

01 October 2021






HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION

Hello,

It was lovely to see so many of you at the open evenings this week. Thank you for coming and I hope that you enjoyed seeing how well your children are doing.

Over the last few weeks we have been working on our school development plan.

Our focus areas for this academic year are:

		
<p>Reading</p>	<p>Character Education</p>	<p>Assessment</p>
		
<p>Developing Talents and Interests</p>	<p>Engagement & Positive Attitudes to Learning</p>	

We have lots of exciting ideas for each of these areas and can't wait to get going with our various projects.

Have a great weekend,

Sarah

PHOENIX



At the end of last week, we went on our first trip to the local shop! Students have been saving money from our reward system to spend in the shop. Many of our lessons have been focusing on road safety, money and our local community in preparation for the shop trip. Staff in One Stop commented how polite and well mannered the students were!

One of our highlight lessons of this week was a drama lesson where students acted out expected and unexpected behaviours. We were so impressed by everyone's sensible solutions to common problems.

Nicki has kindly brought in a snooker table and we've been using this as our reward time activity. Jacob has really enjoyed teaching everyone the rules and mainly beating Grant!

Continuing our science work based around forces, students were given a pet egg that they needed to protect from a fall. They created their own egg containers and used various materials to protect them against forces. Next week, we will be making parachutes and then dropping them to see if the eggs can survive!

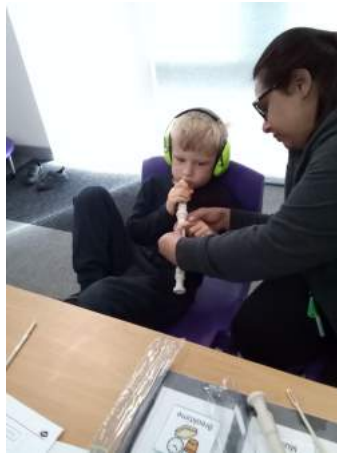


DRAGONFLY



Hello again everyone! We have had another busy week in Dragonfly! We managed to get photos this time of the burgers that we made in Cooking. That's the only evidence left as we ate them up fairly quickly!

In Science, we made Shadow Puppets and investigated what happened when we shone torches at them. Not only did they make great shapes on the wall, but they also grew in size the closer we got with our torches!



In Music, we are learning more notes on the Descant Recorder. We are having a lot of fun playing tunes using A, B and G notes.

We made Jam Sandwiches in English and talked about using Fronted Adverbials to give instructions such as: Carefully spread the butter onto the bread.

We are still trying to find evidence of the students washing up. As soon as we find some, we will post it here!



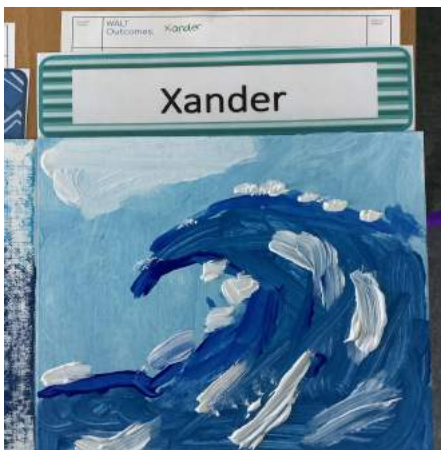
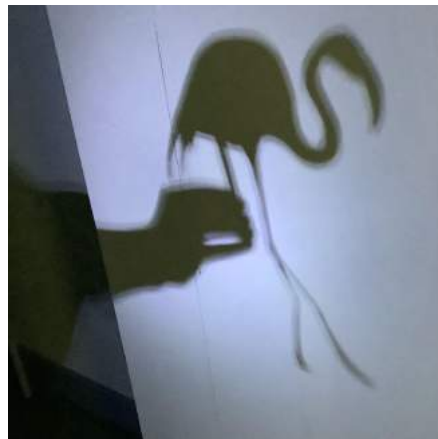
POLAR



We started our week off with Curriculum Choice and most of our class had chosen cooking. We really enjoyed making our very own McDonalds BigMac and had a go at cutting the ingredients, choosing our toppings and sauces. Some of us went for 2 burgers that were stacked on top of each other and struggled to take their first bite. We all agreed that it looked and tasted delicious, so we hope to make these again sometime soon!



In our Science lesson, we made the sensory room pitch dark and used torches and shadow puppets to experiment ways to make shadows bigger or smaller. We made things more interesting and ended the lesson with lots of laughter by capturing our own shadows using our bodies facing the wall.



In Art, we learned about the artist Hokusai, who he was and what he did. During the session, we had to create a painting inspired by his work, which detailed the waves, using either fingers or paint brushes. We all remained focused and spent a long time perfecting our canvas painting that we were extremely proud of!



