

Pinetree Matters

Message from the Head

As we draw close to the end of term, I want to thank all the parents and carers who have continued to show us support. It has been a challenging and very busy term with lots of trips, visitors and the starting of practical exams. I want to highlight the hard work the staff do every day to support our young people in achieving their goals. There has been lots of successes to celebrate this term and this is a recognition of all the staffs hard work.

The Spring term is always a busy one for the staff and pupils, and this year has been no different but it has been really pleasing to see so many pupils being positive with their schooling and ensuring they are making progress across the school. Pupils have really enjoyed the array of trips and visitors we have provided this term.

As we close in on the Easter Break many of the pupils and staff are ready for the break and are excited by the prospect of a extended break. Many pupil associate Easter with being about eating and chocolate but we shouldn't forget what Easter is really about and why we celebrate it and we should rejoice on those who sacrifice so much for others.

So often we take our family and friends for granted. I hope over this extended break you allow yourselves the chance to reconnect with family and friends. I also hope we spend some time looking after ourselves too.

We then look forward to welcoming everyone back in April From everyone at the Pinetree school, we wish you a happy Easter.

Spring 2023

Dates for your diary

School opens: 18 April 2023 (1 may bank holiday)

School closes 26 May 2023

Half term: 29 May –2 June 2023

School opens: 5 June 2023

Schools Closes: 21 July 2023

Pupil News

Following the success of the short story competition, we have more pupils who have been named competition winners. Well done to:

Aston

Cody

Brooklyn

George

Tyler

Rome

These will all be published as part of the competition. We are very proud of the pupils and they should be very proud of what they have achieved.

Staff News

As many of you will be aware Mrs Baker has been of on maternity leave. During the first part of this term she had her baby and is doing very well.

During this term we have said goodbye to both Miss White and Miss Forder who left the TA positions.

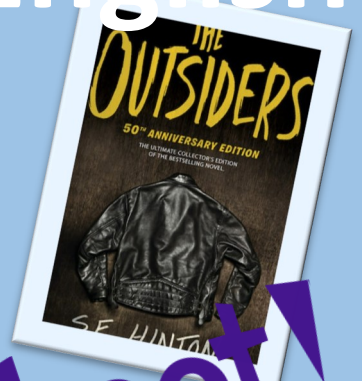
Community

As part of the school councils work we are having a new outdoor gym fitted on the field of the school. When pupils return after the easter break hopefully this should be fitted and ready for use.

English

This term KS3 pupils have been looking at the novel 'The Outsiders' by S.E. Hinton. A book written by a 15 year old girl, she covers topics about gangs, family dynamics, and the struggles teenagers can face. Pupils explored the book and film, creating posters and storyboards, creative writing, and more based on the book. They have recently looked at the theme of magic in Shakespeare plays including 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and 'Macbeth'.

KS4 have been working on their GCSE English Language skills looking at extended writing of fiction and non-fiction, and more recently extract analysis and language techniques. We have been using Kahoot quizzes to build confidence with language techniques before writing exam style answers. For year 11, it's not long until their GCSE exams so we have been revising all of their content.

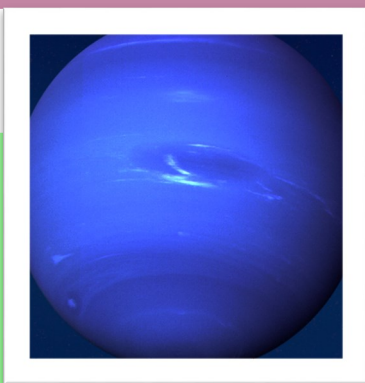


Kahoot!

Maths

Older pupils – and those in Year 11 especially – have been honing their examination skills this term, in the run-up to examination season in a couple of months time. Pupils have been working on completing revision booklets and past papers, as a means of identifying where pupils strengths lie, and where more can be done to support them in their quest to gain the best possible grades at GCSE. Many Year 11 pupils have now identified their onward path upon leaving Pinetree, and of course things such as college places and apprenticeships will, on many occasions, be dependent on a certain level of success at GCSE in both maths and English. As such, we would urge all parents and carers of Year 11 pupils to encourage their youngsters to put as much effort as possible into preparing for these exams. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

At Key Stage 3, pupils have been measuring this term, with pupils using standard units of measure relating to (deep breath), length, area, volume, capacity, mass, time and money, to name but a few! Now that pupils have fine tuned their ability to tell the time using both the 12 and 24 hour clock, and using both analogue and digital equipment, they will never again have an excuse for being late!



Science

This term in Science the focus has been on metals, Space, and the universe. Pupils have shown an incredible amount of knowledge about the universe and some of the facts they know are extremely impressive. Pupils have learnt the different planets and other items that are part of the solar system. Pupils have also learnt about eclipses, phases of the moon, and learnt about individual planets and created different case studies on these.

KS4 have also continued preparation for their exams and have been working on completing the ELC and GCSE courses they are taking.

For the most part this term pupils have shown a high level of enthusiasm for the Science and have shared their knowledge both of metals, space and GCSE topics.

