



Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

2023





Amazing start to the academic year at Woodlands Meed

I hope this newsletter finds you well as we approach the much-anticipated October half term break. As we reflect on the first half of the autumn term, we are delighted to share some highlights and important information with you in this special edition of our school newsletter.

It is fantastic to welcome our new students and our new staff who have joined Woodlands Meed. The learners and staff have settled in and look very at home already, which is great to see.

We are immensely proud of the hard work and accomplishments of our students over the past weeks. From academic achievements to personal milestones, each success contributes to the positive and nurturing environment we strive to create at Woodlands Meed.

We are delighted to have achieved the Green Flag Award. We have attained this by providing a whole school range of pupil-led, environmental actions that have been completed by the pupils. Everyone has had so much fun working towards this award. A huge thanks to Liz Huty, Clare Balchin and Allan Mayes for co-ordinating the evidence to achieve the award.



We appreciate the ongoing collaboration between parents and teachers. Parent-teacher meetings will be held in the second week following the half term break. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss your child's progress, set goals, and address any concerns. If you have not done so already please book a slot with your class teacher via Scopay!

Keeping your young people safe is a priority for everyone at Woodlands Meed and I would also like to take the opportunity to remind you of our commitment to safeguarding. Keeping our students safe is always our highest priority and working with all our families is an important part of this. This can sometimes involve some difficult conversations; we hope as ever, that all our parents and carers know that we do this with the best interest of our young people at heart, and that we are always thinking of their safety and welfare.

Enjoy reading all the class news below, showcasing the many amazing activities happening at Woodlands Meed and the pupils telling us what they have most enjoyed!

As we embark on this well-deserved break, we want to express our gratitude for your continued support and partnership in your child's education journey. We look forward to a successful and enriching second half of the autumn term.

With thanks to the Yasmine Joy and her vision for this cross curriculum activity, Key Stage 3 have been "Shaun the Sheep" spotting in Brighton to raise money for The Martlets Hospice. Please feel free to share this link: https://www.justgiving.com/page/woodlands-meed-1694721823325?utm_term=W6baBJy2y to help them reach their fundraising target. Thanks also to Lou and students in Mountain Class.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back on, Monday 30th October.

Adam Rowland, Headteacher

NEW BUILD UPDATE

Although we were a bit disappointed not to move over the summer we are excited to see all the recent progress.



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Badger Bulletin



Wow! What an amazing start of the year it has been in Badgers. We have been learning about routines and getting to know each other. Our focus text for the term Handas Surprise has been a huge success and we have been exploring all the elements of the story. We have also been having weekly SALT groups and are learning to communicate in different ways. Bentley the PAT dog has been visiting us and even joined us for Attention Autism and sat very well throughout the session. The Badgers love the new sensory room and are learning to use all the cause and effect switches. We have also been able to visit Pyecombe church to experience how Harvest is traditionally celebrated.



Desert Class Newsletter.



In D.T, we have started making planters for our friends and family.



Desert class have had an amazing start to the year and have done some fantastic bits of work!



We've had lots of fun in active time!



They all made each other friendship cards.



Desert did a great job on their walk around Burgess Hill town.



In science we're learning all about food chains.



Meet our class representatives for the School Council, Bobby and Henry!

FOX CLASS

Fox class have been busy settling in and making new friends. They have all done so well! Here are a few things we have been up to...



In P.E we have been working on our balance.

We started off the school year with some fantastic swimming! We're making so much progress already.



We spent three weeks building volcanoes which we made erupt!



We've been learning about body parts and the digestive system, we even made...poo!





Programing the beebots in computing!



Team work games!

Glacier Class News

Well done everyone! What a fantastic start to the new school year. You have all worked so hard and it's been a pleasure getting to know you all. Enjoy your half term break!

Using tools with Naomi in forest school.

