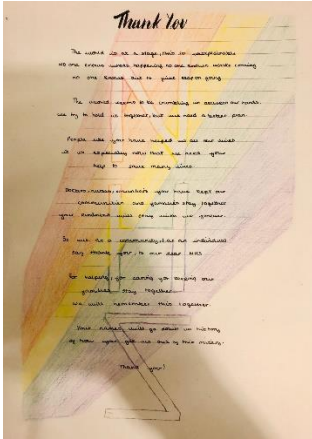




Aylesford School



Character Newsletter 2021



As we know the last 15 months have been an extremely challenging time for young people. Throughout the pandemic Aylesford have taken time to look after our pupils **Mental Health and Character Development**, providing all pupils with opportunities and activities to help them grow and develop as individuals, keeping character as the foundation.

Read on to find out what we've been up to at Aylesford in 2021.....



Wellbeing and Enrichment Days

During the lockdown of Early 2021 we introduced an Wellbeing and Enrichment day for every student and every member of staff.

The idea of these days was to take a break from the endless zoom lessons and ever increasing screen time and to do something to look after ourselves,

for example a personal development activity or perhaps a character building activity.



Students got to choose from a 'menu' of different activities that could complete each week and were encouraged to send pictures in of what they had been up too. For some it was as simple as going for a walk with their families, cooking or meal or drawing a picture. For some students it was learning a new hobby and one student even learnt a new language!



The day was just as much about staff as well as students with staff actively encouraged to take time away from the screen!!!!



Character Walk

Every student and staff member that was physically able too took part in our annual charity walk. This year we raised money for Mid Kent Mind, a local mental health charity. This charity was chosen by the students at Aylesford Around 750 students and 70 staff took part and we raised nearly £900 for the charity! The walk was extremely hot and students needed plenty of self-discipline and resilience to complete the 7.5mile circular route around the local area

As usual our students were a credit to the school, even being recognised by the local community on our Facebook page.



Claire Burvill

Im not associated with the school in any way but I saw them all walking and wondered where they were going/been. They ones I saw were all very well behaved, walking in 2's. A credit to the school.

Like · Reply · Message · 6 d



Author

Aylesford School

This is fantastic to hear - we are always so proud of all our students and the way they demonstrate great character in the local community!

Like · Reply · Commented on by Jake Swain · 5 d



Thorpe Park

We know this year has been a challenge and extremely tough for our students – so what better way to put a smile on students faces and take a trip to Thorpe park! Over 650 staff and students descended to Thorpe park from Year 7 to Year 13.

For some of our younger students this was their first time to a theme park without the parents, plenty of courage needed to do it own their own and to take on some of the big rides!



Food Bank

Students showed plenty of community compassion and motivation to help those less fortunate than ourselves by collecting for a local food bank. Miss Jarvis in the PE department organised the collection for St Peters and St Pauls church in the local village to then distribute to food banks so that it can reach those families who are directly in need.



PE and Sports Awards

We didn't let COVID restrictions put us off celebrating our student success in Term 5! We hosted a 'Virtual' Sports awards and gave out a number of different awards to students who had shown great character in and out of the classroom. A massive well done to all of the following winners!

KS3 Boy of the year – Leo P (Year 8)

KS3 Girl of the year – Evie N (Year 8)

KS4 Boy of the year – Kieran J (Year 11)

KS4 Girl of the year – Ella W (Year 11)

KS3 Academic Student of the year – James M (Year 8)

KS4 Academic Student of the year – Isaac E (Year 11)

KS5 Academic Students of the year – Declan S & Emma W (Year 13)

Performing Arts Performer of the Year – Aimee S (Year 11)
Leader of the year – Adam B (Year 11)



Gifted and Talented Pupil of the year – Charlie B (Year 8)

Team of the year KS3 – Year 7 Football – Evie N, Leo P, Charlie B, Finley W, Cameron M, Josh EV, Josh G, Callum, Luke N, Mitchell M, George D

Team of the year KS4 – Year 9 rugby – Thomas D, Harvey L, Harvey D, Che B, Morgan K, Tobias B, Angelo P, Ollie B, James L, Jake W, Lias L, Alfie D, Matt P, Ty P, Georgie T, Harley LO, Ben J

Outstanding Contribution to PE – Ashton K & Aimee S (Year 11)

Special Recognition – Dolcie B (Year 11)

Governors Award – Aimee (Year 11)



In other News.....

The school was successful in our bid to join **the KMPF (Kent and Medway Progression Federation)** - KMPF is a partnership between local universities and schools and colleges in Kent and Medway. Being part of this partnership will allow us to further develop and increase the offer of different careers, employment and progression activities to a wide range of students in all year groups. We have no doubt that access to these resources will help our students to develop their character, raise their aspirations and boost attainment.

Year 10 students complete a Personal Finance Course with My Personal Finance – They were so impressed with our students character that they came back and shot their promotional material with us!!!



https://vimeo.com/540634940?fbclid=IwAR3qTGynLJfAGjwOW8lY3L8sXqFSUm6xjRYPR_Rc0XGed3SKlj7utgn4rpM

Other Year 10 students took part in the Speak Out Challenge workshop – A workshop delivered by the speakers trust and aimed at giving students the confidence and character to speak and present in front of an audience!!!

Our wonderful Year 7 and 8 students, supported by Mrs Baker, Head of RE hosted a cross curricular event to raise money for the Indian COVID appeal. Students prepared and enjoyed Indian food, took part in some bhangra/Bollywood dancing and submitted rangoli art work for the competition!

Enrichment Day

As part of Character Week students were able to choose from a range of different activities to take part in during the day, the activities on offer were designed to be fun but also give students the opportunity to try new things. Enrichment day was for ALL students and every single student got to spend the day outside the classroom taking part in activities from Gaming to Skiing, and from Dance to Engineering. In total we had 17 different workshops running throughout the day!!!!



