



Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

2025





A Brilliant Beginning at Woodlands Meed

As we approach the October half term, I hope this newsletter reaches you in good spirits. The first half of the autumn term has flown by, and what a fantastic start it's been! We're excited to share some key updates, celebrations, and reminders in this special edition.



A Warm Welcome We've had the pleasure of welcoming new students and staff to the Woodlands Meed community. It's been heartening to see everyone settling in so quickly—our classrooms are already buzzing with energy, learning and laughter.

Celebrating Success Our students have truly shone over the past few weeks. From academic progress to personal growth, their achievements reflect the supportive and inspiring environment we're proud to foster. Well done to all!

Parent-Teacher Meetings We value the strong partnership between home and school. Parent-teacher meetings are scheduled for the second week after the half term break. These are a great chance to discuss your child's progress and set goals together. Please make sure to book your slot via SCOPAY by **Thursday 6th November**.

Safeguarding Commitment Student safety remains our top priority. We're committed to working closely with families to ensure every child feels safe and supported. Sometimes this means having challenging conversations, but please know they always come from a place of care and concern for your child's well-being.

Classroom Highlights Don't miss the class news below—our pupils have been busy with exciting activities and are eager to share what they've enjoyed most. It's a wonderful glimpse into the vibrant life of our school.

Dates to Remember

Inset Day: Monday 3rd November (school closed to pupils)

Back to School: Tuesday 4th November

Here's to a restful half term and an inspiring second half of the autumn term. Thank you for being part of our journey.

Warm regards
Adam Rowland
Headteacher



Badger Bulletin



Badgers have settled in extremely well! Enjoying lots of swimming, stories and art relating to our 'Get Moving' topic and visiting the rabbits!





Desert Class Newsletter

A busy start to our new Autumn term, everyone has settled into Desert perfectly!



We helped raise money by wearing our jeans on Jeans for Genes day.



Fun in Forest School, making holes in conkers, ready for conker fight!!

We made the most amazing rocket cars in DT, they all looked fantastic.



In P.E we have been learning Zumba and football skills.



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 Cooking we have made toast, granola, and eggs! Everyone has used the cooking room safely and tried everything they have made!



We went to an apple orchard to pick apples to make a crumble!



We went to Greggs to practice exchanging money!



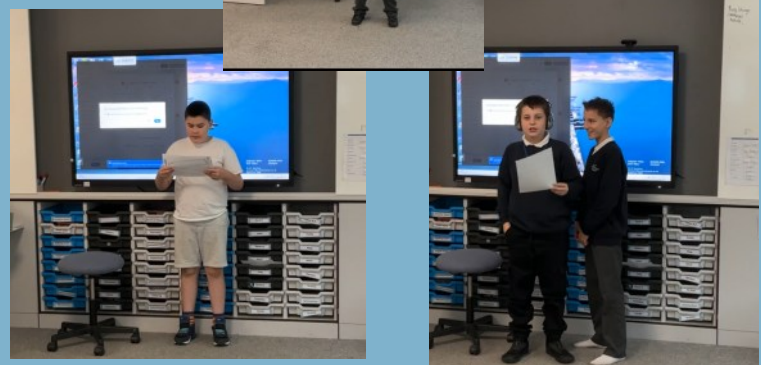
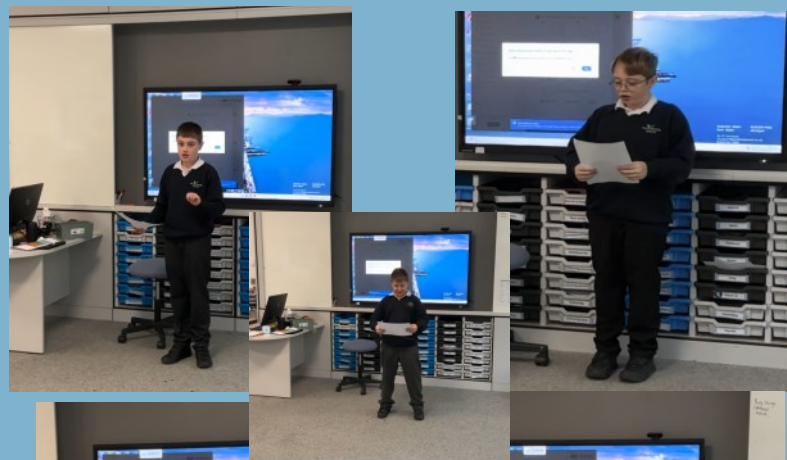
Glacier Class

What a fantastic start to Year 7! Glacier have enjoyed getting to know one another and have made lots of new friends along the way.



