

10th December 2021

HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION

Hello,

It's Christmas Jumper Day today and everyone is looking very festive. The money that we raise today will be going to Save the Children.

Students are busy preparing for the Christmas fair next week. Please let us know if you are coming.

The Fusion Academy Christmas Fair!

Thursday 16th December

2:00pm – 3:15pm

Please complete the form linked below to let us know whether you would like to come:

<https://forms.gle/cvQYNqCaSpdzGRENA>



To keep everyone safe, we ask that visitors to school please do a lateral flow test before coming into school and please wear a mask while here.

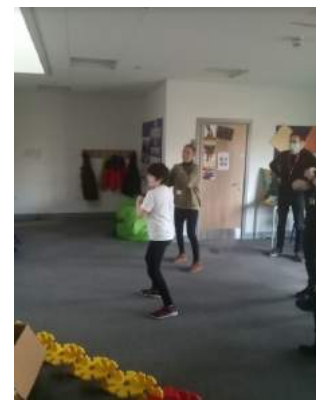
Lateral flow tests can be ordered here: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Have a great weekend and we will hopefully see lots of you next week.

Sarah

PHOENIX

This week we said goodbye to Bronya who has moved to a different school. She has built excellent relationships with all students so this was a sad week. We threw her a party to celebrate her time in Phoenix.



Students also created a new game using Jenga bricks where they built their own forts and had to try to defend and destroy what they had made. It was a great opportunity for teamwork, collaboration and understanding others feelings. We decided to re-enact the game in real life, so students spent a lesson creating their own countries then coming up with tactics to try and invade the other teams to knock down their tower.



We have continued our DT sessions using hammers and nails of different sizes to practice safe DIY skills. It was excellent to see the class concentrating hard on the task and staying safe whilst using the equipment. Our aim is to make bird boxes to use in the forest area.

We have started talking about careers this week. We spoke about realistic expectations of a first job in comparison to dream jobs. We've also done some excellent work on surrounding how we react to different situations. Students talked openly about their behaviours and how sometimes it doesn't match the scenario they are in. We will continue to return to this work as it will hopefully make an impact on how students react.



DRAGONFLY

Edmund, our newest transitioning student next door to Dragonfly, has been discovering Dojogo kung fu videos. That, alongside an active Moovlee monkey video, is fast becoming one of his favourite movement activities!



Meanwhile, in Dragonfly, we have made ourselves a very comfortable and inviting Book Corner and have really enjoyed relaxing and enjoying looking at some of our favourite books:



We learned about how Christmas is celebrated in other countries around the world during our R.E lessons and made German Gingerbread Christmas Tree decorations:

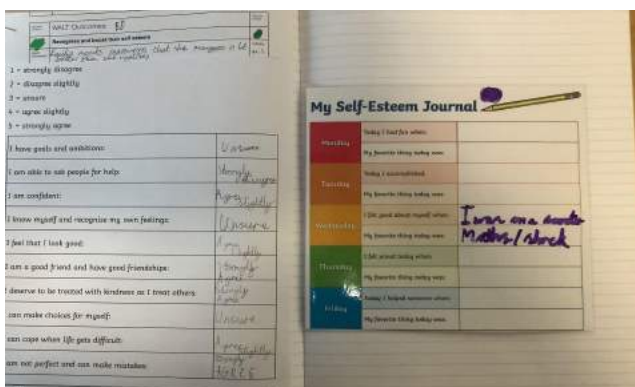
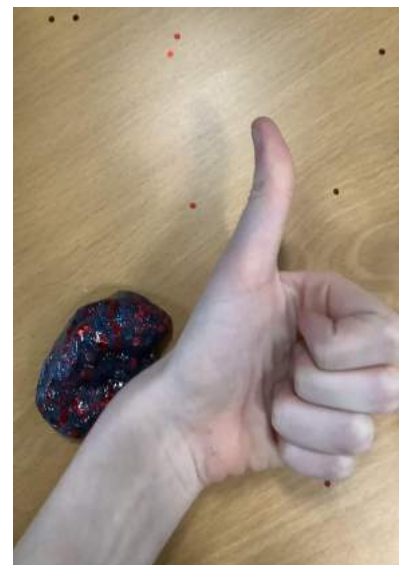


In P.E, we have been spending time improving our 'personal bests' at Circuit Training. Here is James who has done fantastically well and managed to triple his in just 3 weeks!



POLAR

In Polar, we have worked incredibly hard in practising SATS papers for Maths and English. We also completed our assessment in Science and marked our own work. It is fair to say that we have all shown perseverance, as part of the school character education. We remained persistent in doing something despite the difficulties and none of us had given up! Since we had spent a lot of time sitting still during these sessions, we really enjoyed taking part in the bleep test, Just Dance and dodgeball for movement breaks. As part of Personal Development, we have started to focus on our self esteem and will reflect and fill in our self esteem journal daily. In Animal Care, as a class we came up with a list of common pets (dog, cat, fish etc) and put them on the board. We then discussed, as responsible pet owners, what we would need to do to meet each of their needs. Some of us were really excited meeting Lilly, the bearded dragon as well as Mr T, the tortoise, as they spent the day visiting Polar class.



