



Easter Newsletter 2024

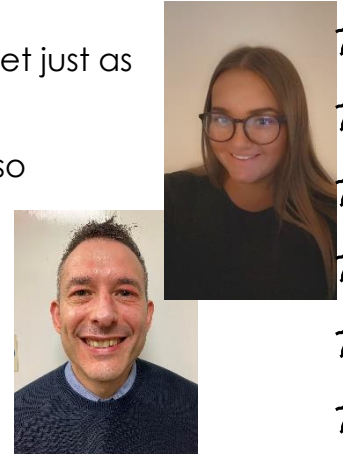




Welcome to another PRU Newsletter

This term has been a strange one - only 10 weeks long and yet just as busy.

We have welcomed new pupils into our school and have also welcomed Mr Tostevin as our new permanent maths teacher. I know he has been with us for some time however was only temporary until now, we are so pleased to have him in our team. We have also welcomed Miss Kaye as our new Teaching Assistant and look forward to her becoming part of our team too.



Can you believe that when we come back after the Easter holidays we will be preparing for GCSE's? It only seems 5 minutes since September and our Year 11's started out on their last school year and yet here we are helping them to get ready for their exams.

Revision packs will be sent out over the next couple of weeks to support the pupils as well as after school sessions that staff are putting in place to help settle nerves and ensure pupils are fully supported.

As you read through the newsletter you will see the great things that have been going on over the last couple of months including World Book Day when the staff and pupils dressed up to celebrate their love of reading as well as The Great Scarborough Bake Off which was a huge success and the scones were lovely.

As we move in to the last term of the year there will be some changes to the timetable. PE will move to a Tuesday for all pupils and Enrichment each Friday morning will consist of different activities both in school and out. This area of education provides a huge opportunity for pupils to develop their confidence and resilience as well as learn new skills and mix with people other than their peers here at school.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support of the school. Your interactions with us are really appreciated and we as a staff look forward to working alongside you for the rest of the school year supporting and encouraging our young people to be the best they possibly can be.

I hope you have a lovely and restful Easter.



Mrs Jo Fox

Head Teacher

English

There has been some excellent work in English at the Pupil Referral Service this term with KS4 pupils working towards their GCSE English Language and Functional Skills exams.

Most year 11 pupils completed their Mock exams and all those who sat them gained a grade. The pupils who were entered for their Functional Skills exams produced some really great work for their Speaking and Listening exam too.

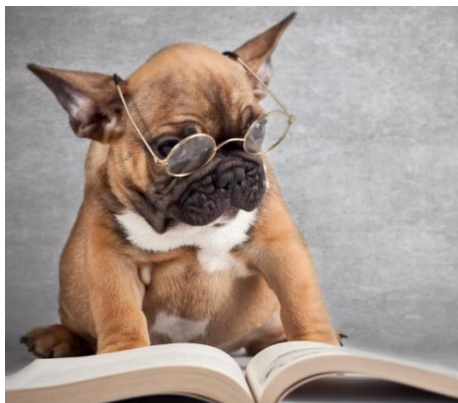
KS3 have completed their own project on Advertising. They have also been working towards their own "Dragons Den" project where they will try to sell their products to the class.

The aim of the mock exams is to help the Year 11's in their preparation of the GCSE's that begin in May. Pupils will be given revision packs to support them as well as being offered after school sessions.

Reading

Reading continues to be a whole school focus with all pupils having their own reading book which they read in Tutor time as well as in our allocated DEAR time (Drop Everything And Read). As well as this, pupils also have the opportunity to join in their 'class read' with their tutor group during DEAR time.

Each term pupils are assessed using a process called STAR Reader. This programme tells us the current reading age of the pupils and we have found that the majority of pupils ages have increased dramatically since we have encouraged reading for pleasure, added an allocated time to the timetable and supported text reading in all lessons. Many of our pupils are reluctant to pick up a book which we fully understand, that is why we provide lots of alternative mediums such as using magazines, the internet and audio books to encourage and support their reading journey.



Mrs Ford
English and Literacy Lead

Maths

This term has been a busy time in maths. It is the time of year when the Year 11 cohort are beginning their revision sessions for their GCSE examinations in Summer.

Key Stage 3 pupils have also been working exceptionally hard on the new White Rose Maths curriculum.

