

Heather Field Newsletter Autumn 2021

As we approach the end of what has been another exciting and extremely busy term in school, we have to express our immense pride in the way all of our students have continued to conduct themselves, both in school and off-site out in the community. We have had many comments this term from local businesses that we have visited, expressing just how wonderfully our children have behaved and what a pleasure it has been to host us.

Our students continue to work hard and strive to be the best version of themselves, displaying great courage in the face of the many challenges that Covid has brought this term. Children have shown determination and resilience to continually adapt to this new ever-changing world in which find ourselves and are an absolute credit to you, themselves and to Heather Field School. It has become clear over recent weeks that this virus is going to bring yet more challenges our way in the coming months but we have no doubt that Heather Field children will continue to take it all in their stride, setting an example to us all.

We are immensely proud of all of our children at Heather Field school. As always, we send our kindest wishes to you and your families and wish you a very happy, and safe Christmas.

Our children return to school on Wednesday 5th January

All of the staff would like to share our heart felt thank you for all of the many wonderful gifts and cards we have received from our Heather Field families.



We continue to enjoy the wonderful comments you add to our school Facebook page of your gratitude for the experience your child has opportunity to enjoy whilst with us.

Please contact the school office if you require further assistance in gaining access to our Facebook page.



As the weather has turned and the rain has set in, we need to make sure we are bringing coats ^{and} jumpers with us every day. We are fortunate enough to enjoy a wide range of activities at Heather Field, and many of these involve going off site, or being out in the open. We need to make sure we can enjoy these activities by bringing the appropriate dress to school.



Class Blithe



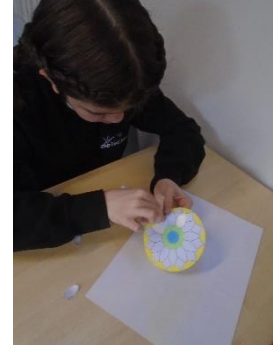
Our KS3 students in Class Blithe have been going horse riding during their PE lessons. They have been not only learning to ride independently, but also how to clean out the stables, prepare the horse for a ride and clean them ready to go back in their field or stable at the end of the session.



During their science lessons, the KS4 students in Blithe have been talking about mini beasts, making a home for our class stick insects and a snailery for the garden.



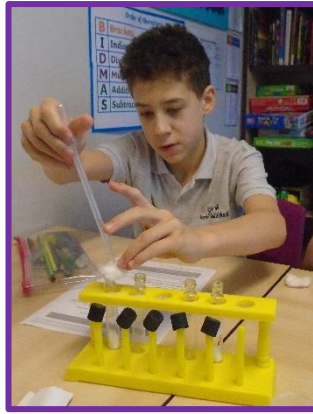
KS3 have been doing some amazing work during their French lessons; they have been learning different foods and discussing with each other what their favourites are! The children have also spent time making meals by planning the shopping list and the cutlery and crockery that would be needed using French vocabulary.



Class Blithe have enjoyed so many activities throughout Heather Field's Diversity Days! The students have: made Thistles and Loch Ness Monsters for St Andrews Day; played the Skittles Game to talk about their emotions and participated in yoga during Healthy Mind Day; created their own Pudsey key rings and decorations for Children in Need; designed sand and rice drawings for Diwali... And this is only some!

Class Churnet

In Topic students have been learning about the industrial revolution and particularly enjoyed a treasure hunt around Stafford town finding out interesting facts about its establishment and history. Students demonstrated their skills in Art using different texture and layering techniques to create clay tiles. They also explored painting pottery during a day out at pretty pots.

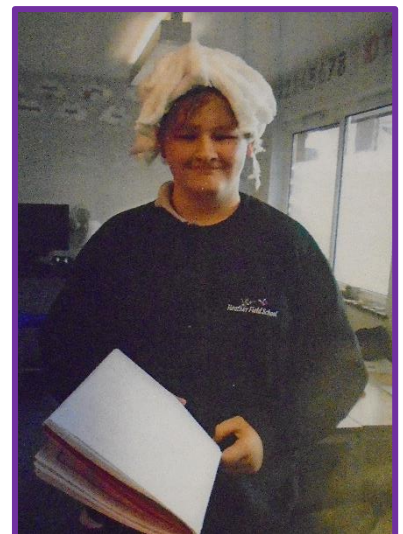


In Science, students have been learning about the diet and the digestive system as well as how plants grow. They have carried out several investigations and are really developing their ability to write predictions and conclusions.

