

Welcome to our Thomas Estley Community College Newsletter



As I told our students this morning in our virtual assembly, it has been a highly unusual term, with many barriers to normal practice, to good health and wellbeing, and sometimes to accessing education. I also told them how proud I was of them and of their fantastic achievements, in spite of all that the pandemic has brought our way. I reminded them that I started this term by discussing with them how we could bring light to the darkness around us during these times, showing kindness, compassion and joy and shining our light brightly, with determination and commitment, to achieve our best and to support all those in our families and college community. Our students have done everything which I asked of them then, and I could not be prouder.

I am proud that they have overcome anxieties and distractions to focus on their learning in class. I am proud that they have tackled all of the challenges of remote learning with grit and determination and are making progress. I am particularly proud of our Year Eleven students who have worked so hard during the term and their two mock examination series, and are so committed to achieving their best possible results in the summer. I am proud that so many students have expressed interest in leadership opportunities, volunteered time in the Memorial Garden, collected food and toys for those who don't have enough, raised money for charity and helped each other, and our community, with kindness and care. I am proud that students have put up with so much that makes their life harder, without complaint and largely without issue. I am also incredibly proud of my staff who have worked tirelessly and selflessly to do their best in spite of a raft load of challenges, and of you, our college families, who have understood the difficult scenarios which we have been working within and have been patient, kind and supportive. Thank you, all.

We end the term with unexpected and sudden news that from January 4 we will be establishing a testing centre in school, that the first week back most children will have to work from home (only Year 11 and some keyworker and vulnerable children will be allowed to attend the site from January 5-8), announced without notice. I will be writing to you with more information at the end of December, once we have full information available to us, but can assure you that, whatever may face us, we will continue to deal with it as calmly, kindly and sensibly as we can, with the welfare and education of your children at the heart of everything we do. We will not be distracted by politics or even a pandemic, and we will remember who we are—A Community of Courage and Commitment to Success.

I hope that you manage to have a peaceful, healthy and restful Christmas, in spite of different circumstances this year, and that your light, your children's light and the light of our college community continues to shine brightly into the darkness around us. Thank you.

Mandi Collins, College Principal

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them.



Students in our Centre created some beautiful poppy crafts for Remembrance Day, remembering those who gave their lives for our freedom.



At 11 am, some of our students gathered respectfully, socially distanced, at the front of the college whilst Mr Hillman, one of our teachers, played 'The Last Post'.



If a student feels unwell at college **they must report to Reception** and ask to be seen in the medical room. If necessary the college will phone home to seek advice or to ask for the student to be collected. Please remind your child that **they must follow the procedure** above and not contact you themselves.

Any Covid related information (symptoms, tests or test results) please keep us up to date straightaway by emailing:

covid@thomastestley.org.uk.

Thank you!



College is closed to students from
21st December 2020 to 4th January 2021
(inclusive)

College re-opens to students on
Tuesday 5th January 2021

School Transport

If your child travels via transport provided by the County Council it is a good idea to have a contingency plan with your child, for getting to school/home in the event that they miss their bus for any reason.

It is also useful to have to hand the contact number for any query with school transport:

0116 3050002.



Absence during term-time

If your child is ill please contact the college on each day of illness and leave a message on the absence line. Where possible make medical appointments outside of college hours. We will contact you by text message if we have not been given a reason for absence - please telephone us in response to the message.

Winter Closure Procedure

In the event of the weather causing the school to close or causing a problem with school transport we will put out an alert via:

- ◆ **The school website - www.thomastestley.org.uk**
- ◆ **Radio Leicester**
- ◆ **Parentmail**

Mobile phones

Students are not allowed to use mobile phones in college unless they have express permission from a member of staff (for taking a picture of homework prompts, backing music for performance etc.). This is to protect students' learning and is in line with our safeguarding policy.



Mobile phones used in contravention of the mobile phone policy will be confiscated until collected from reception by a parent/carer.

For persistent abuse of the policy a student will lose the privilege of bringing a mobile to college.

Headphones/Ear buds

The use of headphones/ear buds are only permitted outside of the college building. Any visible inside college will be confiscated and, on the first occasion, will be returned at the end of the day. On any subsequent occasion they must be collected by a parent/carer.