Art

KS4 Art

In Art lessons this term we have been focusing on building a range of artistic skillsets through exam preparation to support sitting the 10 hour Art & Design GCSE exam at the end of April 2023. Pupils started the term by researching and exploring the chosen exam question 'Our World'. As the term progressed pupils created several artist studies and took part in a variety of creative, experimental and preparatory activities.

KS3 Art

In Art lessons this term we have been focusing on building a range of artistic skillsets through the study of Abstract Art and artist Wassily Kandinsky. We have been learning about the use of colour, shape and composition and how these elements combined create art that is abstract. Wassily Kandinsky's art was inspired by music; pupils have used the same stimulus to inspire their artwork when drawing with oil

In January our yr11 pupils sat their first Art GCSE mock exam. This was with huge success!

All pupils produced A2 sized paintings that were inspiring, creative and beautiful to look at. These are now proudly displayed in our reception area. I am so proud of how hard these pupils have worked and cannot wait to see the final pieces they produce during their Art GCSE exam in the summer term.

R.S.H.E

KS3 RSHE

In RSHE this term KS3 have been learning about a range of topics that will help them be more successful when learning about Sex Education in the summer term. Pupils have learnt about consent, boundaries, personal identity and safer online friendships. During these lessons pupils have had the opportunity to engage in a range of activities such as group discussions, drama, self-study, art and creative

KS4 RSHE

In RSHE this term KS4 have been learning about a range of topics that will help them be more successful when learning about Sex Education in the summer term. Pupils have learnt about consent, boundaries, personal identity, sexual harassment and the law surrounding such topics.

SMSC

This term we have continued our focus on SMSC across the school to ensure our pupils improve their SMSC knowledge. We continue to promote this through our tutor programme. During tutor time we continue to use Lyfta as a way to explore the world around us. Pupils have been to a variety of different places around the world to discover how others live.

We have also enjoyed visits from the police to help pupil understanding of the different dangers of the world. They have spoke about a variety of issues from assaults to knife crime. We have also experienced visits to the Museum and planning a trip to a local library.

We have also had an array of assemblies to focus on the British values and to promote Britishness. We have had assemblies on New Years, Chinese New Year, why we have laws and rules and what makes a good friend. We also had a series of assemblies on LGBTQ+.

Food Technology

Year 7

This term we have been making various dressings and sauces and also following a topic based on the theme of survival. Pupils have been looking at different sauces and dressings to match specific meals. They have also looked at the different consistency of sauces. Additionally, pupils have been thinking of quick and easy food products which can be made using produce found in the wild or which can be cooked on trangias (small, portable cookers) or open fires.



Year 8 and 9

This term we have been making various sauces and pastry-based products. Pupils have been looking at different sauces using different techniques of cooking. They have also been looking at the different consistency of sauces. Additionally, pupils have made various pastries using different techniques.

KS4

This term pupils have been studying for their Home Cooking Skills Qualification. The majority of pupils in Year 10 and 11 have completed their written coursework and are now in the process of completing the practical side of the qualification.

Congratulations

I would like to congratulate the students that have passed their Home cooking skills

BTEC Lv 1

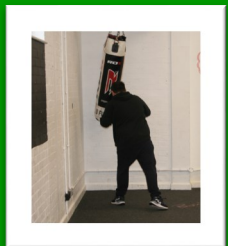
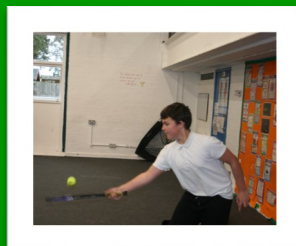
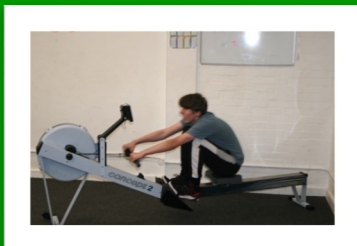
Brandon, Toby

Home cooking skills BTEC Lv2

Tyrell, Liam, Jay, George and Troy

P.E.

This term, pupils have been developing specific skills, techniques and components of health and skill related fitness with and aimed improvement in a specific area or sport. Pupils have participated in fitness testing, designing, and carrying out their own fitness circuits, working independently, with others and guidance from the teacher. Similarly, they have challenged each other in a variety of fitness competitions showing their final work in graph format, ready to discuss negative and positive changes.





Birch group have been learning French this term—they have looked at the alphabet, numbers, parts of the body, family members and school subjects. Pupils have practiced their pronunciation of the French alphabet through playing various games, including hangman. We have also discussed aspects of French culture, including the timings of the school day for French children and different sports and recreational activities enjoyed by people in France. Vive La France!!

French



Careers

This term year 11 have been having some workshops on searching for and applying for apprenticeships from the ASK programme.

