



WILDS LODGE

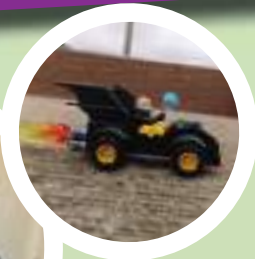
SUMMER 2021 - 15TH EDITION

News



What's inside?

News • Photos • Articles • Stories • Poems • LOTS



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It is a feeling of extreme mixed emotions writing this together for the first time. We entered this year hoping for a sense of normality, unfortunately Covid-19 led to further mainstream school closures and a third national lockdown.

It really has been a rollercoaster of change and the loss of our founder and Principal Robin Lee earlier this year has made this academic year one of the most sad, difficult and turbulent on record. However, our pupils and staff have shown great resilience, dedication and courage during this time. The best recognition of the huge impact he had is that Robin will remain at the forefront of our memories and he will continue to guide our ethos and practice daily in the legacy he has created.

Despite being in lockdown for the majority of the year, we have managed to fill the year with exciting and creative activities and projects. The care team have gone above and beyond thinking of exciting and enriching activities to deliver during lockdown. Creative therapies week, World Book Day, Beach day, Sports day to name a few. Our risky play project was completed, offering pupils the opportunity to climb, swing, slide in a safe but challenging manner. Wilds Lodge football team has been enjoying being able to play against local schools, including a tournament in which the team did extremely well. We also have some keen fishers who have been angling locally through the year.

The Nurture house will be opening in September, allowing us to support some of our youngest pupils with the aim to transition them back into mainstream school, Cherida and her team have worked tirelessly to ensure this will be an amazing unique provision. We constantly look to improve our existing offer and explore projects to develop Wilds Lodge and continue to lead in therapeutic education. Our 'Rosie and Jim' style barge is another new and exciting learning curve and we hope to become one of the first (if not the first) school to have their own floating play therapy space.

Sophie and Steph continue to work to gain their BHS qualifications to enable us to extend the horse riding offer to students that are



interested in pursuing higher qualifications and we should see both this and the animal care develop further into next year which is an exciting development. The CAD room extension has also allowed the offer of a more work based experience to be extended next year to support some students that are interested in more wood based work with Dan, exploring the equipment, skills and techniques that can be used to make a range of objects. We will also be offering a ceramics qualification for the first time with Alice and hope this is a good addition to the wider curriculum. The art room at Wilds has also been developed over the past year and is now a fantastic resource for both KS2 and 3 to use.

We look forward to a new academic year that will allow our usual activities and welcoming back our annual camps, performances and trips. It will be lovely to be able to invite parents and carers back on site. The contact and visits have been hugely missed but the support of our parents and carers over this year has been exceptional and we are very grateful for it. From the heart, thank you.

Emma and Kirsty

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

It has been a crazy busy year at Wilds as I'm sure you can see from the number of articles in this year's magazine.

Jane Crosbie (Editor)

Remembering Mr Lee

Robin opened Wilds Lodge School in 2007. His determination, passion and dedication to helping young people saw it grow into the school it is today. His ethos and vision created a special, safe place for students helping them achieve their full potential. He not only cared for the pupils but their families and community, often going above and beyond to ensure every child was given an opportunity to learn and thrive.

He was kind, loyal and refused to accept anything but the very best for his students. This was evident through his career as a Head Teacher and Principal, with over 40 years experience and supporting hundreds of pupils and their families. He was rightfully awarded an MBE last year to celebrate his achievements within the SEN education provision.

He worked tirelessly to ensure every child had equality of access, expanding the school to meet the needs of the children who came through his school. The Post 16 provision and later the Nurture provision were testament to this approach, more recently introducing female students to the cohort complimented his inclusive and holistic model.

He will be greatly missed but his memory and vision will continue throughout Wilds Lodge and our amazing students. We are extremely proud to be able to have known and learned from this very special man.



KS2 and KS3 took part in our Wilds Lodge School Challenge for Children in Need called Wilds to Where?

We had a mixture of rowing machines, turbo trainers for the bikes, walking, running and biking. This ran for a whole week but the biggest effort coming in on the Children in Need Friday.

KS3 completed 50.5 miles, KS2 completed 7.1 miles, The Lodge house group completed 35 miles and Thomas completed 15 miles.

Thank you so much to everyone who donated and well done to all that took part, it was great to see the effort from each and every student.





Woodwork

Key Stage 2 have got very creative in the last year during Woodwork. They've made a range of crafts from Hobby Horse, Bug Hotels, to Board Games and even Robots!



Animal Care

Key Stage 2 have really enjoyed spending time at Crossroads with the Animals this year and have begun working towards the Animal Care qualifications.



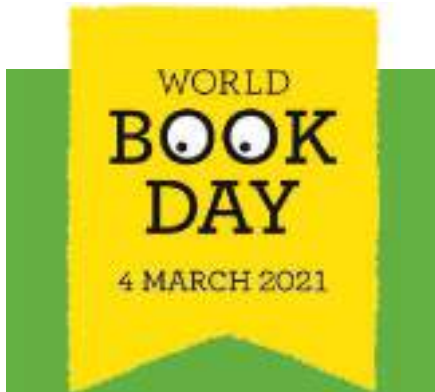
Eggciting Easter

This year Wilds Site held their annual Easter Egg Design Competition, there was some cracking entires. School Council took a long time to decide the winners and chose Roman (KS3) and Louie (KS2) as there winners!

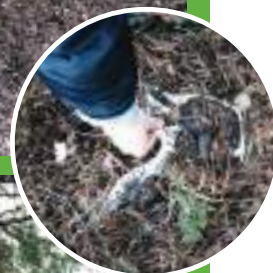


Wilds to Where

This year for Children In Need, School Council took the challenge to organise and fundraise for the event. They chose a Wilds to Where challenge to travel as many miles as they could by Walking, Rowing and Cycling. In total they managed to fundraise around £300 and totalled 224 Miles.



KS2 Enjoyed taking part in World Book Day slightly different this year completing a Book Treasure Hunt!





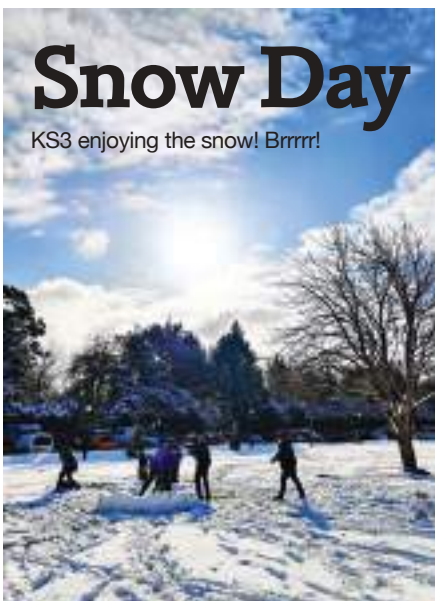
Egg Hunt

Earlier in the academic year, Year 8 were learning about plans and maps in maths. So, we did an egg hunt using a map of Wilds Lodge, marked with the eggs locations to find them. Everyone tried hard and successfully found one or more eggs, well done all!



Snow Day

KS3 enjoying the snow! Brrrrr!



ART

This year I've decided to start to push our curriculum further by introducing some new content to keep us fresh and modern for our kids. In particular we've added a whole new animation topic where learners start making their own animations using either traditional methods (flip books, zoetrope's, etc) and more modern methods using computers (stop motion, digital animation of figures). It's not an area of natural expertise for me, but our students seem to have loved it and it was well worth the effort to see them build and develop their own creative skills in a new way.

On the strength of this I'm keen to see photography really take off next year. It's again, not an area of particular expertise for me- but I know we can have some fun and our children will be able to enjoy and excel in another artistic field. I'm quite excited about the prospect of it!

With the launch of our online gallery on the Wilds Lodge website we now have a dedicated platform to showcase completed artworks. Please check weekly because we should have pretty consistent updates being uploaded.

At the time of writing this we're busy creating pieces for our Summer exhibition, which this year is in our beautiful theatre foyer. Every child in KS3 is getting the opportunity to have their own canvas and I've had a day full of all sorts of interesting topics- including dinosaurs, footballers, animals and much more.



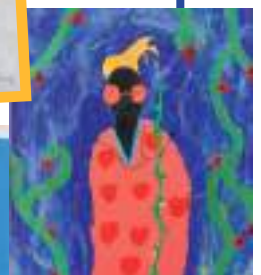
8EB were looking at the artwork of Quentin Blake, and here's some fantastic pieces from themselves!



Of course this last year has had a massive impact on us, but looking into the future I'm hopeful we can start to do things again like trips. I would love to start taking some of our children to some of the bigger art galleries like the Tate to see some of the work being shown. I think it's important that our youth get exposed to contemporary and classical masterpieces and I know this can have a huge formative impact on our children.

So well done for this year to all of our students and bring on the next one!

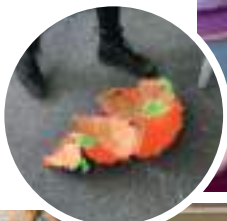
JOSH REED



Here are some amazing illustrations from 9EMC - very talented!

Halloween

KS3 got into the swing of things this Halloween, with fun activities including a pumpkin pinata and sock pumpkins!



FOOTBALL



KS3 FOOTBALL MATCH

On the 16th June, Wilds Lodge football team visited Quorn Hall school. As well as representing the school, they won! Squad: JT (7x00), Shay (2x00), Evan (3x00), Raph (1x00), Luke (2x00), Fergus, Hayden, Dec, Bobby, Lewis, and Lucas. Well played!



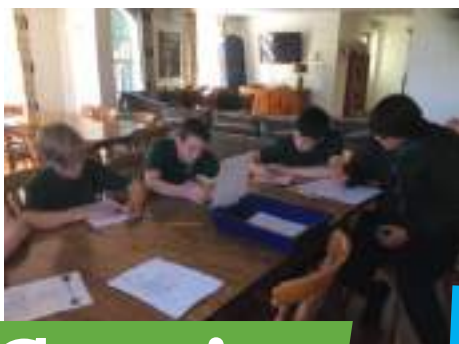
IN-HOUSE FRIENDLY FOOTBALL MATCH

We also hosted a tournament with guests Knossington Grange, Phoenix Park, and Athena!



