



2020

Message from Andy

Well what can I say other than this has been the most unprecedented time imaginable and yet despite the trials and tribulations COVID-19 presented to the whole world, I and indeed all the staff have been amazed by our young people's attitude to the remote learning we offered and subsequent accomplishments during lockdown. Their dedication has certainly paid off and I am delighted with the achievement awards this has led to.

These results have certainly highlighted that our young people really deserve a massive amount of recognition and celebration.

Since returning to school, I am hugely impressed by the way all those attending are respecting the social distancing rules and health and hygiene measures we have implemented — well done to you all!

That just leaves me 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.

I hope you all have a very enjoyable summer break and I look forward to seeing the pupils return on Wednesday 2nd September.



Maths

During the Spring Term, students have been engaging in numerous curricular elements including:

- ◆ Designing rooms and filling them with furniture—all drawn to scale and reproduced on the computers
- ◆ Making soap and using them to discover more about fractions and percentages
- ◆ Finding the simplest form in fraction
- ◆ Increase and decrease using percentages
- ◆ Learning new ways to do long multiplication and division
- ◆ Multiplication games using 2 and 3 dice
- ◆ Pie charts, pictograms, bar charts simple and compound interest, probability, negative numbers
- ◆ Learning Average, range, mode and mean using code breakers

All in all, everyone worked very hard and should be very proud of themselves.



English

Students have studied a range of text genres to identify a variety of features. We have enjoyed looking on both local and national newspapers, and watching news reports before attempting to become journalists and writing our own newspaper reports. We had some very descriptive and imaginative stories from our students, which have pride of place on the classroom wall.

Students have compared formal and informal writing and are now confident if given a task they can distinguish if they are required to write in a formal or informal style, and can use the appropriate language associated with this.

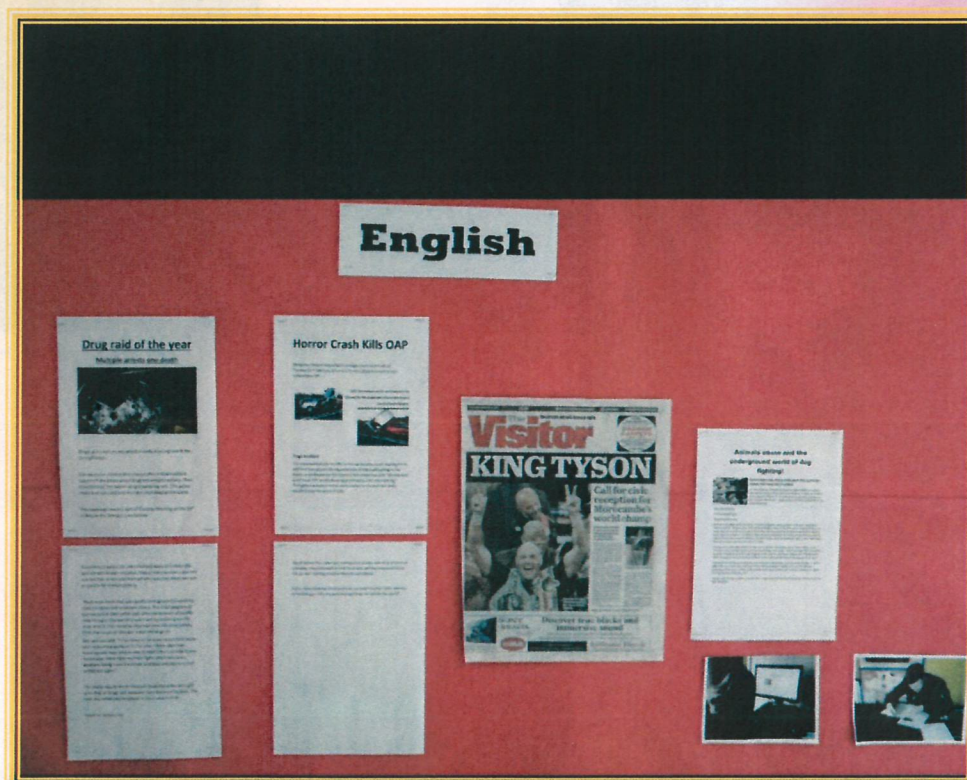
Letter writing has finally been nailed!!

As has the use of apostrophes for contractions and possession.

With remote learning kicking in from April students have become more confident in the use of emails to communicate quickly and effectively.

I would like to congratulate all students who took their level one reading paper in March, who all passed!!!! Well done to you all!!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all Students, Parents and Care Staff for their continued support during this unusual time of remote learning. You have been a great support to both the students and myself in keeping our young people motivated in their continued learning, as we attempt to keep our student on track for passing their L1 writing. So for pushing through the endless writing tasks I send both remotely and via delivery THANK YOU!!!!