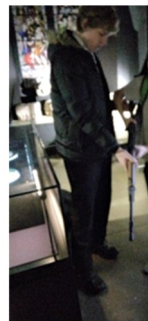
Apprenticeships are a good route for those young people who are looking for a more hand-on approach to learning. Use the following web address to have a look at what is available in your area - <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> We have also had a visit from the Army recruitment team, who came and told us about the different roles available in the Army. If your young person is interested in the Army, have a look at their website - <https://jobs.army.mod.uk/regular-army/find-a-role/>



This term we have been studying History. Pupils have learned about crime and punishment from the early Victorians to the present day. We have looked at how World War 2 began and how soldiers felt leaving home and what it was like in the trenches.

We have gone back in time to the Romans, Vikings and Saxons and looked at how life was in the past.

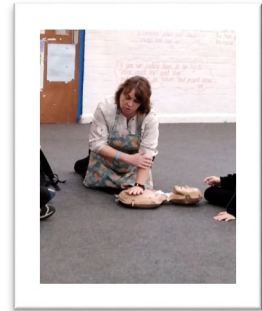
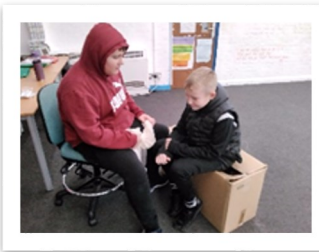
History



Life Skills

Resilience and Perseverance

This term pupils have been learning how to fend for themselves in the 'wild'. They have learned how to put up a tent and cook on an open fire. Pupils have completed an Introduction to first aid. They have also learned about the local area; this included taking part in some cycling in the local woodland. To build pupil confidence we have organised competitive activities and developed the pupils' social skills through trips such as bowling and the zoo.



Communication and Oracy

In Life Skills this term pupils have been developing their understanding of the current cost of living crisis through completing a series of activities based on the idea of following a budget and saving money. They have planned and executed money-saving recipes in the school kitchen and developed games and pastimes that are affordable and fun to play.

Creativity and Emotional Literacy

In Life Skills lessons this term pupils have been on several trips to understand the history and culture of Thetford. They visited The Ancient House Museum, The Priory, Castle Park, Barnham Common and Thetford Town Centre. These trips helped them gain inspiration to be able to collaboratively create several large-scale art murals; these are to be displayed on the external walls of the school.

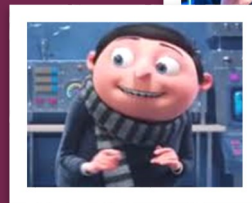
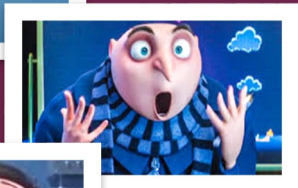
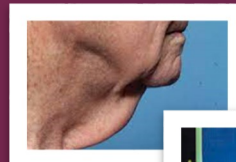
WORLD BOOK DAY

2 MARCH 2023

This year at Pinetree we celebrated World Book Day 2023 by having a tutor group story competition. Each form was given time to write a story on any topic of their choice. We ended up with Gru turkeys, Canadian/Finnish coffee, and spider nanobots that heal dogs. In English lessons pupils wrote stories, created story boards and made their own wordsearches. There was some excellent creativity on show and pupils engaged well.

Birch

Mr Turkey Gru. Has a very saggy neck. He also, gobbles when he talks. One day Mr Turkey came to the Pinetree School, to meet the baby turkeys. One baby Turkey was particularly special; he looked very much like Mr Turkey Gru.



Cedar

Its bleak, its cold, its dark here in Cedar's form, like a great void has swallowed up all enthusiasm and imagination. Tick Tock, tick tock, and yet there is no clock, just the sound of Toby making odd noises and Liam swinging back on his chair.

I think it's fair to say, that there will be no entry from Cedar this year.

The end.

Acorn

John and Alex were bad enemies so they tried to kill each other even though they were agents.

They were using a knife.

Elm

Winchester and Bumpkiss were two very special dogs as they came from a fairly wealthy family. They had their own golden dog bowls and were very classy.

One day their owner took the dogs to the vets for a quick check up. Winchester was a beautiful white schnauzer and Bumpkiss was a nice white poodle with a pink bow tie. Jim Carrey always gave his dogs the best.

The vet diagnosed Winchester with an unknown incurable disease. The vet had never seen it before.

Suddenly they heard a crash in the distance. There was a lightning strike that hit the ground – 25 of them. Jim Carrey went to look and found a small crater full of tiny little nanobots resembling spider babies based off the Brazilian wandering spider.

Jim Carrey shrieked and ran back to the vets. He screamed like a little girl and a mad man “THERE’S SPIDERS, THERE’S SPIDERS EVERYWHERE!”

The vet looked at him with a blank stare. “Are you okay sir? Do you need to go to the mental asylum?”

Jim Carrey was so confused. His dog was ill and there were spider nanobots everywhere. The vet smirked as he thought to himself “this guy, what a guy! He’s finally found out!”

Jim Carrey jumped into the arms of the vet who held him like a baby (cartoon-style).

The vet whistled and the spiderling nanobots crawled underneath the door. The spiderlings made confused robot noises and tilted their heads in sync – they didn’t understand why Jim Carrey was scared.

