



SPRING NEWSLETTER

March 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear parents and carers,

A warm welcome to our Spring term newsletter at Clarendon Secondary Centre. The Spring term is perhaps my favourite term in school; Pupils who have joined the school in September are now fully settled and starting to shine, and the days are becoming warmer and brighter. This always provides our pupils with more opportunities to pursue valuable learning experiences outdoors. The spring term is as refreshing as it is brief, and it does seem like only yesterday that Christmas was in full swing!



It has been a term full of success and achievement for our learners, and I hope that you will enjoy as much as I have, browsing our newsletter and seeing what our classes have been up to over the last few weeks. A special shout out must go to Miss O'Neill and all of the learners who designed and sold their products at our mini enterprise day last week, it was heartening that many parents and carers were able to attend and support the pupils' entrepreneurial spirit. Similarly, our parents' evening earlier in the term was a great success, with an opportunity for focused conversations between teachers and families regarding our learners' progress and plans for the future. Thank you to everyone for your continued support and involvement in our school community.

From a teaching perspective, our staff have been hard at work this term in developing and expanding our curriculum. We are redesigning and reimagining our curriculum at Clarendon currently, and developing stronger links between our primary and secondary sites, to support transition and progression through the school. Maths has been another area of focus, and we have invested heavily in the introduction of a new "maths mastery" programme, which is based on the latest educational research on how pupils learn and retain concepts best.

Looking ahead to the summer term, there is much to look forward to. On the first week back our intrepid Y11 pupils will be embarking on work experience placements out in the community. This will be a valuable opportunity for our pupils to develop vital skills for the world of work, and prepare them for adulthood and college next year. Later in the term, exam season will start for our KS4 learners. While exams can be a stressful time for many, they are administered at Clarendon with care and kindness, to limit any stresses as much as possible. Further information about this nearer the time.

I wish you all a relaxed and peaceful Easter break, and I look forward to seeing you again in the Summer term.

Niall Dumigan
Executive Headteacher

7M ROALD DAHL & MR FOX

7M have enjoyed exploring the works of Roald Dahl and reading Fantastic Mr Fox this term.

The photo shows some of our students using the 'First Published' date to make a timeline of his life in books.



7W FRIDA KAHLO



7W have been learning about Frida Kahlo.

We learned that she was an artist from Mexico who had disabilities. She started to paint when she was in bed recovering from illnesses, pain and operations.

We read about her life in English, and in Art we turned ourselves into Frida with her famous headdresses.

7W TWICKENHAM HIGH STREET




7W has had a lovely time going to Twickenham high street to spend their hard earned reward money. We had loads of treats, went shopping and relaxed at the park.








7W TWICKENHAM HIGH STREET










7/8G ENGLISH SMILES POEM








7/8G English: Similes Poem

This term, 7/8G have been writing with similes in poems.

We have used similes to write about ourselves, the seasons and places.

We hope you enjoy reading some of our poems!

Charlotte

23.01.2024 To use a theme of similes in a poem.

'All About Me' Similes Poem

I am as big as a gorilla.

I am as shy as an octopus.

I am as quick as a whale.

I am as happy as a fish.

I am as loud as a porpoise.

I am as strong as a lizard.

I am as small as a snail.

I am as nice as a mouse.

Put them all together and you get Charlotte!

Ben J

24.01.2024 To use a theme of similes in a poem.

'All About Me' Similes Poem

I am as quick as a cheetah

I am as slow as a snail

I am as small as a mouse

I am as large as a lion

I am as sad as a crab

I am as happy as a butterfly

I am as nice

Put them all together and you get Ben J!

7/8G ENGLISH SMILES POEM

23.01.2024 To use a theme of smiles in a poem. Mohammed

'All About Me' Similes Poem

I am as shallow as a mouse.
 I am as happy as a monkey.
 I am as loud as a telephone.
 I am as slow as a snail.
 I am as nice as a bee.
 I am as brave as a cat.
 I am as tough as a rhinoceros.
 I am as quiet as a mouse.
 I am as strong as a lion.
 I am as weak as a mouse.

