

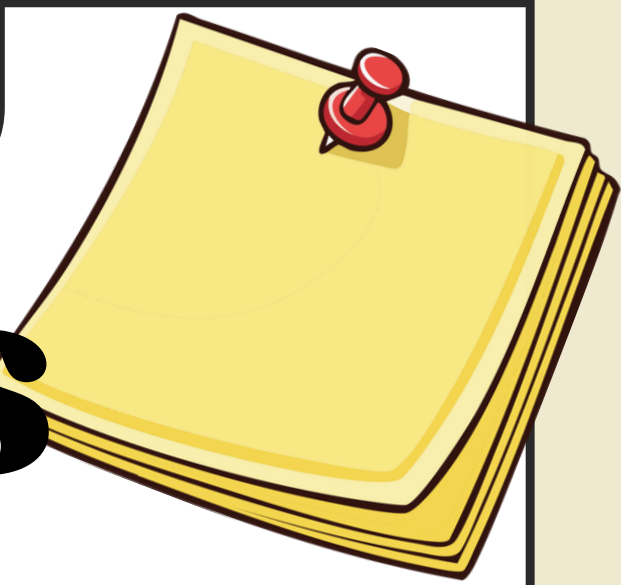
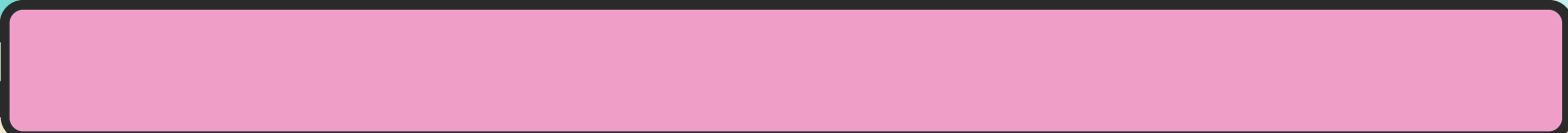
PARENT
NEWSLETTER

*Spring Term
2*



School Ansley





Heads Words

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and successful term at Arc School Ansley, I would like to thank you for your continued support and take a moment to reflect on all that has been achieved.

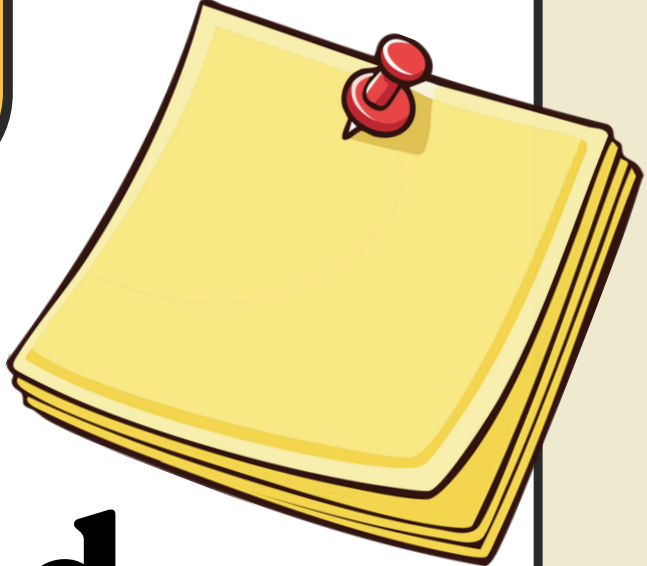
This term has been rich in learning, personal development and new experiences for our pupils. Across the curriculum, staff have continued to strengthen high-quality teaching, particularly in literacy, communication and metacognition. Pupils have engaged positively, growing in confidence through activities such as National Science Week, Pi Day and wider reading initiatives.

Our enrichment offer has been a real highlight. The Key Stage 3 theatre trip to Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief was a memorable experience, with many pupils attending the theatre for the first time. Our FLP “Tea and Chat” coffee morning also provided a valuable opportunity for families to come together and build supportive relationships.

We have seen strong engagement in key transition moments, particularly at the Year 9 Options Event, where pupils showed maturity and curiosity about their future pathways. It was encouraging to see families working closely with staff to support these important decisions. New pupils have also settled in very well, reflecting the warm and welcoming environment we are proud to offer.

Alongside pupil success, staff have continued to engage in high-quality professional development, including training focused on trauma-informed practice. This is strengthening our ability to provide consistent, nurturing support for all pupils.

This work is underpinned by our core purpose: our ambition that every child receives a high-quality education; our mission to provide specialist support for pupils with Autism Spectrum Condition; and our vision to enable every young person to learn, grow and thrive. Our values of empathy, care and respect remain at the heart of everything we do, supported by a dedicated team working in partnership with families to provide meaningful, personalised pathways for every pupil.



Heads Words Continued....

We are grateful for the many positive comments from visitors and professionals, who consistently highlight the calm environment, strong relationships and the depth of staff understanding of individual pupils.

Thank you to all parents and carers who completed the recent survey. Your feedback is invaluable. While most parents reported being very satisfied overall, we have listened carefully to the areas identified for improvement. From Summer Term 1, we will be taking forward actions to strengthen:

- **Communication**, including more timely responses, clearer information sharing with both parents, and improved clarity around off-site activities.
- **Meeting individual pupil needs**, ensuring greater consistency across staff, earlier understanding of pupils, and appropriate support and challenge for all.

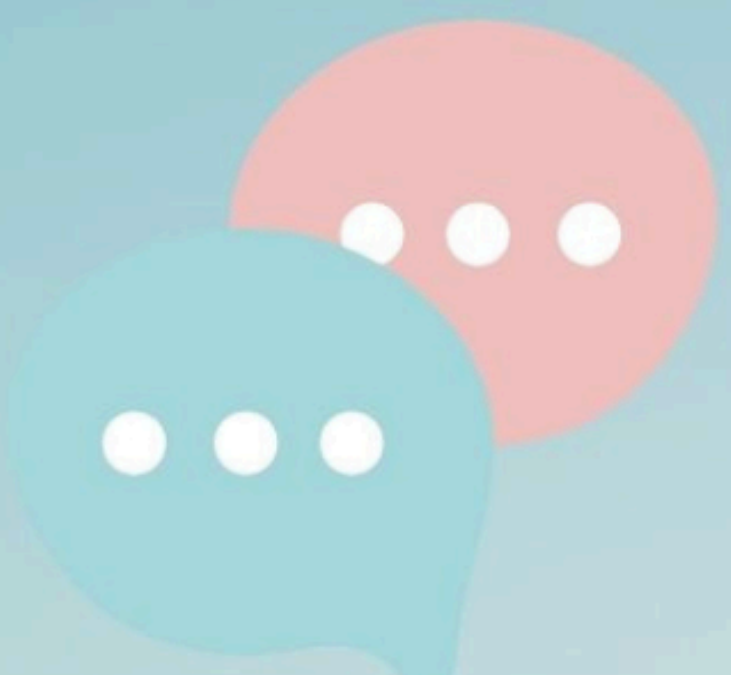
We are committed to these improvements and will keep you updated on our progress.

Thank you once again for your continued support and partnership. We wish you all a restful break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for the summer term.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Howe
Headteacher





