

July 2022



## SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Wow...!

What an academic year this has been for us all with returning to 'normal' life but still dealing with the impact of a global pandemic. It has been a year of great challenge to us all and I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the exceptional work of the staff and pupils this year for meeting these challenges. Not only have we met, but as you will experience through the newsletter, provided amazing opportunities for our pupils to develop both within and outside of the classroom.

We have dealt with the return of real exams with a great sense of purpose and 'hard work pays off'! I expect many of our pupils will be celebrating their results in August due to their high level of focus and attention to their studies.

Year 11 pupils have been sent emails to express how they would like to receive the exams result; either in person, email or via post so please make sure you have indicated your preference through response by the end of term.

We also recently offered the opportunity to say a final farewell to our Year 11 pupils through a celebration tea and it was wonderful to share many fond memories with them of their time with us. Staff were given the opportunity to vote for a pupil they felt overcame their individual challenges with an outstanding attitude to their studies alongside their own personal development. It was with great pride that I presented 'The Jay Blundell Resilience Award' to Year 11 pupil Daniella.



Every day is a new beginning.  
Take a deep breath, smile and  
start again.

- Anon

July 2022



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## SUMMER NEWSLETTER

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Alongside great celebrations at the end of the year I would like to take this opportunity to thank three members of our Management Committee who are ending their time with us. Rose, John and Suzanne have played hugely significant roles on our Management Committee over many years and all of the staff at Foundry College wish to express our sincere thanks for all of your support over the most challenging of years and to remind you that as a member of the 'Foundry Family' we would always welcome a visit from you. We will also be saying goodbye to four members of staff at the end of the academic year with Kim, Rory, Sarah and Sumaira leaving us for pastures new. We wish you all the very best for the future and thank you for all of the wonderful work you have done at Foundry College over the time you have been with us.

Thank you to all of our wider community for your support throughout the year and we hope that you all have a restful and enjoyable summer break.

As you are about to read, the term has been exceptionally busy for all of our staff and pupils at Foundry College and we hope you enjoy reading through some of our highlights as much as we have enjoyed making them.

Best wishes

Iain Thomas  
Headteacher  
Foundry College

Every day is a new beginning.  
Take a deep breath, smile and  
start again.

- Anon

# Term dates

## Autumn Term 2022

- Inset days: Friday 2nd September & Monday 5th September
- Term Starts: Tuesday 6th September
- Half Term: Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October
- End of Term: Friday 16th December\*
- Inset days: Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th December

## Spring Term 2023

- Term starts: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January
- Half Term: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February
- End of Term: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March\*

## Summer Term 2023

- Term starts: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April
- May Bank Holiday - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May - College Closed
- Half Term: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June
- End of Term: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July \*
- Inset day: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

\* College finishes at 12.30pm on last day of term

### Inset Days (College closed to pupils)

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

Every day is a new  
beginning, take a  
deep breath, smile,  
and start again  
-Anon



# English



Our Year 11 pupils worked extremely hard during their final revision lessons and completed their GCSE in English Language and for some, in Literature too. We want to congratulate all our Year 11s for the maturity and sense of calm they approached each of their exams with. Now that the exams are over, we wish all our Year 11s a restful break before their next steps beyond Foundry.

In Year 10, pupils have been building upon the debating skills they practised earlier in the year and have been working towards a piece of coursework using their writing to argue skills. They have been thoughtfully arguing against the stereotyped belief that pupil referral units are only for 'naughty' children.

Our KS3 pupils have been completing a variety of activities depending upon their interests. Some of our pupils have been completing a unit on poetry, exploring a wide range of poems from classics by Shakespeare to modern poems by Sophie Hannah. Some pupils have even been inspired to write their own poetry and below is a poem by a Year 9 pupils whose poem, *'Under The Spotlight'*, was inspired by Simon Armitage's poem *'Out of the Blue'*.

In addition to poetry, some of our pupils have been completing the study of a novel: *'Stone Cold'* by Robert Swindells or *'Malamander'* by Thomas Taylor. Studying these novels has allowed pupils to reflect upon experiences beyond their own whilst demonstrating their comprehension skills and allowing them to practise techniques for language analysis and inference.

Our Year 8 pupils have also been developing their reading abilities by improving their skimming, scanning and comprehension capabilities. As part of this they have been exploring a wide range of different texts including reading data from graphs, charts and timetables.

