



Combe Pafford School



BULLETIN



Autumn Term 2021

Headlines

I am glad to say that we returned in September to a much more normal routine and you will read in this newsletter some of the activities and visits we have been able to undertake.



We also returned to a brand new music room which has proven to be a real asset to the school and given a boost to both the teaching of music and its use at lunchtimes. It has been created in the middle of the school using a disused courtyard and wasn't an easy build and I am extremely grateful to M W Benney the builder who overcame several challenges but still managed to deliver the building on time and on budget! M W Benney are also constructing our new horticultural Centre, which we hope will be completed in the Easter holidays.

I am delighted to report that several sixth form students have picked up apprenticeships and employment since leaving in July and this has continued this term where we have seen students leave us having found employment. To add to this we were pleased to hear that we had once again been voted Regional Winner in the Small and Medium Employer of the Year Awards through the National Apprenticeships Service, as well as winner in the Recruitment Excellence section.

The autumn term is when we begin the planning for the residential visits we undertake in the summer term. Obviously such visits have been a victim of the Covid pandemic and we have needed to cancel many such opportunities over the past 18 months. We are hopeful that we may be able to offer some this summer, we have

taken the decision that all of our visits will need to be in the UK to give them the best possible chance of taking place, as well as Governors deciding that the maximum cost to parents and carers this year will be £150 with the school paying any costs over this. Further details will follow when staff have collated interest, but please be assured, in the event of a planned residential needing to be cancelled at short notice, all parents and carers will receive a full refund of any money paid.

I have tried to avoid mentioning Covid too much as I am sure we are all fed up with it and the difficulties and restrictions it brings. However, we are mindful that when school reopens in January we need to be prepared to keep everyone as safe as we can and limit the opportunities for anyone to bring it into school and cause in-school transmission. If you haven't yet replied to the specific email regarding testing in January could I urge you to do so asap, this will help with planning.

If you need to visit school could I ask that you test before visiting and wear a mask whilst on the premises. It may be necessary to conduct Annual Review meetings either by zoom or phone, we will make that decision next term when the situation is clearer, meetings are much better face to face so I am reluctant to make the change if we can avoid it.

Finally, can I wish you all a very merry and happy Christmas and New Year and hope you and your families stay safe and well

Mike Lock - Head Teacher

Lower School Phase Update

This term has been very busy with lots of different things going on. We have been able to get out on a few trips over the last term and I know the pupils have really got a lot out of these. I am really pleased that lots of pupils have been focusing on our phase target of working hard and I have been able to give out so many Pafford points when these moments have been shared by me. In addition to this we have started to have a lot more reading bookmarks completed. When Lower School pupils read 30 books and complete their bookmarks they have such a choice of rewards. So get reading Lower School. I hope to have more certificates to give out in the Spring term.

Mrs Bradfield
Head of Lower School

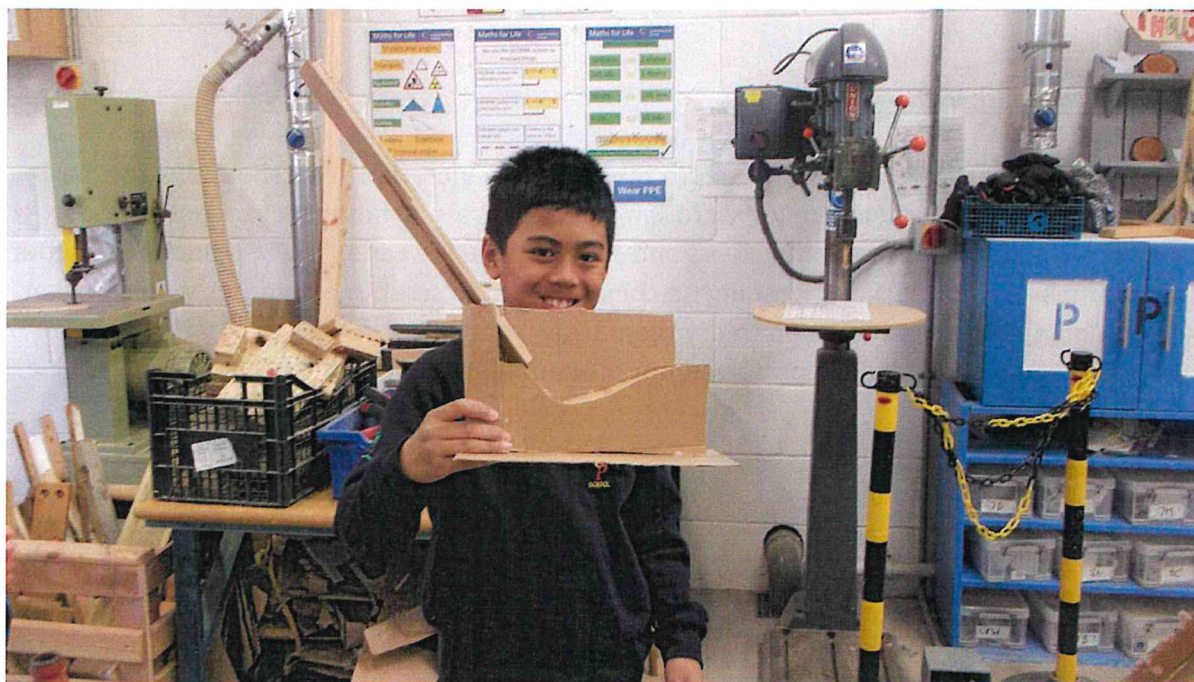
4N & 5P



4N and 5P had a Science Dazzle Day, where they found out all about the body. They learned about the function of teeth, how to look after them, and the names of lots of parts of the body. They explored the five senses.



5R



5R have been doing some fabulous creative work in their Vocational lessons this term. They have learnt how to use different tools and equipment and how to stay safe in the workshop. They have made some fantastic marble runs and are now making pencil pots.



Tiverton Museum Victorians Trip

This term 6E went to Tiverton Museum to take part in a Victorian Workshop. We got the chance to see what life was like for Victorian children. We saw how strict school life was, using chalk boards to write our answers and seeing a real life cane! We also had to wash our own clothes - without using a washing machine! 6E had to scrub their clothes with a bucket and scrubbing brush and went on to dry them using a mangle. Life was very tough as a Victorian child we decided we preferred our modern lifestyles much better!



7D

7D made some delicious homemade noodles in their cooking lesson today!

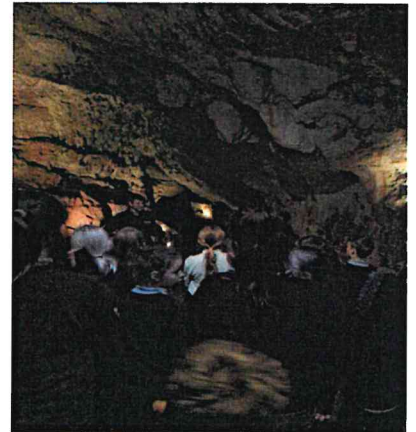


7C

7C have had a great term full of lots of learning. All pupils have worked really hard and made some great progress. We have been on a few trips this term linked to our pupils learning of their Topic, we have been learning about prehistoric Britain. We have followed the

journey through from The Stone Age, The Bronze Age and all the way through The Iron Age. We have visited prehistoric sites on the Moors imagining how it would have felt to be living on the moors with no heating, clothes, running water, electric and having to hunt for food - none of the pupils seemed keen to do this. We also visited one of the largest hillforts in Europe, Maiden Castle. Pupils were able to imagine the living conditions

without their modern day luxuries, again none of 7C were up for trading. We also climbed the hills that warriors would have had to endure to try to go to battle the communities living at the top. All of 7C have worked really hard this term well done! Mrs Curzon



7H



7H have had a fantastic start to the school year during this first term. We have been hard at work focusing on our learning, and all pupils have made progress that they should be proud of. 7H has also done some

cross curricular learning, as they have been in charge of making sure their Canadian teacher is learning that saying "soccer" instead of "football" is not acceptable! However, despite the pandemic 7H has been really lucky to have a virtual visitor. Throughout the term, Superintendent Christie, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted

Police, has been able to meet with us virtually. In our English lessons, we were able to write letters to him asking about living in Northern Canada, how our communities are different, and the importance of being kind. Superintendent Christie was then able to join us for live virtual meetings and answer our questions, which the class was then able to write down and use as fact files for future learning. 7H loved having our visitor, although the most commonly asked question was "How many times has Miss Christie fallen off a snow mobile?!" 7H have done brilliantly this term, and I'm looking forward to convincing them that "football" is actually "soccer" in the New Year. Well done! Miss Christie



7M

7M have been busy cooking this term. We have learnt lots of new skills and tried lots of new things. For the last week of cooking we had a go at creating gingerbread people. They were delicious!!!

7W

This term in our topic work we have been learning about prehistoric Britain. We have explored the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age.

As part of our work we have visited Kent's Cavern, Merrivale and Maiden Castle, we discovered that Maiden Castle is one of the best examples of an Iron Age hillfort in Europe and when we explored it was easy to see why. The view from the top was breathtaking and it would have been easy to see invaders for miles around!



8B news



8B have been learning all about climate change in their Humanities lessons this term.

For our final project, they have created two representations of Earth: one shows how Earth could look if climate change continues at its current rate, the other shows the beauty of our Earth without climate change. We used plastic bottle caps, plastic netting, egg boxes and cardboard to create them.