Glacier also really enjoyed taking part in a science workshop!

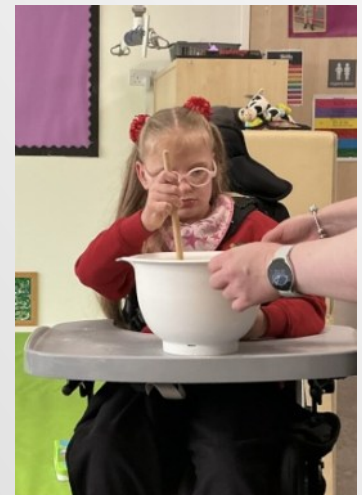
Glacier students got a hands-on lesson in democracy by running for school council and voting for their peers.



Hedgehog Herald

Our topic is Celebrations and this half term we are focusing on autumn and harvest. We have enjoyed cooking and creating art with apples.

Hedgehogs have also welcomed some new pupils and they have settled in brilliantly.



Lake Class

Have been....



Learning about the Christian Creation Story.



Creating mood paintings.



Learning about conduction.



Going to the college site for P.E.



Making their own games.



Learning to play different songs on the keyboards.

Mole Class



We kicked off the term by sharing holiday highlights and creating a colourful collage to celebrate our adventures. This was a great way to get to know each other.

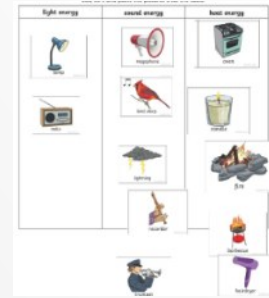
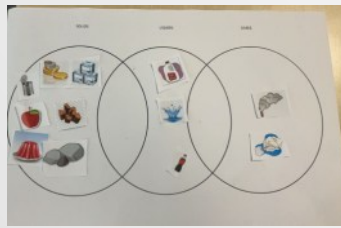
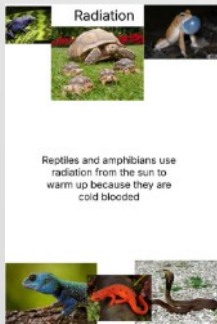
Swimming has been a highlight for all of Mole class who showed great adaptability skills when swimming with a new class. They also have all shown great speaking and listening skills when following the pool safety rules. Well done Mole class!



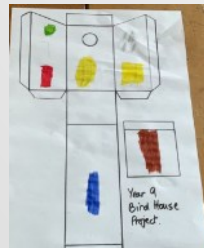
We started our new Topic which is 'Hot and Cold' where the children got to make their own banana smoothies and they got to explore the ingredients as they made them.

Mountain Class: A cut above the Everest.

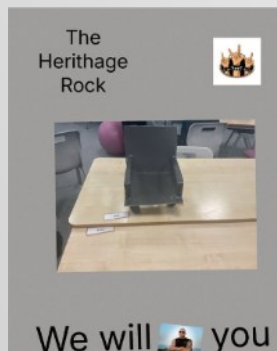
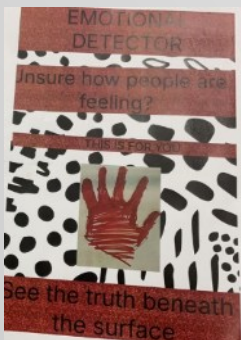
This half term we have...



In Science we have been learning about energy. We have learnt about conductors and insulators as well as radiation, convection and conduction.



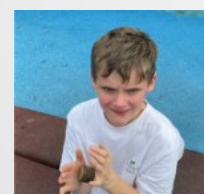
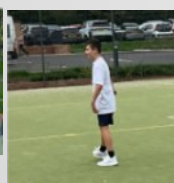
We have been designing and making bird houses in DT



We have been working on our prototype, posters and presentations for our Lions Roar project



Our sports leaders this year are Lilly, Daniel, Riley, Tom and Tianna



During PE we have been visiting the college site and using their facilities. We have been using the new astro, gym and basketball court.