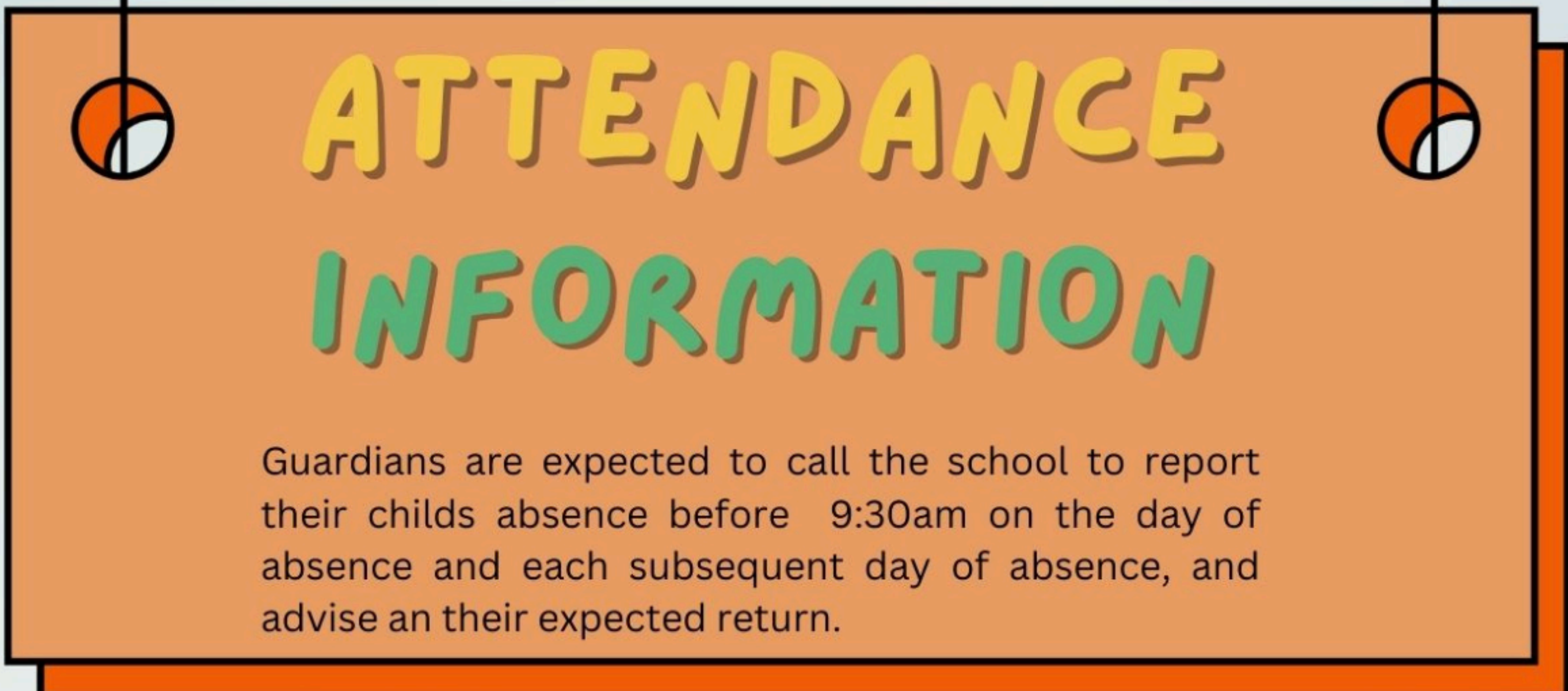
Contact Information

Tel: 01676543810

Attendance Team

e.rheeston@kedlestongroup.com

e.bowman@kedlestongroup.com



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Guardians are expected to call the school to report their child's absence before 9:30am on the day of absence and each subsequent day of absence, and advise on their expected return.

Types of Absences

Authorised Absence:

Absences can only be authorised by the Headteacher. An absence is classified as authorised when a child has been away from school for a legitimate reason and the school has received notification from a parent.

Unauthorised Absence

- An absence is classified as unauthorised when a child is away from school without the permission of the school. An absence can be unauthorised even if the child is absent with the support of a parent
- Any absences for which the school have received no explanation or when the school has reason to doubt the offered explanation will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.
- A pupil's arrival after the close of registers, without an approved reason will be classified as an unauthorised absence.



PARENT/CARER - SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

Good communication helps build positive relationships as well as trust between parent/carers, pupils and staff, which helps the school better support each child's educational and pastoral needs.

Arc School Ansley provides many ways of communication to help build positive relationships between all.



Arbor allows us to communicate with you more effectively and bring all core school data in to one system. The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. If you haven't already done so please login and update your child's details as well as adding photo consent.



ClassDojo

We use Class Dojo as a communication platform for teachers, pupils and families to use every day to build a close-knit school community. Many fun and important information is shared, such as what is being learnt in the classroom, photos and event dates.

Useful Contacts

School Office - 01676543810

School Email Address: arcansley@kedlestongroup.com
Executive Head Teacher: m.simpson@kedlestongroup.com

Head Teacher: angela.howe@kedlestongroup.com

Pastoral Lead & DSL: e.rheeston@kedlestongroup.com

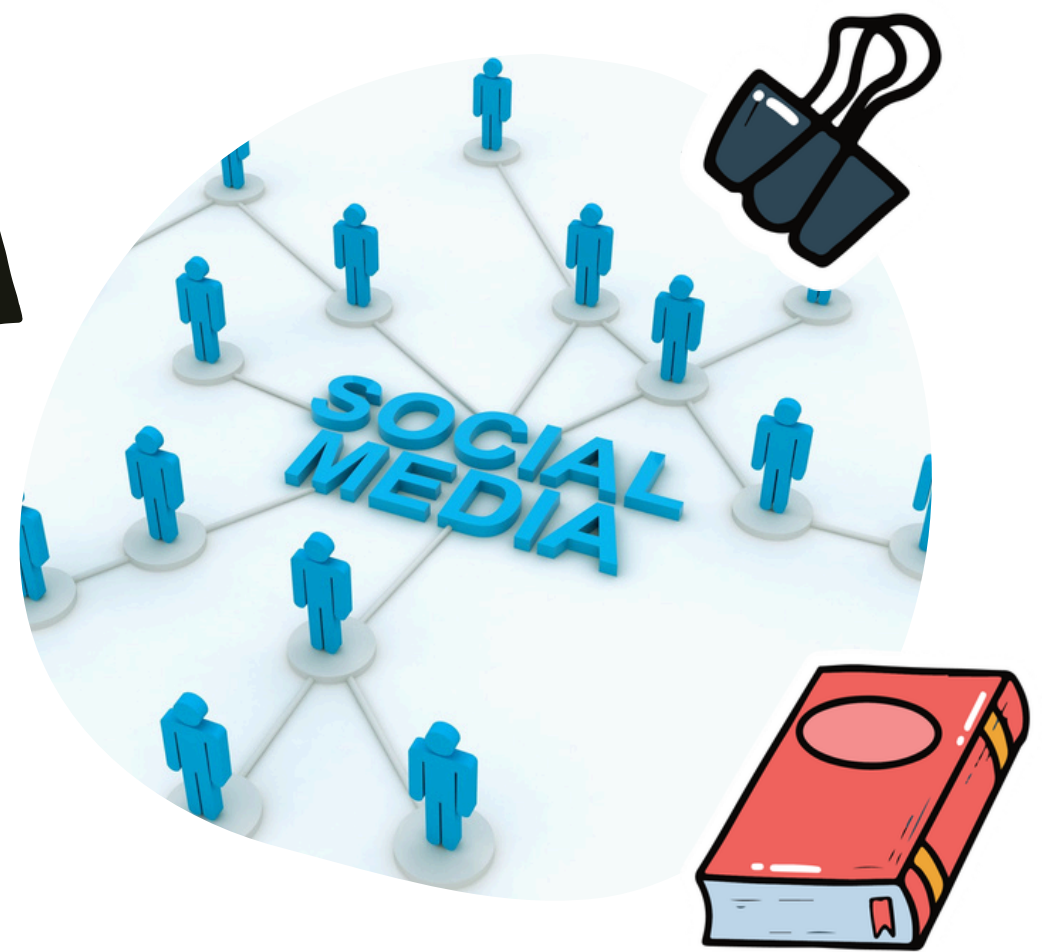
Exams Officer: alice.tucker@kedlestongroup.com

SENCo: g.carter@kedlestongroup.com

Office Manager: e.bowman@kedlestongroup.com



SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY



STUDENT'S GUIDE TO STAYING SAFE ON THE INTERNET

Internet Safety

The Dangers of Social Media

Fake News

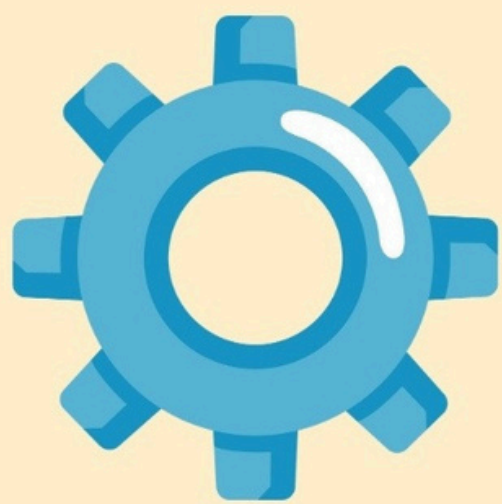
- It can undermine confidence in legitimate media and public institutions.

Cyber Bullying

- This can make someone feel sad, anxious, or unsafe.

Pressure and comparison

- This can affect confidence and self-esteem.



Positives of social media

Staying connected with others

- It helps people feel less lonely and more included.

Learning and education

- You can join study groups, ask questions, and share ideas.

Support and self-expression

- People can express themselves through posts, art, music, writing, and videos.

