



Aspire Academy Newsletter

Term 4 Issue number 4

In this issue: Head Teacher's message, World Book Day, 'Mother's and Others' Afternoon Tea, Comic Relief and what we have been learning, Bristol Metro Mayor's school environmental summit and Digital Media - Careers week.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot quite believe that we are on our fourth Newsletter and that Spring is finally upon us. As we look forward to some brighter weather, once again it gives me great pleasure to share some of the many successes and achievements of our children and young people.

World Book Day saw staff and pupils dig deep into their dressing up boxes to find stage worthy costumes including our some of our Key Stage 4 students who arrived as James Bond, Jekl and Hyde and hiding somewhere, Where's Wally! Similarly Red Nose Day brought out a fine array of red clothing as pupils emersed themselves in the learning and activities relevant to this important cause.

Thank you to those who were able to attend our 'Mothers and Others' Tea and Scone event, it was wonderful to meet and spend time talking to so many of you. Thank you also to the Team for organising it and to the children for their impeccable behaviour.

A date for your diaries, Tuesday 16th April we will be hosting a 'Tea and Talk' session which will be attended by SASS (Specialist Autism Support Service) who provide advice and guidance to the parents and carers of children with diagnosed and undiagnosed autism. We will also be joined by SENDIAS who offer confidential advice and support and can signpost to services available within BANES to children and young people with SEND and their parents or carers.

As you will be aware, in term 5 Mrs Tapsfield will be offsite supporting the development of one of our partner schools and Mrs Isles is moving on to pastures new. Whilst both will be missed by colleagues, pupils and families alike; I know you will join me in wishing them a positive new chapter in their careers.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Charlotte Churchill who is the founder of Operation Christmas Hamper and has kindly donated Easter eggs for your children to enjoy. My special thanks also goes to the residents of Southstoke Village who donated £100 to put towards a school football kit. This is extended to the team at Aspire who not only work tirelessly to support our children but are taking part in an after-school quiz to raise money to top up the funds.

The staff team and I wish you all a safe and eggcellent Easter break,

Yours Sincerely

Mrs McDicken

World Book Day in Secondary



We celebrated in style for World Book Day this year, with most students dressing up as book characters - thank you for your support. It generated talk about books, authors and language. We all need to boost reading more in this day and age as we battle the increased use of phones and ipads...The more our students, read the better they read, write and spell.



World Book Day in Primary

On the 7th of March Primary celebrated World Book Day.



We dressed up as our favourite characters from books and shared our stories with others.

'Mother's and Others' Afternoon Tea

On Monday 11th March families joined us in school for a 'mother's and others' afternoon tea to celebrate Mothering Sunday.



Primary are planning a similar event for Father's day.

Comic Relief

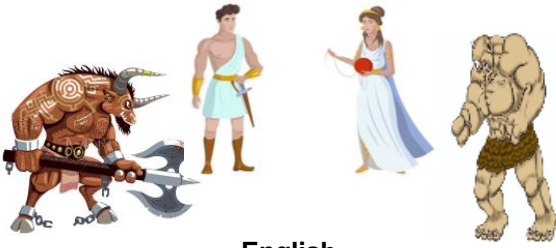
Friday 15th March

Primary celebrated Comic Relief's red nose day. We learned about the cause in assembly, wore red, completed some fun activities and most importantly donated money to support this great charity!



Comic Relief in secondary was celebrated by learning about the history of Comic Relief and doing some fun quizzes and activities.





English

Throughout the school we have started to use a new approach in English called Talk for Writing. It focusses specifically on the language used in different text types so students can use them in their own writing, making it even better than ever! As a whole school, from Primary to Secondary, we have been writing instructional texts and then we wrote story endings to different Greek Legends.

Food Technology

We are heading to Easter by baking delicious Hot Cross Buns and Easter Millionaire squares. The cooking skills of the students are improving term, and they are becoming much more independent in the kitchen.



Badgers class

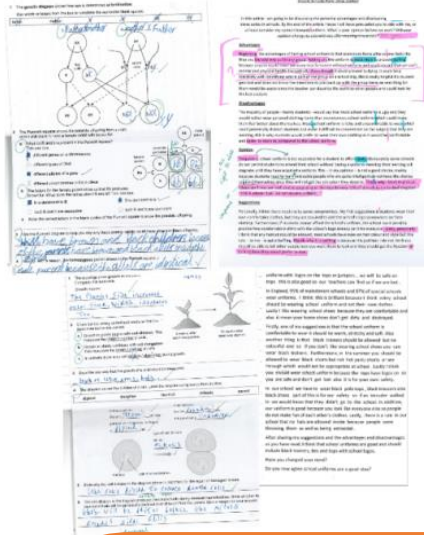
The Badgers class have had a fantastic term! We have been raising money for Children in Need by making pizzas for the staff, managing to raise a massive £128! Thank you to everyone that was involved we couldn't have done it without you!

