

13th October 2023

## INTRODUCTION

Hi All,

This half-term has absolutely flown by! We can't actually believe we're at the halfway stage already.

Over the last week, we've had some fantastic moments with the students that really typifies the ethos we're trying to instil at The Fusion Academy.

Some of you will be aware that the Annual Review process has changed this year, with students having the opportunity to advocate for themselves, speaking about what their ideas are for their future. Over the half-term, we have seen students really open up about what their goals are, and it's a clear example of the fantastic progress the students have made with their social communication skills.

Some of the students in upper school completed their first ever GCSE mock exam. There were some brilliant reflections afterwards, with some recognising the hard work that will be needed as the year moves forward, and others reflecting on whether they might be able to go for a higher level exam. It is important to note too, that the rest of the school respected the expectations of exam conditions, with some staff and students even having to remind us to keep quiet in the corridors!

We know many of you have asked about when the next half-term starts. We are back on Thursday 26th October. Those three extra days have been made up over the rest of the school year, ensuring no learning time is lost for the children.

We hope you all enjoy the extended break, and are looking forward to welcoming everyone back as the days get shorter and Winter creeps in.

Katie & Tunde

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## JUNO - Annabelle



Our class robot was introduced last week and this is how it started its life. A project worked hard on by two of our young people, each with their own creative vision and both full of passion for the ideas they had. When the days were warm, we embraced the sunshine and set up a car wash station outside the classroom. This was enjoyed by almost everyone in the classroom. There has been a track donated by a family member of one of our teachers and Juno is extremely grateful as they have spent many hours playing with it over the past few days. One of our students has also kindly donated some of his toot toot driver cars to use on the track! The class also spent time down in the forest. Here there has been lots of exploration, digging, imaginative play and working together; as well as, seeing a campfire and eating Smores! Every one of our young people has been spectacular this half term, especially with it being the first one in the year and for many in a new setting too. Have a well deserved and restful break and see you fresh and ready in time for Halloween!

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## GENESIS - Aimee W

We've had a great final week in Genesis. Students have enjoyed completing our second 1,000 piece jigsaw as a team and loved meeting Elphie the tortoise. In English, we have learnt about Black History Month and celebrated the black and mixed heritage women who have made history. We finished off Maths with a treasure hunt, all students helped to find and solve the clues. It was lovely to see them working together and supporting each other with the Maths problems. On Wednesday afternoon, we had an amazing time around the fire, toasting marshmallows and making Smores with Penny.



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## GATEWAY - Christina

Last week, our class made margherita pizzas. We learnt how to problem solve when we added too much water to our dough. Edmund decided to add extra flavours to his and used chilli powder to give it a slight kick.

In English, we explored the natural environment linking to our poem. Pupils used their senses to describe different aspects of the natural world. They used these ideas to add descriptions to their sentence work.

Pupils were showing their communication and interactions skills in PE. They were able to support each other when they were struggling to use the equipment.

During our social communication session, Freddie was able to explain a new communication task to staff and pupils so they could participate. He also modelled to pupils so they fully understood the activity.



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## CALIPSO - Sam S

Another amazing week in Calipso to round off this half term. We started the week exploring the forest as if we had woken up there after going to sleep in our beds! We looked through viewfinders and found different points of view to experience the forest in more detail. We then played hide and seek with a wicked witch! The students have used this experience to link to emotions and create lots of wonderful work leading towards writing their own stories.

Our PE focus has been managing competitive situations and they have wowed us with their sportsmanship.

It has been a real pleasure to be part of Calipso and we are all excited to see what comes next!



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## RANGER - Karen

Another busy week in Ranger. We have finished writing our own poems and we have also marked some of Karen's poems. Alfie only gave it a mark of F- because of all of the spelling mistakes. At least I had the class editing it for me! The students in History made shield emblems and weapons as we moved into the Iron Age. In PE, we explored our senses playing badminton and tennis and the students got a good rally going. Fantastic work in Science as the children enjoyed playing on the xylophones and were able to state what happened to the pitch and the reasons why.