All of a sudden, the nanobots started to swarm around Winchester. The vet finally explained to Jim Carrey how the nanobots were going to save the dog as they can cure incurable diseases due to their 200TB storage of knowledge. One of the spiderlings put on a tiny doctor’s coat and pulled out a clipboard. He instructed the other nanobots of the procedure and, as rehearsed, they began their performance. One of them made a transfer hole in Winchester’s belly and another said: “literally” and a hologram of the nerd emoji just popped up above their head. Then they said “akshually” and the emoji changed into the scholarship emoji.

As they went through Winchester’s bowel system, they planted a little chip and turned it into a miniature Ford F150 truck. It started drifting around until it found the problem. They transformed the F150 into some doctor equipment and said: “oh my gawd”. They fixed the problem, then reversed back out of the bowel system; then back out of the dog through his large intestines and small intestines. One sneaky spiderling left a small egg in Winchester.

The next day, all was well, and Jim Carrey was overjoyed. His dog was finally barking in a happy tune. The spiders waved goodbye as their spaceship left the land.

Soon, Jim Carrey had to take Winchester to the vets again. The vet said: “oh dear... here we go again”. The vet pulled at his collar – gulp.

Chestnut

The Coffee Wars

Setting: modern day Canada, a large city – Calgary

Main characters: Zac Steinsson, a coffee enthusiast who wants to open his own coffee shop in the city. Zac moved to Canada from the coffee loving country of Finland.

Premise: The only available shop he can move into is next door to a giant Starbucks. The manager of Starbucks, Ivan Kozovich, does not want anyone moving onto his patch.

Opening

“Regular caramel latte to go please”.

“Certainly sir. What name is that please?”

“Zac Steinsson”

“Sack Einstein? The girl didn’t appear to be truly listening.

“Sure. Whatever.”

The girl behind the counter at Starbucks tried not to roll her eyes and began to write S-A-C-K on a go cup. Zac Steinsson, who had just placed the order, turned to look around. Through the window across the street, he saw an empty shop. The words “TO LET” were displayed in bold letters on a sign above it.

“Hmm”, thought Zac. “Maybe I could open my own coffee shop, where we don’t misspell people’s names, unlike this place”.

Zac grabbed his coffee from the counter, paid for it and walked out to the local council offices. Inside, he met a man who, according to his name badge, went by the name of Sven Andersson.

“Hey man, I saw the shop opposite Starbucks that is to let. Could I open a coffee shop of my own there?”

Sven put down his pen and looked at Zac over the top of his round spectacles.

“You do know that Starbucks don’t like other people intruding on their patch, right?”

“I just want to teach these guys a lesson for spelling my name wrong. We’ll call it ‘We Can Coffee’. Because we can and Starbucks can’t”

Sven pulled a sheet of paper from his desk drawer. He handed it across to Zac.

“Ok, well here’s the information you need. But I must warn you – the last coffee shop to open in that space? It didn’t go well.”

“What happened?”

“The Starbucks manager went over there, tried the coffee, and then gave it a terrible review. People didn’t go there after that”.

“Oh really?” Zac raised an eyebrow. “Well we’ll see about that”.

Just before Christmas six students wrote poems based on the theme 'winter wonderland'. Each of these students have had their work chosen to be published in the Young Writer's anthology for the national competition! A massive well done to Cody, Tyler, Rome, Aston, Brooklyn, and George for their efforts and creativity! The book should be published later this year.



One more week till Christmas

by Cody

Christmas day is around the corner,

Ho, ho, ho Santa is on his way.

Roast dinner will be cooking,

Igloo making is commencing.

Snow is falling,

The Christmas lights are shining.

Merry Christmas one and all,

Angels look down over us.

Stockings are full ready for Christmas day.

A Cold Winters Day

by Brooklyn

Wind blows in the air,

Ice covers the Ground

No one is safe from slipping

Today we wait for grit layers

Everyone is shivering

Rosie cheeked and red nosed.

Fake Snow

By George

As the leaves of Autumn fall,
Winter is lurking around the corner.
The breeze turns cool,
Oh, don't you just adore her.

She is always in the festive spirit,
Spreading cheer and joy.
Around the world people are talking all about it,
Children sing with excitement as they open their new toy.

A jolly man with a beard has supposedly been called,
Every house shines brightly awaiting his arrival.
Decorations in Australia everyone is fooled,
Fake snow, wouldn't that make a great title.

As snow falls on this winter day,
The ground is frosty, white and pearlescent.
The Children all go out to play,
Winter is just so pleasant.

Winter is in The Air

by Tyler

Winter is all around us filling the air,
Icicles fall from trees, glistening in the air.
Nutcrackers mark the entrance to people's homes,
Trees are cut down ready for us to take home.
Elf on the shelf has returned for another year,
Rudolph drops off presents once a year.

Christmas in Rome

by Rome

Christmas chronicles the film,
Ho, ho, ho,
Rome is fulling with snow.
It's nearly Christmas,
Santa delivers all the presents in one night.
Time for carol singing,
My family is getting excited,
A very merry Christmas to you and yours.
Soon we can all open gifts!