We enjoyed working as a team, where we used giant, regular jenga and masking tape to build sections of Stonehenge in our History lesson. We were very surprised to hear the many reasons for how it might have been used during the Stone Age.



EUROPA



In Europa this week, we have started working on our first class project: Haunted House! We have explored different themes that make people feel scared, along with how fear feels in our bodies. The students were able to share some of their fears with each other, and were able to talk about some fears that other people may have. The students have each chosen a theme for their room in the haunted house, according to their own special interests. We have got ideas of an abandoned Jurassic World, a graveyard and a creepy abandoned playground.

On Monday, Jayden was keen to share a rainbow experiment with us all. He set up a plate and organised skittles by colour, then poured warm water over them to show Lennon how the colours leaked into the water, creating a beautiful rainbow effect.



In Maths, Jamie set up a great game based on darts for the students to revise their mental subtraction skills. We saw some excellent teamwork during the game with students working together to work out the subtractions to reach zero.

ODYSSEY

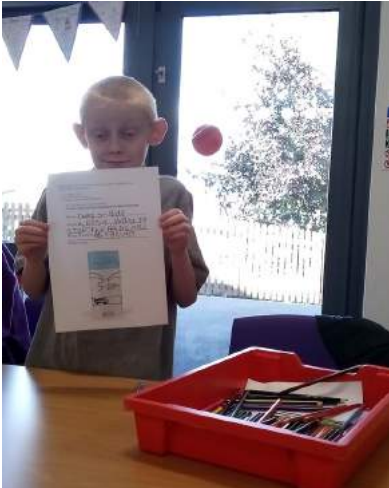


Damon brought in some home-grown sweetcorn this week which he shared with class. He cooked it and covered it in butter...delicious!

We've been to the cooking room twice this week. We made chocolate cake on Monday which was very tasty and "Hoosh" on Thursday which was not so tasty! Our survival story included the recipe and included dried meat, melted ice and dry biscuits. Everyone was brave enough to try it and Damon and Bradley quite enjoyed it. Connie thought it was disgusting! Overall, it was a thumbs down for Hoosh and we hope we don't get stranded in the arctic and have to eat it again. Zane even took some home for his parents to try!



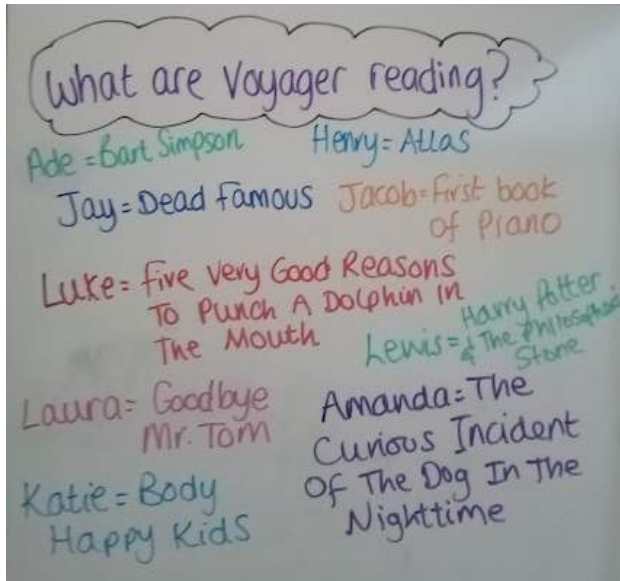
Bradley has been helping in lots of lessons this week and Callum planned and taught a whole lesson on the French Revolution. It was very interesting and very entertaining too. He even had his own entrance music.



We have been learning about keeping ourselves smelling sweet in our personal care lesson and Theo designed his own brand of deodorant. It was called "Theo 5-Way" and it smells of raspberries. We worked really well collaboratively in music where we created a crescendo piece of music. Everyone had a go at being the conductor.

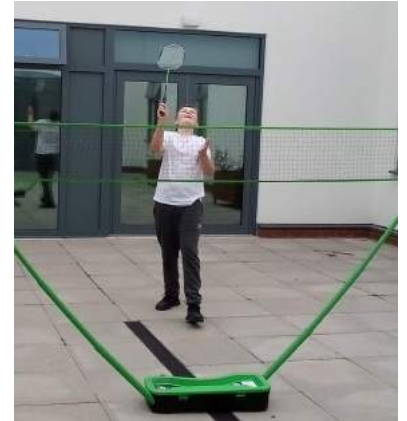


VOYAGER



After a visit to the library, all of the pupils in Voyager now have reading books.

Jacob enjoyed badminton in PE this week whilst the others enjoyed a tug-of-war / dodgeball crossover game.



