

12 March 2021

HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION

Hello and welcome to another newsletter,

It's been great to have all students back this week and everyone enjoyed our film afternoon on Thursday. There has been some great learning happening all over school and I have been especially impressed by some excellent pieces of writing produced by students in Explorer class.

Secondary aged students who have consent have been tested twice for Covid this week and all tests came back negative. These students will have one more test in school next Monday and will then be required to test 2x per week from home. Testing kits for this will be sent home with students on Monday. We ask for these to be done on Monday and Thursday before school please (or last thing on Sunday and Wednesday evenings).

One of our parents, Lisa, has taken up a new hobby of paper crafting over lockdown and has very kindly made us some lovely pictures for our school:



We think that these are absolutely amazing and will be putting them up in our family room for everyone to see. Thank you very much!

Now the weather is improving, we are starting to work on our outdoor areas at school. We have just had our forest cleared out (it was full of rubbish!) and hope to open this up to students very soon. We also have some baby trees to plant and students will be helping with this next week. Please make sure that students involved bring in suitable footwear and layers for being outside and digging!

Have a lovely weekend,

Sarah



CURIOSITY

For Maths, we have been focusing on using bar models to find Fractions of Amounts. We worked out that 3 fifths of 25 is 15 using Marshmallows and Haribos. If we got the answer right, we were allowed to keep the sweets. Even better, the children are now able to work these amounts out in their heads!



During our Interoception lesson, we focused on the brain and head, as our body parts and looked at some of the words. This helped us understand, label and describe how our brain and head might feel for each activity.



We were all very excited to have reached our 100 tokens as a whole school reward system. As part of our reward, we watched Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules on Thursday afternoon and really enjoyed getting our popcorn and milkshakes as treats.

In Art, we were learning about the artist India Flint and gathered plant materials such as leaves, flowers, and twigs. We really enjoyed using this to print our ideas and designs with either clay or paint on paper.



In our Science lesson, we were exploring Jane Goodall's work with chimpanzees. We watched a short documentary, which shows how Goodall's research supported the protection of chimpanzees in their habitats. This helped us make the connections in our statements of what are facts or fiction.



It is wonderful to see all the students back in school this week. We had lots of fun in Movement Break and it was great to see everyone join in the games.



EXPLORER

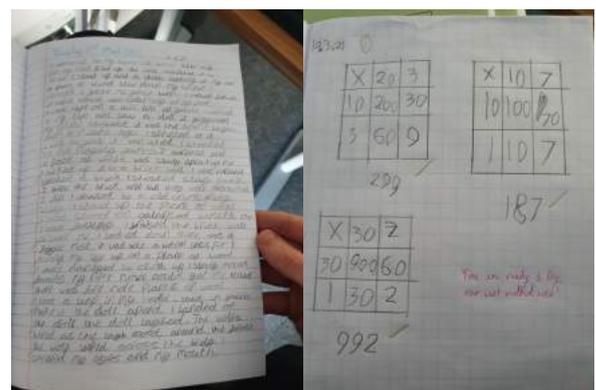
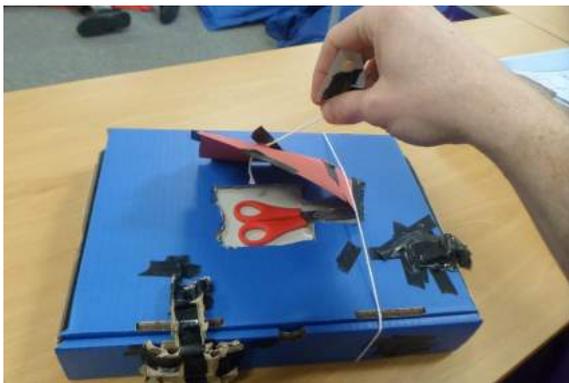
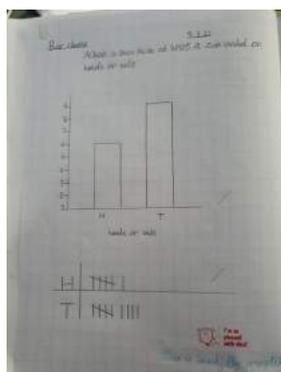
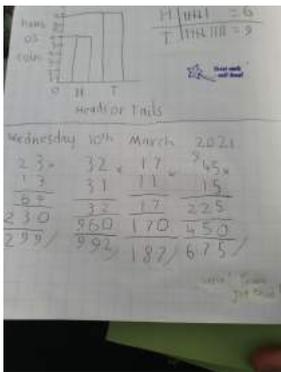
This week has seen us working on our next character education - integrity.

Students took part in an integrity challenge of 'looking after sweets' without eating any and not looking under the surprise box! Everyone passed with flying colours even if they said it was tricky!

We've been taking part in team games and played a human game of noughts and crosses and worked in teams to complete various maths challenges.

Some of the most positive elements of our week were how much quality work Explorer students have created. Students have worked incredibly hard pushing themselves to new limits. We've worked very hard to learn a new multiplication method and wrote a detailed setting description in Literacy.

Damon also took our DT project to the next level and made an 'escape room' style box that Grant had to try incredibly hard to solve!



