

8th December 2023

INTRODUCTION

Hello All,

It's been another bumper week of learning this week, with some fantastic work across every class in school.

On Friday, lots of our older students completed another mock exam. At this time of the year, to sit any exam is brilliant and we're very proud of how they've applied themselves.

Something that needs highlighting this week is the fantastic computing work the students do here at Fusion. This week, the students have done things that for you or us would perhaps have been unimaginable at school.

We have seen them program and make remote control cars, which they then used in a live action version of Mario Kart around school. The creativity, and ingenuity on show was really something to marvel at.

Talking of marvels, we have some fantastic chefs at The Fusion Academy. One aspect of learning we are keen to promote is being able to cook meals from scratch - rather than just cookies and cakes (although that is fun sometimes too). One group managed to create some culinary delights, that included a full roast dinner - with impeccable yorkshire puddings, a chicken curry, and pastry pizzas.

A friendly reminder that it's Festive Fusion on Thursday 21st December. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

On that day, and on Wednesday 20th December, we can all wear Christmas jumpers!

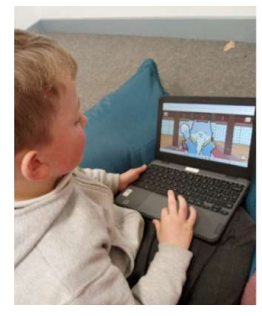
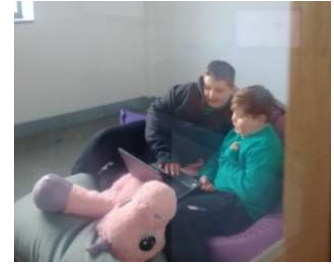
We are looking forward to enjoying the festive cheer over the next two weeks as we countdown to the end of the calendar year.

As ever, we wish you a restful, festive weekend.

Katie & Tunde

JUNO - Annabelle

We have had a lovely week in Juno this week! Our young people are getting used to each other and we are starting to see far more natural, child-led positive interactions, as you can see from the photos we try to capture these moments because it shows how much progress these wonderful characters are making. We even have students from next door come to join us in the fun. We are finding lots of new ways to learn and discovered Karate Cat on one of the carousels was a flash from the past for one of our young people. It is going to be a busy couple of weeks for Juno, but they continue to start each day with a smile on their face and warm welcome to their adults and we feel very proud with how far each one of them has come so far.



GENESIS - Aimee W

Another brilliant week in Genesis this week. Following our debates week in English last week, we have started looking at balanced arguments. The students have again been brilliant at sharing their opinions and listening to their peers. We have been multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 in Maths. The students found it a little bit tricky at first, but they kept trying their best and were brilliant by the end of the week! On Wednesday, we went on a little road trip to investigate and identify uses of land. Our last use was retail so we decided to stop at McDonald's and treat ourselves to some lunch. The students showed amazing independence skills when ordering and paying for their own food and their manners were wonderful.



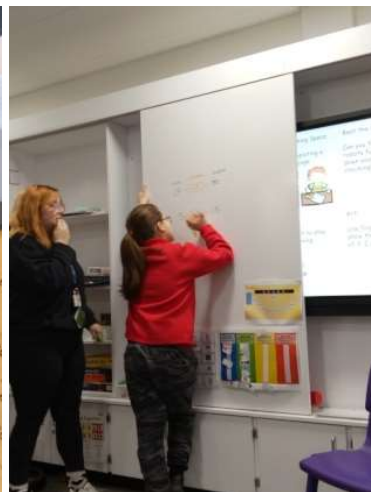
GATEWAY - Christina

Gateway have coped really well with a lot of changes this week, well done to all! We have played games on the Wii together to demonstrate turn taking, challenged the young people to build relationships with peers outside of their usual groups and worked together. Some students made delicious chocolate cakes with ganache. The whole class made chocolate chip cookies in their cooking lesson and they were so yummy!



CALIPSO - Sam S

Well done Calipso! Lots of challenges and changes this week have been met with a brilliant attitude by all the class. We have started a new maths topic, beginning to think with algebra and they have all shown great understanding so far. Our English lessons have seen the students pull out the key features of a news article and practice interviewing key witnesses. We have been looking at the idea of social justice and looked at the story of the Good Samaritan. They have some wonderful ideas and questions around the topic.



