

14 May 2021

HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION

I would like to start this week's newsletter by congratulating Tom who had a new baby at the weekend! Tom is now on paternity leave for 2 weeks and Pioneer class is being covered by our new Teacher, Rachel.

This week, we have shortlisted applications for some new Learning Support Assistants. We will be interviewing the candidates in school on Monday. It is nice that we can start to interview people face-to-face now rather than having to do it all online.

Quite a few of our new students have been to look around this week which has been lovely.

Next week, we will be starting to look at class groups for next year. We plan to share these with students and parents on Thursday 27th May, so that students have over half term to process this information.

Transition plans can then start properly in the second half of the summer term. If you have any questions about transition for your child, please contact Elyssa and she will be happy to help: Elyssa.castleford@thefusionacademy.co.uk

From Monday 17th May, there is updated advice regarding the wearing of face masks in school:

- Face coverings will no longer be recommended for students in classrooms or communal areas, in all schools
- Face coverings will also no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms.
- In all schools, it is still recommended that face coverings should be worn by staff and visitors in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas).



The reintroduction of face coverings for pupils, students or staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to particular localised outbreaks, including variants of concern.

Twice weekly lateral flow testing at home will still continue for secondary aged students who have given consent.

Have a good weekend,

Sarah

CURIOSITY

This week, we have been learning about Ramadan and Eid and how this is an important event for Muslim people. We have watched a clip of an eleven-year-old Muslim girl called Sara, where she introduces us to her family who are fasting during the holy month of Ramadan. Did you know that an estimated 2.1 billion Muslims across the globe celebrated Eid al-Fitr to mark the end of Ramadan this week? We made lots of different things and practiced how to say Eid Mubarak, which means have a blessed Eid!



For Music, we looked at the different genres of music. This week, we focused on where Reggae music originated from and watched a short travel program about Jamaica. We enjoyed listening to three songs made by a musician called Bob Marley and had to think about the instruments we could hear and spot the tempo. Lastly, we made a large collage, by drawing what inspired us whilst listening to the song.



In our Cooking session, we really enjoyed making our very own Chinese spring rolls. We discussed what ingredients we would need and learned that it originated from East and South East Asian cuisine. Whilst following the recipe carefully, the spring rolls were cooked when the rolls were lightly golden and crispy. They tasted absolutely delicious.

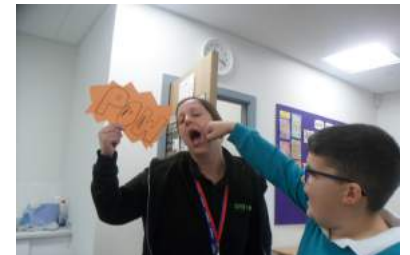


EXPLORER

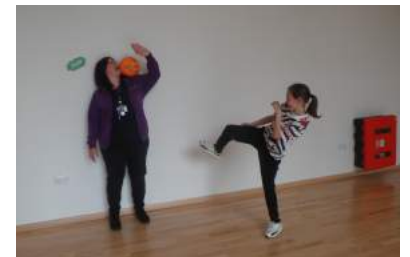
Due to the wet weather, we've spent a lot of our break and lunch continuing some art and craft lessons. We've been using air dry clay to create monsters, sponges to build robots and our hands to create social thinking art based around asking others for help.



When we finally did get a break from the rain, we spent an afternoon in the forest school. I was so proud of Damon for planning and organising an excellent lesson. He set up some exciting challenges and the rest of the class had to work really hard to build a den from scratch. Damon also taught the class rope skills and knots.



In Literacy lessons, we looked at onomatopoeia and rhyming. Children made speech bubbles to make the right sounds for an action. Pupils all worked incredibly hard completing maths assessments. Everyone used their determination to do their best.



We also cooked some delicious banana and blueberry muffins, but as usual not many made it home as they were so delicious!



The most nail bitingly tense part of our week came from our morning starter where we played Deal or No Deal! It was so fun to work together as a team to encourage the player to wipe out the banker and take home the most amount of money. Everyone did really well, but Damon's excellent game netted him the top prize of £250,000!