Christmas dinner day



Although Christmas Dinner had to be in the classrooms again this year, all pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our Mealtime Assistants all dressed up in Christmas Fancy Dress and helped the staff serve the food and then enjoyed the meal themselves. Thanks go to the Catering Team for working so hard to produce over 300 perfect Christmas Dinners

Christmas Card Competition



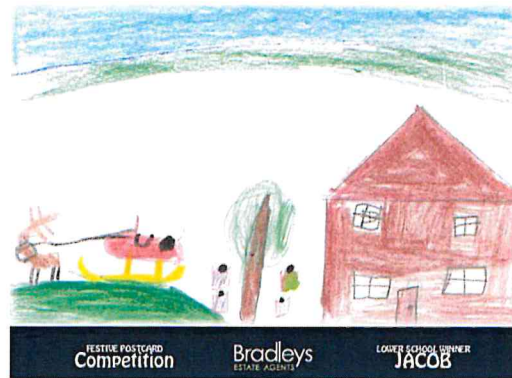
All staff and pupils at Combe Pafford School would like to say a huge THANKYOU to Bradley's Estate Agents in St Marychurch for kindly offering to hold a Christmas Card Competition for our pupils. Our pupils loved the opportunity to get creative.

The entries we received were amazing. Miss Ungi collected the entries and delivered them to Bradley's on Thursday 9th December. Dominic and the rest of the staff at Bradley's were blown away by the entries. Which made choosing winners very difficult. Even some of the teachers and support staff tried to enter the competition! Cheeky!

After a hard deliberation, winners in each phase were chosen.

Lower school winner: Jacob Wilson
Middle school winner: Marian Prosser
Upper school winner: Logan Aldworth

Each winner received a Waterstones Voucher and Printed Christmas Cards with their winning design and a selection box.



FESTIVE POSTCARD Competition
Bradleys ESTATE AGENTS
UPPER SCHOOL WINNER
LOGAN

FESTIVE POSTCARD Competition
Bradleys ESTATE AGENTS
MIDDLE SCHOOL WINNER
MARIAN





Bradleys will be proudly displaying the entries in their Window Display for the rest of the month and posting on their social media pages. Why not pop down and check them out for yourself?

Thank you to



Road safety walk

As part of PSHE, 8P have been practising their road safety skills of stop, look and listen. We went for a walk around Watcombe and discussed where was safe to cross and why. Pupils kept practising crossing the road and by the end of the walk were able to cross with much more confidence by themselves.



Here is Marian looking to check the road is clear and that there are no cars coming. We talked about the importance of looking as we can't always hear cars especially electric ones!

8P Draughts championship

As part of our Thrive thinking skills this term, pupils have been competing against each other at draughts. They have had to think carefully about the moves they make on the board and the consequences of where they put their pieces.

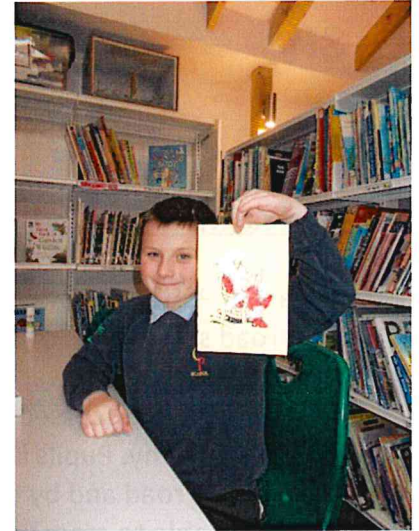


We have had a few frustrating moments where mistakes have been made but they have worked hard on coping with this and are now much more confident players. We are going to hold an 8P draughts championship before the end of term – I'm sure it will be very competitive!

Library news

We have had an exciting time in the library so far this term!

New Upper School Library Monitors have now been appointed and are already helping to organize and tidy the library. It can get very busy in the library so their help is much needed and appreciated. In the New Year, their duties will extend to other jobs such as supporting younger children with library activities and promoting the library through making posters and helping with displays.



Thank you also to all the other pupils who often pop by to offer a few minutes help here and there. It is lovely to see so many pupils who take a keen interest in the library.

During Library Lunchtime Club we have been working hard to make some fantastic Christmas cards. All cards have now been taken to Torquay library where some have been displayed and others given out to library users. This is the first year we have done this and are hopeful that it will become an annual Christmas event. We have also been making the library look festive and have displayed our many Christmas books which are being eagerly read.

Happy reading over the Christmas holidays



Music News

Music news Autumn term

There has been lots of focus in music this term on performing skills such as performing simple melodies and singing as part of a group.

Have a look at what our pupils have been upto ...

Ocarinas – 4N

Pupils in 4N have been introduced to the Ocarina and are becoming much more confident at creating different sounds and musical notes.



Mini steel pans – 5P and 5R

Pupils have been developing their rhythmic skills playing a small group of notes in time to music as part of a whole class performance. They have performed musical extracts from Mamma Mia, Star Wars and Jingle Bells.

Songs Around the World – 6E

Pupils in 6E have been exploring music and songs from different parts of the world. Here is Lily performing on the Didgeridoo.



Vivaldi's Winter – Year 7

In Year 7 pupils have been exploring the music of Vivaldi's winter and using instruments to perform their own version. Here are Cole and Noah on the glockenspiel.

Outstanding performers in Lower school this term

A big well done to Jack in 7W for his performances on the guitar. He shared his skills in assembly and has been a regular member of lunchtime music clubs – well done Jack!

Boti in 5R for sharing his excellent drumming skills – look out for him performing in the drummers Christmas video.

Outstanding performers in Middle school this term

I have to give this to 9K as a whole class for recording some fantastic performances this term from Black history month musicians through to rewriting the lyrics to Bad Habits for their Save the Earth performance.

Handbells and Tone chimes – Year 8

Pupils have been performing a range of melodies on the handbells and tone chimes. I have been really impressed with Aiden in 8N who managed to play the main theme from Star Wars all by himself – great focus and practise.

Black history month musicians – Year 9

As part of Black history month pupils learnt about a range of musicians and listened and recreated music from different time periods such as Fast Cars by Tracy Chapman. They have also been using the xylophones and glockenspiels to perform melodies as part of a group.



Live Music Now musicians visit: Mishra

We were lucky to have musicians *Mishra* visit from Live Music Now to perform a range of music from around the world. We had a small audience with other classes watching live online and interacting through singing, playing instruments and asking questions. Pupils were intrigued by the sounds of Indian music and joined in with some songs.



Tuesday sessions music lunchtime club

Every Tuesday lunchtime, members of staff have performed mini concerts for pupils to listen and join in with. Pupils have really enjoyed seeing members of staff share their musical skills. Some highlights have included a Pirate song from Mrs Cooper on the Ukulele, Mr Spooner performing on a copper pipe and tube demonstrating how brass instruments are played, Mr James on the drums, Miss Alcock singing Disney songs and many more. Comments from staff: *This is more nerve wracking than open mic nights! It's great to perform to a live audience.*

Comments from pupils: I never knew sir could play! They are amazing!

The Tuesday sessions club will continue in the Spring term.

We would like to welcome more members of the school community in to perform so if you know anyone who is able to volunteer 15 - 30 minutes to perform on a Tuesday lunchtime please get in touch with Miss Puffett through the school office.

Artsmark celebration week

During Artsmark celebration week pupils in Middle school explored ways they could represent “Earth” through the creative arts and culture.

9K responded by rewriting the lyrics to Bad Habits by Ed Sheeran and produced a fantastic performance called “Save the Earth.” Their recording was recently used by the Year 8 Combe Pafford reporters alongside their “Turn off the lights” report.

Brandon in 8C also performed on the cornet and Willow in 9S sent in this beautiful photo linked to the Earth theme.



Well done to all pupils who were involved.

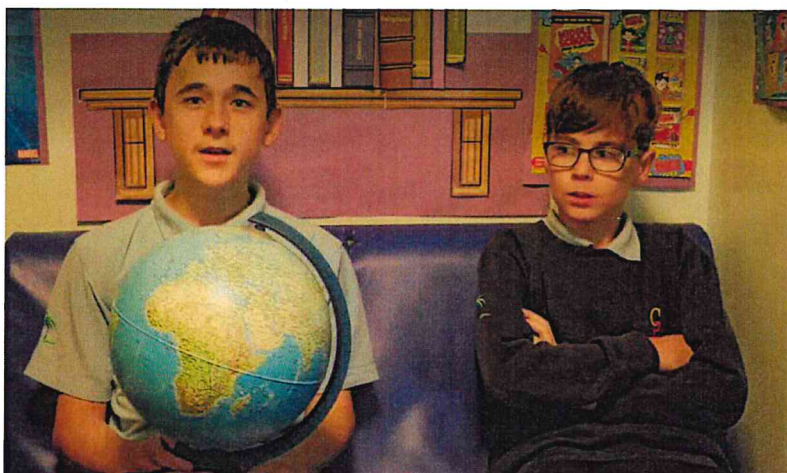
Combe Pafford reporters – Sustainability

A group of pupils in Year 8 have recently taken it upon themselves to create short news reports on how Combe Pafford staff and pupils can be responsible citizens and help with sustainability and the environment at school.

Their first video, “Turn off the lights” featuring Jacob and Dom was directed by Cody and Aiden, showcasing how many lights were left on when not needed during the school day. As Dom said, “Combe Pafford this is not good enough!”

Their second video is soon to be released and looks at how we can reduce the use of paper at school.

Watch out for future news reports from pupils on what we can do as a school to improve sustainability and create responsible citizens.