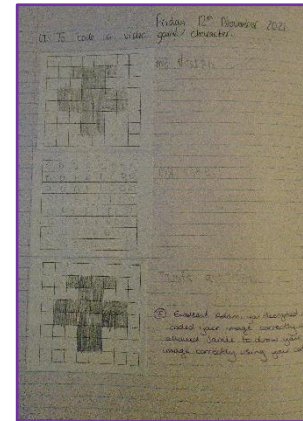
Churnet have really enjoyed taking part in a number of diversity days this term including Children in Need, Remembrance day, disability awareness day and St Andrews day. The students have really engaged taking part in themed activities and have created some fabulous items including their own kilts!



In English, the students have been working really hard on their extended writing and reading skills. They planned a defence speech and were brilliant at acting this out as a class! Well Done!

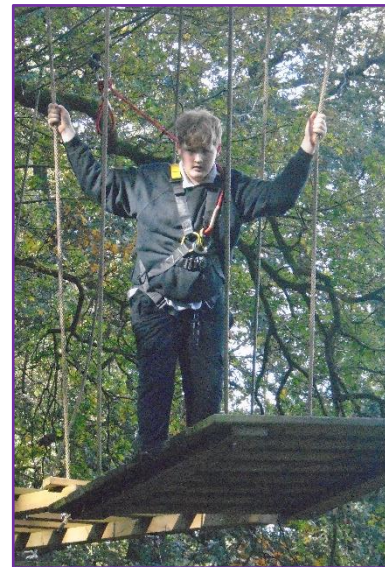
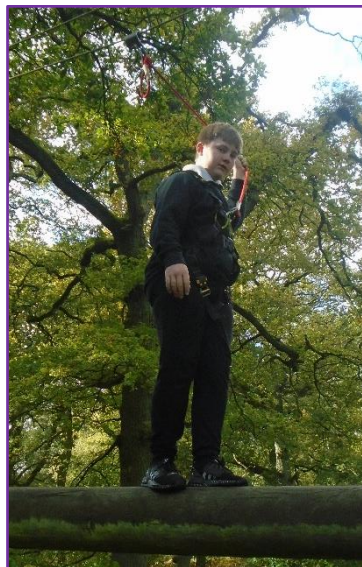


The class have taken a keen interest in computing lessons. They have learnt about binary coding and have been brilliant at using this to create pixel images!



During PE, all students have been enjoying learning new skills in basketball and football where we have found out we have quite a competitive class! They have also been to Entrust and experienced kayaking and braved the leap of faith.

In social skills the students have been working hard on improving their team work skills. Helping each other to overcome challenges and coping with making mistakes. They have also looked at what makes a good leader. They really put their skills to the test at the tree top adventure when ironically they had to encourage and support a member of staff, who was scared of heights, around the course.



Class Dane

In Topic we have been studying the Great Fire of London. We practiced our Fire Fighting skills from 1666. Passing cups of water up and down the chain to extinguish the fire.



In science we have been studying materials, we have studied the materials in our classroom and around school.



In PE this term the class have been going horse riding where the boys have developed their horse riding and grooming



In maths we have been using lots of our mathematical aids to help with our maths.

Children showed great respect during our visit to Cannock Chase War Cemetery to commemorate Remembrance Day. We discussed the importance of remembering those who bravely gave their lives so that we can live ours today.



Class Dove

In maths, pupils developed factorising, rounding and algebra skills. They enjoyed reading thermometers and using negative numbers. The class explored alter egos in English and identified key points in texts. In science the pupils concentrated on chemistry and in particular the noble gases and combustion.