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## VIKING - Hilary

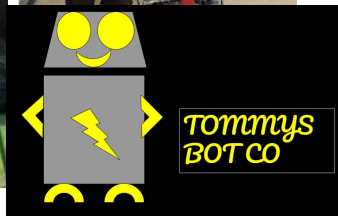
We have been enjoying the lovely weather this week and have been outside a lot. We particularly enjoyed making bread and Smores on the campfire in Forest School and playing on the Bucket Swing during our movement breaks.



We have also finished our Poetry unit and are really looking forward to finding out about Shakespeare's Macbeth next term.

## ACE - Zak

Ace had tons of fun in their last week before breaking up for half term. We went to the park to continue building our relationships with staff and students in the class for PSHE. We have also had trips to the gym and to TECK. In Maths, we have continued looking at shapes and working out their areas. We now understand the significance of Pi! In computing, we have finally finished our vector graphics project of creating logos for local businesses.

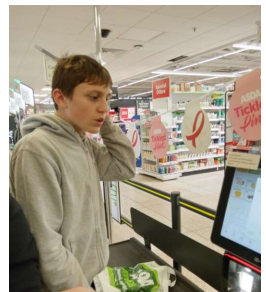
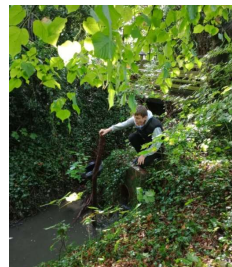
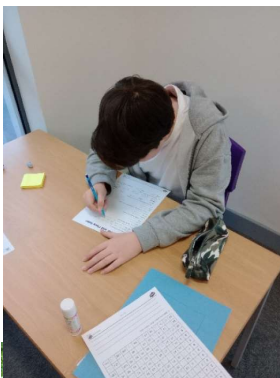


## MARINER - Simon

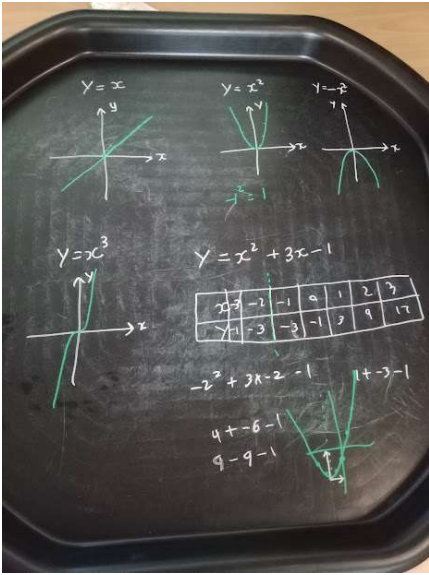
We are finally at the end of a really positive first term back at school and we are really proud of the effort and progress that we

have seen in class, so far. Despite some setbacks, all of the students have seen some largely positive results and all have something to show for their efforts. A student has been accessing lessons around the school and has been looking more at their longer-term

ambitions and the things they need to do to be able to achieve them. Another pupil has been attending more lessons and has even started to work towards an accreditation to allow them to support a forest schools tutor in the future. Another young person has done some fantastic work at TECK this year and has impressed the tutors with their engagement in their sessions. One student has been accessing GCSE-level Maths and is looking to extend this to Science in the future, with their engagement in lessons a major plus this year. Well done Mariner class!

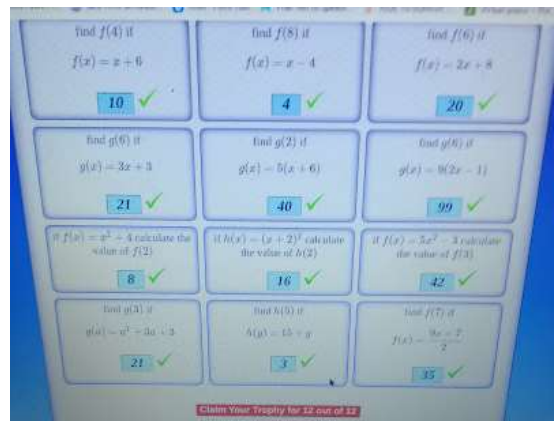


## AQUARIUS - Katie



In Aquarius over the last few days, we've had lots of conversations about social situations and "what would you do if...?" - we focussed on going to a restaurant/cafe, and the boys came up with strange and funny answers! (What would you do if you didn't have a knife and fork? "I'd just eat with my hands" .. What if it was something messier like macaroni cheese? "Yep, hands!!")

