

01 April 2022

HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION

Hello,

This week we have a special edition of our school newsletter in celebration of Autism Acceptance Week.

Young people with autism can have a wide range of talents and interests. At The Fusion Academy, we are passionate about finding out what these areas are for each of our students and providing opportunities to develop them even further. One of the ways we do this is through our 'Curriculum Choice' sessions on Monday afternoons where students are split into whole school groups to focus on the things that they love to do.

In this special edition of the newsletter, we have decided to share what each of our Curriculum Choice groups have been doing this term so that you can see how brilliant they all are.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to Dylan who visited on Wednesday to speak to each of our classes about his experiences of being on the autism spectrum. Dylan was very engaging and we learned a lot.



Dylan speaking to Odyssey Class

Have a great weekend,

Sarah

DRAMA

We've had an excellent term in Drama this year! We've been choosing our next performance (more details to come soon!) and have been looking at a range of dramatic techniques that can engage an audience. I'm so proud of how far the group have come in terms of confidence - they have come so far!

Our trip involved planning and organising a trip to the cinema. We spent time studying the actor, Tom Holland and how he can act very differently in certain roles. We saw him star in Uncharted and really enjoyed the film - all students gave it a 10/10.

We practised our independence by ordering snacks, talking to staff and using the ticket to find our seats. I'm extremely proud of all the students in how well they represented the school. A special mention goes to Callum who overcame his fear of travelling on the school bus to access the trip - great work everyone!



SPORTS

This term, we've been concentrating on sportsmanship with a real focus on team games. Students have been working on communication skills and the ability to work together. It's been a pleasure to watch the group come together and work so well as a team in a multitude of sports.

The majority of our curriculum choice group attended a football tournament between Fusion and Dorothy Goodman, this really put those teamwork skills to the test! It was a really enjoyable trip and the staff commented on how polite and gracious the team were even when things weren't going the way they planned!

Students have come together to plan a trip to Green Towers in Hinckley. They are really excited about using new sporting equipment and skills especially on the skate park!



ANIMAL CARE

Our very first trip to the Lucky Tails Alpaca farm was an absolute success! The weather was beautiful, the animals were amazing and we cannot wait to come back after Easter to explore more. Overall, it was a great experience and we have managed to capture some of these moments with a smile on our faces.



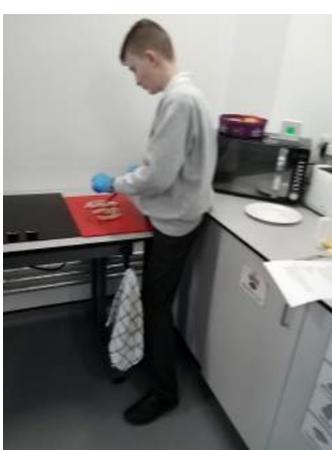
COOKING

We have really enjoyed our cooking sessions and we hope you have enjoyed sampling any of the dishes that made it home. Sometimes they are so good that the evidence disappears very quickly!

This term we have made:

Chicken Fajitas; Pineapple Upside Down Cake; Macaroni Cheese; Chicken Goujons with Healthy Coleslaw; Sweet Scones and Sausage Rolls. Next week, we are making a special Easter treat!

Here are some pictures of us hard at work and some of the delicious treats we have produced throughout the year:



CONSTRUCTION

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Katie, Annabelle, Ann & Catherine

Jacob, Zane, Joe, James & Edmund

We have had so much fun looking at different ways to use Lego, communicating with different people across the school (4 different classes) and looking at potential trips that can take place... of course LegoLand was a big discussion point, but initially we are thinking small to build up towards the Mad Museum in Stratford at some point during the summer term! We've also enjoyed welcoming Edmund to our small group, and it has been a delight to see him working with others so well.



ART

We have really enjoyed our sessions in Art. We have been over to the park to sketch our surroundings before bringing our sketches back to the 'studio' to use our watercolour techniques. We are looking forward to visiting New Walk Museum and Art Gallery in the summer term, before hosting our own gallery!



COMPUTING

The computing Curriculum Choice group has been working on all sorts of different projects, using lots of different online tools and hardware

Scratch - animation and games, programmed using blocks

TinkerCAD - An online 3d modelling tool

Code.org - online challenges and different themed activities

BBC microbits - mini computers with inputs and outputs to make useful tools for real-world problems

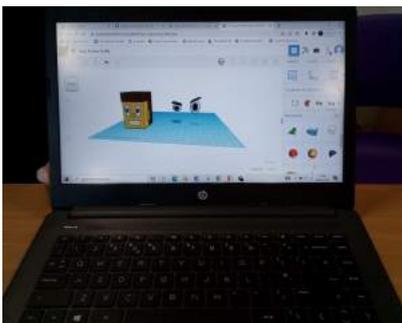
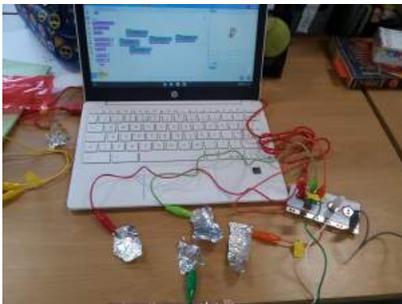
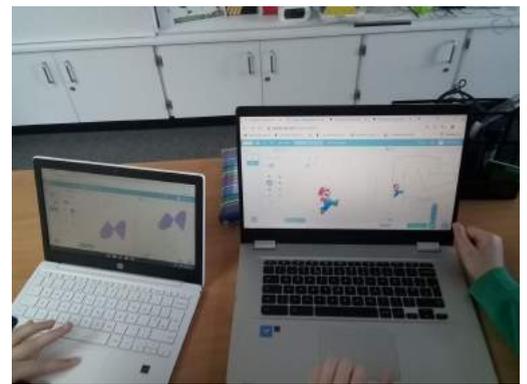
MakeyMakey boards - hardware that allows you - or anything - to be the controller for a computer

Computers - taking apart an old PC to see what the parts look like and learn how to put them together

Robot mice - Programming paths with motorised computers

Twinery - An online "choose your own adventure" platform that allows you to create personalised journey stories

We are also looking forward to running a trip after Easter, which has not been fully confirmed yet, but promises to be very exciting.



What I've been doing in curriculum choice.
By Ethan

"In curriculum choice, I've been doing computer science with Tom in classroom 8. I've been learning about the main parts of a computer, looking at old computers to take them apart and putting them together again with Luke while everyone else is working on their own projects. I really enjoyed looking at all of the parts such as the CPU and RAM sticks. When it comes to computers or technology in general, it really gives me a spark. When I'm older I want to do a job with computers."



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:

| | | |
|--------|-------|---------|
| Joe | James | Freddie |
| Daniel | Henry | |

Well done!

Overall Ticket Total = 17



Diary Dates

- ★ Friday 8th April - School closes for Easter
- ★ Monday 25th April - School Opens

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

office@thefusionacademy.co.uk

Contact Number: 01455 243689