Last but not least, pupils in Year 7 have been looking at persuasive writing. The focus has been on exploring a range of persuasive devices, being able to recognise them and beginning to understand the effects they can create. The next step will be to use these devices and to create their own persuasive texts.

When you change the  
way you look at things,  
the things you look at  
change  
- Anon

## UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

By Freddie

I can see everyone trying to run for safety and praying for mercy.

The man called his wife in tears, her name was Percy.  
They are all begging for a miracle.

But the damage to the building was too critical.  
They run to the staircase with fear.

But that is not all they can hear.  
The flames whooshing as innocent people screamed  
As one group, they all teamed.

The smoke was like a grey cloud full of rain.  
They all gathered to the window, their lungs were in pain.  
It was like a volcano had erupted, ash was falling.  
They thought it would be a casual morning.  
As citizens were waving white,  
For the world watching, this was a depressing sight.

Inside the building all they could see was darkness,  
The evil pilots were heartless.  
The roaring gates to hell are not all that I could smell,  
As the people fell, what began was the knell.  
Tumbling through the air. Everyone below gave me a stare.  
Falling to the ground, everyone watching was in despair.

# Maths

## iGCSE

Year 11 pupils have been working hard revising, and sitting, their summer exams.  
All GCSE results are available to pupils on Thursday August 25<sup>th</sup> 2022.

## KS3 and Year 10

We have been using NCETM Checkpoints to check our learning and be curious by asking 'What If?' questions.

**Checkpoint 1: Bigger?**

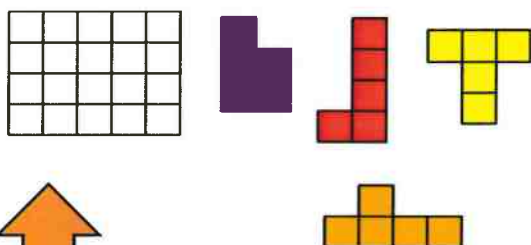
a) Which of these shapes do you think is the biggest? Why?  
b) Does including a square grid help?  
c) In what way/s is the shape you chose bigger than the others? In what way/s is it the same?

m - The same

NCETM

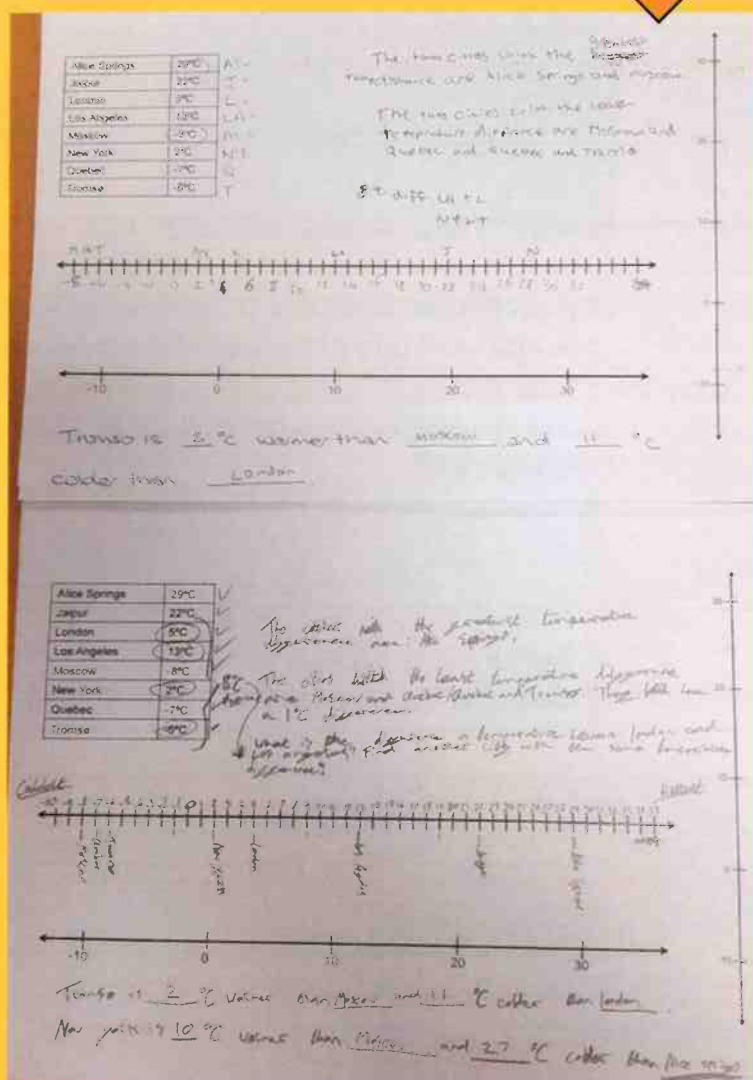
Here we were looking at positive and negative numbers and how a number line could help us visually add and subtract positive and negative

Here we were looking at perimeter and area and discussing why shapes with the same area might have different perimeters.