Catering

KS3 have been cooking up a storm this year, with many tasty treats and delicious dishes leaving our mouths watering. Pizzas, chocolate mug cakes, breakfast wraps and more - but not only that - some have been working towards AQAs too! *chef's kiss





Robin's Sunflowers

Kim and Nikki's classes in Year 7 have planted their sunflowers in memory of Robin. They have been looking after them in their classroom for about 5 weeks and then it was time to plant them outside. We didn't manage to plant them as secretly as Robin used to!



KS3 Stop Motion Videos

8EB made some incredible stop motion videos with Josh (here's a still from one of them!)

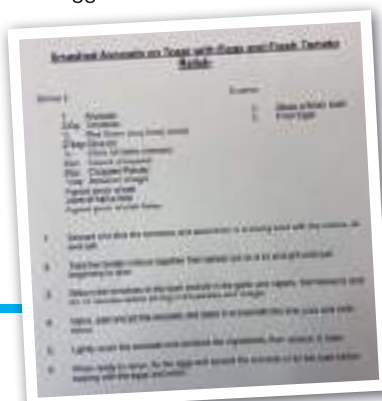


Time capsule

8EB have been busy drawing up COVID related art for the time capsule - and all the artwork on the board has been created during lockdowns the previous year! We also made a list of songs that helped us through this year.

Cooking with Dan

When 9EMC make Gallo Pinto, a traditional Costa Rican breakfast of black beans and eggs!... Fergus approves! Also, here's a recipe for one of the favourites - Smashed Avocado on Toast with Eggs!



Mental Health Week



As part of Mental Health Week, KS3 enjoyed the outside and being closer to nature, and got ready for summer with BBQs!



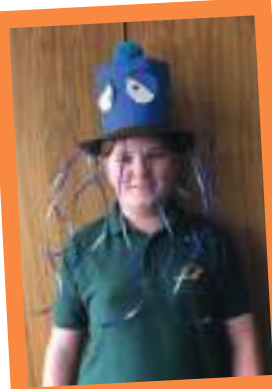
Forest School

Forest School shenanigans with KS3! Luke's having a well deserved rest in his shelter, Codi keeps warm by the fire, and Roman and Nathan look comfy!



Wear a Hat Day

On the 26th March, we helped raise funds for Brain Tumour Research by taking part in 'Wear a Hat Day!' KS3 had some amazing headwear!



Shakespeare Schools Festival

The biggest well done to our 2020 cast of Richard III. This years 'Shakespeare Schools Festival' looked very different but our fantastic cast rose to the challenge and smashed it! Go team! We also finished with a delicious Dominos to say well done.



Charlie's Workshop

Look at this amazing Titanic Charlie made in the workshops - looks unsinkable! Well done Charlie.



Ceramic Gargoyles

Joe and Fergus from 9EMC sculpted their own gargoyles, fantastic!



KS3 Running Club

Back in February, some of the students took part in a running club, and Thomas and Bobby were awarded medals for their efforts! Well done!



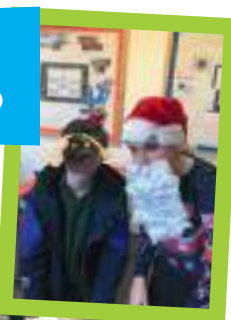
Mindfulness Activity Day

KS3 having a no screen zone as a Mindfulness activity! Chess what we needed!



Christmas

Christmas at KS3! Elf breakfasts, Xmas dinners, and workshops galore - we had a jolly good time!



Science (Circuit Diagrams)

In Science we've been looking at circuit diagrams, and here are 8LH with their fantastic work!



KS3 Harry Potter Lessons

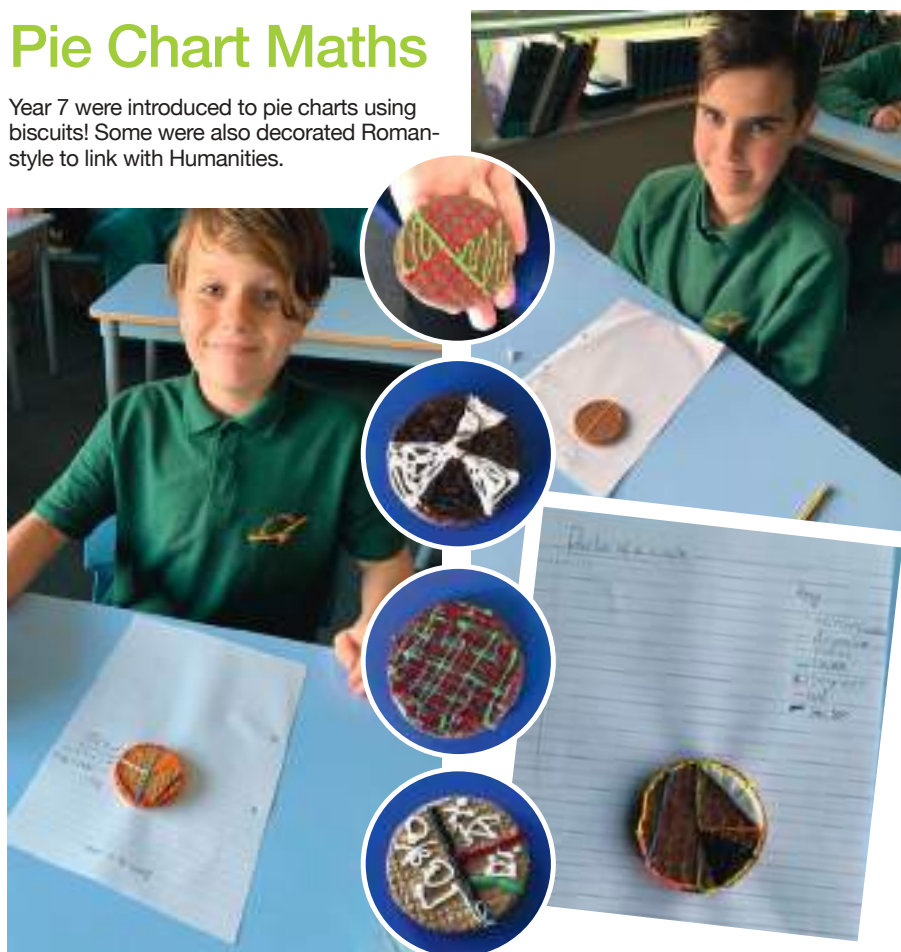


KS3 spent some time with Harry Potter themed lessons, including Potions class and Quidditch!



Pie Chart Maths

Year 7 were introduced to pie charts using biscuits! Some were also decorated Roman-style to link with Humanities.



Story Writing

Year 7 pupils have spent time creative story writing throughout the past year. We've made them into books once completed with front cover and blurb the books have been swapped with the other year 7 class group to give them a read and to create a book review.

ICT

Ted (or Super Ted!) teaching KS3 about the beginnings of the computer!



Drama 8EB

8EB exploring their new play - Chatroom! The group focused on staging and the use of technology, with lighting by Reece and Mason. Great work!





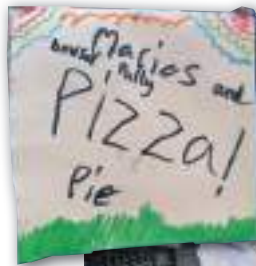
Banana Split

Neil's class made some yummy banana splits!



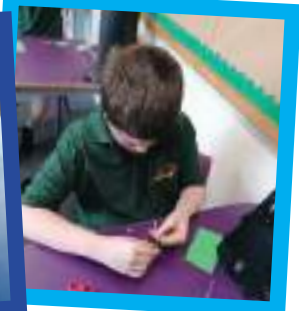
Pizza Boxes

In STEM year 7 rivalled Domino's and made their very own pizza boxes to insulate their own cooking, yummy!



Toothpick Tower

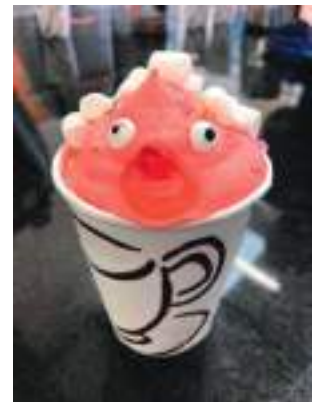
Year 7 have been successful in STEM with their Toothpick Tower challenge, resulting in a sweet treat!



Newspaper Tower

In STEM this week Key Stage 3 took part in the Newspaper Tower Challenge and even managed to make a tower upto the classroom ceiling!





Red Nose Day

All students received a red nose this year from members of staff around the school. A little note inside to say who it was from was a really nice surprise. Here are 8EB with theirs!





Stem

This year Key Stage 2 and 3 have enjoyed the introduction of STEM lessons to the curriculum. Taking part in a range of activities to develop their critical thinking skills. They have planned for a Zombie Apocalypse, been stranded on a desert island and have even made their own Ice Cream. They particularly enjoyed making a range of their own Stop Motion Videos and photographed their own optical illusions.



Hello Yellow

Key Stage 2 enjoyed celebrating Hello Yellow Day last September!



ROCK LODGE 2021

Rock Lodge started off the year with a brand new house group, including new staff members; Zoe and Jordan. COVID restrictions meant that at the start of the year, activities were limited but thankfully the boys were forthcoming in helping set up the new Rock Lodge Gym and Music room in the Outhouse. This gave them a sense of ownership and provided them with meaningful places to spend their evenings. This year we have also installed a household washing machine which has helped develop their independent life skills alongside the household creating their own menus and food shopping. This has taught them valuable skills which will transfer to life after Rock Lodge. The boys have experienced planning, budgeting and preparing their own meals. Throughout lockdown we filled the week with regular baking, craft, movie and game nights which helped the boys form strong friendships with each other.

