In July of the summer holidays 2019, thirteen year old Savannah Geddes endured a spinal stroke which left her in hospital for 12 weeks. Medical professionals struggled to diagnose her at first until they were able to differentiate between the possibility of her condition being a spinal stroke or transverse myelitis.

During the summer Savannah was set to go out with her older sister Charlotte when she started to experience numbness in her legs. A few hours passed before she gained shooting pains. The pain in her back and legs worsened forcing mother Sue Geddes to call for an ambulance.

Savannah spent 12 difficult weeks in Sheffield Childrens Hospital (SCH) going through intense physiotherapy and learning how to walk again, after being paralysed from the waist down. Savannah said, “It was quite stressful being in hospital for 12 weeks but soon became close with the staff and they seemed like family.”

With the help of her supportive family Savannah, has started to make an amazing recovery. She has learned how to walk again, made extraordinary progress with the help of splints, returned home and is now able to attend school on a part-time basis to see her friends.

Savannah and her family have now gone on to raise money for the Children’s Hospital Charity and have raised approximately £4,000 so far with friends still helping to raise money with different events. A charity swim by Derek in August has already raised £3000 this month so by August more money will be raised for SCH. Family and friends have planned a few bingo dates this year at East Butterwick Village Hall. The dates are as follows: Easter Bingo 21st March, 25th April, 11th June, 12th September, Halloween Bingo 17th October, Christmas Bingo 20th November.

A 1960’s night helped and arranged by local businessman, David Whiteley, people have also sponsored Savannah. Back in November Savannah attended the Baths Hall for North Lincolnshire Community Champion Awards. She was nominated by her Mum, Sue for all the hard work and determination that Savannah has put into recovering and was awarded a Personal Courage Award. Savannah’s friend Jessica Keeton also attended the event and was awarded runner up for the Young Sports Achiever of the Year Award.

In the future Savannah has said that she hopes to be able to walk her dogs and go out with her friends like a normal teenager would. Another of her aspirations is to be able to return to school on a full time basis like all of her friends. Savannah’s family are extremely happy with the support from the school. Miss Harrison Savannah’s SENDCO teacher is doing everything possible to make Savannah’s life in school easier and weekly updates from teachers by Mrs Kaye is really supporting so thank you Axholme Academy for really caring.
Recently The Axholme Academy has signed up to a new online website for science which makes doing homework easy and effective. You can gain instant feedback from your teachers, set yourself revision tests and see how you are doing on all the topics.

The website has been very successful for a number of reasons; students enjoy using it and it’s very quick for both students and teachers to see what needs to be re-taught or what the students struggle with.

Two of our science teachers; Mrs Hall and Mrs Miriello went to an outstanding school in Sheffield called King Ecgberts. The school uses and has tremendous success with their SPi’s, so in other words students tend to meet their targets at the school so we went there to learn how we could improve our practice.

We interviewed two of our students in KS3; Katie L (Yr7) said, “It is a really good app to use for science and it helps you and will tell you if you are wrong. It helps with my homework because when I get them wrong it tells me the right answer and then I can use this knowledge in class.”

Mrs Bishop, Music teacher at the academy also hopes that this will be one of many opportunities for the academy to perform in the local and wider community.

Overall, this online app has thoroughly helped our school with science by making it easy and effective.

On 1st November from 12 noon until 8pm, six students from Years 7 -11 were invited to perform at the Crowle Food Festival. The event that took place in Crowle and was planned and organised by North Lincolnshire Council and was created for the community to enjoy and try the showcase of local food delights.

This is a new annual event and will next take place in the town centre of Scunthorpe which is free to attend.

Furthermore, whilst the students were entertaining the crowd with their Music, many delicious bites were on offer including: chocolate crepes, tasty yorkshire pudding wraps, freshly cooked stone baked pizzas, candy floss and much more.

The students that were involved were Jake, Lexi, Poppy, Lilly, Evie and Halle. All of which thoroughly enjoyed the event and hope to take part and perform in more opportunities like this.

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Overall, the food festival was a great success for the students at the academy and I hope that this will happen again in the future to develop the skills for performing arts at the school.

On the final day of school before the Christmas holidays most Y11 Separate Science students chose to do a science practical with Mrs Miriello instead of watching a film in the hall during Periods 3 & 4. This practical is called a ‘Titration’, whereby they neutralise an acid with an alkali. They have carried this required practical out before, but due to its complexity, they decided to do it again. The Y10’s set up the practical for the Y11 students during Period 1 and 2. Mrs Miriello stated, “This illustrates Y11 separate science students dedication to the Chemistry GCSE and it deserves a special mention in the AX NEWS.”

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I interviewed Summer W who said, “Educake is really good for your homework and has helped me a lot; if I don’t understand a question then I know to go online and watch videos about it.”

Mrs Miriello stated that “It was very easy to use and not too expensive; approximately just over £1 per student per year and that she would definitely recommend it to another school.”

Overall this online app has thoroughly helped our school with science by making it easy and effective.
The horrors of Auschwitz

On 29th November 2019, Mr Thorpe took twenty nine Year 9 and 10 students to Krakow, Poland to learn about the history of Auschwitz. This was an amazing opportunity for the students and they all learnt lots. Auschwitz is a concentration camp that held 1.3 million Jews, gypsies, and prisoners of war. At least 1.1 million people were killed at Birkenau, the death camp near Auschwitz. This is a very sad part of history but it is important that students learn about it.

Mr Thorpe, who ran the trip, told me, “This is our second trip to Poland, the last one was six years ago. We took 29 students with us and the staff who were myself, Mrs Hall and Mrs Gwyther.”

On the first day, we experienced a walking tour of Krakow, the city we were to a large number of Jewish people were sent to live their so we had a tour of the Jewish quarters and ended the day with a quick visit to the market. On the second day, we went to Auschwitz and Birkenau. On the third day we went to the Jewish museum, Galicia, dedicated to Jewish life. A Roma lady, who is a survivor of the camp, came to talk to us and we had a quick tour of the castle and cathedral. We finished with a bit of shopping at the Christmas market. The coach home from Auschwitz is always very quiet. The students are trying to process what they have just found out. When we met the Roma lady it put more human feelings into the whole situation, creating more emotion amongst the students. They were fascinated, they were horrified and they were scared; the trip will definitely stick in their minds.”

One Year 10 boy said, “The most interesting part was definitely the museum; it taught me lots. The only part I didn’t like were the photos in the museum; they were horrible as they showed what really happened. The market was my favourite part. I learnt loads on this trip and the horrors of the history really got to me.”

