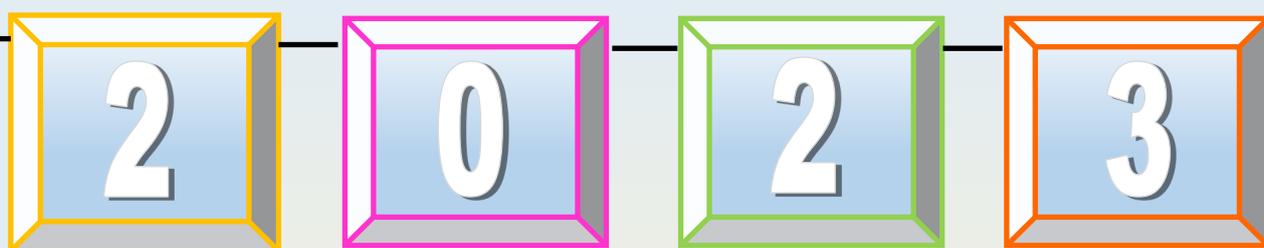


Newsletter



I can't believe we have already reached the end of another academic year. I am incredibly impressed with the qualifications achieved by all the students across the age ranges, including our year 7s! I remain astounded and proud by how much we achieve together as a result of the strong relationships that exist here amongst staff, parents and students and I would like to thank you all.

I, along with all the staff, would like to wish all our year 11 leavers the very best of luck for the future whether that is at work or in further education. Remember to stay in touch and let us know how you are getting on.

That just leaves me to say I hope you have a truly wonderful summer break, lets hope we can enjoy some lovely sunshine and I look forward to seeing our young people return to school on Wednesday 6th September.

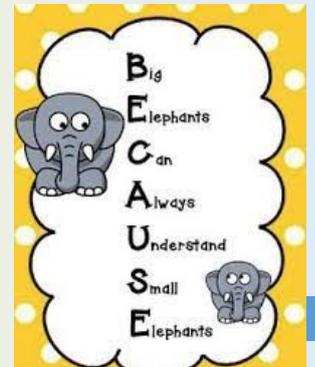
Andy

E n g l i s h

It has been a busy few terms for our students preparing for their reading, writing and speaking and listening exams.

Students have worked on developing their sentence structure and improving their use of punctuation as well as learning ways to remember those tricky spellings via a blended approach of images and rhymes.

They have perfected their letter writing, emailing, CV writing, review writing and report writing layouts in order to pass Entry 3 and Level 1 writing exams.



Hyperbole Examples

"This homework is going to take years!"



"This is the worst dessert in the world"



"I'm so confused my head is spinning"



"I could eat a whole cow!"



ProWritingAid

and report writing layouts in order to pass Entry 3 and Level 1 writing exams. In addition to this, students have developed their skills in spotting the use of language techniques within writing including alliteration, bias, repetition, similes, hyperboles, and personification and can explain the impact these techniques have on the reader.

To finish the year students have participated in a range of group discussions including interview scenarios for both work and college, as well as a range of debate type discussions.

It has been a successful year all round with all students gaining English qualifications at Entry 3 and some at Level 1.



Maths

$$\div \geq \times \leq \nu!$$

We've been measuring things up in maths – lengths, widths, areas and perimeters. Everything you need to know for ordering a carpet for your room or how much grass covers a football pitch! We then added in weights and volume so we know when to use kilos or grams.

Anyone for pizza? Would you like a $\frac{1}{3}$ or a $\frac{1}{4}$? Which is bigger? Fractions have been on the maths menu and we've added them, subtracted them, found equivalents and improper ones. Then we spiced it all up by adding in percentages and decimals.....so that $\frac{1}{4}$ pepperoni pizza could be written as 25% or 0.25.

During the summer term we've been brushing up on our number knowledge, place value, addition & subtraction, negatives and decoding word problems. All this hard work by students has paid off with a number achieving Entry Level 2 and 3 maths and various Open Award Units – Well done!