ROSETTA

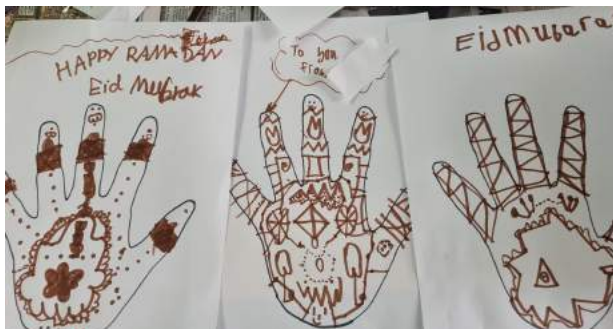
We have had another busy week this week: We've learnt about Apex Predators in Science, the conflict in Sudan and how this affected families. We looked specifically at a young girl called Betty and why she spoke a different language to her parents and how she managed to transition from being an orphaned child, pregnant at the age of 14, to studying Business at a University! We worked as a team and all got involved with some role play pretending we were in the Mayo Camp.



In English, we are still working through our topic "Argue and Persuade" and this week we were analysing leaflets with the hope that we can create our own by the end of the week... it was funny to see that most advertisements used Rhetorical Questions, Alliteration and Rule of 3 mainly! We linked our English work with PSHE work

analysing stereotypical magazine covers.

Last week, we learnt about Ramadan and Eid and we thought that people were superheroes for having the ability and resilience to fast for 4 weeks. This week, knowing it was coming to an end, we had made some crafts: Henna designs together with the crescent and star symbol. We attached these to a large branch and gifted them to Fadhiya who has been our superhero at The Fusion Academy!



On Wednesday, we went to the Forest School and enjoyed thinking about our main 5 senses and "grounding" as a strategy to move towards the Green Zone. We were able to see, hear, touch and smell lots of things. Donna was resourceful and grabbed a handful of our mint that we grow in the courtyard for the tasting part!!

PIONEER

We feel like the first thing that we need to say in this week's newsletter is a big CONGRATULATIONS to our class teacher Tom! He welcomed his new baby daughter into the world last Friday evening and the students have loved seeing the photos of her. Rachel has joined the Pioneer team whilst Tom is away, and has done a great job helping Kristi and Laura keep things running smoothly for the students. We hope that Tom is enjoying his paternity leave and adjusting to life as a family of 4. We look forward to welcoming him back after next week.



We had a great Art class this week where students had the opportunity to work on their own creations. Ade chose to make some clay crockery, Henry did some painting for a new project and Owen made some cool new pixel art. On Thursday, Josh made an impressive Jenga tower with Elyssa - his version of the Minecraft nether portal.

Everybody has made great progress in Maths this week, working hard and taking on challenges in geometry. We have looked at parallel and perpendicular lines and compared quadrilaterals and triangles.



This week in English, we have been focusing on analysing famous speeches and looking at the different techniques that help to make them effective. We have looked at speeches from Winston Churchill, Greta Thunberg and even James Corden. Most of us liked James Corden's speech the best, because he made it really engaging and effective through the use of humour.

There has been lots of great work this week with all students earning points for their individualised charts. Josh has chosen to have a marble jar to keep track of his points and Sol has chosen a London Underground themed chart - Awesome!



On Friday, we all enjoyed a scavenger hunt in the forest area. Students had to search for a variety of items from nature, such as 2 kinds of seeds, something that makes a noise and different types of leaves. There were also some chocolate bars hidden around - who said that chocolate doesn't grow on trees?! The whole class did a great job exploring, and some students even chose to take part in a group photo. Well done everyone!

OTHER NEWS

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. At the moment we are working towards an afternoon of fun! Students can choose between a whole school water fight or a movie afternoon.



Tickets have been earned this week by:

| | | |
|---------|------|-------|
| Freddie | Josh | Jacob |
| Callum | Owen | |

Well Done!

Overall Ticket Total = 85





Useful links of support;

- ★ Thrive Occupational Therapy is the company that we use in school for the OT needs for our students, their website and also their facebook page is good source of information; <https://www.thrive-ots.co.uk/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ThriveOT>
- ★ Leicestershire Autistic Society are also a great organisation for supporting families, <https://www.leicestershireautisticsociety.org.uk/> . They also have a facebook page which provides lots of useful links and also messages of support from other families with autistic children.

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