

22nd September 2023

INTRODUCTION

Hi All,

There's finally a chill in the air as the feelings of autumn sweep across the school. The students in upper school are settling into their new options, with exams and qualifications being the end goal. Despite this feeling like something distant, and way out on the horizon, the staff at Fusion are working tirelessly to help the students put in all the foundations to be as successful as possible. What success will look like for each student will be very different, but we know that for all of them, hard work and endeavour will be what gets them there.

In lower school, we are starting to see some wonderful friendships forming. Two students have started to create their own version of the school on a dedicated minecraft server. We can't wait to see it once finished, and will share updates here when we do!

At the Fusion Academy, the students all have access to Chrome Books as part of their learning. We deliver lessons on internet safety, and encourage appropriate use. However, we are starting to see students push the boundaries of what is acceptable. Sharing their devices to attempt to access things they shouldn't. We are asking that you remain vigilant of how your students use their technology at home and look for any signs, or changes in behaviour. If you do see any of this and would like support, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

There have been some great logs on Earwig this week. We hope you're able to access these to see what they've been up to in school. There are some great photos from Forest School; some excellent school work; and some lovely engagement. If you're struggling to access your child's logs, please let your class teacher know so we can check your access.

I mentioned previously the student council would be deciding which charities the school would be raising money for this year, and they have chosen Cancer Research/Macmillan and The Royal British Legion.

As ever, we hope you have an enjoyable and restful weekend,

Katie & Tunde

JUNO - Annabelle



We have had a particularly creative week in Juno this week. As you can see, we now have a residential robot and a very proud creator. We have been making weather with cotton buds and then destroying it with cotton bud spears and also making sparkly potions in the sunshine! Oscar has told us some fantastical stories about moon men and fairy planets, while Harry and Zach have been telling us more and more about their wonderful play doh creations.

GENESIS - Aimee W

We have seen some amazing learning in Genesis this week. Students have shown great resilience in their Maths work and we had lots of fun conducting a police interview in English. We have continued our sound topic in Science and it was great to see one of our students teaching a peer about how sound travels through the ear after she missed our previous lesson. We enjoyed using the primary colours to mix paints and complete our colour wheels.



GATEWAY - Christina

On Friday, our class cooked Mexican rice. All pupils engaged and were following the recipe. Some added their own interesting ingredients. This week in Science, we have been exploring sound and soundproofing. Pupils used different materials and completed experiments to conclude which material was best at sound proofing. During PE, pupils were able to support each other with technique so they could engage and enjoy the activity. In RE, we have been exploring Christian churches. Edmund was able to use materials to build his own church.



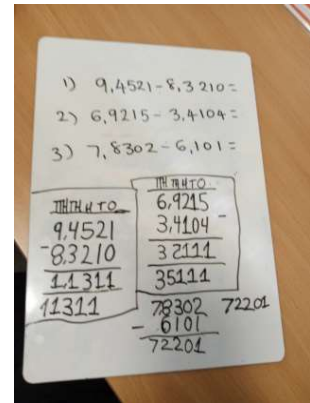
CALIPSO - Sam S

This week, Calipso have focussed on whole class learning and sharing our space. We have seen some real friendships blossoming and the whole class are getting on really well. Jaden brought in the coat of arms he created at home which is now stuck on our class castle! Each student created a stop animation using Google Slides this week, so we had a cinema showing, and we were all really proud of each other.



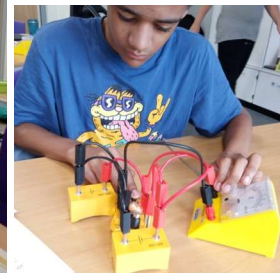
RANGER - Karen

Another week has flown by and the students are certainly getting into the routine of our class now. We had a fantastic basketball session last week developing our resilience to losing. In Humanities, we were painting cave paintings and some of the students used berries and leaves to create their pictures. This week in English, we have been writing reviews and we started this week looking at the review for the 'Barbie' movie. Rangers are 'not going to be recommending to a friend!' We've continued to explore pitch and how different instruments make different sounds and how you can manipulate them.



VIKING - Hilary

In Science this week, we have been using ammeters to measure electrical current and voltmeters to measure potential difference (also known as voltage).



We have also been working very hard in Maths creating and interpreting pie charts and have been continuing our work on poetry in English.

