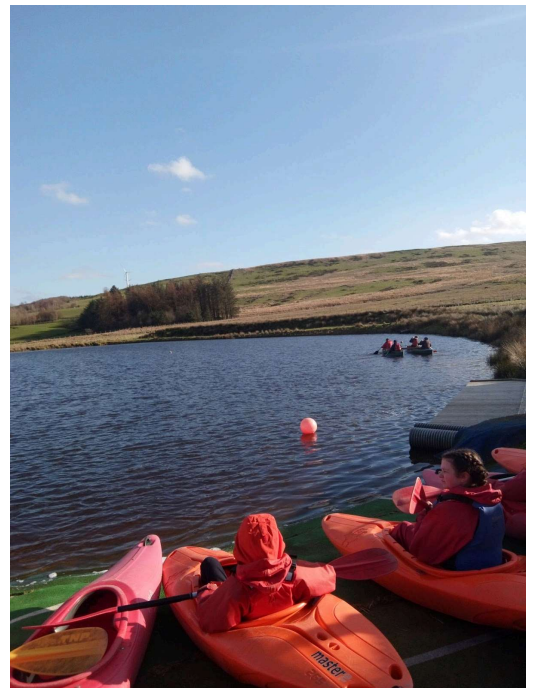


8th March 2024

INTRODUCTION

Hi All,

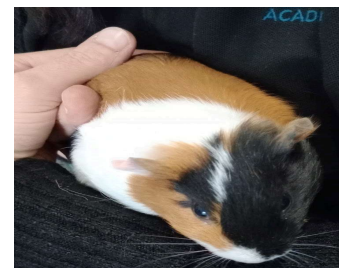
It's been residential week! Staff and students have had a wonderful time, and I know they are coming back with lots of fantastic stories about their time there. It's our first ever residential away from school and we're incredibly proud of everyone involved. This has set the foundation for more trips away, and we're already planning our next adventures!



Back at school, we've seen some brilliant learning across the key stages. In lower school, the students have been engaging wonderfully in English, and on World Book Day, some students even had the chance to write and publish their own book in class.

In upper school, whilst their friends have been out having adventures, those still at school have been working hard. We've seen some lovely work in maths, using manipulatives to help with algebraic equations.

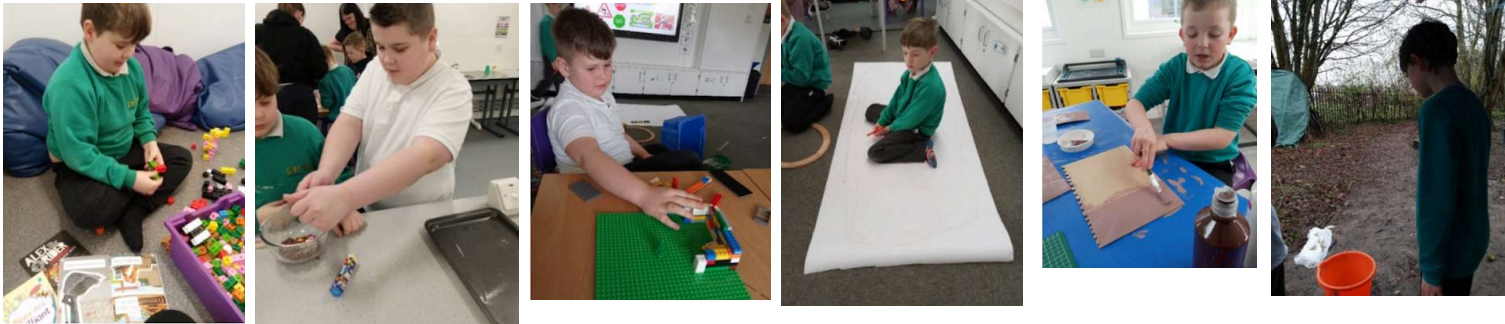
Finally, we'd like to welcome our new guinea pigs Twix and Caramel. The students all got to nominate the names they wanted, and these were two of the most popular around our biscuit theme. Thanks to the students for helping them get to know Oreo.



