

29th September 2023

## INTRODUCTION

Hi All,

A fabulous week with lots going on in school including young people helping to keep the school tidy and active. Thanks to Jacob for working with Keith to assemble a desk.

The upper school young people have used their corridor lanyards for the first time this week and although some have found this challenging, we will continue to support everyone in making sure they use them. These are lanyards used that are worn and signed by teachers to say the young people are allowed out of class for a movement break and will allocate a time they need to be back in the lessons.

At the Fusion Academy, the young people are continuing to build their friendships and sometimes this can be tricky. We are looking into how we can support at lunch time, especially with equipment and clubs to support. We currently use scooters and some bikes and apply the rule of wearing a helmet. Clubs on offer include dungeons and dragon club, film club, chess club and singing club. If your young people have any other ideas, please let them know they can share these ideas with us.

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

Katie and Tunde

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## JUNO - Annabelle



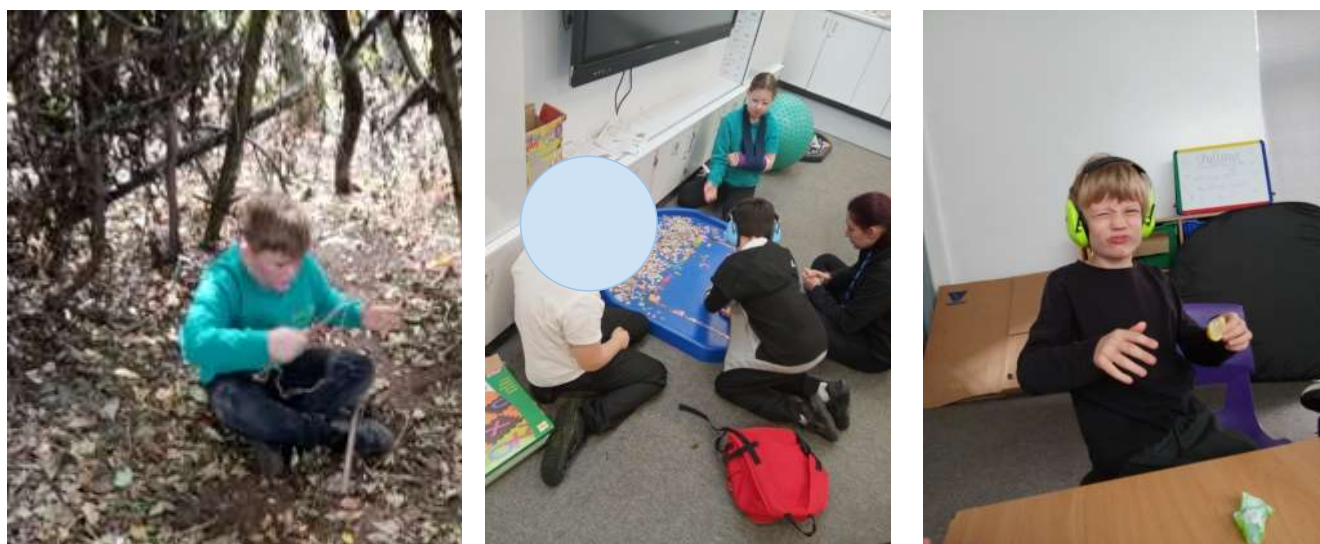
We have had lots of smiley faces and have seen many little achievements across the week, leading to some very proud young people. Some of us have been snuffly and this has been frustrating, but it hasn't stopped anyone from wanting to work together, play together and explore new things.

As you can see, there are some proud faces in Juno this week. Lego houses for "Harry Plopper", dens and forts to play in, race cars and tracks, lovely number work and paint play are but a few of the things we have done this week. To finish off the week, one of our nature curious students found us some beautiful snails and snail shells and invited friends along to see his snail farm!

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## GENESIS - Aimee W

We have had lots of fun in Genesis this week. We started the week down in the forest doing lots of exploring, students enjoyed finding sticks and using them for different purposes. As always, students have been working extremely hard. We have seen some amazing writing in English this week with the students writing their own reviews. We have seen the students demonstrate lots of patience and resilience when trying to complete a very tricky jigsaw! In PSHE, we continued to work on interoception, with a focus on our mouths where we tasted different kinds of food and then discussed how they made our mouths feel (some of them made us pull very funny faces!!). To finish the week off, we will be exploring different music genres and celebrating Bella's birthday in Music.