As the restrictions gradually began to lift we have been able to offer more experiences for the house. This has been a welcome addition to school life for many of the boys who were yet to experience the full breadth of opportunities provided to them. Many of the post 16 boys have developed a keen interest in fishing thanks to their trips with Paul and this has now become a regular pastime for them. They are looking forward to an overnight fishing trip. Other popular trips have included golfing, kayaking, trampolining and shopping trips to Peterborough.



Sports Day

🏆 2020 🏆

Well it has been an interesting end to the year and we didn't know if sports day would actually happen. After many emails and conversations and listening to the government advice we managed to hold a much smaller much more intimate sports day which unfortunately meant that parents weren't here for the end of year spectacular.

We managed to hold an event where Key Stage groups went around in bubbles competing with a few new events taking place. These included welly wanging, goal shooting, tin can alley and indoor curling. This brought about a new fun competitive adventure for the students.

We still had the traditional events such as the 100m sprint and 800m event, there was also events such as target throw, long jump, shot put and obstacle relay race. Next year hopefully with the government guidelines easing we might be able to

run a much more traditional Wilds Lodge Sports day with Parents/Guardians in attendance.

This years winners included Jacob Tiernan, Reece Nicholls, George Groves and Bobby Scott all taking the Captains choice awards for their teams. For most points collected Harry Denford took the KS4 award, with Shay Arculli for KS3 and a joint effort from Tyler Morris and Thomas Nichols for KS2.

The Darren Mills Award of courage this year went to Summer Carpenter attending her first Wilds Lodge Sports Day. The Victor Ledorum, the trophy that every student aims for, was won by Jude Warren.

A massive well done to every single person young and staff for making this different Wilds Lodge Sports day a success.





Wilds Lodge BEACH DAY

2020



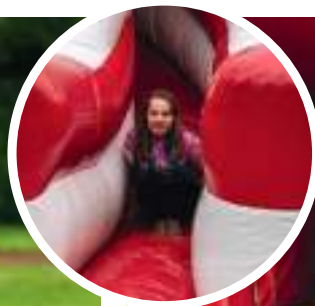
Back in July 2020 we were unable to go on our annual trip to Hunstanton beach because of the pandemic, this had been a favourite school tradition for many years. But we did not let the pandemic spoil all of the FUN!

We decided that if we could not go to the beach we would bring the beach to us! And so the 'Beach day' event was born!

We had an amazing day which included Giant inflatables such as the warrior wall

and enormous inflatable helter skelter, outdoor games, Coconut shy, hook a duck, paddling pools, candy floss machine and our very own sandy beach!

It was so lovely seeing the students (In their bubbles) have a fantastic day of fun and laughter, we even enjoyed a visit from Gino the ice cream man for a 99 and the school kitchen cooked us an incredible fish and chip lunch with our very own wooden forks!





CROSSROADS

The Covid Years

As we come to the end of another school year some of the group sat down with myself and talked about how quick it has gone. They reminisced about the year and how Covid has affected everyone.



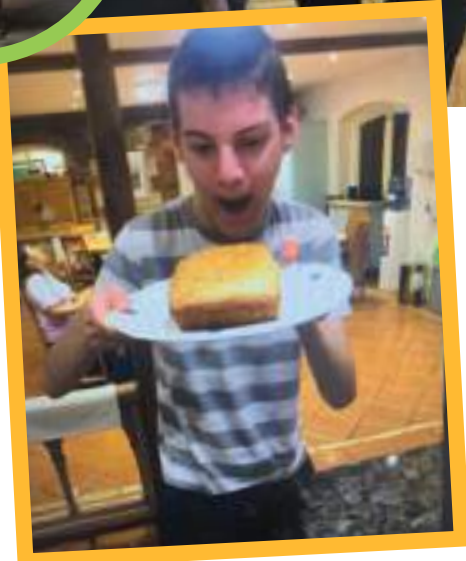
It only seemed like yesterday when the new students transferred over to Crossroads from the Loft group. These students have fitted in extremely well under the difficult circumstances that we were all put under.

The Summer came and went and with activities able to happen again the group ventured out to bowling and lazer quest. The group also were able to do lots of activities based around the site with some of the group participating in the cooking each week.

Christmas was coming closer and the Christmas forfeit challenge was set up by Simon. Their names was drawn out of a hat and they had to complete a challenge to win a special prize for themselves or some of their friends. It was really good to see all the students getting involved.

Winter started to set in and some heavy snow wasn't going to stop the group having fun. When I say group I include the staff in with this. During the day the staff and students built an igloo. Lots of fun was to be had and staff and students enjoyed the break for class to let their hair down in some friendly snowball fun.

The turn of the year brought more lockdown blues and activities away from the house were

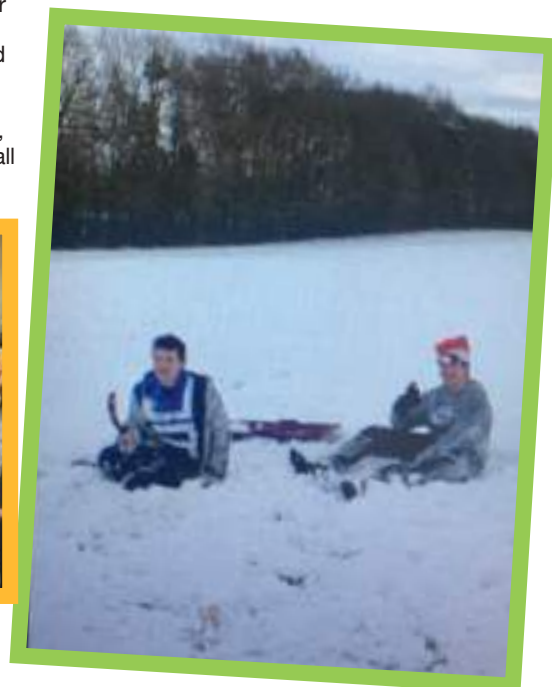


restricted to walks but some students took this upon themselves to get a little bit fitter and walking and cycling around Rutland water. Staff too enjoyed this, however Simon's blistered feet did not.

Group activities on the house continued with Debbie organising a live version of Among us where the group had to complete a task before being caught by the imposter.

Last term saw an emotional farewell to our year 11 group and the staff team could not be more proud of how they conducted themselves during the assembly and the leavers meal. As a house group we said goodbye to Alex, Dan, Matthew, Christian, Christopher and Jude and we wish them all the best for the future.

I end by saying as you read this our new cohort from the Loft would have been with us for 3 weeks. Having spent some time with them we welcome them with open arms and look forward to building relationships with them and seeing them develop over the coming months and years.

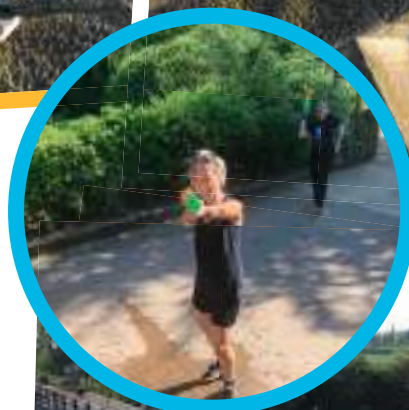


THE LODGE 2021

As the COVID-19 crisis continues the Lodge housegroup has continued to deal with all of the changes and the 'new normal'. In November 2020 we went into our second national lockdown with some restrictions still in place today. Prior to the pandemic, we would frequently take trips out to the cinema, swimming pool and shopping centres however this all changed. The Lodge took the changes in their stride and made the most out of the situation, keeping in positive spirits and acting maturely. We had lots of fun remaining on-site and these are some of the things we did to keep ourselves occupied.

- Halloween in house games - The best game was the Mummy Race!
- Making a Bird House competition - We didn't quite win this one!
- Wreath making competition - We WON!
- Baking sweet treats - Bobby makes the best brownies!
- Circuit Training and Running Club with Nikola and Jess - Wild's Lodge best PT's!
- Sunflower planting in memory of Mr Lee - A lovely way to remember Mr Lee
- Milkshake Mondays - This is the BEST way to start a Monday!
- Movie nights in the school theatre - We enjoyed the use of the popcorn machine!
- Water fights - Having fun keeping ourselves cool during the mini heatwave!

As the restrictions have lifted we have enjoyed spending time outdoors. We have had both walking and cycling trips to Rutland Water and Ferry Meadows, which have become a popular weekly activity.



The positive behaviour of students in the Lodge has meant that students in the Senior Boy Room have earned a smart TV, which they have enjoyed and has kept them entertained. Finally in recent weeks we have been preparing for a transition from the Lodge to the Loft. We have 6 more weeks left together which we are extremely excited to create more long lasting memories. We are so proud of how every student has coped during this period of change and hope everyone has a great last term together as a house group.



THE LOFT 2021

It's been a year on The Loft. We're not going to mention unprecedented times or uncertainty, we're just going to say it's been a year. As we say goodbye to our Year 9's as they make the move into Key Stage 4 and over to the Crossroads house, we review the year that's gone.

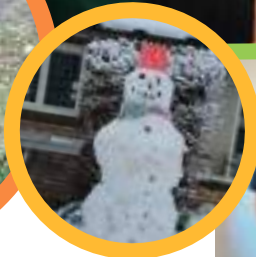
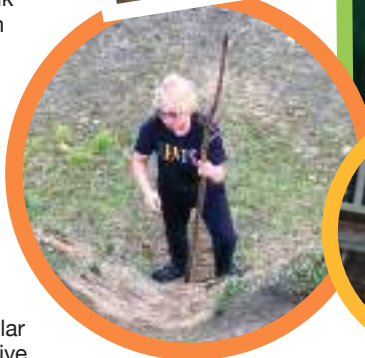
All returned in September to what felt like normality. Some of our boys hadn't been in school for up to 6 months, with others checking in for some end of term activities, and some, the real troopers of the group, having been at school the whole time.