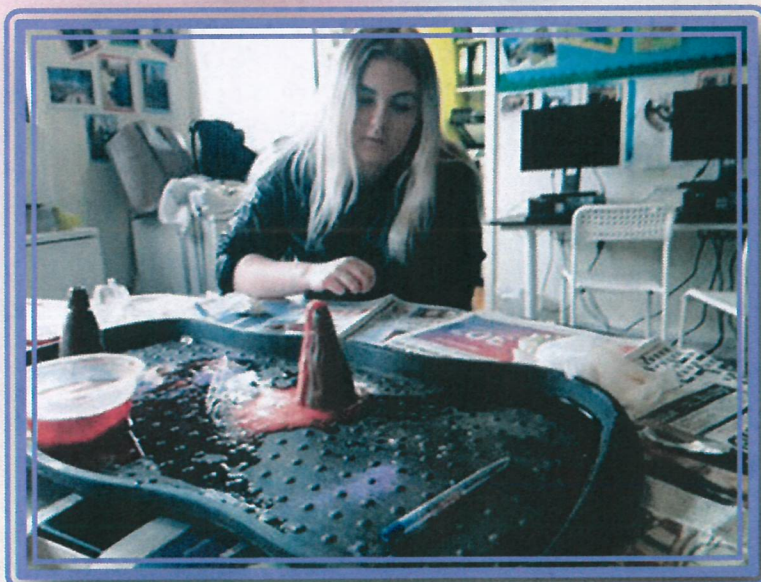
Science

This year learners have been working towards a Level 1 Award in Science and have completed units on

- Acids and Alkalis
- Using Magnets and Electricity
- Energy Use.

Learners have participated in a variety of science investigations and experiments ranging from volcanic eruptions, bath bomb making and producing simple electric circuits.

Learners have maintained health and safety throughout and been able to identify the necessary equipment necessary for each experiment. They have produced written reports and presented their findings in a variety of different formats.



Art

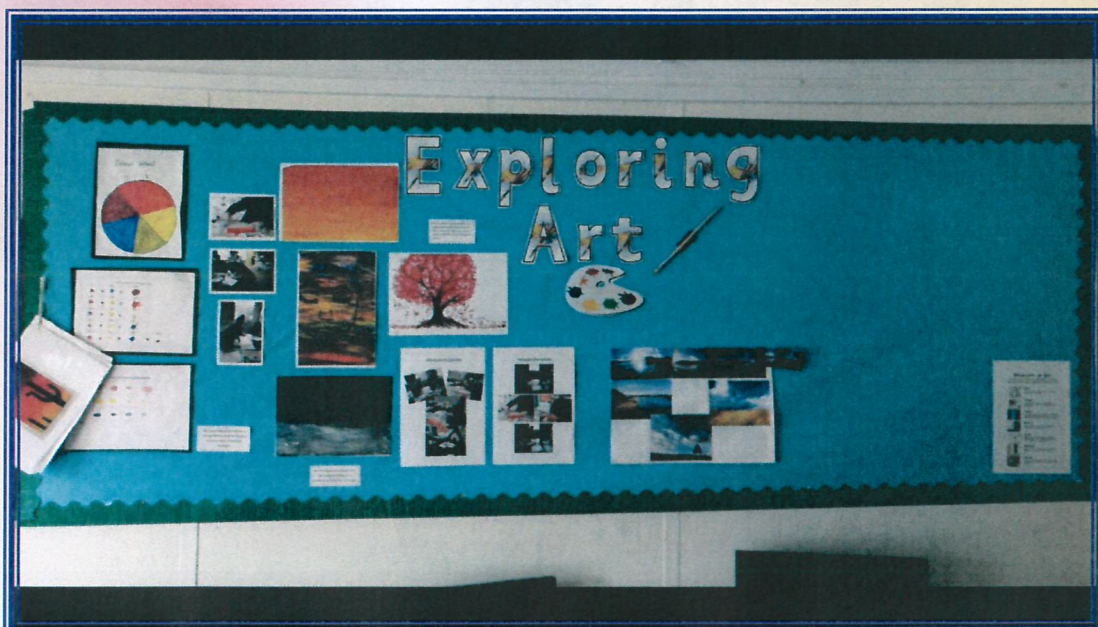


This term during Arts students have studied the work of a range of artists including, Salvador Dali, Monet, Banksy. We then identified and discussed the range of techniques, mediums and tools used by these artist.

Students were particularly interested in the mysterious works of Banksy and came up with some very creative and imaginative ideas to describe the hidden meanings behind his works.

Following on from this some students have gone on to produce art work in the style of the artist using acrylic paints. Students have become increasingly skilled at demonstrating a variety of painting techniques, including blending, stippling, impasto and scumbling. The work the students have produced will gain credits towards their Open Awards Qualification.

