

15th December 2023

## INTRODUCTION

Hi All,

It's been a fantastic week once again at The Fusion Academy, with wonderful learning, engagement and social communication across the school.

The atmosphere in school has been really positive, with everyone getting into the festive spirit. The students and staff have really ramped up their efforts to get the school ready for Festive Fusion next week, and we're looking forward to seeing you all.

On Tuesday, three of our students had the opportunity to see something very special, The Flying Scotsman rolled into the local area. We joined lots of other train enthusiasts to greet the steam engine into Nuneaton Station.

I'm sure lots of you and your children will agree, there's something special about a steam powered locomotive rolling into town at this time of year.



Next week, we have two (yes two!) days for your children to wear their Christmas jumpers. That's Wednesday for our Christmas dinner or Thursday for Festive Fusion. You can choose to wear one on either, neither, or both.

A bit of a request next. Some of our students have begun bringing chewing gum into school, and unfortunately we're now finding this in places we would not hope to see. We're therefore asking that chewing gum does not come into school at all.

We hope you all have a fantastic weekend, and look forward to seeing you here next week.

Katie & Tunde

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## JUNO - Annabelle

We have started our festive celebrations this week, much to the delight of the young people in Juno. We have been able to use the Christmas theme across the lessons and this has helped with engagement and encouraged lots of lovely conversations. The classroom is also now beautifully decorated with handmade paper chains and colourful pictures.

Maths has been another winning subject this week and one that all of our students access, but in very different ways.

There have been lots of little visits up to see the guinea pigs and also the recent discovery of the tortoise 'Elphie' who lives in upper school.

One more week Juno and then a well deserved break for all!



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## GENESIS - Aimee W

We have started to get into the festive spirit this week in Genesis. We have turned our classroom into Santa's Grotto, so we had a well deserved treat of tea and biscuits. This week, students have planned and written their own balanced arguments to conclude our English topic for this half term. They have all produced some fantastic work over the last 8 weeks and we are incredibly proud of them. We enjoyed using the sensory circuits on Monday to put all of our energy to good use, the tunnel was definitely everyone's favourite obstacle. We shared the hall with Gateway for our PE lesson and both classes shared the space wonderfully. It was great to see them interacting and having fun with each other. We are looking forward to seeing you at Festive Fusion next week.



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## GATEWAY - Christina

This week, we have been exploring puberty and personal hygiene in Science. Students have been identifying the changes that happen during puberty and how this links to changes in hygiene. Students have been exploring different products we can use to support a good level of hygiene.

In English, we have been exploring and forming debates. Students have been able to express their opinions and use facts to support their answers. They have also been able to create a balanced argument, thinking of the wider impacts.

Some of Gateway have been interacting and engaging with students from other classes. They have been able to use resources to build and create games between them.

Students have been supporting others in accessing different lessons and have been cooking together.



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## CALIPSO - Sam S

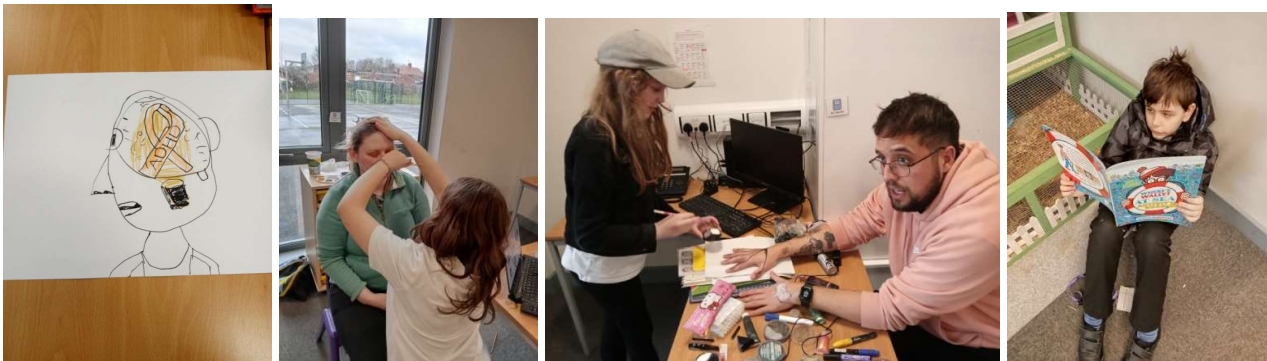
The students continue to be amazing! Some of the moments of courage and kindness in Calipso this week have left us feeling speechless. The class has been working on using expanded noun phrases this week and have been giving us some unbelievable vocabulary to describe. Every student has been able to explain the scientific terms of reflection and refraction in our light topic. We have had a wonderful PE lesson where the students thought about how different types of movement made their body feel. It was fantastic to see them encourage each other and be excited for their friends' success.



