Saint John Wall Catholic School A Catholic School For All



Mission Statement
'To educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be'



Date: Friday 4 March 2022

Issue 22 Weekly Information Bulletin

Catholic Life - This year 's theme is based on the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13)

Termly theme: Achievement (rocky soil)

Termly SJW values – Learned and Wise

God of mercy, help us to listen to your voice, a voice that speaks of peace to all people. Let the sound resonate within us, until a whisper becomes a shout which cannot be ignored. Move us with your love, so that our actions echo your peace, and we may bring comfort to those touched by conflict. Fill us with your hope, O Lord, and quiet the fear and hatred which divides us, as we seek to build a future together, of true and lasting peace. Amen.

Important Dates to Note

Important Dates to Note:

- Year 11 Mock 2 Examinations
 Wednesday 9 March to Wednesday 16 March 2022
- The Crescent Theatre Macbeth (27 Year 10s)
 Thursday 10 March 2022 8.30am to 1.30pm
- Values@SJW Day 3
 Friday 11 March 2022
- Year 11 Parents' Evening
 Wednesday 30 March 2022 4.00pm to 6.00pm

Literacy Week

This week has been Literacy Week here at Saint John Wall. We have spent the week encouraging each other to share in the joy of reading, not just for pleasure, but also as a way of pushing ourselves to be the best that we can be. As part of Literacy Week, we have had many events taking place for example Years 7 to 10 participated in a story comic book competition, while on Thursday, our wonderful Year 11 prefects read a small extract from a popular well-known story to all tutor groups in Years 7 and 8. Years 9 and 10 have taken part in a day long Reading Relay, where their teachers modelled reading a text across each of their lessons during World Book Day. This special newsletter edition will showcase how each subject develops pupils' literacy skills. In addition to all of this, many members of staff chose to dress-up as their favourite book character to share in the joy of the day.

As a lovely end to what has been a very busy week, all the pupils have been given their own World Book Day book to bring home and to read, so they can continue what we have started in school at home. There have been so many members of staff and pupils who have participated in making Literacy Week, the success it has been, a huge thank you to all. We would also like to express our thanks to Tescos for supporting the school in providing nearly 700 books to be distributed to our pupils.

Enjoy reading this afternoon and this weekend everyone.

By Mrs Hillier









Catholic Life

Year 7 Youth SVP

Our Youth SVP Group is championing the cause for refugees and asylum seekers within our city. Both groups are aiming to raise the profile of some of the most vulnerable people who have had to flee their home countries due to conflict, poverty or disease. This week the Youth SFC created a reflective display in the Chapel which will be used throughout Lent to encourage conversation and prayer around what day to day life must be like for those seeking asylum and refuge in our country.





Saint Chad's Sanctuary Trip

On Friday, pupils from Year 7 visited Saint Chad's Sanctuary in Birmingham City Centre. The Sanctuary provides asylum seekers and refugees with English lessons, canned food and clothing. Thank you to staff who have donated clothing to the Sanctuary.



Year 8 One World Group

Pupils involved in our school One World group have come together over the past two weeks to research and plan our Ash Wednesday service. Our pupils decided to launch CAFOD's 'Walk Against Hunger' campaign, which will see our school walk 200km this half term to raise vital funds for children suffering from malnutrition in Sierra Leone.







Catholic Life

Our One World Group began their fundraising by having a pancake sale. They raised £40 which will be added to the total raised at the end of the term.



Ash Wednesday Services

It was wonderful to welcome pupils and staff back to face to face services in the hall for the first time this school year. The Gospel reflected upon the need for fasting, prayer and charity and coincided with the call of Pope Francis to pray for peace in our world. We also heard the story of Lombeh, a four-year-old girl from Sierra Leone who suffered from malnutrition as a baby. As a school we have pledged to walk 200km in solidarity with children like Lombeh and are asking families and parishes within our local community to sponsor us over the coming weeks as we reach closer to our goal.





To donate to our CAFOD Lenten appeal, please visit: https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/saint-john-wallcatholic-school-walk-against

Thank you to our Year 10 readers: Hardi Pembele, Asher Rogers, Ivie Imadonmwinyi, Andrea Zajacova, Manjot Kaur, Olamide Adekunte-Olayiwola, Timothy Renju, Kiet Nguyen for leading our services throughout the day.

"I learnt that communication between God and us is really important because it would increase the chance of us getting closer to God." By Ivie Imadonmwinyi 10ESM

"I learned how I can help people around the world, and how lucky I am to live with so many opportunities. With that I connect with God." By Andrea Zajacova 10FOD

"I liked learning about the work of CAFOD around the world and how we can support others." By Olamide Adekunte-Olayiwola 10PAL

Pray for Ukraine

On Ash Wednesday Pope Francis called for us to fast and pray for the people of Ukraine, that peace might prevail. Pupils were encouraged to visit the Chapel throughout the day to pray for peace.





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Chapel News

In the chapel this week we have been thinking about our neighbours in Ukraine. We will continue to pray for all those affected by war and hope that all governments can work together for a peaceful solution.