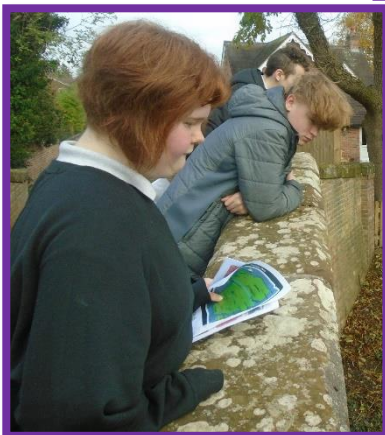
**Numicon
in maths.
Different
ways to
support
our
learning**



During PE this term pupils pushed their limits trying new activities such as archery, high ropes, climbing, canoeing and fire lighting. They all enjoyed overcoming their fears and working together.



Fun at Entrust...both in and out of the water!



Class Dove also enjoyed working as a team completing a treasure hunt in Acton Trussell as part of social skills.





This term class Dove celebrated Diwali, marked Remembrance Day and learnt about anti-bullying week. These were just a few of the many diversity days that we have celebrated.

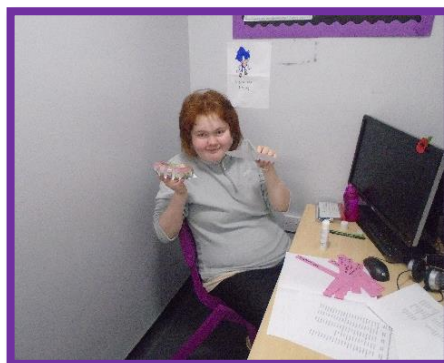


For his BTEC option, Ian has visited Rodbaston College each week and worked with various animals as part of his animal care course. Ian has been a wonderful ambassador for our school.



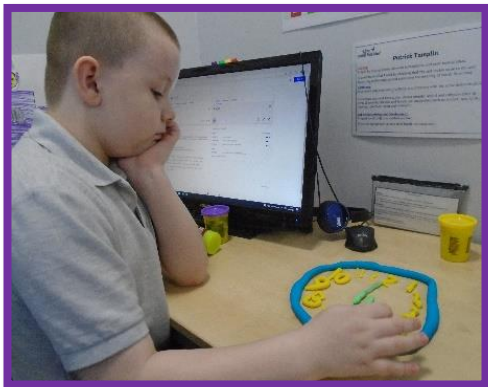
Ian meeting some of the reptiles at Rodbaston College.

In class Dove, Key Stage 4 are studying a range of BTEC courses. Dylan has created a fantastic storyboard and video advertisement for the school as part of digital media project, Jaydon has produced an advertising campaign for his own pickle product and Liam continues to develop his animation skills as part of his ICT course.



Meanwhile, Lucy Lou and Alisha have produced some wonderful pieces of art for their BTEC portfolios.

Key Stage 2 have been very busy too! Patrick and Alfie have been exploring Victorian architecture in topic, rhymes and rhyming poetry in English and light and shadow in science.



Patrick and Alfie have also been learning how to tell the time using lots of fun ways and ideas.

We know that Key Stage 2 are a whizz at using the computer but they also enjoy finding lots of new ways of working. Alfie finds using the Numicon a great help with his number work whilst Patrick engaged really well using the circuit boards to help him create light in science.



Patrick and Alfie have had lots of fun being really creative this term, coming up with plenty of their own ideas too!

Ever wondered about the science behind fireworks? Key stage 2 did and rather than light any real fireworks, they safely explored them using paint and paper plates!

Class Manifold



In maths lessons, Manifold are becoming more familiar with mathematical equipment. The pupils learned the weight of each piece of Numicon and used this to estimate the weight of objects around the classroom. Some objects were surprisingly heavy!

This term, Manifold have been exploring electricity in science lessons. The students have adored using the electronic kit to show their understanding and to test out conductors and



Manifold have taken part in a number of diversity days this term, including Children in Need, Remembrance Day and Black History Month. The pupils have contributed respectfully to discussions and have understood the importance of these topics



The pupils have really enjoyed learning about the Victorians during topic lessons. Unanimously, their favourite parts have been creating printing tiles to create wallpaper in the style of William Morris and visiting the Black Country Museum. The pupils quickly decided that they would much rather be at Heather Field than a



Manifold have also enjoyed the seasonal opportunities they have had to go offsite, including pumpkin picking in October.



