

8th September 2023

INTRODUCTION

Hi All,

Today marks the end of the hottest start to the school year we've ever experienced! With so much warm weather, we've seen some immersive learning outdoors, and finished the week with a brilliant water-fight.

The students in upper school will have had their options booklet sent home this week, and we encourage you to talk about what their choices will be for their studies this year. (Please use the link below). These choices are of a high importance as it will be the basis of their studies on Wednesdays as we attempt to give the children the best chance at achieving qualifications.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf8u5awkp--uT0whYacP_5s8QggMjxlis1Vmb11H0U1B3CaSQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

In another change to previous years, the student council will now be deciding which charities we will be raising money for during the 2023/24 academic year. They will hold their first meeting next week, and top of the agenda will be deciding what causes they feel are important to them. If you, or your family have causes important to you, be sure to let your child know, so they can inform their class representative for a chance to be chosen. There will be three charities chosen and the fundraising events will be decided as we approach the important dates.

Something we love to do at The Fusion Academy is celebrate our students and we are now seeing our students do the same. In class Gateway, Freddie used his own resources to create a surprise party for one of his friends. This kindness, generosity, and care for his fellow pupil was heartwarming and wonderful to be a part of.

On Monday, parents will receive a notification regarding our assessment tool, Earwig. This is how we track progress in school, uploading work the children complete to our online system. You will now be able to see this work as it is uploaded to the system, and add comments, or even upload your own photos of work or activities you do with your children. The records you add, help us to track progress against their EHCPs, as some targets set are seen just as much at home as they are at school.

As always, we hope you enjoy your weekend at home in the sun, and we look forward to welcoming them back on Monday.

Katie & Tunde

JUNO - Annabelle

It has been a hot week in Juno this week! In order to help us with this heat, there has been lots of water and sand play, playing in the outdoor spaces, using our senses to explore our surroundings and spending time indoors in a shaded classroom with lots of windows open!

We have learnt new things about each other and met some new faces from around the school and developed on the friendships we started to make last week. Next week, we will start to spend more time focussing on our maths and English skills and exploring more poems about our senses. Then, adapting these poems for sensory experiences in the classroom.



GENESIS - Aimee W

We have used lots of water play to get us through the heat this week. There has been some amazing independent work in maths and English - we have been very impressed! We enjoyed starting our sound topic in Science by looking at different ways we can see the vibrations. On Wednesday, we had a sensory afternoon to help us cool down. Some of the students shared a foot spa outside and it was great to see them all sharing a space. It has been lovely to see the friendships continue to develop inside and outside of the classroom and to observe the students playing games together.



GATEWAY - Christina

This week, we have been exploring the forest as part of English where students were using senses to add description. They were able to use most of their senses to describe. In maths, we have been adding and subtracting with numbers up to the place value of a million. Students have used a variety of methods to show this. In History, we have been exploring the Stone Age, particularly cave art. Students have been using natural materials to create pieces of art.



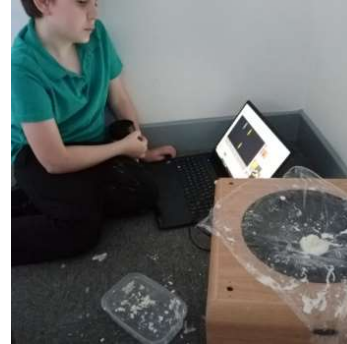
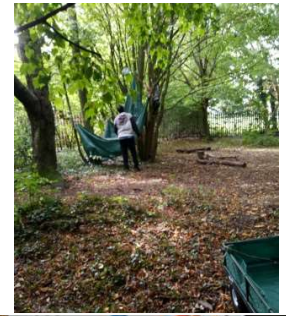
CALIPSO - Sam S

In Calipso class this week, we have done lots of shared learning and whole class activities. We have done some exploring using our senses in our learning and are focussing on poems in English with some amazing performances. We enjoyed the Calipso olympics for PE and relaxed afterwards with a whole class story in the shade. Enjoy your sunny weekend!



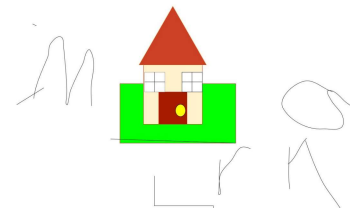
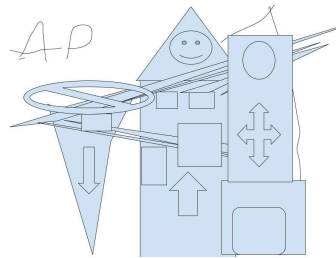
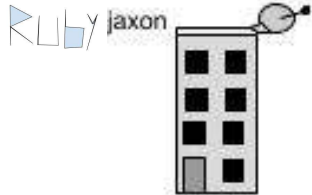
RANGER - Karen

The sun has been shining and we have been using this to our advantage with our learning. We have been exploring the forest and creating dens and spears for our Stone Age topic. In science, we have been exploring sounds and enjoyed watching oobleck dance and watching the tuning fork vibrate in the water. In maths, we have continued to enhance our knowledge of place value by using and applying it to solve problems.