By Mrs Clayton



Literacy in Art

During their Art lessons Year 7 have been exploring the story of Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carol.

They have become illustrators and illustrated chapter one, they looked at the mysterious Cheshire Cat and drew elements from the Mad Hatters Tea Party.

Year 7 have really enjoyed their time looking at the literature of Lewis Carol and listening to his story of Alice during their lessons.

By Mrs Towie





















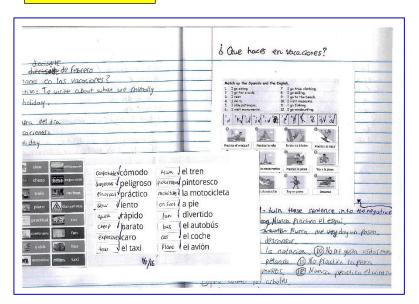
Literacy in MFL

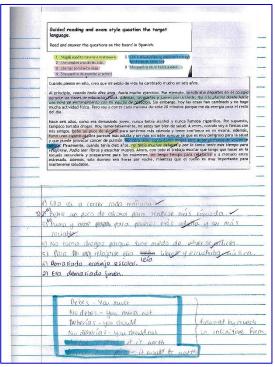
In KS3, literacy is implemented by transforming sentences from one form to another, such as from affirmative to negative in the example from Spanish. Pupils also regularly review their work to reinforce their knowledge and understanding of literacy concepts such as noun-adjective agreement and word order, as in the example from French.

In KS4, pupils demonstrate their literacy skills in the target language by using information that is presented in the first person and paraphrasing using the third person. In the example from Spanish, the pupil has identified key information to start and then progressed to answering questions set in Spanish and answering in a full sentence using the third person form of verbs.

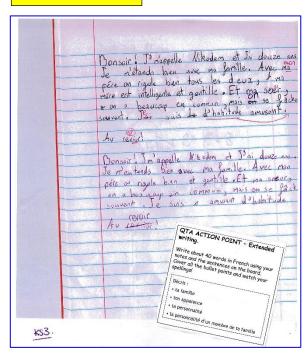
By Mrs Wallace

KS3 Spanish





KS3 French



Year 11 Spanish

By Mariam Rahman 11RAH



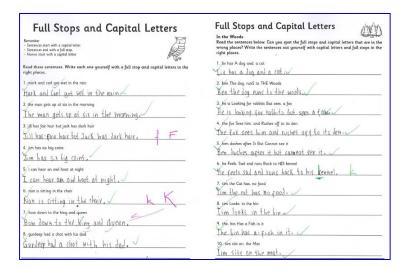


Literacy in EAL

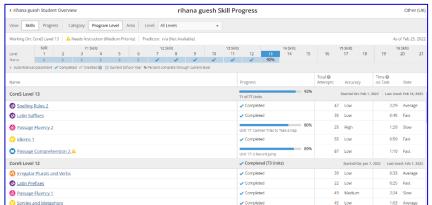
Pupils have at least one hour a week for reading for pleasure, where they read a book of their choice and complete some follow up activities.

Date	Title of Book	Pages read today	Signed
12/10/2021 19/10/2021 2/11/2021	OF Tom Sowyer	Page 2 to 18 Page 18 to 18 Page 18 to 18 Page 18 to 19 Page 19 to 37 Page 1 to 36 Page 1 to 36	Ritvik lal Ritvik lal

Working an SPAG especially correct use of capital letters and full stops is very important for many EAL learners. Many languages haven't got the same rules or use different transcript, which makes punctuation difficult to learn for our pupils.



EAL pupils use online programmes that help them to develop their literacy skills especially Lexia, which is designed to introduce and practise all aspects of literacy development starting from phonics ending on complex grammatical structures and comprehension texts.



By Mrs Kawecka







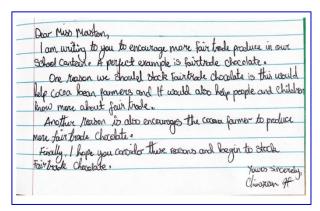


Literacy in Geography

Geography Year 8

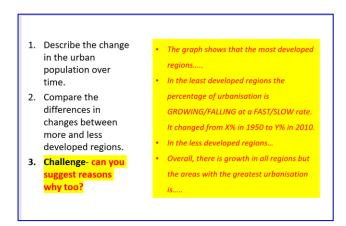
In KS3 Geography we have implemented literacy by giving pupils the chance to complete extended pieces of writing in different formats. Below is a Year 8 example of work where the student has written a longer piece of writing in the format of a letter, imagining they are writing a letter to school. This is excellent for literacy development as it enables pupils to broaden their vocabulary and complete extended writing in a more engaging way, that they can share with their classmates.

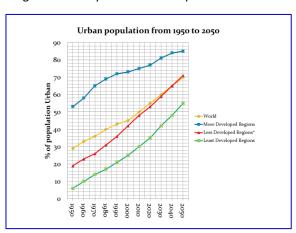




Geography Year 9

In KS4 Geography one way that we have implemented literacy is through structured descriptive writing look at different types of graph. This allows pupils to see how they should be structuring their extended writing and writing well grammatically. Furthermore, through reading model answers pupils are able to identify what they should have in their own answers when proof reading them too. Pupils also enjoy the element of competition in improving their literacy skills in this way.