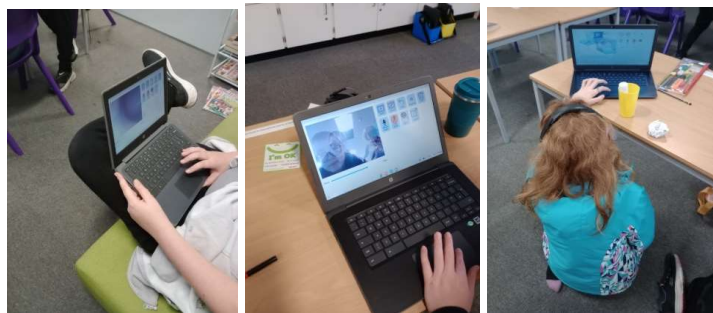
RANGER - Karen

Another amazing week in Ranger and the students are excited to start decorating the classroom next week! It has been hard to cage their excitement for Christmas. Last Friday, we enjoyed one of our first fires down in the forest and had marshmallows on it. We have been cooking chocolate chip cookies this week in our active English lessons and the students enjoyed the taste of them. In Maths, we have been learning about directed numbers and I am proud to say that Alfie has been a star completing 5 of the learning tasks each lesson. Amazing work! In Science, we have been learning about photosynthesis and the equation for it. The students have enjoyed dissecting leaves to find the green pigments in the chlorophyll. The students have also enjoyed making shanty houses for their Geography topic learning about the population within a shanty town.



VIKING - Hilary

This week we have been exploring animation software. The students have been doing some fantastic independent projects:



In RE, we have been learning about what different religions believe about death and in Science, we have been learning about how to use laboratory equipment safely:



We were all super efficient and are looking forward to using our new skills later in the term when we test leaves to see if they contain starch!

ACE - Zak

It has been a practical hands-on week for Ace students this week despite the cold and wet weather! In Forest School, we collected some leaves and placed them on some cotton material and then folded the material in half. We then gently hammered the leaves using a mallet. This got the natural dyes out of the leaves to make 'Hapi Zomes'. Afterwards, we learnt how to make boggarts. We used some clay out of the stream and moulded it into a ball then pressed it onto a tree. We started to make a face using a variety of natural things in the forest. There have been a few students and staff off ill this week. We miss them and look forward to their return to school as soon as they are feeling better!



MARINER - Simon

This week in Mariner, we have managed to continue our work in practical activities. One student did an excellent job clearing the final part of the stream in Forest Schools, whilst a couple of students enjoyed making mud sculptures.

In cooking, we made pastry-based pizzas and showed much higher levels of independence in things like cutting and using the ovens, where previously this has been more adult-led.

We have also played lots of games as a class, breaking up the day for us nicely, when things get a little too much for the class.

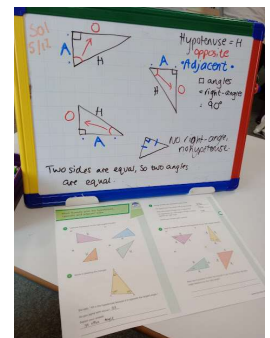
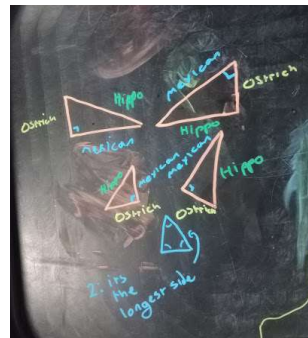
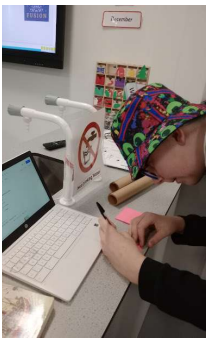
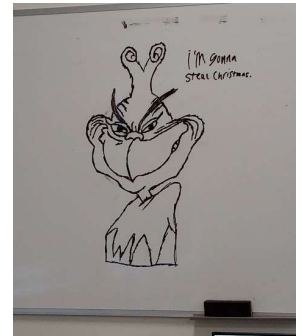


AQUARIUS - Katie

We are definitely on the way to planning our Festive Fusion bits in Aquarius and one student helped us get into the spirit of Christmas with their wonderful artwork!

We've worked together to search up genres and blurbs of books for one of our stalls we'll be doing, so keep your eyes peeled if you visit on the 21st 🧐😊

In Maths, we are deep into Trigonometry and it's been lovely to see some of the students have their own take on labelling the Hypotenuse, Opposite and Adjacent to help them remember; Allegra used the Tuff Tray and labelled them "hippo, ostrich and Mexican" because that's what she heard, but it worked and she completely understood how to label accurately!



NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

This week, we have been continuing our plans for Festive Fusion. One student has been making more great plans for their games and another student has been helping to choose some design ideas for our chocolate treats. Students enjoyed going to the gym, playing archery and making a huge card tower from our giant cards.



