

25th March 2022

HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION

Hello,

We had our first ever football match against Dorothy Goodman School last Friday and I am pleased to let you know that we won one game and drew the other. It was a fantastic afternoon and all students from both schools did really well (see photos at the end of the newsletter).



Our other celebration from last Friday is raising **£121.10** for Comic Relief. Well done everyone!

Unfortunately, we were unable to run our 'Zones of Regulation' parent training this week due to low numbers but we have rescheduled this for Thursday 26th May and are looking into ways to make this training more accessible (e.g. enabling people to join us online).

The students are very excited that we have earned our whole school game of hide and seek (for earning 100 tickets) and this will take place next Friday.

Next week is 'Autism Acceptance Week' and to celebrate this, we will be having a special visitor in school on Wednesday, Dylan. Dylan is one of our school governors and he has autism. Dylan often speaks publicly about autism at conferences and he has offered to speak with our students next week. He will be in school Wednesday morning to speak to groups of students about autism and to answer their questions.



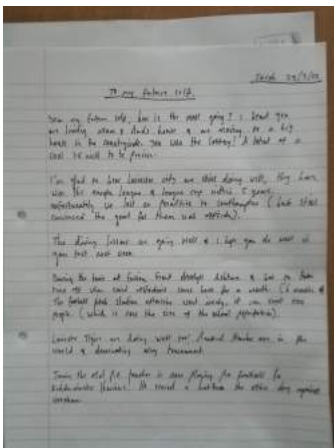
If you know any adults with autism who may be interested in linking with our school to speak with students about their experiences for future events, please get in touch.

Have a great weekend,

Sarah

PHOENIX

This week, we continued our lessons studying inspirational people with Autism. Throughout the week, we looked at a young man called Trent from America who has set up his own business to sell his interesting artwork. Phoenix staff were so impressed with how all students spoke frankly and honestly about their autism and how they can use it as a power to achieve great things just like Trent. We have sent Trent and his family an email and hope to share our work with him. If you would like to find out more please visit: <https://drawingsbytrent.com>



One of our favourite pieces of work this week came from Jacob who wrote an excellent letter to his future self. He put in so much attention to detail to predict what his future life might look like and give himself advice for the future.

Monopoly has been a winning feature for Dylan this week, as he has helped to organise games and adapt them for other students to play.

Our cooking saw us explore a picnic theme with delicious sausage rolls and jam tarts being baked in preparation for a future trip to Burbage Common.

Harriet has really enjoyed the beautiful weather and spent long periods of time writing a new book on our class bench outside.



DRAGONFLY

We have been spending a lot of time outside this week, as the weather has been so lovely. But that hasn't stopped us from catching up with our reading every day. We have enjoyed going to the school library to choose books and completing quizzes when we have read them.



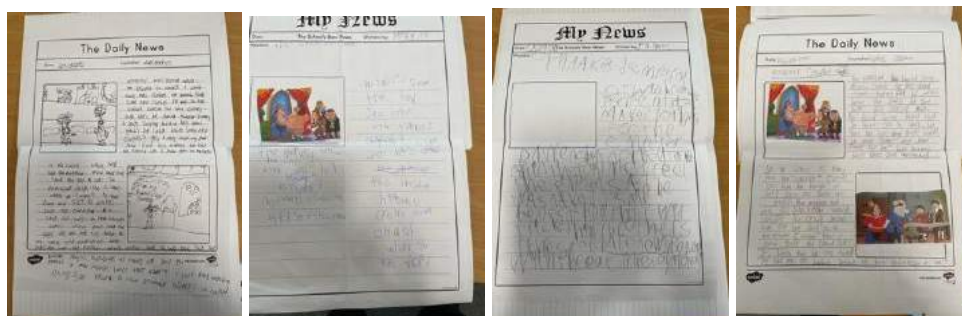
In PE, we have been doing Archery. Here is James hitting the bullseye!



In RE, we learned about how the Jewish Torah is treated safely and respectfully in the Synagogue. We learned about the beautiful artefacts that can be found in a Synagogue.

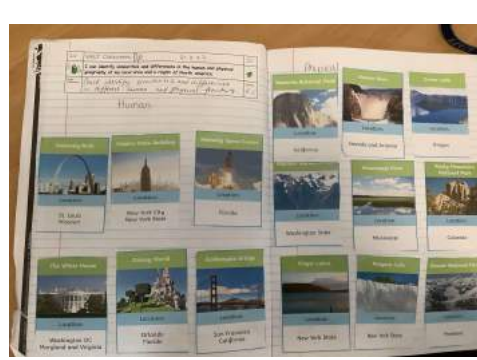


In English, we have been writing newspaper reports about the scandalous affair of the Emperor's New Clothes!