Put them all together and you get Mohammed!
 Prompted to stay on track, but otherwise independent
 very good work!
 But please remember your finger spaces!

23.01.2024 To use a theme of smiles in a poem.

'All About Me' Similes Poem

I am as quick as dog
 I am as small as butterfly
 I am as sad as cat
 I am as nice as bee
 I am as happy as owl
 I am as slow as snail
 I am as large as lion
 I am as weak as horse

Next, full steps.

Put them all together and you get Oliver!

7/8G ENGLISH SMILES POEM

'All About Me' Similes Poem Name: Manav

I am	as quick as	a horse.	I am	as strong as	an elephant.
I am	as small as	a duck.	I am	as loud as	a chicken.
I am	as big as	a gorilla.	I am	as shy as	a dog.
I am	as nice as	a bee.	I am	as happy as	a lizard.

Put them all together and you get real.

Seaside Sensory Poem Chloe
Gave choice of two, selected help

The seaside	looks like	beach huts.
The seaside	smells like	fish and chips.
The seaside	sounds like	pebbles.
The seaside	tastes like	an ice cream.
The seaside	feels like	the sea.

Tuesday, 6 February 2024
Seaside Sensory Poem Creative Writing Task



The seaside smells like a rock pool.
The seaside looks like a sea
The seaside feels like a sun
The seaside taste like a coconut ice cream
The seaside sounds like a seagull

The seaside	like...

LO: To use a theme of Similes in a poem Name: Amir 23-01-24

'All About Me' Similes Poem

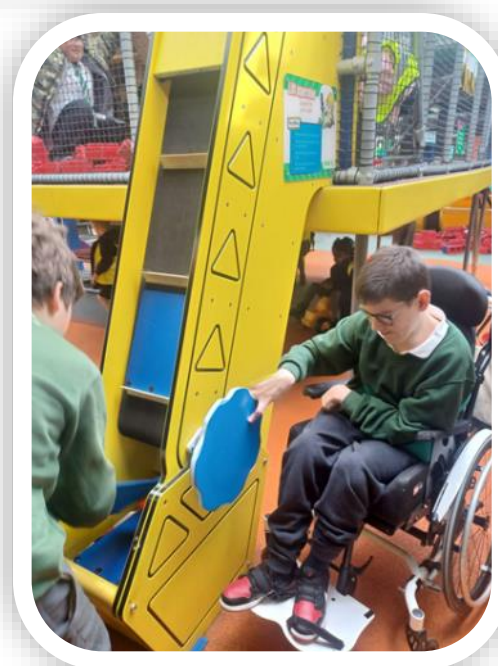
I am	as quick as	a horse.	I am	as strong as	a dog.
I am	as small as	a duck.	I am	as loud as	an elephant.
I am	as big as	a gorilla.	I am	as shy as	a chicken.
I am	as nice as	a cat.	I am	as happy as	a bee.

8H THE DISCOVERY CENTRE

8H had a great trip to 'The Discovery Centre' in Bracknell as part of their science and geography topics.

They enjoyed a dome experience about the universe and took part in different science experiments.

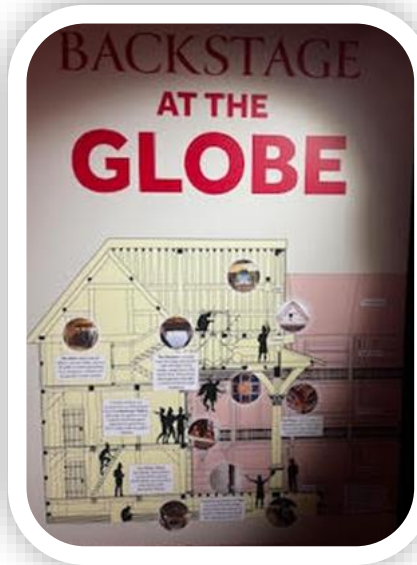
However, the main highlight was the ice cream at the end!