On 27th January 2020 was the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration and extermination camp ‘Auschwitz’. Lots of the survivors now highlight the horrors of the holocaust through visiting schools and educational school trips to Poland both of which the academy has experienced. Stories of the six million Jewish men, women and children who were brutally murdered by the Nazis will never be forgotten.

Axholme students in hot debate

By Evie Mander Casson

On the 23rd January, Mrs Spencer Hall took five students to the Baths Hall for the Great Debate that took place with secondary school students in the area.

There was a variety of students who came from different year groups. There was Elliot Y7, Roisin Y8 and myself, Melina Y9 and Ben Y9. The students who went are all on the Student Council and they all really enjoyed the event.

The event was split up into different parts. In the morning we went to workshops to learn about the things they debated about in the afternoon.

The first workshop we went to was about litter. Andy spoke to us about why we shouldn’t litter and we looked at what the meaning of littering really was. We discussed what we can do to stop people from littering and what companies can do to help.

The second workshop was about Positive Activities. Positive Activities is a place where you can find out what activities and clubs you can join outside of school. They do things like football, tennis and code club. Sophie spoke to us about different activities we can do and what we can do to get involved.

The third workshop educated us about drugs. Sgt James spoke to us about drugs like Cocaine, Ecstasy and Spice. We looked at why the drugs were illegal and what they do to the body. We also looked at how long you go to prison for when you deal or take illegal drugs.

The last workshop was about public transport; cars and the effect they have on the environment. Danny got us to look at ways that we could reduce the negative impacts cars and other means of transport have on the environment.

Then we started the debates. The first statement was “The government’s latest report says littering is largely about people’s behaviour change, but is there more to it than that?” There were lots of good points like it is only the person who dropped its responsibility and it is not just about thinking of what to do, but actually doing them. At the end the majority of votes went to disagreeing with the statement.

The second statement was “Are Legal Highs not illegal?” People said things like you don’t know what is in some of the drugs and that there is always a reason. When we voted most people believed that the main reason was that there are negative effects on the body.

The third statement was “Young people have places to go and lots of activities are available.” There was a balanced argument with people saying things like young people need to be more aware and some people don’t go because they can’t afford it. Overall, most people thought that the statement was correct.

The final statement was “Improving connectivity is always good.” People had mixed feelings on this. Some people said we should use electric cars and some people said that they were only good if the electricity was green too. At the end most people thought that the statement was wrong.

The students really enjoyed the event and they learnt loads and they all said they were glad they went.
Welcome, Mr Bennett

By Megan Mackay

In September, Mr Bennett, the new Assistant Principal joined the Academy as our new leader of Safeguarding - making sure no one is hurt or at risk and...Inclusion - he monitors behaviour and attendance. He also teaches English and History and he does so many other things as well. Mr Bennett believes very strongly in an inclusive philosophy of education - he told me that he would like to ensure every child possible leaves this school with the appropriate qualifications.

I asked Mr Bennett what he thought of the school and he replied “I think that the school has great values and passionate staff. The students have great potential and are developing an amazing attitude to learning.”

Mr Bennett told me that he has worked with behaviour for well over a decade. He said that he has worked in very challenging places in the past. When I asked him how he dealt with behaviour he said, “I deal with all students as individuals and with respect. When someone has done something wrong they must accept the consequences and restore trust through understanding their own impact.” When asked about rewarding good behaviour he said, “The important thing is to remember that almost all students that behave well every day - so any system must be inclusive.”

In Mr Bennett’s previous school he received the 2017 National Anti-Bullying Week Teacher of the Year Award in the House of Lords and a personal letter of commendation from HRH Prince William. The ‘Power for Good’ Award is a competition which takes place every year to reward teachers, support staff and youth workers who go above and beyond to support and nurture students. The award is presented to staff that take care of issues like bullying, mental health and family life.

Mr Bennett said, “I am deeply proud of the award since I was nominated by students - those things always mean the most to teachers.”

I spoke to Felicity C in Year 9 about what she thought of Mr Bennett - here is what she had to say: “I like the way Mr Bennett teaches...he involves us all and makes sure no one is left out. We do fun things like acting...he always makes sure we know what we are learning.”

Both students and staff have welcomed Mr Bennett into the school and into our community. We all hope that Mr Bennett will stay with us for a long time to improve this school and make sure all students reach their full potential.

Brave lifestyle winner undergoes surgery

By Megan Mackay

Year 7 student Georgina Healer underwent spinal surgery to straighten her spine and she fought through it while taking part in Lifestyle 2019 with her two friends; Faith and Mia.

Lifestyle is a competition run by Humberside Police which allows youngsters the chance to showcase the differences they can make in their local communities, whilst building key skills such as team work, problem solving and communication and presentation skills.

Georgina and her friends spent time with the residents at Green Acers Care Home, Fieldside, Crowle. They helped the elderly play bingo and spent time talking to them at the care home. She helped out at the local charity shop, (Crowle Regen Shop).

The Jimmy Foundation was their chosen charity and it was Faith and Mia who raised the money by helping to organise a garden party, selling cakes etc. and singing, whilst Georgina was in hospital undergoing spinal surgery which showed great teamwork and organisation.

The girls were informed in early October that there had been well over 500 entries and the girls had been selected as one of three teams competing for the main prize of a trip to South Africa. They then had to go to the Hull Police Station to do a 10 minute presentation in front of a judging panel of five who would decide the winner to be announced at the Lifestyle awards night at the Hull Bonus Arena. This is when they found out that they had won first prize and proved ‘it does pay to be kind’ and this shows kindness can get you far in life.

I spoke to Georgina’s Mum about her spinal surgery and lifestyle competition. She said, “Whilst Georgina was in surgery I was so worried, yet so proud of how strong she was.”

When asked whether she thought Georgina could win she said “As a parent you hope that they win and try to prepare them for not winning, just in case they don’t.”

Georgina and her friends came first in the senior group and won an all-expenses paid trip to South Africa! The other prizes on offer were, a trip to Disneyland Paris, UK adventure holidays, days out at Flamingo Land plus many more.

Overall, Georgina did an amazing job on her lifestyle project with the support of her team and was strong as she went through spinal surgery at the same time. That is an amazing achievement and both her and her family should be very proud.

When they go to South Africa they are staying at Kruger National Park which is the largest game reserve in South Africa. They are doing game drives to spot the “Big 5” (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino and buffalo) along with other wild animals. They will be spending time in an Elephant Sanctuary, where they get the chance to wash feed and play with baby elephants.