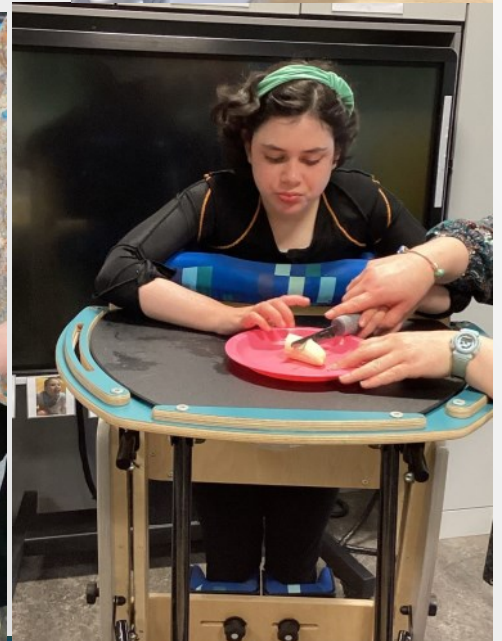


Exploring the sensory room in science for our topic 'Light'.

Hedgehog Herald

Our topic this term is space. We have been enjoying doing art work and listening to sensory stories about planets.

Everyone in Hedgehogs has been working hard on practicing knife skills in cooking and picking up items and putting them in the blender. We then get to work the blender via a switch, which is our favourite bit!

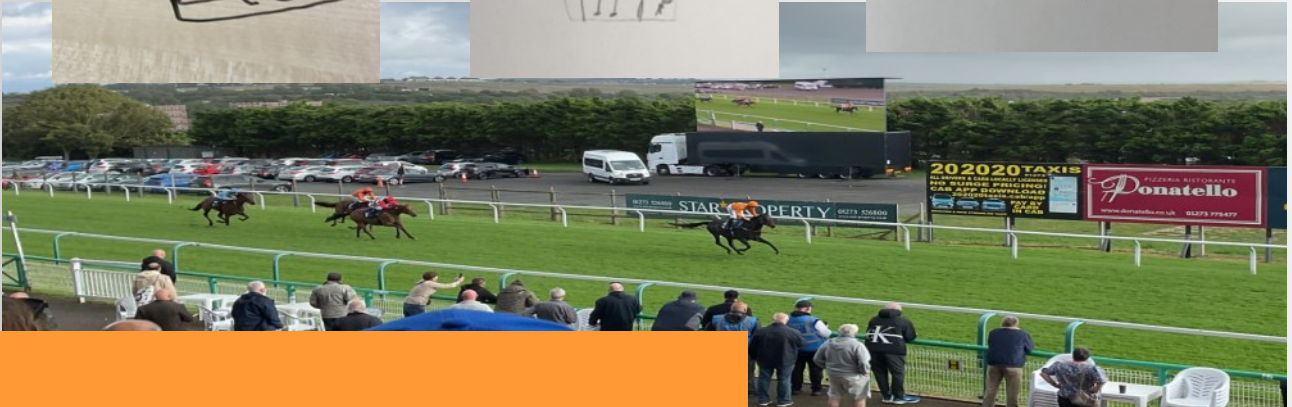


Lake Class News

This year Lake Class start their day with active time, we like to go for a walk or sometimes we do exercises in the classroom.



We have begun the Lions Roar project which aims to inspire children and young people to think big and dream bigger about their ideas. We are working in groups and thinking of some innovative ideas.



We have already been on a school trip! The Year group, and some students from college, had a fantastic day out at Brighton Race-course. We went into the weighing room, we learnt how jockeys adapt their clothing (to make them heavier or lighter) but most exciting was watching the horses race!



Mole Class



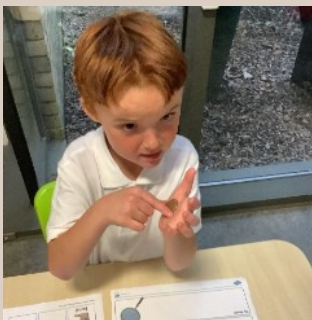
Welcome back everyone!



We have been busy getting to know each other...



Our topic this term is **hot** and **cold**. Moles have enjoyed exploring sand, ice and specifically science experiments that involved chocolate buttons and toast!



Lots of outdoor Maths with Violet!



Mountain Class: A cut above the Everest.

