

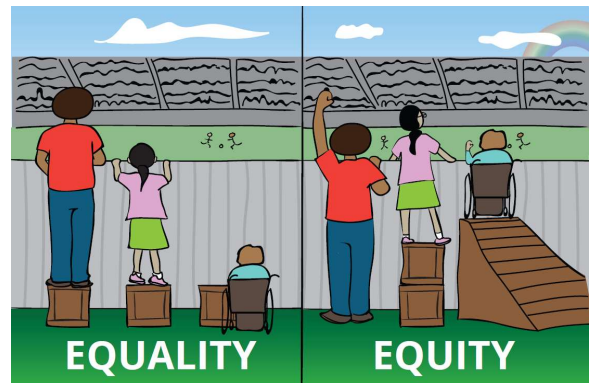
20th January 2023

## INTRODUCTION

Hello All,

We're another week into the new term and our upper school students have really taken to their new timetables well. I know there was trepidation and worry about the changes taking place but the staff have noticed a huge improvement in engagement, positive interactions and quality of work since we made the adaptations.

Over the last two weeks, we have been learning about the importance of equity in school. We discussed the differences between equity and equality and why this mattered. Many of our young people see what others are getting and wonder why they may be missing out. During our assemblies in both upper and lower school, we were able to have very sensible discussions about people getting what they need over everyone getting the same. It would be great if you could continue this conversation with your children.



We have also seen some brilliant self-advocacy from our pupils. They are beginning to recognise discussions done in a safe, calm manner, and with positive dialogue can have more desirable outcomes. As a school, we want to encourage this as much as possible, so if this happens at home, let us know so we can celebrate their achievements.

As always, I hope you have a restful and peaceful weekend,

Tunde Read

FUSION ACADEMY Upcoming Dates	
2 February 2023	Parents Workshop
29 March 2023	Parents Evening
10 May 2023	School Photographs
15 June 2023	Parents Workshop
3 July 2023	Transition Parents Evening
4 July 2023	Sports Day
6 July 2023	Transition Day
11 July 2023	Fusion Fest

Please see upcoming dates for your diaries

---

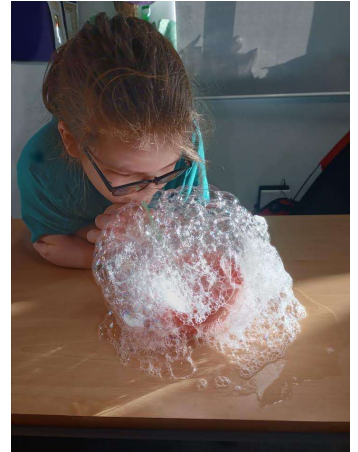
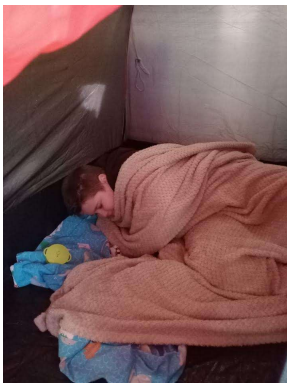
## JUNO

Another busy, but fun week for Juno class! In English, we have been looking at different types of poetry with the children writing some fantastic pieces. Our favourite style of poetry is cinquain and we've enjoyed reading out our poems to the rest of the class.

A highlight of our week has been learning about the rock cycle during our Science lesson. It was particularly exciting as we got to recreate the formation of the different types of rock - WITH CHOCOLATE!!! However, we can neither confirm or deny whether any chocolate was eaten during this process 😊

The children were amazed to see our Imagination Station on Monday when they arrived. This area is used for role-playing as part of our social communication learning. The theme for this week was camping - a tent, a campfire, a river to fish and a barbeque have all let us experience some wonderful friendship moments.

Have a great weekend!



---

## GENESIS

This week, we have been learning how to share a learning space, to work independently, to compromise, and to work safely. Within the lessons, the students have been able to take ownership of their learning by participating in the learning activities at their own pace. This has led to some excellent learning experiences and the chance to work with people the students wouldn't usually choose to work with.

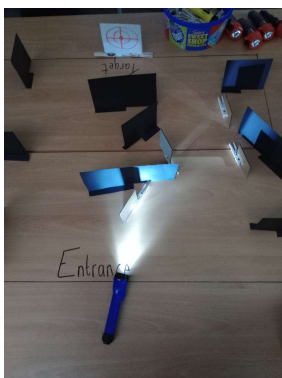
We have been roleplaying catching a bus and ordering hot drinks, and Vincent even roleplayed making a complaint! We have also been sharing resources to make gigantic food models, drawing inspiration from Claes Oldenburg.