This has been the second term of using the White Rose Scheme of learning. This has proved very successful allowing pupils to learn whilst also reducing barriers and misconceptions. The resources also allow pupils of all abilities to access the curriculum in a new and more engaging way. This also allows for a more tailored approach to each topic allowing pupils to complete work at their own pace.

Key stage 4 pupils have been looking at Construction and Congruency and Ratios and Fractions, in addition to the unit Trigonometry. With most pupils able to draw and label right-angled triangles to represent problems and work fluently with the hypotenuse and opposite and adjacent sides. Key Stage 3 pupils have worked diligently on Lines of Symmetry and Reflection. All pupils have demonstrated they can reflect shapes in a horizontal and vertical lines both touching and not touching the line. This is also in addition to being able to reflect a shape on both types of diagonal lines.

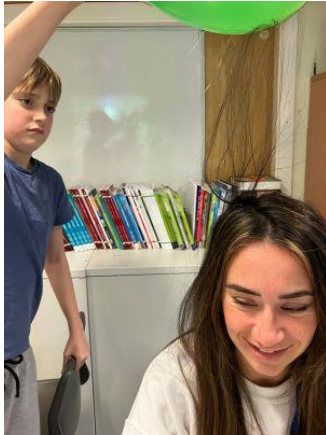
I hope all pupils have a very happy and restful Easter break and look forward to seeing them for the summer term.

Mr Tostevin

Maths Lead



Science



Key Stage 3

In Key Stage 3 the pupils have studied units on Forces and Energy during this last term.

Here a year 9 pupil is using static electricity to attract Miss Grainger's hair to show how non-contact forces work.

The pupils have also studied cells and plants. The image is of a pupil's cheek cells that he is studying through the microscope and identifying the organelle.



Key stage 4

The year 10 pupils have been studying Photosynthesis in learning cycle 3 for the AQA GCSE single science Biology course.

The image is of an experiment that tests leaves for starch that the plant will have stored after making glucose by photosynthesis.



Year 11 pupils have embarked on their revision journey towards the GCSE's in the summer

Mr Togwell

Science Lead



Art

BANG! POP! BOOM! CRASH! It all got a little bit noisy in Key Stage three art lessons this term. We entered the very bright and loud world of Pop Art. We set to work combining art and onomatopoeia, with pupils constructing their own relief sculptures, some of which were huge! Quite in keeping with the very 'in your face' feel of this art movement.

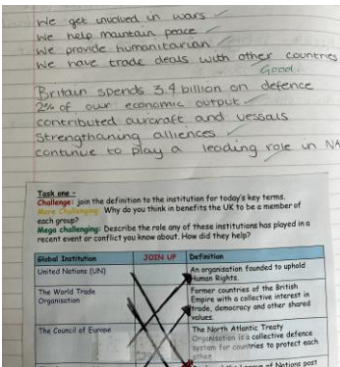
Key stage four pupils could be forgiven for singing 'food glorious food' as they feasted on the artwork of May van Millingen and Claes Oldenburg. While they are both very different in their approach, the subject remains the same. Pupils were given the option of creating two or three dimensional pieces, producing an eclectic collection worthy of praise.



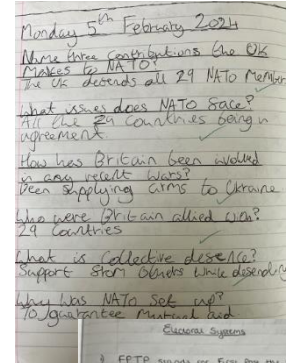
Mrs Aveyard

Art Lead

Citizenship



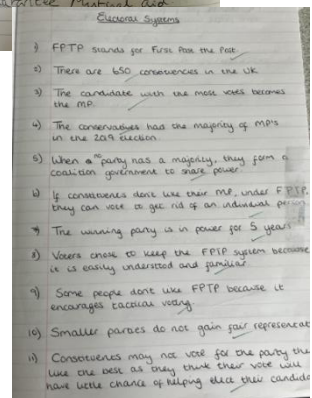
Y11 Citizenship pupils have been finding out about the UK's role in global institutions, particularly exploring our place in NATO. Our role in wars and disasters, how we have assisted those in conflict and helped establish rules of war as well as providing more humanitarian support in the face of floods and earthquakes.