Class Meese

Class Meese have been working hard using their creative skills to create a Christmas Wreath for the school entrance. They demonstrated excellent focus and attention to detail, resulting in a beautiful decoration to welcome everyone to Heather Field.



Students have been busy creating a friendship heart for anti-bullying month. Class Meese also explored ways in which they could help someone who was being bullied and who they could

Class Meese have been practicing their speeches about their animals as part of an English assessment, working hard to ensure clear pronunciation and appropriate expression

This term two of our children have been attending Rodbaston College to learn about animal care. They've learnt what the animals eat and how to care for them correctly. They've enjoyed handling animals like Rabbits, Guinea pigs, Rats, Snakes, Bearded Dragons and many more.

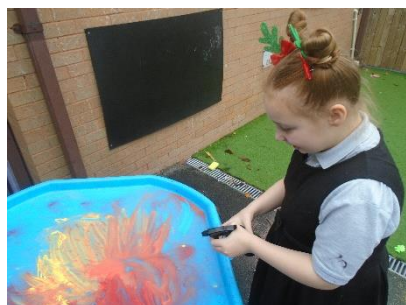
In science, Pupils have been learning about the effects of green house gases on the earth. Students conducted a science experiment using candles in a bowl of water with a beaker over the lit candle, enabling them to calculate the amount of oxygen in the space. Students then measured how long it took for the candle to go out.





Class Penk

Class Penk have worked really hard this term and have really enjoyed engaging in super science experiments and a range of other exciting learning opportunities!



In Science, Penk have been using their investigation skills to explore light and how it travels. Pupils have loved taking part in a variety of different experiments whilst exploring how to think scientifically and make careful observations.

Science Experiments



In PE, Penk have loved taking part in the walking curriculum! Children have been practising their road safety and they really enjoyed exploring what is above and below them! Class Penk have especially enjoyed taking 'Penk Bear' on their journey with them and teaching him how to stay safe!



The Adventures of Penk Bear!



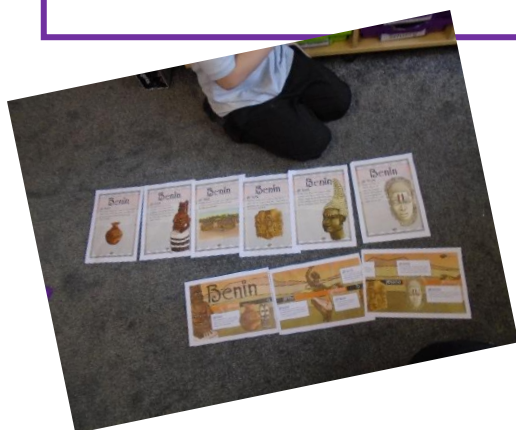
Benin Settlements

In Topic, Class Penk have been exploring 'The Benin Kingdom'. Pupils have loved using a wide range of materials to create their own settlements and artefacts. Children have had lots of fun learning about the history behind The Benin Kingdom and the role Great Britain played in the fall of the Kingdom. Pupils have also explored books from other cultures this term.

Class Sow

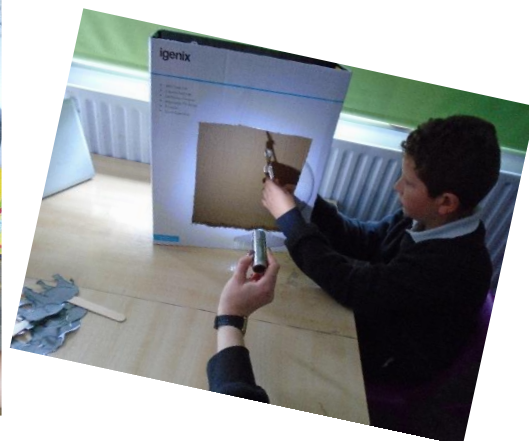
Topic – Benin, Africa

Class Sow have enjoyed exploring the culture of Benin, Africa. The children have enjoyed learning about the ancient history, the significance of the leopard in the Beninese culture and the ways of living. Class Sow have used clay to model leopards and have enjoyed painting African masks. The children also loved comparing houses in Britain to houses and huts in Africa.