A Christmas movie

by Aston

Watching the movie Die Hard,
Do you think it's a Christmas film?
Polar Express, Home alone, The Grinch,
Do you agree these are Christmas movies?

Santa Clause and Christmas trees,
Does this make it a Christmas film?
Jingle bells and Christmas songs,
Do you agree these make a Christmas movie?

In the cinema, eating popcorn,
Is this the way to watch a Christmas film?
Sat with family, hot chocolate in hand,
Do you agree this is the way to watch a Christmas movie?

As part of our Life Skills and Science curriculums pupils had the chance to visit Banham to both witness first hand adaptations that take place but to also understand nature and the world around us. The pupils were very excited about the trip and were well behaved throughout both whilst wandering around the site and when listening to the educational talks. The report they saw some wonderful animals from across the world including giraffes, meerkats and snow leopards. The favourite amongst the pupils though appeared to be the tigers.

Along with the learning the pupils took part in it was also brilliant to see the pupils interacting maturely and safely with each other. The pupils really enjoyed the trips and many hope they get the chance to go again.



Pupils also got to go bowling at Mr G's in Brandon. They had a fantastic time and only a few bowling balls got stuck... Some great scores were achieved and pupils enjoyed the competitive challenge. Mr Messere almost scored a turkey in his last round! The pupils had lunch halfway and were a credit to the school.



COMBAT PAINTBALL LTD

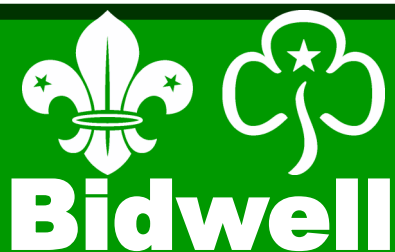


Congratulations to Acorn who were the winners of last terms Tutor competition with the highest combined credits across the school. As a result of winning, they got the opportunity to pick a trip of their choice. As a group they chose to go paintballing with their tutors. Before the trip they were all very excited and were eager to get going and have some fun. Whilst there, the pupils took part in a variety of combat games between 2 teams alongside the staff members. I understand Mr Messerre was the prime target and took the most shots. All 7 of the pupils from Acorn had a great time and showed high levels of teamwork and cooperation to work together to take part in games and challenges. The atmosphere throughout the whole trip was positive and hopefully this will continue to inspire the pupils to continue their hard work in school. The tutor trip helped pupils build on their working relationships with each other, understanding importance of working together, and taught social skills.

MOYSE'S HALL MUSEUM

As part of the History curriculum Acorn group got the opportunity to go to a Museum in Bury St Edmunds and see in reality what they had been learning about in their lesson. Pupils had the opportunity to explore the museum look around some of the pieces and speak to the knowledgeable staff. The pupils were excellently behaved whilst at the museum and really represented the school well. Pupils enjoyed the chance to experience a museum and what live used to be like. For many it was an experience they had never experienced before. One pupil commented:

“Never been to a museum before – was better than what I thought and quite interesting”



A part of our life skills lessons pupils had the opportunity to go to the Bidwell Centre. The resilience and perseverance group finished their survival unit with a trip to the Bidwell centre. The Bidwell Centre is a Scout and Guiding centre in Thetford where you can get the full outdoor adventure experience. Pupils on the trip got the chance to create a camp fire, play games as a group, and cook bangers on the fire. I think there may even have been some camp fire songs. Many of our pupils had not experienced many outdoor learning experiences and have not had the chance to enjoy nature. On their return the pupils had thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were looking forward to going again.

Norwich Market

Pupils in the communication and oracy life skills group had the opportunity to go to Norwich Market. This was part of a series of lessons around budgeting and money management. Pupils had been asked to plan a meal of their choice on a budget. Pupils had to research recipes, source ingredients and remain in the constraints of the budget set. Once planned pupils went to Norwich Market to buy tier ingredients and experience life at a market, which many pupils stated they hadn't done before. Pupils were given their money and had to find and buy their items. Pupils were expected to approach and interact with the market trader and purchase their items independently. Most of the pupils managed this and incredibly mature during the experience. Once the hard work was done, their was time to explore the other shops and enities that the centre of Norwich has to offer.

On the return to school in the following lessons pupils cooked up their recipes and enjoyed earing the locally sourced produced. Pupils commented in the sense of satisfaction felt from doing everyday themselves. There was some wonderful food cooked from steaks to curries and the pupil's certainly enjoyed eating them.