Whilst some students have been budding artists, others have opted to work on developing their musical skills by working towards a musical award. They have enjoyed identifying a range of musical genres, giving their opinions on a range of musical styles. They have learnt to play an instrument and have been building up to performing in front of an audience.



Outdoor Education

Water Park Fun !!!

During the first half of the summer term students have taken part in a range of challenging and exciting activities including, sailing, power boating, orienteering, climbing, and rope courses.

Students have the opportunity each week to select activities they would like to participate in, whilst instructors attempt to challenge students with additional activities to build character, confidence, communication and team building skills.

Here AJ and Jack can be seen using their orienteering skills to follow pictorial cues in order to navigate their way through the hills and woods around the lake. On the way we stopped to do a spot of dam building, which resulted in one member of staff getting rather wet; much to delight of the students!!!



Here you can see AJ cautiously scaling the telegraph pole.

Fantastic effort AJ, well done for having the courage to get to the top!!

Motor Vehicle Maintenance



During this academic year at SwitchED2 in the Motor Vehicle department, we have participated on a journey with many different aspects involved including learning about mechanics, engineering and safety. However, we have also been learning about teamwork, perseverance, problem solving and many, many more skills.

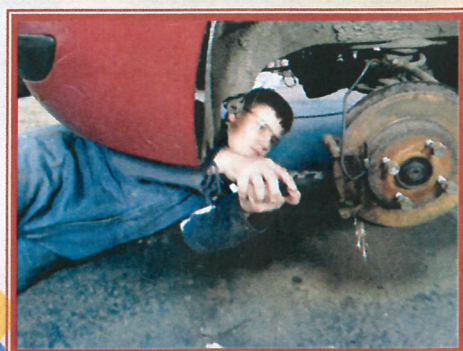
The Motor Vehicle students have been exploring many aspects of the 'Motor Vehicle Industry', they have gained the knowledge to keep themselves and others around them safe. The ability to assess a workspace and identify the possible hazards, will inevitably stand them in good stead for any environment they find themselves a part of in the future.

Students have learned how and why to dispose of hazardous materials properly, making them more conscious of their environment and the need to ensure we are responsible with disposal of waste materials.



Students are aware of the need to ensure a vehicle is safe. We have learned why a vehicle needs a MOT and the many different aspects of the testing of vehicles for safe road use. With students becoming proficient in various aspects of routine servicing, looking into and carrying out pre-MOTs, acquiring the skills and knowledge to know if a vehicle has suspension issues from inspecting tyre wear patterns to simply knowing if they meet required tread depth for legal use on a UK road. Keeping a car road worthy, the ability to change a headlight bulb to turning their attention to changing a wheel on a vehicle, will ensure they are prepared for their future as motorists.

All of the 2019/20 cohort have gained valuable knowledge, and all have behaved responsibly and professionally, amazing themselves and us here at SwitchED2 with what they have achieved. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 closure we have not completed some of experiences that were planned, such as the using diagnosis software to find and fix faults in modern vehicles and many other interesting activities. We wish good luck to all the 2019/20 leavers, well done.



Enrichment

The enrichment programme includes visits to a wide range of settings that involve pupils taking part in activities and visits that will provide them with new experiences which in turn help encourage their personal and social development.

Earlier this year, we visited the Buddhist centre giving pupils a tour of the historic house, beautiful gardens and Buddhist temple.

A talk was then given by a Buddhist Monk who explained the life of Buddha and their Buddhist beliefs.



A trip to the Science Museum in Manchester enabled them to experience a day in a city environment, travelling together by train and mixing with a range of other community groups. They were able to enjoy all the interactive equipment, workshops and talks on a variety of Science related topics. All pupils were respectful and behaved appropriately towards other visitors, including some younger learners. Pupils also had to deal with some real-life events on the day such as transport issues, this encouraged them to work together and find some solutions for returning home safely.



Enrichment

Level in Preston has also been a venue that we have visited regularly this year, as it offers activities that require pupils to work in teams and develop their communication skills. Ten-pin bowling and laser quest have also been popular choices.

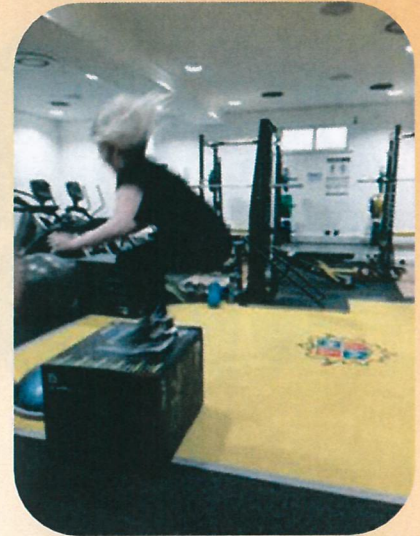


A visit to Pizza Express allowed pupils to have a tour of the facilities and then make their very own pizza which they could take away with them and enjoy. Pupils represented SwitchEd2 in a positive manner and were respectful towards the Pizza Express staff.



