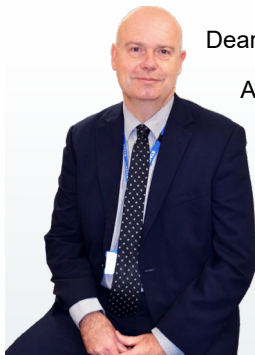


Dates for your Diary

Monday 26th to 30th October - October Half Term



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the half term break, I am pleased to report that we are as busy as ever in school. Unfortunately we have no sports stories to report at present as school matches have not yet restarted. Hopefully that will change soon. That said, there is, as usual, much to celebrate. My congratulations go to the winners in the 'Great European Bake Off', Mr Ferrater's 'Secret Science' homework project as well as to those Bridge students newly elected to the Bridge Council; well done to all! Also, a big ongoing thank you to all students and parents for supporting us with our current risk assessment practices in school.

Best wishes for the week ahead,

Mr Clayton, Headteacher

European Day of Languages

Students recently celebrated European Day of Languages on September 26th. Since 2001, the Council of Europe celebrates this date throughout its forty seven member states.

The purpose is to celebrate the linguistic diversity in Europe and promote language learning.

The MFL department at school celebrated with students taking part in a quiz during tutor time, learning fun and interesting facts about various languages and the cultures of different countries.

As part of the celebration, we also organised a virtual 'Great European Bake Off'. There were so many wonderful entries! We really appreciate the effort from all the students who participated.

We would also like to congratulate the winners from each year group and the 'Bake Off Champion', Year 8 student, Lara Krefta, the overall winner of the competition. "

Mrs Mourelle, Teacher of MFL



Secret Science Homework Project

Science is all about discovery. It is about being able to challenge what you know and propose new ideas. It is about being creative and imaginative about the world around us. With this in mind, this year I am giving the chance for my Year 7 students to do exactly that: to discover, to experiment and to push their limits.

I have developed an idea that I called "Secret Homework". This is an optional project unannounced in lessons that students can find in a "treasure hunt style" and then carry out of their own initiative. This time, they had to become YouTubers and produce a video to explain the topic of food chains and food webs that we were studying in class.

I have to say that I am genuinely blown away by the amazing response this project had. The number of students that have completed the challenge was incredible, despite being a voluntary activity. The results were fantastic, exceeding any possible expectations that I could have ever had!

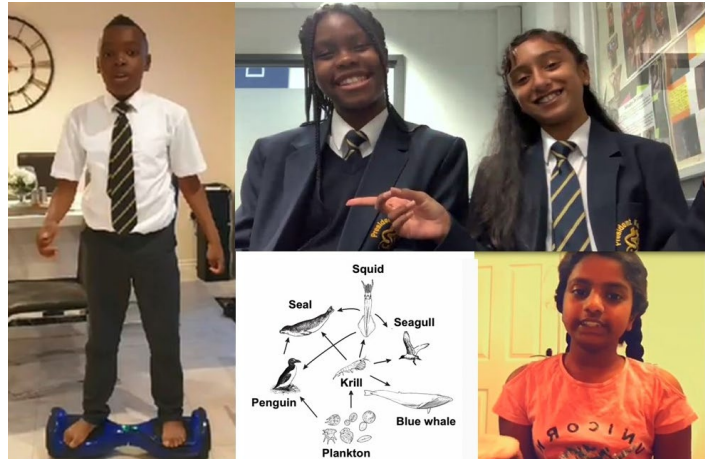
The creativity shown by Freya Pearson, using her own teddy animals to show how food chains and food webs work in different ecosystems (including the Jurassic era) in an eight minute video, full of brilliance and a superb understanding of every single process. The accuracy of Cordellia Akata and Abshara Piratheeban in a video in which they did not leave any details behind, including ideas that I had not even taught in my lessons.

A real YouTube-style display produced by Karini Sutharsan, not only applying all her knowledge but also even asking for likes and subscriptions for "her own science channel" at the end of her video. And a super fun video by Ozzy Omogun, explaining food webs riding his segway.

My first prize was awarded to the stunning video produced by Ethan Moongo and Fares Mudhai. This was a video of real (and I cannot emphasise enough *how* real) professional YouTube looks and standards. I have used videos in lessons from YouTube that are not even close to the quality of this video. It had its content perfectly scaffolded; it was packed with images and diagrams that made it easy to follow, even if it was the first time you approached the topic. This video was so good that it even

caught Ms Alexander's attention as she was walking through the corridor. Her reaction when she found out that this video was actually produced by these two Year 7 students was memorable. **"I cannot believe you made this! This is so impressive! It looks professional!"**, she said in amazement.