*Jacob (8N) and Dom (8P)
discuss how turning off lights
helps save the planet.*

8C's adventures

8C went to Brunel woods to begin their topic in Humanities on the Industrial revolution. We have visited a few places to discover what a legacy he left behind, which includes: Great Western Railway, Bridges and Tunnels across the UK.



8C have done really well collecting coins for children in need. They made a 26m long trail of coins, created a comedy club at lunchtime for all other pupils, and raised a whopping £55!



8C's lifeskills has taken them to the local launderette and to Currys to discover all they need to know about costs and how to do a load of washing!!

Middle School



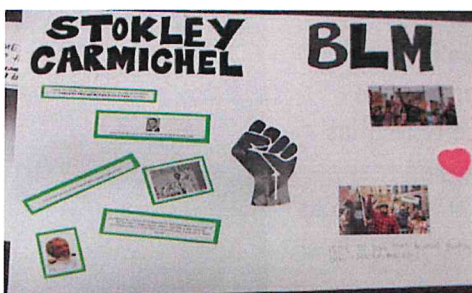
Pupils in Year 8 and 9 have had a very productive Autumn Term, demonstrating their pupil voice and citizenship skills.

9K, inspired by the Glasgow COP26 rewrote the lyrics to an Ed Sherran song requesting that the whole school change their 'bad habits' to increase awareness of the effects these choices are having around the Globe. Year

8 pupils have also been learning about Climate Change in humanities lessons and the many different ways this is being experienced by families around the World. Inspired by the 9K song, some Year 8s created a film (using the 9K song as a backing track!) to raise awareness of wasted energy use across the school, appealing to staff to turn off lights when not required. I know that Middle School council reps are keen to support improved environmental decisions within our school and have already met with Mr Lock to share some ideas!

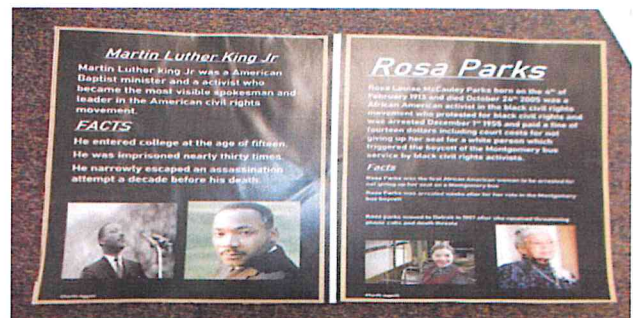


Year 9 pupils have been studying the Civil Rights Movement, celebrated Black History Month and have been reading the linked novel 'Holes' in English lessons. Pupils have studied the slave trade, segregation and then learnt about key individuals and events both past and present that have highlighted and challenged inequality and racism in our society. Pupils completed their own research and



presented this to Mr Lock and Mrs Bradfield who issued

awards to those who demonstrated excellent understanding of the topics covered. An impressive display has been created to support others with their understanding of black history.



Finally, I would like to congratulate the nominated Pupils of the term in Middle School. All of these pupils have demonstrated consistently high standards in terms of behaviour, attitude to learning and overcoming difficulties. We are very proud of them all: Luke Stevens (8B), Marion Prosser (8P), Cayci-Lea Hendrickson (8C), Keegan Gagg (8N), Joseph Finneran (9S), Kieran Rhodes (9A), Callum Lumsdon (9C) and Courtney Shepherd (9K).

Mrs McVeigh

ICT

Pupils in year 9 have been working hard this term in preparation for the IT Functional Skills exam. Classes 9C and 9K took the exam last week all of whom passed the exam! Very well done to all of the pupils in 9K and 9C! We have also had a record number of pupils achieving full marks in this exam this year. Well done to all of the pupils in 9K and 9C who all passed their IT Functional Skills Exam. A special mention to the pupils who achieved full marks, these pupils are:

9C:

- Cody Turner
- Ryan Smith
- Bleay Prior
- Bryn Joyce
- Rebecca Gelarde
- Sam Kelly
- Crystal Rourke
- Sapphire Ross

9K

- Luke Feltham
- Courtney Shepherd
- Summer Wilson
- Harley Clements



9C's Christmas Tree Advent Calendar

Last year in Construction pupils made Christmas trees out of pallets and old pieces of wood. Mrs Cooper bought one and this year pupils of 9C have



been working on it turning it into a Christmas Tree Advent Calendar. They've worked really hard getting it ready for the class this Christmas and we think they've done an amazing job. Well done 9C!

And a special thank you to Bryn, Ryan and Sapphire for spending extra time on painting the tree.

What a great team!



9S

9S have really enjoyed their cooking lessons this half term.

They have taken real pride in creating their own dishes and taking them home to share with their families.

This half term's most popular dishes have been; pancakes, French toast and pizza.

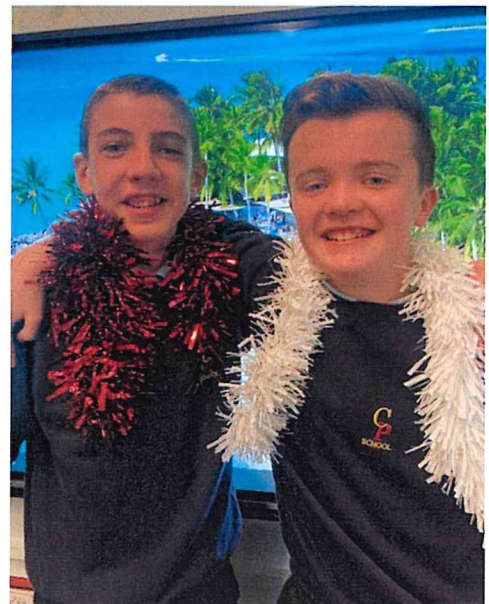
All the pupils have learnt how to follow recipes carefully and become more independent in the kitchen.

Next step – cooking Christmas lunch!!



9K

This term 9K have been exploring their artistic talents! In class we created a song related to global warming and saving the planet. This was done by changing the lyrics to the very popular song 'Bad Habits' by Ed Sheeran and was a hit in middle school assembly! 9K continued to show off their musical and theatrical talents on the run up to Christmas by singing Slade for the end of term quiz and re-enacting a hilarious scene from the film 'Nativity.'



PAIGNTON COMMUNITY LARDER COLLECTION.

This year, the school council organised a collection of items for the Paignton Community Larder who provide Christmas hampers for families or individuals who are in need at this festive time of year.

We were absolutely blown away by all your contributions which will go towards providing delicious Christmas dinner packages for those who would otherwise be unable to have one.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR KINDESS AND GENEROSITY!

You have changed people's Christmas with your contributions.



Members of the Combe Pafford Student Council with your donations.



Sports news



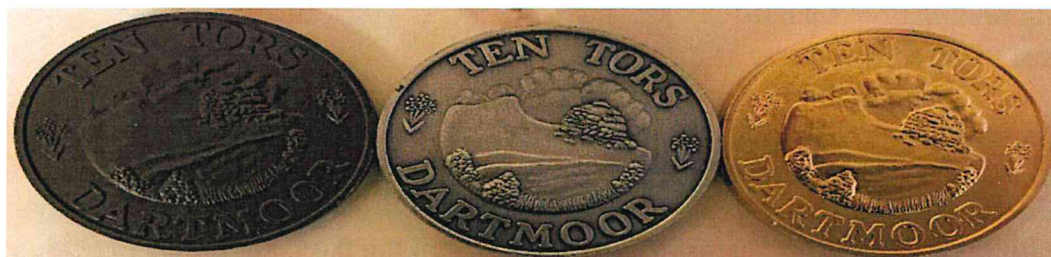
On Wednesday 17th November we welcomed back competitive sport to Combe Pafford. A mixed team of year 10 and 11 took on a very strong Orchard Manor team. The team, rusty from not playing together went 2-0 down inside the first quarter but heads did not drop. A much improved second quarter saw Combe Pafford bring the score back to 2-2, with players realising they were more than good enough to compete in the game. Over half time and a quick pep talk from Mr Wallace and Mr James the team took to the field and played some outstanding football, storming into a 4-2 lead, Orchard Manor were shocked and regrouped for the final quarter. Combe Pafford tired in the final quarter and we eventually ran out of steam, conceding 4 very late goals to lose 6-4. A great game to watch, against a very big, well organised and well drilled Orchard Manor team. We will see a rematch in the new year.

Teachers man of the match – Jordan, who was fearless in defence and kept their tricky striker quiet for long periods.

Players man of the match – Jordan once again took the plaudits.

A very special mention to Leo and Baily who caused issues to the Orchard Manor defence the whole game, with Leo picking out some outstanding passes.

Ten Tors notice for next year for years 9, 10, 11 & 6th form



Ten Tors will take place on the 6th May 2022. Applications for year 9, 10, 11 and sixth form will be available in the new term. We have 24 spaces available for this fantastic event. If you are interested, please see Mr Wallace.

Sports Leaders Festival

On Wednesday 8th December year 11 Sports Leaders arranged a sports festival for years 4, 5 and 6 which was held in the sports hall. This forms part of the Sports Leaders development and gives the leaders a chance to host a small, informal event. Miss Kvesic and I are extremely proud of how the year 11's conducted themselves, showing enthusiasm and fantastic organisation to pull off a fun, engaging event which all enjoyed.