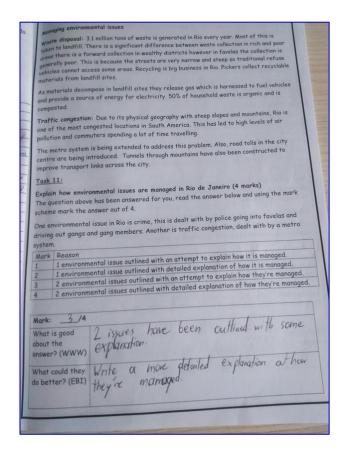
the most developed regions The graph shows that continue to increase in population. However, this a slow speed and will not during the years 2010 to 2020 In the least developed 0 f regions, such as Africa, the percentage increasing at a fast rate. The with no slow downs - Originally, Very Wonsistent is expected to in the coming years. Overall, there is growth in all regions but the least developed region will have the growth overall



Geography Year 11

In Year 11 we have implemented literacy through examination homework, giving pupils the opportunity of extended reading, a key skill helpful for reading figures in their Geography GCSE.

Above is a Year 11 piece of work where a pupil has read some key Geographical information and a model exam question attached to the text. The pupil has then marked the exam question using a pupil friendly mark scheme and set a WWW and EBI task.



By Mr Woodward and Mr Cockburn

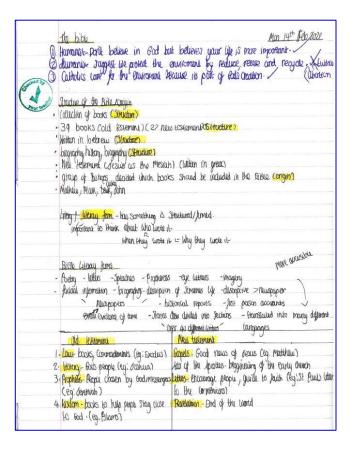






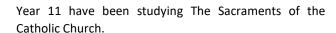
Literacy in RE

At KS4 we look closely at the Bible as a source of wisdom and authority. Year 9 have recently been looking at the literary structure and form of the Bible. They have also studied the attitudes of different Christians towards the Bible. Below is a sample of work by Shera Khinda in Year 9.

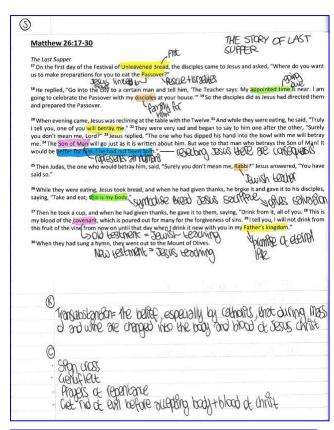


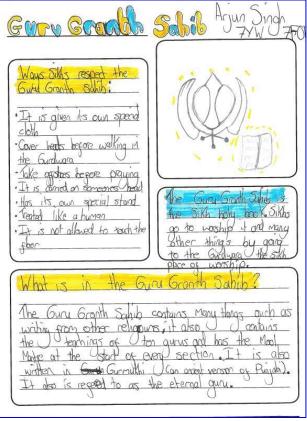
In KS3 we study Holy Books from different religions. Year 7 have been looking at the ways that people show respect for holy books. Pupils created posters giving information about a Holy Book of their choice. Arjun Singh's work on the Guru Granth Sahib is shown here.

By Mrs Harms



They analysed the Story of the last Supper and considered how it showed the importance of Eucharist. Below is an example of work by Ravider Ram in Year 11.







Literacy in Science

During science lessons across KS3 and KS4, pupils have been reading a range of science literacy-based texts. Pupils were given the opportunity to discuss, explain and debate about what they have read.

By Ms Forbes







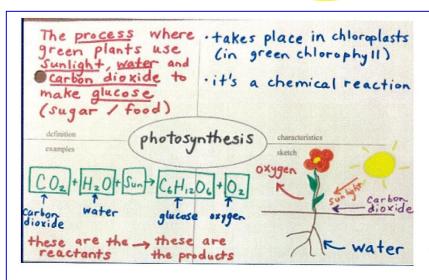






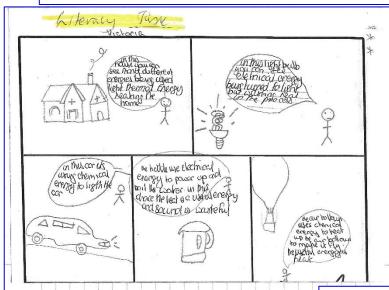


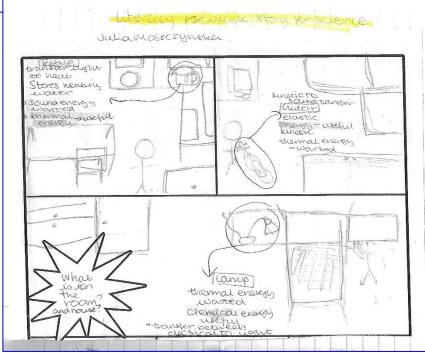




Literacy in science

The Frayer Model is a graphic organiser used in science for building pupil vocabulary. This technique requires students to define target vocabulary and apply their knowledge by generating their own definitions, examples, characteristics, and/or drawing a picture to illustrate the meaning of the word.



