

17th November 2023

INTRODUCTION

Hello All,

We've had another wonderful week at school, with some fantastic moments that we'd like to share with you.

One thing we wanted to do when we became co-heads was to create an office space where the students felt they could come to learn, engage, and find support should they need it. This week, we have been visited by a number of students from across the school, and this has allowed us to share many different experiences with them.

We've had one young person overcome a personal obstacle that has challenged him for a very long time. Seeing the pride in his achievement will live long in our memory and we are all incredibly proud of him. We know there is still a long road to walk, but the first steps were taken this week.

Whilst the moment above was happening, Edmund was discussing his art work with Katie in the office. Whilst this was important to him, the achievement of his peer piqued his interest more. Edmund's encouraging words were a joy to hear, and he should know that his words had a profound and positive impact.

Thank you to everyone who has spoken to their children about the fire alarms. Whilst we have had some this week, they are becoming less frequent, and those who do set them off have faced the outcomes outlined to them in assembly last week. We understand the impact this has on your children, so thank you for supporting us in these efforts.

A date for your diaries, the second instalment of Festive Fusion will be happening on Thursday 21st December. We can't wait to share this day with you all. That'll be the last bit of Christmas news until December!

As always, have a great weekend all,

Katie & Tunde

JUNO - Annabelle



This week has been quite wonderful in Juno. We have explored new maths games, sat and completed some sessions with Michelle to discover new toys. Penny has been our forest Queen for another week and our young people have loved her ideas and playing outside. We have done lots of dancing in PE and we have had some very impressive dance moves! One particularly creative member of our class has had some brilliant ideas for how to improve soft play with underground tunnels. Instead of using centimetres and metres, we worked out the length of these tunnels using his body as the unit of measure. Finally, we have looked at days of the week, looked at sounds we can see to help us recognise words, spoke about our family tree and done lots and lots of building massive leaf piles to jump out of!

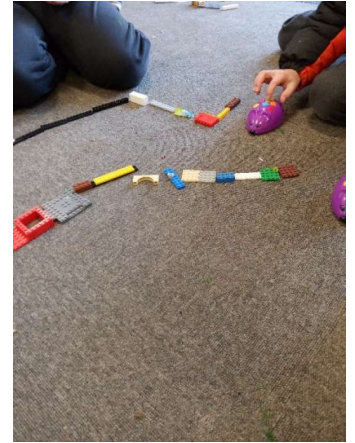
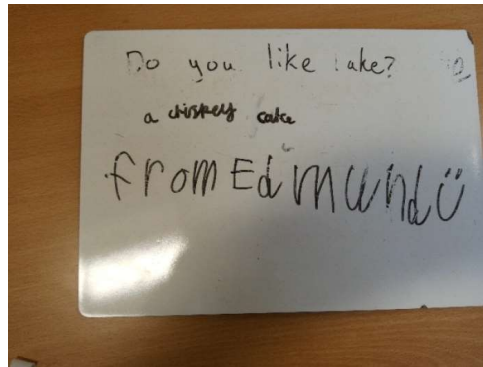
GENESIS - Aimee W

We finished last week with a trip to the forest where students enjoyed exploring in the stream and using a bow saw to cut pieces of wood for the fire. It was great to see them sharing the space with another class too. This week, we have completed our own adventure story that Tunde will be reading out in assembly today. The students worked together to follow a structure and create an interesting story using thesaurus' to find and use adventurous adverbs and adjectives. All of our students have continued to impress us with their hard work and resilience in our Maths lessons throughout the week. In Science, we are continuing our light topic which they love. They have enjoyed exploring how light reaches the eye and how we see colours this week - it has been fantastic to see them engaging so well.



GATEWAY - Christina

This week we have been creating, exploring and building friendships. Students have been able to work together in our Maths lessons to practise four operations and share methods. In Science, we have been making periscopes to explore how light travels. Students have been communicating more with each other in a positive way. They have demonstrated their ability to listen and be inclusive. In Computing, we have been exploring coding using mouse bots. Students have been giving their bots direction instructions to go round the course. They have worked with each other to help them succeed and race their bots.



