Zone 2 Termly Newsletter – Key Stage 3

St Lucia – Mrs Tong
This term Saint Lucia class pupils have been learning about stories from another culture and writing their own story based in a different country. They have enjoyed researching their chosen country and creating characters to have in their story. They have developed their descriptive writing to enable the reader to imagine their setting. Alongside this, they have been learning about Saint Lucia as a country and comparing it to the UK. Most of the class would prefer the weather in Saint Lucia currently.
A highlight this term has been watching the class develop skills during PE. I was so proud watching them play a netball game in two teams. They were communicating well, moving well around the space and defending and attacking well.

Puerto Rico – Mr Moore
Our class has been immersed in a study of Puerto Rico, exploring its vibrant culture and unique environment. A significant part of our learning involved exploring its unique plant life, such as the important mangrove trees along the coasts. We've also delighted in its rich food traditions and vibrant art and culture, By reading stories and learning about everyday living, we've been able to compare and contrast the difference in life there versus our own communities. Our sensory story linking to our literacy text, the engagement and enjoyment from the pupils was amazing.

Martinique – Miss Hetterley
Martinique pupils have been immersing themselves in learning about stories from other cultures, inspired by our classroom text 'Gregory Cool' which is set in Tobago. We have also explored the fauna and flora of Martinique in Science lessons using watercolour paints and in Humanities we have been exploring weather.
My highlight of the term has been watching the class build relationships and learning to play together.

Mexico – Ms Waight
Mexico Class has had an incredible term. Pupils have been learning about stories from other cultures (The Rain Player). The students have been developing their diary writing and their story telling /writing skills. They have made ice creams in World of Work where they have immersed themselves in learning about careers and jobs that personally interest them. Creating volcanoes that actually erupted was fun in science alongside honing our balls kills in PE where we have been playing netball. Observing the growing confidence of the students and friendships forming within the group...Not forgetting the tasty ice cream and great results in their Precision Teaching and Phonics.

Year 8 and 9 English – Mrs Stoker
During their English lessons in Term 1, the book that Year 8 have been sharing has been The Diary of Anne Frank.
Anne began writing when she was given a diary for her 13th birthday. The same birthday that the Year 8 pupils will be celebrating next, which is why I chose to read it with them. The pupils have learnt all about Anne's life in hiding during World War 2, in the secret annex where she wrote her now famous diary. They have learnt about the features of writing diaries and have begun to write some of their own.
In Term 1 the Year 9 pupils have been learning the features of, and how to write recounts. We have done this by sharing a beautiful picture book called The Journey.
The story is about a mum and her young children, who have to leave their home because of war, and travel to find a new home where they can be safe. The pictures in the book are incredible and show the thoughts, feelings, hopes and fears of the characters in the book as they make their journey to safety.

Year 8 and 9 Maths – Ms Perrier
This term, we have covered a few topics that will be revisited in the course of the year. Most pupils work in groups by ability. We started with Number, moved onto addition and subtraction and then applied these to the context of money. In the last two weeks pupils have studied the measure of time then length in practical ways.

Year 9 pupils are becoming confident with their skills and can be "playful" with numbers.
Year 8 pupils' engagement is a pleasure to see and they already feel pride in their achievements.

Year 8 and 9 Science – Miss Brooks
This term year 8's have been learning about Cells. They have learnt that cells are the building blocks of life and every living thing is made up of cells. Year 9's have been looking at adaptations of animals and how they have adapted throughout the years to be able to survive in different environments.
The highlight of the term for my year 8's was looking at a fresh sample of blood under the microscope, seeing the red blood cells moving through the plasma! Year 9's got to learn all about Charles Darwin and how he has shaped our understanding of science today.

Year 8 and 9 Digital Technology – Miss Barnes
Year 8 pupils have brought their understanding of hardware to life by creating a paper laptop, exploring different components inside a computer. Year 9 pupils have learnt about binary, the only instructions a computer understands, and how to use Python - the programming language, not the snake!

Paper laptops don't sound so cool, but building your own device and seeing different components is! Year 9 pupils have enjoyed making the farm-bot farm through Python programming.

Year 8 and 9 Catering – Mrs Haworth
Year 8 and 9 have been investigating the Eat Well guide and planning a range of healthy meals.
Year 9 pupils have explored portion control in more detail and applied this to create balanced and healthy dishes.

We have developed a range of knife skills, some complex, and applied them to create a range of dishes.

A highlight of the term was seeing pupils explore new flavours and try new foods!

Zone 2 Termly Newsletter – Key Stage 3

Year 8 and 9 Humanities
This term the pupils' learning has been focused on geography. Year 9 pupils have been focusing on 'Our exploding world', learning about natural hazards including volcanoes, Tsumanis and earthquakes. Year 8 has been focusing on fossil fuels and their impact on the planet.