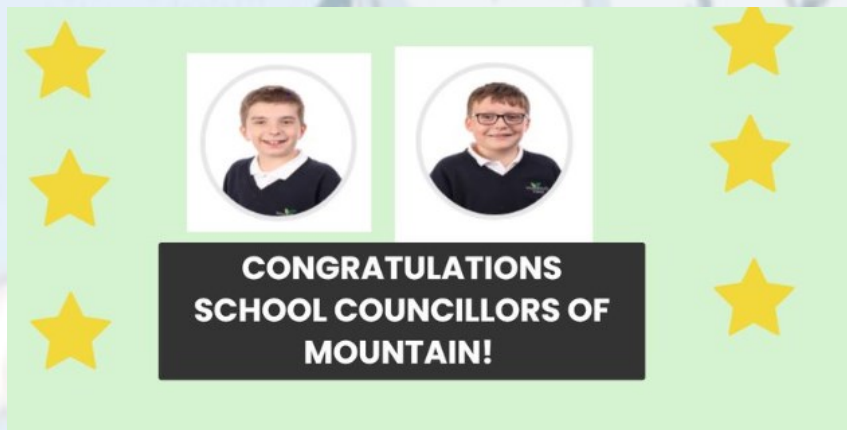
This half term we have...



We have been making props for our Shaun the Sheep Assembly!



We have been measuring and sawing in DT



We have been making bird box designs and prototypes!



We have made jam sandwiches, cups of tea and hot chocolate.



We have been to the race course!

Hey Mountain! Shall we go and find some sheep?



Come on Mountain—let's go find some sheep!



Ocean Class

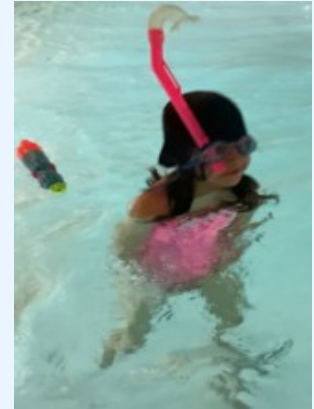


Ocean class have been enjoying enrichment out in the minibus this term, visiting lots of different places both locally and further afield



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In Otter News



We have had a fabulous half term, everyone has settled into the new school year well. We have enjoyed learning about Space and have created art work and made food linking to the topic. The highlight of the week for everyone is our swimming sessions.



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Owls



A great start to the year. We are making friends and having fun. One of our most exciting things this year is horse riding with the RDA. We are loving our Thursday trips to the stables and becoming increasingly confident around the horses.



Rabbit Class

Tales from the burrow

Welcome back Rabbits class old and new! So far this term we have been...



Getting to know each other



Working on our balance



Exploring the new sensory room



Making rangoli patterns



Starting our topic 'Hot and Cold'

Making ice lollies, exploring hot and cold countries on the VR headsets and talking about our dream holidays in assembly.



Such a great start to the term! Well done Rabbits!

River class news Autumn 1

River have been really enjoying PE this term, we have two weeks of Cricket with Sussex Cricket plus yoga and other fun activities.



In performing arts we have been exploring different musical instruments and doing some fun acting games.



Golden time fun



Well done to all the students in River class for settling into KS3 so well. You have all tried really hard this term and made new friends in class which is fantastic.

I hope everyone has a restful half term!

Robins News

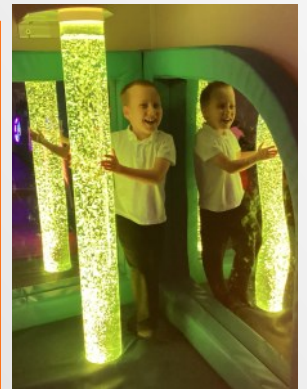
EXERCISE

Exercise is always an important part of our week. We make it as fun as possible, this goes to show by the laughs and smiles that we get.