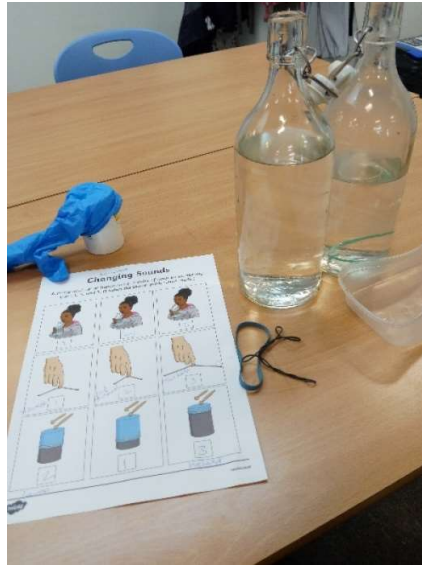
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## GATEWAY - Christina

This week, we have been exploring different settings in English through poetry. Pupils have learnt new vocabulary through this. They have also been able to use their senses to add extra description of the poet's work.

In science, we have been completing experiments to investigate the pitch of different items. Pupils have also been using recycled materials to make their own instruments and create their own sound.

During PE, pupils have shown their ability to work with each other and participate in competitive games. They have shown resilience and good sportsmanship.



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## CALIPSO - Sam S

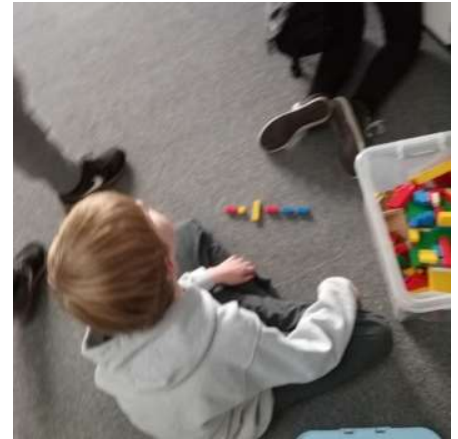
This week, the class has really shown us how amazing they are. They have managed a slight change in routine brilliantly. They have learnt Roman Numerals and competed in online quizzes using their knowledge. They have been looking at Kandinsky in art and exploring the use of shape. We have explored how sound travels and how our bodies pick up these sounds.



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## RANGER - Karen

In Ranger, we have had a brilliant week. The students have been engaging well with their English lessons by innovating poems to make them their own. In Maths, we have been focusing on multiples and common factors. The children have also learnt how to 'copy' and 'share' an item on Google Drive and somehow I seem to have a large number of emails this week! In PE, we have been learning how to play badminton and cricket and copy with the different experiences.



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## VIKING - Hilary

On Monday, we had a great time in Forest School learning how to use a Billhook safely. It was a bit scary at first, but we all managed to chop up some wood with it. We also made caterpillars with conkers which was a lot of fun.



In Science, we investigated whether citrus fruit could be used as a battery to power a mobile phone (due to its high acidity). Although we were able to create a circuit that worked, we found that, unfortunately, not enough volts were produced to make a mobile phone work!

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## ACE - Zak

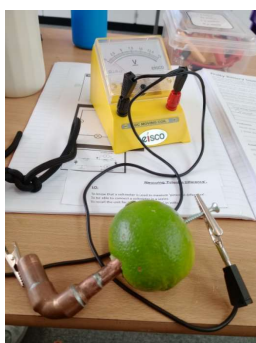
Ace class has had a creative week of learning. In Maths, we have been conducting our own surveys and making our own pie charts. In Science, we did a practical experiment where we measured the voltage of different citrus fruits as batteries. In Computing, we have looked at the skill of manipulating shapes to improve our vector drawings. In Music and Art, we have explored the theme of rebellion by looking at more street art and punk music. In English, we have been reading and performing Shakespeare's sonnet 147 using iambic pentameter. We have started to compare and contrast different poems too.



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## MARINER - Simon

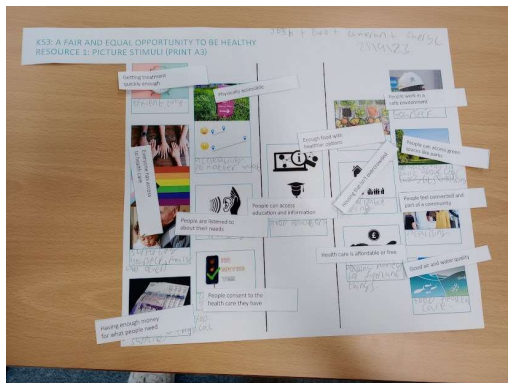
Another fun and engaging week in Mariner again as the students have applied their learning across lots of different situations. We have again focused on developing skills to work as a group and engaging in our learning for a more sustained time. We have also done some valuable work on Life Skills to develop outside of school which will help us all to become more independent in the future.