In Maths with upper school students, the focus has continued to be on Algebra and we've looked at different types of graphs with higher tier students in pathway 1 group 1.



All students have consolidated their learning and managed to link function machines, substitution, expressions and function notation with this online application.

## NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

New Horizons have had a reflective week. We have been practising our conversation techniques and trying to have conversations with others about their interests. Some members have started their 1:1 career sessions with Hannah and are starting to think about life after Fusion and the steps that we will need to take to get to where we want to be.

We are looking forward to some Halloween activities after half term.

Bharti and Sol have been enjoying playing cricket together and on Friday, Callum is going to start his new running activity with Cheryl.

### Social Comms Activities This Week

<p>Make a giant card tower - Who can make the biggest?</p>	<p>Play a board game with Jenni, Bharti or Demi</p>	<p>Use your Chromebook to research what national day / week / month it is - Then write it on the board!</p>
<p>Design a Logo for our class</p>	<p>Do a job for Elphie</p>	<p>Design a game that the rest of the class can play</p>



## SWIFT - Sam R

In Swift this week, we have been discussing what we would like to do as a tutor group for the different seasonal events. We discussed getting pumpkins to carve and creating advent calendars. We have also been creating a tutor display that shows the interests of the group. As part of our Social Communication, we have discussed appropriate language that we used with each other and the effects it could have on the people it's said to and the people around who can hear, inside and outside of school.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
2													
3		Food Option 1	Price	Food Option 2	Price	Food Option 3	Price	Drinks	Price				
4	Chips	£2.99	Wedges	£3.49	Pie	£5.49	Water	£1.49					
5	Burger	£6.99	Fish Fingers	£3.99	Vegetables	£2.99	Fruit Smoothie	£1.49					
6	Pizza	£7.49	Fish	£3.99	Soup	£2.49	Milkshake	£1.49					
7	Chicken Nuggets	£3.49	Salad	£4.49	Lasagne	£4.99	Juice	£1.49					
8													
9													
10													
11	Customer number	Food Option 1	Price	Food Option 2	Price	Food Option 3	Price	Drinks	Price	Total price			
12	1	Pizza	£7.49	Wedges	£3.49	Pie	£5.49	Fruit Smoothie	£1.49	£20.95			
13	2	Burger	£6.99	Fish Fingers	£3.99	Vegetables	£2.99	Water	£1.49	£16.45			
14	3	Pizza	£7.49	Fish	£3.99	Soup	£2.49	Milksh.	£1.49	£15.45			
15	4	Chicken Nug.	£3.49	Wedges	£3.49	Lasagne	£4.99	Juice	£1.49	£15.45			
16	5	Chips	£2.99	Fish Fingers	£3.99	Pie	£5.49	Milksh.	£1.49	£14.95			
17	6	Burger	£6.99	Fish Fingers	£3.99	Soup	£2.49	Juice	£1.49	£14.95			
18	7	Chicken Nug.	£3.49	Salad	£4.49	Pie	£5.49	Water	£1.49	£19.95			
19	8	Burger	£6.99	Fish Fingers	£3.99	Lasagne	£4.99	Milksh.	£1.49	£17.45			
20	9	Chips	£2.99	Fish Fingers	£3.99	Vegetables	£2.99	Fruit Smoothie	£1.49	£11.45			
21													
22	Food Option 1	Price	Stock level	Quantity Sold	Remaining Stock	Total sales of items		Food Option 2	Price	Stock level	Quantity Sold	Remaining Stock	Total sales of items
23	Chips	£2.99	10	2	8	£5.98		Wedges	£3.49	10	2	8	£6.98
24	Burger	£6.99	10	2	8	£13.98		Fish Fingers	£3.99	10	4	6	£15.96
25	Pizza	£7.49	10	2	8	£14.98		Fish	£3.99	10	2	8	£7.98
26	Chicken Nuggets	£3.49	10	2	8	£6.98		Salad	£4.49	10	1	9	£4.49
27													
28	Food Option 3	Price	Stock level	Quantity Sold	Remaining Stock	Total sales of items		Drinks	Price	Stock level	Quantity Sold	Remaining Stock	Total sales of items
29	Pie	£5.49	10	3	7	£16.47		Water	£1.49	10	1	9	£1.49
30	Vegetables	£2.99	10	2	8	£5.98		Fruit Smoothie	£1.49	10	3	7	£4.47
31	Soup	£2.49	10	2	8	£4.98		Milkshake	£1.49	10	3	7	£4.47
32	Lasagne	£4.99	10	2	8	£9.98		Juice	£1.49	10	2	8	£2.98
33													
34	Total Sales of items							Total sales of items					
35	Chips 12.9%							Lasagne 22.2%					
36	Burger 20.7%							Water 11.7%					
37	Pizza 14.7%							Fruit Smoothie 11.7%					
38	Chicken Nuggets 6.9%							Juice 2.9%					
39													