CALIPSO - Sam S

A fantastic week in Calipso! We have worked hard to plan our writing to retell the story of Macbeth. We have added actions to help us remember the story. We have enjoyed lots of movement this week from aerobics to PE and considered how this makes us feel physically and emotionally. Our maths lessons have started to think about number patterns algebraically and the students are sharing great ideas. Swimming on Mondays is bringing some wonderful moments so keep an eye out on earwig for some snapshots!



RANGER - Karen

What an amazing week! The students have been working so hard in Ranger. This week, we have made root vegetable crisps. The students really enjoyed the taste of them! I think my sample had extra species on it this week! We have been learning about the circumference of a circle and how to use a calculator to work it out. In History, we have been learning about the Industrial Revolution and the impact of it. The students enjoyed a game of Monopoly to focus on the financial revolution.

We have also got a budding musician to play drum fills to all of my bad jokes! We have now started to learn the beat to 'We will rock you'.

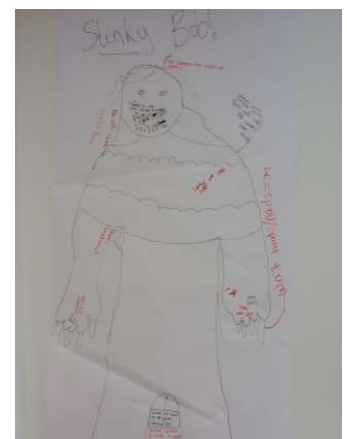
We will share photos of our trip in the newsletter next week.



VIKING - Hilary

In PSHE this week, we met 'Stinky Bob' who doesn't know anything about Personal Hygiene. We told him all the things he could do to keep himself clean and fresh and smelling pleasant!

In Maths, we have nearly finished our unit on 3D shapes and their properties. We have found out lots of complicated names for different shapes, such as Tetrahedron and Octagonal Prism. We have also investigated how many edges, faces and vertices each shape has. Some of us have gone a step further and have been working out the surface area of 3D shapes using formulae involving Pi.



ACE - Zak

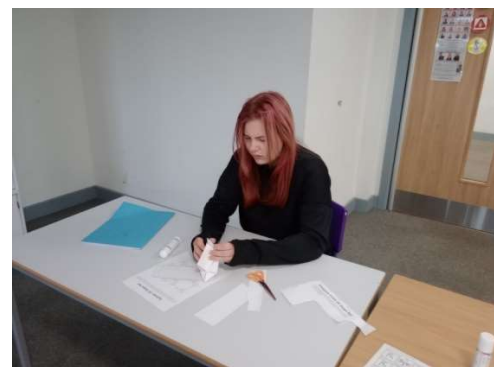
It has been another fun week packed with lots of learning! In English, we have just met the cunning character that is Lady Macbeth in Act 1 Scene 5. In Maths, we have been adding decimals and creating 3D shapes from their nets. During Science, we have looked at pollination and seed dispersal. In Geography, we have compared life expectancies of different countries, such as Congo and Japan. In RE, we learnt how Hindus believe in reincarnation and karma. In PSHE, we have looked at the importance of the words that we use and that they are not considered offensive to others and explored what the terms: racism, prejudice and discrimination mean. In Computing, we have slightly got into the Christmas spirit by creating animations of snowmen that slowly melt. We have enjoyed playing dodgeball in PE too.



MARINER - Simon

This week in Mariner, we have enjoyed a wide range of activities again. In English, we have covered the rest of the play Macbeth and reviewed the events through the story, as we prepare to write our own version of the "Fusion" play. We also moved towards the end of our work on Shape, in Maths, looking at calculating the surface area of 3D shapes.