Highlight of the term
Year 9's highlight was the pupils creating their own world with tectonic plates and making a seismograph.
Year 8 pupils have settled well into a new humanities classroom.

Year 8 and 9 Physical Education – Mr Walker
Pupils have been learning PE through the vehicle of Netball and Handball this term, developing their cognitive skills through decision making, physical skills and social and emotional skills such as teamwork and resilience. Mr Atkinson has been taking the majority of the Netball lessons, whilst Mr Walker has taken the majority of the Handball lessons.

I have loved watching the pupils progress in their love for learning as well as their enjoyment of playing team games to build their cognitive, social and emotional skills. Seeing so many pupils grow in confidence to participate in team games independently and walk away stating "that was really fun" has made me absolutely delighted.

Year 8 and 9 Music – Mr Ince
What have you been learning this term?
Year 8 has been learning about the Baroque Era (1650 to 1750). As part of this exploration, we have learnt to play Pachelbel's Canon. In Year 9 we have started the year off by developing our band skills. Specifically, we have been learning how to read guitar notation and how to play this on the guitar.

Our highlight of the term was when the Year 8 classes were able to play Pachelbel's canon as an ensemble. Individual pupils performed on the guitar to the class, and, in most cases, they had not previously played this instrument before this year.

Year 8 and 9 Art
This term the Folkestone Triennial has been the focus of our curriculum. The Folkestone Triennial is an internationally famous art event, with artwork currently displayed around Folkestone. Learners have been exploring the work of a range of artists from the current Triennial and making fantastic artistic responses. We have discussed the importance of community and art in our community. Lessons have been also focused on formal elements in art and sensory art.

Our highlight of the term was when learners enjoyed using semaphore flags to spell their names which led on to discussing the work of Céline Condorelli and designing flags. The pupils have loved discussing the work in the Triennial because many have seen the work around Folkestone, especially loving the gigantic Salamander!

Lunch Time Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Anime Club	Arts and Crafts	Chess	Boardgames	Minecraft
Basketball	Football	Handball	Lego/Building	Quiet Club
			Dodgeball	Football

Award winning door decoration for Mental Health Week

Congratulations to the following pupils who have received 5 or more Beacon Value Points this term:

Olivia – St Lucia
Bobby-John – Puerto Rico
Tia - USA
Tulisa – St Lucia
Henry – Puerto Rico
Clara – Puerto Rico
Logan - Mexico
Cleo - USA
Sam – Puerto Rico

Bravery
Encouragement
Achievement
Curiosity
Opportunity
Nurture

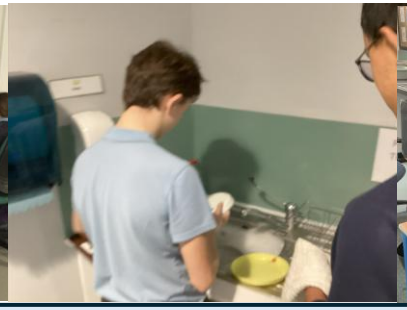
Beacon-Values

Zone 2 Termly Newsletter – Key Stage 4

Bermuda – Miss Bell
The pupils have had a fantastic term learning about a variety of things such as tectonic plates, phonics, reading skills, writing skills and current affairs.

Highlight of the term was when pupils learnt about volcanos and tectonic plates – they even created their own volcano!

A selection of pictures from our Nurture Day in KS4



Ivory Coast – Miss Thorne
This half term Ivory Coast pupils have been looking at science-fiction books and have read our class story 'Space Race'. We have been consolidating our learning on place value in maths and using this to support our addition.

Highlight of the term was when pupils wrote their own science-fiction story using a picture prompt. Everybody had the same picture, but all stories were different and very imaginative!

Year 10 and 11 Maths – Ms Burgum
What have you been learning this term?
This term we have covered a few topics that will be revisited in the course of the year. Most pupils work in groups by ability. We started with Number, moved onto addition and subtraction and then applied these to the context of money. In the last two weeks pupils have studied the measure of time then length in practical ways. Pupils have been starting their Ascentis Stepping Stones in Maths qualification.

Well done everyone!

Year 10 and 11 Digital Technology – Miss Barnes
Year 10 pupils have kicked off their learning with AQA Internet Safety, and OCR Entry Level Computer Science. Year 11s have completed an AQA certificate in poster/leaflet design for a business idea, and some have continued their BTEC journey, completing an animation, designing a computer program or a website! So much choice.

The highlight of the term was seeing the completed creative works of many of our pupils, including the fantastic animations using Blender, industry standard software.