This term we have also had World Book day where we read some amazing books and wore some fantastic costumes, also having been lucky enough to visit Mr B's Emporium to look at their huge selection of books!

Badgers also got to meet some awesome animals from Zoo-Lab! We can't wait to see what next term has in store for us all!



11B



This term has been about retrieval and revision.

As we head towards our final months together, we are preparing ourselves for our GCSEs and Functional Exams.

In Science, we have been working on using our retrieval skills to complete a task, before revising, filling the gaps in our knowledge and then completing the task. In English, we have been studying the writing mark scheme, analysing exemplars and thoroughly editing our own work. In Maths, we have found that revising tricky topics before our mocks has really helped us get some extra marks.

Great work so far guys - make sure to continue to revise over the holidays!!!

Primary P.E

In Primary P.E. This Term all Students have practicing Yoga poses, participating in strength and conditioning training and the Focus Sports have been Handball for the Hedgehogs, Otters and Badgers and Basketball for the Squirrels, Owls and Foxes.



BTEC Home Cooking Skills

During Careers Week, the BTEC Home Cooking Skills group had a cooking demonstration from Nathan, Junior Sous Chef at the Royal Crescent Hotel. It was an impressive couple of hours as Nathan showed us how to prepare a Halibut, from start to finish. We watched as he expertly prepared the fish, trimmed and skinned it. Finally we all got to enjoy the delicious meal he made for us. It was an inspirational session and sparked much interest from the students.



Bristol Metro Mayor's Summit- West of England schools' environmental summit 2024

On Tuesday 12th March The Year 10s took part in the Bristol Metro Mayor's school environmental summit 2024 at Ashton Gate Stadium in Bristol.

At the Schools Summit, the students had the opportunity to discuss some of the most pressing issues facing our region, including how to protect our natural spaces, create a better public transport system, and their vision for what life will look like in 2040. The students also had the opportunity to meet key employers in the region through the Marketplace sessions and pitch their ideas on important policy issues to me directly through the Mayor's Dragon's Den.

The ideas from the students will now be used to inform the plans of the Mayor's West of England Mayoral Combined Authority.

The Aspire students were a credit to themselves and the school and were engaged and participated in all the activities during the day.

Well done!



Digital Media Careers week. Global Triathlon Network (GTN) visit

On Friday the 8th our Digital media group had a visit from an employee of The Global Triathlon Network. GTN is a media company based in Bath that specialises in recording and editing Triathlon events and races. The purpose of this visit was to explore media related careers and talk about skills and qualification required to gain an employment in this sector.

Our students were briefed about what it is like to work as a videographer and editor and what this job could possibly involve. Our visitor shared his experiences of working for GTN as both; an editor and a videographer and demonstrated some of the equipment he uses to record Sport events.

Students had an opportunity to ask questions and gain more insight into working in media.

I am pleased to say that all students were extremely polite and respectful our visitor.

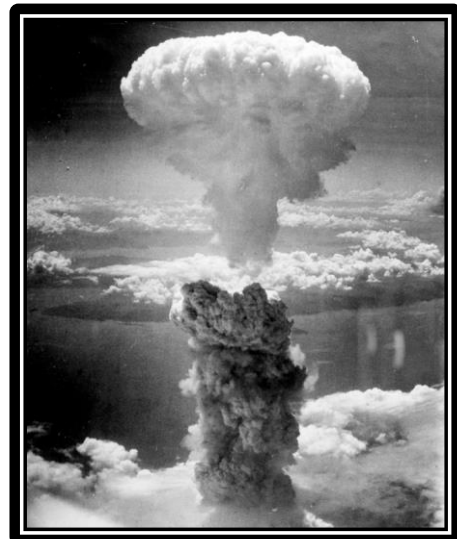
9B

It has been a great term for 9B; we have been learning all about Greek Mythology, Dragons and fantastic creatures as part of our English lessons, whilst reinforcing our knowledge in adverbs, imperative verbs, instructional writing, adjectives and many other interesting writing techniques.



For Humanities, we started with *Geography*, recapping about natural disasters and the horrors they have caused around the world, then we moved on to *History* where we learned about the atrocities that Hitler and the Nazis caused to the Jewish communities and the tragedy of the two atomic bombs dropped during WW2.

Finally, we went on to explore how people from different cultures live around the globe. We discovered that in countries like Brazil, Suriname and Guiana people do not have the same social and economic opportunities that we have in England and more economically developed countries.



Overall, it has been a very productive term and we are looking forward to the next one.

100% Points Café Trip

Students who had achieved 100% in their engagement and behaviour points at least twice this term enjoyed a trip to Threeways café.



Term Dates

Term 5

Inset day: Monday 15th April 2024

Starts: Tuesday 16th April 2024

Ends: Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6

Starts: Monday 3rd June 2024

Inset Day: Monday 24th June 2024

Ends: Friday 19th July 2024

(Please take note that this has changed from Tuesday 23rd July 2024 to permit significant building works during the summer holidays to improve the school environment for our pupils)