10M

10M have been a wonderful class so far, they are supportive of one another and get on well as a class. They have really immersed themselves in their vocational options and demonstrated excellent organisational and independent skills. We are very proud of our school councillor 'Connor@', he has taken his role very seriously and relays information between the council and our class. The class inherited some new baby stick insects and baby snails, which the animal care pupils take such good care of and ensure they are fed and cleaned each day. The pupils have also produced excellent pieces of coursework towards their Level BTEC Science qualification, their planning is fantastic. Ask them to tell you how to investigate 'Does water temperature affect the rate that salt dissolves?'. Well done 10M 😊

Science News

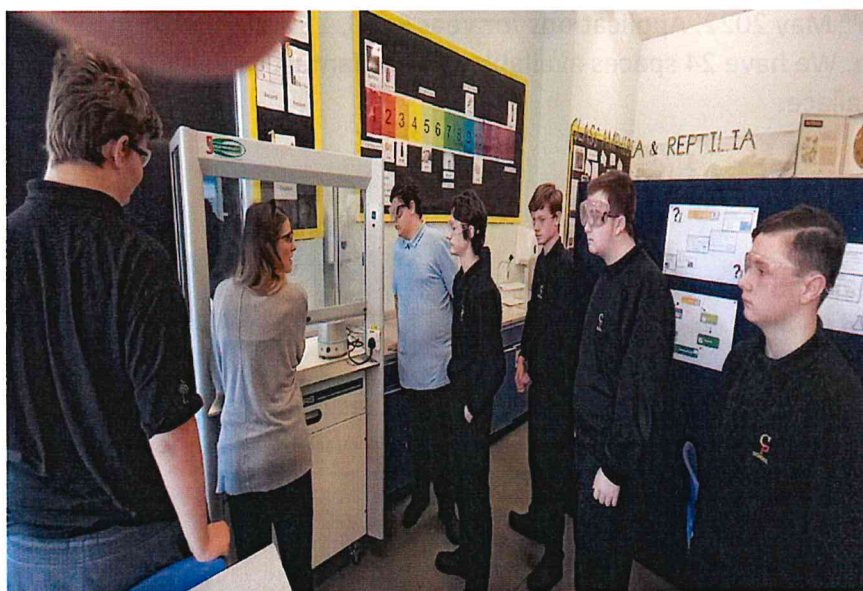
Fume cupboard

We have been fortunate to gain funding from the Royal Society of Chemistry for a fume cupboard at Combe Pafford. It has been used to demonstrate the **sublimation** (solid to gas) of Iodine to a group of year 10 pupils embarking on

the foundation AQA GCSE chemistry course this year. The Pupils were able to observe Iodine as a solid and then sublime, predicting what colour they thought the gas would be whilst making careful observations of the change of state. They were pleasantly surprised by the purple gas and the crystal formation on the side of the flask. Being able to demonstrate



properties of elements rather than through videos makes the learning more exciting and contextual for our pupils.



Swimming at Combe Pafford

As a school we are very passionate about improving pupils' skills both inside and outside of the classroom.

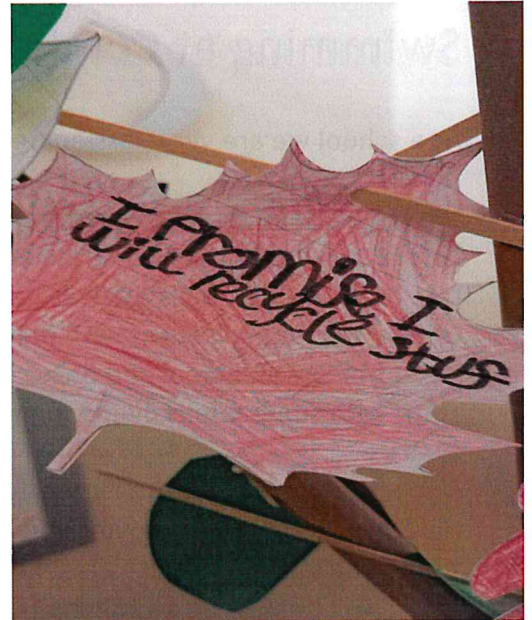
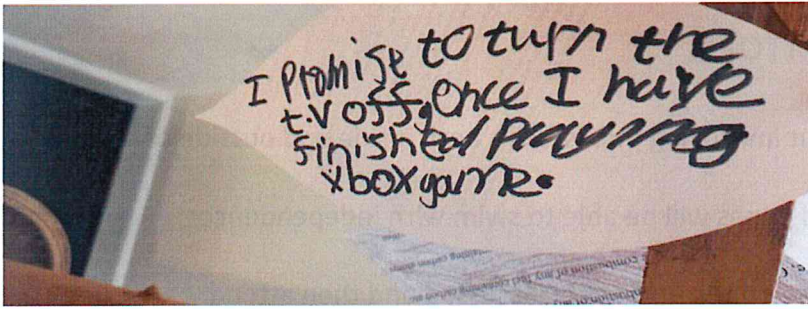
We have a set a target to ensure that all pupils will be able to swim with independence before they leave the Middle School.

Last term, Year 9 pupils were all given the opportunity to be assessed and then attend weekly swimming lessons with fully trained swim instructors alongside the usual swimming groups in Lower School and Base classes. We have seen some huge improvements over the Term with some pupils overcoming confidence issues and working towards different awards.

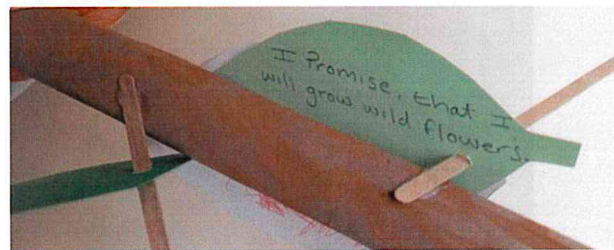
A special mention goes to Lucy Newton, Tegan Hanson-Hughes, Harley Clements and Dylan Hole who have worked to achieve TWO awards this term and were issued a special swimming pin!

Year 8 will be offered swimming lessons next term and I look forward to sharing more success in the next newsletter.

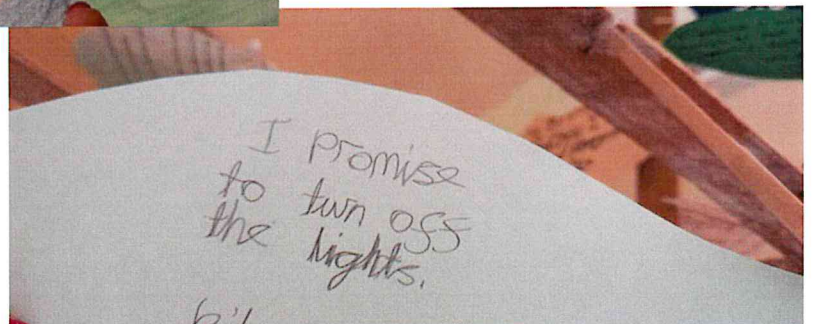




Tree of Promises



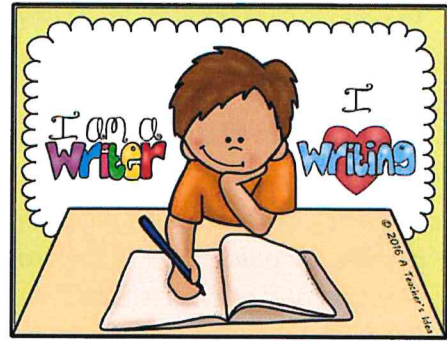
During the two weeks of the COP26 in Glasgow, the pupils made 'a promise to the planet'. The pupils considered one change that they could make and keep to help tackle climate change and protect the planet. The promises are displayed on leaves on a tree made from recycled materials in the front reception (see pictures).



8N

8N have had a fantastic half term. We have produced some fantastic work across all subject areas and really enjoyed our learning experiences throughout.

In English, we have been rewriting stories, which we've had great fun with and really shown our creative approach to writing, with some ideas. In Maths, we had great fun, particularly while exploring shape. The highlight of our learning this term was our work on Climate Change where we learnt all about how what we do is effecting the world and people all over the world. We looked at the effects its having near to where we live, with the flooding in Dawlish, all the way to the increase in Forest Fires in Southern Australia. It was a real eye opening experience for us all.



We are looking forward to getting stuck into our next areas of learning when we return after the Christmas break.

10W

In 10W we have had a fantastic term. We have won class of the week several times, which is a credit to all the children's hard work within the class. They have been simply fantastic this term.

We have seen great success in PSHE lessons which culminated in the children learning and demonstrating the recovery position. Maths and English has seen the children incredibly engaged with their learning and the progress they have made is evident in their individual successes. We have also seen increased confidence, increasing communication and comradery within the tutor group.

RECOVERY POSITION



Highlights of the term range from the dedication of half of the tutor group for the panto rehearsals, Matthew's efforts on Remembrance Day (see separate report), members of the tutor group flourishing in Sport Leaders, new friendships blossoming and plenty of class of the week awards and trips to the café for the reward.

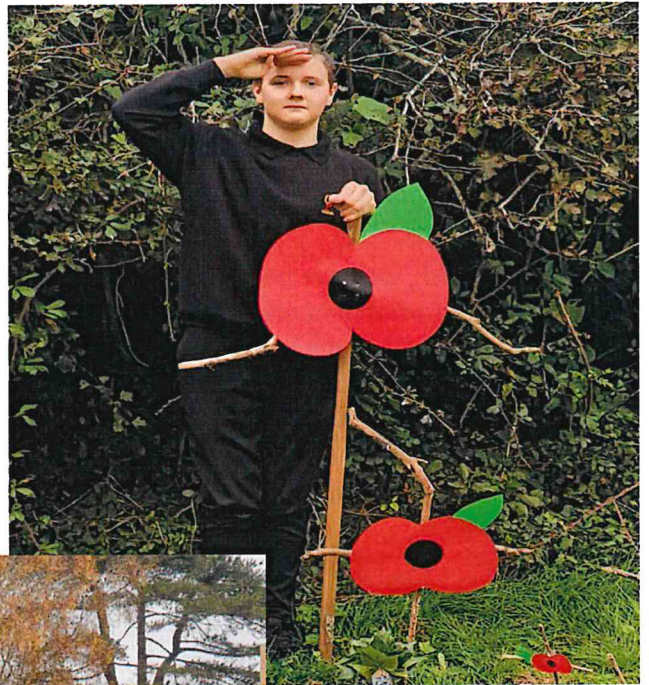


This term has provided plenty of success, hard work, laughs and team work which has made me incredibly proud to have the 9 children in my tutor group. Long may it continue.