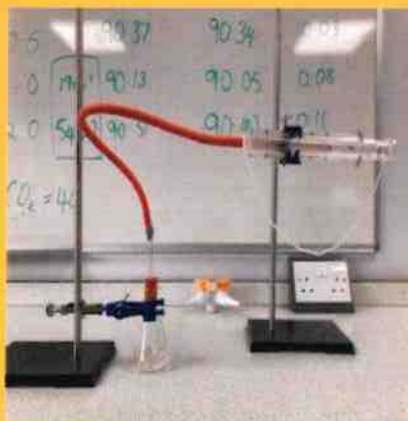
We have tried Pentomino puzzles. This is where pupils have fit the coloured shapes into given grid sizes. This helped develop logical thinking and problem solving skills.

If you stop at general math,  
then you will only make  
general money.  
- Snoop Dogg.



# Science

Recently, some pupils have been doing a series of practical investigations on the rates of reactions in chemistry. They have experimented with different catalysts, temperatures and concentrations and used a range of equipment to obtain their results.



The focus for our exam pupils was to practice and improve exam technique but we made time to repeat some experiments in order to prepare for some questions.



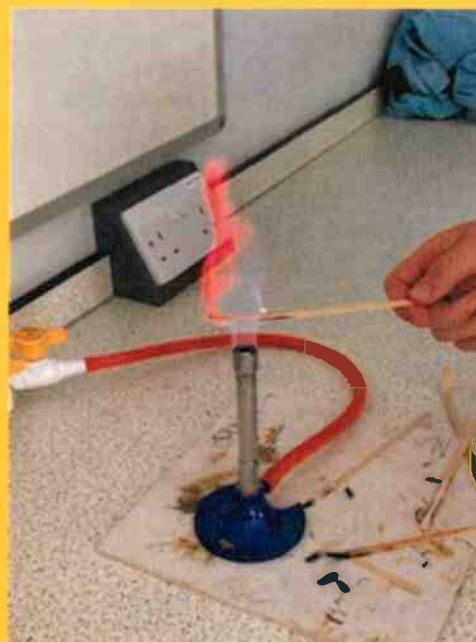
For pupils who are new in science there have been opportunities to conduct practical work safely in order to increase confidence.

Pupils have been using the following Compounds:

MgO  
CuSO<sub>4</sub>  
NaCl

And this acid: HCl(aq)

Do you know what they all are?



If it moves, it's Biology,  
If it stinks, it's Chemistry  
If it doesn't work, it's Physics!

- Anon



# Re-Engagement

Pupil T

Inspired by his Food Tech lessons T. created a recipe book for teenagers and young adults, but as he says 'Just about anyone can use it!'

"Most of these dishes I have made in the past and I still cook a few of the simpler recipes at home. " In the book a variety of healthy dishes can be found e.g. Rice dishes, meat dishes, desserts, vegan and vegetarian options. A greeting can also be found accompanying each recipe, as T. researched the country of origin of each dish.

### Sweet & Sour Chicken



xiǎng shòu 享受

**Main ingredients**

- 300g cubed chicken
- 225g long grain (basmati rice)
- 2tsp vegetable oil

**For the sauce:**

- 3tsp tomato ketchup
- 2tsp vinegar
- 2tsp white sugar
- 1tsp soy sauce

❖ Cut into prep 20 mins  
❖ Cook the chicken at 70°

**Optional extras**

- 1 red pepper deseeded and chopped
- 1 green pepper deseeded and chopped
- 2 spring onions sliced
- 1/2 red chili, deseeded and chopped to serve
- White sesame seeds

### Apple roses

Makes 6 roses



- 2 red apples cut into small slices
- Mix 1 TBSP cinnamon to 3TBSP of brown sugar
- Fill a small bowl half way with marmalade and add 3 TBSP of boiled water