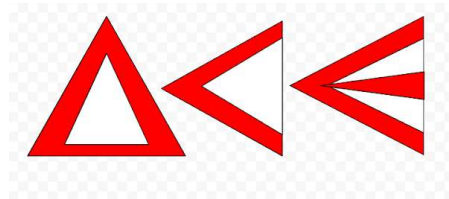
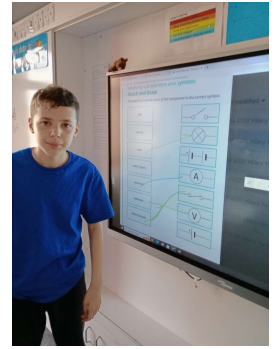
VIKING - Hilary

We really enjoyed our visit to the Forest on Monday. All the students had a go at sawing a piece of wood safely and were very successful at it. In Computing, we have started learning about Vector drawings and have been creating our own designs. We hope you like them!



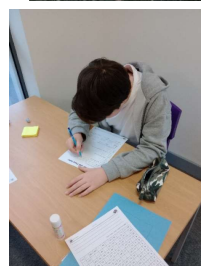
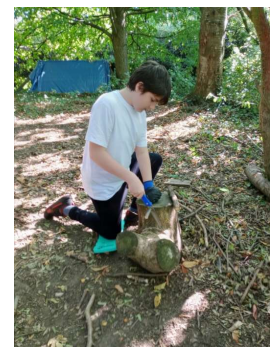
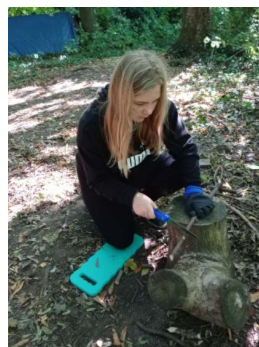
ACE - Zak

Well, how lovely has it been this week to be teaching in Ace class during this unexpected mini heatwave! We have been making electrical circuits in science. We recreated these symbols on the playground using our bodies! In maths, we have been looking at angles and shapes and exploring this physically too. We have also continued looking at Medieval England and created still images to recreate a mediaeval town. In English, we have looked at poetry and song lyrics to understand extended metaphors. In computing, we have started to look at vector graphics and started to design some logos for our classroom.



MARINER - Simon

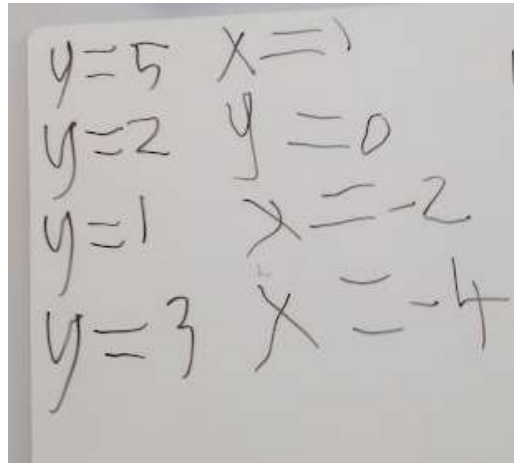
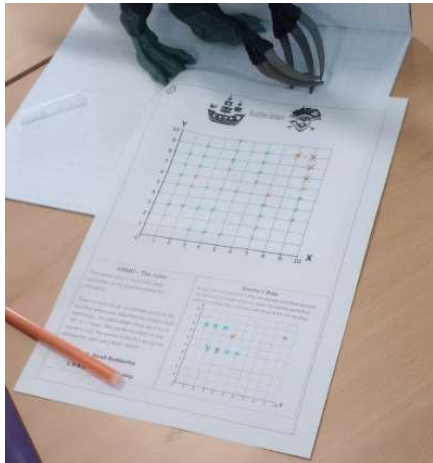
In Mariner this week, we have built on a positive start to the week by extending some of the expectations around work in class and exposing the students to some new experiences. There has been an increase in the amount that we've been able to complete this week and we've been really impressed with their maths skills, in particular. We also really enjoyed our first forest school session with Penny where we were working with a hand saw to cut pieces of wood.



AQUARIUS - Katie

In Aquarius this week, we have focused on our RSE topic of "Using what we've learned in new situations / settings" and continued to build on our relationships by playing games and building marble runs together.

In Maths for upper schools students, we have continued to ensure our knowledge of the basics about the Cartesian Plane and coordinate plotting is secure, then recognising and drawing horizontal and vertical lines parallel to the axis and finally substituting into equations using a table of values to draw straight line graphs.



NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

New Horizons have been exploring 'What makes something funny?' in our social communication time. Jacob shared some information about his favourite TV show and we watched some clips. We have also been keeping up to date with current events via Newsround and the radio.

We also completed the last preparations for our Tortoise, Elphie arriving. The students helped prepare her habitat and collected dandelions for her to eat. On Thursday, Elphie was delivered by Cattie from Pingles Pets and she told us extra information about how to look after her.

We had our second options taster day on Wednesday. Parents should have all received a copy of the booklet and a form to complete with their child's options by Monday.