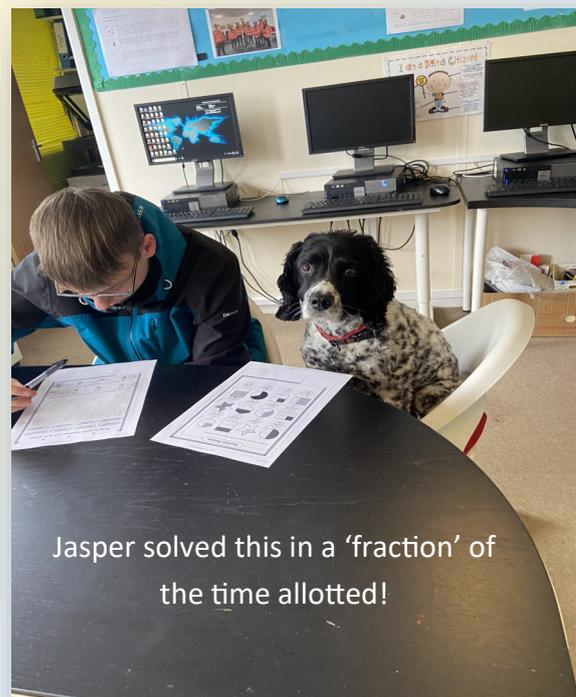
Q: Why doesn't anyone talk to circles?

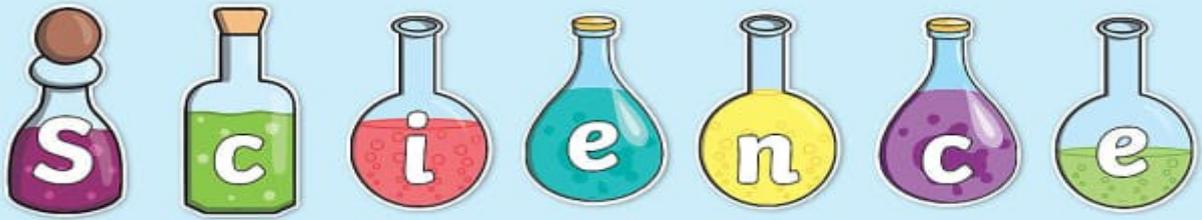
A: Because there's no point!

Q: Why was the obtuse triangle always upset?

A: Because its never right!

Parallel lines have so much in common.....it's a shame they will never meet!





Throughout the year we have studied units in Physics, Chemistry and Biology, as well as conducting some practical tasks and activities. Learners have had to conduct their own research in order to produce their findings, results as a scientific report.

Learners worked in a controlled environment and used the correct substances and materials, they all adhered to wearing the correct Personal Protective Clothing and worked in a safe and mature manner and were responsible throughout.

Units studied have included:

- Energy
- Plastics and Polymers
- Sex, Relationships Education



Learners have worked hard on completing so many units in order to achieve their Entry 3 Award in Science.



Well done everyone!



Over the last term, students have been studying Natural Disasters. Students began by learning how the earth is structured. They then familiarised themselves with tectonic plates boundaries and now understand how the movement of these can lead to a range of natural disasters such as: Volcanos, Earthquakes, Tsunamis and floods.

Following on from this, students learnt about different types of Volcanos and where in the world they are distributed. They were particularly interested in the “ring of fire.” In addition to this, students also studied how earthquakes occur, how they are measured and how countries plan, prepare and protect for these.

Some students took part in an activity requiring them to build an earthquake proof structure, whilst others opted to build a model of an erupting volcano.

To finish our studies students learnt about the formation of and distribution of tropical storms, how they are categorised and how countries plan to reduce the impact of these. Finally, we enjoyed watching films that portrayed the horror of Tsunamis and were also shocked to see footage of tropical storms and the devastation they cause.



PSHE

PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH EDUCATION

This year we have been studying a wide range of topics in PSHE including Knife Crime and its effects and consequences. We also invited the local police officer in for Hate Crime week and we discussed what is a Hate Crime and how this can impact on the individual, the community and the negative consequences it has on all those around us.

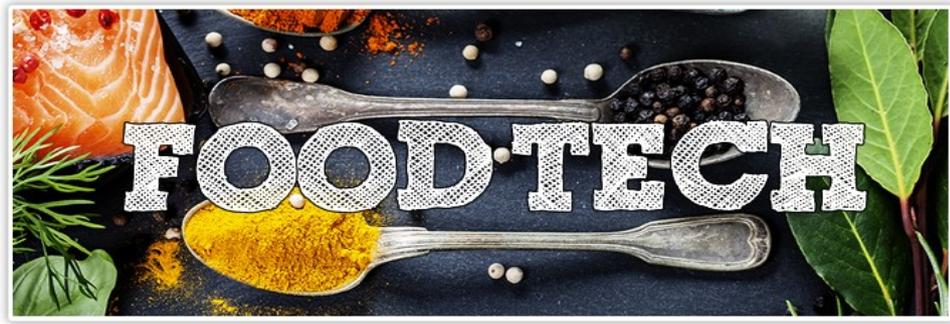
Learners also completed units on Alcohol Awareness and Substance Misuse, this included researching where to seek help and advice and also identifying