Another special mention should be given to Apinayaa Ramanan, who wrote over 300 words about food chains and food webs and asked for feedback, after which she redrafted and upgraded her work to a whopping 700 words before she recorded her video. A true display of determination and perseverance, pursuing excellence. All the core values in The Bridge shown in just one example.



I said at the beginning of the year that my R4s would be very difficult to obtain. However, they are giving me no choice so far. It is crystal clear that we have a stellar new Year 7 cohort, full of ideas and creativity, and with the potential to face even the most prestigious YouTubers.

I cannot wait to see what these students do next!

Mr Ferrater, Teacher of Science

The Bridge Council Announced



The Bridge Council have been elected this week and met on Thursday 8th October after school. They are:

BIRM: Fraser Mudhai

BRI: Apinayaa Ramanan

CAM: Cole Quin

CARD: Osaruese Omogun

LEEDS: Maciej Bokowski

LIV: Chantal Kissi- Boateng

MAN: Zack Probert Kayleigh Mitchell

NEW: Daniel Fullford

NOTT: Giovanni Di Pietro

OXF Emannuella Boadi

UCL: Shanice Rogers

SHEF: Amina Nisa

WARW: Elizabeth Pollard

YORK: Ganehaa Guganesan

It was a fabulous meeting and they came with lots of ideas to help the new Year 7s. Congratulations to all of them and I am looking forward to the work they will be doing over the next academic year!

Mrs Arnett, Student Leadership and Character Development

Holbrook's Community Care Association Annual Survey

If you live, work or use services in Holbrooks, please help to shape services in our area by clicking the link below to complete this short survey.

bit.ly/36GZwZy

By fully understanding what people need and want in Holbrooks we can help to deliver services to target those most in need, and importantly, highlight evidence gaps in provision to funders.



ParentPay - Our Online Payment Service

We now only accept payments online for items such as dinner money and school trips. Using a secure website called ParentPay, you can pay online using your credit or debit card. ParentPay is the company we use in order for you to make payments to school. Parents who need to continue making payments by cash for books or school trips may do so using the PayPoint network at local convenience stores. PayPoint payments are recorded by ParentPay and can be seen by logging into your ParentPay account and viewing your history online, however, they can take up to 36 hours to register. Parents will need to contact the School Office for a letter to take to the PayPoint store with a barcode on to enable this.

What are the benefits to parents and students?

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like.
- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind.
 - Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint.
- Full payment histories and statements are available to you securely online at anytime.
 - Your children won't have to worry about losing money at school.
- Parents can choose to be alerted when their balances are low via email and/or SMS text.

How to get started with ParentPay...

You will need an activation letter with a username and password on. These letters can be issued via the School Office.

- Visit www.parentpay.com
- Enter your activation username and password in the Account Login section of the homepage. NB. These are for one-time use only, you will choose your own username and password for future access during the activation process.
- Provide all the necessary information and choose your new username and password for your account - registering your email address will enable us to send you receipts and reminders.
- Once activation is complete you can go straight to items for payment, select which item(s) you want to add to your basket and proceed to complete your payment.

If you have any questions, please contact the School Office.

Thank you

Free School Meals

You may be aware that the government allocates additional funding to schools in the form of 'Pupil Premium'.

One of the criteria used to calculate this additional funding is the number of students who are entitled to free school meals. Applying for a free school meal could raise up to an extra £1320 per annum for six years for our school (funded by central government). This can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support for our school, as well as providing a healthy meal for your child free of charge each day they are in school.

Please click on the link below for further information around eligibility and how to apply.

<https://www.pks.coventry.sch.uk/page/?title=Parents&pid=65>

Lunch Menus

We are delighted to share with you our new Hot and Cold food lunch menus (links below) which are now available for your child to pre order in their tutor time each Friday morning for the week ahead. Prices are on the hot food menu. The packed lunch meal deal costs £2.50 per day.

Food will be delivered to your child's year group heart space at lunchtime, or can be collected from their year group allocated safe collection point. Your child's ParentPay account will then be debited daily accordingly.

If your child would like to order food, please can you ensure that their ParentPay online account has sufficient funds added to cover the cost. If you would like to use ParentPay but have not activated your account as yet, please contact the school for an activation letter.

Links to menus: <https://www.pks.coventry.sch.uk/page/?title=Parents&pid=65>

Building Brighter Futures



**President Kennedy School
in Coventry are looking for
trainee teachers in the
following subject areas:**

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Computer Science
Geography
History
Modern Foreign Languages

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Brighter Futures Together