8H THE DISCOVERY CENTRE



9M SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE THEATRE



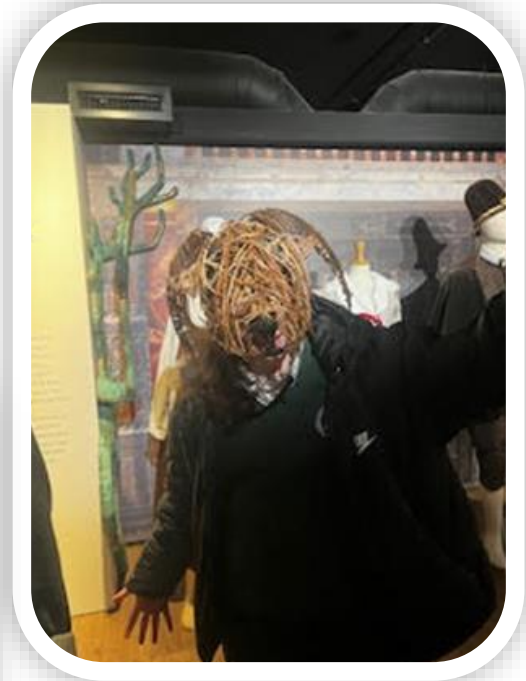
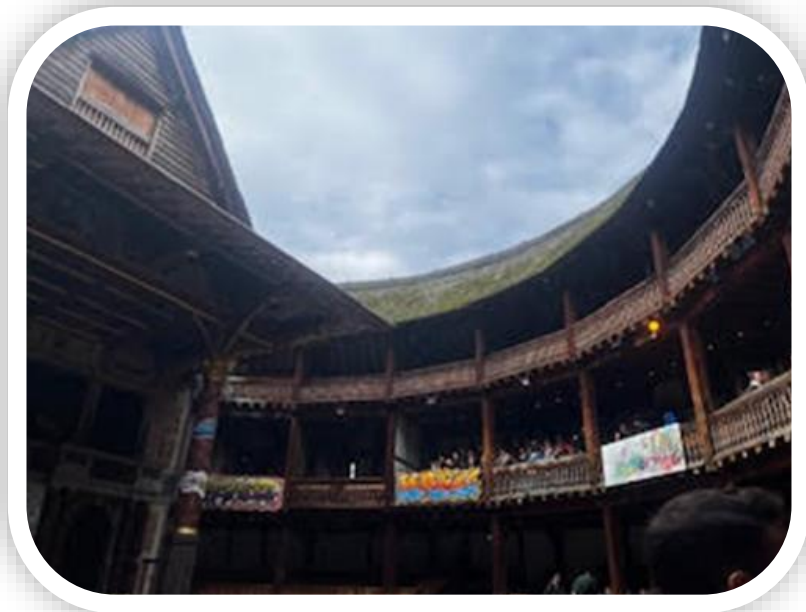
9M visited Shakespeare's Globe Theatre to end their English text, 'Romeo and Juliet'.

They were given a tour of the theatre, told the history of the building and were given the chance to ask lots of questions.

They then went on into the Exhibition Centre and were given the opportunity to put on some costumes and masks.

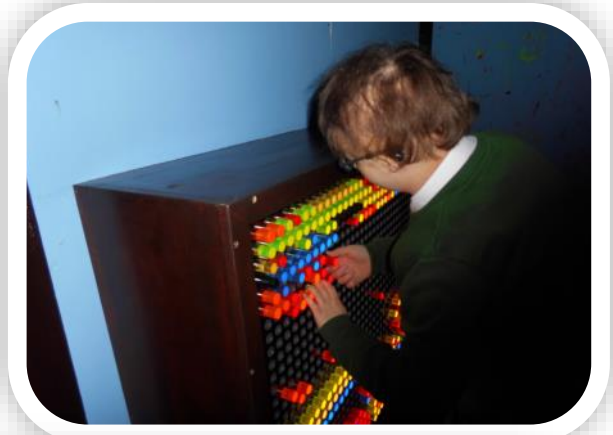
They were also lucky enough to watch some of the actors of the current run of 'Romeo and Juliet' warming up for their afternoon performance.