We wore red to show racism the red card



A great first half-term in Mountain class and a good start to Year 9

Ocean class



Ocean class have had a great first half term and have been very busy! We have been enjoying our DT and food tech sessions.

We have been exploring number and mass in 'My thinking' and have been using lots of different resources.



Every Thursday we visit the college site for active time. We have been really enjoying this as students are able to explore all of the different areas and see friends from previous years.

Well done Ocean class for an excellent first half term!





JavaScript must be enabled.

In Otter News

The Otters have had a great first half term back! As summer has turned to autumn, we have been doing a lot of apple themed cooking - including crumble, cakes and flapjacks.



Owl Class News



We have had a brilliant half-term together, enjoying our Extreme Earth topic and celebrating with Topic Day. We made volcanoes, spaghetti structures and weather reports.



Rabbit Class

Tales from the burrow



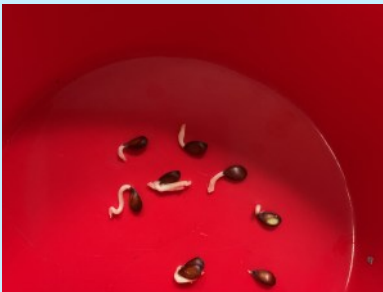
We have had a FANTASTIC start to the year in Rabbit Class! We have spent the first half term getting to know each other, working on building friendships and have enjoyed our learning! This half term, we have learnt about celebrations including Diwali and about the different seasons of the year!

We are very proud of how everyone has settled into class!

River



Welcome to River Class 25-26! We have made new friends quickly and are beginning to settle into the class



When cutting up our snack, we actually found some pips in an apple that have germinated! Of course we had to plant them and see what might happen! Fingers crossed and watch this space!



We had a visit from a Barclays van to learn how to protect ourselves from scammers



We had fun on science day! We played a reaction game to see how quick we could press a button, well done to Mason with this amazing



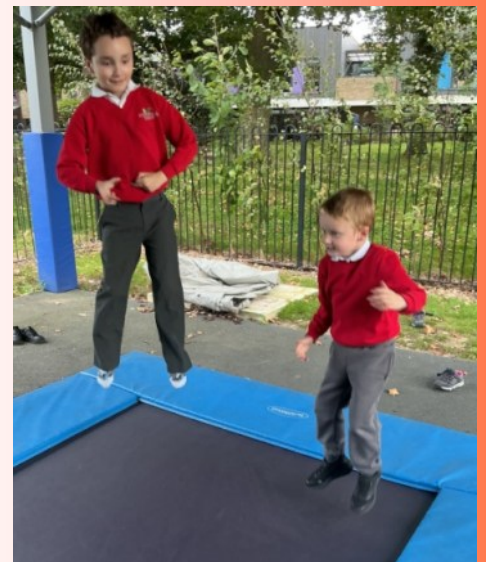
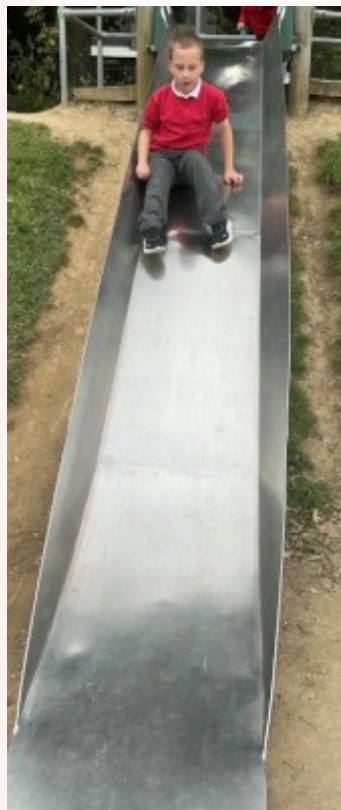
Supporting Show Racism the red card in our red clothes

Robins Autumn roundup.

A very busy start to our new school year.

The robins class have been enjoying trips to the big playground where the trampoline and slide are the favourites.