Pupils have also been revising the meaning of democracy, how we became a democratic nation, what this means and how citizens in a democracy can make their voices heard. Studying some of the past campaigns such as the suffragettes, the black civil rights movement, the start of the NHS and why they were so successful.

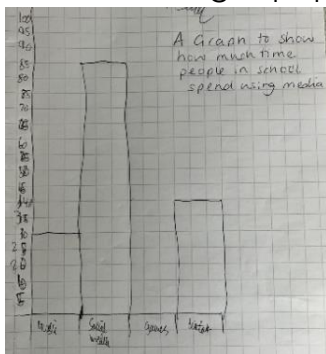
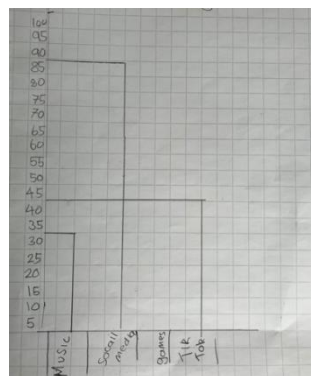


It is important for pupils to see the relevance of national government to their own lives and that they understand what individuals and groups can do to influence politicians. Year 9 pupils have been introduced to the working of parliament and democracy in action as well as electoral systems.



Year 9 pupils have also started to understand the media and how it can influence our opinions. That although

the media can provide a wealth of information there needs to be checks and balances in place to protect against bias, stereotypes and extreme views. This topic also encourages pupils to recognise persuasive language, differentiate fact from opinion and avoid paying for goods we may not want. The role of the government and the freedom of the press are touched upon.



Pupils started the topic with a survey into media use across the school and made graphs to represent their findings. It was interesting to

find that most young people got their information and news from TikTok whereas most staff got theirs from a news app.

Mrs Chopping

PSHE



We were exceptionally lucky this term to have *Hand in Hand* who work with the Children's Society come in and teach some bespoke sessions with both Key Stage three and Four. Pupils had the opportunity to take part in sessions on 'Healthy Relationships', 'Internet Safety', 'Child Sexual Exploitation & Grooming', 'Consent' and 'County Lines'.

Hand in Hand work throughout North Yorkshire with children aged 10 to 18 who are at risk of or are being sexually or criminally exploited. They can offer early intervention, as well as intensive longer-term support where this is needed.



Following on from these sessions, Key Stage four pupils looked in greater detail at the risks associated with becoming involved in serious and organised crime. We discussed coercive friendships and the pressures that teenagers can sometimes find themselves placed under. It helped that we had the previous Hand in Hand sessions as a foundation for this as we were able to pick up on links and terminology we had previously understood and discussed.

The Key Stage three pupils seemed to have become quite tired and grumpy of late. It turns out that staying up all night gaming was proving more of a draw than a healthy sleep pattern. A few tips on healthy sleep hygiene proved the order of the day. A regular routine, turning off electronic devices before bed, relaxation techniques and avoiding blue light were all things we could try.



Mrs Aveyard

SEAL

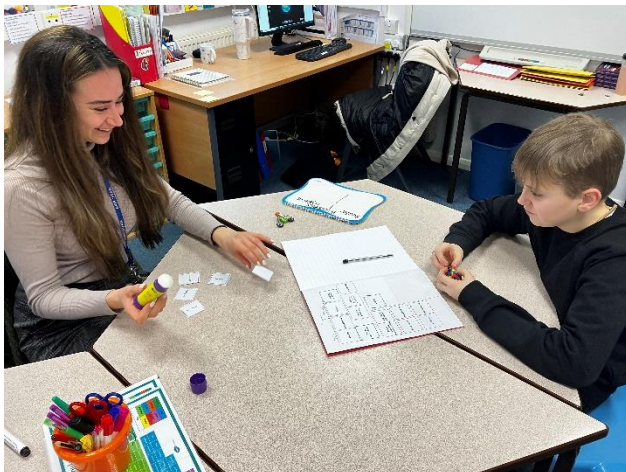
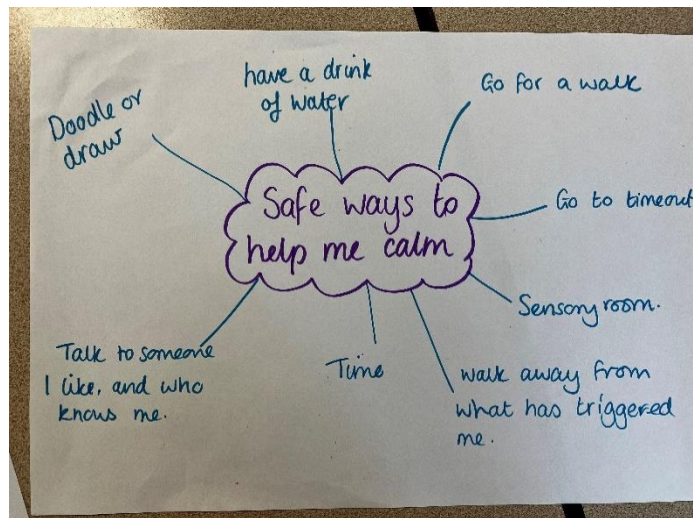
This term in SEAL our topics have been 'Understanding Emotions' and 'Relationships'.