A very interesting day out for all!

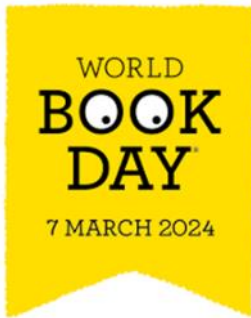


9/10K THE DISCOVERY CENTRE

9/10K went to The Discovery Centre to interact with the science exhibition. They also went inside an inflatable planetarium to take part in a show where we explored our solar system, learned cool astronomy facts, and played dot-to-dot in the stars. We also enjoyed hot chocolate and got a chance to play in the playground in the woods.



10P WORLD BOOK DAY



Year 10P did an assembly for World Book Day this week.

Every member of the class read one of the £1 book titles available and reviewed it for the Assembly.

Every pupil has been given their World Book Day voucher which they can swap for one of the £1 books found in many stores, or they can use it to get a discount of £1 when they purchase another book.

The World Book Day books can be found in many shops such as Tescos, Sainsburys, Morrisons, WH Smiths, and Waterstones.

Happy reading!

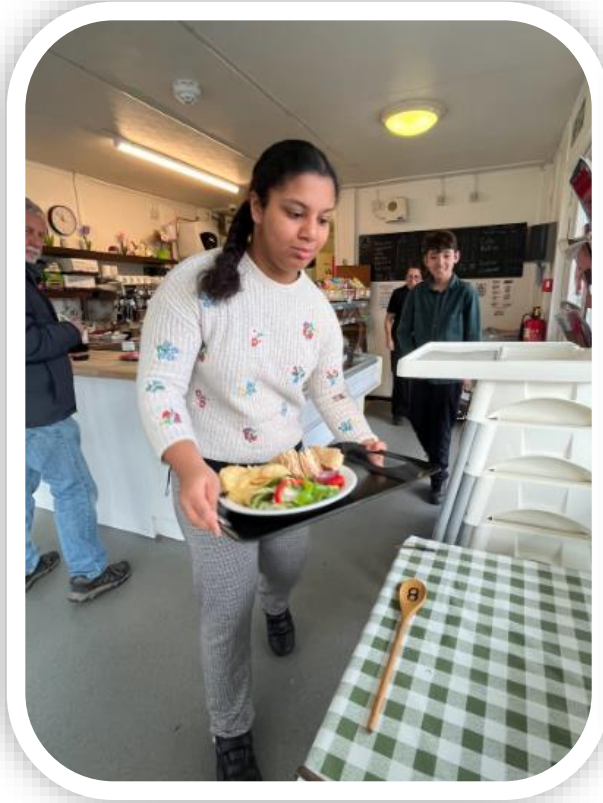


10/110 WORK EXPERIENCE

Well done to Esha and Christian who did their Yr 10 work experience at Cafe Sunshine this term!



10/110 WORK EXPERIENCE



11AF INTERVIEW WORKSHOP

The year 11 students from 11AF and 10/11O took part in an interview workshop organised by Sharon Barrett from AFC.

5 employers from local businesses came and interviewed the students to give them an idea of what the process is. Several students met their future work experience employer.

The students arrived dressed for the part. They were put at ease by the very experienced employers and had a wonderful experience. All were able to open up and talk about their aspirations and achievements. The students were given very positive feedback at the end of the morning.

This day was a very uplifting day when Year 11 enjoyed a glimpse of the future.