Remembrance Day

A quote from Matthew Welch in 10W

"I spent a whole month planning and building my crosses. I would go up to my crosses every day planting one or two. Me and my whole class on Remembrance Day, all went up to my crosses and planted some personal ones to remember the ones we lost in the war. We all walked in a line with me in front holding a big cross which is still there today."



Remembrance Day

As a school we recognised Remembrance Sunday by all having a virtual assembly where the meaning of Remembrance Day was explained. We then held a minute's silence in classrooms, a poem was read out and Mr Spooner played The Last Post on his trumpet. Pupils also went and lay a Poppy Wreath at the Memorial at the Church. We received a certificate from Richard Hopkins the Poppy Appeal Organiser thanking us all for our support in raising £153.04 for the Royal British Legion 2021 Poppy Appeal



8B also laid a wreath on behalf of all the staff and pupils at the Torquay Memorial



Vocational Skills

I have been wondering what to write about all the brilliant pupils that I have had in vocational this term. There is so much that I could say but I thought that it would be best to let the photographs speak for themselves. Well done to all pupils in vocational skills this term. Have a great Christmas, you deserve it.



Happy
Christmas

National Apprenticeship Awards – Regional Winner 2021 for SME Employer & Recruitment Excellence



We were delighted to have won the South West National Apprenticeship Award 2021 for SME Employer and Recruitment Excellence Award. This year we were delighted to have three of our apprentices in the Regional Final for:

Advanced Apprentice of the Year (Level 3) – Sam Swann ICT Apprentice
Advanced Apprentice of the Year (Level 3) – Rosie Underhill LSA Apprentice
Advanced Apprentice of the Year (Level 3) – Sophie Oliver
Administration Apprentice Rising Star – Sophie Oliver

The virtual ceremony to announce the regional winners was held in November 2021, which involved Mr Lock and I putting our ICT skills to test, so that we could accept the award virtually. We also won the award for Excellence in Recruitment, with Devon County Council receiving a Highly Commended award.

It is brilliant to be recognised for this award, as we aim to deliver a programme that not only raises the aspirations of our own students and give young people the opportunity to access a structured apprenticeship programme.

Currently we have apprentices working in Hospitality & Catering, ICT, Learning Support, Administration, Animal Care and Horticulture/Grounds Maintenance.

Caroline Milner
Careers Lead



Hospitality and Catering – visit to Brixham

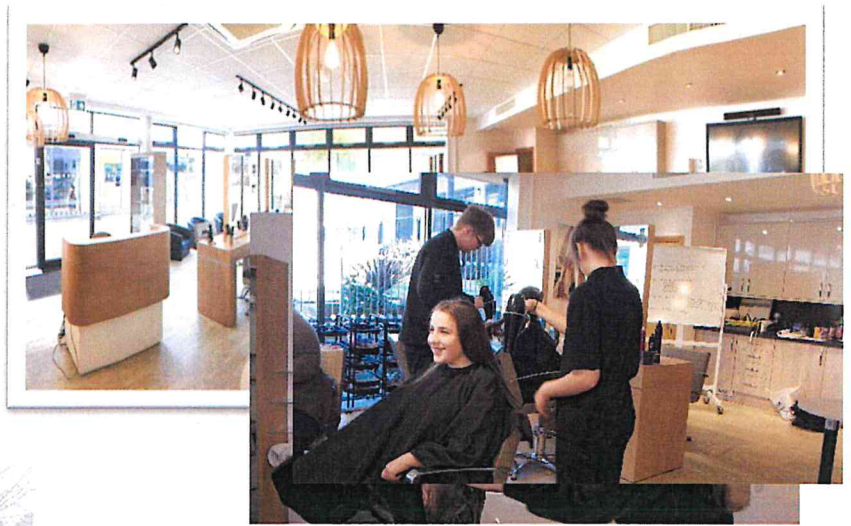
A year 11 Hospitality and Catering group visited Brixham fish market in November to get an insight into what happens at the market. Many thanks to Adam Mudge who took the time from his busy day to show us all around the Quay and market. The students asked good questions and learnt some interesting facts:

- The Market landed £40,000,000 (Million pounds) worth of fish last year
- Employs 57 people and for every one person employed at the market, there are 8 additional jobs connected with and support the market (electricians, mechanics, fitters, engineers etc.)
- It costs a whopping £3,000,000 to buy, fit-out and license an average size fishing trawler
- Most popular fish landed is Dover sole, not Cod, as most of us thought! Cod is found in colder waters such as the North Atlantic or the coast off of Scotland and Norway.
- The market produces their own ice which is made by a machine which was funded by the EU.

We were shown around inside the market, students got to see large tubs of fish containing an array of various fish, some students even held a live lobster and a rock crab!



Hair Salon



Tracey Dowell



Thank you to anyone that's been in the salon as a model for our learners to gain experience. Our learners have done an incredible job and we have had great feedback. Anyone interested in coming into the salon can contact us on our fb page WS hair design

Thank you



Salvation Army – Fundraising and Visit



This half term some pupils at Combe Pafford have been involved with fundraising to support the work that The Salvation Army do with the less fortunate, in particular, homelessness.

Year 10 and 11 pupils have done this as part of their Careers curriculum as we have been looking at different jobs and roles within the charity sector. Other pupils within 6th Form have done it as part of their Functional Skills programme.

To help raise money for The Salvation Army, the 6th formers have put in an unbelievable performance in the kitchen with very limited time. On Wednesday 8th December, W2 pupils baked brownies, flapjacks and Viennese swirls (all within 45mins) to help raise over £20. The next day, pupils from W1 decided to make pizza which also raised over £20. At the same time, George Turner and David Leese got their hands dirty and raised money by washing some staff cars. The pupils were an absolute credit to themselves.

Additionally, to this, pupils in Y10 and 11 careers groups have been creating resources to help spread the word about

The Salvation Army's Christmas Toy Appeal. Pupils have been writing letters to parents, emails to teachers and designing posters to help raise as many donations as possible.

This process was rounded off fantastically by a visit from a Major from the Salvation Army. He came and spoke to both Y10s and 11s about the work The Salvation Army do with homeless people.

See pictures below of the donations being given to our guest.

Excellent effort once again Combe Pafford!



9A

9A have had a really busy term this term. One of our favourite lessons has been humanities where we have been learning about the Slave Trade and the Black Civil Rights Movement.

We have learnt about the Slave Trade Triangle, where African people were taken from their homes and sold into slavery in America. The money and goods

that they were sold for were then transported back to Europe. One famous slave was Kunta Kinte who tried several times to escape from his captors. He inspired the film *Roots* which we have watched some clips from.



More recently we have been learning about the catalyst events that led to the Black Civil rights movement in the 1950's and 1960's including the murder of Emmett Till and the Montgomery Bus Boycott which started after Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white person on the bus.

Our favourite part of this topic has been learning about leaders such as Martin Luther King and Malcom X who were important people in the fight for equality for Black Americans.



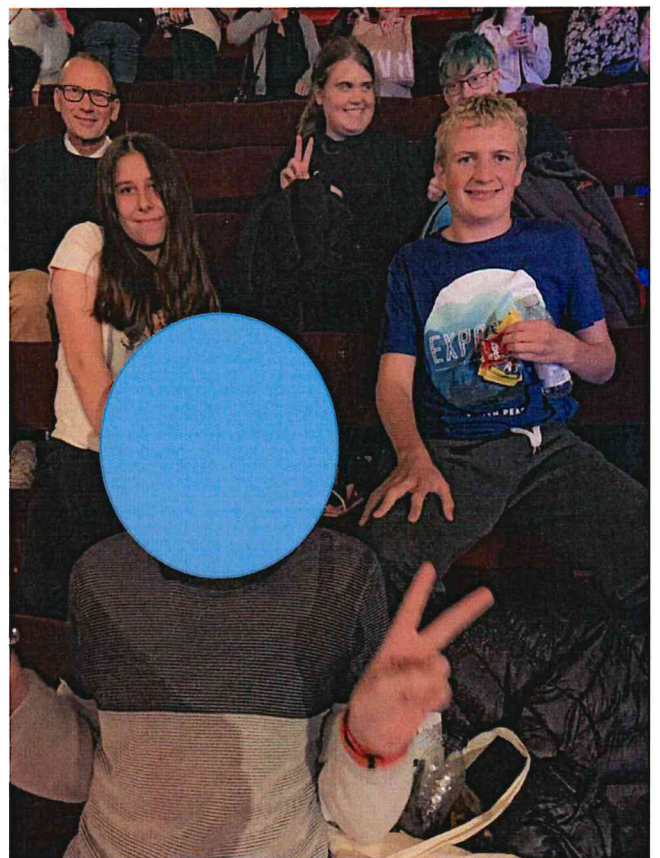
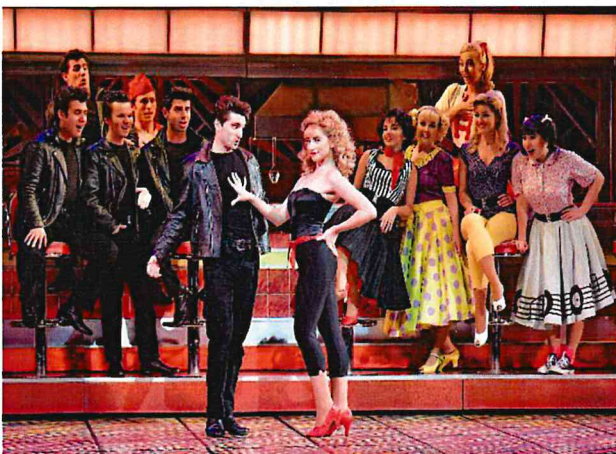
Grease – The Musical!