- ways on how these can affect them as an individual and the impact it can have on their lives.
- Learners identified local agencies and used internet websites to find out everything they needed to know about drugs, their effects and the law. This led us

onto the unit Personal Risk, comparing the differences between positive and negative risks and how and why they can provide us with both good and bad consequences.

We also discussed the importance of Personal Care and Hygiene and how not caring for yourself can lead to some common illnesses and diseases, learners were able to identify ways on how they could reduce or prevent these, providing them with a healthier lifestyle.





As part of our hospitality experience at SwitchED2, we have designed a curriculum with practical skills at its centre, building resilience in the students as they progress through the core competencies.

There has been a lot of emphasis on planning and costing a meal, food safety and storage, cooking techniques and understanding a balanced diet. These are all units which have contributed to their Skills for Working Life Diploma.



- Our young people have also been invited to take ownership of their learning by planning and ordering groceries to produce their own choice of meals.

This has provided them all with a very personalised learning experience, one which was immensely enjoyed by all but more importantly, has given them an excellent platform for their future independence.



Enrichment

This year, learners have participated in a wide range of fun and engaging activities. We visited Level in Preston and played ten pin bowling and indoor Lazer Tag, the learners chose their teams and competed against each other in 20 minute Lazer Tag shoot outs. A new venue for outdoor Lazer tag was Battlefield which is based in Chorley, KS4 were divided into teams and competed for the Lazer tag trophy.

Learners experienced X-height at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre in Lancaster, they were faced with a set of personal, race against time and team challenges. Harvey holds the longest time for holding onto the punch bag in mid air — well done Harvey!

We have visited Kendal Rugby Club on a regular basis and played football and rugby on their state of the art 4G football pitch. Learners have been practising their football skills and setting each other tasks and challenges, such as penalty shoot outs, crossbar challenge and best skill performance. SwitchED2 football team have played against other schools such as Cedar House and Oversands, we have won some and lost some. Both Harvey and Tyler Mc have captained the team and also received the Player of the Match awards.

During our visit to Casterton Footgolf, learners enjoyed 9 holes of footgolf, some kicking the ball under par and one learner getting a hole in one, which seems impossible to do, so well done Rico!



Landbased Studies

This year in land-based, we have planted a wide range of vegetables from seed. These included:

- ◆ radishes
- ◆ cucumbers
- ◆ pak chois
- ◆ tomatoes
- ◆ broad beans
- ◆ lettuces



To our dismay many have been eaten by beetles and snails and some haven't survived the hot summer, however there has been a great success with the potatoes that Caleb planted in April and the radishes that were planted by Ollie and Tyler F.

We also planted a wide range of herbs from seed, these included:

- ◆ a variety of chillies
- ◆ parsley
- ◆ sweet basil
- ◆ garlic
- ◆ chives

We are keeping our fingers crossed that these will be a success as we have recently planted the seedlings outside.



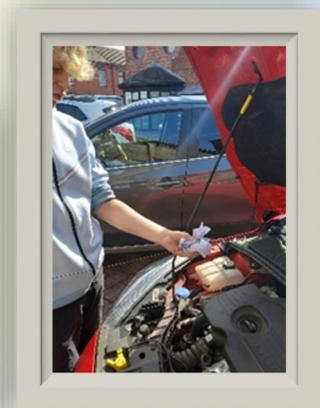
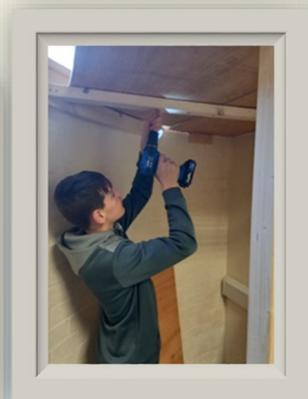
OUTREACH

Over in Victoria Hall, once again it has been a successful and busy year, with all our students finishing the year of on a high receiving qualifications from including certificates to diplomas.