Have a wonderful weekend,

Katie & Tunde

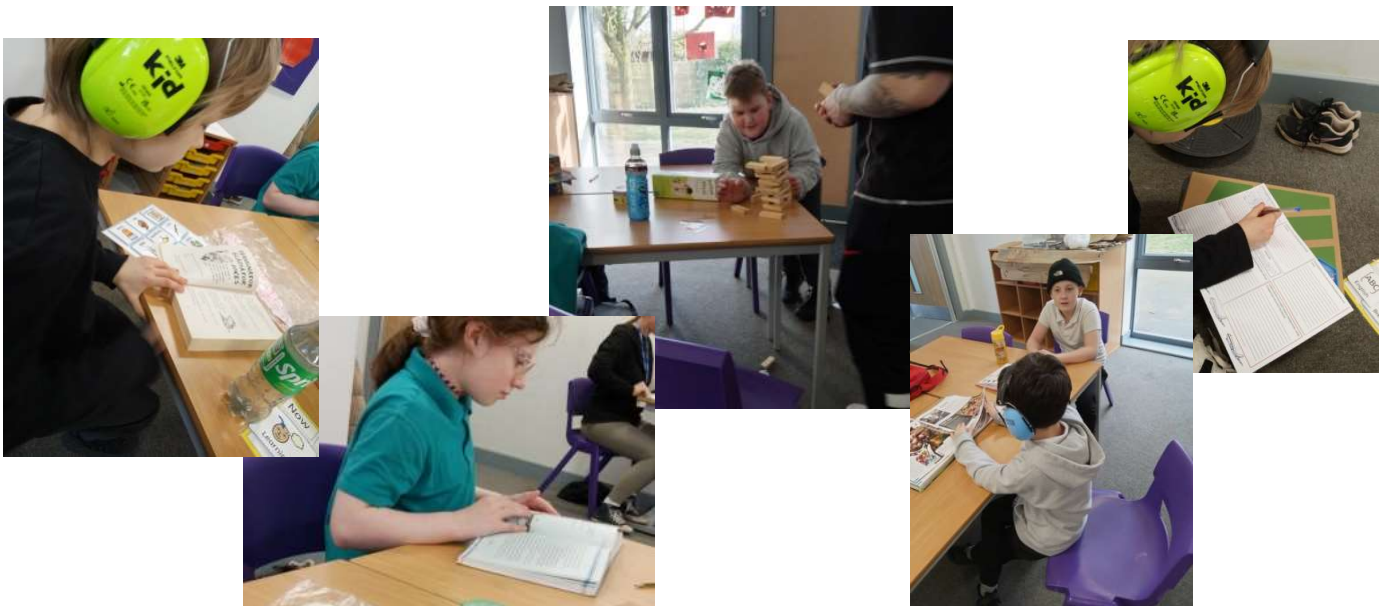
JUNO - Annabelle



This week has been spectacular in Juno! We have done and learnt so much, whether it be on our own or as part of a group. Our young people have accessed different parts of the school and learning environment and then used these spaces to support them with their task or chosen activity. We did some wonderful work with the Occupational Therapists in the student kitchen by working in small groups with an adult following a set of clear instructions. There was so much positive interaction and safe use of space. It meant that young people who may not always work together had to in order to achieve their end goal of delicious cookies! It was a huge success, well done Juno. We are also glad to say goodbye to the rain, as we had reached a point where we were finding the biggest drip that helped us collect the most water.

GENESIS - Aimee W

Another wonderful week in Genesis! We have been busy writing our own newspaper articles that are absolutely fantastic and we can't wait for you to see them at Parents' Evening next week. We have finished our ratio topic in Maths and have started working really hard on algebra, we worked as a group to start understanding formulae and everyone did a great job. We have continued our Science work by looking at different types of rock and how they are made; we did this by creating our own edible rock models. We then enjoyed eating all of the leftover food! We thoroughly enjoyed wearing our pyjamas and completing different World Book Day activities and spent time doing some independent reading.