Introducing the
Employers



11AF INTERVIEW WORKSHOP

Feedback



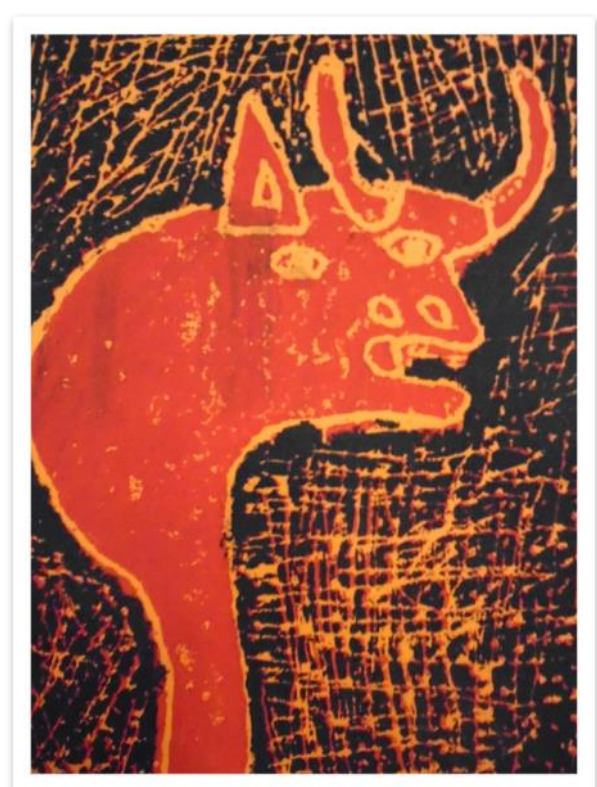
ART AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY NEWS

In both subjects our students have recently produced some amazing and dynamic coursework

Our KS3 DT students have made vacuum formed plastic door buzzers; while in KS4 they have made openable picture frames. Both projects required our students to use specialist tools, equipment and machinery

This term in Art, our students have been studying and responding to the work of a variety of artists. These included still lifes inspired by Paul Cezanne, multi coloured self portraits by Andy Warhol and a print project inspired by Pablo Picasso's "Guernica" painting