The pupils have worked hard to develop their awareness and intelligence around their own feelings and others. Emotional intelligence allows our pupils to better express themselves, their feelings and their needs. It can be a difficult job navigating our way through our feelings and emotions, it's been great to see them build their confidence and realise that it's okay to feel a range of emotions and it's okay to ask for help.

This leads us on to our second topic, 'relationships'.

The pupils now have a good understanding of their emotions and are beginning to develop an understanding of emotions in others and for empathy. The pupils enjoy using a range of media to find the best way to express their feelings, it's great to see them getting creative and choosing their preferences to learning.

It's been a joy to see the pupils identifying a broader range of emotions and making connections with their own feelings.



Miss Grainger
SEMH Lead



Intervention

We have had another successful term using the site FRECKLE.



Student's key focus has been addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The main reason we have focused on this area of numeracy is because it's appeared to be a weakness for the majority of the pupils in their STAR assessments.

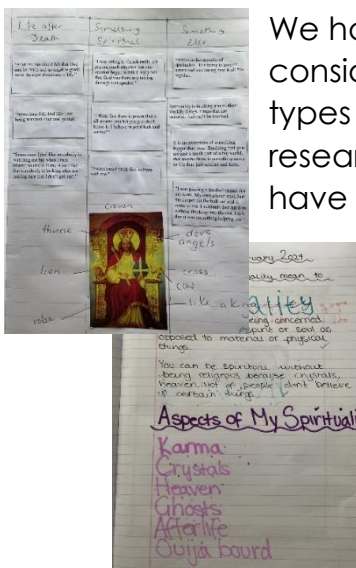
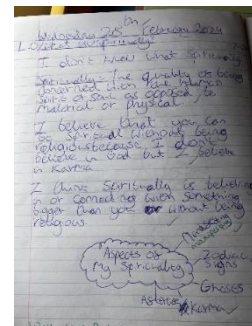
Pupils have made a steady improvement this term and most pupils end of term assessment scores have gone up by a commendable number of points.

We have also started a new topic called 'Work that counts.' This gives pupils an insight to life once they start work, finish school and it shows the challenges life may provide once you go into the big wide world. Our first few lessons about Tax & what 25-year-olds spend their money on has given some really interesting views and I cannot wait to move on with this topic next term.

Mr Brannan

RE

In RE this term, we have looked at two separate topics: The first being 'Spirituality' and then we moved onto 'RE and Art'. Pupils have looked into aspects of their spirituality and debated whether you can be spiritual without being religious? Pupils have also designed their own spirit mats, featuring things of importance to them such as family and friends, any quotes or phrases of interest, safe places, symbols and also any patterns that come to them whilst drawing.



We have also looked at how we view art and what we consider to be religious art? We have looked at different types of art such as Rangoli and Mandalas. Pupils spent time researching decorative art in different religious settings and have then had their own turn at recreating it.

It's been great to see pupils expressing themselves through art work in different ways.

