

22nd December 2023

INTRODUCTION

Hello All,

It's the end of term, and we're actually slightly lost for words. Yesterday, we did our second Festive Fusion event and we feel it was our best yet. The festive cheer was in full swing, and every class had wonderful activities going on. From our youngest to our eldest, we saw contributions to the day that helped to make it a brilliant experience.

We'd also like to thank you all for helping make it a great afternoon too. When you attend these events, the students get to share in their joy, and the importance of that unity cannot be understated in helping build those home-school relationships. We know it isn't always easy - especially with work - so we're always grateful when you can.

Whilst we know Christmas is very different for everyone. For us, it's a time for family and community. We hope that your break is an opportunity to spend time with your loved ones, sharing in the festive cheer.

We're already planning for 2024, and are looking forward to what the year will bring for the students.

Thank you again for your continued support of what we are trying to achieve at The Fusion Academy. Whether that be through challenge, or gratitude, we always appreciate your feedback.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Katie & Tunde

JUNO - Annabelle

We have had a lovely week in Juno this week. We have enjoyed lots and lots of dancing, lots of singing, lots of crafts and making the classroom look wonderful. These activities have involved huge amounts of teamwork and sharing spaces with one another which has meant a huge increase in our positive social interactions. We have designed jumpers in Maths, invented toys in Social Communication, played with tools to make new toys AND we have a new class pet spider called Spidey! I am not sure who is looking after him over Christmas, but he has been shown plenty of care and attention in his short time in Juno.



GENESIS - Aimee W

We have had lots of fun in Genesis this week. The students started the week by joining together to make a military base in the quiet room, the adults took a step back and observed the children sharing ideas and problem solving together. We have spent lots of time playing games together as a whole class, like wink murder and steal the keys, but hide the santa was definitely the favourite. We enjoyed watching The Nativity film, although the students weren't keen on us singing along! On Thursday, we made freshly baked cookies for Festive Fusion. For those of you that were lucky enough to win one, we hope you enjoyed it. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a well deserved rest.



GATEWAY - Christina

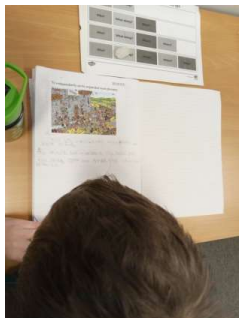
What a fabulous end to the term! Our class has shown some amazing teamwork and positive interactions. They have been able to ask their peers for support and ask them to join in an activity with them. Students showed brilliant problem solving skills during our Social Communication tasks. They also demonstrated great creativity when programming their bots. We have also been bringing out the Christmas decorations and working together to create decorations. One student has used their creative skills to build and decorate a snowman. They have worked incredibly hard to complete this snowman.



Don't forget we are swimming on Monday 8th January at Hinckley Leisure Centre. Please remember to bring in your kits. Thanks

CALIPSO - Sam S

A wonderful end to a great term. This week, the students in Calipso have worked extremely hard to prepare for Festive Fusion. They made their own gingerbread and decorated it. They were brilliant at following instructions and took great care. They also sang a Christmas song with makaton signs. The whole class was super proud of their efforts. The friendships and kindness within the class have been amazing to see develop. We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a great new year!



RANGER - Karen

This has been an amazing half term and the students have worked so hard. The students have been working hard on their prep for Festive Fusion and everything looked amazing. This week, the students have been producing their own playscripts based on the idea of Macbeth. One of the students decided to change the '3 witches' to the '3 Grinches' and I wondered who they thought the Grinches were. In Science, we explored our experiments and identified the food colouring in the vessels of the plants. In our careers lesson, we were learning about dentistry and we loved removing the plaque from our teeth. Hannah the career's advisor also completed some focused work with us on our career pathways. We all look forward to working with her again on our pathways for the future.