UK organisations that can help

- [Childline](#)
- [Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre \(CEOP\)](#)
- [Internet Matters](#)



Copyrighted by AB ;)

SEEKING SUPPORT

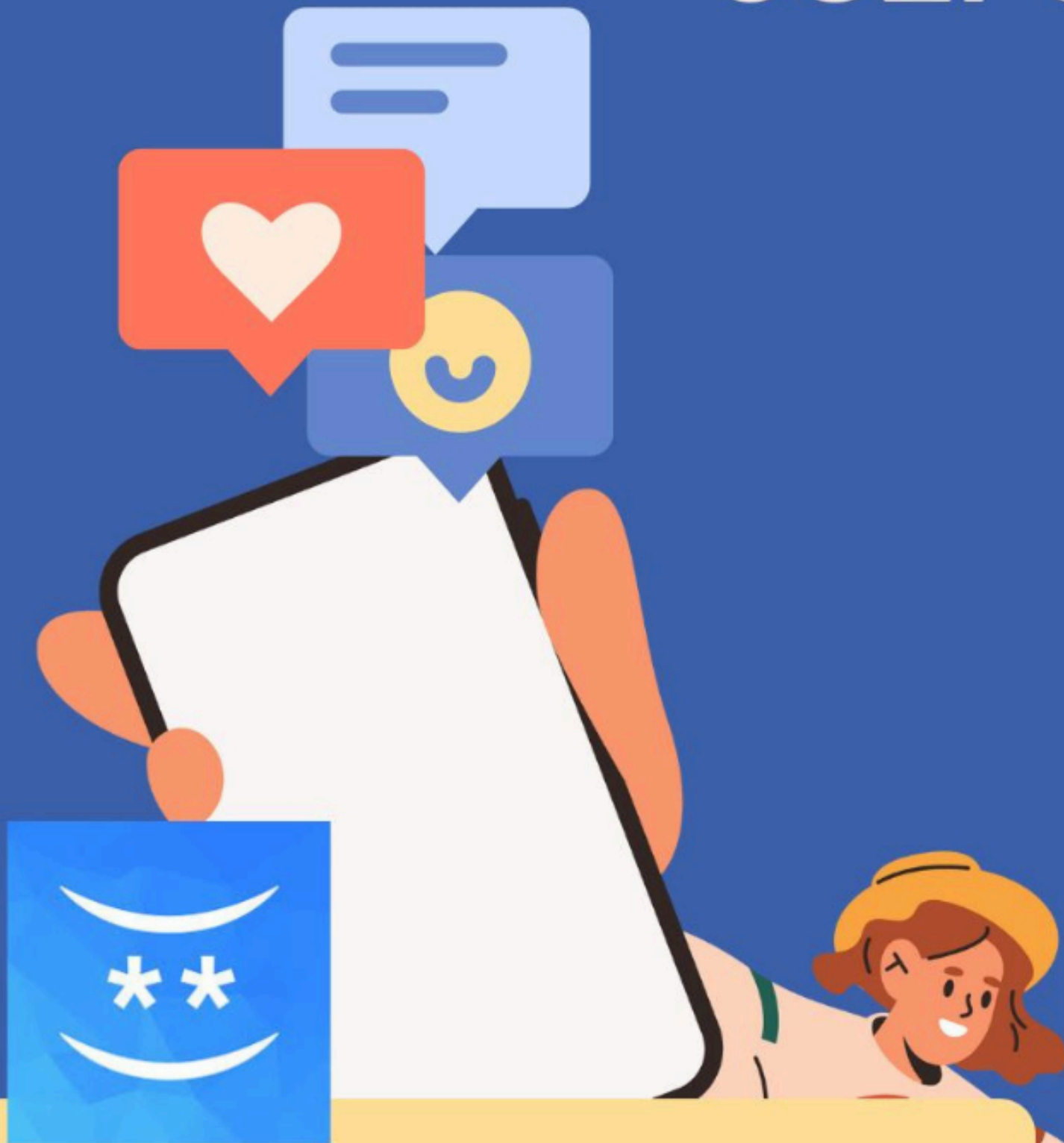
Worried about online child sexual abuse or grooming? Report it to the [CEOP Safety Centre](#).

If someone has shared nude images or videos, use [Childline](#) or the [Internet Watch Foundation Report Remove service](#).

Concerned about a child's harmful sexual behaviour? Check out [Shore Space](#).



USEFUL APPS



Blueice is a prescribed evidence-based app to help young people manage their emotions and to reduce urges to self-harm. It includes a mood diary, toolbox of evidence based techniques to reduce distress and automatic routing to emergency numbers if urges to harm continue.

www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/blueice/access/



SafeSpot is a helpful app and website that aims to provide young people with access to coping strategies and resources in order to help them better deal with difficult situations.

www.safespot.org.uk



distrACT app gives you easy, quick access to information and advices about self-harm and suicidal thoughts. The content has been created by doctors and experts in self-harming and suicidal prevention.

www.expertselfcare.com/distract



notOK takes the guesswork out of asking for help when you're feeling vulnerable. We'll notify your trusted contacts that have been selected as your support group, so when the time comes and you need to reach out, you'll just have to open the app and press the large, red notOK button.



SHOP

ClassDojo

NOW OPEN

Students at Arc School Ansley accumulate points during each lesson and social time by adhering to our 3R's and 3C's. These points can be utilized in various ways, one of which is through our ****weekly dojo shop****.

Dojo Shop Details

- Open every Friday for all students
- A diverse selection of items available for purchase, including:
 - Fidget toys
 - Sweets
 - Stationery
 - Toiletries

Additionally, students have the option to ****save their points**** for our exciting end-of-year trip to Drayton Manor!



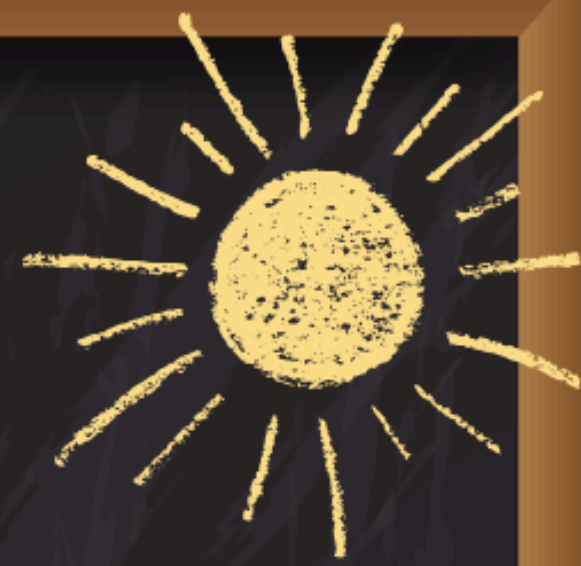
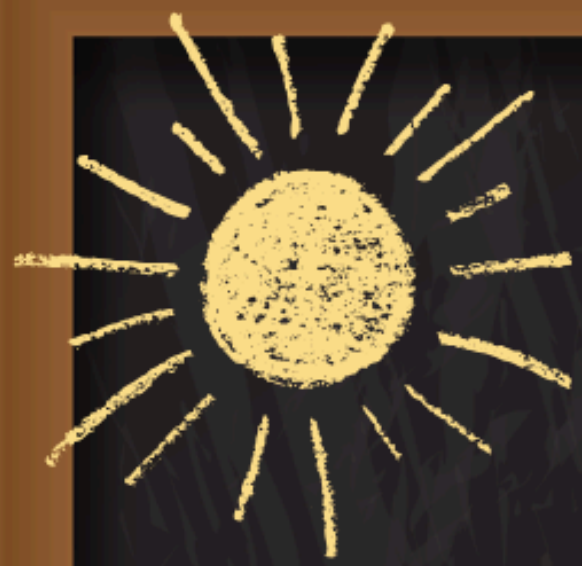
School Ansley