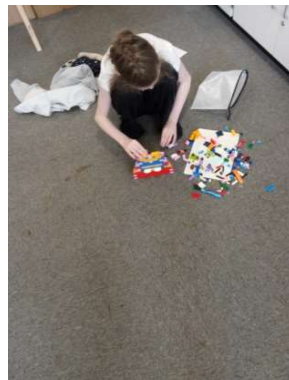
GATEWAY - Christina

What a great week! We have been expanding our ability to use personification and metaphors in our writing during English. We have also been able to use our acting skills to role play the events of the book and the feelings of the characters. In Maths, we have been exploring equations and this links to algebraic expressions. Some of our students were very enthusiastic about doing algebra! In Science, we have been investigating how different rocks are formed. Students have been engaging in experiments to demonstrate how pressure, heat and cooling are used in the formation of these rocks. We have also had Careers Day where students demonstrated their creative and problem solving skills. We were exploring jobs linked to construction; such as brick laying and engineering.



CALIPSO - Sam S

We had an amazing day on Friday, thanks to Hannah, our Careers' advisor. In Calipso, we were learning about the construction industry and how it can overlap with other jobs, such as computing and finance jobs. We had a go at being architects, bricklayers and plumbers. This week in Geography, we have been learning about volcanoes and what happens when they erupt. We have tried to recreate an eruption using white vinegar and baking soda. In Art, we have had a go at the Japanese technique of Hapa Zome and have created some interesting plant dye designs. This week in Science, we have been learning about fossils and the palaeontologist Mary Annings.



RANGER - Susie and Vicki

Careers Day on Friday was amazing. We learnt about different jobs in the construction industry and tried out being architects, bricklayers, engineers and plumbers. In Cooking, we made Rocky Road which was a hit - sorry if it didn't make it home for you to try! In English, we have been learning about Mount Vesuvius and we made model volcanoes.



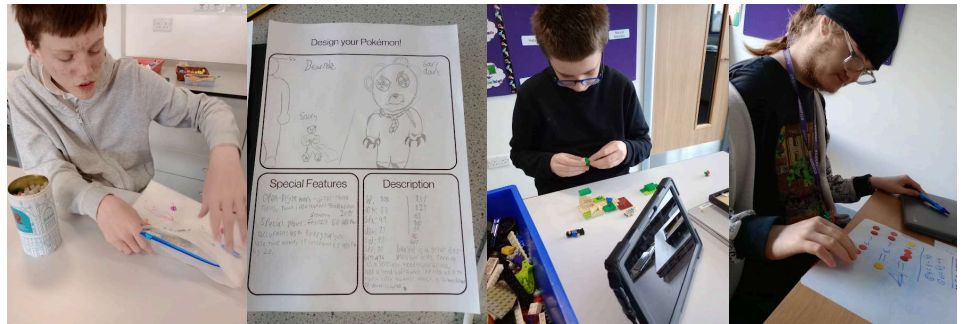
VIKING - Hilary



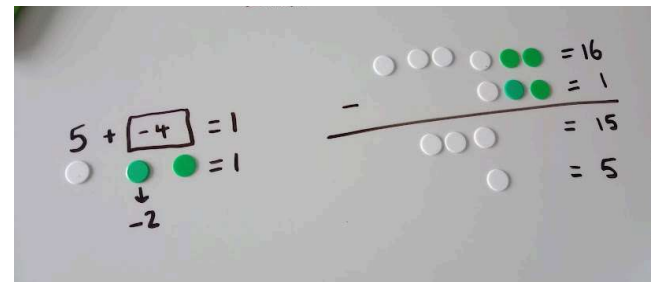
We have enjoyed celebrating World Book Day in Viking and have managed to incorporate World Book Day activities into all of our lessons: Maths, English, Science and Geography! In Science, we made boats that were propelled by elastic bands and spoons and learnt about Elastic Potential Energy and Kinetic Energy. In Geography, we researched Asian landmarks. In English, we had a lot of fun writing a silly story and in Maths, we had to Escape the Library by working out the numbers to unlock the padlock!