Year 10 and 11 English – Mrs Vousden
Learners have been reading 'Friend or Foe' by Michael Morpurgo. Next term we shall take a glance at some other books by the same author, before we start our new text 'Holes' by Louis Sachar.

Year 11 has been learning about street life during the Victorian times from the book 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty.

My highlight of the term was seeing them share the class assembly together.

Year 10 and 11 Science – Miss Brooks
Year 10s have been learning all about the human body. We simulated the digestive system using mushy food, loads of bowls and a pair of tights! Year 11s have been learning about evolution and inheritance, looking at our DNA and what makes you, you!

The highlight of the term for the year 10s would be seeing how 'grossed out' they were learning, seeing and smelling how our body digests its food. The year 11s highlight would be finding out we share 50% of our DNA with a banana!

Year 10 and 11 Business – Miss Barnes
Pupils have formed business teams, generated ideas, and conducted secondary research on nutrition for teenagers to help inform their product idea; a healthy eating snack for teens. They will eventually create their product and sell it as a business team, continuing the Business Beacons initiative we started last year.

A highlight has been some of the fantastic ideas already coming out of our business teams, including flavoured popcorn and healthy breakfast bars for teens who don't eat breakfast.

Zone 2 Termly Newsletter – Key Stage 4

Year 10 and 11 Humanities – Mrs Harley
Yr 10 has been focused on responding to major tectonic events. They have been adjusting to accreditation work. Yr 11 has started a new unit on upheaval and conflict in England 1337-1382.

The highlight for Yr 11 was role-playing the discovery of a 'Black Death' victim.

Year 10 and 11 Music – Mr Ince
In Year 10 the pupils have been learning the core skills that they will require for the next two years. This term we have been focusing on rhythm notation.
The Year 11 pupils have been continuing with their solo performances building on the performances last year.

Highlight of the term:
The highlight of the term is that a pupil from Tier 2 has been able to access the music 'option', generally only achievable by those in Tier 1, showcasing our opportunities for inclusion. In Year 11 the highlight of the term has been that the pupils are really building on last year's work to enhance their performance skills.

Year 10 and 11 Art – Mrs Reeve
Year 10 have made an excellent start to their theme, My Surroundings, exploring their own areas of interest within this theme and creating great research. They have produced drawings, painting, and collages in responses to their chosen themes, and their sketchbooks look visually exciting and well presented.

Highlight of the term:
Learners carefully selected images to recreate in monoprints, and they really enjoyed this printing technique. The results of their monoprints show skill and care.

Year 10 and 11 Performing Arts – Mrs Duggan
Both Year 10 and 11 Performing Arts groups have been exploring the classic musical, Oliver Twist. They have been working on characterisation, accents and emotions. They have all made a fantastic start to the year, really developing their teamwork and confidence as a group and have excelled in learning scripts in a short time frame. In addition to this, the year 11 group has been exploring ideas to create their next assessment performance - a murder mystery! Their devising sessions have brought lots of laughter and thrilling plots twists so far!

Highlight of the term:
Fantastic energy and commitment to the work from all students is a highlight. A special 'shout out' to the year 10 group for their brilliant staging ideas for 'Pick a Pocket or Two!'

Year 10 and 11 – Physical Education – Mr Wallis and Mr Walker
Pupils have been learning PE through the vehicle of Basketball and Badminton this term. Developing their cognitive skills through decision making, physical skills and social and emotional skills such as team-work and resilience.

Highlight of the term
I have loved watching the pupils progress in their love for learning as well as their enjoyment of playing team games to build their cognitive, social and emotional skills. Seeing particular pupils show the confidence and desire to participate in team games that they previously didn't enjoy, has been wonderful to see.

Year 10 and 11 Supporting Others (Land Maintenance and Bike Care) - Mr Atkinson
Learners have been learning all about how to maintain a bicycle, keeping it road worthy and safe.

A highlight from this term was seeing pupils deepen their knowledge and learn to nearly assemble a whole bike – along with chain and sprockets – from scratch!

Year 10 and 11 Caring for Others (Social Care) - Mrs Walters
Learners have been learning about hair and nail maintenance as well as preparing for the work experience at a local residential care home.

Year 10 and 11 Inspiring Others (Sports Leaders) - Mr Walker
What have you been learning this term?
Young leaders have been learning about the importance of being confident and how to grow confidence levels as well as utilising different communication skills when leading others.

The highlight of the term was seeing a new group of aspiring leaders join the course. Observing individuals grow in confidence by leading others for the first time and experiencing the satisfaction of doing an exceptional job is just great to see.

Congratulations to the following pupils who have received 5 or more Beacon Value Points this term:

Cody-Lee - Tanzania
Jack - Tanzania

Beacon-Values