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## AQUARIUS - Katie

In Aquarius, we have continued to work on building relationships and learning new games whilst socialising - this week "kluster" has been a favourite game with 4 of the 5 boys in the tutor group playing it at various times in the week and even teaching it to new players themselves.



In PSHE with Pathway 1 group 2, we have been focusing on "Things that affect how I feel about myself" and this week we particularly focused on Healthy Habits. The boys worked well in mixed groups looking at 'building blocks of health' and discussing scenarios around barriers to health and also access to good/positive health and wellbeing.

In Maths, we have been working on representing algebraic solutions on number lines using our inequality knowledge - some fantastic collaboration between students, great conversations about correct calculations and working out and working together to get to the right solution(s) eventually. We've had a lot of hands-on lessons using

counters and cut-out resources to help recognise what symbols to use when drawing the representations.

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## NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

In New Horizons, we have been focusing on communication and interaction between classmates and trying to strengthen our peer relationships. This has seen us playing board games together and encouraging more interaction between the class team. Camron also built an awesome version of our classroom on Minecraft at home and brought it in to show us all! Check it out in the photo attached!



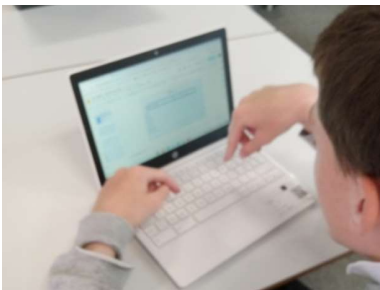
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## SWIFT - Sam R

This week in Swift, we have been researching jobs and careers and discussing the routes on how to do them. This has allowed everyone to have an understanding on what needs to be done to achieve their goal. We have also had fun testing our spelling skills and Geography knowledge through interactive activities.

In PE, students have tested their fitness levels by taking part in a Bleep Test and scored some impressive results.

In Computing, we have continued to develop Spreadsheets skills by creating formulas to calculate stock being bought, stock levels reducing and the amount of profit from each sale.



In Computing options, we have been learning about Operating Software and the different licence types. Also, researching the advantages and disadvantages of each licence.

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## STARDUST - Sam P



It has been a quiet week in Stardust this week which has allowed for some quality time with a smaller group of students. John and Ade have been strengthening their peer relationships and practising turn taking with a Scrabble tournament during our afternoon social communication sessions. At the end of last week, students nominated themselves for the role of Eco Committee representative with John winning the vote - well done John!

In English this week, students in Pathway 1 Group 2 have been preparing their opening statements ready for our debate about whether conscription should be reintroduced during times of conflict.



During our Life Skills lessons, Pathway 2 students have been refreshing themselves on 'the group plan' and identifying how to compromise when we don't always want to join in the group plan.



Finally in PSHE this week, we have continued our focus on healthy choices by looking at the positive impact being active has on our physical and mental well-being including Jacob trying out some physical balancing challenges.

## SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam

Pathway 1 is now working on Using resources of the Earth including this has included looking at how our water is treated to make it portable.

Pathway 2 has started working on the periodic table including labelling the Noble gases, Halogens, Transition metals and Alkali metals. Example of a young person's work is below.

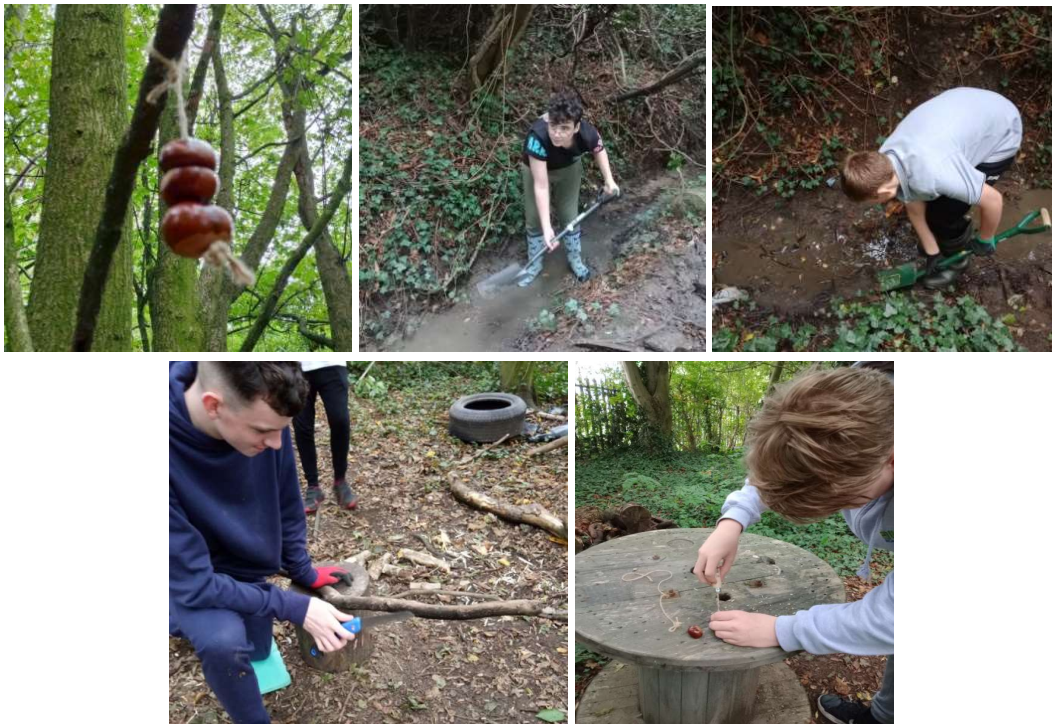
**AQA**  
The Periodic Table of Elements