“On Wednesday 22nd of September we went to see the musical Grease at the Bristol Hippodrome. The acting was really good, they were loud, clear and had good impressions. The costumes matched the characters they had to become. The songs and the dancing was really talented and creative.

My favourite scene was when everyone was doing the dance competition. It had my attention the most. I like the actress Ellie Kingdon

who played Sandy. I would recommend this play because of the creativity they have put into this.”

By Kourtney Stolworthy



Upper School success stories

There have been some fantastic success stories happening in Upper School during this Autumn Term.

Work experience went exceptionally well in October with our Year 11 pupils learning in the workplace with a variety of employers. Many positive comments were received about our pupils and I would like to give a special mention to Bradley Kersey who worked at Coyde Construction. His employer said "It was a pleasure to have Bradley with us for the week. Everyone was impressed by his enthusiasm and willingness to learn and work." Bradley has paid employment at a local Chinese takeaway and also volunteers at Torbay Minibuses after he independently wrote a fantastic letter to them asking to volunteer and gain more experience in the workplace. Well done Bradley!



Work experience star Bradley Kersey!

I would also like to congratulate some Year 11 pupils taking the BTEC course in Science who have produced fantastic, independent coursework in carrying out a scientific experiment including planning, recording, presenting, concluding and evaluating skills. Well done to Lily-Mae Barnes, Luke Marks, Bradley Kersey and Kourtney Stolworthy. They should all be really proud!

Special praise goes out to a few more stand out pupils. Logan Aldworth in 11J for always giving his all to school life; he tries really hard in lessons and is a stand out role model pupil. Tyler Munro in 11S for consistently working hard in all his lesson and his excellent efforts in the school panto. Connor Adam in 10M for putting himself forward for School Council, becoming a more independent learner and being responsible for the class pets and also to Nubah Hasnath in 10M for making everyone smile every day and cheering others up with her positive attitude. A big thank you and well done to three pupils in 10W; Thomas Wood for working in the Yellow Frog Café at lunchtimes, to Matthew Welsh for his poppy display to represent Remembrance Day and to Jake Rawles for his commitment to improve his learning by reading every night this term.

There are also a group of pupils making huge progress in Maths due to their excellent effort and engagement; well done to Sam Redclift (who achieved a Grade 4 in his practice GCSE Maths exam), Logan Aldworth, Oscar Thornhill, Damian Craggs, Jake Braddish and Riley Parsons.

A big well done to Angel Hartley-Galvin in 11S for becoming the Phase Rep of Upper School; Angel is a passionate and enthusiastic pupil who received the most votes in Upper School to represent the pupils' views after confidently delivering a speech in assembly outlining the changes she feels strongly about. I look forward to seeing the changes that Angel will help bring about over the coming year and hope she enjoys the experience of sitting on the School Council. Another big well done to all the Year 10 and 11 footballers who represented

the school in their match with Orchard Manor earlier this team; great performance and sportsmanship from everyone.

Finally, I would like to thank some previous Upper School pupils who are now in Year 12 in our Sixth Form. After I delivered a whole school assembly back in September which focussed around the theme of 'Work Hard', I then followed this up in October with another assembly that included four Year 12 students who have gained employment, with three of them being paid. These special guest students were Jake Williams, Morgan Quin, Karl Hackett and Cameron Fraser. Jake is a Kitchen Porter at Buckerell Lodge Hotel in Exeter (a



post he secured after an excellent work experience in Year 11) and also at Oddfellows Restaurant in Exeter, Morgan is a Kitchen Porter at Ocean in Exmouth, Karl is a trainee mechanic at Westcliff Garage in Dawlish and Cameron has recently become a Team Member at Macdonalds in Exeter. They all spoke brilliantly to the pupils about their jobs; the work they do, the hours they work and the money they earn. The pupils listened avidly and asked lots of questions, including what they spent their money on! We are extremely proud of them all; success stories in our school that our pupils can work hard to aspire to.

From left to right; Jake Williams, Morgan Quin, Karl Hackett and Cameron Fraser.

I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mr B Dowell
Deputy Head and Upper School Leader



SIXTH FORM AUTUMN TERM NEWS REPORT 2021

Students rise to the challenge on Teambuilding Days

Sixth Form students showed their willingness to put themselves out of their comfort zone on the annual teambuilding days. These days, which always prove to be popular, are designed to bring out their sense of adventure and provide the ideal opportunity for students to display their problem solving skills, resilience and their ability to cooperate and help others. This year was again highly successful, with students not only enjoying themselves but showing their maturity and determination to succeed.



Students from W1 and W2 went to Ashcombe Adventure Centre for their day, and had to take part in a number of challenges in small groups, including moving a 'bomb' through a spider's web without tilting it and making it go off! Students also took on the assault course, consisting of tunnels, nets, obstacles to climb or get over, a swamp and a muddy river! Students took to the challenge with gusto, and several were outstanding including **Adam Prosser**, **Jake Williams** and **Luca James**. **Natasha Mildren** and **Keisha Brookes** also deserve a special mention for the way they got round the course. I was also delighted at the efforts made by students working together to get up the wooden wall.



Students from P1, P2 and W3 went to Dartmoor for their teambuilding day and did a lovely (but in places, steep) circular walk involving two river crossings of the River Dart using stepping stones. Usually, at least one student manages to end up in the river, and this year it

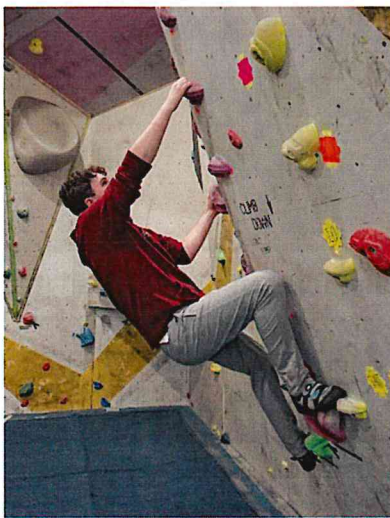
was the turn of **Megan Mace**. Megan showed great resilience however, and once changed into warm, dry clothing, was ready to continue! Another student who excelled was **Connor Irving**, who proved to be the proverbial mountain goat. He was soon standing on top of the rocky Combestone Tor, and climbing on the rocks with great ease and confidence.



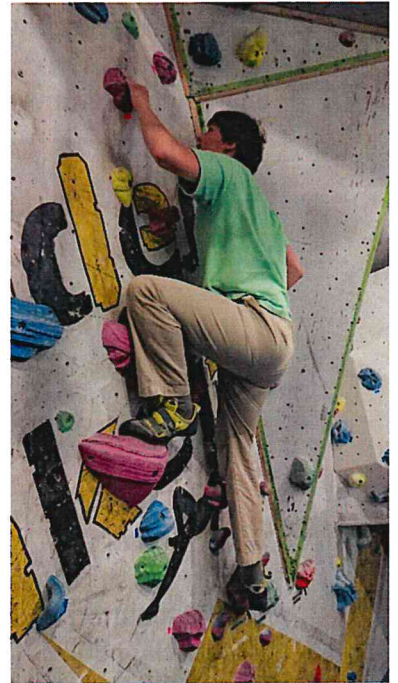
[Barrie Setchfield](#) crossing the River Dart via the stepping stones on the teambuilding day on Dartmoor

Students take advantage of off-site fitness and leisure opportunities

Sixth formers have enjoyed going off site for their fitness and leisure sessions this term to experience a range of different activities. The P groups have had the opportunity to go to Winners Gym every Monday afternoon, whilst students from W1 and W3 have been to Torquay Tennis Centre and Dainton Golf Club. Students from W2 have enjoyed going to Torquay Tennis Centre, Torbay Olympic Gymnastics Club, and more recently to the Boulder Bunker where they have tackled indoor rockclimbing. The effort shown by students has been exemplary.

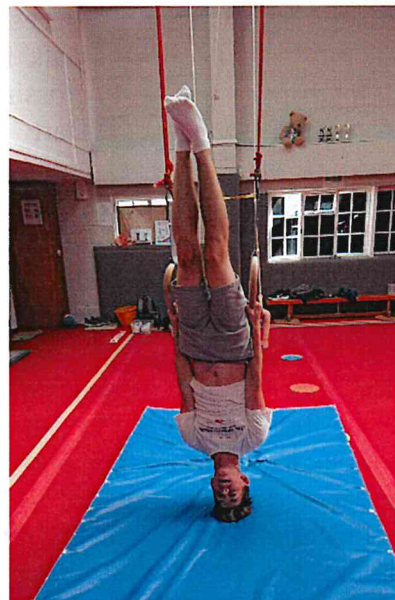
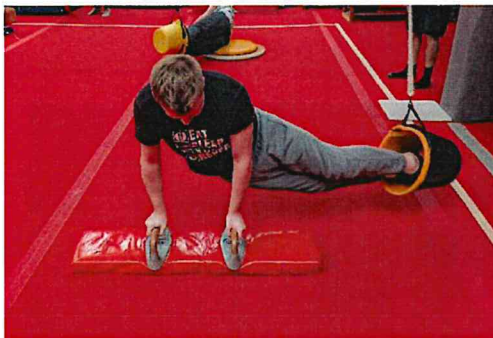


Jacob Hughes climbing



W2 students working hard

Several students have been visiting gyms independently – **George Turner** and **David Leese** to Winners Gym in Torquay, and **Liam Slack** and **Cameron de Groot** to PureGym.



