

02 September 2022

HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION

Hello,

I hope you have all had a good summer and enjoyed the sunny weather that we had.

It has been a great start to the school year. We have welcomed many new students and staff and have spent the week getting to know each other.

Previously, all students were taught by the same Teacher across the curriculum. This year, our older classes have started accessing subject specialists for different subjects. This means the students stay in their classrooms and different Teachers move around to them for different curriculum areas. This is a bit different for everyone but so far the feedback from students has been good.

Our car park is getting quite busy now that our numbers have increased and I would like to thank you for your patience with this. We now have an overflow car park open and this should help to reduce the congestion at busy times.

Have a good weekend and see you soon,

Sarah



Parent Survey:

We would be very grateful if parents from last academic year could please spare some time to complete a short survey about your experiences of school last year.

Link here: <https://forms.gle/Up7sNwpKQ1jqTGqUA>

Deadline Friday 9th September - Thank you

JUNO

We have had a super start to this half term. We have made new friends, explored different parts of the school and got very creative with clay this Friday!

We have shown great resilience, understanding and kindness towards our new class mates and staff and really embraced learning some new things.

Maths and English were fantastic this week using dominoes, counters and even writing on the table!



GENESIS



In Genesis, we are all very excited to be back in school and had such a good week. We started the week off by making a breakfast dish - pancakes and helped with washing up and putting the dishes away. Then, we took part in several activities, such as rock painting, using our hand prints to design leaves and took part in the Zones Bingo. Some of us were pleased to hear that they have received a whole school reward token for showing kindness to peers in class and demonstrating great team work.



GATEWAY

We have had a great first week in Gateway and really enjoyed getting to know each other. We welcomed our new Senior Teaching Assistant, Leah and our Learning Support Assistants Emma and Becky. Hopefully, we'll be able to share some pictures over the next few weeks.



We have been very busy. The students all helped to make a new Worry Box which we have put in the Quiet Room so that they can write down anything that might be troubling them.



In English, we have started to read 'The Goldfish Boy' by Lisa Thompson. We will be doing some interesting and exciting activities around this book over the next couple of weeks. We have already found out that Matthew has OCD and that he watches everything that goes on outside through his bedroom window. This is going to lead him to a dilemma that only he can solve. Will he be able to summon up the courage to sort things out?



Whilst being introduced to Matthew in the book, we had an interesting and thought provoking discussion about what it is like to have OCD. The students came up with some very perceptive ideas.

We have also been discussing 'What is Geography?' in preparation for our new unit all about Changing Landscapes. The students were very enthusiastic and are looking forward to exploring their ideas further over the next few weeks.

CALIPSO

There has been so much to learn and get used to this week for the new students in Calipso class. Everybody has settled in really well; making new friends and feeling more confident. Students have spent most of their time this week trying out some tasks and activities to show the teachers what they can do. We designed our own countries in geography and invented a language to teach everyone in the class. Our maths reasoning skills were tested when we needed to divide

chocolate bars equally among different groups of children. In science, we talked about safety in science lessons and then conducted an experiment to find out which biscuits are the best to dunk by investigating floating and sinking. In PE, we have tried some mini-golf and



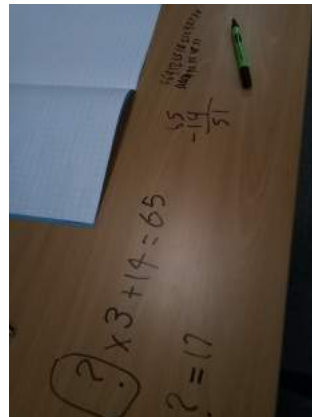
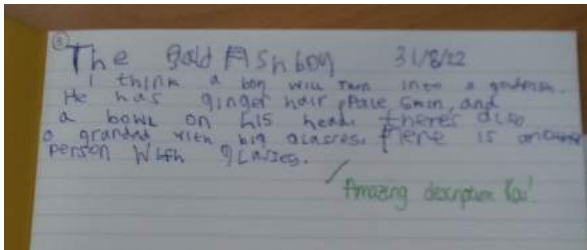
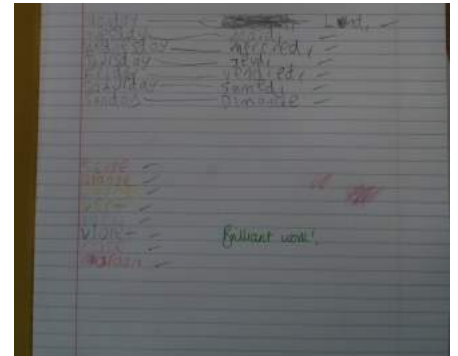
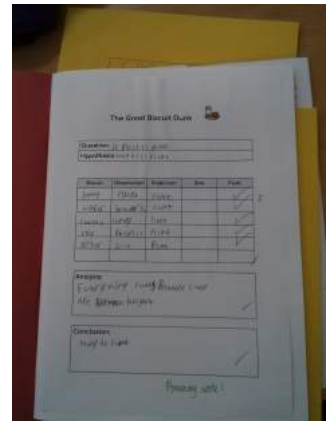
archery. We are off to the forest this afternoon to make some natural art in the trees.