From September to December we had a range of on house activities including colouring and making a Christmas grotto, bauble making as well as the addition of a pool table and some table tennis bits. Anything to keep them busy. Walks became the go to activity to get out of the house and I think we covered every walk in and around Stamford and back again twice! Walk anyone?

We did manage to get some off-site activities done towards the end of 2020 and laser quest became a favourite with the rule of 6 being adopted. Until, at Christmas, back into lockdown again!!! Most returned after Christmas for more on-site fun. Walk anyone?

Pool tournaments, arts and crafts, baking and devices were the main attraction. Exercise became quite popular with students able to get their competitive side shown. Walk anyone? As the months progressed and the weather got better and lockdown eased we were able to get out a bit more and a semblance of normality for an evening.

Staffing wise, we said hello to Chris and then goodbye to Chris who then moved on to Rock Lodge and then to greener pastures and also Gary, who moved up from Rock Lodge but then back to nights. The consistency of Charlotte's relentless questioning, Jordan ever changing hair colour, Nikola's volume and Neil's boringness remained however, which I'm



The Loft Dungeons & Dragons Club!

sure deep down all the Year 9's will miss. And we won't believe them if they say they won't.

All in all, it's been a year. We look forward to Annual Camp with a new group at the start of next year. Walk anyone?

We can't have an article without mentioning our honorary staff member Syd, who when she was asked about the year she summed it up by saying she's had a woofing great time!

LOFT TEAM
Neil, Nikola, Charlotte, Jordan, Syd



PERFORMING ARTS

It has been a quiet year for Performing Arts and Drama, but when possible we have continued to offer singing and dance lessons in a group or 1:1. Throughout the year we have had various performances, from the school Christmas shows to the Shakespeare festival where we performed 'Richard III'. Many students from all key stages have also joined our Choir Club where we sing and dance to our favourite songs. Unfortunately our end of year musical and variety show has been postponed once again to next year, but we have even more time to rehearse and make it a fantastic performance to welcome you all back to.

Richard III is a classic Shakespearean historical tragedy that depicts the villainous plotting and ultimate demise of the main character, Richard Duke of Gloucester. Richard murders anyone in his way to gain victory and claim the crown. The students were unable to perform at the Corby Cube this year, due to the pandemic restrictions, however, they did a fantastic job in our wonderful theatre and enjoyed a lovely pizza to celebrate afterwards.

Christmas Shows took place this year in our wonderful theatre. Nurture performed in their fantastic Nativity, KS2 devised their very own 'Christmas Island' and Key Stage 3 devised their own Aladdin pantomimes. All performances were shared with the rest of the school and the families of those that took part. We look forward to sharing this



year's work with you all later on in the year.

Choir Club continues to be a successful addition to the lunchtime activities at Wilds Lodge. At Choir Club we have learners from all key stages, in their bubbles, come together to sing songs from the charts and musicals. We work together as a team, singing harmonies and having lots of fun! So far we have worked on a Bruno Mars Medley, Lewis Capaldi, Kings of Leon and some songs from Dear Evan Hansen.



Next Year we are planning to put on our first full length Musical, a Variety show alongside lots of shows from our very talented group of B-tec Performing Arts students! We are also going to run our first set of singing exams with the London College of Music. We plan to have lots more creative and performing arts for you to enjoy!

NATURE STUDIES

According to the Mental Health Foundation, Research shows that people who are more connected with nature are usually happier in life and more likely to report feeling their lives are worthwhile. Nature can generate a multitude of positive emotions, such as calmness, joy, creativity and can facilitate concentration. Nature connectedness is also associated with lower levels of poor mental health; in particular lower depression and anxiety levels.

This year, some of the 14-19 students have been learning about a wide variety of British wildlife including bees, badgers, hedgehogs and beavers. They have been looking at the environmental issues affecting our wildlife species, conservation efforts and the impact of non native animals on our countryside. The students have created bee hotels, hedgehog hibernation boxes and a wildlife area at Crossroads with a small pond and lots of wildflowers.



Matt and Charlie putting in the pond at the wildlife area.



Charlie at our wildlife area with the wonderful sign he has made.



Otto with his fantastic bee hotel.



Bailey making a hedgehog box

CONSTRUCTION

This academic year Construction like many others has seen some disruption in the delivery of the lessons. This certainly has not stopped us in terms of learning and producing some fabulous pieces of work along the way. Each and every student has shown progress and achieved their goals and targets which we set together at the beginning of the school year.

Topics covered this year have been Brickwork where we have seen lots of activity with walls building built on every square inch of the workshop floor. We have seen brick pyramids, straight walls, return angled walls along with some great examples of block walls. We have even built some fantastic cavity walls using building ties to connect the two walls adding strength to the construction.

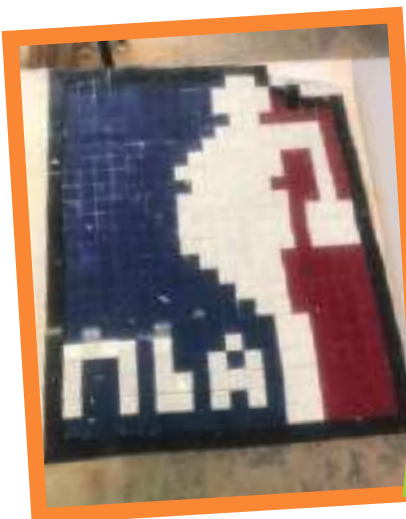
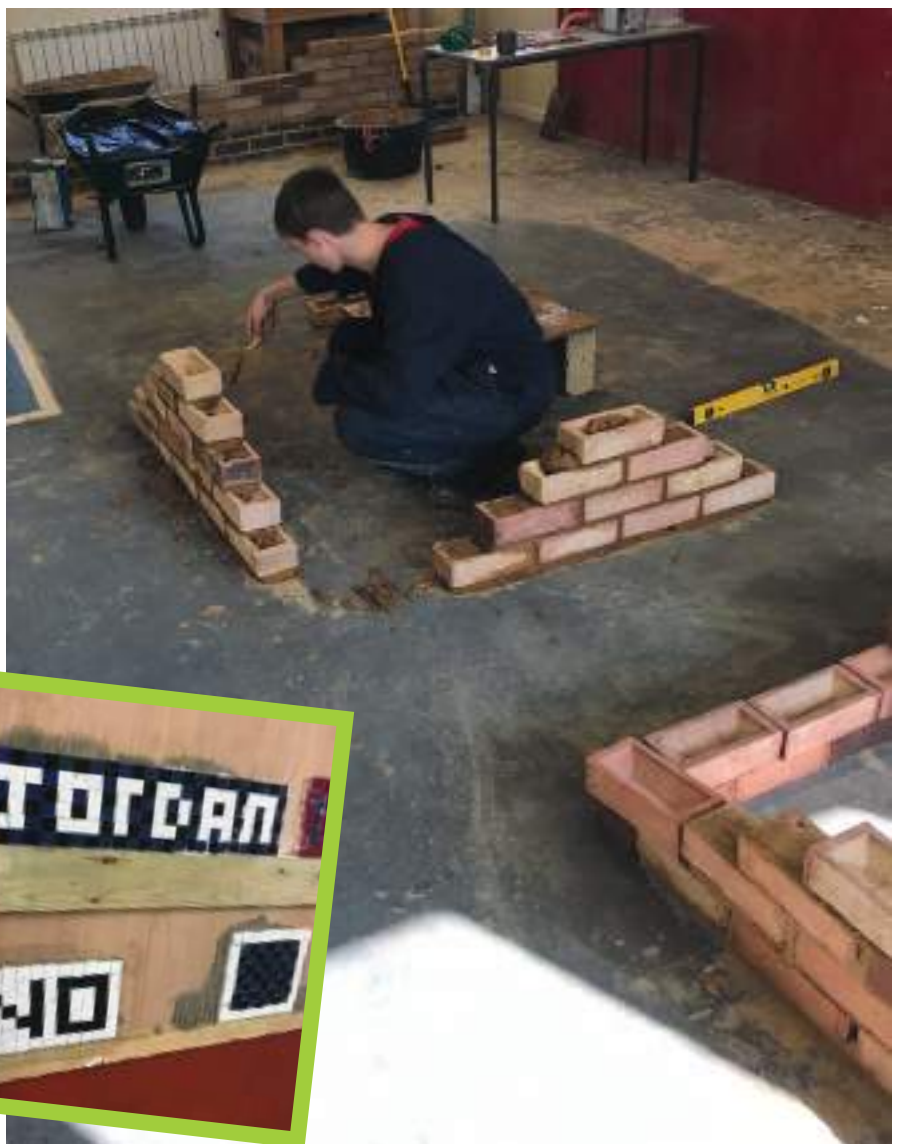
Tiling is also another aspect of construction we have learned lots about, we have tiled walls using kitchen and bathroom tiles measuring the wall finding the centre, and placing our tiles so they are symmetrical to the wall we have to tile. Tiling is the most popular section of the Multicraft qualification, we have seen lots of activity in the tiling bays due to this.