As ever, we are very proud of their achievements



ART AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY NEWS

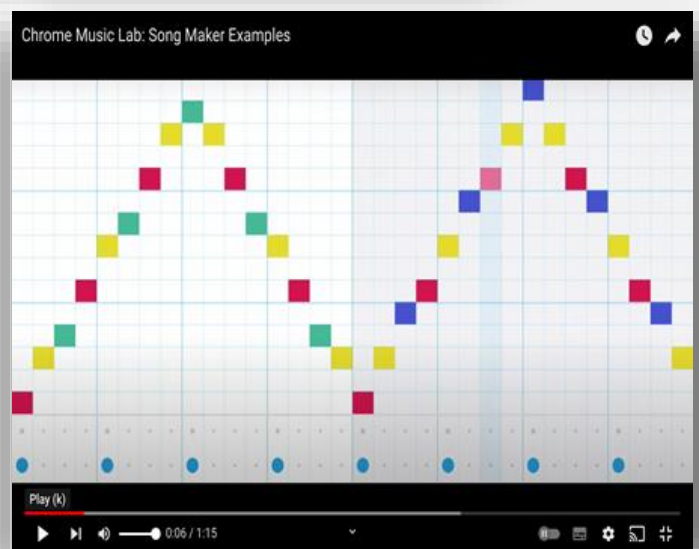
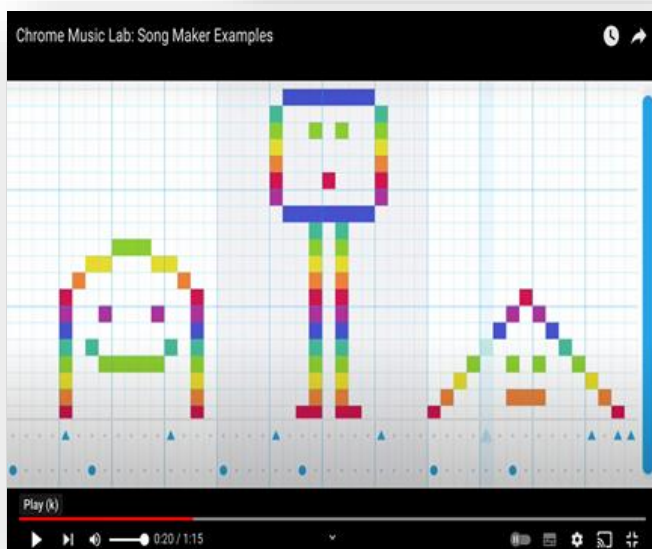
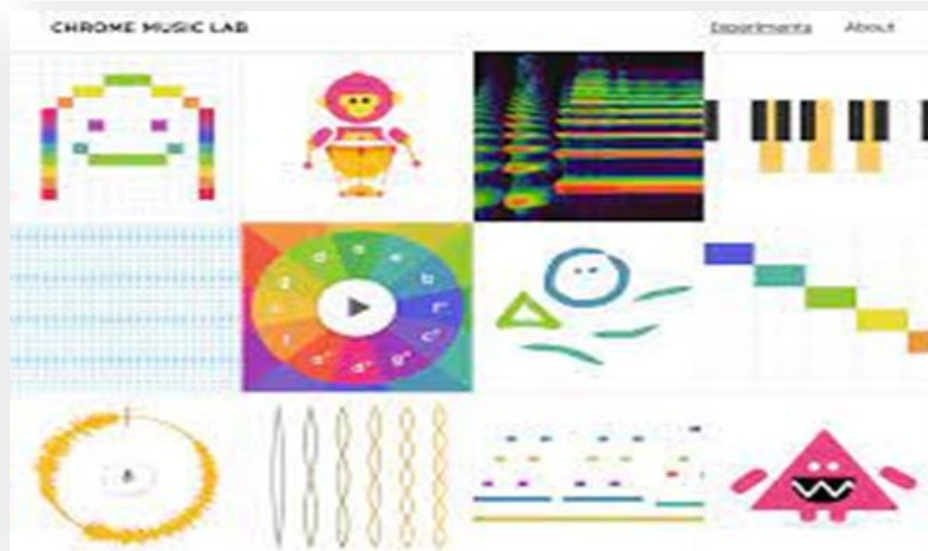


CREATIVE ARTS : MUSIC



This term in music we have been using **Music Technology** to explore and create new music. Each class has been working on two different programmes either **Chrome Music Lab** or **BandLab Education**. I have been so impressed with all the creations that are being produced and developed. We are hoping to showcase some of the best work in our summer production.