TERRA

It has been lovely to welcome all of our students back, we have really enjoyed getting to know each other and forming some nice friendships!

We have been waking up our brains this week with reminders of what we have learnt already. In Maths, we have been looking at the 4 functions and word problems. In English, we have introduced the students to our class book 'The Goldfish Boy' by Lisa Thompson. For Science, we did an experiment involving cookies, milk and buoyancy! Obviously, it would've been a huge shame for us to throw the biscuits away, so we just *had* to eat them. We started looking at the Zones of Regulation identifying what we need in each zone. Students are coping really well with the transition from lower to upper school and are slowly adjusting to the changes in our expectations. Well done Team Terra! Great start, we are looking forward to another positive week!



VIKING

What a great first week we have had! The whole class has settled in really well and we have enjoyed getting to know each other.

We are using the theme 'This is Me' for all of our lessons and on the first day we had an introduction to this, along with some activities that helped us to get to know each other better. The students have been giving their best efforts in their lessons and have adapted really well to the new changes in school, in terms of staffing and timetabling. It has been a very calm start, especially during their Art lesson when they were all really engrossed in creating a personalised name label for their sketchbook - in keeping with the school theme! We hope you like them! The students have used their reading time wonderfully! The highlight has to be Caleb reading his book to Edward for the whole 30 minutes!



ACE

We've had a great first week back, there are good dynamics within the class and everyone seems happy. We've got a few class targets to work on together.

Students have done well to adapt to the changes to the timetable and to staffing as well. The effort that we have seen in class has been great.

One moment in particular that stood out this week was students from Ace and Swift taking advantage of the good weather and choosing to read together outside. Some read alone, some discussed books in between reading their own and others shared a book (taking it in turns to read a page each).



In maths, we have been working on ratios, with Jay and Jacob in particular showing some great skills working together and some amazing maths ability already. There has been great feedback from the other teachers, saying that Ace students have been keen to give their contributions and discuss topics well.

NEW HORIZONS

It has been a great first week back for New Horizons and we have all been getting to know each other better by exploring the theme of 'This is Me'. We have therefore been watching *The Greatest Showman* in English and discussing how differences are represented and celebrated. The students have done well sharing their ideas and opinions on the character of P.T. Barnum, recognising his moral complexity.

On Tuesday, we created mood boards to represent ourselves and it was great to learn about everyone's likes, dislikes and hobbies. I had fun guessing whose mood board was whose (and guessing correctly), before a scavenger hunt in the afternoon.

One of the highlights of the week was eating French food. It was great to see everyone trying something new and finding something they enjoyed - brie in particular was a favourite!

New Horizons has really impressed me with how they have adapted to new teachers, support staff and timetable changes and I am really looking forward to spending the year with them.

SWIFT

We've had a really good start to the new school year in Swift class. We have dived straight into our theme/topic of 'This Is Me' and started looking into The Greatest Showman across multiple subjects, including various well-known "freaks" that were born (or died) in Leicester in the maths lesson with myself.

On the first day back, we did lots of activities to encourage communication and relationship building between the students and the staff and it's been lovely to see the boys' relationships in particular building over the last few days; I think my quote of the week comes from Josh during one lunch time when he said to Tom and I, "that John is rapid quick at running!" during a game of tag outside.

We're all still getting accustomed to the changes of teaching staff in and out of the classroom, so unfortunately we haven't taken any photos this week, but if you look a little further up, there are some Swift students reading with Ace class that Tom has put in his part of the newsletter - it was lovely to see them collaborate so well.

STARDUST

We have had a busy start to the new school year in Stardust. We have been getting used to our new timetable welcoming old faces and new into our class. On our first day, we spent some time together exploring the topic 'This is Me' looking at our individual strengths and how we can be successful as a team.

Stardust have had the chance to go back to the science lab and have an introduction to science with Claire and they have begun work on their Arts Award with Sharon. Within English, we have watched parts of 'The Greatest Showman' and started to analyse the character of P.T. Barnum.

Stardust enjoyed their first session of 'curriculum choice' this week which was board games and strategy games. The students challenged each other to games of Monopoly and learnt the ground rules of a new game called 'Exploding kittens'.

Stardust have done a great job adjusting to their new routines this week and have done themselves proud getting stuck in and trying their best in all their lessons.

OTHER NEWS



Each week, this section will focus on a different topic related to the use of computers, the internet, social media and using IT safely.

If there are any specific topics that you would like advice about, please email office@thefusionacademy.co.uk using the subject "eSafety".



- ★ October Half Term Break: Mon 17th Oct - Fri 21 Oct
- ★ Christmas Break: Mon 19 Dec - Mon 2 January (school opens again on 3rd Jan)

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

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