Holidays Taken in Term Time

Government guidelines, which came into effect on 1st September 2013, prevent Headteachers from granting any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances (a family holiday does not fall under this category).

If a student has an absence recorded as a result of an unauthorised family holiday, Leicestershire County Council will be advised of the matter and will be requested to issue a Penalty Notice, in line with their policy.



New Year, New Career

Want to inspire young people?

Have you ever thought about training to teach?

Find out what it is like to teach in your community

We have a virtual open event for anyone wanting to find out more about teacher training in primary or secondary in the local area.

Join us at our virtual ZOOM event

Train to Teach with Achieve with TELA

Saturday 9 January 2021

11:00 – 12:00

We welcome all ages and experience, educated to degree level

Please share with anyone who you think might be interested

For a link to the meeting contact

email: tela@thomasestley.org.uk

or call Jo Robotham at Thomas Estley

ext. 3206

www.telaonline.co.uk

We were so proud of our students - at the LeicestershireLive awards this Wednesday, we had two winners in their categories - **Abi Mortiboys** - who won both the Community Champion and the overall Outstanding Education Citizen awards - and **Ed Pole**, who left us in the summer, for the Beating the Odds Award. What an amazing achievement! Well done also to **Oliver McManus and Alfie Hobbs**, finalists for Musical Excellence and Community Champion categories respectively.

Although virtual, the ceremony was moving and really special for all those who could watch online.

Education Awards
Celebrating the at our awards
The full list of award winners and nominees

Top marks all around! very best in education

Congratulations to **Alfie Hobbs**, who received a Harborough Hero award. Due to Covid, the annual Harborough Awards were cancelled, but Alfie had been nominated due to his fund raising efforts around the whole school Race for life which took place in March.



Alfie organised for Thomas Estley to host the event to raise money for Cancer Research, and with the assistance of our other Sports Leaders, the College raised just under £5,000. A real community event that we were really proud to be a part of, and thanks to everyone involved, particularly to Alfie for his lead in this organisation.

Well done to our **Year Ten** students who were recognised for displaying the qualities of the Thomas Estley Way, with the highest number of achievement points this term, amidst stiff competition. We are very proud of you all!.



Years 7 and 8 setting a good example

Well done to our **Year Seven** students pictured here, who received Awards in November for the most achievement points so far this term, for displaying the qualities of the Thomas Estley Way in lessons and around the college.

Great work, and keep it up!



We were delighted to send out our weekly praise post cards.

These are not only to acknowledge a good attitude to learning but also to reward resilience and improvement.

Y7 recipients over the last few weeks:

Reece Chapman, Lola Newton, Emily Deacon, Toby Beckett, Alexa Ennis, Thomas Minion, Gracie Iliffe, Frankie Weston, Jaiden Key, Freddie Taylor Bates, Kitty Horeckyj, Kitty Johnston, Summer West, April Tuckey, Oliver Henery, Sean Brown, Violet Woolley, Emily Gibson, Archie Clarke, James Hughes, Lilly Chapman, Jake Satchwell, Brennen Maloney

Congratulations to our **Year Eight** students who received Thomas Estley Way Awards last week for displaying great character traits consistently in their learning. We are very proud of you!



Y8 recipients:

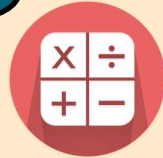
Kaiden Butler, James Cleaver, Max Moore, Charlie Tarbert, Jack Bunting, Alfie Campbell-Wright.

Well done Years 7 & 8!

Keep up the great work.

Well done to our Maths Achievers

Welcome to
MATHS



We are delighted to recognise our
Maths Achievers
over this term.
If your name appears below very well done!!



