

26th January 2024

INTRODUCTION

Hi All,

We've had a brilliant week, this week, with some wonderful moments across the entire school.

We'd like to give a special mention to Maverick this week, who has really supported one of his peers in his class. During forest school and PE, he was able to put his own goals to one side so he could support his friend, ensuring both of them finished the work together. This level of teamwork and support is exactly what we want to see at The Fusion Academy. Well done Maverick!

Another student who is showing his ingenuity and entrepreneurship is Owen. Owen is one of our older students, and is showing his maturity and skill for business by setting up his own tuckshop. Over the next few weeks, he'll be doing a soft-launch of the shop and information will be shared with all students via the newsletter.

I know many of you will be aware of the fire alarms being set off again. We are fully aware of the distress this causes many of our students. The staff are working hard to support every young person when this happens, and following the events. We know the stress and anxiety it can cause some of our students and are not taking the matter lightly. As I'm sure you are aware, each case is complex, so unfortunately we cannot have a blanket rule or expectation. However, once we know who has set the alarm off, we work closely with them to find out the motivator, what is affecting them, and then look to find a resolution - just as we do with any and all behaviours.

Redridge Parents!

Please ensure all medical forms are back by next week. Even if your student doesn't take any medication, it's still important to have this information on file.

As mentioned above, despite the disruptions of the fire alarms, the students have shown incredible resilience and work during their learning. We've had a few important visitors this week and they have all been very impressed by the level of engagement from everyone.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Katie & Tunde

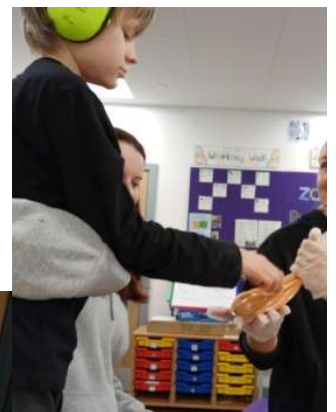
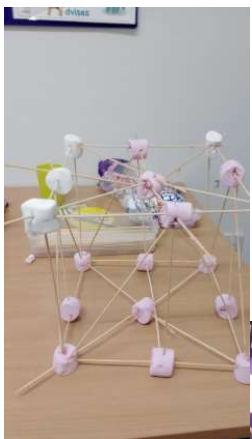
JUNO - Annabelle



This week has been really lovely in Juno. Our young people have settled in wonderfully this new year so far and their relationships with one another are strengthening. New skills are being learned and developed and they are challenging each other to try new things. This includes chess which appears to be a thing special to Juno, because we had some talented players last year too! We have also received praise from other staff members that have noticed Juno students advocating for themselves and others. They are being kind and accommodating to other students who are sharing spaces with them and inviting them to come and play. This has been noticed primarily in the forest and during lunchtimes which really shows how much their confidence is growing around different people and how well they are adjusting to their environment.

GENESIS - Aimee W

We've had a fantastic week in Genesis. Students have worked together to pick out key events of a story and use their imagination and inference skills to discuss how the character might be feeling. We have continued looking at our digestive system in Science by completing an experiment that was pretty gross! As always, the Maths work has been amazing. One great thing we have seen in Maths this week is students supporting their peers when they are struggling. We have had a focus on emotional regulation and taking time out of the classroom when it is needed. One of these activities involved creating a sculpture using marshmallows and the outcome was amazing!



GATEWAY - Christina

We have had another great week! Our class has been demonstrating their team building skills during Forest Schools. We have been working together to build a secure and working bridge.

In Science, we have been exploring producers, predators and prey. Students have been selecting animals and catching their prey. In student-led play, our class has demonstrated their great interactions. We worked together to make the seesaw balance by shifting our weight across.



CALIPSO - Sam S

We could not be more proud! This week in Calipso, we have been learning about the book, 'The Hunger Games' and have used the competition idea in lots of our lessons. The kindness shown by all students has been amazing and we have seen some magical moments. The students have been working very hard in their Maths and completing some tricky algebra work. Our Science lessons have begun looking at the digestive system and how to take care of our teeth. They have loved experimenting and talking about the results.



RANGER - Vicki and Susie

Ranger had a great cooking lesson on Monday and showed some excellent knife skills to finely chop onions and garlic. They really enjoyed eating the creamy tomato spaghetti.

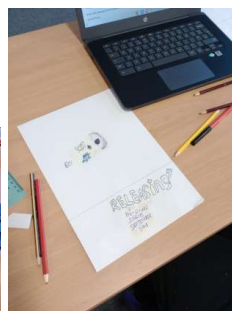


In one of our English lessons, we were looking at symbolism and identifying symbols used in 'The Hunger Games'. The children then went on to create symbols to represent themselves based on their character.

In Maths, we have been exploring how to multiply fractions using physical resources.