In Careers, we looked at how different jobs can allow us to travel around the world, for example an archeologist might travel to Egypt to investigate the pyramids and surrounding land or a Rolls Royce worker might visit the Rolls Royce site in Singapore. Who knew?!!

ACE - Zak

Ace students have worked really hard this week. They have had practical Science lessons where they have been measuring currents with voltmeters. In computing, they have mastered the skill of layering in vector drawing. We have started looking at poisonous poetry in English. During Maths, we have started to look at polygons and quadrilaterals after persevering with constructing ASA, SAS and SSS triangles with compasses. In History, we have been looking at the different jobs in Medieval Britain and the importance of the Church. We have also continued looking at Gandhi and how he protested peacefully against discrimination during RE. In music, we looked at the genre of British rock. In Art, we looked at Banksy and street art.



MARINER - Simon

In Mariner this week, we have continued on our academic work, but we have also been building on relationship, social and communication skills. We have played several games in class and the engagement as a group has been really positive, despite some obvious competitive personalities! We've also had lots of success outside of the classroom, with Jayden carrying on his fantastic work at TECK and Dylan working as an excellent assistant at Forest Schools this week, to keep the fires going in the rain. Jacob has also kept up his excellent start to the year and Ruby has managed several changes to her timetable really well, despite her frustrations.

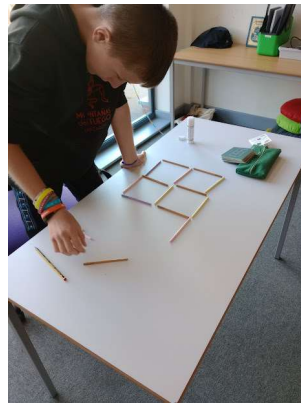


AQUARIUS - Katie

In Aquarius, there has been lots of interest in Dungeons and Dragons with the D&D club starting during lunch times; lots of time spent reading up about characters and the game and creating things in preparation for playing!

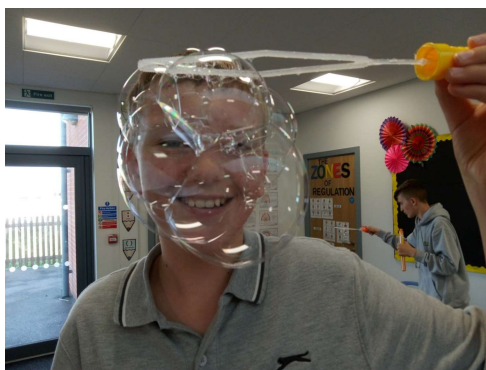
In Art/Design Technology as part of the Enrichment Afternoon on Friday Afternoon, we focused on split-pin model making and one student made a fantastic model of Jurassic Park with different parts that moved in various ways.

In Maths, we've added in some elements of puzzles to keep up with persevering and problem solving whilst still learning Algebra - we'll be moving onto "Equations and Inequalities" this week and using some new resources (bar models) which will be good for the students to see how to visually represent unknowns/the letter part of the maths that they sometimes struggle with.



NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

We have had a week focused on being calm and collected. We have been reminding ourselves of our regulation strategies and trying to recognise earlier signs of becoming overwhelmed. The bubbles are still proving a popular strategy!
Jacob has been enjoying challenging staff to Badminton games.
On Friday, we enjoyed Candy Floss and games for Zane's birthday!

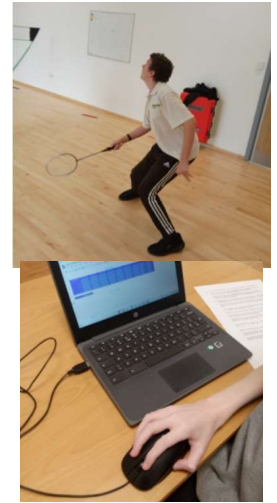


SWIFT - Sam R

In Swift this week, we have been having discussions about possible places that we may want to visit in the future or return to and explore the world through games seeing what knowledge we have of locations.

In PE, we have continued with the skills learnt over previous lessons to form a tournament where students competed against each other. This was a lot of fun and lovely to see students use skills that they have been practising.

In Computing, students have been working on a fictional situation where they work for the 'Fusion Academy Clothing Company' and were given instructions to create a spreadsheet to calculate the sale of items using a range of formulas.