In Computing, the students have been completing their multi menu food ordering system where they have been using complex formulas to connect a range of cells that calculate totals and to control their stock levels.

In PE, students have taken part in some fitness tests, such as the bleep test and the Illinois Agility test, to compete against themselves and with students in the school.

## STARDUST - Sam P

Our focus for this week in Stardust has been around aiming high. The group showed great resilience with their Chemistry Mock exam this week and managed really well with the change in environment. They were great role models for other students in the school and should feel very proud of themselves.



**'London' by William Blake**  
 Dr. Tessa Peres, Joe Francis (Editor)

Created for SCHOLARÉ

English Literature, Level 1  
 # Romanticism - AQA Poetry Anthology - Power And Conflict

1 Play Now

Blake's poem 'London'.

In English, we have started to look at the Romantic Poets, specifically William Wordsworth and William Blake and their contrasting views about the City of London. Camron made some great verbal contributions to our discussions about the poems with Josh and Jay being able to spot some of the language techniques being used by the poets. In Pathway 1 group 1, students practised their independent study skills using online learning to complete an in depth study about William

During PSHE, we have been focusing on happiness, positivity and wellbeing and looking to answer the question "what makes me happy?" A lot of the students agreed that food was something that made them happy. Pathway 2 Group 1 had a lovely session on Monday of selecting activities that made them happy and reflecting on how that might impact on the rest of their day.



In Life Skills, we revisited expected and unexpected behaviours and the impact of our actions on others. We also started to think about what expected behaviours we need to show when out and about in the community.

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## SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam



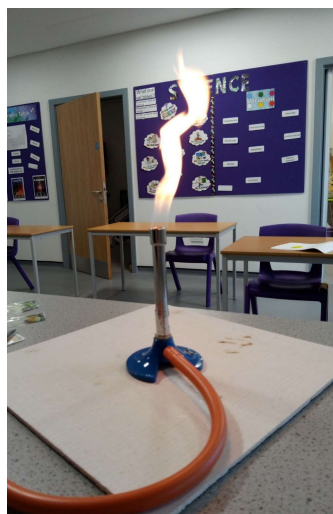
First off, well done Pathway 1 on your first mock! This is how the Hall was set out for them. The young people will receive their results after the half term break.

We have started the next Chemistry topic of Organic Chemistry which includes Hydrocarbons.

Bunsen Burners are starting to arrive. Tam couldn't wait to check that our gas supply was working well.

Pathway 2 are at the end of the Periodic Table and on Friday, they will have sat their end of unit test. After half term, we start our new topic learning about Electricity.

Enjoy the half term break!



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## FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny

Another busy week in the forest. We are excited to be getting some new equipment over the half term break. The students have been refining their skills with woodcraft using the sheath knives and saws. We had a student preparing the pathway for the new woodcraft tent and another student started to make steps down to the stream and make it easier to get in. They were very skilled at their project management skills. They certainly knew what they wanted and it worked as they spent some of their time in our stream. Seed bombing was a hit as well!





## OTHER NEWS



### The Fusion Academy Celebrating Achievements

All of Pathway 1, who attempted their first GCSE mock exam!



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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