SENSORY ROOM

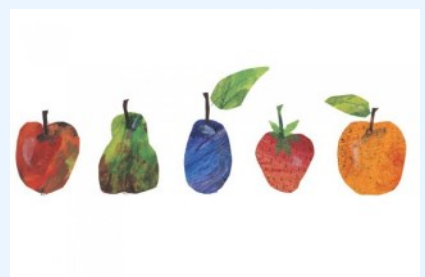
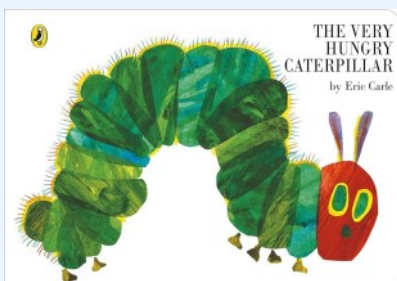
This summer, Woodlands Meed were lucky enough to get a new sensory room. We are now having sensory stories in there where the children can be immersed in the experience. All the Robins are also enjoying the sensory input that it brings with all the lovely new equipment.



Squirrel Class



Our favourite book this half term has been The Very Hungry Caterpillar.



Waterfall News

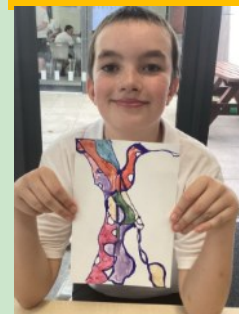
Autumn term 1



We have a new trampoline outside, everyone has enjoyed having a bounce!



We created some lovely designs in our art session



To start our school year we had a trip to the park—everyone had a fantastic time



We have had Sussex Cricket in this term teaching us some cricket skills

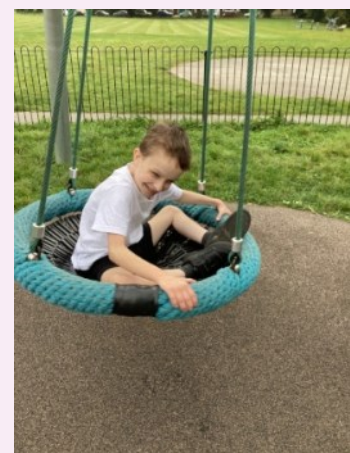
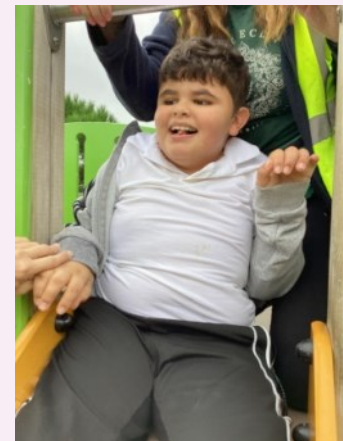


In RE we have been learning about natural disasters and how charities like Christian Aid help. We made our own volcanoes

A brilliant Autumn term.

Well done Waterfall Class.

Wonderful Woodpeckers



Woodpeckers have had a wonderful start to the year! We have enjoyed getting to know each other and had a brilliant first trip to the park!

To Claire and Daniel Travel training

What I learnt about. Being prepared for a journey on the bus. And learning the dangers might happen on the journey to your destination. Another thing I we did was interacting and discussing of putting the photos in to the right place and talking about the many different situations that might happen when we travel. ☺

What was good that it told us the possible situations that might happen on a journey.

Me favourite thing in travel training is 2 things. 1 is putting the pictures in the correct place that they should be. The second one was doing the role-play at the end. ☺

I don't think that there was anything that could make it better it was flawless. ☺

Charlie



Travel Training Review
Grace Eyre Company
i learnt that there is a lot
of ways to pay and
diftrrent app to help us
i liked to look at the apps
i dont know what could
make it better

Kenny

Travel training review Grace Eyre Company

We did travel training with Daniel and Claire. I found it to be really enjoyable, and I feel I have learned a lot from it. We learned about road safety, what you might encounter when travelling, and how to deal with it. We learned about different areas to cross, like how you should try to cross where there aren't cars blocking your view, but if you cannot find another area where it's safer to cross, you should go in between the cars and stick your head out slightly to check if it's safe to cross, then cross normally.