Enrichment

Rugby sessions were arranged with a professional rugby coach from Newcastle Falcons, pupils were given an option of attending the recently refurbished Kendal Rugby Club gym or participating in coaching sessions. Many pupils took part in all weathers and demonstrated they had some great rugby skills. They also worked together with another school, treating them with respect and developing some positive relationships with both staff and pupils.

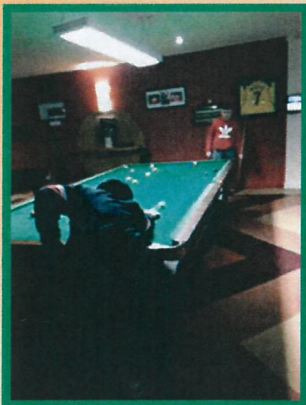


In January, pupils visited Turbary Woods, Owl and Bird of Prey Sanctuary which is based in Whitestake, Lostock Hall, near Preston, Lancashire. Turbary Woods Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre offers a unique collection of over 90 birds of prey including eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, vultures and more unusual species. Pupils gained hands on experience and knowledge about these fascinating birds and were allowed to hold and feed them during the display.

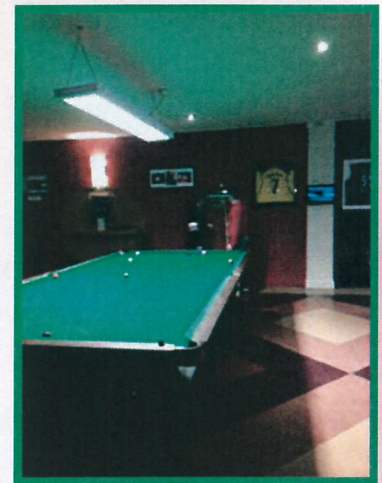


Enrichment

Pupils also excelled themselves during visits to Salt Ayre sports centre in Lancaster completing challenges such as Xheight and Gravity. Pupils were encouraged to attempt certain height activities including, challenging themselves and overcoming some their own personal fears. Staff arranged races and individual tasks and challenges for our pupils, and they all got actively involved.



Squires Snooker Centre in Lancaster is popular with some of the pupils, as they are able to use their snooker/pool skills as well as practising Maths in the practical session using the wall mounted antique snooker scoreboard.



Many of our pupils like animals, and when we visited Blea Tarn Animal Care Sanctuary in Lancaster, they got chance to look around the kennels and cattery, walking and feeding the animals. We also enjoyed a couple of visits to the cinema to watch films that related to our pupils and the activities they get involved with - including A Dogs Journey.

The visit to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute at Arnside provided pupils with a tour of the facilities, including the boat house and its wide range of equipment including jet-skis, powerboats, stretchers, carrying equipment etc. A volunteer of the RNLI gave a talk about how the area attracts many visitors and also how the sands are treacherous with fast rising tides and quick moving sand. He informed pupils of how to deal with any difficult situations should they arise.



Land Based Studies

Land-based /Animal Care activities has involved learners caring for the animals we have on site and carrying out weekly health checks, the learners have taken on roles of reporting and identifying any issues regarding ill health or problems. A weekly regime of cleaning and caring activities are embedded into the timetable and learners have worked well as a team carrying out tasks such as mucking out the run, preparing food and feeding the animals, again recording this information in the onsite animal care log book.

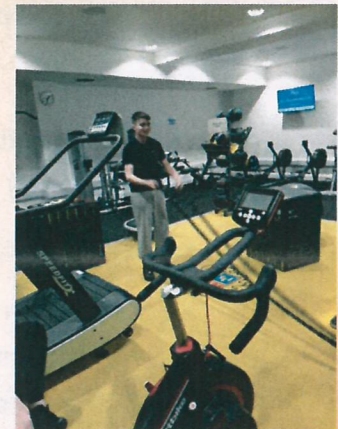


We have visited a variety of DIY and Pet stores to purchase goods for carrying out certain land-based and animal care activities, this has involved learners pricing up products and purchasing the items, which also develops their interpersonal and social skills.



PSHE

Learners have been focusing on a variety of PSHE topics, these have included healthy lifestyles and diet and fitness. This incorporated learners identifying their own personal fitness regime and producing an action plan as to how they could improve it over a certain amount of time.