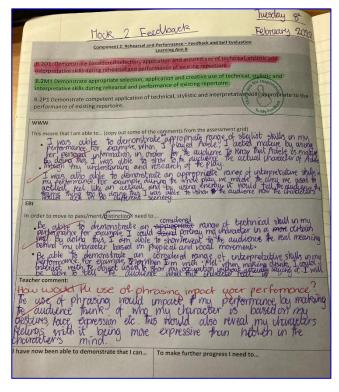




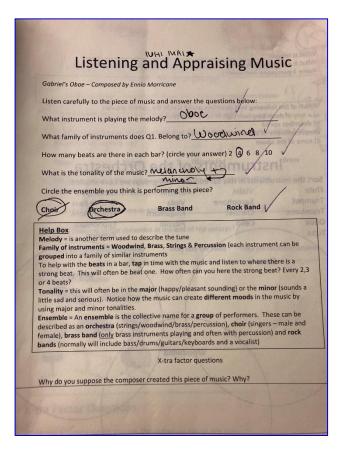
Literacy in Performing Arts

Literacy is so important in Performing Arts as it helps us develop our creative passions and our communication skills when looking at a range of plays or music pieces throughout pupils' time in school. The pieces of work below show some literacy exercises we do throughout KS3 + KS4 for example reading and writing implementing tier 3 vocabulary or basic feedback that allows pupils to think and reflect on their most recent performance pieces. In Performing Arts developing the pupil's literacy not only allows them to practise using key words linked to the industry but allows them to express their opinions and thoughts through studying a range of repertoire.

By Miss Cummings



By Ivie Imadonmwinyi 10ESM



By Nhi Mai 7COB







After watching the scenes of "The Curious incident of the Dog in the night-time. I feel astonished by the way the actors produced a magnificent play. My first impression was "unique" This is because the play we watched before "Hamilton" was a different style of acting then 'The Curious incident of the Dog in the night-time'. I was surprised how the emotions of the acting looked so real. I really enjoyed 'The Curious incident of the Dog in the night-time' because it showed a story. I found this enjoyable because after every act, I was wanting to know what was going to happen next. The theatre style that was produced was "physical theatre". This was shown on how the actors physically moved throughout the play. The way the actors went off stage was also part of the theatre style because they went off and on stage in a non-crowded fashion. The light demonstrated the main parts of the scene. We can see this in picture 3 on the left. The box was glowing inside which shows the mysteriousness within it. The light designer also used different coloured light to emphasise the emotion of the character and how they felt at that time. The Curious incident of the Dog in the night-time used a lighting technique called a 'gobo'. This was used when the actor felt like he was trapped within and no-one would listen nor care about him. The set explores the outside world but also the inside of the actors mind. The autistic actor's mind would be seen as math problems all around the stage. This shows the inside mind of the actor. The costumes suggest the age of the actor. For example, the old neighbour wore a cardigan. This can show that she is old and is into $\underline{\underline{a}}$ old type of fashion. Also, the autistic boy wore a jumper. This suggests that he is a young or innocent boy due

By Sebastian Paul 9HEA





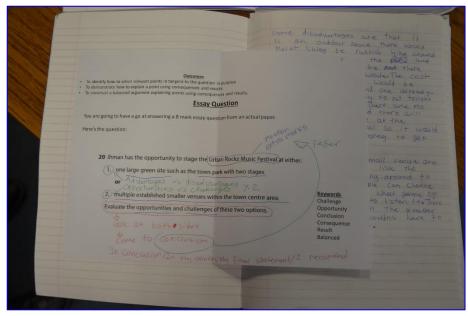


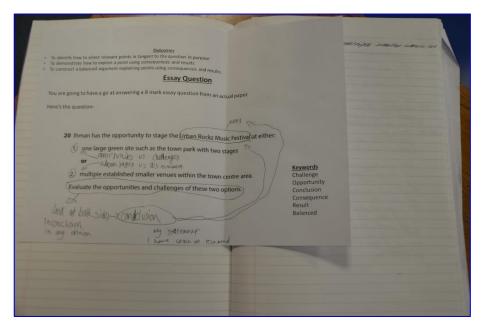


Literacy in Performing Arts

In BTEC Music for Year 9 this week we have been annotating our 8-mark questions and looking at the keywords that are in the question to help us to answer it. We looked at command words such as evaluate, identify, describe and explain. The level of detail we write about in our answers helps us to gain as many marks as possible. We then worked as a class to model an answer together ensuring that we referred to the scenario in our advantages and disadvantages of using a large space for our music event or smaller venues in a town centre. Pupils were able to recall the venue work we had previously completed to help them to contribute to this class answer.

By Mrs Crooks







Literacy in Maths

Since GCSE's changed to 9-1, the importance of literacy skills in mathematics has significantly grown. Many questions are now given in words, instead of just numbers, causing pupils to potentially miss out on grades because of their literacy instead of their mathematics skills and knowledge.