3R's

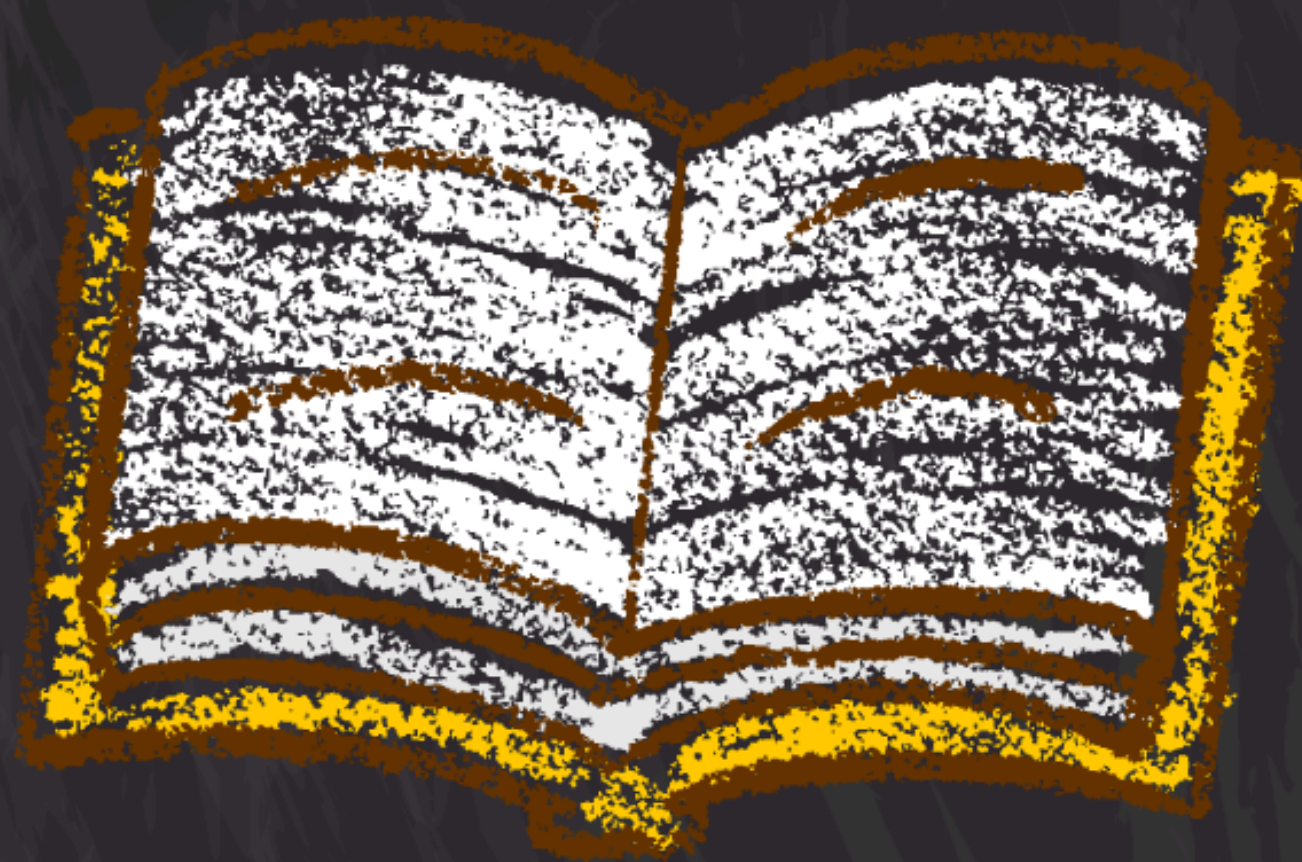
- Right Place
- Right time
- Right Thing

3C's

- Caring for ourselves
- Caring for others
- Caring for property



Exam Dates Summer * Series 2026



GCSE Exams - Summer Series

MAY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1 9.30am PEARSON Animal Care and Welfare 2Hours	2	3
4 May Day Bank Holiday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 13.00pm AQA Combined Science - 1Hr 15Mins AQA Biology Paper 1 - 1hr 45Mins	13 13.00pm OCR Computer Science - Computer Systems - 1hr 30Mins	14 9.30am PEARSON Maths Paper 1 (Non- Calculator) - 1Hr 30Mins	15 9.30am PEARSON History Paper 1 - Thematic Study + Historic Environment - 1Hr 20Mins	16	17
18 9.30am AQA Combined Science Chemistry - 1Hr 15Mins 13.00pm OCR Sports Science - Reducing Risk - 1Hr 15Mins	19 13.00pm OCR Computer Science - Computational Thinking - 1Hr 30Mins	20	21 9.30am AQA English Language Paper 1 1Hr 45Mins	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
HALF TERM						

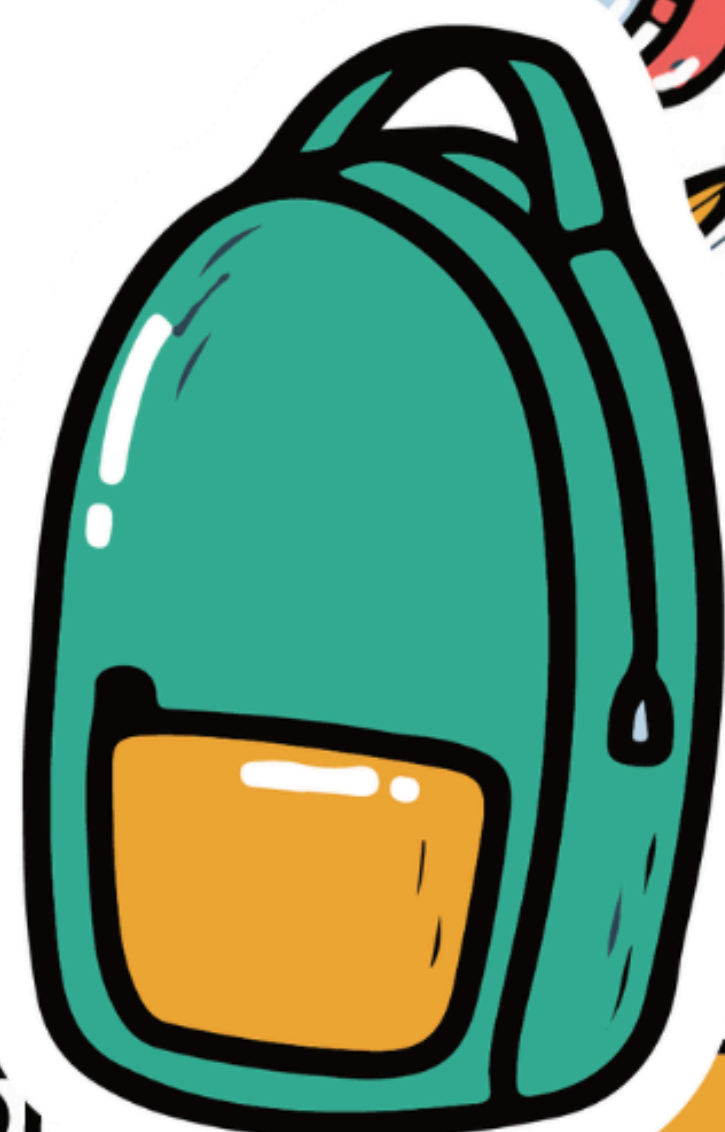
GCSE Exams - Summer Series

JUNE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2 9.30am GCSE Combined Science - Physics - 1Hr 15Mins	3 9.30am PEARSON Maths Paper 2 (Calculator)- 1Hr 30Mins	4 9.30am PEARSON History Paper 2 - Period Study + British Depth Study - 1Hr 50Mins	5 9.30am AQA English Language Paper 2 - 1Hr 45Mins	6	7
8 9.30am AQA Combined Science Biology Paper 2 - 1Hr 15Mins Biology Paper 2 - 1Hr 45Mins 13.00pm OCR Creative iMedia - Media Industry - 1Hr 30Mins	9 13.00pm PEARSON History Paper 3 - Modern Depth Study - 1Hr 30Mins	10 9.30am PEARSON Maths Paper 3 (Calculator) - 1Hr 30Mins	11 13.00pm AQA Food Prep and Nutrition 1Hr 45Mins	12 9.30am AQA Combined Science Chemistry Paper 2 1Hr 15Mins	13	14
15 9.30am AQA Combined Science Physics Paper 2 1Hr 15Mins	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



Subjects



MATH

This term, Key Stage 3 students have been honing their skills in two primary areas: Expressions and Formulae and Circles.

Expressions and Formulae

- **Expanding Brackets:** Pupils practiced multiplying terms across brackets, with some advancing to tackle two brackets.
- **Factorising:** Students learned to reverse the process by identifying common factors.
- **Using Formulae:** Classes focused on substituting values into formulas and exploring their applications in everyday scenarios.

Circles

- **Area and Circumference:** Pupils applied essential formulas to calculate these accurately.
- **Problem-Solving:** Students utilized their circle knowledge in real-world style tasks, enhancing their confidence and mathematical reasoning.

Key Stage 4 pupils have been diligently working on their data and probability units while also preparing for both Functional Skills and GCSE exams.