Mrs Oldham

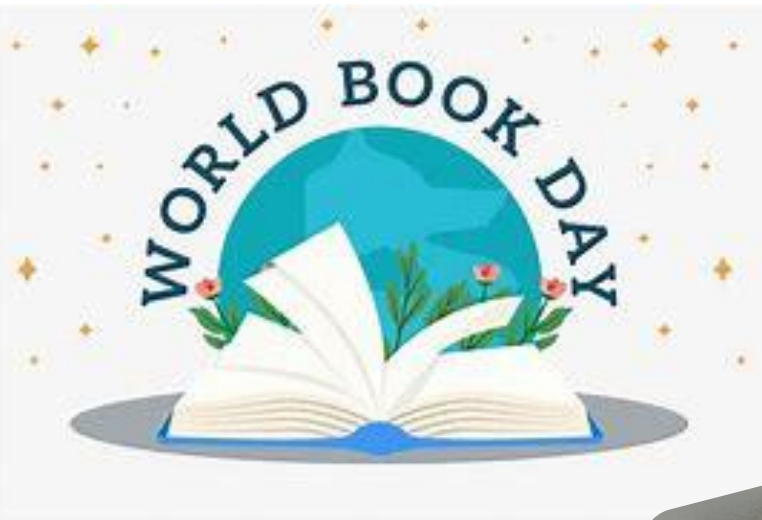
Assembly Time

“Why do we have to come to school?” “What goals do we have for the future?” “How can we manage our time best?” “What’s the deal with vaping?”



Some of the many questions we considered during our assembly time. There are always so many hot topics to discuss and assembly time allows us to think a bit deeper on some of the burning questions we have.

We talked tips on improving our memory, celebrated our favourite literary characters and observed national and international days, such as International Women's Day.



There is of course always a charity event or two to get involved with and this half term it was the return of Comic Relief...Big red noses at the ready



IT

This term in IT we have been focusing on cyberbullying. The main reason we teach our pupils about this topic is to be able to identify red flags for potential abuse. With how different the world is today compared to how life used to be, we have been able to highlight so many potential risks within these lessons this term.

Classes have been studying videos and picking out areas of potential cyberbullying as well as creating positive and negative work sheets in relation to using media.



Mr Brannan

Thinking Reading Programme

We have continued to work hard in Thinking Reading this term.

Thinking Reading is a literacy decoding intervention, working with pupils who may have had gaps or struggles in their learning, causing negative differences between their reading age and chronological age.

The intervention means pupils work with Miss Oldham 1:1, two to three times a week, until their reading age matches their actual age. I'm thrilled to say that all pupils currently on the intervention are making brilliant progress both with reading and comprehension.

Confidence has improved whilst reading out loud, as well as expression and fluency – which are all components of a good reader. Pupils are always asking if it's their turn for their 1:1 reading session, which tells us they enjoy their time in Thinking Reading.

Miss Oldham

Pupil Voice

Here at the PRU, we are keen to embed 'Pupil Voice' into our school community life.



We are very fortunate to have James Koppert to join us every half term for Pupil Voice. James is the Youth Voice and Creative Engagement Officer for North Yorkshire County Council.