**Method**


1. Take a mandarin sizer half way with marmalade and water
2. Add brown sugar
3. Add 2 spoonfuls of brown sugar
4. Mix well for 2 mins
5. Cut your puff pastry into the shape below
6. Roll down slowly
7. Roll 1/2 of your puff pastry in a bowl of marmalade

High sugar levels




### Pasta bake

Serves 2



**Ingredients into**

- 200g whole wheat pasta
- 1/2 can of tomato sauce
- 1 can of corned beef
- 1/2 can of tomato sauce
- 1/2 can of tomato sauce
- 1/2 can of tomato sauce
- 1/2 can of tomato sauce
- 1/2 can of tomato sauce

- Follow instructions at the back of the pasta packet to cook
- Splash olive oil into a frying pan
- Add garlic and onions into pan
- Add can of tomatoes to the pan
- Set the hob to a high heat and cook for 5-6 minutes
- After everything is cooked, drain pasta and mix in the sauce thoroughly
- transfer into an oven proof dish (make sure there is a flat tray underneath to catch any dripping cheese)
- Sprinkle cheese on top and cook in the oven until the cheese is golden
- Take out and serve with a side salad in a bowl (optional)

enjoy! / godere!

You are one of a kind and have something great to offer  
- Anon

Wanting to raise money for the Mental Health Charity, Young Minds, who support young people, T. offered to sell his book for a minimum donation of £1.50 per copy and raised an **Amazing £60**.

# Re-Engagement

Thanks to the sunshine and lovely weather we have been having, we have been able to take some of our lessons outside in to the garden. Our learning environment has been surrounded by a wonderful garden full of wildlife, plants and trees.

We have been immersing ourselves in nature, using our senses to notice, closely observe and become fully aware of our surroundings during our mindful walks. Taking photos along the way.

Being in nature is known to be good for our wellbeing, helping to calm and relax.

Our observations were explored through art using paint and clay. A few examples are shown below.

Introducing Skylar!



Buddleia using paint



Sprig of Rosemary using clay



Art is a way to express  
yourself

- Anon



# Re-Engagement

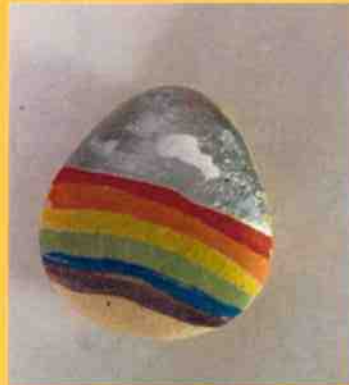
Descriptive piece of writing inspired by a mindful walk around the garden.

By Rebecca (Home Tuted)

Like the touch of a rabbits fur the lambs ears huddled together in their bunch, blowing gently in the cool breeze. The delicate, velvety leaves brushing against one another like the sound of falling sand.

Powdery to the touch, you're afraid if you hold a leaf for too long it may disintegrate in-between your fingers but the velvety softness draws you to touch it even more. Its colour pulls your attention to it, the pastel green similar to the one in the aurora borealis such a luscious colour. Vibrant yet subtle.

Mindful pebble painting using acrylic paint pens



Exploring different techniques in Art - I wonder how large the bubble will grow before it pops!



The most important work  
you ever do will be  
**WITHIN** yourself

- Anon

# Art & Craft

This Summer the theme in KS3 Art has been “Holidays” exploring holiday scenes and images through a variety of different mediums and techniques including potato printing, aboriginal dot painting and map collage. KS3 craft sessions have focused on designing and creating masks using Mod-Roc with wire, paint and other materials to create textured features. Also exploring tie-dying techniques



"If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint,' then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced."  
—*Vincent van Gogh*





# Food

This term has been full of many highlights including pupils re-creating the winning Platinum Jubilee Pudding with KS3 pupils making the dessert from scratch! Pupils have also made Jamaican beef patties, various soups, fruit salads, Hunters chicken, Brookies and cheesecakes with a focus on presentation skills.

Year 10 pupils are growing in confidence and completing some fantastic work towards their level 1 qualification, from Eton mess, beef burgers and soups to a variety of different cultures' cuisines.

A year 11 pupil has worked extremely hard towards a Level 2 in Food and Cookery and was able to complete the course by creating a wonderful two course meal suitable for a wedding. Many congratulations go to this pupil whose progress and engagement has been a real achievement.