Data Handling and Statistics

Pupils explored:

- Primary and secondary data
- Qualitative and quantitative data
- Designing questionnaires and data collection sheets
- Using scatter graphs to identify trends and relationships

Probability

Students deepened their understanding through:

- Sample space diagrams
- Tree diagrams for multi-step events
- Utilizing relative frequency to estimate probability

Exam Preparation

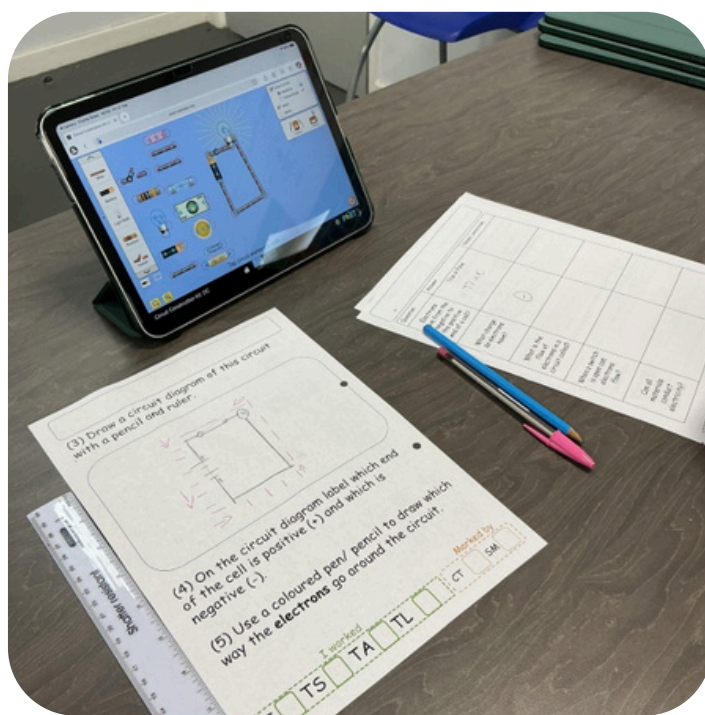
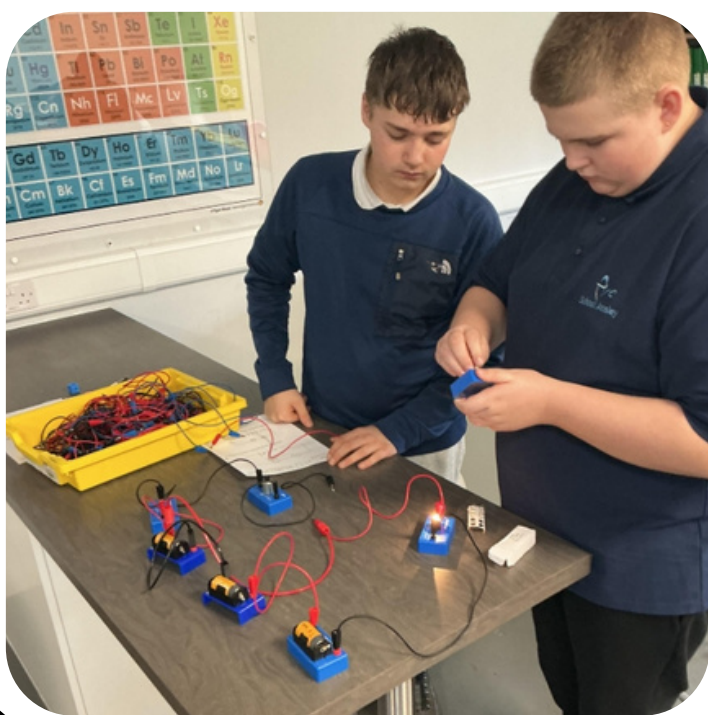
Pupils have been preparing for:

- Functional Skills Maths, concentrating on practical, real-life applications
- GCSE Mathematics, focusing on accuracy, fluency, and strong exam techniques.

SCIENCE

KS3

During this half term, Key Stage 3 students have been exploring circuit symbols and simulations to enhance their understanding of electrical current.



KS4

KS4 conducted various experiments to explore how the temperature of a solution fluctuates during a neutralization reaction. Students also created copper sulfate crystals by neutralizing sulfuric acid with copper oxide.



Food Technology

KEY STAGE 3 EXPLORES MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

KEY STAGE 3 STUDENTS HAVE BEEN PREPARING VARIOUS RECIPES AS PART OF THEIR MEDITERRANEAN TOPIC. AMONG THE DISHES THEY CREATED WERE CHICKEN AND CHORIZO PAELLA, MEATBALL CALZONE, SHAKSHUKA, AND GREEK LAMB KEBABS WITH FLATBREADS. THE PUPILS HAD A GREAT TIME COOKING THESE MEALS AND SHOULD NOW HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE COUNTRIES THAT BORDER THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA.



PERFORMING ARTS

THIS HALF TERM, PUPILS HAVE THROWN THEMSELVES INTO SCRIPT EXPLORATION, FOCUSING ON A PIECE THAT EXPRESSES A RANGE OF EMOTIONS THROUGH A SINGLE CHARACTER. THEY HAVE WORKED CREATIVELY TO UNDERSTAND HOW VOICE, MOVEMENT, AND EXPRESSION CAN SHIFT TO SHOW DIFFERENT EMOTIONAL STATES.

WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN PART IN HOT-SEATING ACTIVITIES, ALLOWING PUPILS TO STEP INTO THE SHOES OF DIFFERENT CHARACTERS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS IN ROLE. THIS HAS HELPED THEM DEEPEN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF CHARACTER MOTIVATION, BACKSTORY, AND EMOTIONAL NUANCE. ENGAGEMENT ACROSS THE GROUP HAS BEEN FANTASTIC. PUPILS HAVE SHOWN CONFIDENCE, IMAGINATION, AND A REAL WILLINGNESS TO EXPERIMENT AND TAKE CREATIVE RISKS. THEIR ENTHUSIASM HAS MADE THE WORK IN LESSONS LIVELY AND EXCITING.

WE ARE NOW LOOKING FORWARD TO SHOWCASING OUR PROGRESS FOR WORLD THEATRE DAY, WHERE PUPILS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THEIR DEVELOPING SKILLS AND CELEBRATE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS



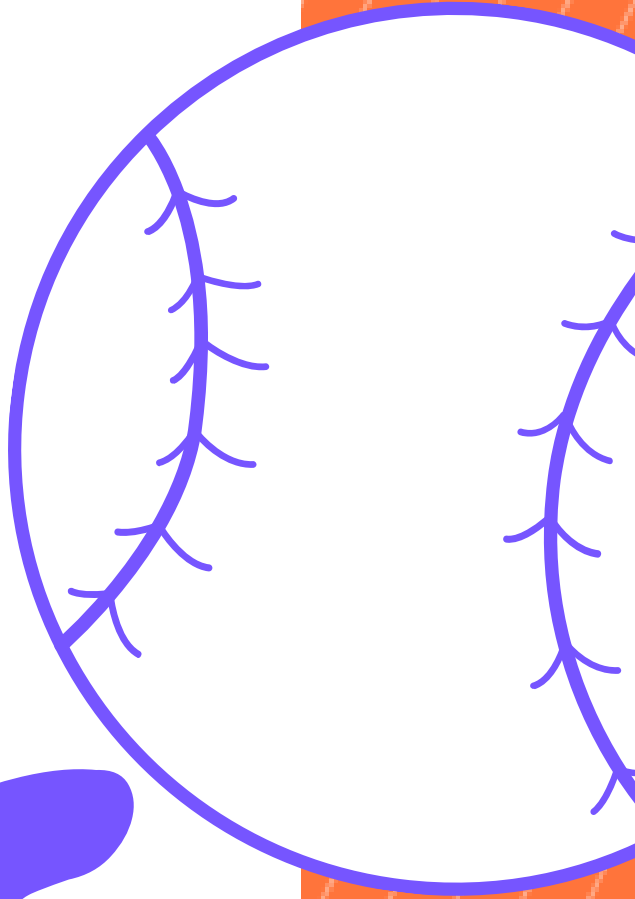
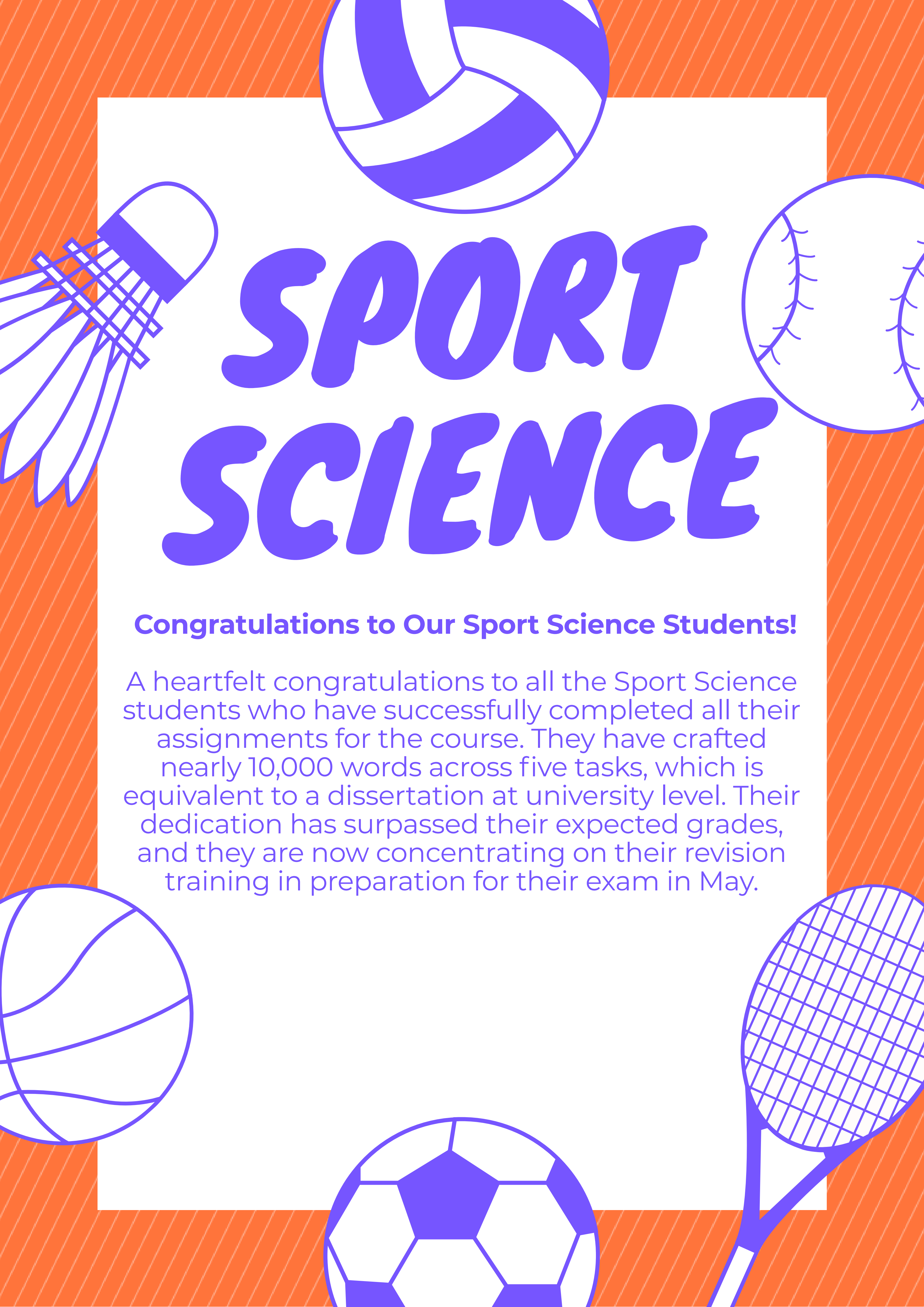
Computing

