

12th April 2024

INTRODUCTION

Welcome back!

It's been great to have everyone back this week after the Easter break. We've enjoyed hearing all about the different activities, trips, and holidays the students have taken part in.

This term, there are lots of events and activities happening as we look to close out a magnificent fourth year as The Fusion Academy. We have our end of year trips being booked and planned in (look out for details in the coming weeks), we have our lower school residential, and we have exams and mock exams too! With all this being said, we recognise these exciting, and sometimes anxious events can mean students will express their feelings a lot more than earlier in the year. Please remember, we are always here to support if things change, or become more challenging.

As the days are (supposed to be) getting sunnier, we'd like to remind you that sun cream should be administered to ensure the students are safe outside. Please ensure Arbor is updated so that staff can support your children to administer the cream, should they require it. We will be buying some sun cream for each class as a general one to be used, however, we understand some of the students may prefer a particular brand. If this is the case, please can you send this in with a labelled bottle. If the days are particularly hot or sunny, and the students do not wear sun-cream, they will not be permitted to spend time outside.

We hope you have an enjoyable weekend,

Katie & Tunde

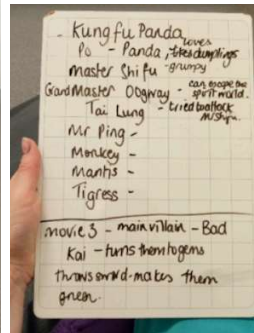
JUNO - Annabelle

What a wonderful week back! Juno has settled right back into the expectations of the classroom and everyone seems comfortable with the structure of their day. This has meant we can put more focus on supporting the learning and interactions in the room, because the students are already settled into the routines.

In English, we have started to look at Kung Fu Panda. We watched some clips and spoke about what we know. We are identifying the plot line, looking at how the film uses friendships and challenges and are hoping to further develop this into some creative work of our own.

In Computing, we are starting to use a green screen and have had so many wonderful ideas of what we want our short videos to look like. In Forest School this week, the students are going to be starting work on a nature stage linked to our 'Life is a stage' theme for the term, so hopefully this rain holds off.

Overall an incredible start to our Summer term and we are looking forward to what is yet to come!



GENESIS - Aimee W

We have had a fun week back in Genesis. Everyone has settled back in very quickly and we have already seen some fantastic work. We had an unusual start to the week with our first swimming session, but the students were very sensible and we are very excited to see them progress throughout the half term.

In Maths, we have started to look at and measure angles. The students have been working really hard to use their protractors correctly and work out missing angles based on their previous knowledge. We are really impressed and have seen some brilliant independent work already.

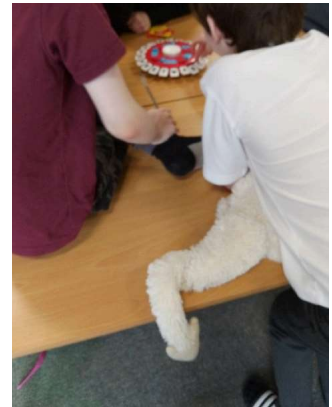
Our Forest sessions continued this week with us moving our focus to musical theatre. Students created their own stage backdrop using natural materials. Some worked independently and others as a group, it was fantastic to see them sharing ideas and helping each other find different materials. They showed a real enthusiasm for the activity and we hope this continues over the next few weeks.

One of our students has started to plan his own Cafe for staff and students; he will be working on this throughout the summer term and we look forward to sharing more information about this with you over the next few weeks.



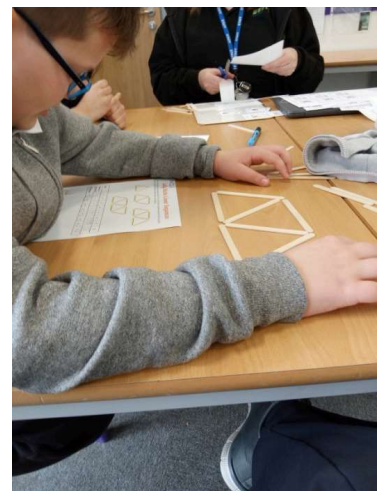
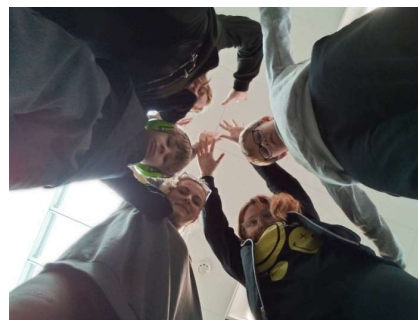
GATEWAY - Christina