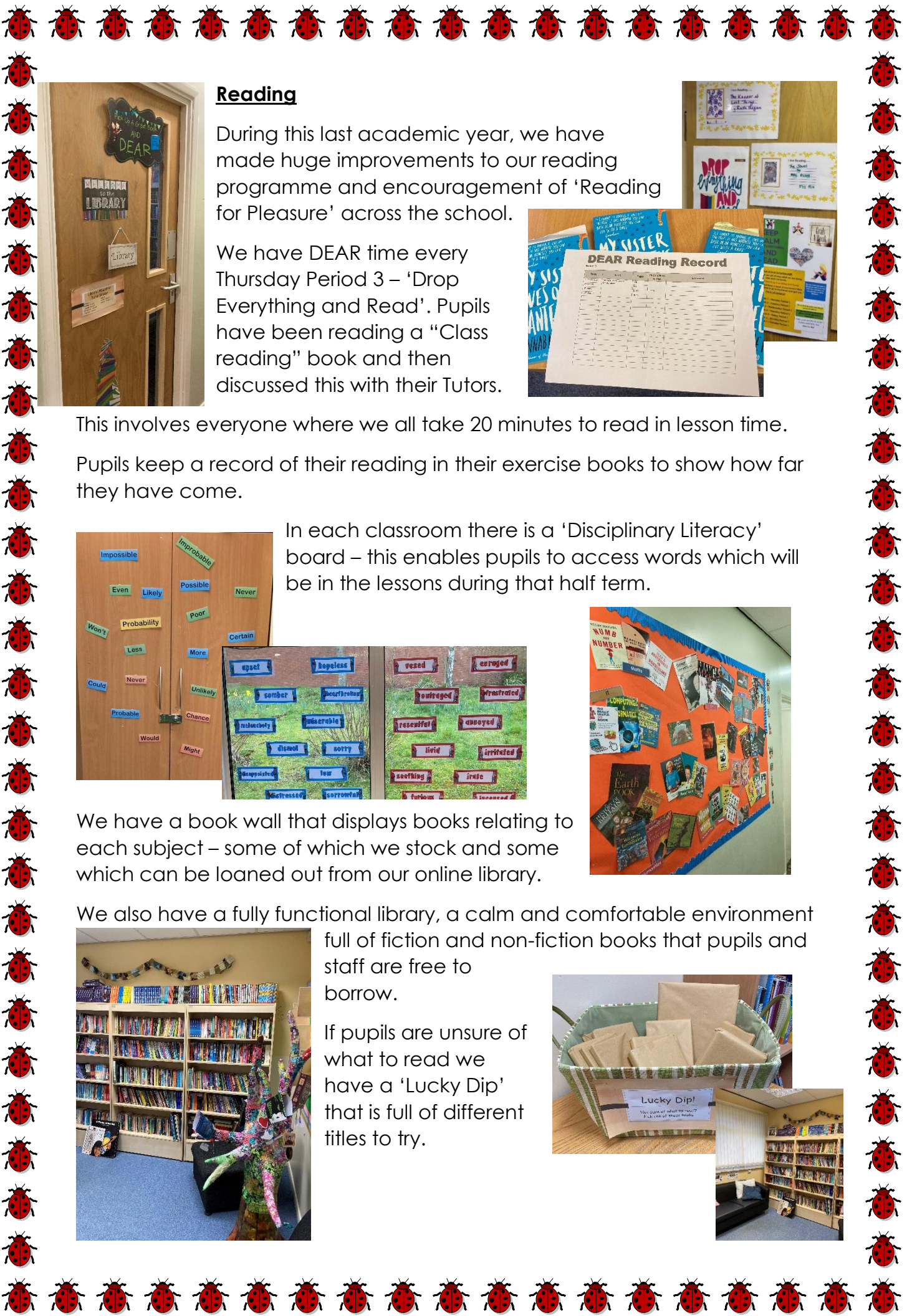
Every half term, one pupil from each tutor group represents their tutor's voice at the Pupil Voice meetings.

Pupil Voice at the PRU means a whole-school commitment to listening to the views, wishes and experiences of our pupils. It means placing value on what our pupils tell school staff about their experiences. We want our pupils to feel respected and valued as their ideas and comments are given time and consideration.

At the last meeting, the pupils discussed: outdoor space, lunch time, uniform and the reward system.

The outcomes of Pupil Voice are then displayed around school on our Pupil Voice display boards. Mrs Fox also gives the pupils the opportunity to discuss the topics in assembly and will answer any questions they have. This allows the pupils to share their thoughts and opinions in an informal way.

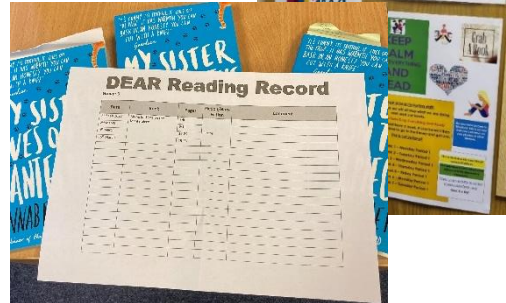




Reading

During this last academic year, we have made huge improvements to our reading programme and encouragement of 'Reading for Pleasure' across the school.

We have DEAR time every Thursday Period 3 – 'Drop Everything and Read'. Pupils have been reading a "Class reading" book and then discussed this with their Tutors.



This involves everyone where we all take 20 minutes to read in lesson time.

Pupils keep a record of their reading in their exercise books to show how far they have come.

In each classroom there is a 'Disciplinary Literacy' board – this enables pupils to access words which will be in the lessons during that half term.