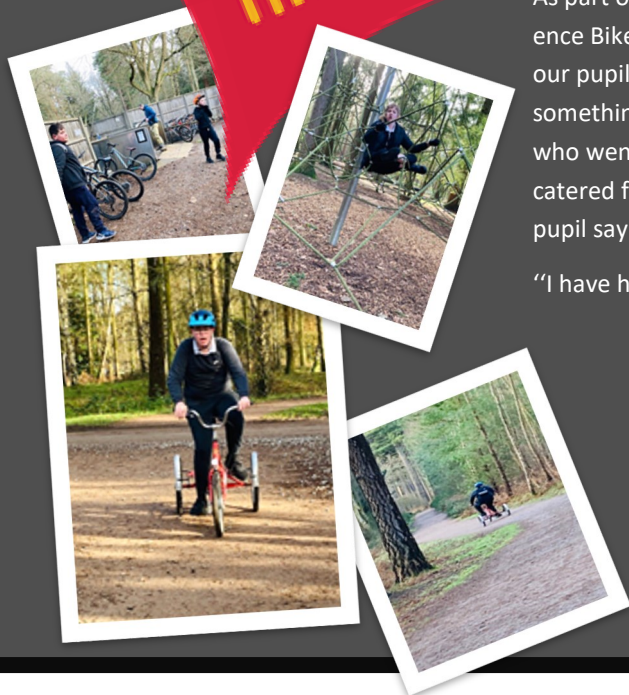
**High
Lodge**
Thetford Forest

As part of the life skills curriculum pupils have had the opportunity to experience Bike Art at High lodge in Thetford. This is biking in the forest and allows our pupils the opportunity to enjoy riding a bike in the outdoors, which is something some of our pupils do not get the opportunity to do. The group who went had a wonderful time and all different abilities and skills could be catered for. The pupils came back extremely pleased by the experience with 1 pupil saying

"I have had a great day".

"I can ride a bike now – never have before".

Those have yet to have the experience of this trip will get to do so in the next term as part of the life skills curriculum.



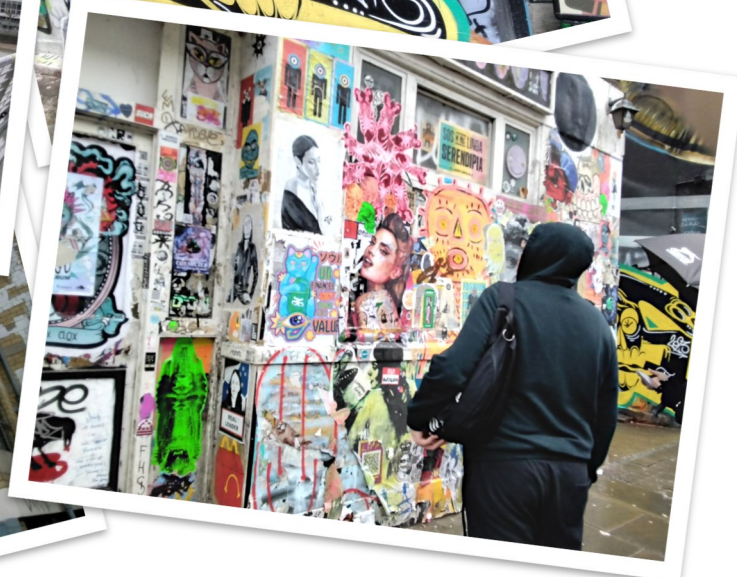
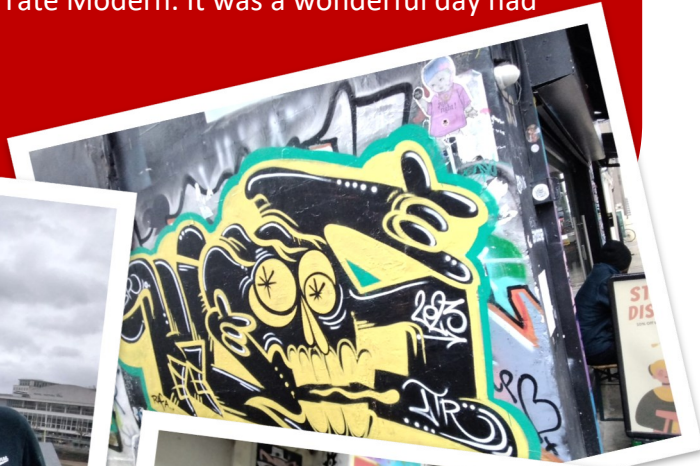
LONDON



On the last week of term some of our yr11 pupils visited the art capital of the country! Brick Lane, London. This was with huge success; memories of a lifetime were made.

Pupils spent the day taking lots of photos to find inspiration from the graffiti art scene, in preparation for their final GCSE Art exam.

Taking in the sights and sounds of London; we walked from Brick Lane to Spitalfield's Market, where we enjoyed tasty cuisine from around the world. Including OCTOPUS! Our pupils experienced the London underground for the first time. This allowed us to also enjoy the views along the River Thames. Pupils, seeing for the first time landmarks such as The Shard, The London Eye and The Tate Modern. It was a wonderful day had by all and we can not wait to do it again.





On Wednesday 22nd March 2023 we celebrated Easter by having a Theme day around the holiday. We looked into why we celebrate Easter in assembly and the traditions of the holiday. Many of our pupils only associate Easter with eating chocolate and bunnies so we wanted them to see the real reason behind the religious celebration.

Like all theme days we had a variety of activities of to celebrate and represent the celebration. There were 5 different subjects that put sessions of to ensure it was cross curricular. Art, Maths, English, PE and FT.