Our Autumn theme has taken us on a sensory exploration through an autumn forest where the learners are immersed in the setting.



Squirrel Class



We wanted to share some of our awesome maths skills with you!



Waterfall News

Autumn term

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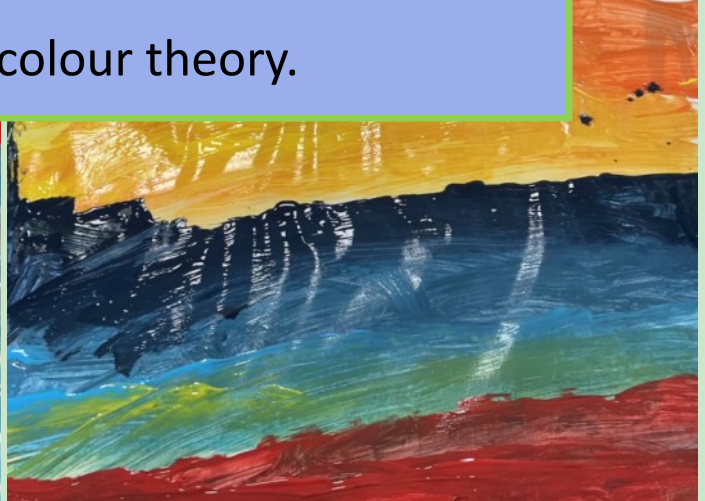
This year Waterfall Class start their day with active time, we like to go for a walk around the field.



We have been learning about charity & poverty in our RE lessons. We made origami dogs & earned rupees then spent them on food & essential resources, learning how organisations like Christian Aid play a vital role in offering support and hope.



We have been super creative in our art lessons exploring colour theory.



Alison Bennett the Liberal Democrat MP for Mid Sussex held a competition to design a Christmas card.

Alison Bennetts' Constituency Support Officer said *'She has decided that she would like this to be on the card she sends to a smaller number of local organisations and individuals she has met this year as well as to some fellow MPs.'*

All students who submitted a design will receive a certificate.

Well done Jack for such a brilliant Christmas design.



5EM

5EM have enjoyed taking part in enrichment and active time. We have also enjoyed developing our cooking skills each week.



5CH Lantern Making

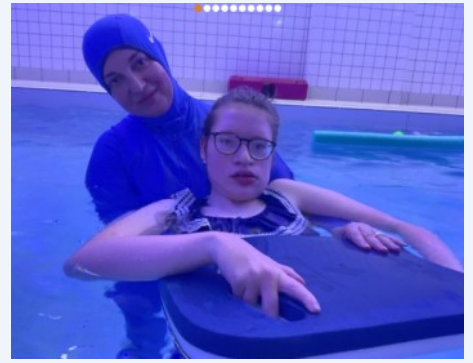


The pupils in 5CH class were given the exciting opportunity to create lanterns for the upcoming Glow Wild event at Wakehurst. They worked alongside a local artist to shape willow branches before applying layers of sugar paper and PVA glue. Their individual lanterns will be assembled together to create a larger sculpture to be showcased at the event.





5CG



Yoga



Hydro

This half term 5CG class have been doing lots of activities to keep them active!



Park trips



Cooking



Emotions



5AJ CLASS NEWSLETTER



Welcome to KS5

5AJ have been settling in to Key Stage 5 and welcomed our 2 new students.

5AJ selected their choices for Enterprise, Enrichment and Options which include:

Retail, Catering, Horticulture, Upcycling for Enterprise.

Sport, Foot Tech, Radio, VR, DT, Lego, Textiles, Horticulture, Humanities for Enrichment.

DofE, Arts, Digital Tech, Music, Jim Green, Catering for Options.

Link Courses

Josh has been enjoying going to Crawley College to experience what it's like on their Construction course.

Jadon has been learning how to care for all different types of animals at Brinsbury College.

5AJ Sausage Roll Campaign!

We have started a campaign to celebrate National Sausage Roll Day on 5th June to raise money for Burgess Hill Pantry

Our first assembly!



To raise awareness of Global handwashing Day and World Toilet Day, we reminded KS4 & 5 of the correct way to wash our hands, and took them on a tour of all the different toilets around the world. We ended with a look at Modern Toilet Restaurant in Taiwan!