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## RANGER - Karen

The students are certainly getting into the Christmas spirit and surprised me with a beautifully decorated classroom for Christmas when I was out for my planning time. We have now finished Macbeth and know how the play ends and we are looking forward to our Fusion versions of the play. Alfie has decided that he is going to the 'The Grinches' instead of the 'The Witches'. I wonder who the Grinches are? In RE, we focused on 'afterlife' and what the students would come back as if they could be reincarnated. In our transition carousel, we have been focusing on ADHD and the reality of the condition as well as the myths. The students have been letting their imagination and creativity run wild in art using face paints! Prep is underway for Festive Fusion and we hope to see you all at the event.



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## VIKING - Hilary

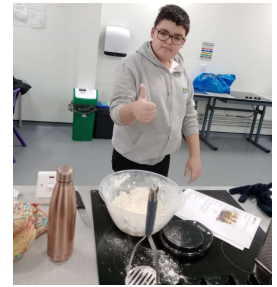
In Music, we have been creating our own theme songs for a TV/Game show. We have been using computer software to try out different beats and tunes. In Forest School, we have been making reindeers using fir cones, as well as making fires! And in Science, we have been recapping Producers and Consumers as part of our Photosynthesis unit:



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## ACE - Zak

It has been lovely to have all staff and students reunited this week in Ace. We have just finished reading Act 3 of Macbeth in English and analysing Macbeth's emotions. In Maths, we have been doing long division. In Science, we explored chromatography. We have also been doing some cooking in preparation for Festive Fusion next week which we are very excited about!

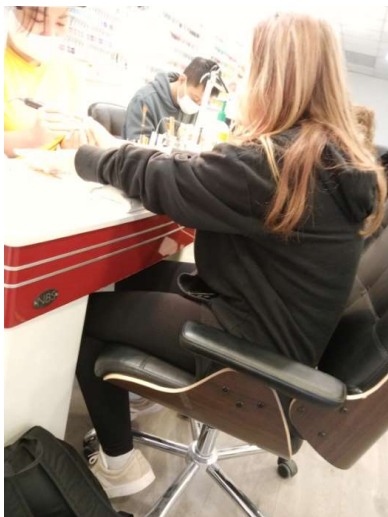


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## MARINER - Simon

In Mariner, we continue to long march towards the Christmas break and the students are definitely ready for it. We have eased the pace of work more this week and focused on lots of wellbeing activities like crafting, exercise and a few end of term treats. We have also completed some work along the way and in particular had some great conversations around the menstrual cycle, in Science. The boys, especially, showed interest in a topic that they had originally stated "isn't something I need to learn about", which showed great empathy and understanding.

We have also done our usual activities like trips to the gym and making festive cookies in our cooking session, as well as a few special activities such as a trip to have a manicure and the class trip to Megazone on Friday.

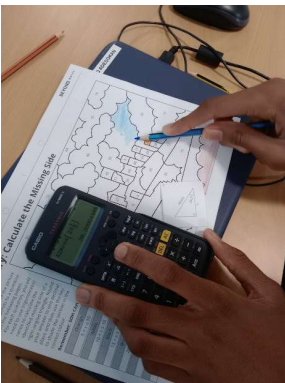
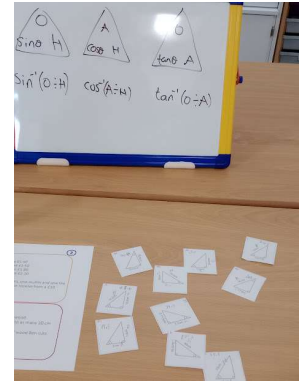


## AQUARIUS - Katie



We've made clinometers with Pathway 2.2 this week (the last group to make them) and luckily the weather held out for us to use them to measure really tall things like the school building here! Really good collaboration with the class team where they worked together to measure the angle elevation and the distance between themselves and the object they were measuring.

Students in all classes continued to practise calculating missing sides and angles using trigonometric formulas with various visuals to help.



In Aquarius form, we've continued to set up and get ready for Festive Fusion and we even encouraged the science team to create a chemis-tree!

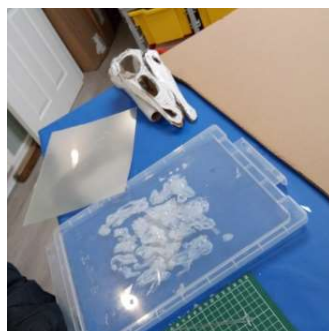
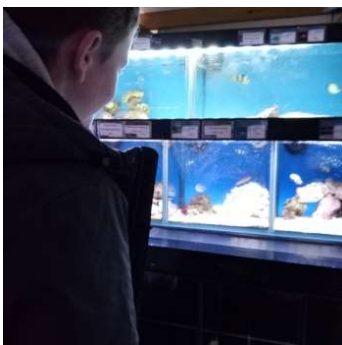
## NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

This week has been an absolute blast for the incredible students in New Horizons! Our classroom has been buzzing with excitement as they've immersed themselves in a whirlwind of thrilling activities. One student delved into the mesmerising world of aquatic wonders at Dobbies. Meanwhile, another creative mind turned spare moments into a masterpiece by crafting a lifelike cardboard model of a dinosaur skull!



