

Term 1 Newsletter 2023



Football matches against Northstar Academy.

This term Both KS3 and KS4 students have had the opportunity to represent the school in a Football match against Northstar Academy in Bristol.

The KS3 fixture was first up and a dominant display from our squad saw them be triumphant in all 3 of the short games we played. A combination of deadly attacking play and solid defensive work meant Northstar never really had a look in throughout the fixture but the most pleasing thing overall was the great spirit the games were played in by both teams and we look forward to more fixtures in the future.



The week after it was the turn of the KS4 team. This turned out to be a much tougher and competitive fixture. A real backwards and forwards game saw both teams taking the lead at one stage or other until a very late Northstar goal ultimately was the winner. Even then there was still time for Aspire to nearly snatch a draw at the death when we hit the post. At final score of 3-2 to Northstar sets up a return fixture. Once again I would like to congratulate both teams on a game played in the right spirit.

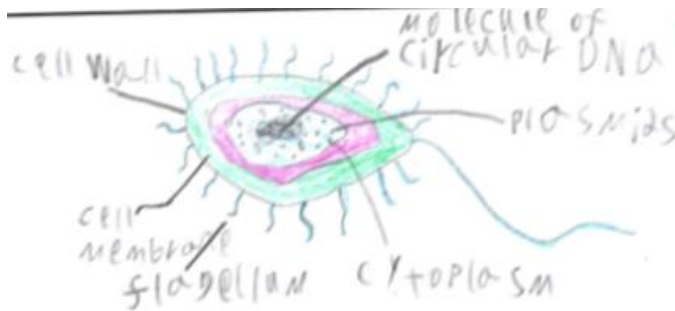
Well done to both of our teams.

Mr T.Gibson

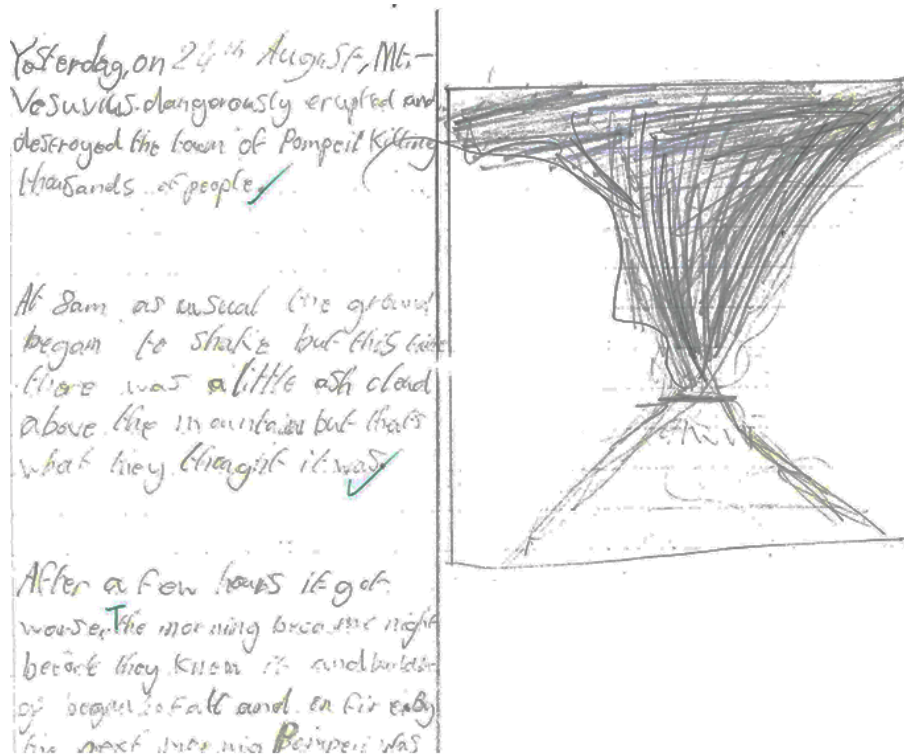
Primary football



This week Year 7 have been looking at different types of cells with the microscopes. Everyone worked hard and enjoyed discovering different plant and animal cells. We also discovered that bacterial cells can move!



In History we have been learning about the destruction of Pompeii. The children researched the events around the disaster and were surprised to learn that the Ancient Romans did not know what a volcano was and didn't even have a word for volcanoes, until Vesuvius erupted. Sadly they learned the hard way that certain mountains could erupt



We are looking forward to a chill day Friday as a reward for all our hard work this term!

From Mrs Briggs and Y7

Food Technology



Across the secondary year groups we have been focusing on the skills required to prepare quick Savoury Dishes, hearty enough to either feed an individual or a whole hungry family. We have chopped, reduced by simmering, stirred frantically and created tasty dishes!

The recipes have included Savoury Spicy Rice, Veggie Fritters, No Yeast Pizzas and Cheat Samosas. We have chosen ingredients that are cost effective, helping them reduce costs when they are cooking for themselves in adulthood.



During Friday enrichment time, we create dishes of our savoury choosing or a sweet treat. We have made various delicious flavours of cupcakes, suggested by one of our brilliant baking students and some Puff Pastry delights.

In primary we all enjoyed tasting this amazing Harvest loaf.



Can you spot the mouse?

We are always very grateful for any empty plastic containers you might have that are spare to transport our delicious goodies in, so please feel free to bring any containers in. Alternatively, if your child knows when their cooking day is, please send them with a large Tupperware which they will fill with their scrumptious cooking to return home with.

English Key Stage 3 and 4

We have been working hard in Key Stage 3 on developing the key skills to help us access texts through a topic of Ghosts. We have read various genres of texts, from 19th Century extracts to modern thrillers. We have been skimming texts to get a feel of their content, scanning to find specific information and answering comprehension questions. We have looked for similarities and differences in texts and how to put our views and opinions into answers.

In Key Stage 4 the students have been studying the GCSE Assessment Objectives. We have looked at an overview of the different exam papers, and what skills they are tested on. Initially, we focussed on Reading Objectives, answering quick fire questions and retrieving information with highlighters. We then moved onto Creative Writing skills where we have looked at the structure of narrative texts, tone and style of our writing, descriptive writing and characters. Some have written fabulous 'Flash Fiction' pieces, which are short stories of 50 words long, others contributed to descriptive texts changing a tattered armchair to a decaying corpse in an extended metaphor!

All the students have risen to the challenge of beginning to tackle skills to prepare them for their GCSEs. They should be very proud of their efforts so far.



11b Pumpkin Project.

After a great term of learning and some amazing effort completing their assessments this week, class 11b picked and carved the pumpkins we had grown ourselves in our vegetable patch. They showed maturity while using knives, thought carefully about their designs and persevered through the hard task of cutting their designs. Miss Brennan and Mrs Silva are incredible proud of the wonderful first term 11b have had and look forward to next term together.



Otters



This term Otters have compared two cities in Geography and have brought this study into our English lessons whilst learning about and writing information reports. We also got the chance to cook and compare English and Brazilian dishes. We looked at our world through our study of 'Autumn Art', how different religions view the world and through our exploration of the woods in our forest school sessions. We enjoyed testing how magnets work in a series of science lessons and even though it was tricky, we can now understand place value in 4-digit numbers. We loved cheering on our friends in the football match, playing with Bear and making our own classroom cinema.

Squirrels

In the Squirrels class we have had fun looking at magnetism all term. With our new knowledge we made some fun magnet based games.