As you will be aware we have just finished our first year in our new setting and students have been working hard to make it their own space, from creating booths, to ensuring we have a set menu for each week. This has encouraged them to build their confidence in cooking, carpentry and motor vehicle skills.

Victoria Hall has not only helped our students gain qualifications in Open Awards but also allowed them to feel more relaxed and self-assured to sit their Entry levels in English and maths which I am very happy to announce they passed.

In addition to practical sessions, other subjects include ICT where they have been creating their own files and recording Pot Noodle flavour data, science investigations and researching plastic and polymers. Students have also developed ICT skills in PHSE subjects such as 'making a choice', Alcohol Awareness, Personnel Hygiene and many more.





Outdoor Education

This year we have visited several Outdoor Education Centres with a view to trying a wide range of activities including climbing, bouldering, abseiling, zip lining, kayaking, caving and paddle boarding to list but a few.

- Earlier in the year, we visited Runscar and Thistle Caves at Ribblehead Viaduct. Pupils scrambled through the streams, gaps and crevices of the caves using only a head torch to find the exit.
- At Keppleway Adventure Centre we were able to undertake a wide range of dry land activities including crate stacking, axe throwing and jousting.

More recently M and T Adventures have taken us to Coniston and Windermere lakes to canoe and paddle board and for those who weren't faint hearted, an opportunity to jump off the jetty. Several pupils have also undertaken a couple of Ghyll scrambles, at times this tested their patience and resilience, often tackling some climbs on stones and rocks. Pupils were supportive towards their peers, offering encouragement and assistance throughout.

Engagement and participation have been the key to success this year and all pupils have shown this throughout the broad range of activities. At times they have had to work as a team, trust each other and offer reassurance to others and most of all had patience for each other, which they all did fantastically well at various stages during the activities.

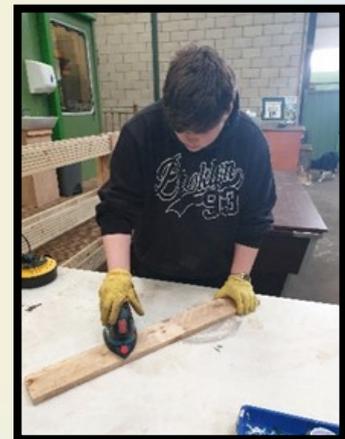


School Enterprise

Students have been focusing on producing a range of products made from upcycled and re-used items such as: old pallets, used bottles, pebbles and old clothing. They have then produced a range of products including: signs, bath trays, Christmas plaques, bee houses, dog toys and bird feeders. In addition to this, students have produce a range of pebble pictures and plaques as well as creating a bath bomb range.

Whilst producing our items students have learnt how to use a range of hand and electrical tools such as, Saws, Sawzills, drills and sanders.

We are now members of the County Market Group, and attend regular sales at Arnside Community Hall, where students are responsible for setting up the stall, recording sales, dealing with customers and putting away the stall at the end of the sale.



A farewell message to our year 11s

Tyler, Kenzie, Harvey, Lucien and Yasmin

You leave SwitchED2 as individuals with a great deal to offer and dreams to fulfil. Enjoy every moment and remember that the challenges ahead are also opportunities: use your skills and talents to embrace them all. Take full advantage of all that life has to offer and never give up on your dreams, hopes or ambitions.

-
-
- We all wish you the very best of luck with your future be it in further education or in the world of work.

You have been a pleasure to get to know and you should be very proud of the achievements you have made—I know everyone here at SwitchED2 certainly is!



News from the Nurture Cabin



English

Unwrap the Mysteries of Reading

This year some pupils have enjoyed reading boxes which aim to bring a deeper enjoyment of their favourite genres. When they reach certain pages in their chosen book they have been able to unwrap unique story gifts and bonus items -all tied in to that particular plot point to bring the

sights, sounds, tastes and experiences of the story into glorious 3D! We hope to continue and build upon these boxes in the next academic year.

Challenge Imagination

Within the first half of this academic year the aim was to captivate imagination to inspire written work. This was done through comic books, designing our own school, lesser studied historical events and discussing conspiracy theories. Pupils enjoyed putting forth their points of view in theories such as the 1969 moon landing and the Titanic after listening the facts and the different prospective proposed from these.

Entry Level 2 Functional Skills

Throughout the second half of the school year pupils have worked with enthusiasm to complete their Entry Level 2 qualification. The effort certainly paid off when they sat the reading and writing papers and passed with ease.