The girls are continuing to do good by collecting items to donate to a children’s orphanage called the Carl Sithole Orphanage which they will be visiting. They will be taking items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, wash items, colouring pencils, writing pads as well as taking lots of sanitary products as that is something they don’t have as a rule at the orphanage.

We look forward to writing about their experiences and publishing the photos in the summer edition of the AX NEWS.
European Day of Languages

By Freya Gamble

On 24th September, Miss Garland went to Crowle Primary school and St Norbert’s Catholic Voluntary Academy to educate the Year 6 pupils about the European Day of Languages, which was on the 26th September.

She educated them on why different languages are there and why they are very important. She also spoke about why learning a language is beneficial for your future life.

They looked at different phrases in other languages and did a quiz about other countries. Many fun activities took place during the day; Miss Garland played different games with the pupils related to languages and countries and worksheets to help educate pupils further.

She stated, ‘It was a huge success because it gave the pupils confidence in their language learning.’ She thinks it got the children excited about language learning and that it is a great opportunity to show off their linguistic skills and knowledge of countries and languages. It also gives the children an introduction to secondary school and makes them ask questions about what we do at The Axholme Academy.

This also helps to strengthen knowledge on languages so that they are more prepared for The Axholme Academy and have a familiar face when they come to our school.

Children In Need

By Freya Gamble & Tiahna Marshall

On 15th November, the Academy held a fundraising event for students to raise money towards Children In Need. The day involved many activities for the students that took place throughout the day. The day was organised by The Academy Council who came up with various ideas for the day including raffles, a bake sale and non-uniform day for the students if you make a £1 donation. Many of the staff contributed £2 towards the duck race for Children In Need; two of our teachers, Mrs Cox and Mrs Gwyther each won £10 as their sponsored duck Beakwell Tart won the duck race. This money went to Children In Need for fundraising.

Our Head Boy and Girl (Jacob D and Grace K) both agreed that the day was a huge success. They both helped a great amount running the cake stall and organising the events. They would both recommend other students getting involved with another fundraiser like it next year. Our Head Boy said ‘it was one of the busiest bake sales held at school and they would definitely recommend doing this again next year’.

There were two competitions organised by the School Council. The first was a cake competition; the winner of this competition was Freya G (in Year 8) with her pudsey cake who won a box of heroes. There was the opportunity to win a chocolate hamper; the winner of this was Neo N (in Year 8) as he chose the winning square on the board.

Overall we raised £315.50 and the school council decided to donate the money between Children In Need, the local flood appeal and the school fund. The money raised for Children in Need will help change children’s lives all around the country. The money put towards the local flood appeal helps flood victims recover from the flood and money for our school fund helps to get better equipment and provide a better learning experience for the students. These contributions help us to make a difference for children all around the country.

Mrs Spencer-Hall said, “Children in Need is an excellent way for the students to engage in leading, planning and getting involved in fundraising for some excellent causes. This year’s decision to split the proceeds only serves to demonstrate the generosity and benevolence of our students.”

Triathlon

By Freya Gamble

The 7 Lakes Bar and Restaurant Axholme North Triathlon was a roaring success in August 2019, thanks to the Academy and the local community for helping to make the day special for all the participants. We are pleased to announce that the event is back for 2020, but in stereo. We have two events this year: 17th May and 6th September.

Both events are pool sprints and are available for entry for anyone aged 15 or over. The bike course will take you out to Eastoft and back, before a looped run through Crowle and finishing at the Academy. The triathlon will consist of a 400m swim, 22 km bike and a 5 km run.

Entry is £30 for Axholme residents and students. Perhaps the staff could enter a team and take on a team of students; there will be a special trophy to win. Look out for posters and more information at the academy or speak to Mrs Collins who will be taking part in the triathlon and if you are under 15 there is an option of the Junior Park Run which Miss Collins hopes to discuss in assemblies later on this year.

For more information visit: Facebook.com/animisracing or Instagram.com/animisracing, 07790000166 or 07875005229

Tom Crow, who took part in the 2019 Triathlon

More details about the event.
School walk raises lots of money

By Lily Jackson

On Friday the 27th September 2019, 599 academy students from Year 7-11 went on a 5 mile walk whilst accompanied by some staff members. This is an annual event that helps raise money for the school fund every year which supports the children’s education. The walk takes all the students around parts of Crowle; it is also estimated that most students complete the walk within 2 hours.

When all of the students finished the walk, they were able to purchase a cake and a drink in the main hall as the academy was hosting its annual Macmillan Coffee Morning which family members and the community were also invited to attend.

Ellie (Y7) said: “I liked going on the walk because you get to meet new people.”

Grace (Y7) also said: “I loved the Macmillan morning because you got to bond and eat with family and friends!”

The students who participated got a sponsor form to fill out; with three of our students raising the most money: Benjamin Elstub-Guest (Y9) raising £90, Rhys Booth (Y7) raising £70 and Harry Garbutt (Y7) who raised £50.

Benjamin Elstub-Guest said: “I got the Sponsor Form and my dad took it to his office to get all of his friends to sign the paper and donate money.”

Rhys Booth also said: “I had to do different activities to earn the sponsor money for the school.”

Finally, Harry Garbutt said: “I would like to do it again next year and raise double the amount of money I got this year!”

I have spoken to Miss Harrison who organised the event and I started by asking her, How long have you been doing this event?

Miss Harrison replied: “I have been doing this event for 12 years.”

Why did you decide to do this event?

“It was originally for school funds for school opportunities and to do different things.”

What are your favourite things about this event?

“My favourite part was seeing everybody being happy and being a community.”

What did you like about Macmillan Coffee Morning?

“I liked Macmillan morning because it allows us to raise money for an important charity!”

Overall, the Sponsored Walk was a great success and we will hopefully raise more money next year.

Dancing star Ruby wins an award

By Lily Jackson

Ruby Holmes is a street beat, hip hop, break dancer in Year 7 who goes to competitions around Europe with her team ‘Street Beat Elite’ and her partner Lewis.

The team trains at Doncaster Dome on a Saturday from 10:30am until 4:30pm. The team consists of young people aged between 10 and 16 years of age and were selected as one of the top 10 dance groups in the North to compete in the regional finals. This incredible girl has been dancing for around 6 years and started when she was only 5 years old!

Ruby Holmes and her team have recently competed in a competition called ‘Fresh’ and the first part of the competition was held in Doncaster and as a result of this they went on to win a competition called U.Dance which took place in London.

They also qualified for a breaking convention and will be going to dance on tour with them this year. Ruby was placed 2nd in the Young Choreographers Awards and she also received an award for overall talent in funk styles.