SWIFT - SAM R

In Swift this week, we have been having many discussions about students' option choices and aims for the future and how they are feeling about moving forwards.

In Computing, the students have taken part in their second example lesson for their options where they have been looking at the different components of the computers and their peripherals.

In PE, we have been focusing on the different striking techniques in Badminton and to use it for their tactical advantages in games.



STARDUST - Sam P

A very hot week for us this week in Stardust with staff doing lots of water runs to keep students hydrated and cool.

In our social communication times this week, we have been looking at being kind and ensuring that we are kind to each other. Whilst some students have enjoyed playing 'six second scribe' as part of their social reading, Ethan and Luke practised some lifelong learning skills by researching home insurance.

During English, Pathway 1 students have been learning about the context of war poetry and making predictions about what conventions might appear in the poems we are going to look at. Jay and Adegbemi were superstars at finding and sharing their information.

In PSHE, Pathway 2 students have spent some time looking at our basic needs and reviewing how we can create a good sleep routine. Jacob and Edward offered some great suggestions, such as using white noise to help.

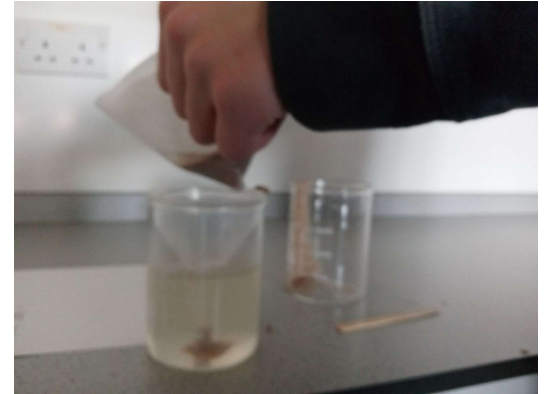
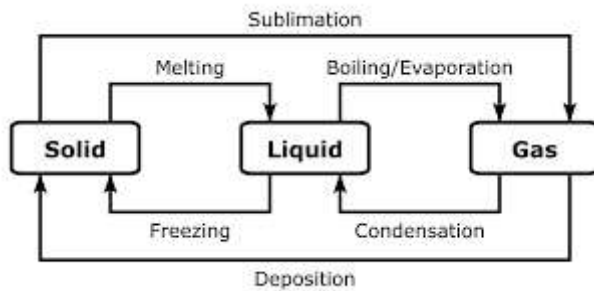
In Pathway 2 Group 1, we reviewed the tools and strategies we can use to help us regulate through the zones during Life Skills. We also reflected on how we can regulate when out in the community.



SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam

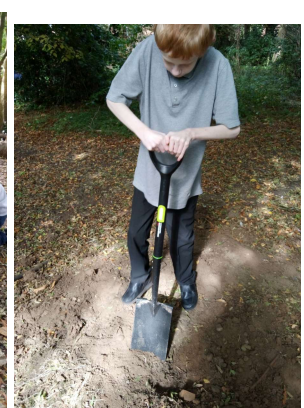
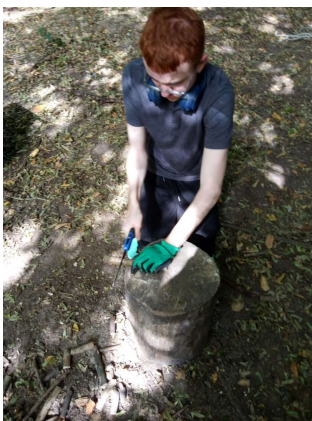
This week in science, we have looked at elements, mixtures, compounds and how atoms are arranged. Then, we used filtration to separate suspended mixtures by using filtration as shown in the picture.

We have also been looking at the changes of state of matter



Forest School- Karen and Penny

It has been a pleasure working with the pathways groups over the past two weeks. They have been aiming high and showing safe working practices whilst lighting fires and starting to use tools. The students have listened carefully to the tool talks for the hand and bow saw. They had also worked well as a team where they had completed team building challenges. Some students in lower school have been helping to lay bark for the rainy season as well to prepare the ground for the winter months.



OTHER NEWS

Award Success for our resident Community Theatre!

Stageworks-Performance Community Theatre based at The Fusion Academy are celebrating an award success.

Last Sunday afternoon, director Jenni (who some of you may recognise) attended the BBC Make A Difference Awards with members Eve and Callum and were blown away when they were announced the winner of the Together award for making an inclusive theatre space!

Stageworks is on every Wednesday evening at Fusion and welcomes members from all areas of our community and has been recognised as a welcoming space for those with disabilities or neuro-diversities. Email Jennifer.Johnson@thefusionacademy.co.uk if you would like more information.



Diary Dates

- ★ October Half Term Break: Mon 16th Oct 2023 - Wed 25th Oct 2023
- ★ School Opens: Thurs 26th Oct 2023
- ★ School closes for Christmas: Fri 22nd Dec 2023
- ★ School Opens: Mon 8th Jan 2024

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

office@thefusionacademy.co.uk

Contact Number: 01455 243689