Following on from this, learners covered topics on healthy and unhealthy relationships, this included learners identifying coercive and manipulative behaviours of partners, friends or family. Learners approached the topic in a mature manner and all of them contributed positively to the classroom based discussions, respecting others opinions and listening to each other empathetically.

During the Chinese New Year learners made a variety of lanterns and gift envelopes, they then used their work to display up and around the classroom. Pupils were able to identify the animal which they belonged to and identified their attributes.



Employability and career opportunities have been much of the focus for this term, we have had the opportunity for some learners to do classes in motor vehicles, whilst the whole group have also produced a CV and practices completing application forms. Many learners have actually applied for courses and received conditional offers of acceptance.

Food Technology

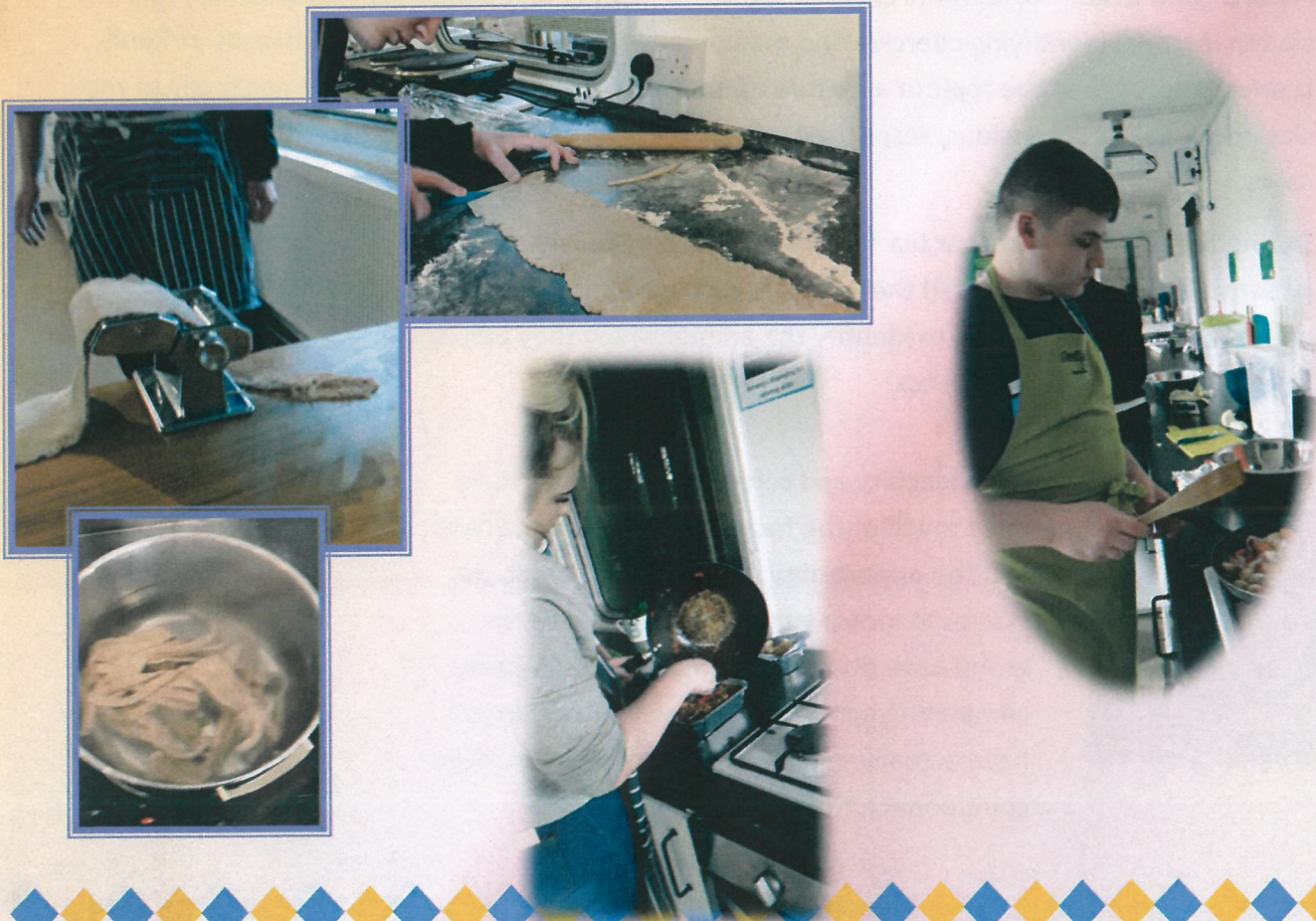
Food technology always proves to be a highlight of the week. Over the term, students have made (very successfully) a range of different dishes including:

- * Homemade pasta
- * Profiteroles
- * Salt and pepper chicken
- * Kebabs
- * And SwitchED2's own unique replica of KFC (a particular favourite with Antony!)