The group also won a Community Championship Award – ‘Young Arts Heritage Achiever of the Year’ at the Baths Hall last year.

Ruby Holmes has spoken to me and she has said: “I watched one of my cousins in a dance show and then I was really into it.” She also has said, “If I could change one thing I would change one of my lessons to be a flexibility lesson because everyone in my team needs to work on strength.”

GCSE revision pod is online for you

By Lily Jackson

We are delighted to announce that the Axlholme Academy has recently invested in GCSEPod, the award-winning digital content and revision provider used by over 1,250 schools worldwide.

As a subscriber, your child now has access to GCSEPod’s library of over 6,000 ‘Pods,’ 3-5 minute videos designed to deliver knowledge in short bursts. GCSEPod makes learning and revision much more manageable: every Pod is mapped to an exam board, and contains all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success – all neatly organised into topics and exam playlists.

One of the best things about GCSEPod is that you can download any Pod to your child’s mobile device, and then they can watch them at any time, in any place, with or without internet. It’s like they’re carrying a whole set of textbooks in their pocket! Make sure you download the GCSEPod app from the App Store (Apple and Android are supported) to access this feature.

GCSEPod also has the ability to identify knowledge gaps and automatically send playlists to help fill them. After completing any homework set on GCSEPod, your child will get a personalised ‘Boost Playlist’ of Pods relevant to their identified areas of weakness. We strongly suggest you encourage your child to review these playlists regularly as this will speed up their progress.

We recommend that you talk about GCSEPod with your son or daughter – check that they’ve successfully activated their account and encourage them to make use of this amazing resource throughout their GCSE’s. Once they’ve activated their account, they can browse the GCSEPod library and create their own playlists – just as they would when they’re listening to music.

For more ways to support your child using GCSEPod, please visit www.gcsepod.com/parents where you’ll find lots more information and resources.
By Miss Robinson (Head of Maths)

Thirteen students took part in the NLEC Nightclub Maths event at Frederick Gough on Wednesday 5th February after school. Split into four groups they took on the higher ability students from Frederick Gough, St Bede’s and John Leggott College. All four groups from The Axholme Academy did exceptionally well and demonstrated their ability to answer the hardest of the GCSE maths questions in a relay event; they were a credit to the school!

Grace Kaye, Charlotte Elliott and Darcey Ford narrowly missed first place by 4 marks gaining a well-deserved second place.

After the competition, they were treated to a lecture by David Tulley from the Advanced Mathematics Support Program to be introduced to the joys of A-Level maths. Ethan Deatley and Jacob Dunstan stole the show by assisting in the game of “Greedy Pigs” where, at the last minute, Jacob came from nowhere to win the game showing pure determination.

All students said how much they had enjoyed the event, especially the pizza and curly fries at the end.

### Player of the Match 2019/20

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<th>DATE</th>
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<td>Year 11</td>
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<td>Baygarth</td>
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<td>Lucy Hamilton</td>
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Ax News team on campus for the latest edition

Rhys Booth Y7, Halle Sturdy Y7, Lily Jackson Y7, Megan Mackay Y7, Shona Dobbs - Wilson Y7, Cadence Ashall Y8, Evie Mander-Casson Y8, Danny Dawson Y8, Beatrice Rudd Y8, Tobias Toth-Plumtree Y8, Freya Barnes Y8, Jack Fletcher Y8, Freya Gamble Y8, Bethany Parkes Y9, Felicity Collett Y9 (not present)
Students develop resilience

“We are all better than we know. If only we could be brought to realise this, we may never again be prepared to settle for anything less” by Kurt Hahn (Founder of Outward Bounds)

At the beginning of December nineteen students travelled to Wales for a week of adventure to the Aberdovey Outward Bound Centre.

The group set off early from school on the coach and arrived at the centre at about 2pm which was an hour late because of a diversion. Once we arrived and were allocated to our rooms and were split into two groups and introduced to our Group Leaders.

We went to the diner and chose what we were eating on the expedition that took place in the middle of the week. Our meal consisted of food in a foil pouch. Down at the beach we were told that we were doing a jog and a dip which entailed running down the beach and dipping underwater as a group linking arms. Honestly, it was amazing. The water was so cold it took our breath away! We quickly jumped out and got in the minibus so we could jump in the shower and get warm. After we had eaten we went and got head-torches and went down to the beach again in the dark to explore the sand dunes and went rolling down a hill which was fun but not in all cases because Kaden W went face first into a hill of sand.

Tuesday morning started with a team building exercise and after that we went on a 30 minute minibus ride to go canoeing. The Group Leader taught us all the basics in the two person canoes; how to turn left or right, etc. It took around three hours to get back to the beach which was tiring and some of the staff and students fell out of their canoes which made everyone laugh. When we got back from canoeing we did a canoe slide which is basically running into the sea and swim back to shore. This was in waterproof clothes and step off a really high jetty into the sea and swim back to shore. This was in waterproof clothes and step off a really high jetty.

The afternoon was spent back down at the beach where the next challenge took place. A jetty jump and power boat ride. We had to wear waterproof clothes and step off a really high jetty into the sea and swim back to shore. This was in waterproof clothes and step off a really high jetty into the sea and swim back to shore. This was in December! This was then followed by a ride in a large motorised dinghy boat and then swam back to shore. This was really challenging as it was so cold but we all succeeded in completing the challenge. We were rewarded with hot chocolate and a well-deserved sleep after such a long day.

Our final challenge was Jacob’s Ladder. This is a series of wooden beams stretching into the sky, each beam spaced further apart than the last. This was really difficult but using the skills we had learnt throughout the week we were able to conquer the task!
Salvation Army’s appealing toy appeal!

By Danny Dawson

After last year’s successful Christmas Food Bank collection, The Academy held a Salvation Army Toy Appeal during the lead up to the Christmas holidays. Students and staff gave new toys, or donated some money so the school could buy gifts for families less fortunate than us during the holiday season. We received a large amount of donations, enough to fill 5 large boxes, one for each age group, and a total of £67.70 to spend on toys for children.

This involved Santa and his helpers (Year 11 students) visiting form groups at a time to collect any donations of money or toys. Any donated toys were wrapped up paper, by our army of elf helpers, ready to be taken by the Salvation Army in time for Christmas.

I asked Mrs Parkinson about the toy appeal and she answered, “We were absolutely thrilled with the donations. Normally, people mainly provide for the younger ages, but a large amount of gifts for all ages were collected. It was a very positive outcome, and we are sure to do it again in the future.”