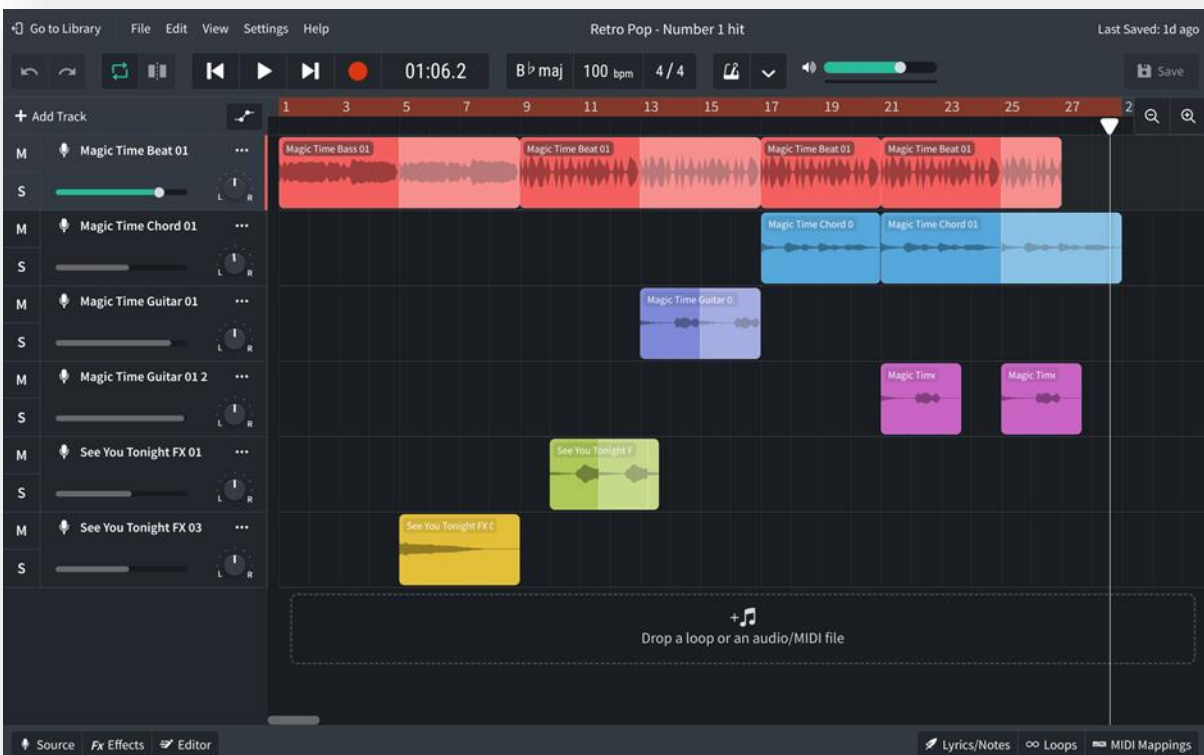
Mrs Reece



CREATIVE ARTS : MUSIC

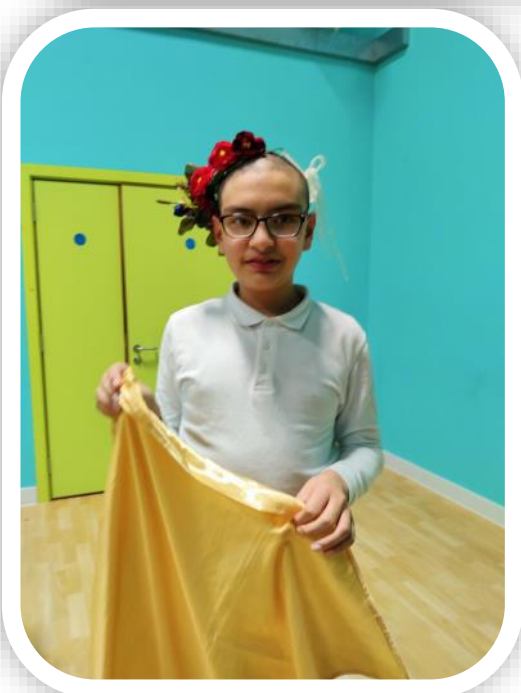
Year 9 - Working independently on their compositions.

They are hoping to have some number 1 hits!



ENRICHMENT NEWS

During this past half term, we commemorated International Women's Day with an engaging workshop highlighting the remarkable achievements of women throughout history. Students had the opportunity to delve into the inspiring stories of influential figures such as Rosa Parks, Frida Kahlo, and Amelia Earhart, exploring their profound contributions to society.



ENRICHMENT NEWS



ENRICHMENT NEWS



BESPOKE BE HEARD



Success Stories:

Eric (mentioned in the Autumn newsletter), was our volunteer for 1.5 years. He completed our highest qualification. He sent out his CV to a number of bike shops the week after completing his course and within the next week he got a job at Clapham Cycles! Thanks to Eric, our school bikes, staff and customer bikes, have been serviced and maintained thoroughly by him. All the best to his future with bikes.