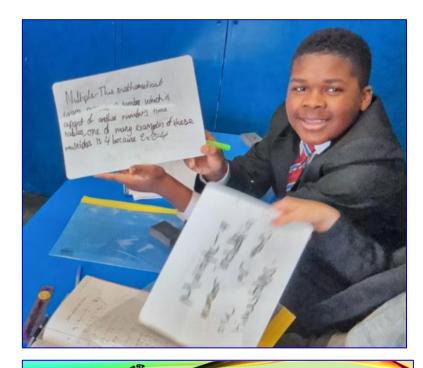
In the maths department, we are trying to push literacy wherever possible. We use lots of worded exam type questions during our lessons, to help prepare pupils for their assessments. We also have starters that are aimed at mathematical definitions, tier 2 and tier 3 words. We help pupils to understand the definitions, use the word in sentences and to be able to answer mathematical problems involving the word.

Members of the department have also spent time working on literacy on the mini whiteboards. Pupils had to write their own definitions and share them with the class. Time was given afterwards for pupils to improve their definitions to get them as accurate as possible.

By Mr Simmons







Copy out the definition:

EVEN - any whole number that can be divided exactly by 2. e.g. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12...

AO2 - Try this question:

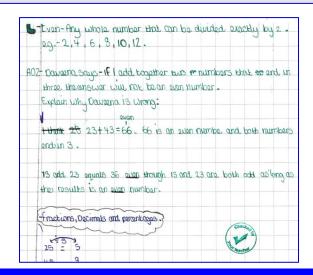
Daveena says:

"If I add together two numbers that end in three the answer will <u>not</u> be an even number."

<u>Daveena</u> is **wrong**. Explain why.

Write down as many sentences as you can using the word "even" correctly.

Try to make them as different as you can!



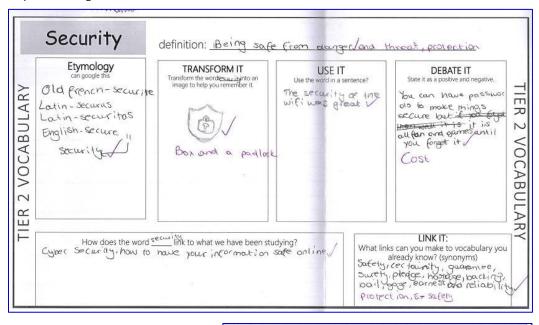


Literacy in IT and Enterprise

Digital IT

In Year 9 Digital IT we have been looking at different types of tier 2 vocabulary and exploring the different aspects of these words, not just in the context of IT. This exercise really allowed the pupils to look at a word from different angles and find deeper meanings.

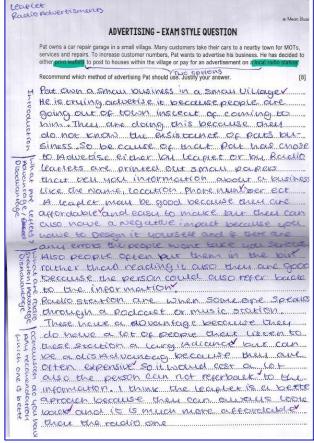
By Mr Rathbone



Enterprise

In Year 9 Enterprise pupils have been looking at how to best structure their extended answer questions. Practising the best way to section up these long answers is a great way of building up the pupils confidence to be able to have the best structure when it comes to the real exams.

By Mr Rathbone





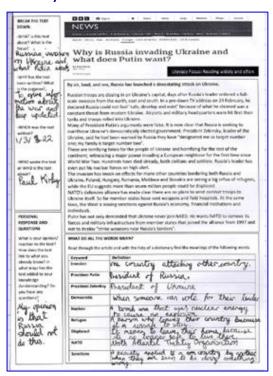




Literacy in History

Year 7 read a BBC news article to understand the reasons for the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. Pupils were encouraged to challenge any 'fake' news or misconceptions they had heard from social media by breaking the text down, defining key terminology and sharing their opinion on the events.

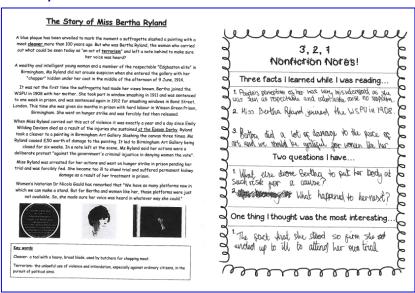
By Miss Lally



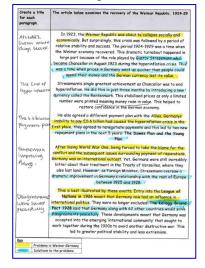


Year 10 read an article from the BBC Ukrainian editor to understand the experiences of people living in Ukraine. The article describes her journey to safety with her son. Pupils were active and curious by asking thoughtful questions and asking for information about new vocabulary such as 'borshch' (some pupils in the class were able to explain this food dish to the rest of the class). Pupils were also compassionate and loving when considering the plight of Ukrainian people who have had to move from their homes to safety.