The Salvation Army was very pleased with the donations and money collected. Let’s hope we receive just as many donations next year!

Thank you for your generosity. Charles Dickens would be proud to see the influence that his novella, A Christmas Carol, still has on our hearts at Christmas.

Fabulous flags for a fabulous isle

By Danny Dawson

Mrs Childs was recently approached by Councillor John Briggs to design a new flag for the Isle Of Axholme. A prize will be given to the winning design which will become the official flag for the Isle.

Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 have been told in Art to design their flags with a certain criteria. It must make reference to the number seven, as this is the number of parishes within The Isle Of Axholme. Students began by decoding various flags of the world and learning about the symbolism within them. It must not show any numbers or letters, as flags are designed to be accessible to every language as they are a visual symbol. It must also not show any trademarks or brands due to copyright laws. Despite these restrictions, students have created unique, interesting and amazing flag designs.

I asked some of the team what they did for their designs. Megan replied, “For my flag, I represented the seven Parishes by including seven chains in a link. To represent the agriculture, I drew a Fleur De Lys in the centre of the flag.”

Tobi said, “I drew seven sheaves of barley and seven branches coming off a tree, with a star coming off each end. To represent religion, I drew a cross; to represent the area of North Lincolnshire, I drew the Fleur De Lys in one of my four corners of my flag. To represent wealth in agriculture, I drew a shining diamond and, as mentioned before, the seven sheaves of barley.”

A firm favourite was the flag of Nepal with its unique shape. I also asked Mrs Childs about the flag competition. She responded, “The previous flag has been representing the Isle of Axholme for about 35 years, and they felt it was time for a change. I enjoyed seeing the diversity of the ideas the students came up with and what they personally felt was important to the Isle.”

Cllrs Briggs and Reed visited the academy at the end of January and together with Mr Keogh shortlisted the flags. A meeting will take place with Cllrs Mitchell and Robinson (Axholme Central) and Cllrs Attock and Rose (Axholme South) to view the shortlisted flags and the selection will be made for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners of the flag competition.

We will update you with winning results and their designs in the summer edition of the AX NEWS.
**NLC roadshow comes to Axholme**

By Shona Wilson-Dobbs

The North Lindsey Roadshow took place in early November when staff and students from the college visited the academy and set up stalls in the main hall and showcased what the college has to offer. Mrs Dodge who is the Career Coordinator organised this amazing annual event.

There was a range of activities to get involved with in the main hall such as Animal Handling, Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy, Sport, Engineering, Building and Music.

The students explored new subjects during this event which was open to Year 7 through to Year 11.

Year 7’s went to Period 1 and then they had to wait outside the main hall in form groups.

In the Animal Handling students were encouraged to hold spiders, snakes and stick insects and there were bugs inside a PVC case.

In the Animal Handling students were also encouraged to hold spiders, snakes and stick insects and there were bugs inside a PVC case.

At the Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy stall there were leaflets for you to take away with lots of useful information. There were mannequin heads available for students to practice styling and braiding.

The sport section you could throw the ball at the wall and they would count how many you could catch in one minute. You could see how strong your weakest hand was and how strong you are in general.

The engineering section had a VR headset which simulated welding to pieces of metal together. Joshua C (year 7) got the highest score on the engineering task.

On the building project you had to build a house and a roof out of wood there was an instructor there to help you if you needed it.

The North Lindsey Roadshow was a great success and has inspired students with their further education plans once they leave the academy.

**Summer dances her way to victory**

By Shona Wilson-Dobbs

Summer Donkin in Year 7 came to the attention of the AX NEWS following her performance at the Christmas Concert. She impressed everybody and everyone looked mesmerised as she was dancing. Summer Donkin goes to classes to improve her dancing and her teacher, Jayne Burnett at La-Danza Studio in Scunthorpe helped her create that amazing dance routine.

Summer has been dancing for the last five years and started dancing solo until she started dancing with her sister Paige in an all-girl couple which she danced as a boy; they split up last year after finishing third in the juvenile league and had the honour of representing England in the Junior British Championships last April.

She said that she wanted to do it to impress her family and do something to show passion; she wanted to be her true self.

She has specific rules to follow in competitions such as NO sparkles and ALWAYS have parallel feet. There are many other rules that they have to follow or they may be disqualified.

She spends over a £100 on her costumes, makeup and getting her hair done during the year. For dances, she has to wear leotard dresses and dancing shoes.

Summer’s next big competition is The All England Open Championships at the famous Blackpool Tower in February 8th which with which she is training hard for and hopes to do very well. Summer is also currently ranked U12 Classical.

Summer shows off her winning trophies

Solo number one in the country and sits top of the DPA (Dance Promoters’ Association) Classical League.

She now is at a professional level which is a huge accomplishment. She wants a chance to explore dance and wants to become a champion dancer. She wants to impress her family and show to the world that she is a fantastic dancer. We wish summer all the best of luck for the next stage of the competition!

**Festive fayre is really fun**

By Freya Barnes

Every year the school holds its annual Christmas Fayre which brings the community together for a festive event. All the forms have a stall, and independent businesses can rent spaces and sell their produce. This year the event was held on Wednesday the 18th December. The stalls can host games or sell products. Snacks like cakes and drinks were sold in the diner, along with a pizza van that came and sold wood-fired pizzas outside the school building, which was very popular.

One of the stalls run by Mr Liddle’s form had you picking a number out of a bag and looking to see if your number matched one of the numbers on the sheet; if so you could win some prizes! The cost to play this game was 20p and one of the helpers was Imogen B who is in year 8. She said she decided to take part in the Christmas Fayre because ‘I thought it was a good opportunity to interact with others and I wanted to help out.’

I also asked Emogen did you find it fun and why? She answered saying ‘Yes it was fun because I felt like I was in charge and enjoyed watching people have fun at our stall’

The Christmas Fayre also hosted other stalls like Name the Snowman run by Miss Garland, card tricks run by Mr Thompson and lots more!

I asked Mrs Cox what her favourite stall was at the event? She said that ‘The golf has always been popular every year, but my personal favourite was the photo booth!’

I finally asked Mrs Cox if she thinks the event has improved and she replied saying ‘Yes it improves year on year as we try to make the event bigger and better each time’

The school managed to raise £1404.85 and we would like to thank some local companies for donating prizes for our fayre, thank you ‘7 Lakes Country Park’, ‘Tesco’, ‘Co-op’, ‘Parkin butchers’ and ‘Asda’.

