

Puffins/Meerkats

Main topic area this half-term has been all about Natural Resources: both renewable and non-renewable. We have looked at why we need to move away from coal and oil and move towards solar, wind and geothermal sources. In Literacy we have used the film Avatar as our basis for writing non-chronological reports, creating our own hexapods based on what we have seen in the film. In Science we have been looking at changing materials, especially dissolving, reversible and irreversible changes – carrying out various experiments to test scientific theories. In Maths we have been doing lots of work with fractions and percentages, and solving problems in context. We have also worked on our written multiplication and division calculations.

Cultural Day: Japanese Festival of Higen

The focus on this term’s cultural day which took place on the 23 March 2022, was the Japanese Festival of Higen. This is a Buddhist holiday, exclusively celebrated by the Japanese for seven days; three days before and after both the Spring and Autumnal equinoxes. During the sessions, students were introduced to Japan; the country, location, culture, cuisine, religion, art and music.

Religion: Students learnt about the origin of Buddhism - began when Siddarta who lived a life of luxury as an Indian prince, realised there was suffering in the world and he wanted to understand why. He dedicated his life to finding the answer and teaching others what he discovered about ‘Enlightenment’.

Art: Students enjoyed replicating the style of a Japanese artist, Takashi Murakami. He refers to his own art as ‘STUPID’ (means silly for the Japanese). However, the students described his art as vibrant, fun and colourful.

Cuisine: All students learnt about different foods eaten, and compared British table manners to that of the Japanese.

Music: They were introduced to many Japanese musical instruments and listened to the sounds of each through video clips.

All students were enthusiastic during all sessions and enjoyed completing independent activities.

Japanese Cultural Day: Higen



Forest School Trips: Meerkats and Flamingos

Students enjoy their trips to Forest School. When they arrive, they are greeted by the teacher and are informed of the plan of the session. During one of the sessions, they made 's'mores' i.e. toasting the marshmallows on the open fire. Thereafter, they took a walk around the forest as 'nature detectives', identifying names of trees and 'dead remains of animals. Later, they all helped to set up a new tent. During the last session of this half term, students went to Snettisham Beach. They observed habitats of animals in the water: (water boatman, water slaters, bloodworms).



Sessions House - Cooking

This term we have made a variety of sweet and savoury dishes. The students have enjoyed the lessons and trying different techniques. With separating eggs, coring apples and the older students using an electric whisk which they have enjoyed the challenge. The students have been learning about nutrients and what they are good for. Also, we are learning about the sugar contents in different foods and drinks.



Anglia Way - DofE

During DofE lessons and afternoon activities students have been participating in the physical, skill and volunteering section daily and/ or weekly in preparation for their upcoming expedition this summer. Skills include; arts and craft, textiles and sewing, physical activities/ outdoor games, hair and beauty, horse riding or computing. These activities run termly to ensure students are building a skill and learning new techniques as well as developing a hobby. During the physical section students have the opportunity to engage in outdoor games, P.E. on a Wednesday, gym or well-being walks. For the volunteering section this term students have been helping out at the duck sanctuary and Chestnut Farm helping with the horses.



News from the Play Therapy Room

The focus has been on 'friendships and what it takes to be a good friend'. The play therapist has been spending more time with the younger students in the classroom using circle time to help them discuss emotions and how to respect and care for each other in their respective groups. They are being taught Makaton and are enjoying learning to sign. During sessions the younger group have explored water beads, sand, mindful colouring and kinetic sand. Zones of Regulation being used on a daily basis, have had a positive effect on all students.



Nelson's Journey

Koalas class have worked extremely hard on raising money for the charity. The students took part in a 5k walk around Thetford Forest. On arrival, they had a group warm up to prepare them for the challenge ahead. The students were dedicated to the cause and each one of them completed the challenge at their own pace. They worked incredibly hard to encourage their peers and staff to complete the challenge. When the finishing line was in sight, they all excitedly ran to the end.



Nelsons Journey Charity

This term, all pupils at Wisbech School have been raising money and spreading awareness for the chosen charity, 'Nelsons Journey'. This charity supports children who are going through loss and bereavement. Students chose various activities e.g. litter picking, sponsored walks and bake sales. The amount raised will be recorded in the next newsletter.

Anglia Way – Litter Picking



Nelson's Journey

On Monday 21st March, #teasmarties completed a sponsored walk round Wisbech Park to raise money for Nelson's Journey, a charity set up to help children dealing with loss of a significant person.

Dressed as favourite book characters, including Harry Potter and the Wimpy Kid, the children walked, and ran, around the park.

The class have raised just short of £100 for this wonderful charity. Not bad for just three children!!

Sponsored Walk



Smarties - Trip to Frampton Marsh

Smarties went out on a trip to Frampton Marsh to continue their exploration of rivers and wild-life. The education officer presented a talk about different birds in the area e.g. Lapwings and Redshanks. Later, students went for a walk along the river which was a topic, students studied this half term. They discovered that the river was a habitat to fish, shrimps and plants. The students also investigated different plants growing around the marsh. They were all very enthusiastic, asked many questions and were very observant when being "little explorers".