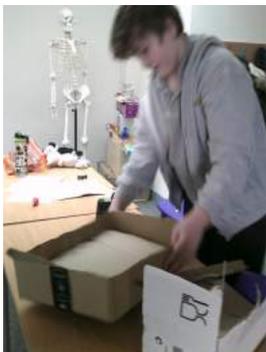
ROSETTA

We were so happy to see Inigo come back this week and all of the Rosetta students have enjoyed playing together on their break times.

We had made some burgers (and veggie versions) on Tuesday and started to make some marble runs in Science and discussed Islam in R.E. Inigo and Callum have spent lots of time together roleplaying and making crafts.

We were all excited for the film afternoon on Thursday and had chosen our treats ready!

In our Science lesson on Monday, we started to look at the Light Microscopes and learned how to use them ready for when we can look at slides of different cells - this followed a previous lesson where we "made" cells out of bread and sweets... Ethan definitely enjoyed eating them!



PIONEER

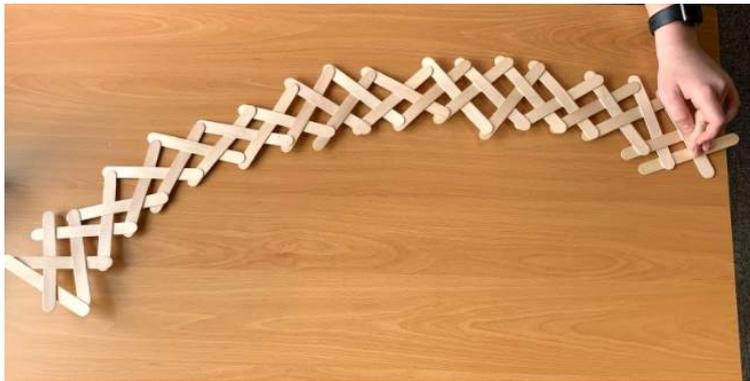


This week in Cooking, we made Josh's pasta bake recipe that he made at home whilst off school. Different skills were used this week including chopping vegetables and chicken into regular sizes to ensure even cooking, cooking pasta, preheating the oven and combining ingredients all into one balanced meal. Overall, another successful cooking lesson this week cooking a meal, with a slight improvement seen on last week's washing up too!

In English, we have been continuing to investigate Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream", looking at the characters, their traits and how they interact with each other in more detail.

Pioneer's attempts at the Fusion challenge this week has been to

In DT, we have been looking at how potential energy can be used to hold sticks together; as well as, the release of that potential energy and the chain reaction that can occur. We made different shapes (all held together through bending the sticks) and Josh and Tom worked together to make a "cobra weave" with wooden sticks - we found it hard to get started, but once we got into the pattern, it wasn't too bad at all (but it was a bit nerve-wracking hoping it didn't slip and go off too soon). You can watch the video of the cobra weave being set off by Josh [here](#).



A special paragraph just for Henry this week, as he has continued with his Godzilla drawings - he was really chuffed with how his recent Godzilla Singular Point picture turned out (right). We're absolutely blown away and really proud how his drawings have helped him to regulate and how much detail he's able to get out of his pictures now compared with his pictures from last year (picture on the left from Oct 2020).





On Friday 19th March, we are asking everyone to come into school in the brightest colours they have to #Share a smile.

This year it's never felt more important to have some fun and raise money to support people living incredibly tough lives. We need the power of funny to turn laughs into lasting change.

During the school day, we are going to be asking students if they have any jokes. These will be written down and then put into a Fusion joke book.

If you haven't got a joke, then we would like a funny picture to go in the book.

Please kindly donate £1 to Comic Relief
Thank you



Fusion Challenge

This week our challenge set by Rosetta class was to 'Make a mask!'. The creativity has been flowing this week, check out these incredible creations



Callum's 'Knight mask' and Ade & Laura's masquerade style mask.



We had lots of incredible creations, but we really enjoyed Tommy's 'Mask in a mask'.



This week's challenge has been set by Henry in Pioneer.

Our challenge is to 'Draw your favourite movie character'.

Have a go and don't forget to send us photos of all your efforts, every student that completes the challenge will earn a token for our school reward system. We are currently at 25 tickets, we need to reach 100 tickets for our next reward. Send photos and new challenge ideas to elyssa.castleford@thefusionacademy.co.uk

The Fusion Academy Reward Tickets

Students can earn tickets for doing things that are 'above and beyond'. For example, for doing some amazing work, behaving really well, or doing something especially kind or helpful. When the whole school earns 100 tickets, we all get a reward.



Tickets have been earned this week by:

Luke	Steph	Jay
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Well Done! **Overall Ticket Total = 25**

Support

For our support section this week, we thought we would update you on the areas that parents and carers highlighted as would like more information and support on.

In the next couple of weeks Sarah our Occupational Therapist will be talking to us about all things related to Interoception, which has such an impact on lots of our students and how they link thoughts to actions within their bodies. We will of course bring you information on how you can join on next week's newsletter.

After the Easter break we will also have Ellie our Speech and Language Therapist who will be leading a session on all things 'Communication'. From how we can identify areas of need and also talking to us about the 'Social Thinking' curriculum and how this can be used at home.

In the second half of the summer term, Mark & Alex from our Engagement team will be leading on a session all about, engagement and behaviours that could be impacting home and offering ideas of how to support these.

We need your shoe laces!

Our Occupational Therapist, Sarah, is working with some of our students to practise tying shoe laces. If you have any old shoe laces or unwanted laced shoes that students can practise with, please can you send them in. Thank you!



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