But the fun doesn't stop there. Students made yummy pizzas after going shopping for the ingredients at the supermarket.

And let's talk about the festive vibes taking over New Horizons! The classroom is a dazzling spectacle, adorned with a funky, bright Christmas tree that radiates holiday cheer. But it doesn't end there. The lovely fairy lights have transformed the space into a magical haven, earning admiration from visitors to our classroom. 🌟🎄

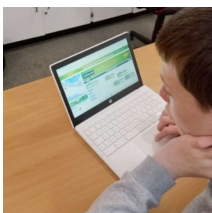


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## SWIFT - Sam R

This week, Swift students were treated to an illuminating assembly featuring a guest speaker from NWSLC (North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College). The speaker delved into the myriad of exciting pathways available to our students, addressing their queries and sparking profound contemplation about their future journeys.

In an exhilarating PE session, our enthusiastic students voiced their eagerness to tackle fitness tests. With determination and zeal, they embraced challenges like the Multi-stage Fitness Test (Bleep Test) and the Sit-up Fitness Test. Witnessing their impressive physical prowess, they not only gauged their fitness levels but also became more attuned to their bodies' responses during and after the activities.

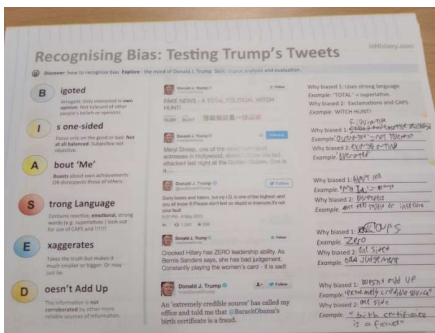


Our computer lessons turned delightfully festive as students engaged in coding tasks themed around everyone's favourite green character, The Grinch! With focused determination, they manoeuvred the Grinch through tasks by inputting the correct codes. Their enthusiastic involvement earned them well-deserved certificates, showcasing their dedication and mastery of coding skills.

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## STARDUST - Sam P

Students have had a busy week this week in Stardust. On Monday, they had a talk from NWSLC in which they were given lots of information about post-16 options. They all listened brilliantly and Ethan showed his enthusiasm by asking lots of relevant questions. Later in the week, we talked through the plans for our trip to Megazone on Friday as part of their Life Skills lessons.



In English this week, we have continued to spend time on non-fiction texts with Pathway 1 Group 2 students looking at subjective and objective writing and identifying bias. The students looked at old tweets from Donald Trump and spotted the ways in which his messages were bias. Theo was great at spotting the different types of bias being shown. Pathway 1 Group 1 students have been completing a writing assessment to go alongside their reading mock from last week. This will allow them to have a full paper mark and give a true reflection of their current reading and writing skills. They have been super focused even though it is almost the end of term so well done.

In PSHE this week, we have been thinking about our wellbeing battery and considered what activities in our daily lives drain our batteries and what activities help us to charge our batteries. We have also discussed the ways we can manage our battery throughout the day by identifying draining activity ahead of time.



In Life Skills, we had fun making boomerangs and discussing how respect can be learned, earned and returned. Edward really enjoyed boomerang making and he even had it with him the next day at school. Liam and Callum made some great contributions to our learned, earned, returned discussion.



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## SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam

This week in science, Pathway 1 students have finished chemical changes and have completed their end of unit test. The results will be given next week. Pathway 2 students have done some science consolidation.

The laboratory has started to look more festive with paper tinsel. We look forward to creating baubles with chromatography and other planned experiments next week.

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## FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny

We have been getting in the Christmas spirit and have made reindeers made out of sticks and log circles. They all looked amazing! One student named his reindeer 'Woodcroft'. We have learnt about the importance of the parallel fire lay in wild camping. A lot of the students did not like the idea of sleeping next to this type of fire. Other students continued to enjoy the tyre game and others had a game of skittle scatter and thoroughly enjoyed it.

Jude did a great job at splitting some wood using a billhook ready for next week's fire.