Overall I think that the Christmas fayre was amazing and super fun for students and parents! I would definitely go again!
On the 20th/21st November 2019, 28 Year 10 students left the academy at 10:45am destined for two days in London with Mrs Childs and Mrs Bishop on the train. They arrived at King's Cross Station, London at 1:44pm. This art/music residential trip is an annual event where students are able to take photos and notes to inform their coursework for their GCSE exams.

As this was an art and music trip the itinerary was based around visits to the Royal Academy Of Art (Antony Gormley exhibition) which began by visiting a retrospective of Antony Gormley work at the RA. Students were overwhelmed by the sheer scale of the work and were excited to explore the exhibition. The students went to see The School Of Rock Musical at the Gillian Lynne Theatre; this was a great experience helped along by lots of sweets and slush. The students experienced outdoor ice skating at Natural History Museum - this was a magical experience. After all this fun students were very hungry and feasted at Nando's, Pizza Union and, of course, McDonald's!

I asked Mrs Childs what her favourite part of the trip was and she replied with, “My favourite part was the ice skating and the musical, which was really fun.”

I spoke to Jason who said, “This was my second trip with the academy and I enjoyed mixing with my friends. The best part of the visit was the Natural History Museum as it was interesting learning about the animals past and present. It was the first time I had been to a musical which I enjoyed as my first experience. I was better at ice skating than I thought I would be. The Antony Gormley exhibition which focuses on the human form will help with my artwork and help me to progress in my art exam as it is based around sculpture.”

Holly Tighe is a 14 year old ice-skater who has recently made the great achievement of qualifying for the ice-skating British Championships and the Great Britain ice-skating squad.

Holly began skating when she was 9 years old and has developed a great passion and talent for the sport ever since she started. Holly trains multiple times a week and this includes gruelling early mornings and after school. Due to her major commitment to the sport, Holly is able to participate in many competitions around the country and spends a majority of her free time on the rink. Holly has been skating for 4 years and has already managed to qualify for the British Championships and the Team GB ice-skating squad. To qualify, on average, would take a few years but Holly managed to accomplish this in her first attempt.

Holly is already competing across the country but as one of her next goals she wants to be able to compete internationally. At the moment Holly is in a season that does not require any competitions but that doesn't mean that Holly spends and less time on the ice. Holly told us that she “Cannot wait for the competition season to come around again and get back into competing.” Holly in one of her most recent competitions, which took place in Dundee, Scotland, did so well that she managed to get a place on the podium after competing which she was really proud about.

For Holly’s future competitions she is having a new dress custom made to go with her new routine. Holly has been able to have her input in the dress and how she would like it designed. She would like a dress which will remind her of an angel; in the colours blue and white and very sparkly to stand out in the lights of the ice-rink. Holly’s dress is being made by a professional tailor, Amanda Hebrow, who will hopefully be able to make Holly’s vision a reality. Holly has set herself many goals for her future in ice-skating and is looking forward to hopefully being able to accomplish them.
DoE is worth the challenge

By Harry Griffiths

My Duke of Edinburgh expedition experience was certainly surprising. Our expedition was on the last weekend in September; my group consisting of six students had to deal with constantly inconsistent weather from the moment that the trip started.

My group didn’t get lost for most of the trip; this was very good as during our practice expedition we went slightly off track and as such extended our journey quite dramatically.

On our real expedition however we only became a bit confused when we travelled off the side of the map which only delayed us by ten minutes while we got our bearings and continued towards the campsite.

Throughout our journey we had to create a photo diary of our trip according to our specific theme and so our group chose the theme of “Hiding”. This would give us chance to better explore the environment around us and have a chance to capture the landscape while hiding within it; giving us a better experience to the trip. Our photo diary was part of our PowerPoint presentation that we had to create towards our award.

When we arrived at our campsite we set up our tents relatively quickly because of the impending rain and then proceeded to start our cooking.

In the morning everyone felt awful because of the torrential rain overnight which had managed to wet most people’s possessions even within the tents. Our group set off relatively on time after having breakfast.

The expedition isn’t the only part of the award; we had to complete a skill, volunteering section and a physical activity for 3 to 6 months. Without these sections there is no point in doing the expedition as this is also what you are assessed on.

Overall the Duke of Edinburgh award is an amazing opportunity and gives you both skills and experiences that are invaluable in today’s world and I believe that everyone should attempt the challenge.

Year 10 & 11 enjoy visit with celebrated artist Ian Murphy

Ian Murphy is a celebrated Paper Artist who uses paper manipulation techniques to create intricate drawings. He travels all over the world to deliver exciting workshops to students of all nationalities.

On January 8th the Year 10 and 11 GCSE Art/Textile students were involved in an all day workshop with the artist. They began by looking at his work which sells for thousands of pounds. Following this he showed students how to distress the paper and use specialist materials such as graphite powder to create interesting effects.

Jason, who was one of the students who took part in the workshop, explained in detail what took place during the day and what he had learnt.

During the morning Ian Murphy got the students to tear strips of paper which were glued into place on A3 paper along with tissue paper which was left to dry. Sandpaper and ink powder was then used to distress the drawing to make it look old. After lunch the techniques the students had learnt were put into practice; Jason created a multi layered textural drawing of an old stone wall.

Jason concluded that he had learnt lots of new techniques and found the workshop helpful as he will be able to use lines and specialist materials in the future to create landscapes and still life compositions.

Year 8 get artistic with classic novel

By Freya Barnes

Recently, Year 8’s started a new topic in English: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. They have been learning about the choices of language and the two sides of Dr Jekyll. The students have got artistic and made a scene from the book through cardboard boxes, and decorated with paint and different materials.

“The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde” is a book published on 5 January 1886 and set in the 1890’s (The Victorian Era) in London. The book is about a good man who is a doctor called Dr Jekyll and an evil, bad, mysterious man called Mr Hyde. A quick summary of this story is Dr Jekyll dreams about a potion that we could live both lives, a good life and a bad one, he splits himself into two; two extremes. Soon Jekyll realises he can not take control of Mr Hyde and decides to end Mr Hyde’s life and his own.

Year 8’s have read the summary of this story and some extracts from the full text, then the teachers have chosen to get their students creative and re-create a scene from Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. Students could have chosen a range of scenes; The first Victim of Mr Hyde, Dr Jekyll leaving all his belongings to Mr Hyde, Dr Jekyll disappears from the outside world.

I spoke to Megan M, in 8R and she said “I loved this topic it was very different to any other English topic we have done in the past; I really enjoyed recreating the scenes because it was really fun and I got to work with my friends!”

When I asked her why it was different from previous topics her response was “We normally read books and evaluate them, but this was different; we brought our creative skills into it which was really fun.”