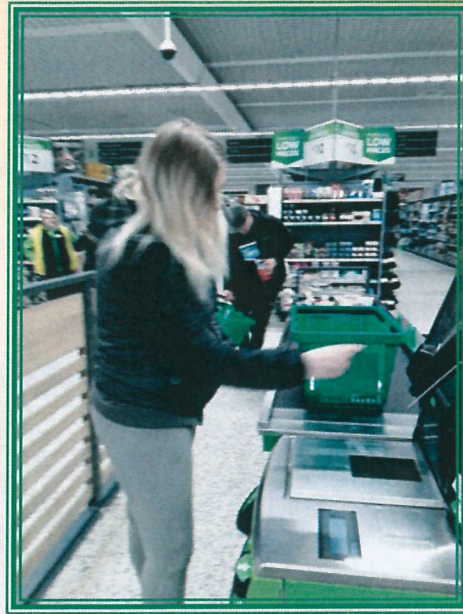
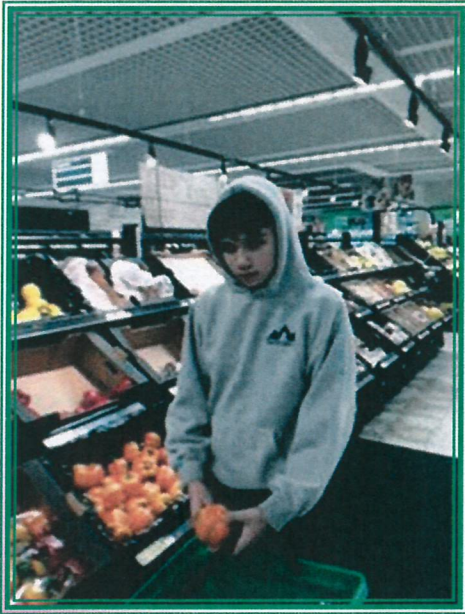
to name just a few.

Of course, there are serious elements to food technology as well, and during the spring term, there was a lot of emphasis on planning and costing a meal, food safety and storage, cooking techniques and understanding a balanced diet.

These all contributed to the unit work for the Skills for Working Life and Further Learning Vocational Diploma.



Budget Planning



Budgeting skills were incorporated into a number of educational visits throughout the year, for example pupils were encouraged to plan their own healthy meal and budget for this during a visit to Asda, this encouraged them to shop within a budget and 'guesstimate' the costs of their goods at the tills when they were using the self checkout.

We also talked about growing our own vegetables/herb garden, and the pupils decided what we would grow and were able to choose seeds and compost during a visit to B&Q.



It's Time to Talk, It's Time to Change

There has been huge progress made to tackle stigma surrounding mental health recently, this includes campaigns from celebrities and the younger members of the royal family where they have openly talked about their mental health and well-being. Lady Gaga said she feels people with mental health challenges were 'not hiding anymore'



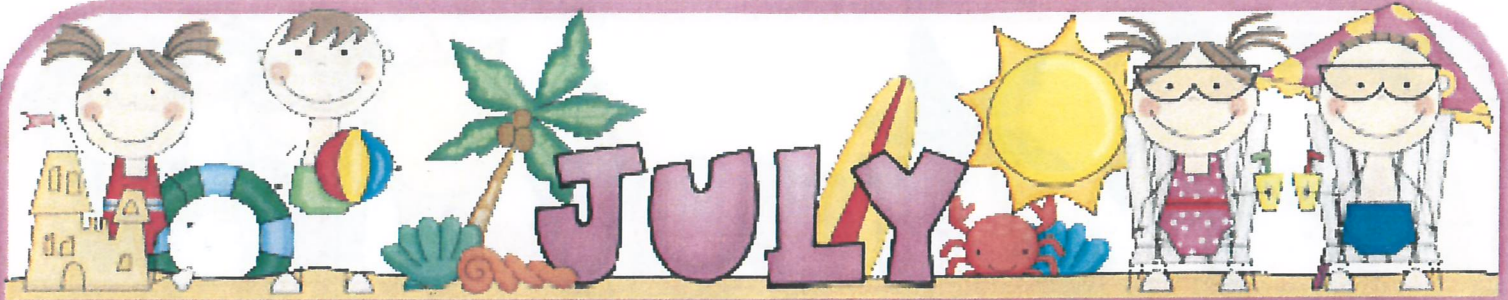
Too often, people feel afraid to admit that they are struggling with their mental health. At SwitchED2 we feel that mental health is just as important as physical health and we encourage our pupils and their families to talk to us, we promise we will listen, we ask you to trust us to help and if we can't, we know people who can.