In Maths pupils completed Maths related Easter challenges in small teams and had to work together to complete them. Pupils tried hard to complete all the challenges and the majority saw success.

Pupils completed an Easter based quiz in English with a highly competitive competition between the pupils and staff and many of the pupils getting over competitive and some of the staff too.

In Art pupils were creating their own Easter based cards with eggs, chickens and other Easter themed accessories to stick onto the cards. The quality of the cards made was high and hopefully some of these will be making their way into your homes.

In PE pupils completed a series of Easter related challenges including egg and spoon races and team challenges. In FT pupils were making hot cross buns and showing their baking skills.

Overall pupils really enjoyed their day and got a lot out of the Easter sessions. We were able to break some misconceptions around the celebration and pupils have a better understanding of the holiday.



DATA....

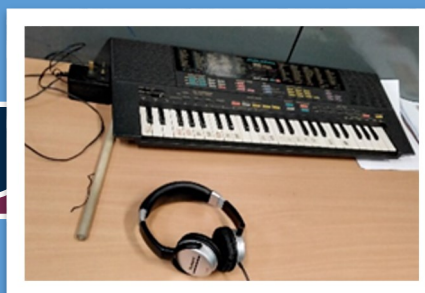
On 18th January we had a data themed day where pupils used their data in a variety of different ways across the curriculum. This is to demonstrate to pupils the positive way data can be used across the school and not just in Maths.

Like all theme days there was a cross curricular link and Art, English, Food Technology, PE and DT all contributed to the day putting their own take on data.

In Art pupils used their own 'data' (mainly their DOB) to create a collage portrait. This helped pupils understand how the composition of numbers, when arranged in a creative way can indeed create Art. The session was aimed to help pupils to understand how inspiration for Art is found in all areas of life. There was some incredible collages made and many are displayed in the school's front office.



In English pupils created lyrics/poetry based on numbers and patterns e.g. 4 lines per stanza. They experimented with applying their lyrics to different beats and time signatures, focusing on counting their beats and staying in time. For many of our pupils. The pupils really enjoyed the chance to make music and many came up with some interesting lyrics and beats.



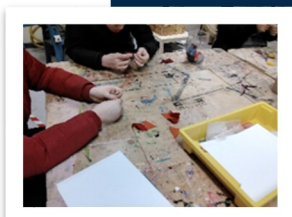
In Food Technology pupils made a base for pizza. They each then selected ingredients for their pizza so all the ingredients added up to 1. For example $\frac{1}{4}$ pepper, $\frac{1}{4}$ onion, $\frac{1}{2}$ cheese. Some of the pizza were made looked great and many looked good enough to sell.



In PE pupils completed a Question of Sport – quizzes and interactive activities all using data. The pupils were able to show their knowledge of data in sport and many were surprised how much data you used in sport.



In Design & Technology pupils used Tessellation to create a design with fabric. Pupils cut out their original shape and then sewed them in different position to use the tessellation. We got some lovely designs some of which are displayed in the front office



Overall the day was really successful with pupils and staff really enjoying the day. Pupils really gained knowledge of all the different places and ways in which you can use data.



Spotlight on careers

This term, like every term we have continued to put careers and the pupil's onward destination from us at the forefront. Although many of our pupils have already secured a post 16 destination, this hasn't affected our drive in raising the aspirations of both our Key Stage 3 and 4 learners. Last term the pupils had opportunity to attend a careers fair at Carrow Road, speak with apprenticeship teams and had visits from City College Norwich and West Suffolk College.

This term the pupils have had further opportunities to speak with agencies, colleges and employers about their onward journey. This term we have had a visit from the British Army who spoke to the pupils about what a career in the Army would like. The pupils were really engaged and enthused by the speaker. They were shocked at the number of careers that were available within the British Army. Having the opportunity to speak to an experienced soldier not only broke some misconceptions but also gave pupils another potential career option.

ASK career workshops

We have also had weekly sessions from the ASK programme which supports the pupils in information and guidance about apprenticeships. These have involved what an apprenticeship may look like, current opportunities, pay and terms of an apprenticeship, entry requirements and ways which pupils can sign up. Pupils really benefited from the information, advice and guidance received so far and many have not been aware of all the different opportunities that are available to pupils of their age.

Careers Fair

We were delighted to have the opportunity to take all of our students to the Norfolk Careers and Skills festival. Across the 2 days we took all pupils ranging from Yr 7 – 11. On both days the pupils had the opportunity to speak with employers, businesses and a host of different activities (and buy some ice cream). The pupils were excellent in getting involved in different activities and speaking with potential businesses and employers. Some of the pupils' highlights including a flight simulator, the VR headsets and grabbing the freebies on offer. Overall the pupils enjoyed the day and behaved well across the 2 days and were a credit to the school.

Next term we will be offering more opportunities for pupils to meet employers and future career options with our careers day in June. We recently completed our benchmarking around careers and we come out way above the national average for the opportunities we provide our pupils.

Wellbeing

Here is some information for anyone struggling over the Easter break. Below are some details for parents if they have any concerns for their child at this time of year.