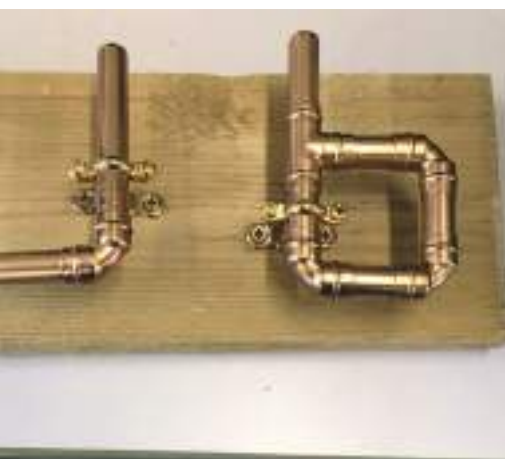
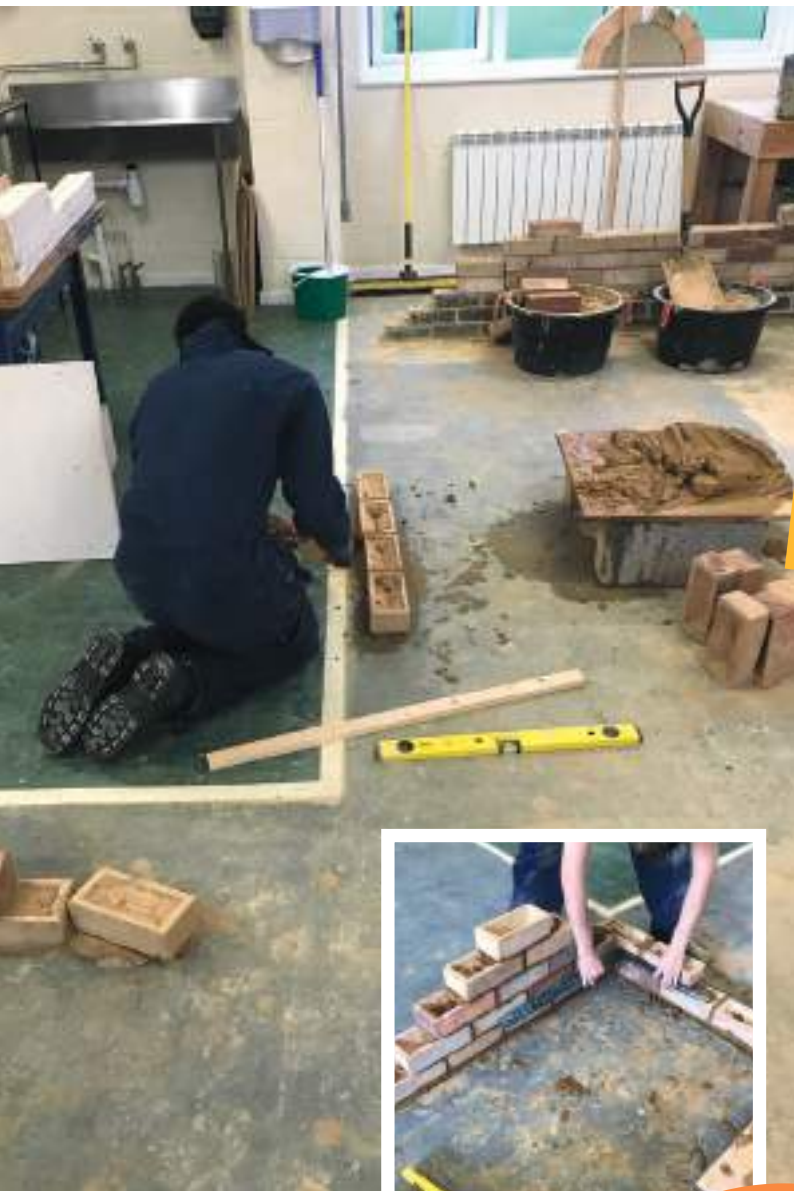
Other jobs taken place in tiling is when Jordan did a fantastic piece of work using mosaic tiles. He took the NBA logo and laid it out with the small mosaic tiles. Once he was satisfied with the look of the design he stuck them down with adhesive.

Along with that Jordan designed a nameplate made with the mosaic tiles it was this that gave Jordan the enthusiasm and confidence to complete such a fabulous NBA logo!

Plumbing has seen lots of activity too with students starting off by measuring, marking, and cutting copper pipes. This skill is used to make their initials to start off with then progressing on to setting up a water supply for a radiator, this all needs fixing to the wall the same as in a domestic setting.

All in all another productive year in Construction!!







THE WILDS WORKSHOP

Hello & welcome to this year's issue from the Motor Vehicle/Engineering department.

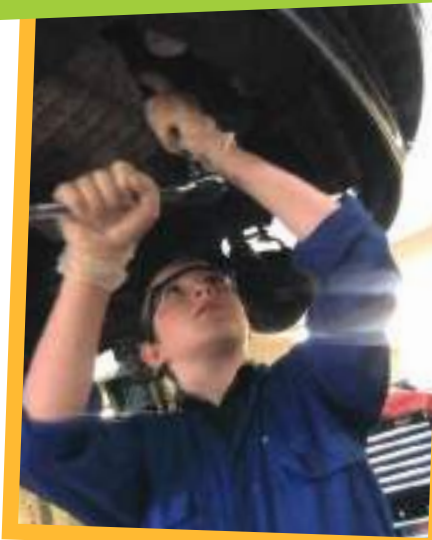
20/21 has been a difficult & challenging time for everyone. Surprisingly, with all that's been going on we have still managed to achieve some great successes. A few new faces have been introduced to this environment. Some have gained their first AQA Awards & others have completed their C&G qualifications.

This academic year we welcome Louis AS, Jordan A, Fergus C, Finlay M, Bailey D.

Being student-led sessions, students are able to decide which area they prefer to work in.

Louis, is one of our newcomers & has so far carried out motor vehicle tasks & has got to the stage where he will soon be ready to complete his first AQA Award in Wheel Balancing. In metal work, he has been measuring, marking, cutting, welding & has made an ornamental "Moon" heart.

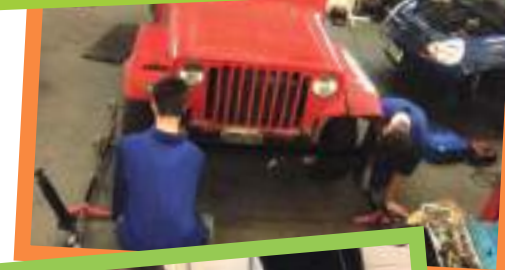
Jordan A has carried out Motor Vehicle tasks. He has been introduced to safely raising the car, removing wheels, wheel balancing & brakes. He



has also been practicing welding too. A very pleasant & polite student, works well & in time I feel he will make a good candidate for the City & Guilds 3902 Motor Vehicle qualification.

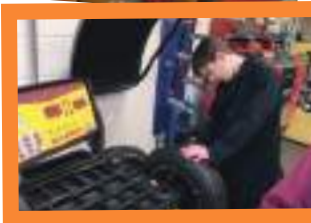
Fergus has focused mainly on motor vehicle tasks including balancing, brakes, & transmission, assisting his peers to achieve their qualification.

Finlay M has really shown his aptitude in motor vehicle & has



achieved his AQA Award in wheel balancing. He was comfortable enough to show Lucas the stages for wheel balancing.

Alex has been involved in lots of workshop skills. He is comfortable with most of the tools & equipment here in the workshop. His welding quality is improving & he is now practicing towards City & Guilds standards. He





has recently taken an interest in motor vehicle & has balanced wheels to the 0-0 tolerance gaining him his first AQA.

Jesse has focused on motor vehicle & has removed dismantled/refitted rear suspension, brakes & driveshafts. He is currently reassembling one of the school's vehicles. Jesse, could, with further input, achieve several AQA's & work towards the City & Guilds qualification.

We don't just focus on Motor Vehicle & Engineering, students work with other materials too. Charlie has a passion for the Titanic & has spent some time constructing a lovely model in aluminium & wood & copper. He has also been practicing balancing wheels in readiness for his first AQA Award.

Jordan has also been working on the construction of a model house, using shapes moulded from plaster of Paris.

Bailey has focused well & achieved his first AQA in wheel balancing.

Luke has worked really well & has concentrated on wheel balancing, gaining him his first AQA Award.

Jayden has spent a few lessons in

here & has worked really well & comfortably balances wheels to 0-0 tolerance, he'll soon be gaining his first qualification.

Josh has continued to grow in confidence with his welding & is honing his welding skills, aiming towards City & Guilds standards. He also restored an old vice making a lovely job of it.

Logan worked diligently & with focus & determination, successfully completed the City & Guild 3902 Motor Vehicle qualification to Certificate level.

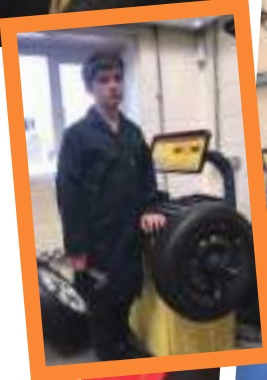
Will completed the City & Guilds 3902 Motor Vehicle qualification to Award level.

Chris completed his aeroplane model. His attention to detail/accuracy is really quite outstanding.

Logan, Wills & Chris will be leaving us this year. I sincerely hope they all realise their dreams & ambitions in their exciting future.

Thank you ALL for being involved with Motor Vehicle & Engineering.

JOHN SHARP
Motor Vehicle/Engineering.



WILDS THERAPY

Adapting to new norms has been a key theme during the last 12 months, and as a team we got our creative heads together to explore how we could work with the challenges the restrictions provided!

OUTDOORS WORK

Animal therapy has evolved to include working outdoors and in nature, utilising the beautiful green spaces at Wilds Lodge. This has proved hugely successful so far. Our grounds team has been working hard implementing changes and improvements across both sites to make them enriching therapeutic spaces for our students and the animals they work with.

TRAINING

This year the therapy team have been delivering half-termly in house training sessions. The trainings have been open to all staff members across the school and are designed to strengthen teaching and care staff knowledge on a range of topics related to mental health and wellbeing.

The team also attended a group animation training in June. We loved it and are excited to be able to incorporate the new skills we've learned into therapy at Wilds Lodge.

COVID WORKSHOPS

Following on from the Covid Creative Art Packs sent home during the first lockdown, the team have continued to encourage students to engage creatively to think about their experiences of the pandemic.

In February, as part of Children's Mental Health Week and the theme of "express yourself", we thought it would be great to get our pupils thinking and talking about the music they listen to, particularly throughout the Pandemic, and create a Wilds Lodge Pandemic Playlist!

Staff and pupils added 40 songs that they had been listening to. Songs that cheer us up, lift us up and give us some hope for a pandemic-free future!