We also learned about the helping hand card that you can have to tell the driver of a bus that you may need further assistance, such as if you aren't very stable on your feet. You could have it displayed on the card so the driver knows to wait till you have seated or held onto a poll.

I found it very informative, and I have learned a lot from it. I can now read a digital and physical bus timetable with far more confidence. I also learned that you can ask for a bus information receipt that tells you about the current bus you are on. I feel much more confident with the idea of travelling more independently because of these sessions.

If I were to change anything about these sessions, I would have liked to have more information about trains, as we talked a lot about buses and travelling on foot but not as much on the topic of train travel. The sessions also felt extremely long, so maybe movement breaks or something to split up the activities would have been a welcome addition.

Tyler

Travel Training Review

Grace Eyre Company Claire Daniel

What I learnt: I learnt how to cross roads safely, how to get on public buses and what to do at a zebra crossing.

What was good about it? Learning about safety in the community.

What could have been better? If we had more time for scenarios.

Jake

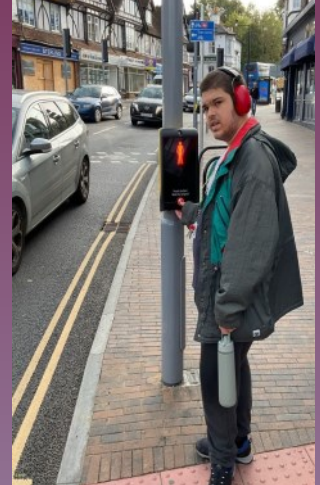


5AR

We have been busy
already this term.



I have enjoyed the horticulture lessons. We have been harvesting and planting.



I have really enjoyed the travel training walking to town.



I have really enjoyed building robots and program the object to move using our I pads.



I have enjoyed shopping in Tesco's for Enterprise. I like to push the trolley.



I have really enjoyed being with my friends.



We had great fun walking to town and buying ourselves a drink.

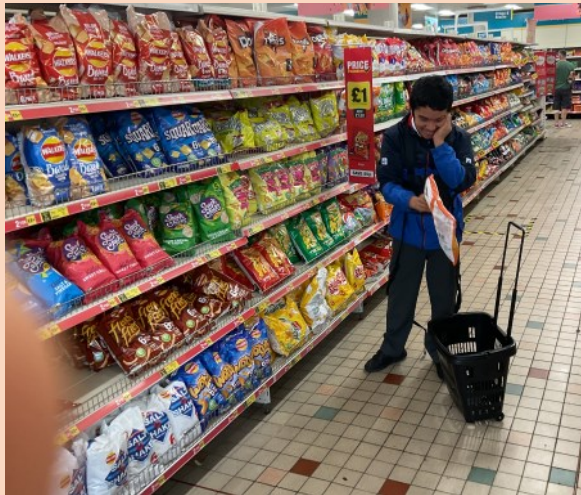


I have really enjoyed cooking. We have been making lots of lovely foods.



5CH

Out in the Community



This half term we have been out each week enjoying the good weather at the park and also a trip to Poundland.



5JJ Newsletter



This half term 5JJ have been travelling in space!
All our learning has been based around our topic,
'To Infinity and Beyond!'

We have had an amazing time exploring space
whilst settling back into college.



Autumn PE



SWIMMING



During PE this half term the students have been working on lots of different skills in sports such as swimming, tennis and football! All the students have been brilliant and determined to improve!