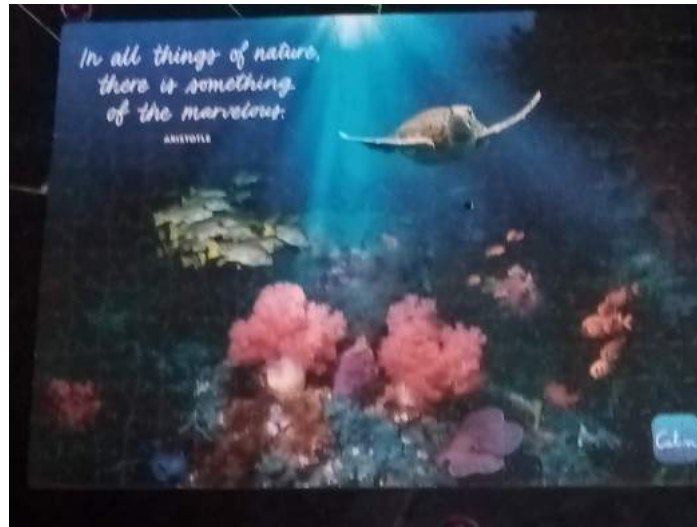


POLAR

We have really been enjoying the lovely weather outside this week and took the opportunity to incorporate lots of outdoor activities into our sessions. As part of our geography session, we went for a walk to identify human and physical geography of the local area and compared similarities and differences in the human and physical geography of North America. We had fun spending some time in our local park. Polar won their class BINGO and the majority chose to make milkshakes using their favourite ingredient in our wellbeing session. Laura C has brought in her frogs and we had a chance to feed them crickets and learn more about how to take care of them. In Art, we learned about the artist Beatriz Milhazes. Then, we had a go at making a tropical collage of shapes using different materials. We are becoming more confident in taking part in competitive games in PE and still incorporate the characteristics of education when playing, which is great to see. For Mother's day, we made teapot cards with tea bags and had written special messages.



EUROPA



This week, we have been learning how to describe settings using expanded noun phrases in English, reading and plotting coordinates in Maths, exploring pressure in Science and continuing with our Pop Art.

We have been showing a great level of perseverance this week with Camron, Lennon and Robbie working each day to complete a 300 piece jigsaw puzzle. Each day, they have added a few more pieces to it until, at last, it was complete! The conversations going on between the students was lovely, as was their cooperation and working towards the group plan.

In maths, we had great fun with a giant coordinate grid. The students set out items on the grid, labelled the axes and then accurately read the different coordinates. We're still working on remembering which way round to read the coordinates (x along the bottom first, then y up the side).

In English, we have been building towards writing our setting description for our spy story. We are concentrating on using expanded noun phrases for description, as well as working on our spellings.

The students are enjoying working on their Pop Art in the style of Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein, but no sneak previews until they are done!



ODYSSEY

This week, we have been enjoying the sunshine and spending lots of time outside. For the first time in quite a while, we have been able to have our PE lesson outside. Jamie set up "capture the flag" for us on Tuesday. This is an invasion game where two teams compete to retrieve the "flag" from the other team's area without getting tagged. Students needed to dodge in and out of the safe zones and defend their own flags too. It was really good fun and we got to practise our tactical thinking and collaboration skills.



On Monday, we cooked mashed potato and learned about how carbohydrates should be part of a healthy diet for energy. We also learned about why we need

protein in our diet and we made models of protein strings.

In our English lessons, we have been continuing with our spy mission and learning about descriptive writing and parts of speech. Everyone has also been reading and completing their Star Reader quizzes to see how much they have understood from the story.



In maths, we have continued with fractions, decimals and percentages.

Students are getting much quicker at being able to calculate fractions of amounts and convert simple fractions into percentages.

Jan showed everyone how refraction works in science on Wednesday. Students conducted some simple experiments to find out how light travels through different materials



Bradley found a caterpillar and enjoyed making a home for him. Damon and Bradley worked together to find things to go inside the box. It was lovely to see unprompted positive interactions between the students.



VOYAGER



Henry and Jacob really enjoyed the sunshine during their wellbeing lesson this week. They drew some chalk figures on the basketball court and had a lovely time! Last week, the boys cooked Toad in the Hole or Sausage and Mash and had a great time - this week they're making and cooking Chicken Burgers.

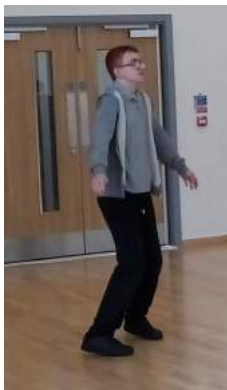


In Science, we have started to look at Pressure - you can see here where a student is measuring around their foot to work out the area so we could measure the pressure that we exert onto the ground using Newtons (from weight) and area (cm^2).

In English, we have continued with our Spy topic, this week analysing and writing Diary entries [Writing to recount] and then acting them as part of a drama activity.

In maths, we have continued with Fractions - Lewis is now dividing with fractions!

In PE on Thursday, the students played a new game that was lots of fun and practised lots of skills - you can see Henry doing star jumps, Owen (Apollo) and Jacob doing the plank with Laura and the class in an 'arena' set up (above right) playing a game where they roll a ball across the floor to get people 'out'! Lots of perseverance.



APOLLO

In maths, this week we have been working through fractions and moving through the different skills needed. We have worked on converting mixed numbers and improper fractions, calculating with fractions (adding and subtracting) and working with different denominators.

We have been working on writing to recount in English by studying diary entries and writing them as our spy characters that students created earlier on in the term.



We have started our new topic "Pressure" this week. Students have a good knowledge already going into the topic which is great to see. We've done lots of practical experiments including working out how much pressure we exert on the Earth (by calculating our mass and area of our feet).



In cooking this week, students have been practising many skills: beating eggs, peeling, chopping and creating both snacks and meals. It's great to see students becoming more and more independent throughout the unit of work this half term.



In computing, we have looked at problem solving and programming. Students have been working through different challenges online or setting themselves targets, such as making a game or interactive animation. One of the popular challenges was the minecraft adventure at code.org, the mindset is that anyone can have a go at programming and the skills needed are useful in everyday life.

Lastly, the students played a new game in PE this week, they had to keep an eye on the ball in quite a small area of the hall. They needed quick thinking skills, reactions and awareness to be successful. Students really enjoyed it and did very well with the rules and fast-paced gameplay.



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.

Tickets have been earned this week by:

Edmund	Tommy
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Well done!

Overall Ticket Total = 11



- ★ Monday 28th March - Friday 1st April - Autism Acceptance Week
- ★ Friday 8th April - School closes for Easter
- ★ Monday 25th April - School Opens

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