Creative therapies week 2021

Our creative therapies team at Wilds Lodge launched creative therapies week in a bid to raise awareness about arts therapies, what they are, their value and efficacy. Throughout the week, each key stage attended a creative therapies workshop run by the therapy team.



Peg Doll Workshop- Nurture

Our nurture group attended this workshop involving a story about giants, kings and a tailor. The students listened to the story and played games involving moving and acting to help bring the story to life. The students each made a peg doll of a character to take away with them.

Story telling round the campfire- KS2

The KS2 students went on a journey through the forest. The story took them to a fire where they made bread, made their own bowls out of clay. The story took them to a horse who had lost its tail, the students had to help pin this back on before finding a drumming circle where they made music and listened carefully to each other's sounds.

Paint, Music, Move- KS3

KS3 listened to the Lykke Li song Lyrics for "Dance Dance Dance".

"Having trouble telling how I feel
But I can dance, dance, dance
Couldn't possibly tell you how I mean
But I can dance, dance, dance".

The song is all about words not always being easy and finding other ways to express yourself. This is what creative therapies are all about. The students listened to a soundtrack with a range of genres and used paint to move and express themselves as they listened to the music.

Hydro Dip Mask Workshop- KS4

Often in therapy we work with the idea of not knowing. Uncertainty can be really frustrating, anxiety provoking and can often leave us feeling uncomfortable. KS4 played with the idea of not knowing through experimentation in their hydro dip mask workshop. Each student chose coloured spray paints



which they sprayed on the surface of large containers of water. They then dipped their masks in and pulled them out to see what effects they had made.

Nature based drumming workshop- KS5

Rhythm is within us and all around us; from our hearts beating, the way we move and talk, to what we hear and see in nature. In many cultures, being together in a circle has been an integral part of community life, to share experiences and celebrate, and music plays a big part in that.

The KS5 students got a taste of a music and nature based therapeutic activity, sharing space with the horses at crossroads. Through a drumming circle, pupils engaged in a shared rhythmic experience which created a sense of connection and fun.

Class workshops

As well as this the therapy team organised creative activities for the students to complete with their class teachers.

Feeling Jars

Making a feeling jar is a creative way of representing your feelings. This activity can increase emotional literacy and the ability to



recognise feelings. It promotes right brain/ left brain activity and encourages reflection & re-evaluation about feelings.

Character workshops

This workshop involved creating a character. Students were provided with peg dolls and worksheets that were designed to develop a character. The students were then able to bring their character to life by decorating their peg dolls. We often work with characters and puppets in therapy as a way of helping children project their thoughts and feelings onto characters. Working in this way allows the child to explore difficult feelings about themselves at a safe distance.

Bowl of light (clay bowl making)

Therapeutic stories are used to help children process different themes and emotions through metaphor. The characters and events can subtly mirror real life themes for the child to draw out comparisons or emotional experiences between themselves and the characters featured. Alongside this we often use clay in therapy to help our students express their feelings and emotions physically in a safe contained space.

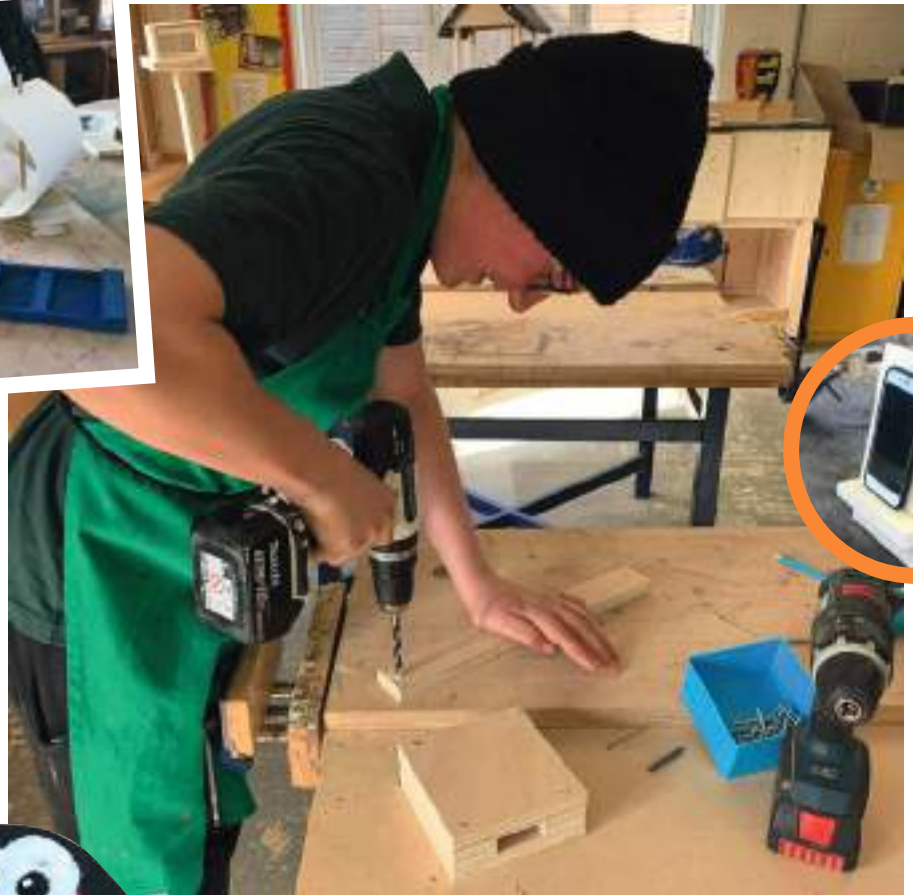
CDT

This year CDT has had another exciting year with lots of learning taking place with projects being developed and produced to a very high standard.

Pupils from Key stage 3 have been extremely busy making sweet dispensers which were fun to make and great to test the proof of the concept! The individual sections of the sweet dispensers had to be measured and cut out from bigger pieces of wood before pre drilling holes and joining them together with screws. To hold the sweets we had jam jars turned upside down and fixed into place directly on top of a drilled out hole for the sweets to drop into. The sweets are now in the sliding wooden server which can be pulled out and the sweets can be eaten!! Fantastic!!!!

We have seen Toby's imagination for a project go from strength to strength. He has made his name using copper pipe soldering them all together in perfect size so they all look uniformed, each letter has also been polished to give an ultra gloss finish. At Christmas time Toby made some miniature figures, he made a snowman and a Father Christmas both with such an amazing attention to detail giving them a professional finish. After his success with the Christmas figures Toby made a caricature figure of a robin he added flames to the tail to turn it into a rocket Robin!

Other things Toby has made include a hanging coat hook with a shelf for keys and nic nacs, he has also completed probably his biggest task so far which is an ergonomic chair. We sat Toby down so we could measure and calculate the height of the seat and the curvature too. There was lots of time and determination spent in making the chair but what a fabulous end result one which Toby should be very pleased about, well done Toby!



Traditional wooden games have been a hit again this year. We have been making O's and X's games, Finlay has made a flick ball game based on the pinball principle.

Travelling was a topic for one half term where we had a choice of transportation methods and we had to design and build that vehicle. We had some building cars with axles and moving wheels that sped across the workshop floor! We also had a selection of boats from sailing boats to punts with paddles.

All in all its been another fantastic year in the CDT workshop, well done to everyone for all the hard work and dedication.





MUSIC

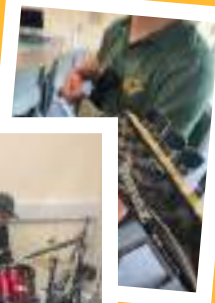
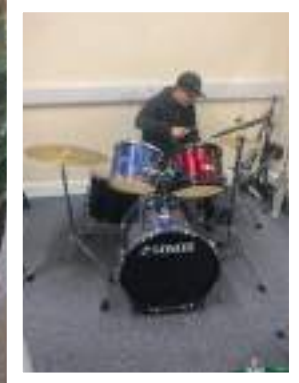
This year has seen the start of a functioning KS3 rock band. This has formed from individual music lessons and I'm so pleased to see the young musicians branching out and looking to form something for themselves. This band features two guitarists, a bassist, piano player and a drummer. They practise at least once a week now and are starting to get quite good! So watch this space, when they're ready I'd very much like to record something to share with you all.

Individual music lessons are at peak demand, more so than ever. I'm teaching guitar, bass, piano, drums, singing, composition, audio engineering and I've even had a little bit of trumpet- all in lunches and break times. This has produced an interesting dilemma because as more kids have heard the results they also want to participate. So now there is a fantastic buzz for music in the school, but I have to work out how to reach all of the eager children.

Despite all of the difficulties of the last year, academically the children have been doing very well. My GCSE students have still managed to record solo and ensemble performances and compose their own original songs. In KS3 students have studied topics ranging from folk music, medieval music, Serbian kolo's, Jazz improvisation, film music and Latin music. I've also made a considerable effort to

really introduce reading music from a staff in KS2 and I'm so happy to see 5 year olds correctly reading notes.

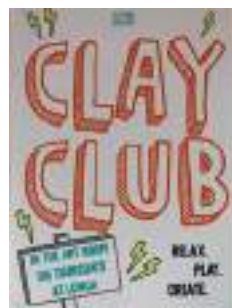
On top of all of this our facilities are developing and we have a functioning recording studio, with new microphones and monitors. I always envisioned this being a slowly building project and it's now becoming something quite special. I've also loved seeing the sense of pride and ownership in our older students over this space. They want it to be looked after and keen to see the space keep developing. So next, is some sound proofing and acoustic treatment... beyond that I have some plans! - Josh Reed



CLAY



CLUB



This year we brought back the KS3 Clay Club, which has been a great success! Students have had fun making all sorts of wondrous creations!