By Miss Guest



Year 8 had the opportunity to reflect on the life of Birmingham born Suffragette Bertha Ryland. This guided reading supported pupils in being able to deepen their understanding of the actions taken by the Suffragettes and their aims in carrying out the acts that they did. Pupils were attentive and discerning in analysing the impact of those who fought to get women the vote in the early twentieth century, being able to reflect on how this has shaped the society that we live in today. Pupils were learned and wise by reading an article from the BBC's History Magazine on a period of recovery in Weimar Germany. Pupils were able to identify the steps taken by politicians to bring about what Historians refer to as a 'Golden Age' in the short life of the republic.



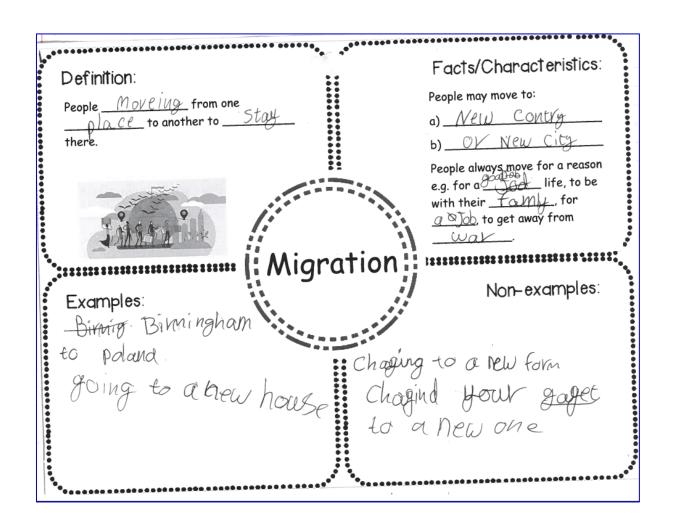




Literacy in the DLP Hub

In the Hub during Humanities lessons we use scaffolding such as the Frayer model below to enable our learners to access new key vocabulary. This involves learning the definition, facts about the word as well as examples of the word in action. Furthermore, we look at non-examples of the word to gain a greater understanding of what the word doesn't mean and therefore strengthen learners understanding of what the word really means.

By Mr Cockburn







Literacy in PE

Q – LIST AND EXPLAIN THE LONG TERM EFFECTS OF EXERCISE ON THE MUSCULAR SYSTEM.(3)

- WHAT DOES IT DO?
- EXPLAIN WHY IT DOES THAT.
- BENEFT THE PERFORMER?

Tier I	TIER 2	TIER 3
lf.	Therefore	HYPERTROPHY
And	Benefits	MUSCULAR ENDURANCE
As	Due to	RESISTANCE TRAINING
But	Since	AEROBIC/ANAEROBIC

Year 10 GCSE pupils have looked at words in different tiers. The aim of this exercise was to help develop pupils' vocabulary with Tier 2 words whilst trying to use subject specific Tier 3 words in their answers. This can help pupils develop answers but also help later on in life both in academic writing and also when writing applications.



Master your literacy!

1) What is the difference between effect and affect?

Effect = noun

"The effects of advertising include temptation to eat unhealthy foods."

Affect = verb

"Advertising affects the choices we make when choosing what we eat."

Another literacy development method has been used in Health & Social with Year 9 pupils. This task was to help pupils understand the differences between words which sound very similar. They were also given subject specific questions where they had to respond using the correct word.

Demonstrate through application

Garry attends Progress Primary School. Staff have discovered Garry has been discriminating against one of the other children.

Describe two ways that the primary school could challenge Garry's discriminatory behaviour. (4 marks)

COMMAND WORDS

Describe

Tell the examiner everything they need to know about something, e.g. the relevant facts, features and qualities.

Another way we have used literacy is with Year 10 Health and Social students in preparation for their exams. This was to help pupils understand command words in the exam question to help ensure pupils wrote an answer specifically based on the command word instruction.

By Mr Owen



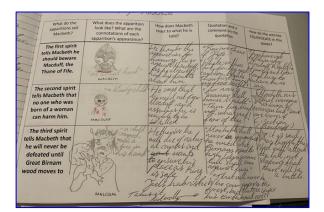




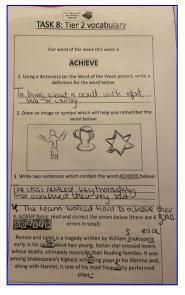




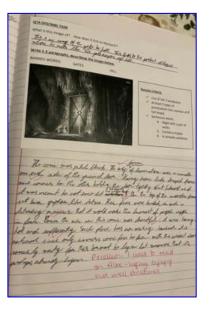
Literacy in English



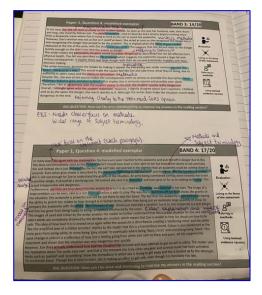
Year 11: breaking down complex ideas in Macbeth and linking ideas and quotes to new tier 3 vocabulary.