SWIFT - Sam R

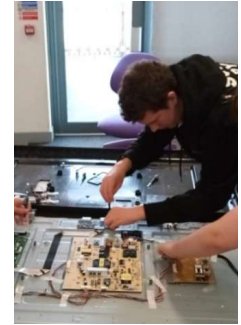
In Swift this week, the students have been working together with building the jigsaw image to find all the pieces to create a calm colourful image. The students found this relaxing while building their communication skills in working together.



In Computing, students have been continuing with their coding and using the Micro:bits to create a remote control car. Students created courses and obstacles to race each other.



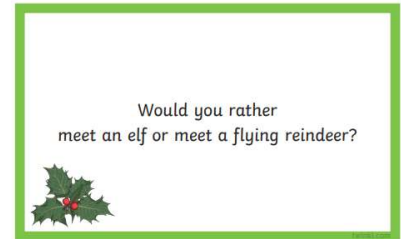
In Computer options, the students investigated the internal components of a touchscreen smart TV. They systematically took the parts apart, examined and discussed what they are and what they do.



In PE, we have continued to develop our team working skills. The students have been using their leadership skills to choose their teams fairly and played with great sportsmanship.

STARDUST - Sam P

This week, students have enjoyed opening up our advent-tree and discussing the festive 'would you rather' questions (please see picture). Owen has been showing his quick thinking with our daily brain teasers during Social Communication.



In English this week, we have been preparing for the mock exams on Friday. Although some nerves were beginning to show, the students have shown great self awareness by acknowledging their worries and asking for help or clarification about what to expect. Pathway 1 students really pushed themselves this week opting for a 'walking talking mock' - where the teacher talks them through a practice paper - the day before their actual mock!



PSHE this week has seen students in Pathway 2 start to consider the impact of our choices on others. We have looked at how 'tunnel vision' and 'sensitivity' influence our interactions with others. Lennon offered some great points about being sensitive to the needs of others if they are upset.

SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam



Here in Science we have had a couple of Orange classes join us to have bunsen burner practicals which have been successful. The photo was taken during one of these sessions.

Pathway 1 students have been finishing the Chemical Analysis topic which includes electrolysis.

Pathway 2 students have been finishing Reproduction - much to the young people's relief, we have now been studying plant reproduction.

FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny

We have been having fun in the frosty weather in the forest. Christmas activities are starting to take place in the forest and we have loved making reindeers using the pinecones. Hot chocolate and marshmallows have been a winner around the campfire and we have loved spending time with our peers talking about different subjects. One of the students has continued to clear the stream and has shown resilience to keep going with it at this time of year. Some of the students have been making boggarts using natural materials in the forest and have been really creative with what they have made! Other news, one of the students has made a discovery in the forest and is looking for a secure place to keep it. The next step is to clean it to identify how old it is. They have spoken to Tunde about the next steps in their project.



We are focusing on nature photography next half term, please let us know if anyone has any old digital cameras we could have to complete the topic. Thanks

OTHER NEWS



The Fusion Academy Celebrating Achievements

Jacob and Jude for self-advocating for pathway 2-1 and 2-2



Save The Date!!!

Festive Fusion 2023

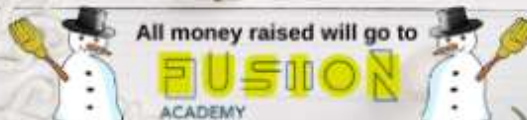
*Please join us on Thursday 21st December
1pm - 3pm*

At the Fusion Academy

*For an afternoon of seasonal enjoyment and
fundraising*

Food & Drink
Stalls and
Activities

Raffle
Tombola



SCHOOL COUNCIL / ECO COMMITTEE

We raised £47.25 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.



Careers & Next steps



College Taster & Open Evening (February) - Stephenson Campus

📅 Thursday, 29th February 2024

🕒 5pm - 7pm

📍 Stephenson Campus



[READ MORE & REGISTER](#)



Our student support teams will be available between 4pm and 5pm on set days to provide you with answers to your questions. This is your opportunity to gather all your information before finalising your application to the college. It's open to students, parents/carers, careers advisors and teachers. Check out our schedule of chats below – all links to the webchats will appear on the day of the online event.



Monday 11 December, 4pm – 5pm	Financial Support and Bursaries
Tuesday 12 December, 4pm – 5pm	Aspire and Mental Health
Wednesday 13 December, 4pm – 5pm	T levels
Thursday 14 December, 4pm – 5pm	Student Enrichment
Friday 15 December, 4pm – 5pm	Careers Service and Advice



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

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



Diary Dates

- ★ Festive Fusion: Thurs 21st Dec 2023
- ★ School closes for Christmas: Fri 22nd Dec 2023
- ★ School Opens: Mon 8th Jan 2024
- ★ Parents Meeting for Red Ridge Residential trip: Tues 9th Jan 2024 at 4pm - 5pm

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

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