Finally I asked Megan, What her favourite part of the story was, here is what she said, “The part where Dr Jekyll slammed the window shut as he was beginning to change into Mr Hyde, because it left me wondering what was happening to Dr Jekyll.”

Year 8’s have now finished creating their scenes from this story but they are still digging deeper into this book and this creative piece of work. They now understand the book a lot more, making the scenes has really helped to see the book through a different perspective and learning more each day!
Welcome Miss Underwood

By Rhys Booth

Since September, the PE department has had a new member of staff, Miss Underwood, who teaches the girls in all year groups and is covering Mrs Winder who is on maternity leave. Miss Underwood runs numerous lunchtime clubs such as netball and a dance club and is taking a very forward roll in extra activities for students. Miss Underwood also takes girls to sporting fixtures after school.

I spoke to Lily Jackson in Year 7 and she explained that Miss Underwood is seen as a very honest and reasonable teacher; she is fun to talk to and when someone needs help, she helps them to improve and get better. Miss Underwood started her job at the academy at the beginning of September. I spoke to Miss Underwood regarding her job role and this is what she answered. She had heard lots of great things about this school especially the PE department and as soon as she came to have a look around she instantly liked the school. She also explained that her passion is PE and always has been since she was young. Miss Underwood loves working with young people and helping them excel in their education and she especially loves working with those with the mindset that say to themselves ‘I can’t do it’. Miss Underwood explained why she likes working at this school. She loves the staff that she works with at the TAA especially Mr Beesley and Miss Harrison, and loves meeting the students and building good relationships with them but also that she gets to know the students individually. The improvements for the PE Department is that the dance club Miss Underwood has just started would like to increase in numbers, have students attending from year groups 7-11 and to have both boys and girls and put on a showcase so parents and carers can come and watch. Her personal goals are to deliver high quality lessons to make the students motivated and challenge themselves and make herself a role model to all students and also to those who wish to be teachers in the future.

Miss Underwood currently runs 4 clubs throughout the week at lunchtimes. One is netball for Year 7, 8 and 9 who are working hard to develop their netball skills to help them in netball fixtures against other schools.

Miss Underwood coaches the girls team in PE and she loves to see them developing in the activities she sets them to do. She thinks it is great to see the girls really enjoying themselves in PE and to see their competitive personalities shine’. The PE department have been very busy with many sporting fixtures taking place since September.

Year 7 rugby stars win!

This tournament that the Academy took part in was held at Heslam Park, Scunthorpe. These teams were a real challenge for us. The date of the tournament was Tuesday 15th October. The students who participated were Liam (Captain), Mckenzie, Louie B, Ashton, Jake, Oliver, J.J. Oliver, Rhys, Mason and Finley. The teams we played were Winterton Community Academy, Outwood Community Academy, Brumby Academy was the hardest of them all and as they were the winners. There was a sudden silence from all school teams before Keith Robinson came to speak and announce the winners. There was a great shock from all the players as Keith Robinson said the winners were The Axholme Academy. All the students went crazy as they heard this fabulous news. Liam Adams (Captain) held the trophy up into the air and all the students cheered in victory.

Year 8 joint first in competition

The Academy took part in a North Lincolnshire rugby tournament at Heslam Park, Scunthorpe. The date of this event was Tuesday 8th October. The student who received man of the tournament from the school was Thomas Clay because of how well he played on the night.

I spoke to Thomas Clay who explained that he joined the rugby team because it was his passion and that he has played for school for a year and as well as the school team he plays for Scunthorpe RUFC. He also enjoys playing for the school team because he is having fun but he is also taking part with his friends.

We came joint first with Brumby Academy. We played 3 matches, 2 of which we won and the last match was a draw. This last match against Brumby Academy was the hardest of them all and as they were the champions for a couple of years this was a pleasure for the academy and a joy to become joint champions with this school team.
Improving the academy

Since our return in September, there have been many new improvements made to the school. These improvements include work being started on a new science laboratory, a new roof, work done on our heating system and the carpet in the corridor has been replaced as well as ICT1 that has been refurbished. This should enhance the safety and welfare of all our students.

The science laboratory is being built due to a big increase in the number of students on roll. It should be ready for students to use in March 2020. This laboratory has been funded by North Lincolnshire Council, to improve the learning of students attending The Axholme Academy.

We have had problems with the heating system for a while now, so all the radiators within school have been replaced. This means that the school should be warmer overall and the heating system now works efficiently.

There has also been a new roof fitted as we have had some leaks when there has been heavy rainfall. The roof has been attached to the main building and the maths block of the school; this should stop the roof leaking when we receive heavy rainfall.

Before half term, we had a carpet in the corridor which was full of holes, I am happy to say that it has been replaced with new vinyl flooring. The carpet in one of the ICT suits has also been replaced, this new floor is more hard wearing and as a result should be safer for students to walk on. In the future, we hope to replace the floor along the PE corridor as well, when the funds are available.

Another improvement we have made to the school is converting the staff room into a Maths classroom and a smaller staff room. This is due to rising numbers of students coming to the school. It is our hope that this will enhance the learning of all the students.

Overall, these new improvements should make the school a better place for students to learn and make it safer as well. We thank all of the people who helped to make these things possible.

Spreading festive cheer all around

On the 17th December 2019 the annual Christmas Concert had a different atmosphere than before. This is because in 2019 we had a new teacher running it, Mrs Bishop and she put some new ideas and a different energy into the performance.

One student said, “In 2019 the concert was more professional and was more like a real show. This time, we had a proper school choir and as a result, we were well rehearsed.

There were 61 students who performed in the concert altogether, each displaying their different talents. Some danced, while others sang solos or with the school choir. In order to make the concert as successful as it could possibly be, the students had to practice a lot. The students were really dedicated to making the show great. They stayed after school and even came in on Sunday to rehearse. Some of the students in Y7 and 8 painted the backdrop for the event, they were painting in the style of Van Gough’s Starry Night. The students were learning about Van Gough in lessons, so painting the backdrop was a good time for them to demonstrate what they had learned in class. One of the students involved said, “It was a good experience and it was more relaxed than a normal lesson.”

Over all, the event went really well and we managed to sell 190 tickets in total. We raised £560 at the event and the students said that they really enjoyed it. Mrs Bishop said that next year she will try to get even more students involved in the performance.
Vibrant Vans shoe competition

By Tobi Toth-Plumtree

The Axholme Academy entered the Vans Custom Culture competition in mid-October. Vans Custom Culture is a competition where people from all around the world customise a template of a Vans shoe and upload the image which renders it 3D; therefore creating a tangible product that can be used in the real world. Years 7, 8 and 9 participated in this shoe customising competition with the help and guidance from Mrs Childs.