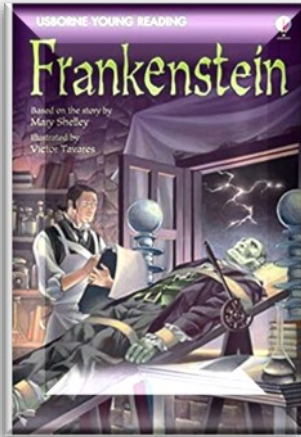
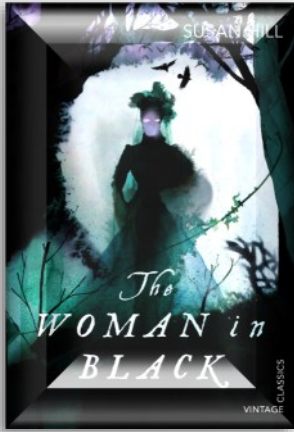
ALLAN Mayes DT groups made a 'Treasure chest' for Gilly and Martin. When students receive a PRACTICE skills award they will now be able to choose a prize from the new chest.

All the students involves signed their name inside the lid.



KS4 English

The theme of the texts we have been reading in English this half term is ***Horror and Mystery***.



We have learned about how authors create tension in horror stories, and we enjoyed some of the scary parts of the plots. We have used descriptive devices to write about settings and characters in horror stories.



We have practiced our conversation skills in communication lessons.



We have also had independent reading time in the library.

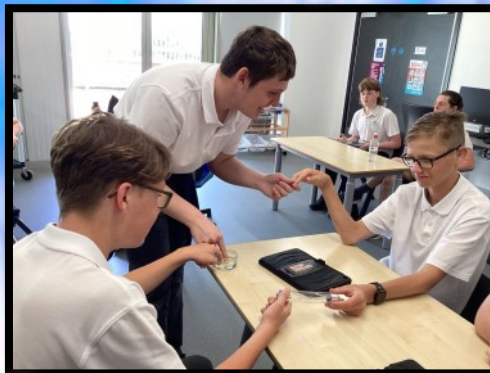
SCIENCE



Year 10s testing different liquids to find out if they were acids, alkalis or neutral .



Year 11s using our electric stick to find conductors and insulators in the room .

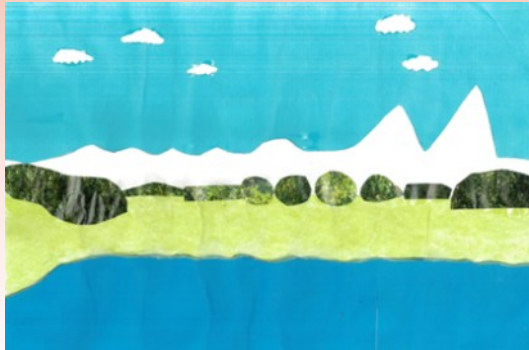


Year 10s carried out a neutralisation reaction.



Art and Textiles

In The art options group have had the wonderful opportunity to showcase their talents by entering a competition to have their art-work displayed around the new Sussex Surgical Centre at Eastbourne District General Hospital. Here are just a few of the brilliant submissions.



In Textiles Enrichment students have become interior designers, learning to block print and create repeat patterns to be used as a wallpaper in their room designs.





Jim Green Challenge Design and Technology Enterprise

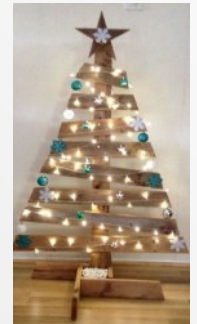


The Enrichment Design and Technology Group have begun making planters. They are working independently, practicing skills and techniques learnt in past DT sessions.

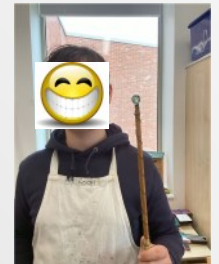
Recycled materials are being used.



Our Enterprise group have begun working together, producing items from recycled materials to sell at the Christmas Market in Burgess Hill.



Students have also been working on personal projects.