EUROPA



Before we show you what we have been doing this week, we couldn't resist sneaking some pictures in of our museum to finish our topic last week. Students and staff from around school came to visit us to see our artefacts and find out about the death of Richard III. Lennon and Caleb took their roles as museum curators very seriously, explaining to our guests the significance of each artefact in our exhibition!



This week, we have started our new topic of light and colour. The students enjoyed doing some 'magic' tricks involving refraction, where they made images flip over, items disappear and secret messages reappear!



We have then gone on to make our own pinhole cameras. The students really enjoyed working out why the images appeared to flip over and they were able to link it back to their previous learning of refraction.



When learning about colour, we have explored primary, secondary and tertiary colours. We started by having an experiment with skittles and the students realised that the primary and secondary colours are the same colours as in a light spectrum!



Finally, we had a lovely visit from Keith's bearded dragon. It turns out, they're not as scary as they look!



ODYSSEY

We have been busy getting ready for our Christmas Fair this week. Our drama performance is coming along nicely and the actors have been trying on costumes and using their props this week. Connie will be getting her jewellery stall ready and we are all making lots of Christmassy things in preparation.



On Monday, everyone made fudge in our cooking lesson. Students worked independently to follow instructions. Everyone really enjoyed eating what they had made. I'm not sure if any of it made it home for parents to try! In Science, everyone constructed paper mache volcanoes to finish off the topic about the earth's structure. We will be painting them next week and then hopefully we'll be making them erupt.

Parachute games on Monday were lots of fun and we were joined by students from other classes too. It is really great to see our students collaborating, cooperating and having fun together.



Maths work this week has been looking at using coordinates in 4 quadrants. In English, we have finished off our Christmas Carol topic by writing our own playscripts of a sequel to the story. We will be acting these out in class next week.



Connie achieved 50 reward points this week and chose to be Queen for the day as her reward. She has enjoyed bossing around her servants and ordering executions!

The Christmas jumpers looked great in school today and we even had a visit from a special elf!

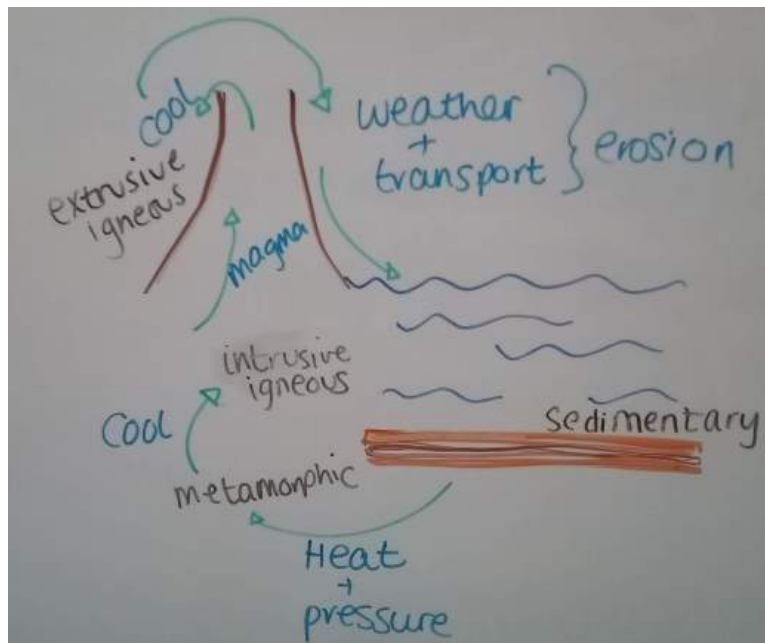


VOYAGER

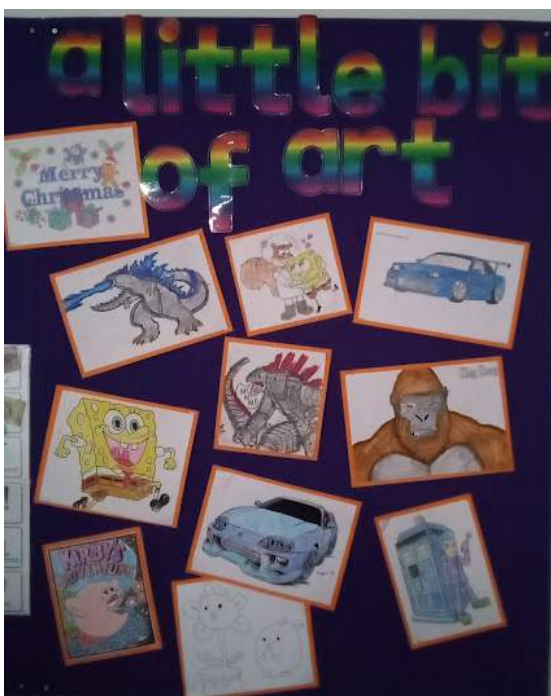
We've had another very busy and productive week this week... so much so that we didn't have a chance to take many photos!