VIKING - Hilary

It was lovely to see everyone who came to Festive Fusion. The students worked really hard preparing Marshmallow Snowmen to sell:

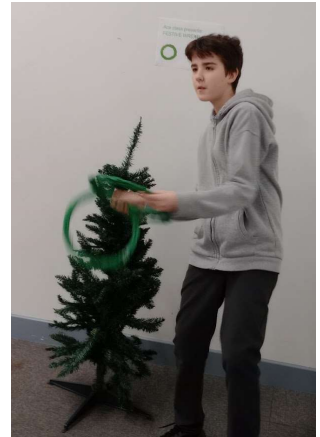


In Art, we have been making collages and models choosing different materials and considering the background layout and colours:



ACE - Zak

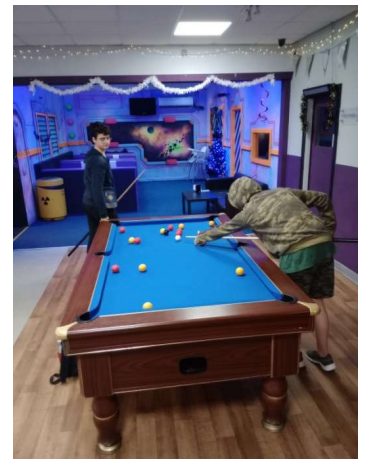
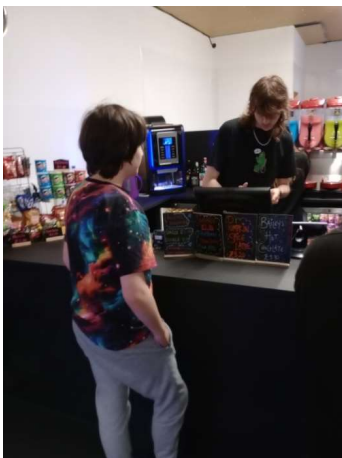
We have finally completed our first term in Ace classroom and I am so proud to be their teacher. We have learnt lots, but most importantly we have consolidated on our friendships and formed new friendships with our peers. We had a great time celebrating Festive Fusion raising lots of money. We turned the classroom into a festive escape room where we had to crack the code and find five friendly elves to save Christmas! We baked cakes and sold sweets and we did wreath tossing too in the corridor! We are very sad to say goodbye to Charlie who has been a brilliant Learning Support Assistant (LSA) for Ace class, but we are happy that he has got a new job in the music industry that he is excited to start. We hope you have a lovely Christmas and a relaxing winter break, all the best for 2024!



MARINER - Simon

We have enjoyed a fun, festive end to the term in Mariner. Last week's trip to Megazone was a huge success and the students loved the arcade and laser tag activities. We have done lots of festive activities in class this week, such as crafting, quizzes, games and puzzles, finished off with the excitement of Festive Fusion, Christmas Dinner and a class movie!

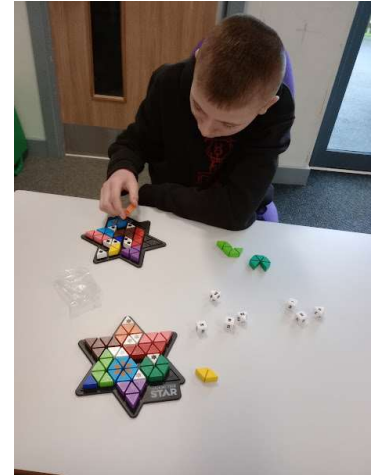
Have a lovely Festive break everyone, see you in the new year.



AQUARIUS - Katie

We had a brilliant last week before Christmas; we started the week off giving mock results out to Pathway 1 students who did a great job in their English and Maths exams and received their feedback very sensibly, then as the week has progressed, we have completed more Christmas/Maths tasks and activities.

There were some questionable answers in the Christmas Maths quiz (especially the Gremlins answer, with Damon telling me the correct answer, so I will have to amend that for next year. That shows me for not proofing the answers properly!) and Jay answered over 1000 questions on Sumdog on Tuesday; I also opened a new problem solving puzzle game for us to try out. Turns out it's trickier than we first thought, so I've also ordered the slightly easier one.



NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

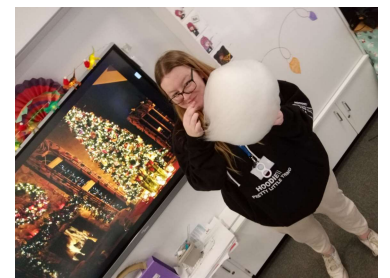
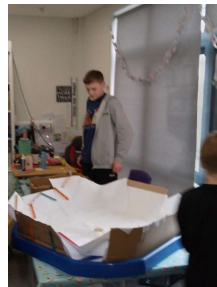
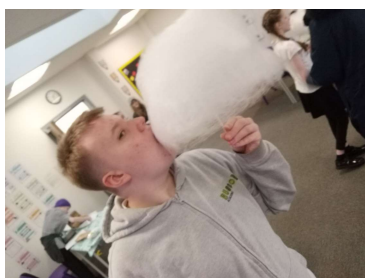
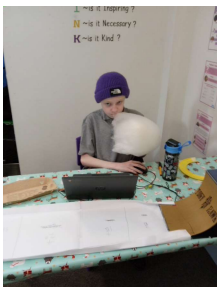
Our class has had lots of fun arranging everything for Festive Fusion! Our class has pulled out all the stops, orchestrating an explosion of creativity with games, delectable chocolate bark, tantalising chocolate lollies and a mesmerising candy floss stall.