Food is our common ground,  
a universal experience  
- James Beard





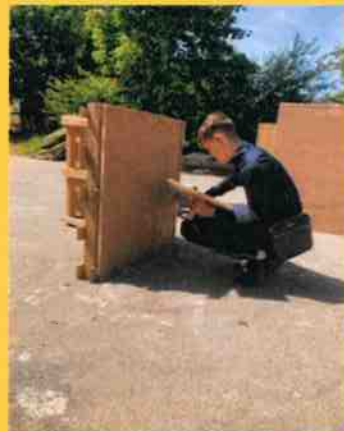
# Occupational Studies



With a final push in the last couple of weeks after finishing their exams, the Year 11 pupils completed their chosen units and should qualify for Level 1 or Level 2 Awards in Occupational Studies after external moderation later in the summer. It has been really gratifying to see just how determined some of the pupils have been to see the course through despite the difficulties they have faced and the considerable pressure placed on them by the exams.



Many of the Year 10 pupils and some in KS3 have already completed at least 1 unit at their chosen level and one or two are keeping their options open, having completed units of study at both levels. The most popular units continue to be those that focus on the construction industry such as Plumbing Skills, Hand Carpentry Skills, Introduction to Plastering Techniques and Brickwork Operations. All are challenging in their own ways and demand a level of development in practical skills as they progress.



You only fail when you stop  
trying  
-Anon

# Occupational Studies



For pupils wanting to go into construction related or horticultural work, the Occupational Studies qualifications not only gives them a chance to try out and develop their skills but also a genuine leg-up when it come to securing work. During the course of this year at least 3 pupils have made the effort to come back into college in their own time to explain how their qualifications and experience have helped them gain work and how their employers value the experience they have gained during their time with us.



As we move forwards we hope not only to further expand the number of units we offer but to also offer additional shorter taster courses designed to give some of our younger secondary pupils and those placed with us for a short time an opportunity to learn some new skills in an easily accessible way.



Ability is what you are capable of doing.  
Motivation determines what you do.  
Attitude determines how well you do it.

- Lou Holtz



# History & Geography

This has been a busy and intense term with students working hard in preparation for GCSEs. Plenty of early starts and no doubt some burning of the midnight oil. Now it's a case of "Time will tell."

History and Geography are closely linked as subjects. Many people only come to them later in life when they realise that they don't know where places are or where people come from, even why we live the lives we do.

We try to give our pupils a head-start. Get them to lift their heads and look out beyond the confines of their own small worlds. Enable them to tell the real from the fake and to take a full part in the life of our marvellous world. We began with some by studying village life in "Medieval Times". It sounds very basic, but it links well with Geography and the study of world-wide human settlement. Now some of our students understand why a village is laid out in the way it is and why it has a green and a pond. They begin to read the landscape, the marks left in the earth by generations of people. A simple car journey now becomes time travel. We went on to look at wars, the search for peace, the need to protect and value our environment and our neighbours. We studied the Great War and the Second World War. Pupils learned from the mistakes of the past and some could even reflect on how that knowledge could help us form a better future.

In so many ways this has been an interesting and exciting term. Books are always important in History and Geography, but "hands-on" is often better.

For the first time we took five pupils on the Reading Trail. We began at the museum and then took a tour around Forbury, the Abbey ruins and the prison. We had a picnic lunch and ice creams in Forbury Gardens and took in some of the local art...even a "Banksy". We will do this again.

Prisoner escaping from Reading Gaol.  
By Banksy

"There is nothing impossible  
to him who will try."