In Science, we have learnt about The Rock Cycle and the boys have done well to illustrate their own take on it, understanding that the 3 main rock types are just a continuation of rocks and processes happening to the rocks!

There were, of course, lots of references to Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson too!



In our Talkabout/Zones lesson on Monday, we 'anonymously' shared compliments with each other by sticking them onto each other's sheets pinned up around the classroom - it was so lovely and heartwarming to see the boys receive their own sheet after the activity was completed to get a perspective on how others see them! It all linked in very nicely to some of our Character Education traits, specifically **Kindness, Respect and Self-Esteem**.



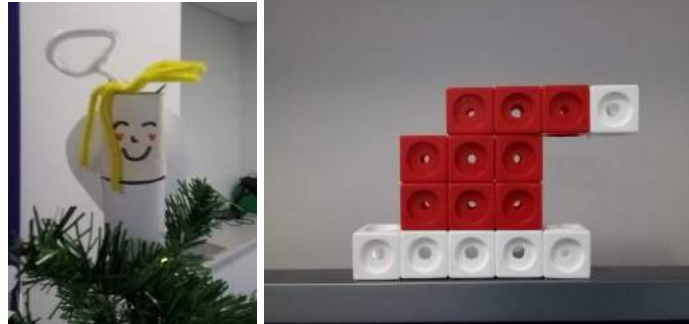
In our Wellbeing lessons, we have encouraged less time on the Chromebooks and more time doing activities such as drawing, colouring, piano or building. Our Art display board is looking very colourful with all of the pictures that the boys coloured... Josh from Apollo also snuck a couple of pictures on there!

In regulation and movement break times, Jacob has been using the Lego challenge cards and this week he chose "Make a boat that will float"! He showed so much **perseverance** with it, especially when we figured out the



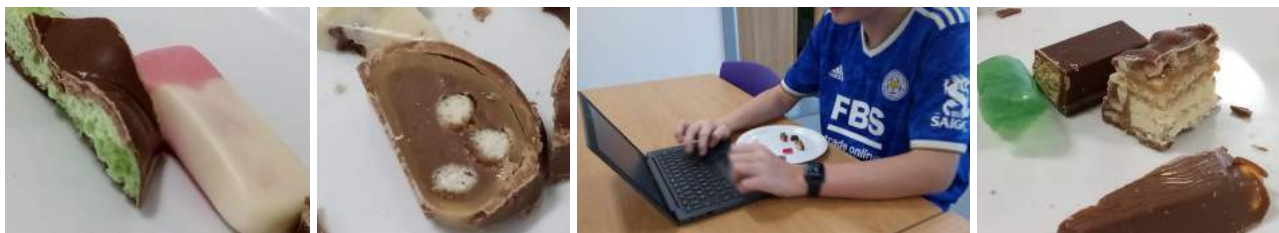
actual boat pieces of Lego purposely had holes in the bricks!

APOLLO



It is officially Christmas in Apollo as we have put our tree up and decorated it this week. Everyone has been really festive and cheery with everyone contributing to making some decorations.

In Science, we rounded off the "Earth Structure" topic by analysing rocks (chocolate bars and sweets) to categorise them into the three types of rock. The students used a table of features to categorise Sedimentary, Metamorphic or Igneous rocks by looking at their structure and making a decision. The students looked at appearance, holes, inclusions and layers to make their decisions.



In English, we have mapped out the characters and their relationship and impact on Scrooge. We also drew the scene when Scrooge meets the Ghost of Christmas Present, the students looked at the descriptive text and drew the image they saw in their heads from the writing. All quite different, but lots of analysis going on and great pictures.



OTHER NEWS



Diary Dates

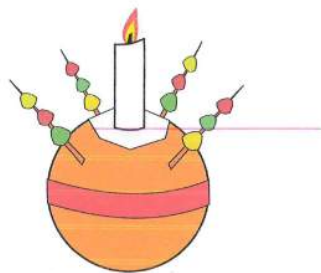
- ★ Thursday 16th December (2:00pm - 3:15pm) - Christmas Fair
- ★ Friday 17th December - Last day of term
- ★ Tuesday 4th January - School opens

Christingle

We are sorry

due to current Covid 19 advice there
will be no usual Service

*The Church will be open for you to pick up
your Christingle*



Christmas Eve 2021

St. Mary's Barwell

5pm – 7pm

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