---

## GATEWAY

It was very cold for our visit to the Outdoor Pursuit Centre on Thursday, but we had a lot of fun. Here are just a few of the pictures we took:



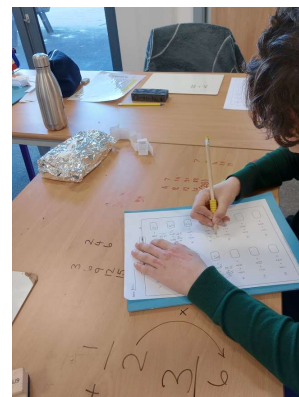
Meanwhile, back in school Daniel, Ruby and Liam managed to guide a torch light through a maze using mirrors and reflection:

---

## CALIPSO

We have been working together in lots of our lessons this week. We have followed a group plan to build Lego models taking on roles of architect, supplier and builder.

In science, we built a light maze to investigate how light travels in straight lines and can be reflected. In Geography, students used compasses and followed instructions to find a route together. Ruby has been reading to us in class at the end of the day and Kai showed fantastic determination and focus in his maths lessons. He will be sharing his work in our celeb fraction assembly this afternoon.



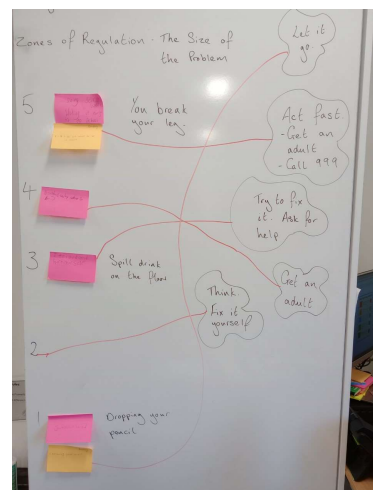
---

## SHARON

We have been continuing to work on our Journeys project this week in our Upper school Art lessons. We have analysed our chosen artist and started to think about ways the artist can inspire our own artwork. I am looking forward to seeing a wide variety of different art methods from our young people in the coming weeks.

In Life Skills, some of our Pathway 2 students have used their knowledge of the Eatwell Guide and healthy eating to design a salad in a jar which will contain all the required food groups for a healthy balanced diet. We are looking forward to making our salad jars next week.

In Viking class during Social Communication time, we have been focusing on the size of problems that we face in our lives and considering which are big vs little problems. We then came up with strategies to help us deal with problems.



---

## TOM

A few students have begun to look at the Kitronik Arcade devices that are able to be programmed with arcade games that are programmed online. They have 2 buttons and a directional pad, as well as a built-in screen, buzzer and rumble feedback. It'll be great to see students creating their own clones of retro games, or even brand new original ideas.



In lessons this week, we have moved onto interactive systems and video working through our media topic. Students in Gateway and Calipso class have been analysing interactive systems and Upper school classes are starting to look at news reports, with the end goal of creating their own news and weather report. Juno and Genesis classes have been reviewing posters and discussing what makes a poster complete, and what makes them good.

We have started to plan the PCs that are going to be in the common room. We have so far decided on an AMD processor (unanimously). We are currently undecided on the monitor set up and what accessories might be needed (such as controllers or similar). There are a lot of decisions to be made, and working to a budget is an important consideration too.

---

## ALICE

This week in Life Skills, we have been looking at Health and Safety Risks. Everyone showed a good ability to identify risks and most could make realistic predictions of their consequences. To allow students to put their learning into practice, we took a trip to the park. Students demonstrated their ability to cross the road safely and use equipment as intended upon arrival. Despite the cold, everyone enjoyed themselves!

In English this week, we watched 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'. Students have started to make storyboards to help them remember the narrative and they will be plotting this against the hero's journey to show their understanding of the concept. Caleb, Callum and Zane have worked particularly hard on this and produced some great examples. Next week, students will be beginning to design a video game that follows the hero's journey and includes conventions of the fantasy genre. They will be considering the setting and describe entering this for the first time.

---

## KATIE

Another busy week working on applying our number skills to area and volume - we have primarily worked on compound shapes and volumes of prisms.