TENNIS



FOOTBALL



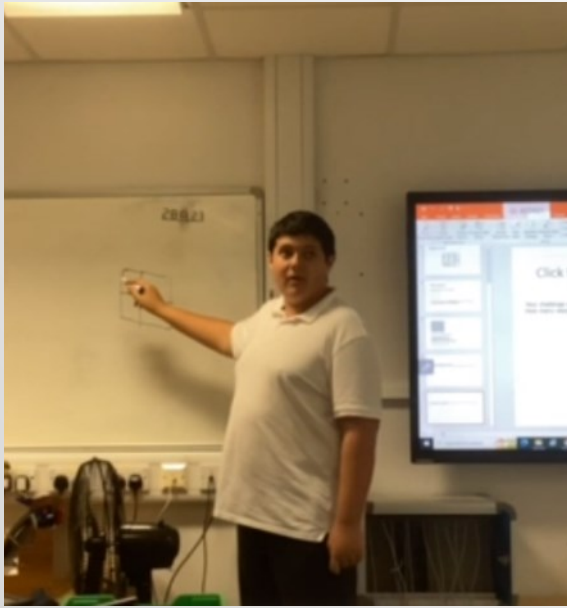
Robotics



This term pupils have been developing their skills in building and programming our Lego sets. Pupils have used problem solving skills to find the pieces as well as programming skills to make their robots work. Well done all!

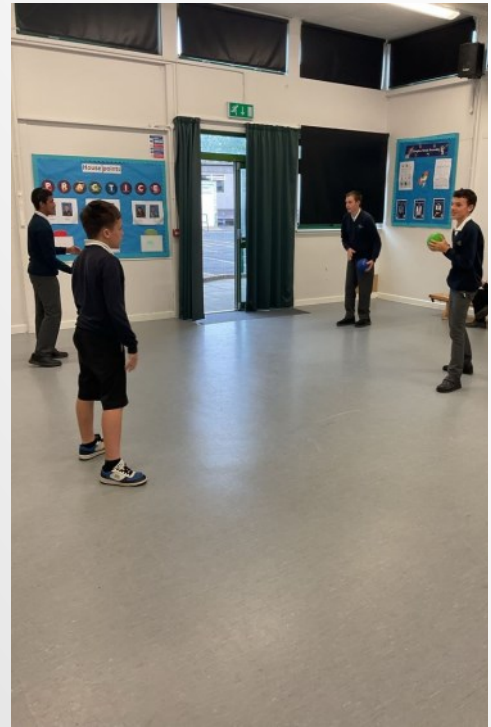


College Maths



Our year 11 students are continuing to work on their problem solving skills with a particular focus on their reasoning. Pupils are encouraged to present their solutions to the class.

Students continue to use their mathematical skills in a variety of other lessons. Here is a group working as a team to keep tally charts for the number of times they could catch the ball.



Shape



cuboid



cuboid



triangular,
prism

Measure - weight

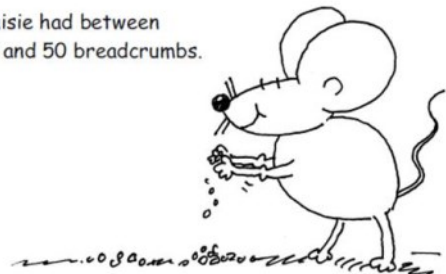


Some KS5 students walked to co-op this week to purchase a chocolate bar. They were not allowed to eat them straight away as they had to weigh, measure, order and name the shapes before they could take a bite.

Tom's termly teaser

Maisie the mouse

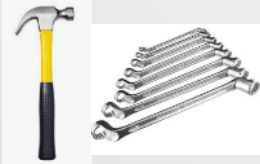
Maisie had between 30 and 50 breadcrumbs.



She counted the breadcrumbs in fours.
There were 2 left over.

She counted them in fives.
There was 1 left over.

How many breadcrumbs did Maisie have?



Enterprise

Students have been working for customers at School Site, making planters for both the Food Tech Room and Lake Class balconies. Recycled materials were used.



Jim Green Challenge/DT Group

The new Jim Green Challenge group have started work on this years Scarecrow. Great collaborative work and some fantastic ideas for this years challenge. Again all recycled materials were used.



Haywards Heath Arts Festival 2023



Artwork by students at both school and college sites were included in the exhibition which was held at the Methodist Church in Haywards Heath.

Students whose work was exhibited were invited to attend the private view on Friday 15th September, with members of the public attending on Saturday 16th.



Food Technology

Students have been learning how to cook healthy meals using a variety of ingredients. Students have been experimenting with spices this term.