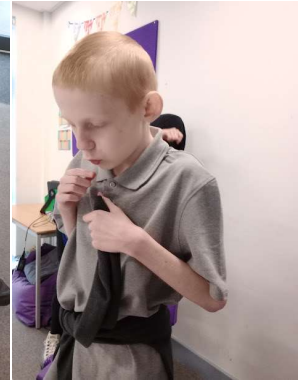
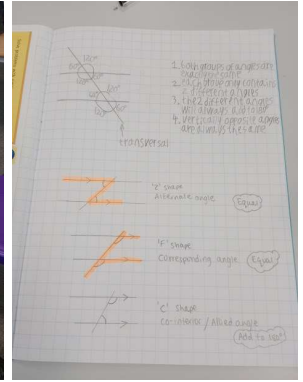
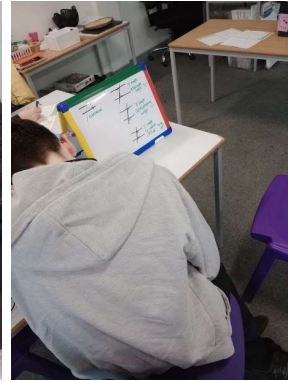
In Forest schools, the students showed great skills and resilience in lighting a fire, especially one student who declared "you only need 2 sticks to light a fire, as long as one of them is a match!". Another pupil also supported another group with their knife skills and made themselves a bow and arrow, as well as our session on colour changing fires. Oscar has also continued his good work, so far in Mariner. He has also started to get involved in the class's banter and jokes, including a really good exchange in our games on Thursday morning.



AQUARIUS - Katie

In Maths, we have been recapping knowledge of square numbers and square roots using cubes to make squares to recognise which numbers are square numbers or not (this will link in with our upcoming topic of Pythagoras' Theorem prior to learning about Trigonometry). We have also recapped angles in parallel line rules to help with recognising similar shapes - especially triangles - and using these rules to determine which angles are congruent to therefore prove that triangles are congruent (the same).

In PSHE, we have focussed on emotions and how different emotions and activities have affected different parts of the body. We used yoga balls, did wall sits and blew air like blowing through a straw among other things.



NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

This week, we have been focusing on communication with our peers and playing games together. We have been looking at the calendar for the rest of the term and looking forward to all the exciting things we have coming up - including trips, Christmas Dinner and Festive Fusion.

Social Comms Activities This Week

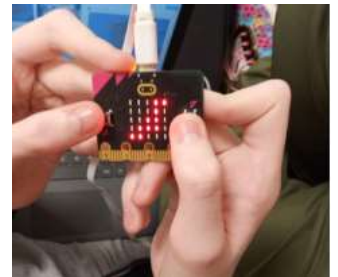
<p>Make a giant card tower - Who can make the biggest?</p>	<p>Play a board game with Jenni, Bharti or Demi</p>	<p>Get creative with Lego</p>
<p>Design a poster about being kind</p>	<p>Do a job for Elphie</p>	<p>Design a game that the rest of the class can play</p>

SWIFT - Sam R

In tutor time this week, we have been working together to create a range of origami animals from paper. This focus has been to improve communication and fine motor skills. We have also been discussing our exciting plans for Festive Fusion and giving roles for the students to focus on.

In Computing, we have continued with our coding courses and introduced the Micro:bits to put their coding into practice. Some students have now completed the beginners course of coding and have received a certificate of excellence for all their hard work.

In PE, the students have been developing their gymnastics skills by exploring how they can move their bodies over different obstacles. They have also been developing their teamwork skills in competitive situations in football.

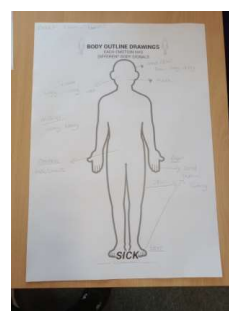


STARDUST - Sam P

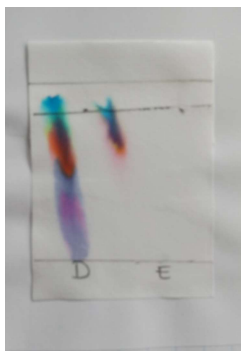
Another great week for Stardust students. On Monday, we used social communication time to focus on world kindness day and suggested different ways in which we can show kindness to our friends and family. During the rest of the week, we have been completing a range of activities linked to anti-bullying week and thinking about the line between banter and bullying.