Modern Foreign Language

Building on the French we learnt in the autumn - numbers, colours, days of the week, clothes, our pets and food, students progressed to writing simple sentences. We've followed this up by learning how to greet people in French and have basic conversations. For the summer term we have been learning a few Spanish phrases that might be useful if you are on holiday in Spain or one of the many other countries in the world where Spanish is spoken.

News from the Nurture Cabin



Science

To Infinity and Beyond! The year began by looking at our solar system, the life cycle of a star and the phases of the moon. We also managed to fit in some time for astronaut training exercises.

Next we looked at the organisation of living things from single cells through to organ systems. We used gelatine and grapes to create our own plant cells and playdough to create animal cells. As we moved on to the skeleton and our muscles some pupils, although most definitely not all, enjoyed dissecting chicken wings. This allowed them to identify the main structures and model how antagonistic muscles work in pairs.

As we moved into Spring 2 we investigated different forces including air resistance and drag. The pupils used force arrows within diagrams to show balanced and unbalanced forces and used newton meters to accurately measure weight.

Our final topic allowed us to experiment with acids and alkalis. The pupils created their own universal indicator from red cabbage and used it to sort different identify a range of acids and alkalis.



News from the Nurture Cabin



Maths

The way to the pupils hearts this year has most definitely been food. With that in mind we have used snacks to engage and encourage the pupils in a variety of mathematical concepts. We have used crisps and catering sessions to find out what fraction of the bag is onions rings, twirls etcetera, Midget gems to create 3D shapes and sweets as our data for various graphs and charts. We have also enjoyed warming our brains up with games of Bingo, although we do all feel the caller's statements need updating!

We have also enjoyed working independently solving murder mysteries for addition and subtraction and cracking code breakers to multiply by 10,100 and 1000. Dominoes seemed to be the obvious choice to make calculating area and perimeter more practical.

In the last term the pupils have worked enthusiastically on problem solving and word problems to gain their Entry Level 2 qualification, which I'm pleased to say they were extremely successful with.



News from the Nurture Cabin



Art and Design Technology

This year the pupils have shown they can turn their hand to almost anything. In wood work they created personalised signs from pallet wood, firstly cutting the wood to size and sanding it down, then using stencils and paint to create their design. In textile lessons they made the cutest teddy bears and mice, carefully stitching them together by hand. They have upcycled old pairs of jeans into purses and bags and made gorgeous sock monkeys from a selection of old socks. In art they researched the famous artist George Seurat and created some beautiful artwork on canvas using the pointillism technique.



News from the Nurture Cabin



Catering

- As usual I'm sure you've been impressed with some of the delicious cakes and puddings brought home for you. The pupils came up with some weird and wonderful ideas when asked to design and create a celebration cake of their choice and the cakes were decorated with an awful lot of sweets and chocolates.

One week on The Great British Bake Off, the celebrities made chocolate eclairs so we decided to give it a go. Choux pastry is quite tricky to make but the pupils did a great job and I was impressed with the end result but disappointed I didn't get to taste one. The coffee cakes and chocolate cakes they produced looked good enough to display in any cake shop window. Earlier in the year we spent a term looking at healthier options and the pupils were shocked to find out how many calories were in their favourite fast foods. We started each session with a Joe Wickes work and yes, the teachers did join in!

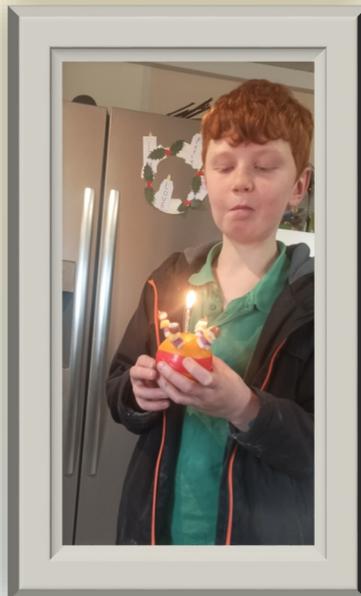


News from the Nurture Cabin

Religious Education

With St David, St Patrick and St George all having their feast days in spring we spent a few weeks looking at the different 'Feasts and Festivals' that are celebrated by different religious groups in this country. Students have had to consider how 'true' some of the stories connected with these celebrations are, what is based on religious faith or secular traditions. One thing they all seem to have in common is food! So we have tasted food from a Jewish Passover meal, an Epiphany cake fit for a King and sweets for the Hindu festival of Holi.