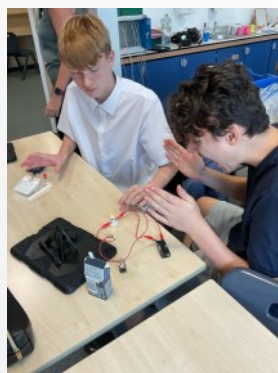
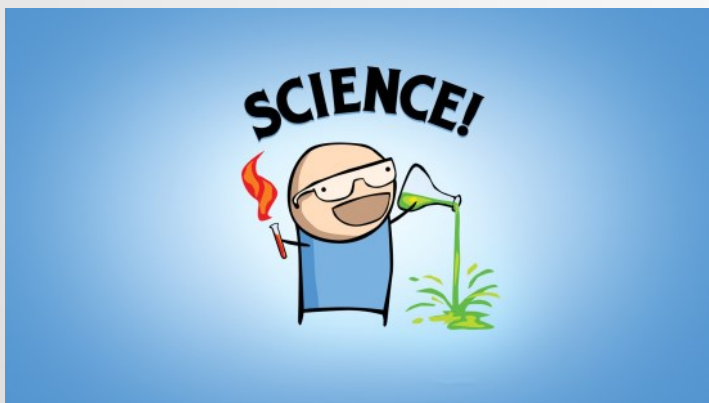
Enterprise:

“In catering and hospitality we cook lunch for the staff and we charge £3 for each lunch. We go to Tesco each Thursday to buy the ingredients and we pay using the schools card. We each do different tasks for the 3 different options that the staff can pick from. We work as a team to finish Preparing the meals on time for the staff to come and pay to take away.

We all have a laugh once in a moment helping each other out when we are struggling. We are going around different countries food to serve the staff with each week . We practice money handling and budgeting skills. “

Eboney





Year 11

Year 11 have been studying electricity this term. They've made a range of series and parallel circuits and measured current and voltage.



Year 10

Year 10 have been studying acids and alkalis, including reactions. They've enjoyed making volcanoes, elephant's toothpaste and carrying out squeaky pop test.



Enrichment

4CR have had a fantastic time at Hurst College for science enrichment. They've carried out a range of STEM activities and thoroughly enjoyed working with the Hurst pupils.



Enrichment KS3



Bake off



Gardening



Xmas Show

Enabling students to realize their potential in a variety of settings beyond the classroom.



Life Skills



Community Visits



Broadcasting



Coding & IT



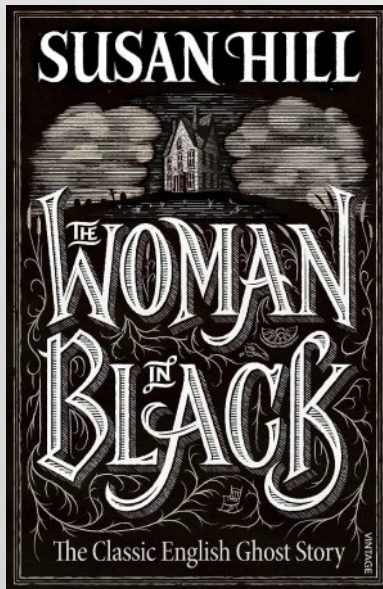
Travel Club



Swimming

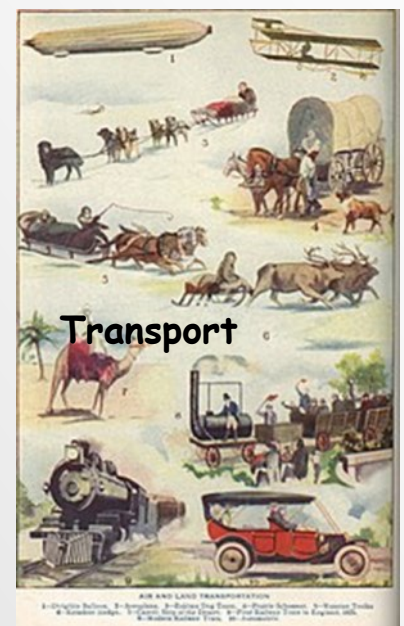
KS4 English

This half term we have developed our reading, writing and communication skills based on different texts.