What a fantastic week back! We have been demonstrating our drama skills as we explore the play 'The Tempest'. Students have also been showing their creative skills when making Shakespearean insults. We have been engaging well in communication sessions and challenging each other within games. Students have led the game and supported each other with answers. In Forest Schools, we have been creating theatrical backdrops. We have been able to demonstrate our resourcefulness by using natural materials in the forest to decorate it. Our class has also done a fantastic job of attempting a mock English SATs paper. They should be incredibly proud of themselves for their hard work.



CALIPSO - Sam S

We have had an amazing start back to school in Calipso. The students have all settled back into the routine well. In Computing, we have had lots of fun exploring framing different photographs and action videos. We have explored using the camera at different angles to create interesting perspectives. In Maths, we have started our topic on sequences and the students were able to explore the meaning of the vocabulary term and what a linear sequence was. 'Life is a stage' in English, where the students have been exploring the features of a playscript and acting out some playscripts and enjoying them. Finally in Science, we have started to learn about the human life cycle and the different stages of life.



RANGER - Susie and Vicki



Ranger have had a fantastic start back to the new term. On Monday, we enjoyed making chocolate cornflake cakes, but they didn't last long enough to take a photo of any so you'll have to trust us that they were good!

The pupils came back to school with bags full of empty crisp packets for our blanket campaign - thank you - they took some counting! In Art, we have been exploring Kawaii Art and the pupils had a go at drawing in that style. We've worked really hard on developing positive social communications within the class and the boys enjoyed a game of Uno together.

VIKING - Hilary

Viking students have returned well rested and raring to go! We've noticed that their thinking skills are super sharp. Especially when tackling Algebra in Maths - they have been smashing it!

In RE, we found out about what Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr mean to Muslims as they were celebrating on Wednesday. We made some Eid al-Fitr lanterns to round off our learning.



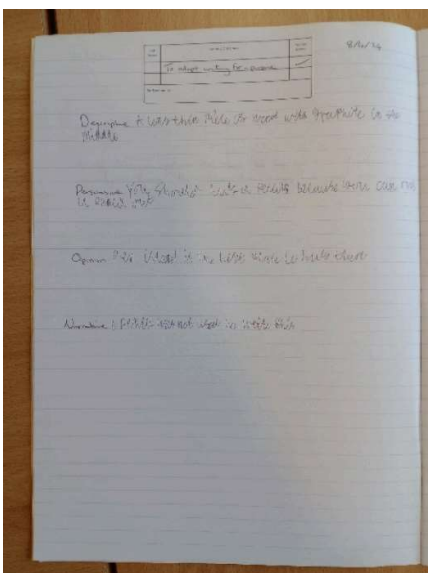
ACE - Zak

It has been lovely to be reunited and catch up with one another after the Easter break. In English, we are looking at Willy Russell's play: 'Our Day Out' and can see how its themes are still relevant today, even though it is based on a working class school from Liverpool in the 1970s going on a school trip to Wales for the day. During Maths, we have been looking at algebra and linear and non-linear sequencing. In Science, we have been looking at planet Earth and rocks. We have been looking at the Industrial Revolution in History and we have been doing archery in PE. During RE, we recapped the five pillars of Islam. We are creating our own soundscapes in Music. In Computing, we reviewed online digital posters. We have also been looking at different types of relationships in Social Communication. We are very fortunate to be working with the Peter Le Marchant Trust which is a Boat Service Hire Charity based in Loughborough, offering canal boat day trips and holidays for the community. We met Angie who gave us lots of facts and information and we will find out next Wednesday in more detail and have a final theory lesson before going to see the boats and volunteering ourselves. We are all very excited for it!



MARINER - Simon

In Mariner this week, we have all come back full of energy and humour. We have had a lot of fun and engagement in learning has been excellent. In English, we have looked at the use of AI to improve on our descriptive and persuasive writing. In Maths, we introduced using multiplicative change. We have also made a chocolate cake in cooking, took part in the enterprise day on Friday and enjoyed trips to the gym. One of the highlights of the week must also be an epic game of hangman, that ended up continuing over lunch and included students from multiple classes in the end.