Being kind to **you** is one of the hardest skills we need to learn as we go into adulthood and we try to encourage our young people to look at the seven steps that help us acquire that awareness.

- ◆ Talking Being open with people, I trust about how I'm feeling
- ◆ Exercising Looking after my body, playing sport, eating healthy
- ◆ Calming Good sleep habits like turning my phone off early
- ◆ Learning A new skill, a great way to gain confidence
- ◆ Relating Spending time with the people I care about
- ◆ Creating Expressing myself creatively e.g. music, art, drama, and writing
- ◆ Praising Being kind to myself, or listing the qualities I value in myself.

Remember—it's time to be kind to yourself!!

Nurture Cabin



Art

We have investigated a variety of artists and techniques since January and had a lot of fun exploring these ourselves. The first artist we explored was Andy Warhol and the cabin liked his Pop Art style work. We tried to recreate this style using the computers and photographs of ourselves, some of the results were amazing.

The second artists we studied was Georges Seurat and Paul Signac who developed a technique

technique of painting in which small, distinct dots of colour are applied in patterns to form an image called Pointillism. We initially tried this with was crayons melted over a candle and this worked well for the simple images however it was tricky for the more complex images so some pupils chose to use felt pens to create the same effect.

The final artist we looked at was Vincent van Gogh and we were drawn in by one of his most celebrated pieces of work Starry Night. However, rather than simply painting on papers we trialled painting on foil. Given a variety of different paint the pupils enjoyed experimenting which would give the best effect and some lovely pieces of art were created.

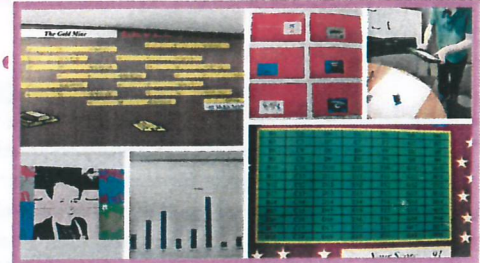
We have also enjoyed blending paint to create sunset/sunrise pictures with silhouettes, which although are simple are truly spectacular to look at.



Geography and History

History is always best when the gory bits have been left in and the conversation about the Ancient Egyptians method of mummification whilst creating our own mummies, sarcophaguses and canopic jars was not a conversation which you would have over lunch but highly remember able. As well as the Ancient Egyptians we have enjoyed learning about the events of WW2 and creating our own fighter planes, learnt about Viking Settlements and studied what makes a volcano erupt resulting in us creating our own cross section of a volcano out of clay.

There was also a lot of excitement one day when a mystery parcel arrived containing traditional food and activities from a mystery country...but what country was it and where was it in the world?



Computing

Incorporating our love for building Lego models, some of the pupils have created their own Lego instruction booklet, taking photos of each stage of the building project uploading them to PowerPoint and then editing as necessary. We have also had fun creating our own charts based on data we collected and learnt about cells and formulas through games created within Excel. E-Safety has been a key topic of conversation especially when using the internet to research topics such as 'sharks'.

Music - Guitars

Both pupils have been working hard on their guitar playing. They are working on music from the Rockscool syllabus and so as well as playing original tunes from the book they have been playing a wide variety of classic tunes from Muddy Waters' Hoochie Coochie Man and Booker T's Green Onions, all the way to Adele's Rolling in the Deep.



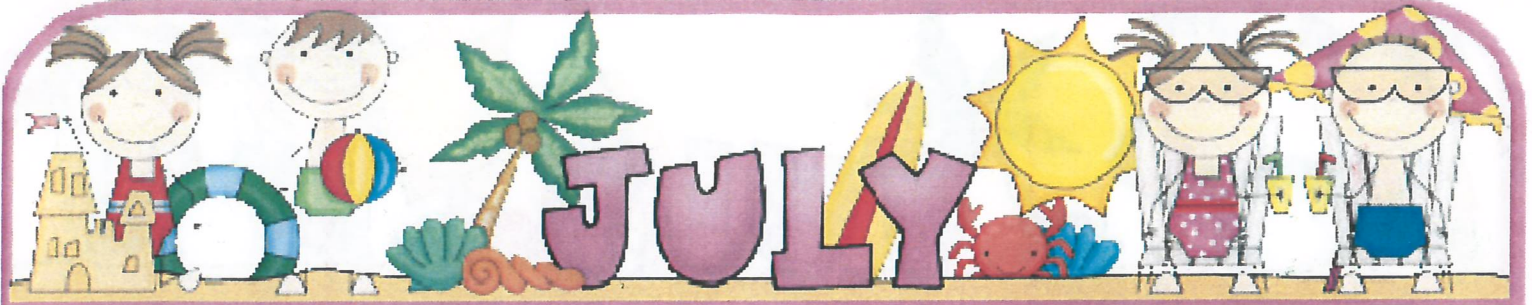
Design Technology

We really enjoy the practical element involved in DT and have each pupil has designed and made different projects based on their own interests. Some pupils have enjoyed creating moving car and dinosaur models whilst others have created wooden candle holders as gifts to family members. Other projects include bird house, mazes for Nibbles (the hamster), aprons, sensory boards and meals in catering.