We spent some time looking more closely at Buddhism finding out how that religion came about, what following the 'Middle Path' and the 'Wheel of Life' might be like. A visit to the Buddhist Temple near Ulverston was a thought provoking experience. In addition we have also looked at Humanism and how some non-religious people choose to lead their lives. We have also visited St James Parish Church in Staveley for an introduction to playing the organ!



News from the Nurture Cabin



Outdoor Education

Outdoor Education has provided lots of different challenges this year - for pupils and staff! We have walked, canoed, rock climbed, paddle boarded, played golf, archery and jumped off bridges in a variety of locations throughout the Lake District. During the cold wet winter months we concentrated on 'Indoor Outdoor Ed' and improved our climbing skills, a bit of target practice at Lazer quest and tested our nerve at a skate park. As the weather improved we have been out and about visiting different centres and meeting new instructors. Students have learnt the importance of using correct clothing and equipment (wet suit, harness etc.) and used them when asked to by staff.

As well as improving individual fitness and agility, Outdoor Ed has given students the opportunity to work together, support each other when the going gets tough (out canoeing when it starts to rain and the shore seems a long long distance away...) as well as having lots of fun.



News from the Nurture Cabin



Forest School

The pupils have walked up to our own school forest several times, setting trails for their friends to follow, making plaster castings of animal tracks and collecting natural ingredients to make dyes which successfully made brightly coloured play dough. We recently collected Elderflowers and made some delicious Elderflower cordial.

We have visited the beach at Connishead Priory and practised pebble balancing, which wasn't as easy as it looks. We made the most of the good weather and had a trip to Grizedale forest where we had a picnic by the river, followed a forest trail and enjoyed delicious ice-creams. The pupils chose a selection of bedding plants from Halecat garden centre and planted them outside the cabin in pots and hopefully they will be in full bloom by the end of year barbeque.



News from the Nurture Cabin

Geography

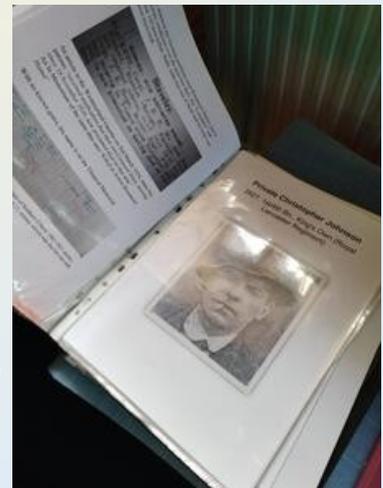


The pupils have researched many areas of the Lake District which we have visited on our outdoor education sessions. They used an Ordnance Survey map to locate the lakes and mountains and have found out what each map symbol represents. They made their own compass and used it to help them find hidden treasure around the school grounds. We watched part of the Swallows and Amazons film and went on canoes to have our own adventure on Piel island on Coniston Water. This term we have been looking at coast lines around the country and we went on a boat trip from Roa Island to observe the seal colony and birds at South Walney followed by a visit to Piel Island to see the castle and have a picnic on the beach.



History

As part of our history unit we visited The Dock Museum in Barrow to find out what naval submarines, ships and aircraft were produced at the shipyard during the first world war. The pupils spent time looking at the exhibitions and watching video clips of ships been built and launched. We went to Staveley to look at the war memorial which commemorates 32 local servicemen who lost their lives in the war. We also viewed the memorial book inside St James church and spent some quiet time respectfully observing the beautiful stained-glass windows and other features inside the church.



Term Dates 2023—2024

Term 1 - Autumn 2023

Development Days: Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September 2023

Term Dates: Wednesday 6th September - Friday 20th October

Autumn Break: Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October

Term 2

Term Dates: Monday 30th October - Tuesday 19th December

Christmas Break: Wednesday 20th December – Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Term 3 - Spring 2024

Development Day: Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Term Dates: Wednesday 3rd January - Friday 9th February

February Break: Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

Term 4

Term Dates: Monday 19th February – Thursday 28th March

Spring Break: Friday 29th March - Monday 15th April

Term 5 - Summer 2024

Development Day: Monday 15th April 2024

Term Dates: Tuesday 16th April - Friday 24th May

May Day Monday 6th May

May Break: Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

Term 6

Term Dates: Monday 3rd June - Friday 19th July

Development Day: Monday 22nd July 2024

I hope you all a fantastic summer break