Students excel on work placements

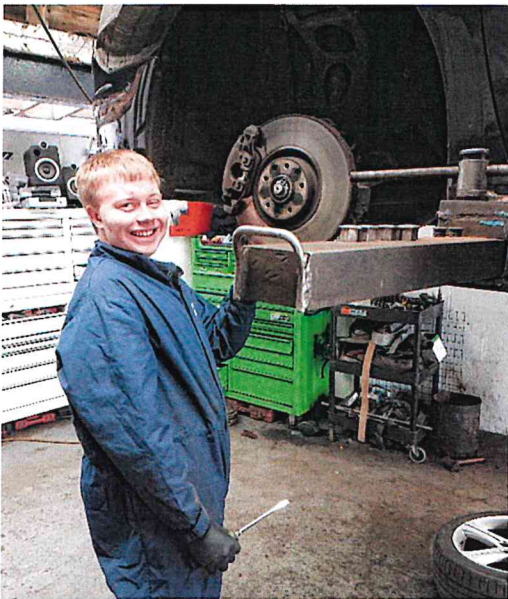


Despite the pandemic and the uncertainty surrounding employment, most work-ready students have been in a work placement during the autumn term, and have been accumulating several hundreds of hours of experience in a variety of workplace environments. As a whole the students have done very well, and many have excelled in their chosen pathways. In several cases students have been able to pick up paid work at weekends as a result of their performance. All have demonstrated many of the basic attributes looked for by employers – punctuality, reliability, willingness to learn and ability to work as part of a team.

Jake Williams has done amazingly well in the kitchens at the **Buckerell Lodge Hotel** in Exeter, doing paid work there and at Oddfellows Restaurant at weekends.

Morgan Quin meanwhile

has been impressing his employers and work colleagues in the kitchens at the **Ocean leisure** complex in Exmouth, picking up paid work on Saturdays. **Karl Hackett** has been showing great practical skills on his placement at **Westcliff Garage** in Dawlish, and **Ben Waymouth** has been making great progress on his retail pathway at **Sainsbury's**, picking up some paid casual work at Christmas. A member of the public rang us this week to compliment Ben on his outstanding customer service skills at the checkouts – well done Ben! **Liam Slack** has also picked up paid work at Christmas at Sainsbury's, whilst **Cameron de Groot** has picked up paid work at weekends and Christmas at Fermoy's Garden Centre.



A special mention must go to **Cameron Fraser**, who on his own initiative applied to **MacDonald's** at Marsh Barton in Exeter for a job there, attended for interview and induction, and is now working there at weekends, travelling from his home in Dawlish. Cameron isn't even in the work-ready group yet so very well done on adopting such a positive attitude to seeking employment!

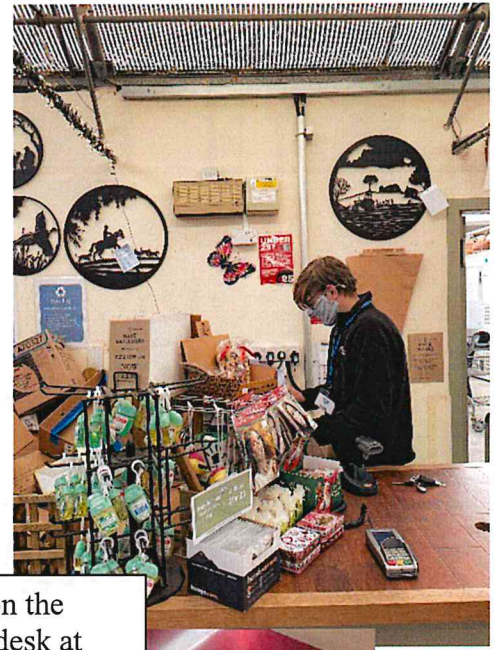




Bradley Cox, who has made a positive start at Discount Decking

SUCCESS AT WORK!

Cameron de Groot at the checkouts at Fermoy's where he does paid work at weekends

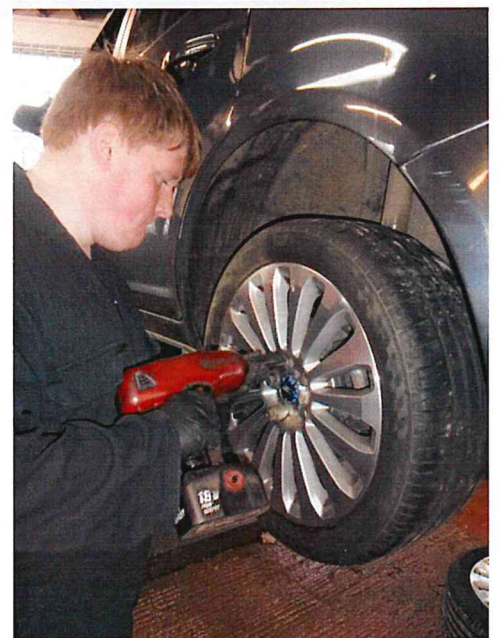


Ben Waymouth on the Customer Service desk at Sainsbury's

Jacob Hughes mucking out at the Rare Breeds Farm in Totnes



Ryan Knapman working hard at National Tyres in Paignton



Other work placement successes

It is not possible to mention in detail every single student, but here are a few worthy of mention. From W2, in addition to those featured, **Natasha Mildren** (Southernwood Nursery) and **Luca James** (Torbay Clearance Services) have both made excellent starts with very good attendance and excellent feedback from employers. **Bradley Cox** has also made a positive start to his time at Discount Decking whilst **Liam Slack** continues to do extremely well at Fermoy's Garden Centre.

From W1, **Kieran Binmore** has made a very encouraging start at the Cary Arms Hotel working in the gardens, whilst **David Leese** (National Tyres) and **Jake Vizard** (Palace Hotel) continue to build up their hours of experience in their respective placements. **George Turner** deserves great credit for his efforts at Winners Gym – George has made a very favourable impression on his employer with his mature approach to work, and **Kiemera Clark** continues to do great things at Bow Wow dog grooming parlour. **Tommy Cresswell** has been a revelation working at Powderham Castle, whilst **Adam Prosser** has been outstanding at Dawlish Gardens Trust.

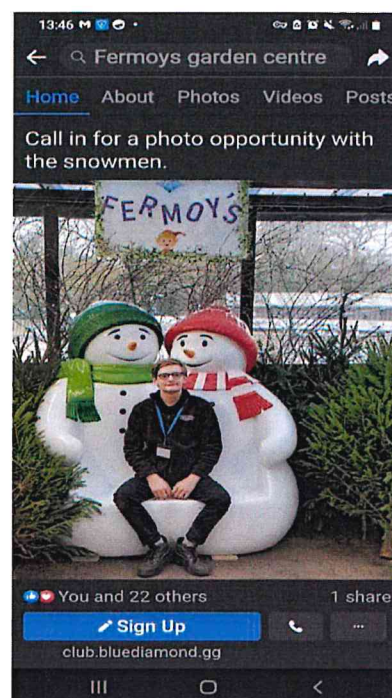
W3 students who have been impressing their employers include **Teddy Pritchard** in the kitchens at the Cary Arms Hotel and **Logan Taylor** at Londis in Chelston. **Chris Kaye** has also done well working in the YMCA charity shop in Torquay, whilst **Connor Irving** has made a very favourable impression at the Rare Breeds Farm in Totnes. **Bobby Abbot** has been a useful addition to the IT team in school, whilst **Chelsea Walters** has done a very good job of helping out in KS2 with the younger children.

A special mention is deserved for **Joe Francis** (gardens) and **Lee Abbott** (maintenance) who have been working in school on individual programmes – they have both shown great professionalism.

SEASONAL & PART-TIME PAID WORK FOR SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

It has been great to see so many of our sixth form students applying for and being successful in gaining part-time and seasonal jobs this term. Part-time working gives students valuable work experience that they can include in their CVs not to mention a wage to spend or save.

- Cameron de Groot (left, the face of Fermoy's!), weekends and Christmas
- Morgan Quin – Ocean Exmouth (weekends)
- Jake Williams – Buckerell Lodge Hotel, Exeter (weekends)
- Liam Slack – Sainsbury's (Christmas work)
- Ben Waymouth – Sainsbury's (Christmas work)
- Adam Prosser – Cleaning shift, Combe Pafford
- Cameron Fraser – MacDonald's, Exeter (weekends)



Exciting opportunities at Dawlish Gardens Trust

Several students have been able to take advantage of working at Dawlish Gardens Trust for their work placement – here are some of the exciting things they have been up to!