AQUARIUS - Katie

In Aquarius last Friday, we had such a good time during the Careers Day with our Creative Industries activities - there were sweet bags made, Pokemon created, projects designed and all sorts! We also played the emoji during sensory breaks which was lots of fun, especially when we had to imitate monkeys or when staff had to speak and move super slowly!



In Maths with upper school this week, we have made progress with Simultaneous Equations and moved onto solving them using manipulatives where needed; we are pretty much



coming to the end of this topic, but it has been great to see the progression with all of the students and the proudness that they show when they can solve the unknowns and even demonstrate independently how to solve them.

NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

Last Friday, we delved into the vibrant tapestry of Creative Industries during our exhilarating Careers Day. From the runway of fashion designers to the digital canvas of animators, the innovative buzz of product designers, and the captivating storytelling of journalists, we enjoyed a day of trying new activities together.

Also this week, some of us embarked on the exhilarating Red Ridge Residential trip. Against the breathtaking backdrop of Mid Wales, we embraced the thrill of outdoor activities - our students were really brave and definitely pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone.

Created by 2024

NEW HORIZONS NEWSLETTER

Created by Theo

Logo by Theo

GET OUR NEWSLETTER







NEW HORIZON

Logo by Zane

NEW HORIZONS

Today we had a 'creative industries' themed careers day. We did lots of activities and thought about the skills needed for each role. Thank you to Hannah for providing us with lots of fun things to do.

Here are some photos of some of the work we did. Photos by Theo.

Theo
Zane
Sol
Camron
Callum



SWIFT - Sam R

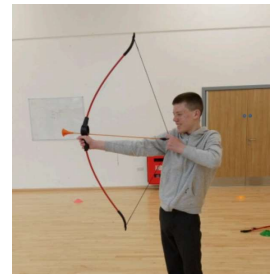
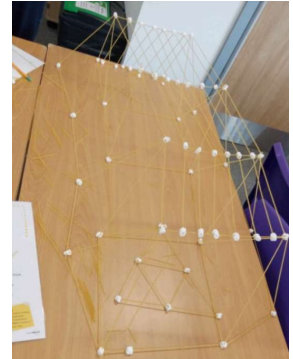


Last week in Swift, our students delved into the world of engineering during an exciting Careers Day. They immersed themselves in various activities, showcasing their problem-solving prowess and construction skills. Notably, their creativity shone through as they crafted remarkable bridge designs.

Meanwhile, an exhilarating adventure awaited many of our students at the Red Ridge Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Wales. Engaging in thrilling activities like indoor caving, kayaking, and high ropes, our students displayed courage and determination, pushing their boundaries to experience it all.



In PE, our students honed their archery skills, mastering techniques while challenging themselves with increasing distances to launch their arrows. It's been a week of discovery, growth, and unforgettable experiences for our students in Swift!



STARDUST - Sam P

This week has been quieter than usual, as 4 members of Stardust have had the amazing opportunity to participate in the Red Ridge Residential trip at the start of the week. Then, Sam went to Red Ridge for the second half of the week.

In English this week, students have been looking at emotive language and being selective in our writing to make our readers feel emotional. In both Pathways we have created some great shared writing. On Thursday to celebrate World Book Day, students participated in a carousel of activities to inspire reading.

In PSHE this week, Pathway 1 Group 2 students have been discussing independent living including where they might live and how they may pay for their homes in the future. In our second lesson, we spent some time focusing on different chores and read a very interesting article that suggested that chores can improve brain power!

Daily News

Special Report World News 17th June 2022

Doing Chores Could Boost Kids' Brainpower

What is problem solving?