AQUARIUS - Katie



What a great welcome back to the new term. In Maths, with the pathway groups, we are focusing on number topics and I think a lot of the students are happy to see the back of algebra! (I don't know why, it's my favourite topic...But, I would say that, I'm a mathematician!!)

We started by remembering the different types of numbers and applying them to things like surds which involve square and cube numbers and their roots - we used these cards to make up equations to spot the square numbers and their root answers and then which ones were surds or not.

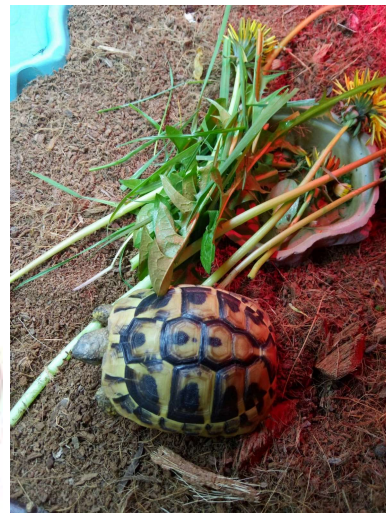
In Aquarius, we have had a Scrabble board game donated to us, so we opened that this week to have a game and Liam beat both myself and Cheryl on the first game - he was clever at ensuring he used the special squares to get double/triple tile or word scores.

NEW HORIZONS - Jenni

We have enjoyed discussing what everyone got up to over the holidays. It sounds like you all had a good break!

We have been practising turn taking in conversations as this is a challenge for some of our class, considering what questions we could ask when one of our peers is talking about their interests.

We have also enjoyed collecting Dandelions from the field for Elphie to eat.



SWIFT - Sam R

In Swift, our students have been buzzing with excitement as they share tales of their Easter holiday adventures and cherished moments.

In Computing, a thrilling new project is underway! Students are diving into the world of branding, crafting their own unique brands to promote their passions. From designing logos to creating products and promotional media, creativity knows no bounds in this innovative endeavour. This week, we have been focusing on the meanings of colours and what company logos are suggesting to us about their brand.

Meanwhile, in PE, the focus remains on nurturing sportsmanship skills in team sports, emphasising grace in both victory and defeat. Additionally, an exciting initiative has kicked off - students are partaking in a series of sports tests to establish their own personalised FIFA-style card rankings. With friendly competition heating up, students are eager to showcase their athletic prowess and secure top rankings!

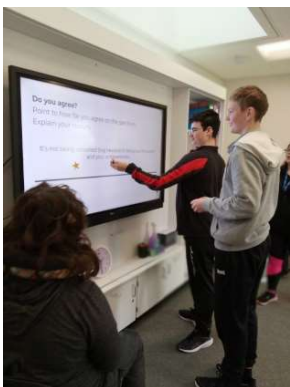
Colour	Colour	Meaning
	Red	sacrifice, danger, and courage.
	Yellow	optimism, energy, joy, happiness and friendship.
	Green	new beginnings and growth
	Purple	royalty, luxury, nobility, power, and ambition
	Blue	serenity, stability, inspiration, or wisdom
	Orange	optimism, happiness, enthusiasm and youthful connections.
	Black	death, mourning, evil magic, and darkness, but it can also symbolises elegance, wealth, restraint, and power.
	Grey	neutrality, conformity, boredom, uncertainty, old age, indifference, and modesty.

STARDUST - Sam P

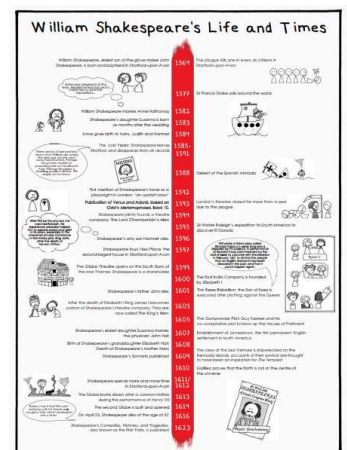
We have had a lovely first week back in Stardust, settling into the routine of school and catching up with our adventures over the Easter break. In our Social Communication time, we have been practising our financial literacy starting with looking at the value of money and what we chose to spend our money on.

In English this week, we have started to investigate the context of Tragedy Plays, William Shakespeare and his play 'Othello'. Students have shown brilliant investigation skills and had some great discussions about some of the issues around race and gender which are key themes in the play.