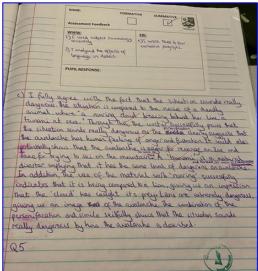


Year 9: starter activities to introduce the Word of the Week and GOSSIP tasks which focus on written accuracy.



Year 11: Creative writing- clear and challenging success criteria for specific writing skills outlined.





Year 10: modelling of example responses and exam skills before improving pupils' own answers.

By Mrs Hillier







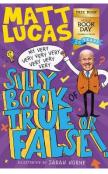
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World Book Day

As part of World Book Day each pupil was given a new reading book. The school finished at 2.30pm so all pupils could take the book home and spend the afternoon reading.

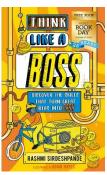


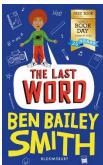












































World Book Day – Staff Character Costumes

































Can you guess the characters staff are dressed up as?





Year 11s Reading to Years 7 & 8

On Thursday Year 11 prefects visited each Year 7 and 8 form to read a short fiction extract as part of World Book Day and to encourage pupils to read. The extract was from 'The Recruit' by Robert Muchamore.

















Reading Relay - Year 9 and 10

During form time Year 9 and 10 pupils learnt about autism. Then, at the beginning of each lesson on Thursday, Year 9 and 10 pupils read an extract from 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time' by Mark Haddon.







"I feel that the story raised awareness about Autism and made me think differently and I felt compassion for those who are met with unfortunate circumstances". By Hardie Pembele 10HAB

"I felt the book was very interesting and I enjoyed it so much I want to borrow the book from the library to find out the whole story and how it ends". By Connie Grant 10HAR

"It was very interesting reading 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' and was very awakening to learn what people with autism have to go through. I liked how we read in all our subjects, not only in English" By **Deborah Gebrekiristos 10HAR**









"On Thursday, we read 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time'. This gave us a really good insight into the psyche of an autistic person. Honestly, towards the end of the excerpt we were given, you start to feel a sense of sympathy for our protagonist, held back by the functions of his brain that no one else understands". By Asher Rogers 10FOR



Accelerated Reader

Well done to those Year 7 and 8 pupils who this week received certificates, bookmark, pencil and a book to keep for excelling in the accelerated reader programme. The pupils have continuously improved and have read multiple books since September 2021. Keep up the reading!

By Mr Mull











Book Reviews

'Mind Writer' - By Steve Cole

"Personally I think this book was amazing. It was about this person called Shedim who was a magician and he summoned the demons and the demon said he could grant him one wish. He chose to have powers to help mankind but then the magician turned on him and trapped him in a casket in his mind and gave his mind reading and the power to overwrite people's thoughts to two people called Luke and Samira."

By Borys Morawski 7PAW

'Curse of the Frozen Loch' by Anthony Masters

"So, to start off, if you like short and powerful books this is for you definitely this is about some children seeing their granny for the holidays. They wake up to see her on the frozen loch walking to this outline of a skater and she goes closer and closer to the figure. Just as she's about to touch it they grab her and take her back but Will wants to go and help the skater but Sarah says, "no take care of gran". She scolds them and when she goes to bed they wonder what's wrong with her but they just go to bed and soon she goes out on the loch again to go and see the skater. Sarah goes to skate to her, Will takes her back, makes and some soup but as Sarah goes to the skater she disappears."

By Sebastian Lambert-Blackwood 7PEJ

'Crown of Midnight' by Sarah J. Maas

"This book is by far my favourite. I'll be honest, the first part wasn't interesting and if it wasn't for that I would have finished it sooner. The plot twists are everything and the second part of the book got me so interested I finished it in a night. Overall the book is about Celena, the 'Champion' of the king, an assassin. Instead of killing the people the king orders her to fake their death and make them flea. At least until a movement against said king starts and an old 'friend' gets involved. I'll personally give it a 9.5/10."

By Sarah Manu 8MCI

'Diary of A Wimpy Kid: Double Down' By Jeff Kinny

"I read a book called Diary of a Wimpy Kid Double Down. It was very interesting, and I liked it a lot. It was a story of middle schooler whose name was Greg and had a very crazy and hectic life and always found a way to get by."

By Kibriya Jawaid 8TOW

'Great Expectations' by Charles Dickens

"This is a book about a boy who lives with his older sister and his uncle. He lives in the marshes and one day when he is at the cemetery he mourns about his parents and meets an escaped convict."

By Denzel Okyei 8MCI

'The Giver' by Lois Lowry

"This book is about a boy called Jonas who lives in a community where everything is the same. In this community there is no colour, no war, no killing, and no stealing. However, when Jonas gets appointed as the new receiver of memory, he finds that there is a dark truth behind his community. A truth that no one can believe is true.

It intrigues the reader as it ends on cliff hanger. Overall, it is a good book for those people who see things scientifically. I would rate this book a 9/10."