BESPOKE BE HEARD

Former student, **Laurence Nepstad**, also stopped volunteering with us as he has secured more days on his apprenticeship at Decathlon- working in the bicycle mechanics department. Well done to him securing four days a week.



BESPOKE BE HEARD

Monday's Mountain Biking Club

The club has been down on numbers the last two terms, whereas last academic year we were at full capacity every term. Hopefully, for summer term there will be more students joining on our relaxing, yet healthy-paced, rides along the River Crane.



A reminder to parents of the offer from Bespoke Be Heard:

- **15% discount for all parents and siblings** of children within the academy for services, repairs, parts, accessories & clothing.
- **10% discount for all parents and siblings** within the academy for second hand bicycles.
- Trade price for **all students** within the academy for second hand bikes, parts, accessories and clothing and **free services and repairs**.

WHAT'S ON FROM SAFEGUARDING & SUPPORT?

FUEL Easter Activities:



Clubs and activities include: dance, yoga; technology and coding; skateboarding; art and crafts; cooking; indoor climbing; forest schools; karting and lots of sports such as cricket, football, netball, tennis & rugby.

Contact Maisie on mdean@clarendon.richmond.sch.uk for information on FUEL codes, referrals, and more.

PTA:

We are still working on getting our PTA up and running! Any suggestions, ideas, or queries? Get in touch! There will be a first meeting after the Easter Holidays, so please keep an eye out for updates.

What's going on online?

Through fostering a safe and supportive online environment, we can empower children with additional needs to explore the internet responsibly and enjoy its benefits while minimising potential risks.

Here's some helpful guidance:



Scan these QR Codes for information on setting parental controls on devices.

Concerned about your child online? **'Thinkuknow'** has helpful pages on difficult conversations, reporting issues, and support with internet safety.

You can find it here: thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/

WORLD DOWN'S SYNDROME DAY

Clarendon School celebrated the World Down Syndrome Day on 21st March. We wore odd socks to raise awareness and combat stigma surrounding this genetic condition.



DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

Down's Syndrome Awareness Week

18 - 24 MARCH 2024

Celebrating the individuality of every person who has Down's syndrome.

Wear your #LotsOfSocks with pride this #WorldDownSyndromeDay

Take a photo or video, share on social media and spread the word!

#EndTheStereotypes

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube icons

The banner features a teal background with the Down's Syndrome Association logo, event dates, and a collage of four photos: a woman at a desk, a baby, a young girl with arms raised, and a young man playing a ukulele. At the bottom, there are colorful socks and social media icons.



MINI ENTERPRISE DAY

A big well done and thank you for everyone who took part and contributed to our first ever Mini-Enterprise Day!



MINI ENTERPRISE DAY



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NOTICE BOARD

We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break and a much needed rest. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday, 15th April 2024 at 8:40am.

Contact Information

Please ensure you have provided school with your most up to date contact details. If you have recently moved or changed your mobile number, please let us know. You are able to check these on your Arbor account. If you have not yet signed up to Arbor, please email the school office and we will send you details on how to create an account.

Lunch Payments on Arbor

Don't forget to clear your child's lunch account before they finish school. Any outstanding debts will be passed over to finance for collection. If you are having difficulty or have not yet set up your account, please email the office to arrange support. Starting from 15th April 2024, the price of pupil meals will be increasing to £2.90.

Absence/Lateness

It is important to remember to contact the school office if your child is going to be late or absent from school. If we are not informed of a reason for absence your child will be marked as 'unauthorised'.

Key Dates:

1st Day of Term:	Monday, 15th April
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 6th May (School Closed)
INSET Day :	Friday, 24th May (School Closed to Pupils)
Half Term :	Monday, 27th May – Friday, 31st May
Year 11 Last Day:	Friday, 28th June at 3:00pm
Last Day of Term:	Wednesday, 24th July at 1:30pm



Clarendon School
Secondary Centre