- Problem solving is the act of working out what a problem is and fixing it.
- Whether the problems are big or small, expected or unexpected, it requires a person to work out what the problem is, what has caused the problem, choosing what actions to take and then taking them.

Household chores may not be top of your list of fun things to do at home. But would it make you like them more to learn that doing them could boost your brainpower?

A recent study has found that children who joined in with tasks around the home showed improved academic performance. Not only that, they had improved problem-solving skills too.

The study was done by a team at La Trobe University in Australia. It involved more than 200 parents and guardians of children aged 5-13 years. The adults were asked about the number of chores their child did each day and about their executive function.

Executive function is a term used to describe someone's ability to plan, stay on task, do different tasks at the same time and remember instructions.

Their results showed that children who regularly joined in with chores had better working memory and inhibition.

When it came to the chores, 70% of girls made their own beds compared to 50% of boys. However, 74% of boys put away the groceries

compared to 63% of girls.

75% of girls put away their clothes while only 62% of boys did. Whereas, 64% of boys took out the bins and only 43% of girls did.

The study also found that cooking and gardening may be particularly beneficial.

Ms. Chantel Trapp led the study. She said: "Children who cook a family meal or weed the garden on a regular basis may be more likely to excel in other aspects of life - like schoolwork or problem solving."

It may be that many parents and carers are thrilled about the findings of this study... but what do you think?

Glossary

academic Things related to work at school.

working The short term, ability to hold information in your brain and to use that information.

inhibition The ability to think before acting.

beneficial Something that helps you or improves your chances of success.

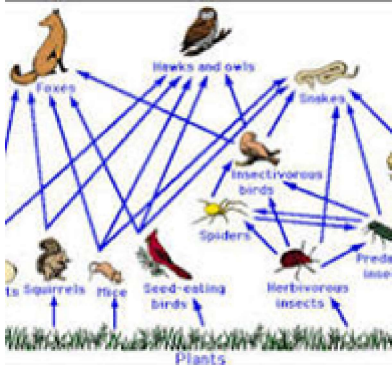


SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam

This week in Science, we have continued with our topics of Ecology for KS3 and Atomic structure of KS4.

Pathway 2 students have been learning all about biomes, biotic and abiotic factors, ecosystems and the relationships between predators and prey. We even took some time to look at information from The Eden Project in Cornwall and how they have managed to create a tropical biome right here in the UK.

Food Web Diagram:

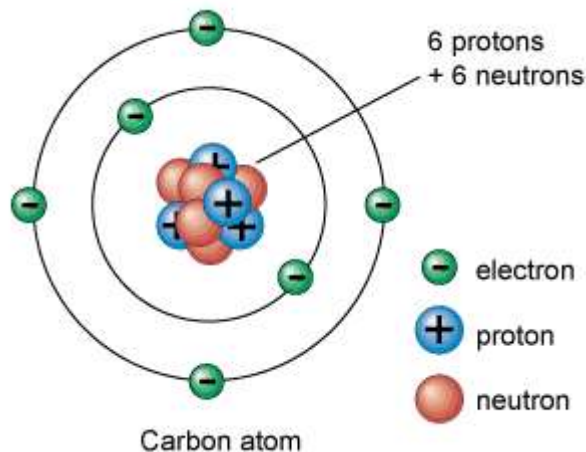


Biomes at The Eden Project, Cornwall:



KS4 students have been learning how scientists developed the model of the atom by making and testing predictions and having their ideas confirmed. They have also been revising some of the separation techniques we can use in chemistry and how these can be applied in real life jobs and industries, such as forensics and scenes of crimes, environmental agency and the food standards agency.