Just One Number 0300 300 0123

Just One Number is our single point of access for Norfolk & Waveney Children & Young People's Health Services. This includes;

- The Norfolk Healthy Child Programme
- Norfolk & Waveney Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service.

Families, professionals and young people can get in touch with Just One Number by calling 0300 300 0123.

Your call might be for an appointment change, or you might have a parenting question, or a worry about your child's physical & emotional health, or communication development. Whatever your reason to contact us, our team are here to help you.

Parentline 07520 631590

Parentline is our text service for parents and carers to get in touch about any parenting questions or concerns.

You might find it hard to call in to Just One Number during opening hours, due to a hearing impairment or you may just prefer to chat by text with a health professional.

If you need advice about your child or young person's health or wellbeing, simply send a text and one of our team will text you back.

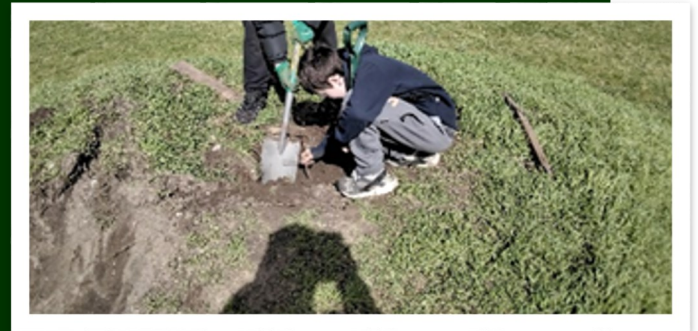
You can text at anytime on 07520 631590. A health professional from the 0-19 team will reply during our opening times. You can have the whole conversation by text if that works best for you, or the practitioner can call you.

Also, you can contact your **local council** if you have concerns for the household around cost-of-living expenses. They can offer guidance, local food banks and help and advice for energy costs.

Gardening

We are proud to work with the Papillion Project and this term has seen further work and improvements to the school garden. We have now moved the location of the previous garden and we already have a crop of vegetables from our planting earlier in the academic year. We have already harvested rhubarb; painted part of the shed and our daffodils are beginning to flower. On the latest visit pupils work with the project to plant onions, potatoes and prepare beds for further planting.

We also had a group of pupils who were levelling parts of the field by moving topsoil from one location to another. The benefits of working with the project are clear as those pupils involved not only got a sense of satisfaction from the work but also saw the wellbeing benefits. Many of our pupils really enjoy getting out in the school garden and it is really starting to take shape.



SAFER SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

PROTECTING, RESPECTING AND SUPPORTING YOU

This term we have continued to sessions from our safer schools officer. We have focused on sessions which would most benefit an array of our pupils. These sessions have included E-safety following many of our pupils getting a new phone for Christmas. Others sessions have included knife crime, assaults and general q and a opportunities. The pupils have found the sessions both informative and supporting of their personal development. It has also been great to see the pupils building relationships with officers during breakfast club and we are grateful they could join us for a chat before the sessions started. We have further sessions plan after the Easter break.



The Office

Mrs Frost

Wishing you all a relaxing Easter holiday, do not eat too many Easter eggs

Look forward to continuing to work with you during the Summer Term

Mrs Andrew

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families an enjoyable Easter break. Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to speaking with you next term.
Mrs Andrew from the office

Communication between home and school continues to be a vital way of ensuring that both parties are informed of any attendance/trips/issues and any other information that needs to be shared to ensure our pupils achieve their full potential and are fully supported.

As you are aware, there are several ways in which we can communicate: via telephone, email, letter, Parent Mail, Website, Parents Events. The school telephone number is 01842 752756 and email address is office@pin.unity-ed.uk

As you are aware the safety and well-being of your child/ward is paramount to us at school. Therefore, it is imperative that the school is informed if your child is going to be absent from school, (please contact the school on the day as early as possible using one of the above procedures, a message can be left). Alternatively, please acknowledge our telephone call or text sent via Parent Mail. If it is a medical appointment then evidence of the appointment is required.

If there are any changes in home circumstances e.g. change of address, telephone number etc. please contact the school so we can update our records.

Dinners are ordered daily and pupils should pay on the day or in advance – payment can be made via cheque or BACS (please contact the school office for the BACS details) Dinners cost £2.40 per day regardless of whether it is a hot dinner or packed lunch

Supporting Teaching and Learning

Miss Van Kleek

Happy Easter everyone. Have a fantastic break and stay safe. See you all after the holidays.

Here are some messages from our staff!

Have a great Easter from everyone at the Pinetree School.

Miss Spence

Wishing you all a happy Easter break. Keep safe.

Mr Messere

Have a great Easter holiday and see you after the break.

Miss Dale

I wish you all a happy, safe and restful break and look forward to seeing you all in the summer term.

Mr Maplesden

The academic year is flying past and it seems to show no signs of slowing down. It feels like yesterday we were arriving for that first day back in September and already we are two thirds through the year and staring at exam season. I have high hopes for this years year 11 pupils who continue to show progress and prepare for their qualifications. But before that busy period I wish you all a restful and happy Easter break.