Key  
relative atomic mass  
atomic symbol  
atomic (proton) number

Handwritten labels:  
- Alkali metals (Group 1)  
- Halogens (Group 17)  
- Transition metals (Groups 3-10)

Footnote: \*The Lanthanides (atomic numbers 58 - 71) and the Actinides (atomic numbers 90 - 103) have been omitted. Relative atomic masses for Cu and Cl have not been rounded to the nearest whole number.

## FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny



In Forest Schools this week, we have been doing a variety of activities. The students have been cleaning out the stream and cutting back trees ready for the Winter months. Some students have been learning how to split wood using the correct tools.

As the conker season has arrived, the students have been identifying which trees they come from. They have been using the palm drills to make strings with them which are hanging in the forest.



## Amazing News!!



We have been awarded a grant through 'Learning through landscapes' to support our forest school programme. We have been awarded some forest school equipment to support the delivery of the sessions and additional training for our forest school team. We cannot wait to receive the support.

We also have some trees to plant in November from the 'Woodland Trust' and some bulbs to plant from 'Bulbz for Kids'. If anyone knows of any local companies that can support us in the forest for equipment or storage, please let us know.

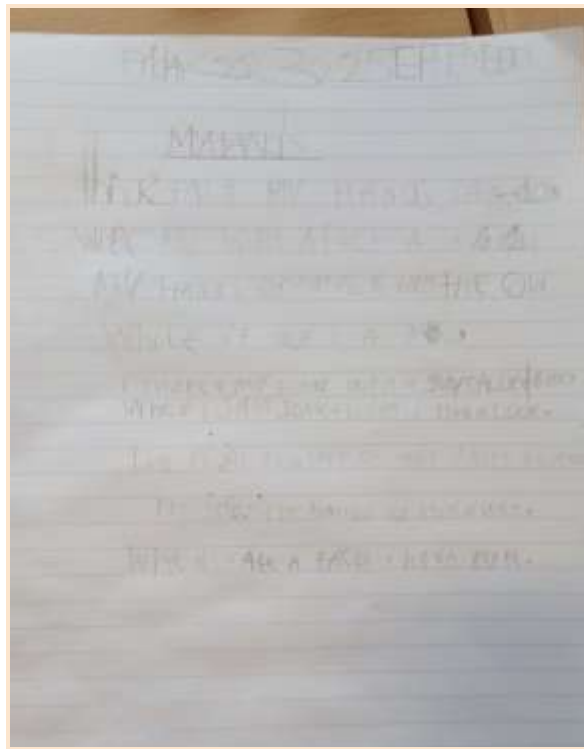
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## OTHER NEWS



### The Fusion Academy Celebrating Achievements

This week, we are celebrating Maverick's wonderful writing. It was highlighted in assembly that Maverick had completed some excellent writing this week, and you can see it below.



## SCHOOL COUNCIL / ECO COMMITTEE

Student council has met for another meeting this week. We have talked about the different celebrations that happen and we have come up with some ideas to support the celebrations. We have discussed halloween and they have challenged Katie and Tunde to take part in a halloween quiz. We have also looked at Remembrance and how we can support this by selling poppies and possibly attending the cenotaph.



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

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



Leicestershire Music has some fantastic opportunities outside of school for the students to join in.

Please see the links below for more information:

### Leicestershire & MEHEM Inclusive Choirs

<https://ukleicestershire.speedadmin.dk/registration?signupSchoolID=1851#/Course/154/0/1241/1851>

### Jam Band

<https://ukleicestershire.speedadmin.dk/registration?signupSchoolID=1851#/Course/157/0/1279/1851>



## 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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