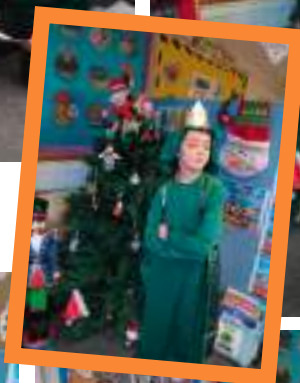
NURTURE TRIP TO RUTLAND WATER

In June both Nurture classes went on a lovely trip to Rutland Water. It was the most beautiful day and the children were so well behaved and had lots of fun playing together, making daisy chains, rolling around the grass and walking to Normanton Church. It can be the simplest activities that create the loveliest of memories! Due to the pandemic, this was the first trip as a large group, and Team nurture were so proud of how well all of the children coped. What a lovely afternoon!



NURTURE Nativity 2020

During the Christmas term, Nurture performed their very first Nativity play in the theatre. The children practiced for weeks in advance and all learnt their lines brilliantly. All nurture children and staff had a role to play and it turned out to be an amazing show! Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, we were unable to have a large audience, but we did get to perform in front of our lovely housekeeping team which was so lovely. We are very much looking forward to doing another Nativity this year as it was so much fun last time. Well done to everyone in nurture for working so hard to create such a lovely performance. The outfits looked fab too!





OUR NEW NURTURE BUILDING!

This academic year has been a very exciting one for everyone in Nurture, as at the start of the year work began on our brand new Nurture building! Pupils have loved visiting the site as the building has developed over the past year, and have also loved watching huge lorries deliver all sorts of different materials. We are now at a stage where by the time you are reading this article the building should be complete, with just some landscaping to complete.

Over the summer we will be working hard to move everything in, and to make it look beautiful inside, ready to begin the new school year there in September.....and we can't wait!! It's been

such a long wait but we feel so lucky to have such a lovely new building to move into, and are happy that we will be able to help many more children and their families in the future. Of course we would like to give a special mention to the awesome Mr Lee, as without him and his belief in our nurture provision, this would never have been possible. We are very sad that he is no longer with us and never got to see the finished result, but we know he would have loved it!

We look forward to sharing photos of the finish result, and of the children enjoying their new classrooms!



Nurture Children in Need

To celebrate Children in Need, Nurture pupils were involved in all the fundraising activities around school from the Wilds to Where, cycling and rowing to having a duck in the Duck Race. As well as having a duck in the race, pupils could design their own duck for a design your own duck competition. Pupils did a brilliant job of designing their ducks and these were displayed around school. Nurture watched the duck race live in the afternoon and cheered their own ducks on, cheering some on to win!

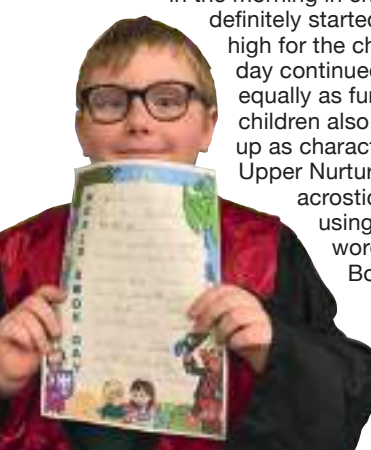


Nurture World Book Day

This year, Nurture again celebrated World Book Day awesomely! Staff surprised pupils by dressing up as book characters and collecting the students in the morning in character. This definitely started the day on a high for the children. The day continued to be

equally as fun with the children also dressing up as characters. Upper Nurture created acrostic poems using the words World Book Day

and Lower Nurture had a teddy bears picnic and story time. All the pupils in nurture love listening to a good book and enjoyed the opportunity to listen to some new stories!





Virtual Fireworks in Nurture!

In November we all had to enjoy a virtual fireworks display, and although it wasn't as good as the real thing, the children still enjoyed watching a fireworks display on the interactive board, while wrapped up in coats and drinking hot chocolate and marshmallows. We then got to go outside and have some sparklers!



Nurture Visits Rock Lodge



Backpack, clipboard and pencil, check! We all hopped in the school van and went on our way! Upper Nurture were so excited to go on their Geography trip to the Rock Lodge gardens to create a sketch map of the area. Despite the rain, pupils were so eager to get out, as this was our first trip of the year and it was nice to have a new environment to explore. Pupils especially loved seeing the fish in the pond! Nurture students were brilliant at multitasking; looking at their surroundings and then accurately drawing them on their map. We focused on the details, working independently, in pairs as well as a team to make sure everyone had accurate maps. Once we finished our maps, the pupils loved seeing the sights of Stamford from the bottom of the garden! We all went back to school with smiles and plenty to chat about and share with our friends!

Nurture Red Nose Day

As part of the Red Nose Day celebrations, the school had an assault course for pupils to take part in. Nurture pupils were super keen to be involved! Each pupil had their hair sprayed red, wore their red PE kits and were ready to attack the course. Nurture worked together as a team, encouraging each other as we went around the course and thoroughly enjoying getting messy! Everyone was giggling their socks off the whole way round the course and everyone loved it so much that we ended up going round a second time! By the end, Nurture were all covered from

head to toe in slime and were soaked through from the water slide but the pupils were super happy, chatty and giggly. We then enjoyed the rest of the day doing Red Nose Day activities and wearing their red noses.



Good Luck Ethan - You Are Awesome!!!

Ethan joined us when he was just 5 years old and has worked incredibly hard over the last 2 and a half years (or 30 months as Ethan likes to say!) to learn new skills, in order to be able to return to a mainstream setting. Team Nurture could not be prouder of this amazing little boy, who has desperately wanted to go to the same school as his little sister for some time now. Ethan has shown such resilience and determination during his time with us, and has grown in confidence and self-belief. He has been working so hard in all of his lessons, and is an absolute whizz at maths!! Ethan has also been our kitchen helper for a while now, and has never once got bored of taking all of the dirty pots back to the kitchen after lunch. Our little King of Nurture also absolutely loves washing machines, and has loved having opportunities to wash the blankets and



PE kits at school. What a busy little bee he has been.

We are all going to miss Ethan being part of our group so much, but we are so excited for him and know that he is going to have a great time at his new school. Ethan has already made some new friends at his new school, and we know how much he is looking forward to spending more time with them.

A big thank you to Ethan's mum and dad for all of their support over the last few years, we could not have done it without you! It's been a huge team effort and one that we are all very proud of. We can't wait to see how Ethan gets on, and we very much look forward to hearing regular updates on his progress.

Well done Ethan - never forget how awesome you are, and how proud of you we will always be. Please come back to do some washing soon! x



A Fun year of PE in Nurture!

The nurture group has been working really hard in PE this year. Each lesson the pupils were able to access a variety of skills while also adhering to social distancing guidelines.

Throughout the first part of the year the pupils have been learning all about what makes them healthy and how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The pupils for the first few weeks had to complete a series of activities including squats, burpees and sprints. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed pushing themselves each week to see if they could better their score. Towards the end of the term the pupils had the chance to pick their own exercises for the circuits. By giving the pupils the chance to select their own activities, it helped to give them a sense of ownership with regards to their own health and fitness.

During the second half of the year the children participated in gymnastics lessons. The children took to this challenge, and showed how amazing they were. Initially, children learnt the basics of balance and spatial awareness and they were then able to quickly grasp the skills needed to perform a forward roll.

Nurture pupils have worked brilliantly in PE this year, and we are all very proud of the progress they have made.

Another magical Christmas in Nurture!

Christmas 2020 was a bit different this time, with all of the restrictions and rules that were in place due to the pandemic. Although we all had to have a little more space around us, we still managed to have a lovely Christmas together. The children worked really hard to learn some Christmas carols, and made everyone around the school smile as they visited one class group at a time, and sang a range of carols to them all. They also took part in a snowball fight in the theatre, which they loved, and enjoyed taking photos in the photo booth. After all of the fun and laughter, Nurture

got their PJs on ready for a traditional Nurture Christmas Eve. We snuggled up in our blankets after putting a carrot and mince pie under the tree for Santa, read 'Twas The Night Before Christmas' and then went fast asleep. While we slept, Santa snuck in and delivered some presents, and we all woke up to lots of gifts under the tree. Everyone was very excited to see what Santa had got them, and afterwards we sat down to a delicious Christmas dinner! Spending a special day together was so lovely and we all have lots of lovely memories of a very unusual pandemic Christmas!



Lower Nurture have had a fantastic year!

'The children in Lower Nurture have had a fantastic year! They have had lots of fun across all of the subjects and have particularly enjoyed activities linked to their topic. In messy play and art, the children participated in many pirate themed activities such as glittery under the sea slime and creating pirate hooks and telescopes. In maths, the children have been looking at place value, addition and subtraction and shapes! The children have loved working systematically to find out all the possible number bonds as well as take part in shape experiments to see whether they roll or stack! In English, the children have been focusing on learning their tricky words - they have even had a visit from a postman once or twice to help them to read their tricky word envelopes! Well done to all of Lower Nurture this year, they have all done amazingly well and have shown how truly awesome they are! Natalie is super proud of you all!'



Upper Nurture have been working hard!

This year Nurture split into two groups and Upper Nurture has been really busy! Pupils have made new friends and learnt lots of new things.

We have had some brilliant lessons and activities this year and when asked their best part of the week in assemblies pupils have often recalled lessons they have taken part in or things they have learned which is AMAZING!

All pupils have worked really hard this year learning lots of complicated concepts but they haven't given up! All pupils in Upper Nurture have brilliant determination and resilience to keep trying even if things aren't going to plan or if they make mistakes!

This has especially been the case because Upper Nurture have had some new 'big boy' lessons. This year pupils have learnt their times tables and cursive



writing, as well as their Maths, English, Geography, Topic, Science and Art lessons and everyone has taken part in these brilliantly.

Just a message to my Upper Nurture Crew- You are awesome and I am really proud of all your hard work this year! Well Done! Megan x





Nurture ahoy!

The children began their summer term with the topic of Pirates! The children had lots of fun learning about this topic and began the term with each being assigned a pirate name. Some of these names included Captain Pegleg, Sailor Blackbeard and many more. In Lower Nurture, the children enjoyed the topic through various different lessons such as under the sea themed messy play, creating pirate hooks in Art and having a ship in their role play area! In Upper Nurture, the children learned about the different parts of the pirate ship and the job roles of different pirates. They even made pirate ships in cooking!"