Sheltered work projects off to a great start

For the first time, P group students have been going out on a planned basis on Thursdays as part of their Work Skills curriculum. This has been arranged in partnership with **Groundworks Community Project** and **Stover Country Park**, enabling small groups of 3-4 students to go out regularly to take part in environmental activities including conservation, improvement and land management. The new projects set up at St Mary's, Brixham and Westerland Valley in Paignton have been a huge success, opening the eyes of many students to environmental issues, at the same time as giving them an insight into what a hard day of physical work feels like!



Students hard at work on a re-wilding project

Chloe Hart next to the completed graffiti mural at St Mary's, Brixham



Ellie Jackson examining stream water at Westerland Valley

Retail and Customer Services News : Student report

Last year I completed my L1 Certificate in Retail Skills at Sainsbury's and this year I have been at Fermoy's doing a Customer Service course. The two placements are very different but I have learnt new skills at both and feel ready to work in the industry.

I have been given seasonal employment at Sainsbury's this Christmas and hope to be able to gain a permanent contract. I love working at Sainsbury's and enjoy meeting new colleagues and customers.

Liam Slack



I am in my first year on the Retail course doing my work experience at Sainsbury's. I have completed checkout training successfully and have received lots of positive feedback from staff and customers. I was extremely nervous about working at the checkouts, but I feel like I am really beginning to find my footing. I have also worked in many departments, such as: dry goods, frozen and fresh goods, stacking shelves and rotating stock. I am doing a Customer Service qualification and have been on the Customer Service desk, dealing with complaints, returned goods and general enquiries. I am hoping to be able to gain



seasonal employment soon.

Ben Waymouth



I am in my second year at sixth form, doing a Customer Service course. I do my work experience at Fermoy's Garden Centre. I think Fermoy's is amazing! I get on well with all the staff and customers and I was invited to the Christmas party this year.

When I was on my work experience I noticed that they were taking on part-time staff on the tills. I applied and after a short trial, I was offered the job. I love working there and feel part of the Fermoy's Family.

Students benefit from arts project

Damon Barlow and Tegan Brown hard at work on the arts project called the Illusion Shed at the Key at Seale Hayne College – they go all day on Fridays as part of their bespoke timetable.



Combe Pafford School grounds never looked so good.....

And here's why, the school now has a horticulture apprentice and what a difference he has made. Callum was a student at Combe Pafford right from year four and went on to study horticulture in sixth form, he started as an apprentice in September and will attend block release at Bicton Agricultural College in Ottery St.Mary, where he will gain a level 2 in Horticulture Skills.



Callum's work has made an amazing difference to our site already, he is hard working, reliable and uses his initiative to go the extra mile. Three days a week Callum has a worker mate, Joseph, who is on a bespoke pathway in the sixth form and also studying horticulture. The pair work brilliantly together and their joint enthusiasm and care for wanting to maintain and improve the site is a pleasure to see, we have a team ethos that we want the grounds to be like 'Combe Pafford Hotel'.

The pair recently planted our first fruit tree, a crab apple, which will hopefully be full of blossom in May. In the future we hope to grow more of our own produce and have more areas of stock plants which we can propagate from and sell. January should also see the start of our new classroom being built, exciting times ahead!

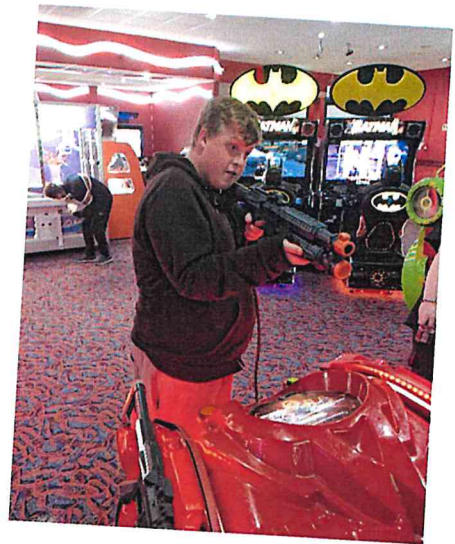


Students learn how to socialise!

This term we were able to resume having social events every half-term, and students have been turning out in force to meet their friends in safe surroundings, with staff providing light-touch supervision. Our first event was a trip to AMF Bowling in Torquay for an evening of fun participating in ten pin bowling and the various other games on offer there. This was very well attended, but more recently 29 students (the highest number of students ever to attend a social event!) came to our cinema evening at the Vue Cinema in Paignton, meeting beforehand at the Harvester for drinks. Students were able to choose from four films showing on the night – Encanto, Ghostbusters : Afterlife, Venom (Let there be Carnage) and Gucci. A good time was had by all, and many students travelled independently to and from the cinema. I am hopeful that we can now run a social event every half term on a regular basis.



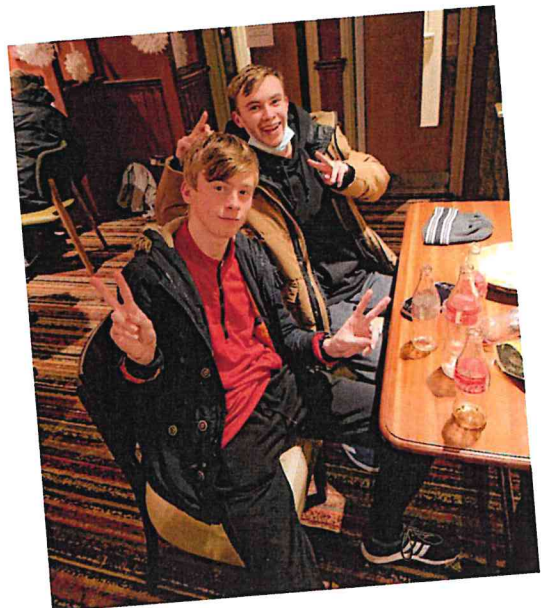
Chelsea, Tash and Bibi at the cinema evening



Barrie taking aim!



Jake and Daniel having fun on the games



Lee and Owen relaxing!

In other news!

For Children in Need, sixth form students paid for the privilege of dressing up and doing a quiz about the staff and things that happened to them when they were children – students had fun trying to guess what had happened to which staff! Many paid good money to throw wet sponges at Mr Thompson and Jake Williams enthusiastically paid £5 to tip the whole bucket of cold water over his head! At lunchtime we also had a comedy club where students and staff paid money to tell jokes. In total we raised £60 towards the Children in Need cause. Well done everyone for having a go!



On the same day as Children in Need, we had a visit from our MP for Torbay, Kevin Foster. Two members of the sixth form Student Voice group, Damon Barlow and Jack Hallows, met Kevin and gave him a tour of the school. After this, the two were able to 'interview' him a bit like Question Time, and ask some topical questions about youth unemployment and other local issues. They also asked Kevin about what he enjoyed most about being an MP – he said the best bit was going out meeting people. Damon and Jack are shown with Kevin and Rosemary Dolan, who oversees the Student Voice group.

We have said goodbye to several sixth formers this term :

- Kieran Blake (right), gained an apprenticeship in Hospitality and Catering in the Yellow Frog Café
- Hannah Day and Charlotte Bullock have left and are hoping to engage in home learning
- Liam Hyde and Ella George have left and gone to South Devon College on the Vocational Tasters course
- Chloe Raines has left and is hoping to obtain casual employment



Students enjoy festive lunch out

For the first time in two years, students in the sixth form were able to go out for their Christmas meal at the Willow Tree pub. No fewer than fifty-three students and staff made it on the trip, and they were not disappointed! The Willow Tree put on a great Christmas carvery of beef, turkey and gammon along with all the trimmings, plus vegetarian options and a choice of six



desserts! The food was excellent and everyone present felt quite full by



the time we returned to school for the Christmas quiz, giving out of reward vouchers, and of course Secret Santa.

Students tucking into Christmas lunch

News of former students

It's always nice to hear about how former students are getting on, so it was particularly good to hear about the following recently : **Thomas Hocking**, who attended an outward bound course in Scotland this summer, has passed the Royal Marines taster course with flying colours and starts the serious training in January. **Ben Barker** is now driving Stagecoach buses between Teignmouth and Torquay, and **Amy Weston**, who works at Sainsbury's, has been successful in becoming a Wayfinder Volunteer for the NHS. **Ffion Shore** meanwhile, who also works at Sainsbury's, has added a cleaning job at the hospital to her CV.



All in all, it's been a challenging term but one in which we have collectively achieved an awful lot. The students and staff in the Sixth Form would like to wish all parents and their families a **HAPPY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR!**

Edward W Thompson
(Head of Sixth Form)





BBC Children in Need

We celebrated Children in Need day in November by all wearing non uniform day and bringing pennies into school to make a line of pennies around the school. Jenny and Kerry baked some delicious biscuits which they sold at break. In total we raised a whopping £690



Year 11 Care Trip to the House of Marbles



This term, Year 11 pupils visited the House of Marbles to gain some valuable insight into the ways children learn through observation, experimenting, and imaginative play. Year 11 pupils were guided through the historic marble and pottery museum and explored the inside and outside areas where children of all ages. They observed how marbles and glass ornaments are made by watching the in-house glass blowers making some beautiful glass ornaments.

We imagined stepping back in time to explore the games museum, where the pupils discovered that the oldest game in the museum was over 3000 years old! All pupils found great excitement in playing the marble funnel run and discovering how play and leisure activities in our local community can support children's development.

Year 11 pupils also experimented with the giant marble runs to observe cause and effect of the marbles cascading into each other. We had a look at all the wonderful and unique items in



the main shopping floor and enjoyed using their senses to explore the sweet smelling soaps on offer. At the end of the trip we all took the chance to look in the gift shop and pick out our favourite marbles, games and toys before heading back to school on the minibus.