We have a book wall that displays books relating to each subject – some of which we stock and some which can be loaned out from our online library.

We also have a fully functional library, a calm and comfortable environment full of fiction and non-fiction books that pupils and staff are free to borrow.



If pupils are unsure of what to read we have a 'Lucky Dip' that is full of different titles to try.



World Book Day at the PRU.



March 4th was World Book Day and Mrs Ford was determined it was going to be a fun day.

She encouraged most of the staff to get dressed up as their favourite characters for "World Book Day" and was really pleased to see so many staff get involved.

Two pupils also came in costume which was amazing! The rest of the pupils dressed casually and all proceeds will go towards "Red Nose Day".



The day started a quiz identifying the book titles and two teams came joint first!

The morning carried on by completing various activities all associated with reading and World Book Day.

Watch this space for next year!

Coventry University Careers Visit – Health Pathway

Some of the Y11s recently visited CU Scarborough to find out a little bit more about what is on offer.

We started with some team building exercises, the old spaghetti and marshmallow task which challenges the pairs to build the highest structure.

Mr Tostevin won by process of elimination.



Then we spent some time in the health department learning about the human body and naming parts of the skeleton we never knew before.

CU Scarborough is a secure pathway for anyone thinking about going into nursing or healthcare in the future.



ENRICHMENT – Mud Warriors!

This term we have continued with our collaboration between Arcade Arts and North Yorkshire Moors National Parks.



The focus this term was utilising arts and the outdoors for mental well-being.



Our aim was to merge the two with the theme of mythological creatures; these are sometimes ancient stories or stone carvings embedded in our local landscape, but sometimes difficult to find. KS3 pupils explored this theme with camouflage, hiding sculptures of creatures in the woods, mask making and find the wolf.



We have also developed our skills at shelter building, map reading, bird box making, fire starting and hot chocolate devouring!



As you can see from the photos, the pupils have enjoyed exploring our local landscape in all weathers, snow, rain, sun and lots and lots of mud!

They have built their resilience and their confidence of different terrains and have learnt that it is always better to wear your wellies than ruin your good trainers!



The exhibition of images and film was held at the SJT on 15th March 11am to 12.30pm.



Enrichment – Friday mornings

Each Friday pupils have the opportunity to participate in an enrichment activity.



This term we have had a variety of things going on. Key Stage 3 pupils have participated in the Mud Warriors project with Arcade Arts and KS4 have had a mix of activities including some careers work with NYBEPP based around team work and future employment.



KS4 pupils have also been brushing up on their life skills. They have a budget, go shopping and then prepare the meal. This activity has been going so well over this last half term as you can see from the photographs.



Pizza Treat!

At the end of last term, the whole school were treated to an end of term treat of Dominoes Pizza!



Pupils had been working really well and as a reward we decided to order pizza for lunch.

Pupils were able to choose their own individual pizza and staff also joined in with the treat as they deserved it too.



World Food Wednesday

Every Wednesday our wonderful cook Jenny gives us all a taste from a different part of the world.

So far, we have had cuisines from France, China, Jamaica, Mexico and Italy and they have been a big hit with the pupils and staff!

We can't wait to try other lovely dishes from other parts of the world!

Here are pictures of our latest Mexican day!



Comic Relief Day 2024

What a fantastic day had by all!

The Pupils enjoyed our tombola, guess the name of the teddy, guess how many sweets are in the jar and a very yummy bake sale!



COMIC RELIEF

Miss Broadbent was so proud of all the pupils for being very calm and their lovely behaviour.

Also, super proud of everyone for donating their credit money and raising a whopping £138.85 for comic relief!



£138.85

Summer Term - Dates for your diary

- 8th April 2024 – INSET Training Day – no pupils in school
- 9th April 2024 – All pupils return to school
- 24th April 2024 – Community Drop Down Day
- 6th May 2024 – Bank Holiday
- 10th May 2024 – First GCSE exam (Timetable will follow for pupils involved)
- 24th May 2024 – Half Term Holiday
- 3rd June 2024 – All pupils return to school
- 10th June 2024 – Last GCSE exam
- 28th June 2024 – Year 11 last day
- 18th July 2024 – Positive Parent Day
- 19th July 2024 – Summer Holidays