First, we got a silhouette of a Vans shoe on a piece of paper which had a QR scanner in each corner of the page. Then we drew our designs on the shoe, we had to follow the guidelines which Vans set, for example no logos of brands. Once we drew our designs and added colour, then we took a photo including the four QR codes and entered them into the website. After that, Vans checked the shoes and if they corresponded with the guidelines they are approved and entered into the competition.

I then interviewed a student who participated in this competition. I started the interview by asking her, “How did you come up with your design?” She replied by saying, “We were looking online for different patterns and other vans designs. I wanted to do something different and use bright colours.” Next, I asked, “Do you think this competition helped to express your creativity?” She responded by saying, “Yes, because it’s a bit out of the ordinary and it was nice to see other students trying something new.”

I started by asking Mrs Childs, Why did you decide to enter our school into the competition? She answered, “It was a fantastic opportunity to display work in a real life setting.” Unfortunately, our school didn’t make it through to the top ten designs to be voted on by the general public; despite this, we still had lots of fun designing our own shoes.

Jess Keeton the boxing wonder.

By Tobi Toth-Plumtree

Continued from page 1

She won her first bout and lost in the finals but still managed to get a well-deserved silver medal.

I asked Jess some questions about her trip to Serbia:

What did you enjoy the most about the competition and why?

Seeing all the different countries training and sparring with countries outside the EU.

Who is your biggest inspiration and why?

“Katie Taylor who is a professional boxer as I like her style and she grew up in a small village like me.”

How often do you train and do you think the more you train the higher chance you will have to be the best in the world?

“I train six days a week which includes training twice a day and yes, definitely, the more you train, you will hopefully become the best.”

What are your goals and aspirations?

“To keep winning Nationals and Europeans and eventually when I am seventeen to compete in the Worlds and the Olympics for team GB.”

Jess was runner-up in the North Lincolnshire Community Champion Awards 2020 for Young Sports Achiever of the Year. Jess was nominated by Andrew Richardson who is her boxing coach. I asked Jess about the event and what she enjoyed about it and she answered, “It was a good experience to listen to all the stories throughout the evening from all the nominees and especially to hear what the winner in my section has done to win the award.”

NCS Champions

By Evie Mander Casson

Our former Year 11s had the amazing opportunity to do NCS last summer which is now open to our current Year 11s for Summer 2020.

NCS stands for National Citizen Service which is open to students from ages 16-19. It is a social action project where the students can deal with a local issue that they are into. They spend 30 hours putting the project together and it helps the students to build skills for work and life. NCS gives the students challenges and helps them meet new people.

Mrs. C. Dodge the NCS Coordinator at the academy told me “NCS is the National Citizen Service and it is for students aged 16-19. I think NCS is a fantastic opportunity to enable teenagers to do something productive over the summer, whether it is raising money or awareness for different charities. I think that it is great that the students from this school are invited to go as there isn’t a lot to do on the Isle over the holidays. My job role is to make sure that as many students as possible go on the trip.”

We’ve just been awarded the Gold Status award which means that half of our year group last year went on NCS. This year, if we get half the Year 11s on it, we also get awarded £1000. An assembly has already taken place which informed the Year 11s about NCS and another assembly will take place in February where they will get the chance to sign up for the summer of their lives.”

Mrs. C. Dodge told me, “We went to Rotherham to a seminar about NCS and awards were presented to schools depending on what their achievements were. We received the gold award which means that over 50% of our students went to NCS last year. We were really proud of the students when we received the award. It was really good to show that such a small school can participate and beat larger schools. The year 11s are really excited to go this year. NCS is a great opportunity for the students and I hope as many students as possible can go.”

Mrs. C. Dodge holding the NCS Champions award.

Jess Keeton standing with the English flag.

Olivia Peacock’s vans shoe in 3D

Lauren Spicer’s shoe design.
Lurchers drive to success

By Beatrice Rudd

On the 1st September 2019, we were invited to Epworth Showground by the Isle of Axholme Lions, because they wanted to see the car as they have sponsored us. We had five students who attended, James R, Beatrice R, Oliver F, Zack G and Jack S. While we were there, we went into the arena and received an award for Most Unusual Car. We had a donation bucket and we raised £38.03.

On the 17th October 2019 we went to Silverstone International final, this is because we came 3rd at Hull Street race, therefore we instantly qualified to attend Silverstone. Mr Thompson, Mr Kaye, Mr and Mrs Shaw and Mr Rudd transported the following students to this event, Owen, Jack, Harry, Ethan, Sam, Daniel. Beatrice, James, Zack and Oliver.

Even though the team had some difficulties in the qualifying, which put them toward the back of the grid they worked hard in the pits to modify the car, to ensure that they could get to the end of the race. They ended up finishing in an incredible 62nd out of best 100 F24 teams in the world and they were second best newcomers. All of the students tried their hardest and they had a great day even though it was an early start. I asked one of the team members what they thought of the day; “It was a really good day and it was an amazing experience, even though we had some problems we all worked together to fix the car, so we were able to finish the race.”

I then asked one of the drivers, what was the best part of the day for them and why. “The best part for me was driving around the track, this was because famous F1 drivers like James Hunt and Nikki Lauda have raced there. It was also really exciting because that was most likely a once in a lifetime opportunity.”

The team have recently had news from Councillor Julie Reed who has informed them they have been successful in getting £11000 of funding towards the 2020 season. The funding has come from the SSE wind farm fund and will be used to get spare parts, improve performance and promote the car to students in Key Stage 3, as well as helping them to attend more races throughout the season. Many thanks also go to The Isle of Axholme Lions who generously donated £500 towards the car and have been fantastic supporters of the team.

If there are any students who are interested in joining the team, boys or girls, they are welcome. All you need to do is speak to or email Mr S Thompson if you need any information or have any questions to ask.

Axholme students run to victory

By Beatrice Rudd

On Wednesday 4th December 2019, 46 students represented The Academy in the North Lincs Cross Country Championships at Central Park. All the students participated with a great effort and determination to do their very best and had some strong performances.

Sienna Manderson came 10th overall in the Inter girls race and is waiting to find out if she has qualified for the next round. This will be the last year that the Bardauskas sisters will battle it out in the Inter girls race representing the school- great effort again girls. Finally, Miss Underwood would like to say a huge well done to all who represented the school in both Championships for 2019/20, you should all be very proud of yourselves!