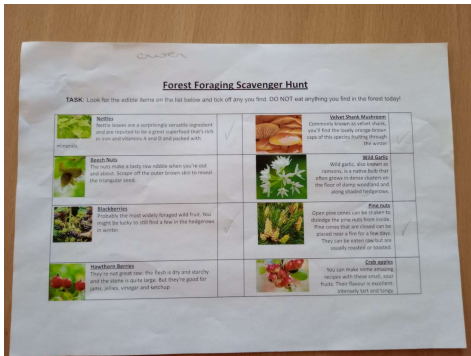
Lots of brilliant ideas of where we can visualise prisms in real-life: toblerone, pringle tubes, buildings, boxes, rubix, etc.



We also had good fun in the morning Social Communication time by doing an activity of "get through the 'minefield' without being blown up" whilst blindfolded! Even Cheryl had a go and the students had great fun advising her how to get through the path.

## SAM

In English this week, we have started looking at the opening of 'The Hobbit' and thinking about the choices Tolkien makes to engage the reader. Luke, Owen and Leah offered some great pieces of analysis during their discussions. On Wednesday, we took over the common room for a comfy and cosy reading session and explored the Character of Bilbo and how he meets the criteria of the reluctant hero. Josh, Henry and Ade were able to consider Bilbo's thoughts and feelings towards Gandalf and the Dwarves.



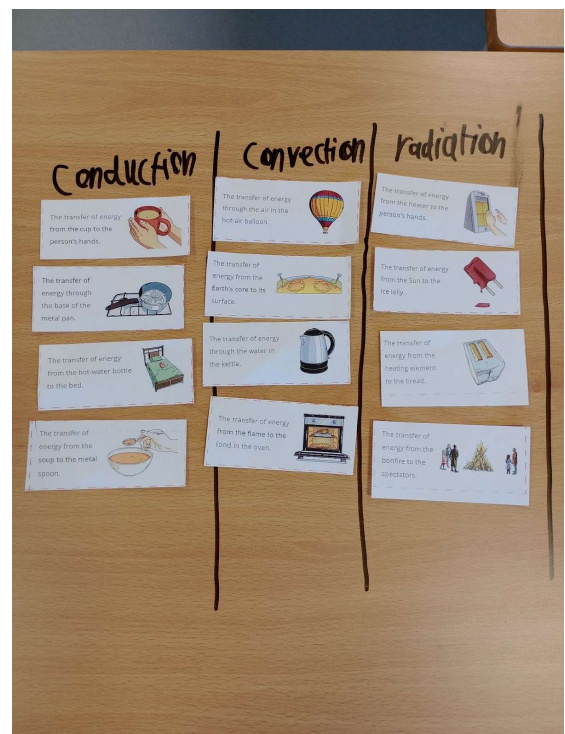
During Life Skills, we started the week thinking about risky activities that people enjoy doing, such as rock climbing and car racing. Not many students were keen on the Shark Cage activity. Later in the week, we started to think about hazards in the home and around school where the students became health and safety officers spotting hazards around the school site. Students ended the week by writing a risk assessment for the forest before attempting to forage for edible items in the forest, (but we didn't have much luck!)

Stardust pupils have spent their time in social communication this week looking at perseverance - Felix has been teaching Zamzam how to play chess and Henry has been developing Godzilla Uno. We have also begun to explore romantic relationships and what healthy and unhealthy romantic relationships look like. To end the week, Felix brought in his bunnies for us to meet.

## CLAIRE & LAURA

In science this week, groups have been continuing with their Energy topic. Pathway 1 groups showed great concentration and applied their learning well when finding out about heat transfer. The image shows an example of an activity they completed on identifying conduction, convection and radiation. Amazing work!

Pathway 2 groups have been linking maths skills to their science topic as they have been learning how to calculate work done when energy is transferred. Jay and Camron impressed me when I set them a challenge to see how many calculation questions they could answer in 5 minutes! The result was - lots!



## 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:

Jaxon	Robbie	Daniel	Alfie
Josh	Camron	Sol	Steph
Tommy	Ruby	Emilia	
Xander	Riley	Liam	

Well done!

**Overall Ticket Total = 15**



### Diary Dates

- ★ Parents Workshop: Thur 2 Feb
- ★ Parents' Evening: Wed 29 March

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

[office@thefusionacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@thefusionacademy.co.uk)

Contact Number: 01455 243689