KS3

This half term KS3 pupils developed a Rock-Paper-Scissors game using Scratch. They progressed through various stages, including designing the game flow, establishing the rules and interface, selecting their own characters and on-screen buttons, and finally coding the entire project.

KS4

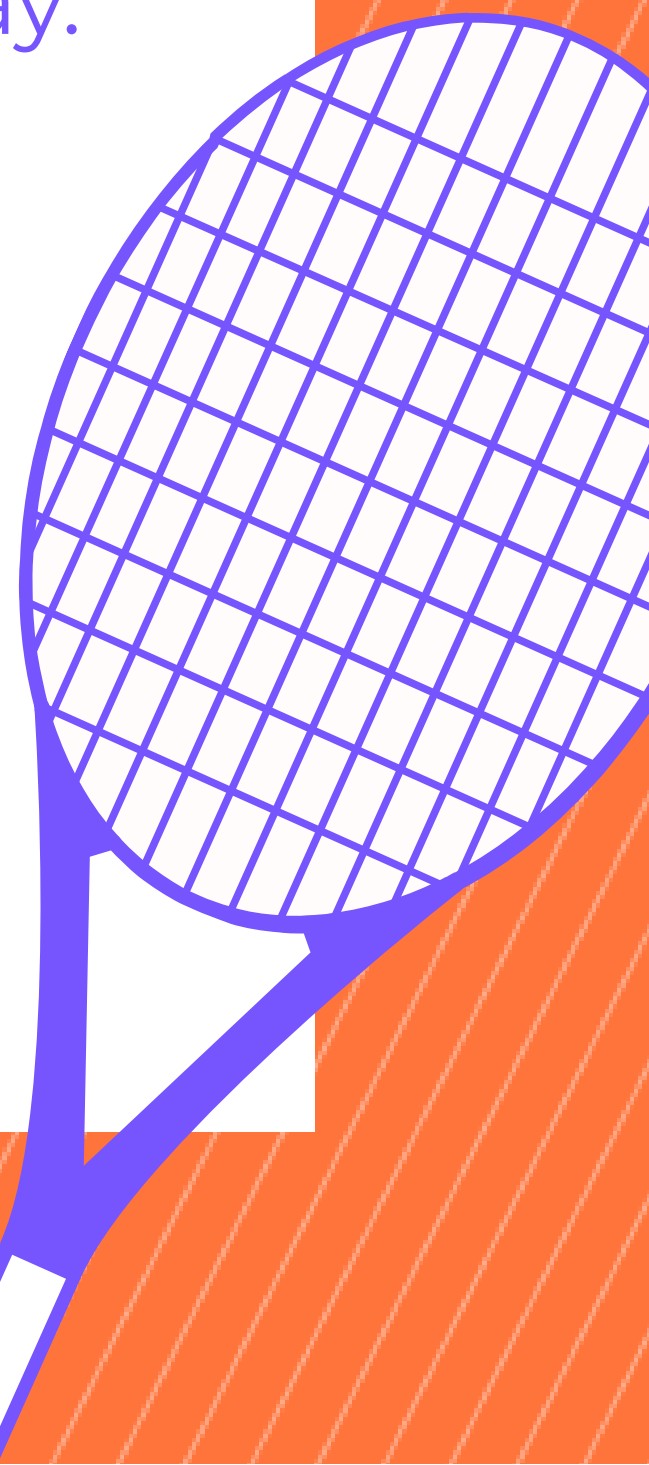
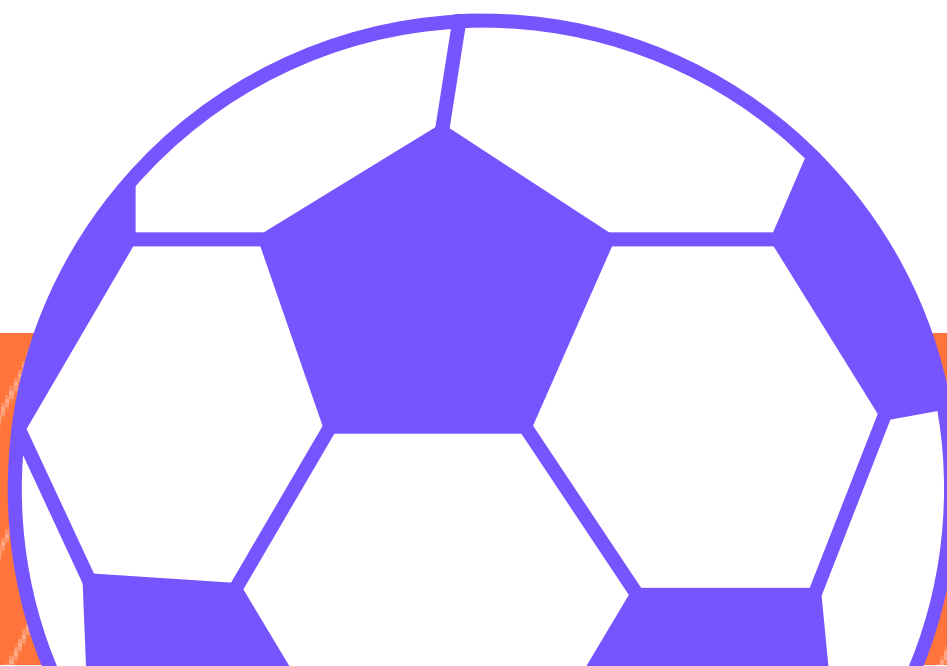
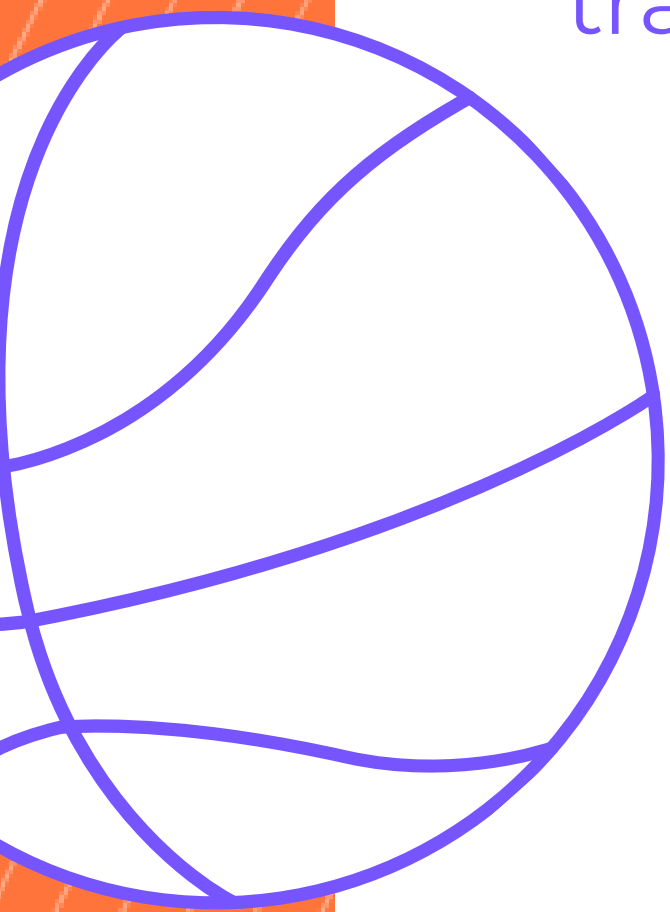
KS4 pupils created a poster about Internet Safety on Canva. They started by using different AI tools (Microsoft Copilot, Google NotebookLM, and Google Gemini) to gather materials for the poster, comparing them and selecting the best two for the purpose. The students then reviewed the information and revised the prompts they used in the AI tools to refine the results.