Virtual Panto and Virtual Visit To Santa!!



This year we managed to continue our Panto tradition, however rather than visiting the theatre as usual, we had to watch a virtual panto instead! It was such a lovely panto, and the children absolutely loved watching it in the classroom..... oh yes they did!!.....we even had an ice cream half way through!

Santa also had to follow Covid rules this year, so his elves had to show him how to use modern technology, and set up a virtual grotto for all of the children to visit! Santa took the time to have a 1:1 chat with each individual pupil, and asked them all what they would like for Christmas. It was such a magical morning and it was so lovely to see the smiles on the children's faces.



Risky Play



The Risky Play project on the Wilds site is well underway and just has a final stage to go before it is officially open for use. We have had it risk assessed and are excited to see the finished article after a long wait whilst the amazing grounds and maintenance team bring to life the original design. Risky play is a purpose-built climbing frame, it's function is to offer pupils the opportunity to climb, swing or slide in a safe environment and our hope is that this will reduce pupils taking risks around the school and they will choose to utilise the equipment placed at the far top of the school field. Hopefully on the return in September we will be able to use such a fantastic resource.

POST16

First Aid Course

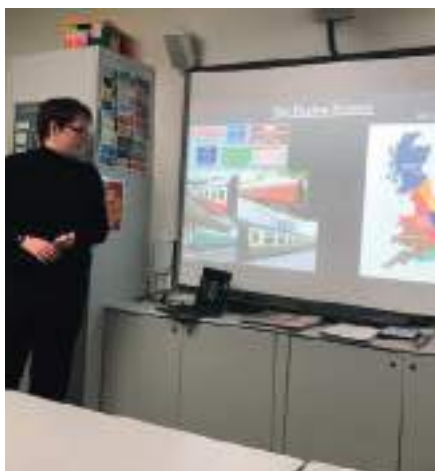
In February, the Year 11 ASDAN students completed a short course in first aid. They learnt how to do CPR and place a casualty into the recovery position. The students all had a practical attempt in doing CPR using the instruction given. We hope that they can use this knowledge well in the event of an emergency.



WORK | 2021 Experience

Adam Railway Presentation

Adam has worked exceptionally hard on his ASDAN Personal Development Course. He was required to give a presentation as part of his Communication Module. Adam researched the history of the UK railways. This was a very interesting and detailed presentation on a topic he enjoys.



Matthew Cosy Club

Matthew has begun a short period of work experience at The Cosy Club in Stamford. He completed a Health & Safety induction, then did some work in both the restaurant and bar service areas under the mentorship of Lisa the manager. A great start Matthew!

The stocks of Oakham

Our Post 16 ASDAN students Adam, Otto and Mark made an interesting visit to both Oakham Castle and The Stocks in The MarketPlace. The students were studying punishments during both medieval and Norman times and examined how the castle became a formidable location under Norman rule.



Rutland Water

Fergus and Chandler went on an afternoon walk to see Rutland Water. The students identified a bird observation hut next to the water's edge. They spent some time looking out to see if an osprey appeared, but no luck on the day!



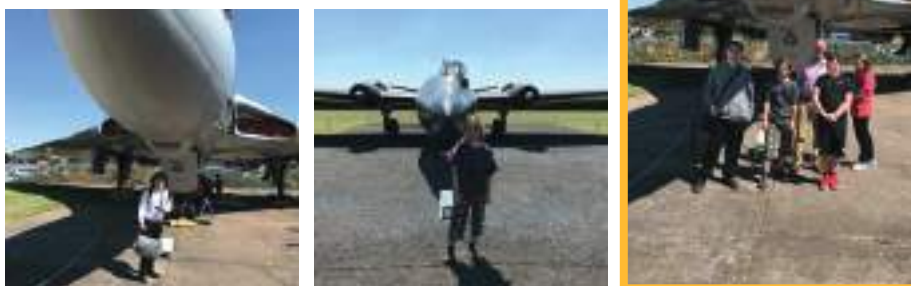
Fishing Club

We welcomed Charles, Bailey and Max to Post 16 this year. As keen fishing enthusiasts they regularly came fishing this summer. We had some lovely sessions at Float Fish farm in Peterborough. The boys caught some very nice fish and enjoyed the relaxation which fishing always brings to our students.



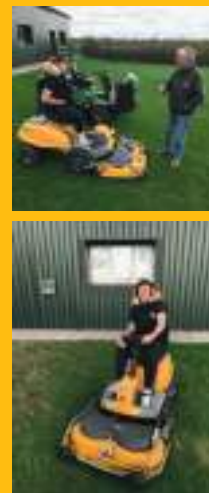
Newark Air Museum

The Upper School students went to Newark Air Museum today to see a wide range of static Military aircraft. All the students enjoyed this trip and learnt about aeroplanes from times gone by.



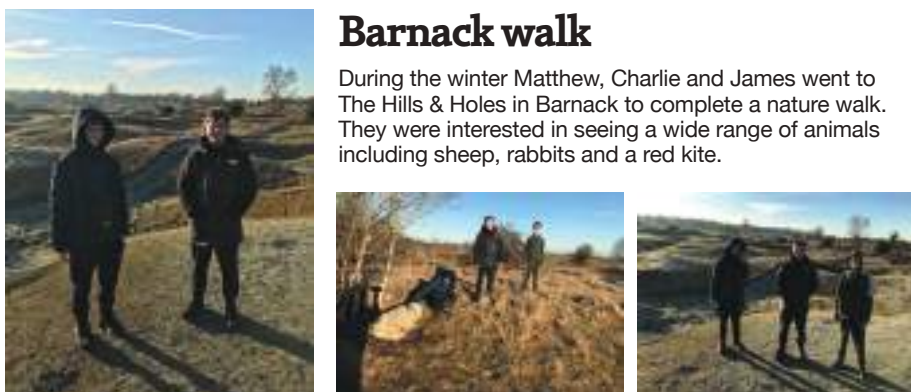
Sit down lawn mower course

This year Matthew went on a City & Guilds Sit Down Lawn Mower course at Penny Hill Training Centre. Matthew did exceptionally well in passing this course and he hopes to be able to use this in his application for work in the future. He has added this to his CV list of qualifications.



Barnack walk

During the winter Matthew, Charlie and James went to The Hills & Holes in Barnack to complete a nature walk. They were interested in seeing a wide range of animals including sheep, rabbits and a red kite.





Adam & Otto Naval Presentation

Adam and Otto have provided three excellent presentations about Naval History. These presentations have been brilliantly researched and thoroughly enjoyed by us all in Post 14-16. The two students have a special interest towards this topic and consequently they have been at ease in presenting them to a wider audience. Other topics included, The Battle of the Pacific, The Battle of the Atlantic and The Falklands War.



ASDAN Field study

In September our ASDAN Silver students began the course by completing a field study at Rutland Water. The students completed two visits, during the first visit we hired some bikes and toured the reservoir identifying key features. During our second trip the students were tasked to sketch and identify the main activities near the fishing shop. They really enjoyed this module.



WORK EXPERIENCE

Joe - Timpsons

Joe who is a year 11 student has recently been given the opportunity to work at Timpsons in Stamford under the mentorship of the manager Chris. Joe has made an excellent start and is enjoying the training he has had. Joe is now cutting keys for customers and soon will learn other skills including shoe and watch repairs. A brilliant start Joe!



ASDAN trip to Peterborough Cathedral

Our Post 16 students enjoyed a trip to Peterborough Cathedral as part of the ASDAN Beliefs & Values module. The Cathedral provides many interesting historical facts and artefacts. The students were particularly interested in the tomb of Catherine of Aragon, wife of Henry VIII and seeing the magnificent stone and wood work within the Cathedral.





Leavers meal and assembly

These two events are the pinnacle of the school experience for our Year 11s and Covid has unfortunately had an impact on these in the last few years. This year we were blessed with glorious sunshine and had made some changes to allow the celebrations to take place safely. We moved the assembly this year to the Crossroads site and welcomed the rest of the attendees to the open courtyard where a range of speeches were made. Class teachers and the team leaders spoke about the key points over the time they have spent here and reminisced on their favourite moments. The leavers spoke from the heart and had some good advice to others about making the most of the time here and agreeing that it will soon speed past. There were very few dry eyes, particularly from the Crossroads team who have worked closely with the students over the past two years. We even had a fly by from a plane just as we spoke about Mr Lee and I feel like that was a bit of a sign he was watching over us! The students then received their leavers photo books and presents and then went to get ready for the leavers meal which took place in the early evening.

In another change (thank you Covid) we then had a celebratory meal, not as the normal one which would traditionally be at The George, but at the Crossroads restaurant! The dining rooms were transformed into a graduation theme by the amazing team and they looked brilliant. There was a range of dishes available from local takeaways including pizza, curry, Chinese and fish and chips and we had a lovely and relaxed evening reflecting on the Wilds Lodge journey they had all experienced. It was a lovely day all round and we wish the students every success moving forwards. We will miss them all very much,

EMMA



The Reading Bus 2021

Our amazing reading bus continues its journey through the lives of the pupils at Wilds Lodge. It is a place of calm and safety, where you can often find children taking 10 minutes to look at a book or a comic, or to sit in the driver's seat and 'drive' the bus with a comic or book propped up on the steering wheel.

The bus is also the school library where we aim to stock up-to-date books, whether fiction or non-fiction, graphic novels, comics or audiobooks that can be streamed to devices for reading with your 'ears'! We are always happy to receive recommendations from the pupils and keep the library up to date with the latest books.

The bus is a quiet workspace for individual literacy and maths intervention lessons, and is a great place to feel safe enough to have a go and improve in these areas.

The windows upstairs on the bus looks out on open countryside and literacy lessons upstairs often include looking through the binoculars at the animals and birds we see in the fields. Everyone who visits the school loves the bus and we are very proud of this unique facility at Wilds Lodge School.



HUMANITIES