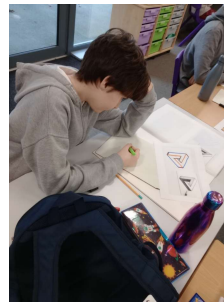
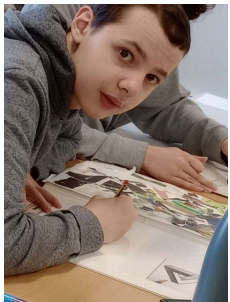
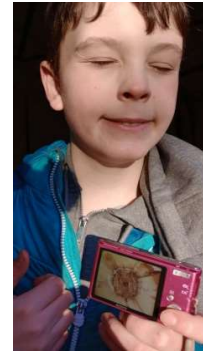
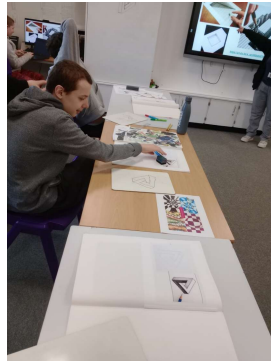
VIKING - Hilary

In Art, we have been creating 'Illusion Pictures' and in Music, we have been designing our own album covers. We have used our Chromebooks as well as pencils and paper for this. In RE, we have been looking at how technology and Artificial Intelligence are being used in religion. A lot of faiths now hold their services online to make them more accessible and you can get a computerised pen that will translate the Qur'an or the Torah into English for people who don't understand Arabic or Hebrew. You can also ask specially programmed robots to answer religious questions if you want to! It's a bit like Alexa!



ACE - Zak

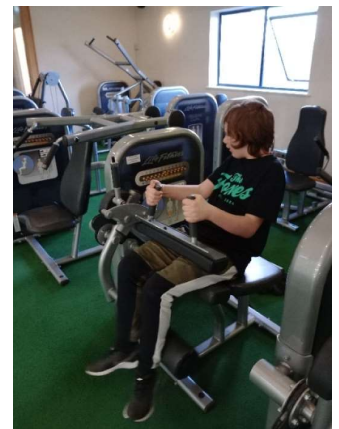
We have been ever so creative this week in Ace class! We created our own optical illusions in Art. In Forest School this week, we have been putting our whittling skills into practice. We carefully whittled a stick for the wooden man remembering some of the rules that we had learnt previously. We then used acrylic paints to paint the wooden man.



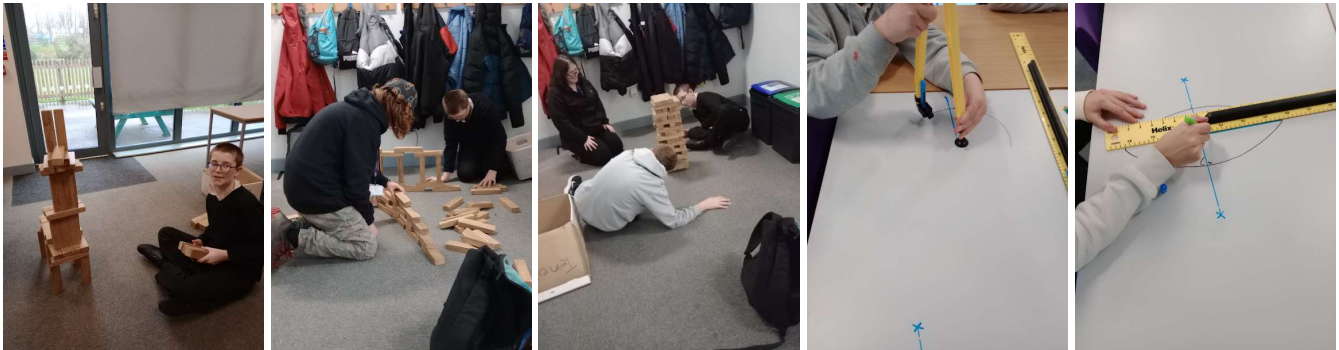
MARINER - Simon

It has been another eventful week in Mariner this week. We engaged really well in activities like the gym and photography in the forest this week. There was also the fun addition of a Wii to the classroom which has been a big hit as an engagement tool.

In Science this week, we did a pendulum activity, which not only tested their knowledge of energy, but also their trust of each other and in Maths, we have continued to work on fractions and dealt with the frustrations of finding this difficult really well.



AQUARIUS - Katie



This week in Maths, we have managed to complete our Locus topic where students are using the big ruler and compass to draw out their perpendicular bisector as practice before completing an independent worksheet.

During social time, the Jenga blocks have been well used and it's been lovely to see positive relationships growing. One student also challenged themselves during their lunchtime to build animals too - they created a rhino, giraffe and tried to create a guinea pig.

NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

In New Horizons this week, we have been considering the benefits of forward planning and how this can help us to be super organised. We have been particularly focused on cooking and how we need to buy our ingredients ahead of time and prepare our equipment so that we don't get stuck mid recipe.

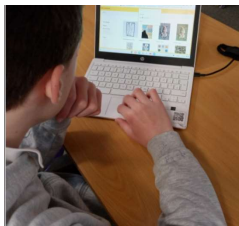
Earlier in the week, we enjoyed a game of cup pong - I think it's fair to say that the students are better at the game than the staff!