Science

During science, the pupils enjoyed exploring light, shadows and how we see. The pupils were able to investigate different light sources and how shadows are created. The pupils displayed a very good understanding of this and was able to discuss how and when shadows are created. The pupils also explored opaque, translucent and transparent items and how this can impact shadows and reflections. The pupils loved exploring a model of the human eye and discovering the important parts that help us to see.



Trips

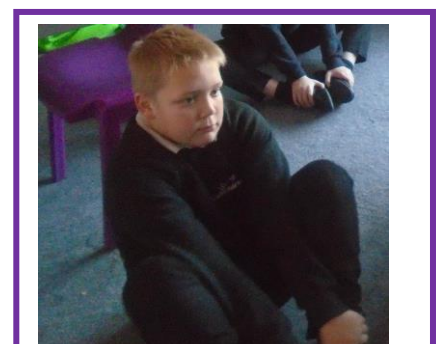
During this term, Class Sow have enjoyed going offsite for various reasons. During PE, we have enjoyed visiting the horse-riding center to continue to develop our horsemanship. We have also really enjoyed visiting RAF Cosford as the children in Class Sow have a keen interest in World War 2. Furthermore, the pupils enjoyed visiting Apple Tree town to develop their social skills and enjoy some imaginative role play. At Halloween, Class Sow loved visiting Lower Drayton Farm to pick and carve pumpkins.



Class Trent



Class Trent have enjoyed engaging in a variety of diversity days, including making shortbread for St. Andrew's Day and engaging in mindful yoga. Students also enjoyed making their own 'grounding technique' bookmark to keep in their pencil case to help manage their emotions.



In maths, students have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes. They have been investigating the properties of shapes, as well as calculating the perimeter, area and volume of shapes. They created their own 3D models of shapes out of modelling clay and used their knowledge of properties to identify corresponding nets.

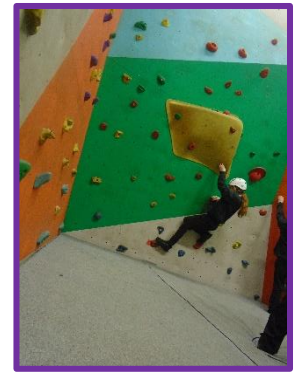
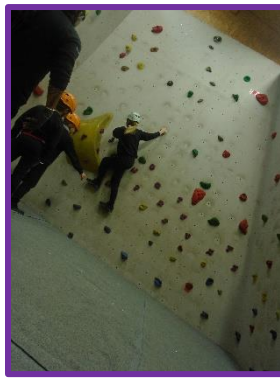


During Science, students have enjoyed exploring reproduction in plants. Class Trent dissected a flowering plant and identified its reproductive parts, recognising that most flowers contain both male and female reproductive organs.

Class Trent



This term, Class Trent have been extremely lucky to visit Entrust and Horse Riding as part of their P.E lessons. The students have shown bravery, courage and amazing teamwork whilst engaging in challenging activities such as; rock climbing, archery and kayaking. At horse riding, students have learnt how to groom the horses, clean their stables and have shown fantastic improvement with their riding skills!



Students showed great respect when learning about Remembrance Day. They enjoyed making their own poppy biscuits, painting their own war silhouette picture and created a lovely window display.



Class Severn

In maths, students have developed their skills using thermometers and simplifying equations. Students have enjoyed studying *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* and explored alter egos in English. In science, the class have persevered with their chemistry focus and combined recent COP26 events with their work on crude oil.



Each week the class have, embraced new experiences at Entrust including high ropes, rock climbing, crate stacking and fire lighting. Students supported each other to overcome their fears to conquer all the challenges!



Class Severn still find time to develop their knowledge of key events alongside studying for their exams. This term they celebrated Diwali by investigating how mehndi is used. They also visited the German Cemetery and Freda's Grave on Cannock Chase to mark Remembrance Day.



As part of their BTEC options, the class have completed fantastic pieces of work this term. Charlotte has begun her project on shoe design in art. Marcus and Skye have worked with a range of animals at Rodbaston. Aidan has been coaching class Dane as part of his sport studies. Sean has successfully completed his first research unit in transport and vehicles. Georgia has begun to create a storyboard as part of digital media.