Diagram of an Atom:



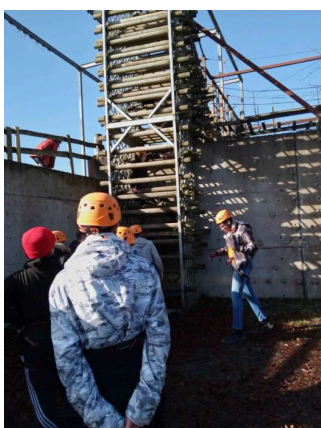
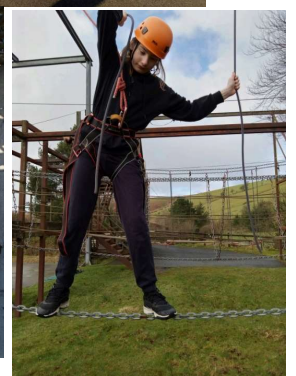
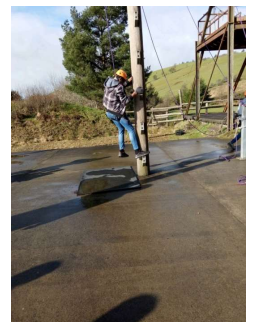
FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny

Penny and I have left some lovely activities for the school to complete whilst we are in Welshpool for the Upper School residential trip. Lower school students have been focusing on the element 'Earth' and have had the opportunity to explore the stream, make Boggarts and have a go at Bologan cloth mud painting. In Upper school, students have been focusing on the environment in the forest and have completed litter picks and cleared the stream to support the wildlife. We are looking forward to talking to the students about their learning when we are back at school.

Red Ridge Residential



As I sit and write about the first part of the residential, I reflect on all of the challenges these students have faced being away from home and the resilience that they have shown during the week. The students have all participated in each activity challenging themselves to 'aim high' and reach their full potential. I think the photos sum up the experiences more than the words I write.



OTHER NEWS



The Fusion Academy Celebrating Achievements

Everyone at Red Ridge



SCHOOL COUNCIL / ECO COMMITTEE



Your Eco-committee needs your help!



From March 4th 2024, we are launching a recycling project where we will be collecting empty crisp packets.

These will then be washed and made into foil blankets for the homeless. It takes 150 packets to make just one blanket and our goal is to make at least 10.

Special collection points will be placed around the school for putting your empty crisp packets in. Please support us. Your rubbish could save someone's life!

Thank you for supporting our crisp packet collection. Here is this week's total.

		Running Total
This Week (06.03.24)	91	91
Last Week	n/a	n/a



Careers & Next Steps

★ Reminder for our 'Moving On Event' taking place this coming

Thursday, 14th March - this will link in with our parents' evening, where families are welcome to pop into our main hall to meet with Post 16 Providers to discuss options and find out information that can support the pathway for your young person.



★ Q&A with Hannah - Our Careers Advisor Hannah is on hand to answer any questions you have in relation to anything post 16. We have created a

Google Form for you to submit your questions.

We will share the answers for the general questions received each half term, as it may support other families with the same questions. Click this link to submit your question; [Post-16 Q&A with Hannah](#)

MOVING ON EVENT

FUSION ACADEMY

THURSDAY 14TH MARCH 2 - 6PM

COME AND JOIN OUR FIRST MOVING ON EVENT, AN AFTERNOON TO MEET POST 16 PROVIDERS, INCLUDING LEICESTERSHIRE COLLEGES.

CONFIRMED PROVIDERS:

- SENSE COLLEGE
- LOUGHBOROUGH COLLEGE
- LLEP
- SMB COLLEGE

THE EVENT WILL BE HELD AT THE FUSION ACADEMY, MOORE ROAD, BARNWELL, LEICESTER, LE9 8AG

01455 243689
office@thefusionacademy.co.uk



Support

Here are some resources that may be supportive for our families.

- ★ berealwithhowyoufeel.co.uk/ - Support for young people aged 16 +
- ★ youngminds.org.uk - support and advice on lots of different areas/topics
- ★ [BBC OWN IT](http://BBCOWNIT) - eSafety support for young people

Imagination Station

at The Hub, Hathern.