In English this week, Pathway 1 students have been practising comparing two texts and even had a go at making jam sandwiches (both figuratively and literally) to help embed the method of writing a comparative paragraph - thanks to Josh for the inspiration!

In PSHE, pathway 2 students have continued to explore body signals and how we can use interoception to help us understand how we are feeling. Lukas, Liam and Callum worked brilliantly to identify body signals from brain to toes for a selection of emotions. On Tuesday, the whole class got involved in working out emotion equations.



SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam



Pathway 1 students have been continuing with Chemical Analysis and have successfully completed the Chromatography Required Practical and calculating the Rf values. There is an example of a chromatogram in case you were wondering what they are.

Pathway 2 students have been finishing off electricity and have had an end of subject topic test. As a brief interlude, they will be getting to use a bunsen burner before moving onto Biology.

FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny



In Forest School this week, the students have been learning how to change the colour of the flame in the fire using colour coated pine cones. They have been playing 'Hide and Seek' and 'Creeping Comanche' which required good listening skills.

The students have also been putting their knife skills into practice to make bow and arrows and axes.



The students in the Options groups over the past few weeks have been making steps to get down the bank to the stream. They were role playing being builders and stated that TFA owed them £10,000 for their installation of the steps!

Great teamwork and problem solving.



Some of us were eating marshmallows on the job !!!!!

OTHER NEWS



The Fusion Academy
Celebrating Achievements

Jaden for taking the first steps on his journey



Save The Date!!!

Festive Fusion 2023

*Please join us on Thursday 21st December
1pm - 3pm*

At the Fusion Academy

*For an afternoon of seasonal enjoyment and
fundraising*

Food & Drink
Stalls and
Activities

Raffle
Tombola

All money raised will go to

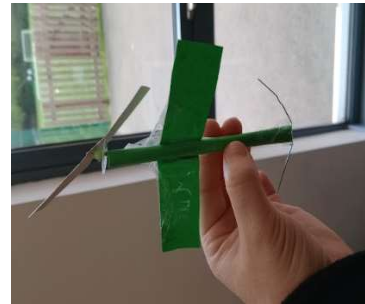




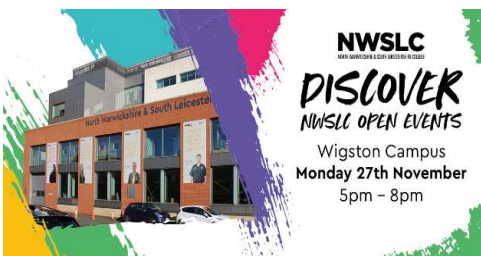
Careers & Next steps

Our Career sessions are in full swing, with students engaging really well discussing and planning their pathways into their next steps, both with Hannah our Independent Careers advisor and within their group sessions.

- ★ We have also had our first whole school careers day focusing on STEM and it was very nicely timed which linked in with Green week too.



- ★ For our new families that have joined us this year, we would like to introduce you to our Independent Careers Advisor, Hannah from Above & Beyond Careers. Hannah provides 1-2-1 sessions with our Upper school students along with group sessions and also creates our whole school career days. Hannah usually joins us for our celebrations and events so you may see her in school.



- ★ NWSLC (North Warwickshire South Leicestershire College) have some open events coming up over all their campuses, please visit their website for more details; <https://www.nwslc.ac.uk/openevents/> NWSLC are also going to visit us at school in December to come and meet our students to speak about what they can offer for post 16 options.

- ★ Loughborough College and Leicester College also have an open day on 25th November, please visit their websites for further details; [Loughborough College Events](#) / [Leicester College Events](#)





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

<https://openthinkingpartnership.co.uk/category/e-safety/>



25th November 2023
5.00pm - 8.00pm
Lights switched on at 6.00pm
Mini Fun Fair and Stalls





Diary Dates

- ★ Festive Fusion: Thurs 21st Dec 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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