- *Alexander the Great*

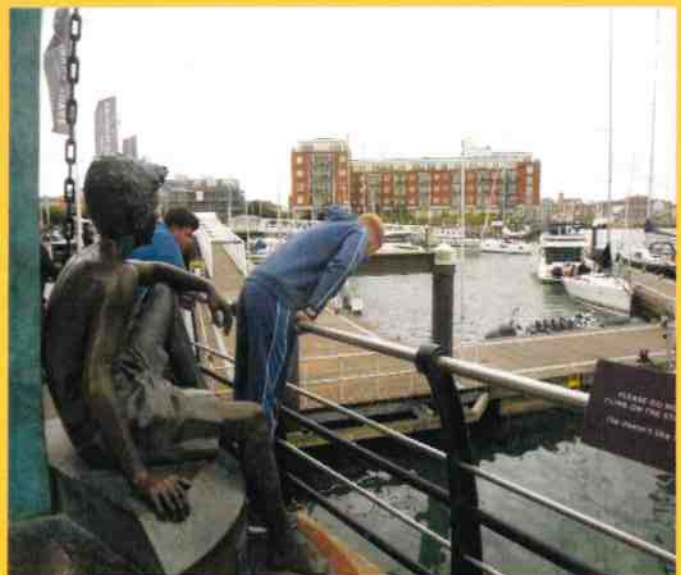




# History & Geography

Then came Portsmouth and our own version of “Three Men in a Boat”. The photos tell a story. We looked at the landscape and asked questions about the formation and uses of the harbour, the place of modern shopping developments at Gunwharf Keys.

Standing deep in the bowels of “The Warrior” we were transported back to the whip and the lash, the grog and the white heat of Victorian technology that set fear in the hearts of the French, the Russians, the Germans and the Americans.



‘Geography is the study of earth  
as the home of people’

- Yi-Fu Tuan

# Blesma visit

We were very privileged to have a visit from a 'Blesma' team. 'Blesma' stands for The British Limbless Ex-servicemen's Association. We listened to two men who both had careers in the Green Jackets. Both were wheelchair users.

Swiftly had lost both legs and several fingers in an IRA bombing in Belfast. He told of the darkness he faced as he lay there in the aftermath, looking at his friend beside him who had died in the blast. His story of his journey to a full, successful and joyful life inspired and challenged us. He became a renowned award-winning skydiver and snowboarding instructor. He acts and travels the world in support of others.

Spencer had a promising career as an officer and leader of men, when he was struck down by Multiple Sclerosis. He now has no use of his legs. For a man of sporting prowess, an active military man, this was devastating news, which he kept to himself for years, at great mental and emotional cost to him and his family. Finally, after having to crawl from some staging at a military presentation, he sought help. This was a turning point in his life's journey. He is now living a full and productive life with his family and supports others in similar situations.

The theme of their visit was 'resilience'. Pupils and staff were absolutely awestruck with their visitors. Our letter of thanks below, says it all.

"Dear Frankie and Vanessa,

Thank you so much for arranging the visit of Lilly, Spencer and Swiftly. From our phone calls alone, I was inspired and very optimistic about the visit. It far exceeded anything I could have imagined. The staff and pupils were introduced to a world we could hardly have imagined. We all felt the challenge to be overcomers of our circumstances and to find within ourselves, with help from others, the resilience to carry us forward. The three boys sat through the whole session and took a meaningful part in questions and answers. Their conversations continued after you had left and will no doubt continue in weeks to come.

***"It was a delight for all of us to meet the team and to hear of their experiences. What touched us was the smiles and the sheer love of life that they displayed, not a hint of self-pity or blame. They handled questions with sensitivity and honesty and brought something very special to Foundry. The boys especially wanted me to thank you all".***

**>> Making Generation R was featured on Channel 4! Watch it here**



Enquiries  
info@makinggenerationr.com  
07384 257472  
www.makinggenerationr.com



Don't let the mind limit what  
an able heart can do.

- Robert M. Hensel

# Work Experience

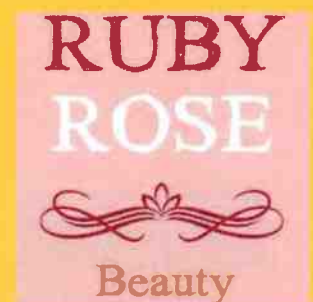
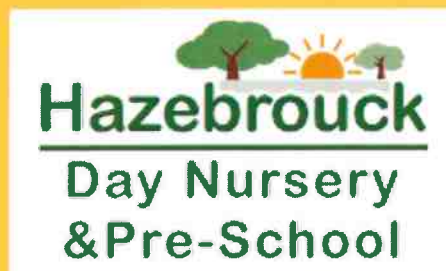


As part of the curriculum, we offer our KS4 pupils extended work experience opportunities whereby they go to a placement 1 day a week for 6 weeks. This is a great opportunity for them to gain first-hand knowledge of the 'real world' and an insight into their potential industry of choice.