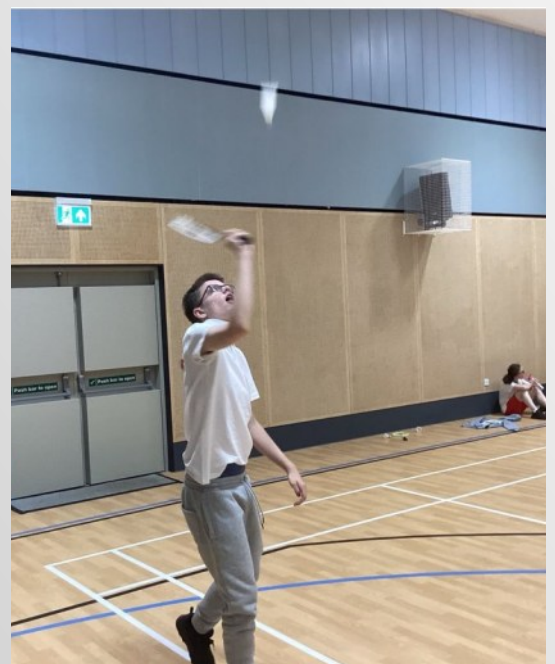
A

The new Jim Green Challenge group have started work on this years scarecrow, as well as working on our treasure box project. Great collaborative work and some fantastic ideas for this years challenge. Again we will be mostly using recycled materials.

Autumn PE



WE ARE BACK! Our autumn term PE has kicked off with sports such as football, badminton, swimming and non-contact boxing. It is great to see everyone back and being active!



Foodtech

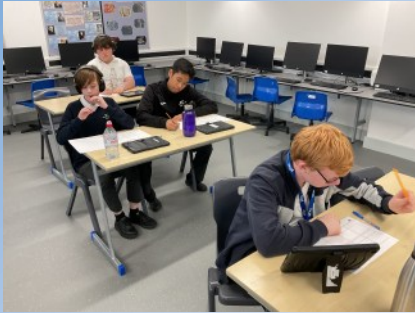


Students have been working on their independent cooking skills. Learning how to boil water to make their favourite pasta dish!



Enterprise Students have been working hard, preparing lunch for staff and working in the cafe

Digital Technology



This new subject is looking at all things to do with digital technology ranging from creative media and making animations, VR and using the headsets to explore different areas as well as using AR in different ways. Lastly we will be looking at using Lego to create robots and then programming them.

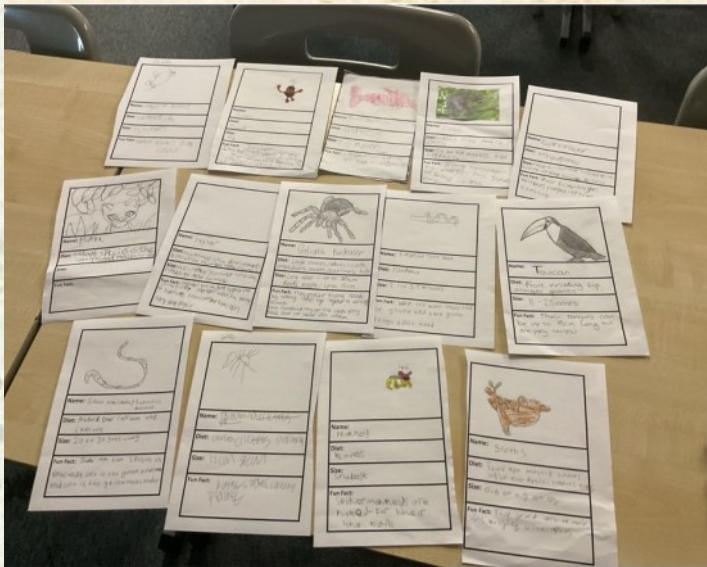


This term we are focusing on creating our own animation in different ways and then exploring how to improve our knowledge and skills in that method of animation.



Humanities

What we've done so far:



We have learnt about the Amazon Rainforest and researched some of the animals you'd find there. Anything from Goliath bird-eating spiders to pink dolphins can be found here, and we created top tump cards about some of these animals.