SPORT SCIENCE

Congratulations to Our Sport Science Students!

A heartfelt congratulations to all the Sport Science students who have successfully completed all their assignments for the course. They have crafted nearly 10,000 words across five tasks, which is equivalent to a dissertation at university level. Their dedication has surpassed their expected grades, and they are now concentrating on their revision training in preparation for their exam in May.



The background is a light gray with various abstract shapes and patterns. In the top left, there's a blue shape and a thin red circle. In the top right, there's a large orange shape with a cluster of orange dots below it. In the bottom left, there's a dark green shape with several orange dots of different sizes. In the bottom right, there's a blue shape and a thin red line. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

EVENTS

this

HALF TERM

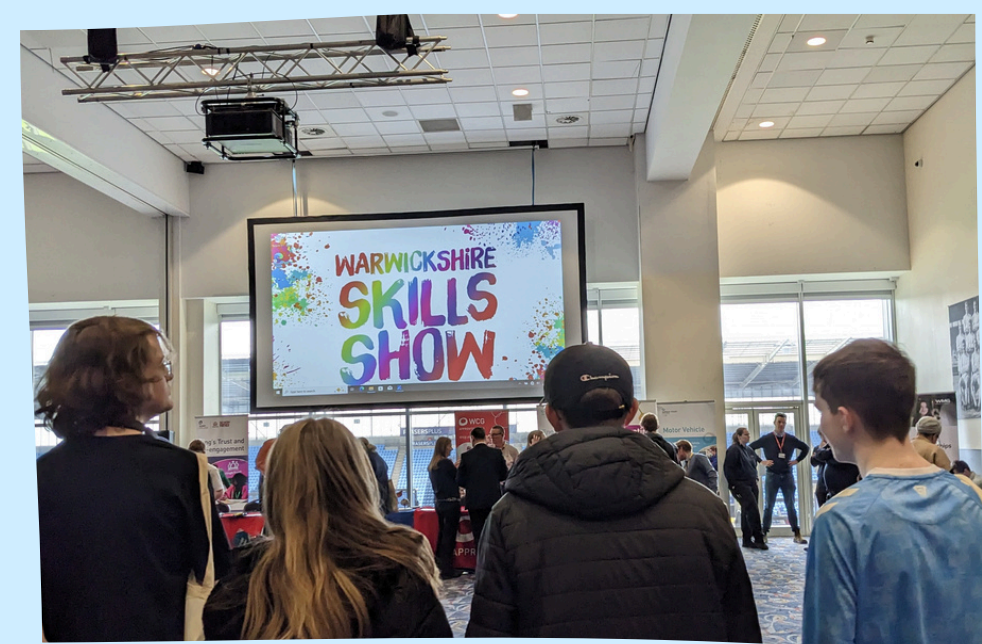
CAREERS AND SKILLS SHOW

Students Explore Career Opportunities

Recently, students had an exciting opportunity to participate in two significant career events: *What University?* & *What Career?* Live at the NEC, as well as the Skills Show in Coventry. During these visits, they engaged with a diverse range of stallholders, posed questions, and explored the many career paths available to them.

- KS3 students gained early insights into the world of work and higher education, helping them understand how their learning relates to future opportunities.
- KS4 students focused on their next steps beyond school, including apprenticeships, university courses, and vocational pathways.

These events enabled students to expand their knowledge, build confidence in communicating with employers and training providers, and start to clarify their aspirations for the future.



WORLD BOOK DAY



World Book Day, 1980s Style



Hawkins High arrived at Arc Ansley for World Book Day, taking both pupils and staff back to the vibrant 1980s! As part of our Stranger Readers project this term, aimed at fostering a love for reading and enhancing reading skills, staff embraced the spirit by donning a variety of 1980s-themed attire.

Pupils immersed themselves in classic literary works such as **The NeverEnding Story** and **The Outsiders**, engaging with excerpts and audiobooks created by our dedicated staff team. On World Book Day, students participated in physical literacy workshops combining elements from Performing Arts and the English department, allowing them to showcase their comprehension of key texts and stories.

To conclude the festivities, pupils will be rewarded for their reading efforts and enjoy a day filled with literacy games and delightful treats!



DRAMA:

During World Book Day, students concentrated on enhancing their oracy skills by participating in an engaging drama workshop inspired by **The Outsiders**. To immerse themselves in the play's world, students engaged in a Conscience Alley exercise, which allowed them to delve into the thoughts, emotions, and moral dilemmas experienced by key characters. This method enriched their understanding of character motivations and emotional tension.

Additionally, we incorporated freeze frames, costumes, and props to vividly illustrate significant moments from the play. Students collaborated to recreate essential scenes, experimenting with body language, facial expressions, and staging to convey meaning non-verbally.

The level of engagement throughout the workshop was outstanding. Students demonstrated creativity, confidence, and a genuine eagerness to fully embody their characters. It was a wonderful way to honor World Book Day while enhancing performance and communication skills.



PI DAY

A Joyful Pi Day Celebration

This year, students had a lively and engaging Pi Day celebration, participating in a variety of activities centered around the number π (pi). The event enhanced their understanding of circles.

The day kicked off with the Circle Song, which introduced essential circle facts in an entertaining and memorable manner. Students thoroughly enjoyed this musical approach and eagerly joined in.

Throughout the day, participants engaged in a range of activities, including:

- **Pi-themed Word Searches**

A fun way for students to revisit mathematical vocabulary and hone their pattern-spotting skills.

- **Pi Mazes and Logic Trails**

These challenges encouraged students to persevere, think strategically, and collaborate effectively.

- **Circle Activities**

Students labeled parts of a circle and practiced calculating area and circumference.