Body Positivity has been the topic of discussion in PSHE this week. Students in Pathway 2 have been identifying what a positive or healthy body image looks like and what the signs are of a negative or unhealthy body image. Students also spent some time exploring their own appearance and reflecting on their own thoughts and feelings about their bodies.



In Life Skills, we are learning about the teenage body and including the physical and mental well being. Students have approached this with real maturity and sensitivity.



SCIENCE - Laura, Nic and Tam

Pathway 1 students have been looking at the periodic table which unfortunately doesn't have a required practical much to the upset of the young people.

Pathway 2 students are working on Earth science and have had fun making models of the Earth out of salt dough.



FOREST SCHOOL - Karen and Penny

We have been enjoying our new topic for the summer term 'Life is a stage'. In lower school, we have been designing backdrops to perform our plays in front of. We have used skills from the previous topics to create them. In upper school, the students have been applying their woodwork skills to create natural material musical instruments. Their first task was to start making a guiro or commonly known as a 'frog stick'. The students have had to use their sawing techniques and knife skills to whittle and make stops. In the options groups, we have continued with our projects and developing our woodwork techniques.



OTHER NEWS



The Fusion Academy Celebrating Achievements

Ethan for getting his first job!

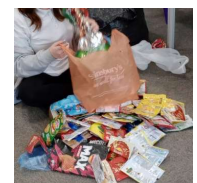
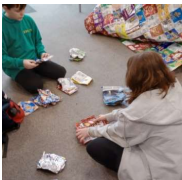


SCHOOL COUNCIL / ECO COMMITTEE

WOW!! Everybody must have been eating crisps over the Easter break and not chocolate eggs! This week, we have collected a phenomenal **1022** packets so thank you to everyone who has supported us. Although we have smashed our initial target, the Eco Committee has decided to keep on collecting and making as many blankets, and other items, as we can.

Crisp Packet Counter		Running Total
This Week (10.04.24)	1022	1682
Last Week	373	650

And here is one of our finished products! Once we have received your empty packets, we cut them open, wash and dry them. To fuse them together, we use a medium heat iron. The final step is to cover it with plastic sheeting. Our first blanket took about 4 hours to make. We are so pleased with the result and can't wait to make more



Token Voting Scheme at Tesco

The Fusion Academy is currently on the Token Voting scheme at Tesco to provide some much-needed funding for the school.

If you go into any of the branches listed below (between now and June), please put a token into the Open Thinking Partnership slot and vote for us to receive the donation and help us fund a project to deliver a Fitness Suite at The Fusion Academy.

5495	Hinckley Express	Small unit	LE10 1HH
5902	Hinckley	Large unit	LE10 1UE
2070	Barwell Moore Express	Small unit	LE9 8AG

We could receive up to £1500, so make sure to drop in a counter (or 2) when you shop please!



each half term.

Careers & Next Steps

★ **Future's newsletter** - Each half term, Hannah our careers advisor, will be collating useful information to send out to our families. We have sent this out earlier this week, and going forward we will be sending a new one out

★ **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. Click this link to submit your question; [Post-16 Q&A with Hannah](#)



Support

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

★ [NHS Autism Space](#)

★ [Young People Resource Pack \(NHS\)](#)

★ [Beyond Autism/Resource Hub](#)





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

<https://openthinkingpartnership.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/E-safety-Newsletter-March-2024.pdf>

Imagination Station

at The Hub, Hathern.



Activities include:

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



Craft Club

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

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

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

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.

Book
Online

148 Loughborough Hathern, LE12 5JB

www.thehub-cic.co.uk



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 Lubbethorpe,
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

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Relaxed Tennis
Inclusive, Autism-friendly Tennis Sessions -
Spaces Available!

A tennis session for children and young people aged 8-16 who prefer an inclusive, non-pressurized environment. The session is suitable for beginners, as well as those who have played before.

Friday 12th April then every Friday during term time

Time: **7pm to 8pm**

Venue: **Sport in Desford**
The Flying Fields
Beckleton Lane
Desford
Leicester
LE9 9JU

Free taster session then £5 a session, pay in advance for a block of sessions. All equipment is provided.

To find out more contact Coach Matt at:
mchilvers138@gmail.com



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 **STAGEWORKS-PERFORMANCE
COMMUNITY THEATRE**



Diary Dates

- ★ May Day Bank Holiday (School Closed): Monday 6th May 2024
- ★ May Half Term Break: Monday 27th May 2024 - Friday 31st May 2024
- ★ School Opens: Monday 3rd June 2024

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

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