OTHER NEWS



The Fusion Academy  
Celebrating Achievements

Edmund for his excellent efforts with his reading

Harry B for his incredible independence when baking his cookies



*One week to go until Festive Fusion 2023*

*Thursday 21st December  
1pm - 3pm*

*At the Fusion Academy  
An afternoon of seasonal enjoyment and  
fundraising*

The event is  
cash only  
please





## Careers & Next steps

### \*Save The Date\*

- ★ We will be holding our 'Moving on Event' in school on Thursday 14th March 2024. This will be a great opportunity to come to see and speak with post 16 providers, including colleges and apprenticeships. More details to follow.



**NWSLC**  
NORTH WARWICKSHIRE & SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE COLLEGE

- ★ NWSLC - We had a visit from Rachael from North Warwickshire & South Leicestershire College into school this week. Rachael spoke to students about the courses that they offer and also the support they can provide. It was great to see so many of our students engage with the assembly. Rachael also provided us with great resources such as their prospectus' which students may like to read through with you at home.

- ★ Amazing Apprenticeships is a useful website that holds a great resource section;  
[www.amazingapprenticeships.com](http://www.amazingapprenticeships.com)



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

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

Loughborough Town Hall are again organising a Relaxed Performance of their Annual Christmas Panto. This year it's 'Peter Pan'

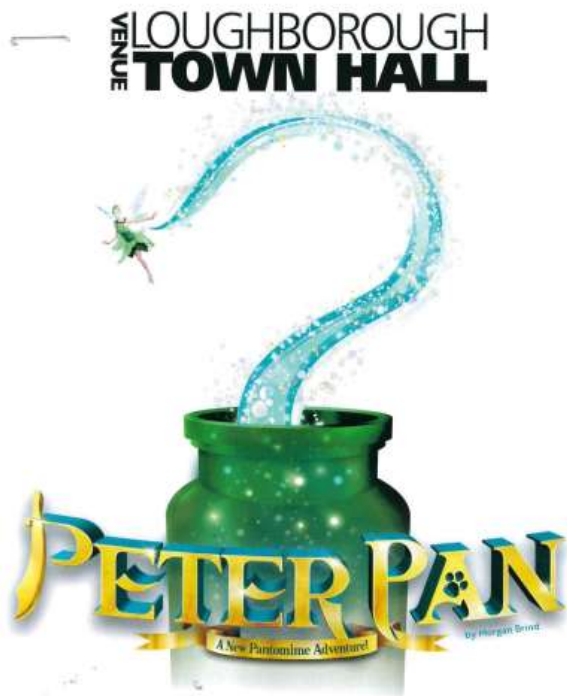
This Relaxed Performance will be held at 5.30pm on Thursday 4th January 2024.

The Performance is aimed at disabled children, young people and their families and will be particularly 'friendly' towards children on the autistic spectrum. The auditorium lights will remain partially lit, there will be no loud noises or flashing lights, children and their parents can come and go as they need and there is less expectation of a quiet atmosphere in the theatre.

Best of all, all the other audience members will also have disabled children and people with additional needs – so we will understand exactly where we are all coming from!

Ticket prices vary. **Carers tickets are free on production of DLA/PIP evidence of your child's Additional Needs.**

Phone Loughborough Town Hall Ticket Office on 01509 231914 for further information.



Loughborough Town Hall and Little Wolf Entertainment are excited to announce that we will be hosting our fifth-ever Relaxed Performance as part of this year's pantomime season.

Relaxed performances are aimed at people with sensory difficulties, learning difficulties, and communication disorders. Customers without these difficulties are still welcome, but please be aware that we will: -

- Have house lights up throughout the performance
- Keep doors open to allow customers to move freely if uncomfortable
- Have fewer large bangs and no pyrotechnics
- Allow more noise in the auditorium than we normally expect
- Offer spaces outside of the auditorium to calm children who feel discomfort
- Communicate with you more frequently than we would normally
- Send you a 'What to Expect' guide to the venue which is aimed to reassure customers with these disorders who may find the experience intimidating.

SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR QUERIES ABOUT THIS PERFORMANCE, ACCESS REQUIREMENTS OR OUR ESSENTIAL COMPANIONSHIP SCHEME, OR WISH TO BOOK TICKETS, PLEASE CALL OUR BOX OFFICE ON 01509 231914.

## Relaxed Performance

4TH JANUARY 2024 • 5.30PM

#LTHPanto

LOUGHBOROUGH TOWN HALL

Charnwood

The Loughborough Building Society

[loughboughtownhall.co.uk](http://loughboughtownhall.co.uk)

[Loughborough Town Hall](#) [@LboroTownHall](#) [@lborotownhall](#)

Little WOLF ENTERTAINMENT

LOUGHBOROUGH TOWN HALL

Charnwood

The Loughborough Building Society

PETER PAN

[loughboughtownhall.co.uk](http://loughboughtownhall.co.uk)

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#LTHPanto

Little WOLF ENTERTAINMENT



## 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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Contact Number: 01455 243689