Pupils have investigated features of the horror genre of writing. They have learned how to support the answers to questions using evidence from the text.

Pupils researched different aspects of the Victorian Era and gave presentations to the class.



Adjectives to describe Arthur Kipps

Appearance

1. Brown hair
2. Green bluey eyes
4. Pointy ears
5. Wavy hair
6. Beard
7. tall

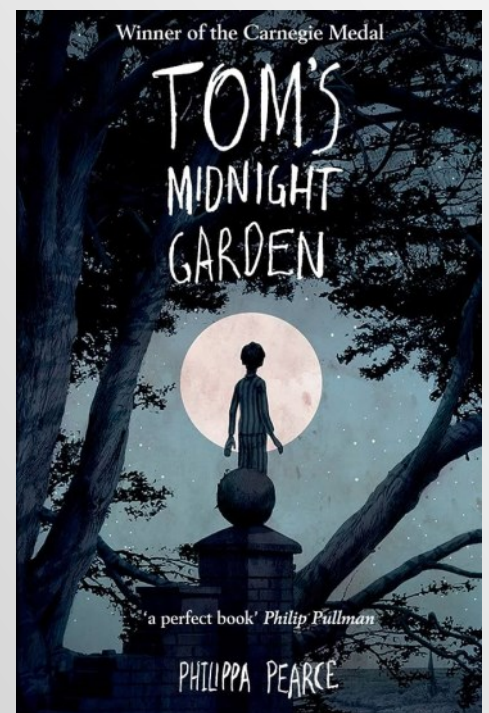


Character

1. Broken inside
2. Depressed
3. Traumatized
4. Brave/strong
5. Caring

Tom is set away to stay with his aunt and uncle for the summer holidays with no garden or children to play with he feels loney and unhappy.

Its about a door that leads to a garden that only appears only at midnight .



LO: I can answer questions from a piece of text

1. The books were school stories for who?

girl

2. What words describes the bars on the windows?

nursery

3. What did Tom have for tea?

egg
strawderry jam
scones
cream



Welcome to the student council

In the first week back to college we voted for our new student Reps from each class. They will pass on the thoughts and suggestions from the classes to the leadership team. In our initial meeting we decided upon who would act as secretary, assembly speakers and newsletter writers. These roles will be rotated every now and again. Our first project is to raise money for a smart new Alexa for the college common room. There will be a number of fundraising events this term.

Written by Dora and Zack



Welcome to our Eco Council



This year we have already done a few tasks including nominating our new council reps. We have had Abyan and Keira taking dead battery's to a place where they recycle them. We have collected a whole bin bag of empty crisp packets. We are planning to do more activities like these that will help the environment in the future. We each have different tasks that we have chosen to do that will help the environment little by little. We will be having a meeting once every 2 weeks on a Thursday. In November we will be participating in the national Cut Your Carbon event which we hope you will be able to support from home too.

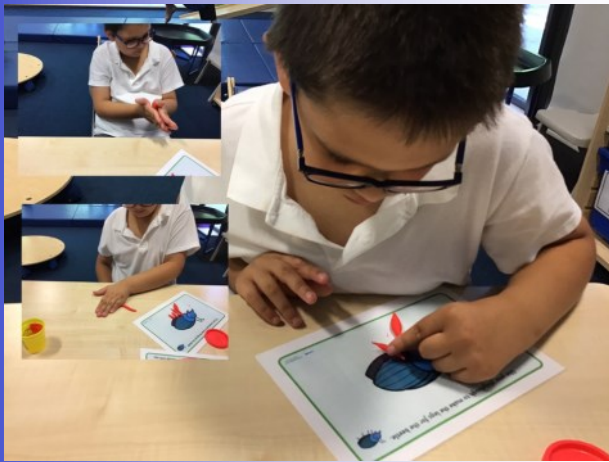


By Molly
and
Eboney



Interventions

Motor skill sessions involving core strength, balance and hand/eye co-ordination have been some favourites so far.



Maths is all about using fun maths games and resources to encourage exploration and problem solving.



In Rebound and Hydro we have been strengthening shoulders, working our core and practicing our balance.