STARDUST - Sam P

A wet, but reflective week in Stardust. The damp weather has meant students have been indoors a lot more than usual and so we have reflected and reviewed places to spend our social times, for example soft play and Stardust classroom. We also spent some time reminding ourselves of the expectations for indoor play to make sure we are all safe. In our social communication time, we have been discussing consequences and being accountable for our choices.

In English, Pathway 1 students have started to look at Wilfred Owen's poem 'Exposure' which is about the impact that the severe weather conditions had during war time - judging by the last few days I think the students can relate to the feeling of despondency caused by bad weather. Pathway 1 Group 2 students started to build a wonderful wordweb connecting words together that appear in the poem.

In Life Skills this week, Pathway 2 Group 1 students did some cooking linked to our work on hierarchy of needs and nutritional meals. Caden and Liam made chicken curry, whilst Lennon and Edward made toad in the hole. Jude did a combination meal and created a sausage casserole.

Enrichment (Media): In Enrichment, we have been looking at how the comedy genre is applied through different mediums. Last Friday, we looked at physical comedy including examples from Mr Bean and Laurel and Hardy. The students then had the chance to create a comedy sketch.



SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam

Pathway 1 students have finished Chemistry of the atmosphere which included looking at the human impact on the world including pollution.

Pathway 2 students have come to the end of separation techniques having done filtration, distillation and evaporation. They will get to do the evaporation experiment when we have managed to get all the equipment together.

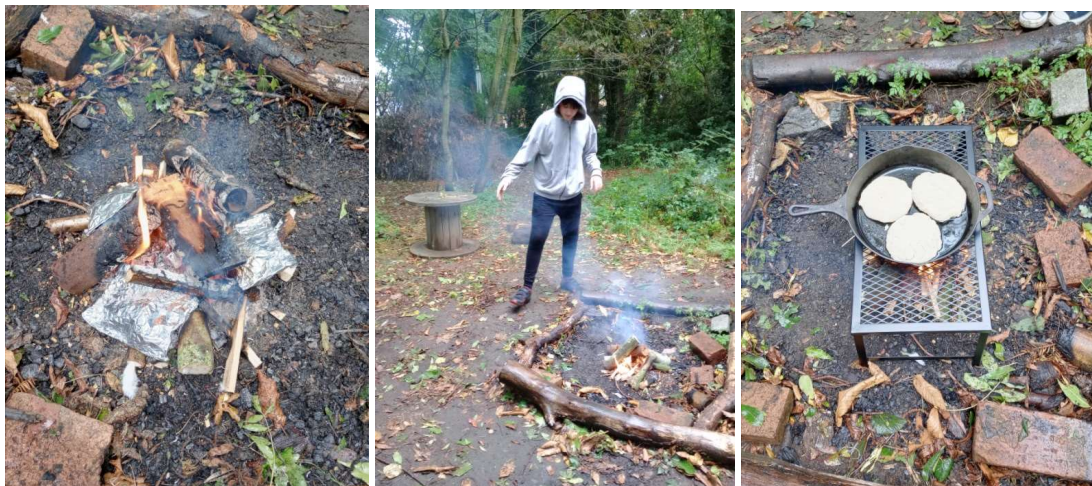
FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny

This week in Forest School, the students have been learning how to use the sheath knife along with the hand saw and bow saw. They have also been trying to put up a tarpaulin shelter, but unfortunately the wind and the rain got the better of them!

On Wednesday, the students had a go at cooking on the fire. Dylan from Mariner made the fire and kept the fire going with grit and determination in the pouring rain. They made flatbreads using just flour and water then fried them on the fire.

The students also made banana, chocolate and marshmallow pockets which they devoured in seconds.

The students are looking forward to doing some more cooking in the forest this term.



We are looking for donations for our forest school provision. If you have any old pots and pans that could be used for a mud kitchen or for open fire cooking please let us know.

Also if anyone knows of any companies that have large electrical reels, logs for our fire area, old decking boards, please let us know any names to get in touch with them. Thank you.

OTHER NEWS



The Fusion Academy Celebrating Achievements

This week, Jacob K was highlighted for praise for his brilliant contributions in class, and to the Dungeons and Dragons club.



Please see the below link for the e-safety newsletter:

<https://openthinkingpartnership.co.uk/e-safety-newsletter-september-2023/>

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/>

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