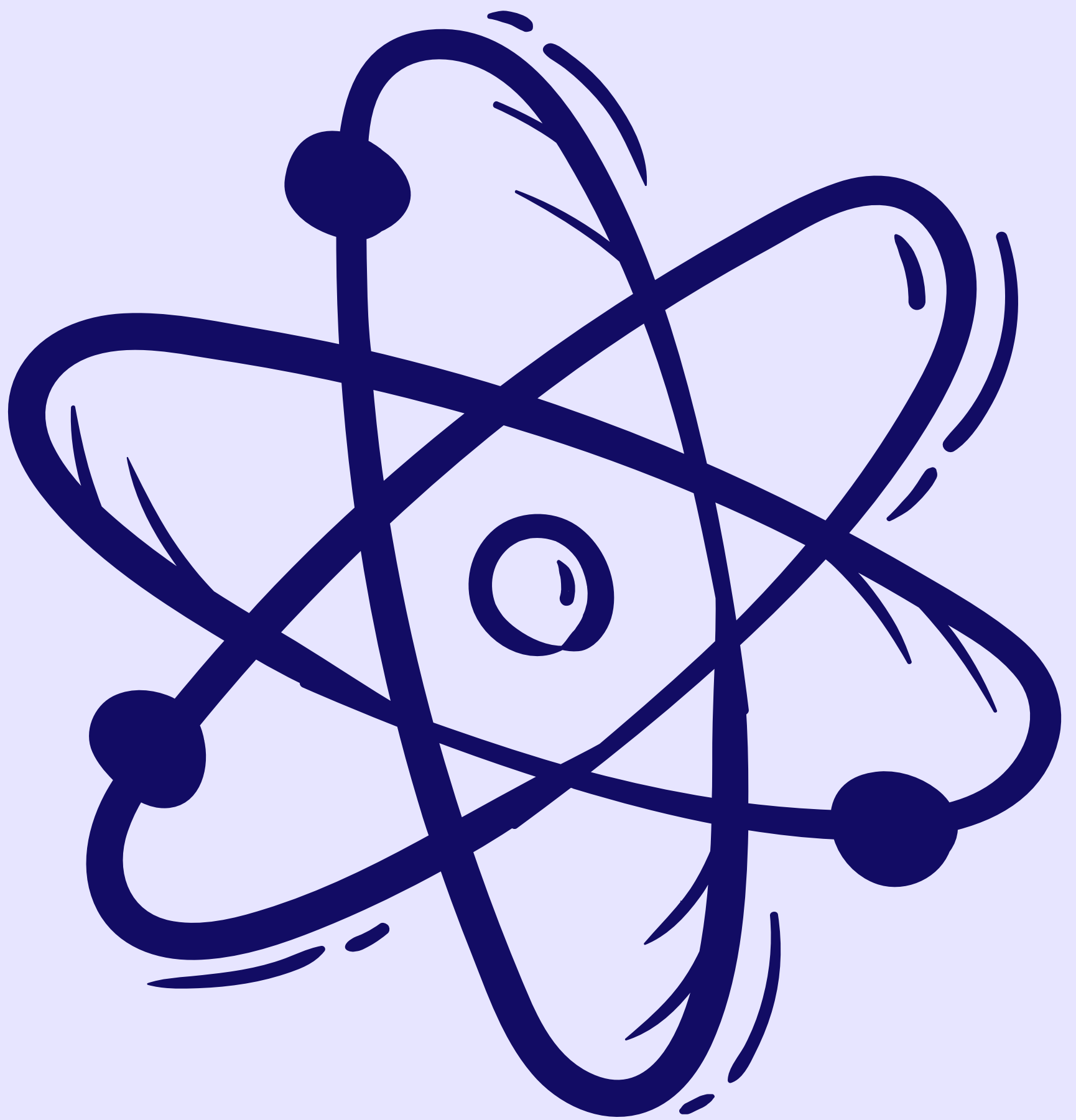
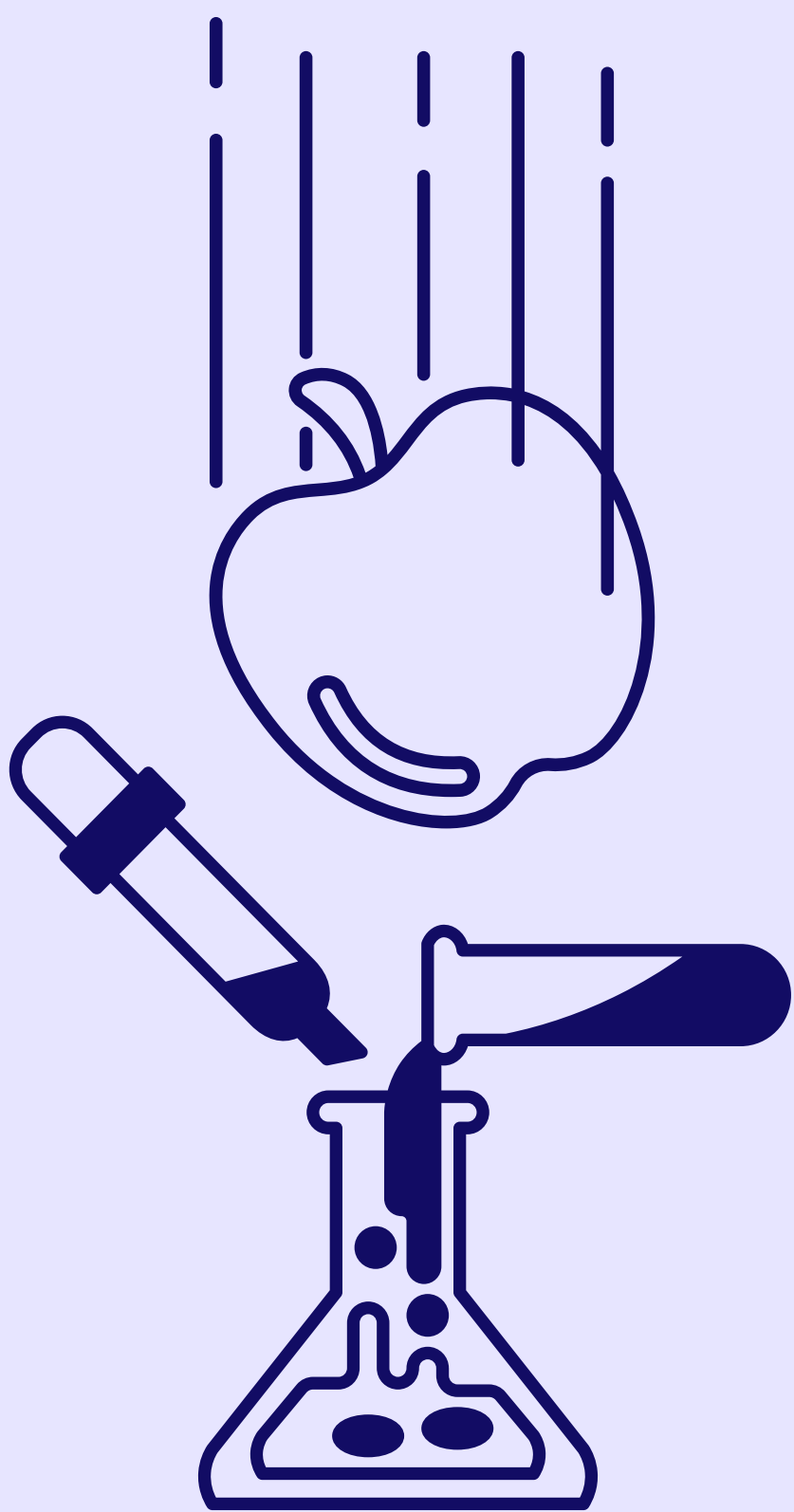
Year 9 Options Evening

Year Pupils and Parents Attend Annual Options Event

During this half term, Year pupils and their parents participated in our annual options event. This evening provided an excellent opportunity for both pupils and parents to discover the available choices as they prepare to transition to Key Stage 4 in September. Attendees had the chance to engage directly with subject teachers, asking questions and gaining deeper insights into the subjects we offer.



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK



British Science week was recognised on March 9th to 16th. Students were all encouraged to participate in various activities, but with a literacy focus covering one of Arc's major targets for the school year.

The Theme for the week was

CURIOSITY: What's Your Question?

KS3 were given a group task to learn more about some scientists and answer questions about them. They all engaged well with this activity, and this opened up quite meaningful discussions in science lessons, relating to this..

ATTENDANCE REWARD

Attendance Competition Rewards

Every half term, an attendance competition takes place, where the class with the highest overall attendance wins a meal out.

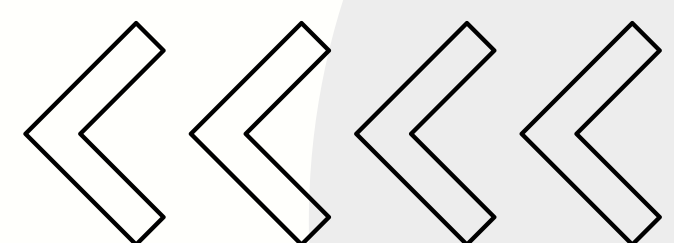
This time, Class 4.2 achieved the highest attendance and enjoyed a delightful meal at Hickories Smokehouse. Additionally, they were fortunate enough to receive a tour of the restaurant's working kitchen, led by the head chef, who shared insights about the preparation and smoking of their meats.





FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Our KS4 football team participated in their termly tournament in Rugby, facing off against four other school teams. The day proved to be a success, with one draw and three wins, ultimately leading to the Arc School Ansley football team claiming victory in the entire tournament. Congratulations to everyone involved!



WORLD THEATRE DAY

Arc School Ansley marked World Theatre Day with a vibrant celebration of creativity, confidence, and self-expression. The day began with a powerful confidence-building workshop delivered by external provider Rites of Passage. Pupils were immersed in an emotive performance exploring childhood experiences and the idea of “wearing a mask” to hide our true selves – a theme that resonated deeply and opened up thoughtful discussion.

Inspired by the performance, every pupil designed their own character profile, drawing on their personal likes, experiences, and aspirations. This creative task encouraged self-reflection and helped pupils explore identity in a safe, imaginative way. They then took part in a series of drama games designed to build confidence, teamwork, and trust – with plenty of laughter along the way.

In the afternoon, KS3 pupils enjoyed a showcase of talent from their peers. Students performed songs from Wicked the musical, filling the space with energy and emotion. This was followed by a short play, It’s All in Your Head, performed by the KS4 Performing Arts group. The piece explored thoughts, worries, and inner dialogue, tying beautifully into the day’s themes of self-expression and authenticity.

The whole day captured the spirit of World Theatre Day – celebrating the power of performance to help us understand ourselves, connect with others, and step confidently into new roles both on and off the stage.