We have also learnt about the great fire of London. We learnt how and when it started, how it continued to spread and what the impact was. Some wrote letters to family as if they were there, others created fact files about the events of 1666. The students showed some excellent creativity throughout this.

The Great Fire Of London.

It all started in a bakery. In 1666, when a fire spread from the oven in the bakery and then out of the bakery, then it spread out on to the streets then it spread on houses, houses got burnt down 100,000 People were homeless 300 houses were burnt down in the first four days then the fire got bigger and bigger after it was over 13,200 houses got bunt to the floor, and 87 churches, and St Paul's Church as well, and six deaths.



Throughout the term we have also learnt about Isambard Kingdom Brunel, making some bridges as groups out to see how challenging this is. We have talked about Mount Everest, Volcanoes (specifically mount Vesuvius) and the gunpowder plot of 1605.



In celebration of National Poetry Day, college students made flags to show word play. Everyone demonstrated great creativity in this task.

The flags are on display in our dining hall for everyone to see. Here are just some of the flags.



Key Stage 5

Enterprise

Unleashing Our Creativity!

This term, Woodlands Meed Enterprises are working on designing, producing and marketing products for Burgess Hill Town Council's Christmas Markets.



Inspire are delighting staff with their seasonal lunches!



A WM teacher is getting married next year and has commissioned Crafties to make their wedding invitations!



The Shed are working on pallet Christmas Trees!



The Kitchen Garden are busy preparing to plant an array of vegetables!



Inspire



School Council



The Woodlands Meed School Council had their first meeting of the year! We had representatives from primary and secondary classes. Everyone arrived with lots of brilliant suggestions including tackling litter and making a friendship bench!

College student council



Introducing Key stage 4 representatives



College student council



Introducing Key stage 5 representatives



College student council



Introducing Orange pathway representatives



Well-Being-College



We have been enjoying meeting with pupils again in Well-Being. Some pupils come for a weekly session and some like to just drop in for a chat! We are pleased to see everyone.

Mindfulness

This half term Well -Being have been running a mindfulness group on a Thursday morning.

Mindfulness is a way of paying attention to what is happening in the present moment, in the mind, body and environment.

Regular practice can help us to become more aware of our feelings and emotions.



The Guest House

-Jellaludin Rumi

“This being human is a guest house.
Every morning a new arrival.

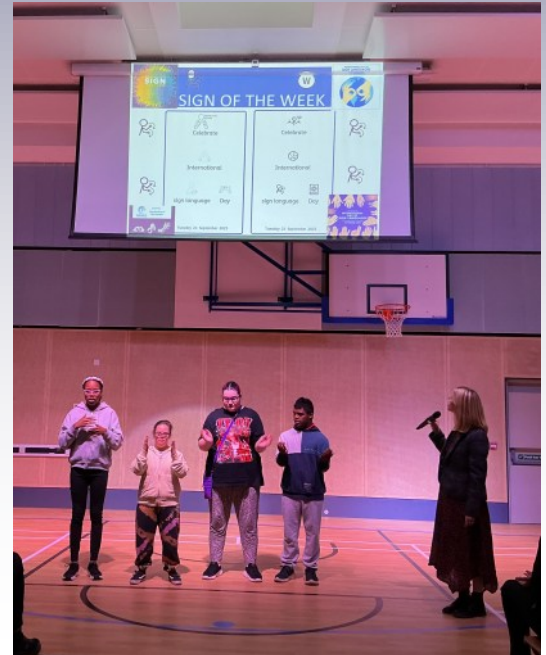
A joy, a depression, a meanness,
some momentary awareness comes
as an unexpected visitor.

Welcome and entertain them all!
Even if they are a crowd of sorrows,
who violently sweep your house
empty of its furniture,
still, treat each guest honorably.
He may be clearing you out
for some new delight.

The dark thought, the shame, the malice,
meet them at the door laughing,
and invite them in.

Be grateful for whatever comes.
because each has been sent
as a guide from beyond.”

Communication Champions



We were very lucky to have 4 students who volunteered to demonstrate our sign of the week during September, when we celebrated International Sign Language Day on 23rd September. Amazing signing!



Students in 5CH showing how they use the whiteboard for communication. Fantastic work!



SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD



We stand
against
racism





We stand against racism



**SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD**