Absolutely riveting!"
—JASON REYNOLDS, bestselling coauthor of *All American Boys*

Students from all year groups were invited to apply for the position of AMSI Poet Laureate-2020-21. This is an exciting new role that has been created this academic year: the winner will have a pivotal role within our school community. Entrants were asked to write a poem around the theme of 'vision.' All entries will be anonymised and the winner will be selected by a staff vote. We are very excited to read the poems submitted by students- watch this space!

AMSI 2020-21
Poet Laureate

Year 10 Book Club

The Year 10 Book Club had their first meeting on October 5th, where students were given a copy of 'The Hate U Give' by Angie Thomas. The group will meet again after half term to discuss their interpretations of the book, and to explore how key scenes in the book compare to the film. The next book we will be reading is 'Children of Blood and Bone' by Tomi Adeyemi. Any students who wish to join should speak to Ms Ackerley, or their English teacher.



ANGIE THOMAS

Maths



The Maths department would like to recognise some [#AmsiMathsSuperstars](#) for their great start to term. We recognised students throughout school closures, and want to say well done to the below on a great start to term.

It was an impossible task for teachers to choose only one student from each class for #AMSINews shout out, well done to all and also to so many more who were shortlisted for a shout out - hopefully your name will appear next time!

Home learning

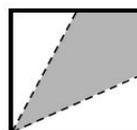
Maths teachers are continuing to set homework on Mathswatch, if there are any login issues, students should speak/email their teachers or please contact Ms Dattani (r.dattani@amsi.school).

Remember Homework Club is on everyday and is a great environment in which to complete your work with staff on hand to help if needed.



Monday Maths Challenge: Here is one you can try now.....

A security camera is placed in the corner of a square room and can detect burglars in the area shaded in the diagram. The two dashed lines from the corner go to the middle of each of the far sides.



What fraction of the area of the room is the shaded area?

- A $\frac{1}{4}$ B $\frac{3}{8}$ C $\frac{1}{2}$ D $\frac{5}{8}$ E $\frac{3}{4}$

If you have found the answers, email a picture of your working out to Mr Chowdhury (m.chowdhury@amsi.school).

Year 11

- Maria Sardinero
- Karina Sawa
- Merhawi Hadish
- Eyob Tesfaye
- Escobar Rojas Zoe
- Shanice Bartley
- Mohammed Mahamoud

Year 10

- Cameron Braddick
- Manhoso Matilde
- Jon Manuel Tapia Romero
- Magdalawit Leikun

Year 9

- Atif Miah
- Sebastian Toderascu
- Amegbe Gustava Xavion
- Adam Nassir
- Gulazar Yalcin

Year 8

- Taisa D'logo
- Carvalho-Silva Thallys
- Mohamed Latrem
- Precious Adedeyo

Year 7

- Jason Edwin
- Ayman Yusuf
- Maya Khadija
- May Watson
- Dominic Constant

Creative Arts



Mr Dow
Music



Ms Williams
Music



Ms Harris
Drama



Mr Khan
Drums



Ms Navardauskaite
Piano



Mr Pamaksys
Piano

Drama

The work that I have received from pupils during lockdown has been enjoyable to read and listen to. Highlights of the work include the performances of the prologue from *Romeo and Juliet* by Year 8 pupils and the recorded performances from *Blood Brothers* by a Year 10 pupil.

Drama work for Years 7, 8 and 9 is set on Google Classrooms every Thursday and pupils have been learning about theatre history,

theatre genres and evaluating live performances.

Drama work for 10A/Dr1 is set on Google Classrooms on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and drama work for 10B/Dr1 is set on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

I commend all the pupils, but especially the Year 10 pupils who have emailed me regarding the drama work and I welcome continued communication with these pupils, as well as future communication with

more pupils. Finally, the National Theatre and Globe Theatre are streaming past productions for free on their Youtube channel for us all to enjoy.

Ms Harris

[National Theatre](#)



[Globe Theatre](#)



Music



Please check out these amazing recordings from our 2020 leavers:

[Record Store Day](#)

Students at AMSI produced some fantastically creative music during lockdown. The range and quality of work was a wonderful testament to the musical talent that exists within our school community. Now that we are all back together, and faced with the 'new normal', I feel extremely proud to be working again with such genuinely musical students. Music really does, as Confucius once said, "produce a kind of pleasure that human nature cannot do without".

Our KS3 students are already working really hard to develop their keyboard skills in our Yamaha keyboard suite and students in KS4 are again getting to grips with their GCSE set works. I have been extremely impressed with the determination shown by all students to be technically skilled and musically mature. It is already very clear that the 'new normal' could produce the best year yet from AMSI's young musicians!

Information regarding instrumental lessons on violin, viola, cello, flute, piano, guitar, singing and drums will be available soon. As always, we expect these lessons to be extremely popular. We are all looking forward to welcoming our amazing team of tutors back to school very soon.

Music concerts at AMSI are exciting events that enable our students to demonstrate their incredible talents, their professionalism on a stage and their confidence in front of an audience. This year we will hold a series of online events so that you can hear the wonderful music that our students have been making. The first of these events, which coincided with "Record Store Day" on Saturday 24th October, was a celebration of the amazing compositions produced by our Year 11 students last year.

Mr Dow

Senior Leadership Team



Mr McLoughlin
Deputy Head

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you to underline some of our key expectations in keeping everyone in the school community safe, and minimise risk.

This academic year has been characterised by the systems and controls we have put in place to meet the challenge of preventing the spread of the coronavirus. All year groups are in bubbles, located on separate corridors, with separate outdoor spaces, and staggered dining sessions after thorough cleaning. We have been able to deliver a full curriculum, with every subject we would have taught pre Covid, still being taught in the same number of periods inside the Covid protections. In the secondary phase this has been achieved by teachers travelling to students, and teaching them in their bubble classrooms. Despite this, we are not a zero-risk environment, and I would ask

parents and carers to act on the important bullet points below, which enable us all to remain safe and for the school to remain open to students:

- Do not send your child to school if they, or anyone in the household, has coronavirus symptoms:
 - ❑ A new continuous cough
 - ❑ A high temperature or fever (37.8 or above)
 - ❑ A loss of normal sense of smell or taste
- You must ensure that your child has a face covering to wear in school. It is now mandatory that face coverings be worn in corridors, and indoor social areas, including the canteen, except when eating. Certain classrooms will also require students to wear face coverings during lessons.
- If any member of your household, or your child has a test, they should not come to school until their result has been received. You must inform the school immediately if you receive a positive test result for your child.

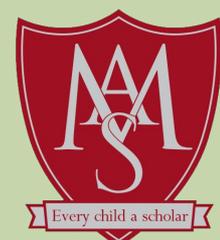
As the nights begin to draw in, I would ask parents to emphasize the expectation that students go

straight home at the end of the day. The reason why we have this rule is because all the statistics show that students are most vulnerable to crime and threats to their safeguarding and wellbeing on school days between 14:30 and 18:30 when they are between the authority of school and the authority of their parents - this issue is compounded during the winter months.

Working together, we can ensure that we minimise risk and ensure all students make the progress they require.



Please wear face masks



Meet the Staff

With Student Voice



Thomas Y8 S.V.

- **What are you looking forward to at the moment?**
Getting to know all the students in Year 8 and helping them achieve their goals and getting the best out of them.
- **How long have you been working at AMSI for?**
6 months.
- **What was the best thing that happened to you in 2020?**
The best thing that happened to me was to know my friend is getting married.
- **What's the most important thing we should know about you?**
The most important thing you should know about me is that I'm firm but fair.
- **What subject did you get your degree in?**
Sports Science.



Mr Badu: HOY 8



- **What are you currently reading or enjoying watching?**
Reading 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and watching football.
- **Which AMSI Cornerstone do think is most important and why?**
Respect because I think respect is the foundation of every human relationship.
- **Where did you grow up and go to secondary school?**
I grew up in Tottenham and I went to St Ignatius.
- **Who would play you in a biopic movie about your life?**
The person who would play me in a film is Michael B Jordan.
- **Why did you choose teaching as a profession?**
I love seeing young people achieve greatness. I hope I will be able to pass on my experiences to the young people.
- **Who is your favourite musician/band/performer of all time?**
Michael Jackson.
- **What single luxury item would you take with you to a desert island?**
I would take my son if I went to a desert island.
- **What is your favourite type of cuisine if you had to pick one?**
My favorite cuisines are Caribbean & Thai.



- **How would you describe yourself in one word?**
I would describe myself as Kind.
- **Tell us a joke?**
Two crisps were walking down the road. A car pulled up beside them and asks would you like a lift. The crisps replied "We're fine, we're Walkers."
- **If you could give your 16-year-old self, one piece of advice, what would it be?**
I would tell him that he should not stress about things and never give up.
- **What would your chosen 'superpower' be?**
My superpower would be to make sure every young person realize and achieve their fullest potential.
- **If you had to be a different nationality, which one would it be?**
I would be Canadian.
- **What is the worst job you have ever had?**
My worst job was working at a car wash.
- **What is your biggest fear?**
My biggest fear is to leave this earth without achieving what I was put on this earth to do.
- **Which word do you think you most overuse? 'Get To Class' or 'Relax'.**
- **A lazy beach holiday in Barbados or trekking in the Andes?**
I would laze about in Barbados.



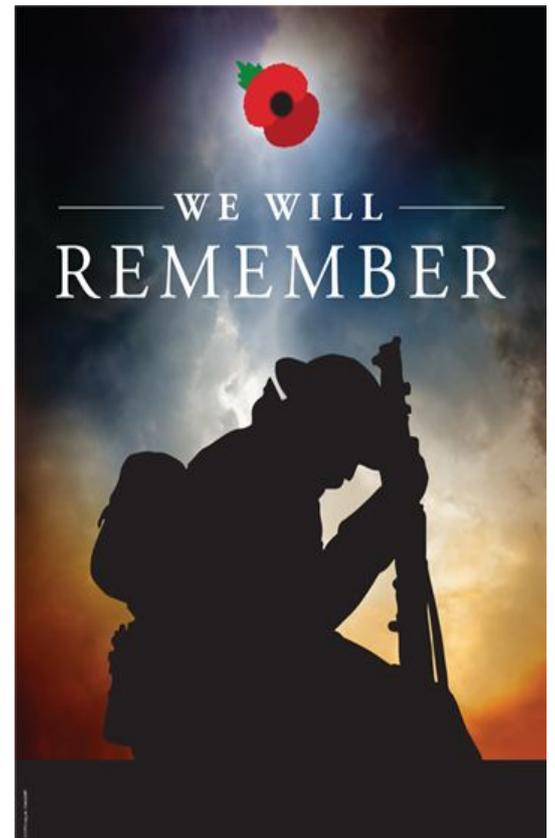
Respect Mr Badu! – aaand Relax.

Remembrance Day 11th November 2020



Arts & Media School
ISLINGTON

AMSI staff and students **reflect** together during two minutes of silence and pay our greatest **respects** to all of the brave men and women who lost their lives in conflicts past for our freedom.





Arts & Media School

ISLINGTON

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