Whilst completing these projects the pupils have demonstrated safe use of a variety of tools including saws, hammers, knives and irons. They also, with support, are able to evaluate their work.



Nurture Cabin



Outdoor Education and Visits

Some amazing visits this year starting off with a trip to White Scar Caves. This tested both our balance and ability to hopefully avoid low obstacles, which was obviously easier for some than others. We then discovered Level at Guild Hall which enabled us to test our abilities to work as a team in Lazer quest, test our endurance in Daredevil as well as improve our aim at bowling and Crazy Golf.

After some of the pupils did some research into optical illusions and created their own we enjoyed a visit to the Puzzling Place which definitely made us question what we were seeing was reality or not.

At the YMCA we again tested our abilities to work together as a team completing an orienteering activity and our problem solving skills challenging us to get shape into a wooden shape sorter using only pieces of rope.

We have also enjoyed a variety of walks in Grizedale forest and at the wild Trail at Sizergh Castle, some of which were muddier than others!

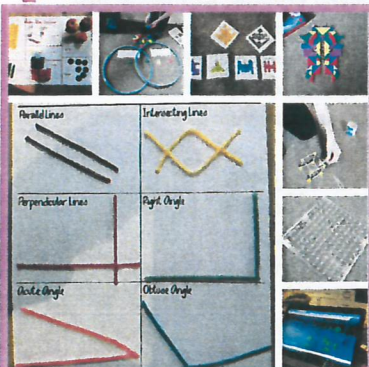


Maths

Maths is a subject enjoyed by most within the cabin and we have enjoyed exploring place value with a fly swatter, investigating angles with WikkiStixs, playing card games to explore fractions and washing lines to order decimals. We have also undertaken a real life business project which involved the pupils developing their own product ideas, completing consumer research, make the product after locating the best materials at the most reasonable price and selling the product after working out how much it cost to make and adding an appropriate percentage for profit. The pupils then sold the product to the general public calculating the total cost of all the items purchased and

calculated any change which was required.

This real life approach engages the learners when teaching mathematical skills and this year pupils have also planned their own trips calculating total costings, finding the best mode of transport and using timetables where necessary.

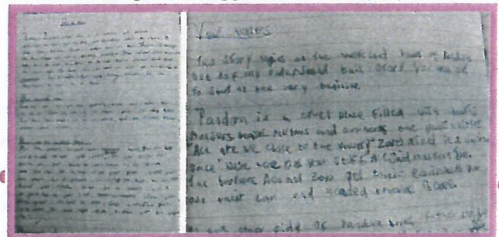


Science

We have enjoyed getting hands on to explore the world around us and particularly enjoyed investigating fossils and making our own edible amber fossils and trace fossils. Within the same unit we also explored the rock cycle using chocolate. After all the chocolate we definitely thought it was apt to find out about our teeth and we recreated our own set of model adult teeth using playdough.

English

Some of the pupils in the cabin have produced some outstanding fictional stories and we have enjoyed improving our spelling through games such as hangman, Boggle and Phonopoly.



Swimming

All pupils have put in a huge amount of effort at swimming this year. There has been a great improvement in front crawl and breast stroke, as well as all pupils being able to swim over a longer distance with little effort. Other skills which have been developed include head first and feet first sculling, treading water and a head first surface dive through a hoop. Some pupils have shown an interest to learn how to perform a tumble turn which started as a somersault across the width of the pool and then started to build up to rolling into the wall.

CAPERNRWAY HALL
SPORTS CENTRE

Swimming Pool ↑
Sports Centre →



2020—2021 Term Dates

Term 1 - Autumn 2020

Term Dates: Wednesday 2nd September - Friday 23rd October
Autumn Break: Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October

Term 2

Term Dates: Monday 2nd November - Friday 18th December
Christmas Break: Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January

Term 3 - Spring 2021

Term Dates: Tuesday 5th January - Friday 12th February
February Break: Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February

Term 4

Term Dates: Monday 22nd February – Thursday 1st April
Spring Break: Friday 2nd April - Friday 16th April

Term 5 - Summer 2021

Term Dates: Tuesday 19th April - Friday 28th May
May Day - Monday 3rd May
May Break: Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June



Term 6

Term Dates: Monday 7th June - Friday 16th July

We wish you all a very safe and happy summer
and we look forward to welcoming our young people back in school
on Wednesday 2nd September