This year all year 11s were given the opportunity to participate and we would like to thank the following organisations who hosted one of our pupils:

- Berkshire Motor Works
- Dinton Pastures
- Hazebrouck Day Nursery and Pre-School (twice)
- The Laurels Plant Centre
- Kimel Café
- Oakwood Youth Challenge
- Stablecroft
- Ruby Rose Beauty Ltd

We are always open to suggestions and support, so if you know of anyone who would like to work with us in providing invaluable experience to our pupils, please do not hesitate to get in contact with Vix White [victoria.white@foundry.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:victoria.white@foundry.wokingham.sch.uk)



The only source of knowledge  
is experience  
- Albert Einstein





# Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic

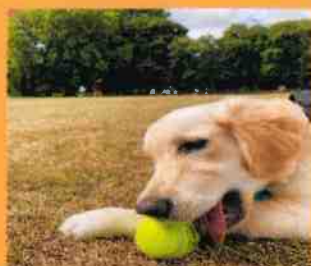
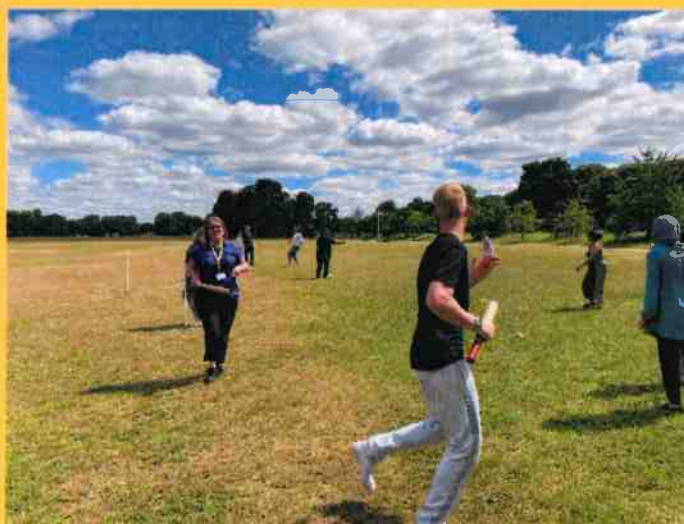


To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we decided to visit her home, Windsor Castle. So it was after thorough preparation and lots of teamwork, we all set off to Windsor.

The 4<sup>th</sup> July was a different kind of Independence Day. We escaped from Foundry in the minibuses and several cars and we all found our way to Windsor. The weather was good and we had no rain to ruin our time on the field.

We split into two groups. Whilst one was picnicking, the other was touring the castle. Games and food were provided, some played rounders, others relaxed in the sun.

The wonderful picnic was welcomed by everyone.



Remi 'rescuing' the ball!





# Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic



The castle tours were as we expected, a wonder of gold and silver with priceless armour and weapons from every age. Spectacular tapestries and murals greeted us in every room and on every wall, there were portraits by the great masters. "How much would this suit of armour cost?" we were asked. "Priceless" was the only answer. We saw where the Queen has her apartments, had photos taken with the guards, walked on the tomb of Henry VIII and saw where Harry and Megan were married.

In St. George's Chapel one student listened to an explanation of why candles are lit as a prayer. He then lit one of his own. I wonder what his prayer was? We arrived back at Foundry tired, happy and safe. "Are we doing it next year?" someone asked!



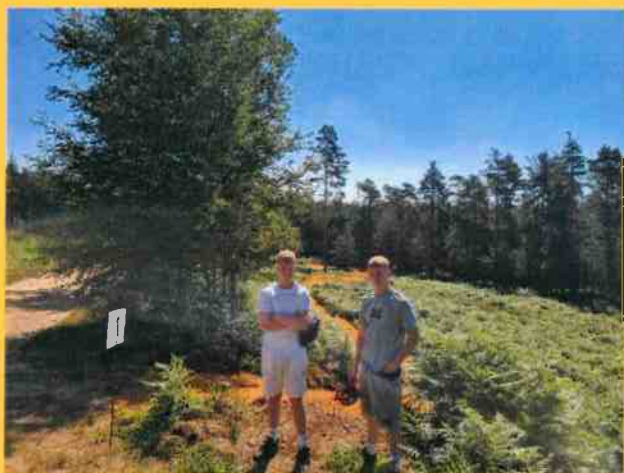
The Windsor Castle Guard is normally provided by one of five Regiments of Foot Guards, of the Household Division, in their full-dress uniform of red tunics and bearskin caps accompanied by a Regimental Band, Corps of Drums or occasionally by a Pipe Band.