We have also been getting creative, with one member putting lots of effort into a fantastic drawing that I have shared with you below.



SWIFT - Sam R

Within Swift class, some of our students are extending their learning beyond the school grounds by mastering the art of horseback riding. Alongside these equestrian adventures, we've delved into the realm of Artificial Intelligence through engaging Quickdraw challenges.

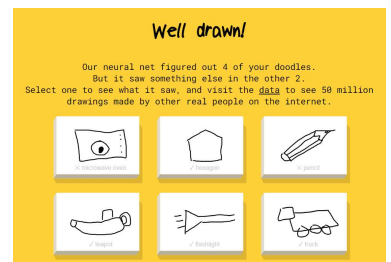


In Computing, our students are immersed in the world of graphic design, envisioning and creating their dream houses or giving a fresh look to our school's common room.

Transitioning from fitness baseline testing in prior sessions, our PE classes are now in full swing with invigorating circuit training. Students are actively engaging in a variety of exercises, working on their entire body and fostering a holistic approach to physical well-being.

STARDUST - Sam P

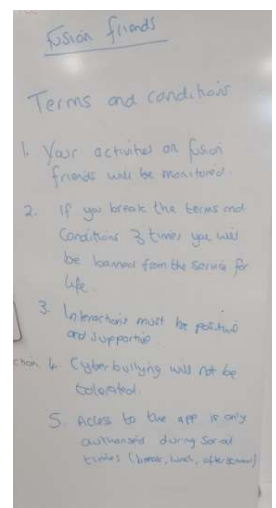
In Stardust this week, we have used our social communication time to explore Artificial Intelligence. We had fun competing against a drawing AI programme Quickdraw. However, Luke and Felix were made a great team and much faster at guessing drawings than the programme.



In English, Pathway 1 students have been getting to know some of the other characters in Ready Player One. On Monday, students got the chance to create their own avatars for a virtual school and we tried to guess who each avatar belonged to. As we have moved through the week and done more explorations of the text, they have all shown brilliant listening skills and been able to select relevant evidence from the text to support their opinions about each of the characters. Alfie did some brilliant independent work on Tuesday analysing different characters in the story.

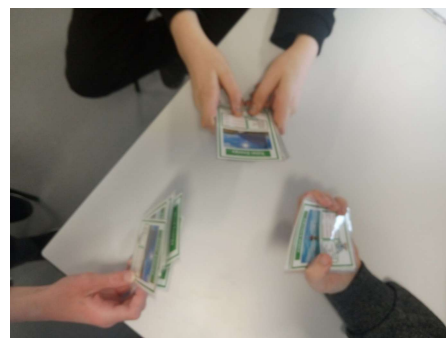
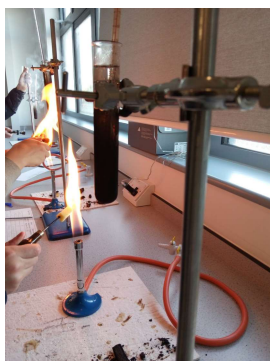


In PSHE this week, we have been focusing on privacy codes and terms and conditions for different online social media. We spent some time looking at The Children's Code and considering how different apps can do more to protect young people online. We even came up with our own terms and conditions for a fictional app 'Fusion Friends'. Lennon, Lukas and Edward made some great suggestions to go in our terms and conditions.



SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tom

Pathway 2 students got to burn different foods to see how much energy was released; this was measured by how much the water temperature rose by. Well done everyone for coping with the lingering acrid burnt food stench.



This week, students have been learning about electricity bills and most were upset to discover that not only do we have to pay for electricity, but we also have to pay just to be connected to the national grid. Additionally, they have been learning about different energy sources of electricity through Top Trump.

Pathway 1 students have had an end of unit test for the Energy Changes topic and have now started Rates of Reactions.

FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny

The students have still enjoyed themselves this week even in the windy weather. We have been taking photos from different places and angles. The students have continued to develop their tool skills by whittling character. In our options groups, the students cooked some of our ration packs and Jacob enjoyed the sweet and sour chicken. This week, we have been really creative by problem solving how to create a bridge from one bank to another. We were impressed by the teamwork.



I would like to personally thank the students who helped me to put together our proposal to get a shelter in our forest over the fire. I will update you with the results when I know more.



OTHER NEWS



The Fusion Academy Celebrating Achievements

Maverick & Jaden for excellent teamwork



School Dinners

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

Parking

When dropping off and/or collecting, please be mindful of our neighbours and be considerate when parking your vehicle.

Thank you for your support with this.



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

<https://openthinkingpartnership.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/OTP-News-letter-january-TK.pdf>



Diary Dates

- ★ February Half Term Break: Monday 19th February 2024 - Friday 23rd February 2024
- ★ School Opens: Monday 26th February 2024
- ★ Holwell Pastures Residential Meeting: Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 4pm - 5pm

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

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