Our mornings have been full of fun this week, trying out different games and activities. We have enjoyed using the stilt cups and Josh (Apollo) joined us for bean bag battleships.



Whilst Josh was with us, Jay took some time in maths, and there was some excellent peer-to-peer teaching of concepts.

In Music, we looked at "shimmering" and creating music together.

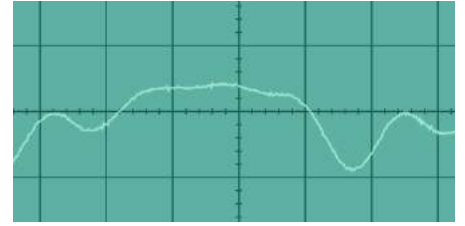


A student found this amazing caterpillar outside this week too! We think it will turn into a pale tussock moth, which doesn't look as colourful as the caterpillar.

APOLLO



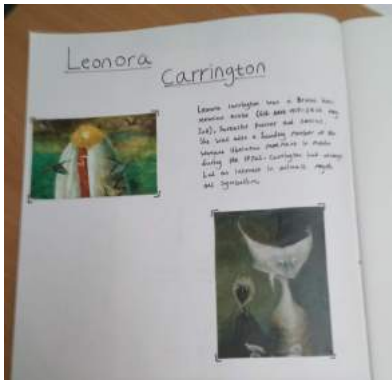
We have started our new topic of "Sound" in Science; we started by looking at how sound travels in waves by creating movement on a cling film and saucepan 'ear-drum'. Hitting a baking tray had made sugar on the cling film jump around. It turned out that it also worked when you shouted at it. We also looked at an online oscilloscope that shows the created sound as a wave.



We had a go at "Mad Libs" in English, looking at different word types and making stories, with the class providing the random words to create some very strange but humorous survival stories.

We have spent time working on projects and personal projects. We have seen Leah's art progressing well and we have started to research artists (this week, Leonora Carrington). We have also had students baking, lego building, cup snake and make-up practice too.

In PE, the students had a range of cricket, badminton and a kind of dodgeball tug of war game that they really enjoyed.



Finally, a plea: If anyone has a sewing machine that isn't being used and they would like to donate it to us to continue our wonderful and wacky projects, we would appreciate it greatly! Thank you



Discord What is Discord?

Discord is an online platform that allows users to message, call, video call and share files / media.

Age restrictions

Discord (as with most social media platforms) has an age restriction of 13.



Should you be concerned?

As with all social media, there are risks that young people may be contacted, view inappropriate content as risks listed here.

It is knowing what to do about something you feel uncomfortable with. As with anything online, especially related to child safety: [report it to CEOP](#) and they can investigate the matter.

These images are from [National Online Safety](#), a great resource with a [search tool](#) that allows you to look for advice on different topics.

They also have a Facebook page and an app that gives excellent advice.

- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
Your child can access almost any chat server on Discord. This means they can easily be exposed to content and conversations that are inappropriate, upsetting or potentially harmful.
- SEXUAL IMAGERY**
Despite there being guidelines in place to prevent it, users are able to circulate adult content. This can include sexualised images, pornographic videos and provocative discussions. It's important to stay alert and know the risks that your child could be exposed to.
- RISK OF CYBERBULLYING**
Interactions on the platform are largely unregulated. This means other users can easily say and show things to your child that might be offensive and upsetting. The competitive nature of gaming can lead users to make abusive and harmful remarks about your child.

- HIDDEN CHARGES**
Though the basic platform is free, your child will be encouraged to sign up to premium subscriptions, which give extra perks, such as animated emojis and free games. The two options are known as 'Nitro Classic' (which costs \$4.99 a month) and Nitro (which costs \$9.99 a month). Prices are only converted to pound sterling during the payment process.
- RISK OF CYBERCRIME**
Cybercriminal groups have been linked to the platform due to reports of hackers sharing stolen data. It's also possible that your child may be encouraged to share the data of their friends, either through peer pressure, or 'for fun', without realising the consequences.
- STRANGER DANGER**
To create an account, you only need to display a username and profile image. This makes it easy for someone to hide his or her real identity. Predators from anywhere in the world can join a chat server, message your child and quickly leave to avoid detection. Forbes reports groomers have been targeting children susceptible to online coercion on the platform.

Do you have any of the following that could be donated for a play therapy kit?

Board games, jigsaws, pretend play e.g dolls, pushchair, medical toys, kitchen toys, musical instruments, books, lego/mega blocks, cd player, cd's, puppets, wooden/plastic figures (see picture below), including any types of animals, people (including soldiers), shells, stones etc.

Many thanks.



Please could parents complete the parental consents for their child via the Arbor App

<https://openthinkingpartnership.co.uk/fusion-academy/>

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