# Sport

This year the pupils have had the opportunity to ride the trails at Swinley Forest in varying weathers! Those who have regularly attended have quickly progressed from cautious rides round the beginners green loop to taking the lead through routes in area we have dubbed 'the Dark Forest' with its tight and technically difficult trails.

The pupils have also had the privilege to ride in the member's only area known as The Summit, which has a custom-built skill-specific area for riders to work on. They have been working on their ability to ride smoothly through the trails with pupils often making suggestions to ride specific trails which are their favourites. They have commented and appreciated the changing landscape of the forest through the different seasons and shared their thoughts on how different trails ride because of this.

The pupils have been challenged to leave their comfort zones while attending the forest and this has been met with them showing the resilience to continue when it gets tough and ultimately leaving with a sense of achievement and a smile on their faces.



Pupils have had the opportunity to attend the gym at Loddon Valley Leisure Centre. At this facility they experienced what it is like to use a fully furnished and functioning gym space. The pupils have used this time to take leadership of their learning and design their own programmes and set themselves achievable goals to work towards. The primary outcome of using the gym has been to encourage and facilitate living a healthy lifestyle but there have been many other 'gains' which the pupils have achieved. When they first began attending, they were often shy and unsure about trying new things, but now they feel safe in their environment and will often communicate with the other public gym goers in friendly conversation and have the confidence to ask if they are nearly finished on pieces of equipment they would like to use.

I won't name names but pupils have definitely spent time flexing in the mirrors with big smiles on their faces!

The girls who have attended have also had the opportunity to use the dance space where they have connected themselves to the music and taught us how to dance. Pupil F. in particular has taken great pleasure in choreographing and leading us through this activity.



Limitations only  
exist if you let them

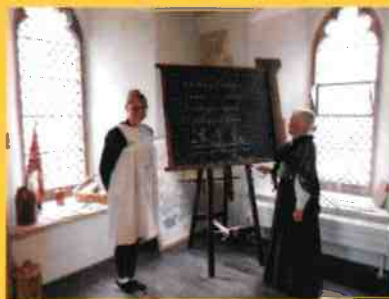
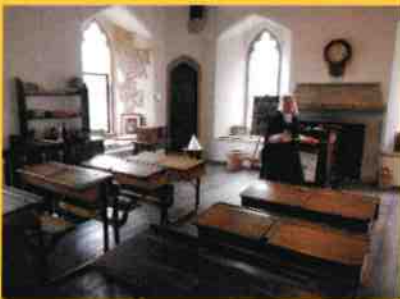
- Anon



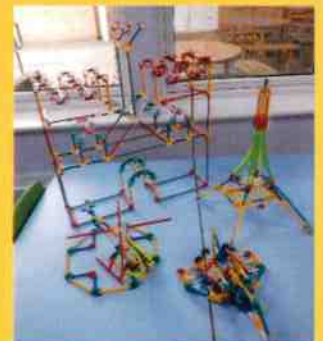
# Primary

The Summer Term has been another busy one in the Primary Classroom! Our chosen topic took our pupil back to the Victorian Period, learning about Queen Victoria, her reign and the legacy she left.

Throughout the topic, our pupil experienced what life would have been like during the Victorian Era. This included a trip to Reading Museum to learn about the history of our local town and a lesson in their Victorian School which was thoroughly enjoyed by both the adults and pupil! Activities on site also included an immersive activity to represent working in the mines and experiencing what life would have been like as a prisoner. Our pupil had a little taste of some of the prison punishments using the gym slam balls, pieces of string and the classroom window winders as a crank! Continuing our work around the royal family, we thoroughly enjoyed a whole college trip to Windsor Castle to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee



Our last half term started with a day trip to Marwell Zoo, exploring animal adaptations and learning more about their natural habitats. Despite the amount of walking required, our primary pupil had a great day! We are fortunate that our external provisions have continued this term and Oakwood, TVAP and Brickies have continued to be firm favourites on our weekly Primary Timetable.



Within PSHE, a particular emphasis has been placed on transition as we near the end of term and prepare to say goodbye to one of our pupils who will be starting their new school in September. Having welcomed another pupil on site this half term, both pupils have been creating scrap books as a way of sharing information about themselves as well as celebrating their successes – information which is invaluable for the adults who will be working with them. We have also been using retracking to explore the personal, social and emotional aspects of our pupils' lives.

We wish you all a lovely and well-deserved Summer Break.

You can make it a great  
day or not, the choice is  
yours  
- Anon