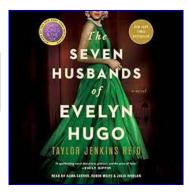
By Yakhyaa Hussain 8TOW

Staff Book Review

'Seven Husbands' by Taylor Jenkins Reid

"The most striking thing about this book is how real Evelyn Hugo feels to the reader. As a character, she is immaculately developed without a single gap or fault, with very human feelings and thoughts that are often not addressed in other books. Every relationship, both romantic and platonic that Hugo reflects upon is full of personality and charm, even when dark themes are discussed and exhibited. Most importantly though, Evelyn Hugo is flawed. Her relationships and attitudes towards people demonstrate that she is not the embodiment of perfection that Hollywood starlets are perceived to be. There are multiple points when the reader disapproves of Hugo's choices or thoughts, a refreshing feeling when many books evoke unconditional support for the character being followed. She is neither a protagonist nor an antagonist, filling both roles at interchanging moments that make Hugo feel even more human and relatable".

4.5/5 from Miss Jones













Dear Parents/Carers

Police and schools in the city are committed to working together to protect our young people from becoming victims of knife and weapon related crime.

We use a range of tactics including educational inputs and in-school searches to ensure that students are well-informed about the consequences of carrying weapons; and identify those that continue to do so.

It is important that the police, schools and families work together to protect young people. To do this, parents must be aware of the warning signs and talk to children about carrying weapons. The consequences of being found in possession of a knife are serious and long lasting, affecting education, employment and travel opportunities, but most critically the risk to life.

Some young people carry weapons because they feel it will provide protection or increase the respect they are given by their friends, but the sad fact is that they are more likely to become victims of serious violence. Parents should also be aware that girls sometimes carry or store weapons for their boyfriends or other male friends because they believe they are less likely to be stopped by the police. Their reasons are often misguided loyalty or love. However, it is still a crime if they are caught carrying a knife or other weapon.

WARNING SIGNS:

These signs don't always mean the worst is happening and could just be normal teenage behaviour:

- 1. Have they become withdrawn from the family and/or school?
- 2. Is their school or college reporting worrying changes in behaviour, academic achievement or attendance?
- 3. Have they lost interest in positive activities such as sports clubs?
- 4. Do they stay out unusually late without giving a reason and are vague about their whereabouts?
- 5. Have they stopped seeing old friends and started hanging out with a new group?
- 6. Are they secretive about the contents of their bag?
- 7. Are they defensive if you ask what is in their possession or if they are hiding anything?
- 8. Has their attitude changed about carrying knives/weapons? For example, justifying it by saying people carry them for self-defence?
- 9. Have any items gone missing from the kitchen, toolbox or garage?
- 10. Have you found a weapon hidden amongst their possessions?

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE CONCERNED

Speak to them calmly and explain the risks and consequences. Further advice on talking to your child is available at: www.noknivesbetterlives.com/parents/having-the-conversation

You may wish to contact a member of the Pastoral Team at school, if you feel your child isn't listening or is at risk - we can talk through your concerns and plan a way forward together.

For the latest guidance and signposting opportunities please visit: www.policeandschools.org.uk
SCHOOL POLICY FOR WEAPONS POSSESSION

It is essential that we work together to reduce the chances of children bringing a weapon into school. Ours, like most other schools, will take firm action in relation to any student found to be carrying a knife, both on and off the school premises and the police will be informed. This may include the loss of your child's school place, by way of a permanent exclusion or managed-move, as a sanction.









THE POLICE RESPONSE TO WEAPONS POSESSION

Where young people are involved in crime, the police will try to avoid criminalising them. However, carrying a knife or other weapon is very serious and the most likely outcome will be a charge and court appearance or a caution, delivered by the Youth Offending Service.

Update: West Midlands Police can use Section 60 powers to stop and search young people.

"Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 gives senior police officers powers to authorise use of stop and search without reasonable grounds, where there is a risk of violence or it is believed that weapons are being carried".

If a young person has been stopped by police using **Section 60** powers, it does not necessarily mean they are doing anything wrong, but officers have been given extensive search powers where they can search to prevent violence without needing suspicion that they may be carrying a weapon. This tool is being used to end violence and keep young people safe. West Midlands Police realise that it may be upsetting for some innocent young people, but with fear of weapons growing, we cannot take chances.

If you are aware that a fight or trouble is brewing, or if you hear someone has a knife, please report this to the police. If a young person is scared of someone, the answer is not to carry a knife or weapon.

If you know of an individual, or a group of young people, that are potentially carrying weapons, always contact the Police - via Live Chat: https://west-midlands.police.uk/contact-us/live-chat or by calling 101.

Alternatively, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on: 0800 555 111 | https://crimestoppers-uk.org

If a crime is taking place or a life is in danger always call 999 immediately.

Yours faithfully,

K Marston

Miss K Marston Headteacher Saint John Wall Catholic School **Richard North**Chief Superintendent

West Midlands Police

Schools in Perry Barr committed to this joint approach include:

Arena Academy/BMeT (James Watt Campus)/Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School/City of Birmingham School/Eden Boys' School/Fortis Foundation Academy/Hamstead Hall Academy/KE VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy/Holyhead School/St John Wall Catholic School











Eden Boys