Activities include:

- Healthy Cookery to support a healthy balanced lifestyle
- Creativity including STEM
- Clay
- Computer Design
- Games



2024 Dates:

25th – 28th March
3rd – 5th April
27th – 31st May
15th – 19th July
22nd – 26th July
29th July – 2nd August
5th – 9th August
12 – 16th August

Daily Cost
from £25
(9am - 3pm)

We accept HAF vouchers for children receiving free school meals.

We are SEND and SEMH Trained and can support needs of SEN Children.

Craft Club

We operate a 2 hour craft club every day for children ages 5-7 for an additional £8 a day.

Additional wrap around care can be added on for £7 a day
8am - 6pm including breakfast

Book Online

148 Loughborough Hathern, LE12 5JB

www.thehub-cic.co.uk



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>

We had a fantastic panto at Fusion - Oh yes we did!

Over Half Term, our resident Theatre group - Stageworks, performed The Earl Shilton and Barwell Pantomime in our Hall. Their performance of Dick Whittington was enjoyed by several sell-out audiences across the four performances. They are now starting rehearsals for their next performance, Treasure Island, that will be performed in July. We hope you enjoy these photos - you can even spot our very own Jan who was fantastic in her role as Queen Rat!



Join us!



STAGEWORKS

PERFORMANCE

PERFORMING ARTS FOR ALL AGES

SEND INCLUSIVE

TAKE PART IN TWO SHOWS A YEAR

FUN, FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

AFFORDABLE WITH NO HIDDEN COSTS



07518273337



STAGEWORKS-PERFORMANCE
COMMUNITY THEATRE



SEND Hub COFFEE AND CONNECTIONS For parents run by parents

A group for parents and carers of SEND children in Leicestershire.

**10:30- 12:00pm drop in
second and fourth Friday of the month**

8th March, 22nd March,
12th April, 26th April,
10th May, 24th May,
14th June, 28th June

Children of all ages
welcome

**@ The Hub,
Tay Road,
New Lubbesthorpe,
LE19 4BF**

All welcome - join us
for a hot drink and
biscuits a chat and,
information

To find out more about
Leicestershire SEND Hub visit
www.leicestershiresendhub.org.uk

or scan the QR code to join our
private parent/carer support group
on Facebook



SCAN ME

For queries please contact:
admin@leicestershiresendhub.org.uk



In partnership with



Birmingham
NOYO
Ensemble

mac
Midlands Arts Centre

B:Music

Services
For Education

Call out for 11-25 year-old musicians

- Join the National Open Youth Orchestra's Birmingham NOYO Ensemble where brilliant disabled and non-disabled musicians rehearse and perform together - on acoustic, electronic and accessible instruments.
- Develop your musical skills within a pioneering inclusive ensemble.
- We learn music not only from notation, but also by ear and through improvisation.

Come to our Birmingham Open Rehearsals on 24 February and 9 March 2024.
Apply online 23 February - 24 March 2024. More information at noyo.org.uk

GREEN TOWERS
Hinckley Club 4 Young People

Easter Club

- FREE SPACES AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE FREE SCHOOL MEALS
- £1.50 PER SESSION FOR MEMBERS
£3.00 PER SESSION FOR NON MEMBERS
- BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROVIDED FOR ALL CHILDREN
- DRINKS PROVIDED FOR ALL CHILDREN
- LOTS OF FUN ACTIVITIES

8 - 18 yrs
25th - 28th March
9am - 12pm

**TO BOOK YOUR PLACE PLEASE CONTACT US ON
01455 230468 OR
EMAIL OFFICE@GREENTOWERS.CO.UK**

Richmond Road, Hinckley LE10 0DZ

Diary Dates

- ★ Holwell Pastures Residential Meeting: Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 4pm - 5pm
- ★ Parents' Evening: Thursday 14th March 2024 at 4pm - 6.30pm

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

office@thefusionacademy.co.uk

Contact Number: 01455 243689