As the much-anticipated day dawned, our space transformed into a hub of excitement, buzzing with the laughter and joy of numerous guests streaming in. The air was charged with the spirit of celebration as we not only had a blast, but also successfully raised a mountain of funds, turning our collective efforts into a resounding success!



And what's a festive occasion without a touch of whimsy? Feast your eyes on the delightful snapshot capturing Elphie rocking her Christmas hat!

As we wrap up this incredible journey through our first term in New Horizons, let me express my pride in the remarkable resilience and spirit displayed by each and every New Horizons student. You've not only conquered the challenges of this seemingly endless term, but have done so with grace and determination. Here's to a triumphant farewell to 2023, and I can't wait to embark on even greater adventures with all of you in 2024!



SWIFT - Sam R

This week in Swift Class, anticipation soared as students added the final magical touches to their spectacular 'Festive Fusion' event. The air buzzed with excitement on the awaited day as our talented students meticulously set up their stalls, showcasing a delectable array of baked delights - from irresistible brownies to delightful cupcakes and cookies.

The atmosphere was nothing short of enchanting as our students effortlessly engaged with an audience spanning across generations. Grandparents, parents, and children alike were enchanted by their eloquence and festive cheer. Witnessing the culmination of their hard work was a heartwarming sight, as they interacted joyously with the entire school community, spreading the festive joy through various engaging activities.



STARDUST - Sam P



What a busy week! Stardust students spent Monday getting prepared for Festive Fusion. They showed great teamwork by starting a production line to put together our Hot Chocolate Reindeer and Hot Chocolate Bombs. Ethan used his amazing digital creativity skills to create posters for our stall. On Wednesday, students joined staff to enjoy a school Christmas Dinner.



On Thursday, it was brilliant to see parents and students visiting all of the different stalls and supporting each other. A big thank you to Owen and Damon who both manned the Stardust stalls for most of the afternoon.

In English this week, Pathway One students had their English Mock results back. They all showed great maturity and listened well to feedback to make improvements. Later in the week, we had fun with a new game making quirky headlines - John was a runaway winner. Maybe he has a future in journalism?



In PSHE this week, we looked at physical and mental wellbeing making links with our self-care battery. On Monday, we considered how our physical wellbeing impacts our mental wellbeing and vice versa. On Tuesday, we reflected on our learning in this topic and tried out a selection of festive wellbeing activities to boost our wellbeing. Icing biscuits was a particular hit.

SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam

Both Pathways have been doing Christmas Chromatography for baubles and skittle science along with quizzes.



FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny

We had a celebration in our session this week to celebrate all of our successes in forest school. We had two fabulous chefs cooking our sausage cobs. They tasted delicious. One of the students explored the forest trying to find the perfect branch to make a rope swing. We had a go at making reindeers as well. Penny enjoyed this craft and we took a vote on her final creation. We all thought that it was a giraffe that had a cold! What do you think?



OTHER NEWS



The Fusion Academy Celebrating Achievements

Mason, Kai, & Jayden - Excellent at Festive Fusion



School Dinners

Please note, from January 8th 2024 the price of school dinners will be £2.55



Careers & Next steps

There are some great events taking place at some of the colleges, see below for details.



Apprenticeship Fair 2024

APPRENTICESHIP FAIR 2024
WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 10AM TO 3PM
FREEMEN'S PARK CAMPUS

EVENT
Leicester College
Apprenticeships

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW

Date	Time	Location	Share this post
Wed 07 Feb 2024	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Freemen's Park Campus	#LeicesterCollege

www.leicestercollege.ac.uk/about/news-and-events/events/apprenticeship-fair-2024/



<https://www.loucoll.ac.uk/events>

NEXT EVENT





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.



Relaxed Performance

4TH JANUARY 2024 • 5.30PM



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#LTHPanto



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.



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#LTHPanto



Diary Dates

- ★ 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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