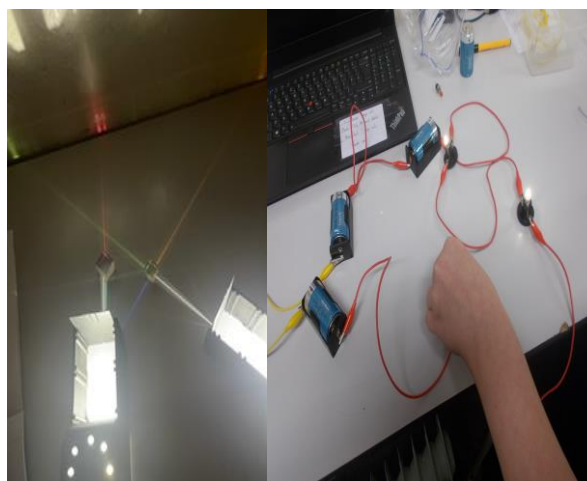
Anglia Way - Science

Year 8: Electrical Circuits: Students have been learning about electricity, building working electrical circuits, and also about the function of each component in a circuit, e.g. conductors, switches, light bulbs, buzzers, batteries, motors etc.

Year 9: Sound and Light: Students investigated sound and light. They were able to see the colours that are in the colour spectrum, by splitting light using a light source and prisms, and also made ear defenders.

Year 10: Radiation: The children really enjoyed learning about the disaster of Chernobyl and the different types of radiation.

Year 11 have spent all this term revising for GCSE's completing past exam papers.



Koalas

This term, Koalas class have been learning about extreme weather: tsunamis, floods, volcanoes, earthquakes, etc. Linking to the work on extreme weather, they visited a local beach to find out how the town is protected by natural and man-made defences. Koalas class have also been learning about properties of materials during Science lessons. They were able to describe the properties of solids, liquids and gases, and further explain how some materials can change between states. The students understood scientific terminology such as reversible and irreversible, and put this into practice during experimental work and had to observe carefully so as to group which substances were reversible or not. During these sessions they had to ensure that they handled apparatus with care and safety and that they followed the criteria that their tests were fair.

Koalas



Sessions - Art

For art, Koalas and Smarties have been making an authentic looking diorama of a volcano! We have been so impressed with these as they have shown patience whilst perfecting them over the last half term. The children especially enjoyed creating the lava effect when paint was mixed with PVA glue. The children are very proud of their dioramas as they should be. The staff are very impressed with the high level of skills and quality that the children have produced. Fantastic Work!



Sessions - PSHE

This half-term we have been working on the importance of team work. We started by discussing what makes a person a good team member and what attributes a good team would actually need. The children came up with some great ideas such as: being focused, hard-working, adaptable, trust and honesty – to name a few. We then talked about the fact that people are individuals and have different ideas and opinions; we realised that sometimes we needed to disagree! As a group we discussed ways that we could disagree without causing arguments or further friction. This week we talked about the meaning of compromise and collaboration, and why they were so important in order for a team to function properly. The children were given the opportunity to put this into practice at Forest School where numerous activities were carried out, all of them to do with good team work. We also collaborated during a science lesson in order to carry out an experiment in our topic about materials; the boys worked really well together.

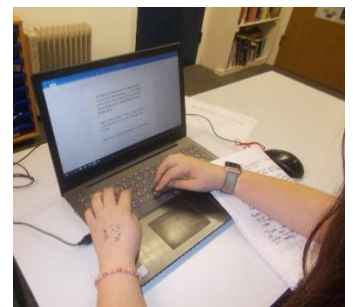
Anglia Way - Literacy

This term has been a very busy term for English. Students have been working on a variety of topics including non-fiction writing, dystopian fiction, ASDAN COPE challenges and the year 11 students have been preparing for and sitting their level 1 functional skills exams.

The year 8 and 9 students have been enjoying being citizen journalists, learning about different types of news writing including: tabloid and broadsheet articles, reader letters to editors, opinion writing and the differences between journalists and columnists. This has resulted in them writing articles in a tabloid or broadsheet style, writing letters to an editor in response to an article and changing their letters from responses to a columnist opinion style. Year 10 students have also been learning about the different types of non-fiction writing including instructions, articles, letters and recounts.

The group studying dystopian fiction have been analysing text from 'The Hunger Games' novel in order to identify

Anglia Way - Literacy



Anglia Way - Cooking

Students are studying the foodwise course and have been studying the importance of eating a variety of foods containing nutrients which are imperative for a healthy body. They investigated the different food groups, together with examples, and the name and function of the nutrients found in each.

They looked at the eat well plate and discussed what makes a good healthy balanced diet. There were discussions on how the traffic light system found on food packaging, can be used to make healthier choices whilst shopping.

Students then used knowledge that they had gained from this to create a nutritious one pot meal – Easy Sausage Casserole. They enjoyed putting their cooking skills to the test by creating this fantastic meal which was taken home to share.