Year 7

Jack Lacey
James Woodward
Millie Armston
Archie Maguire
Grace Tyers
Lily O'Brien
Archie Wolloff
Kitty Johnston
Javier Jones-Rojas
Zac Massey
Chloe Petherwick
Summer West
Ela Kocak
Ryan Gower
Sophie Huzmeli
Shanel Hallam
Violet Woolley
Imogen Buncher
Lilly Pickering

Year 8

Isla Blankley
Rhys Masters
Korben Swift
Alana Johnson
Nancy Chivers
Lewis Bourne
Chloe Butler
George Barr
Jacob Porter
Millie Gibson
Luke Lissamen
Jasmine Loosby-Cook
Hope Wan
Lucca Laffey
Joseph Tunnicliffe
Charlotte Fry
Adam Clark
Alicia Kasperek
Pinki Gill
Thomas Scott

Year 9

Larissa Wowzuk
Owen Smith
Ruby Bishop
Ollie Grigg
Lillie Smith/
Alex Hearne
Josh Hill
Oliver Proudman
Chloe Wolloff
Holly Flynn
William Troth
Abi Prince
Ava Buncher
Eve Jelves
Brandon Carver
Maisie Purmah
Ollie Hill
Nell Dawkins
Emma Wilton
Ellabelle Weston
Dylan Strudwick
George Lynch
Regan Christopher
Tyler Woodward

Year 10

Jessica Chapman
Maisie Blake
Indi Goulding
CJ Hall
Tarwa Simons
Will Reid
Matana Tilbury
Ellie Malin
Evie Roe
Sian Law
Mollie Pitcher
James Butcher
Gracie Atkins
Thomas Bradshaw
Oliver Poolley
Joshua Gray
Hannah Carmichael
Nhu Huynh
Lois Thomas
Joe Richardson
Brodan Bryant
Sophie Ennis
Ben Kirk
Jess Summers
George Elliott

Year 11

Daisy Mackenzie
Hayden Slater
Freya Bardill
Imogen Smith
Katy Hewitt
Callum McVeigh
Danylo Wowzuk
Harvey Coles
Emma Smioth
Millie Leavis
Caitlyn Varley
Harrison Russell
Isabel Longman
Sadie Harris
Martha Longman
Elisha Mistry
Amber Sandels
Ollie Read
Hattie Kendall-Barker
Amy Barrett
Dom Smith

Art



Mrs Strudwick and Miss Fisher have been really impressed by their year 8 students' Artwork. Year 8 are learning about Aboriginal and Maori cultures. The style of these cultures has been used to develop designs for Boomerangs and Masks.

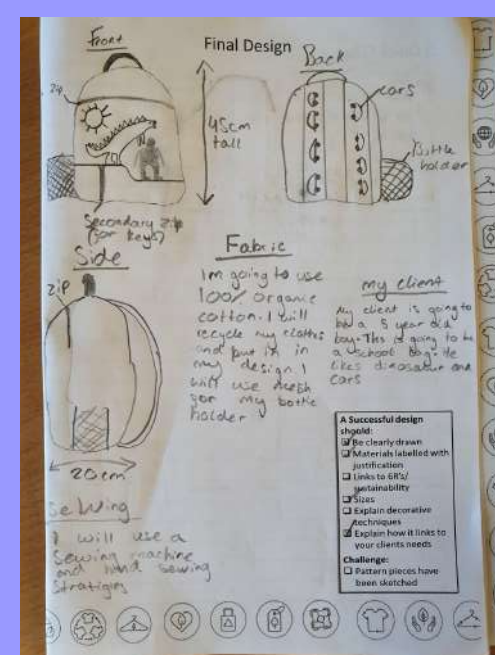
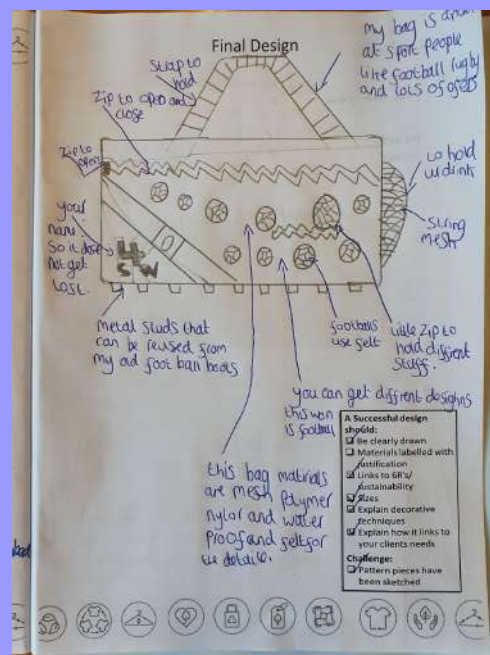
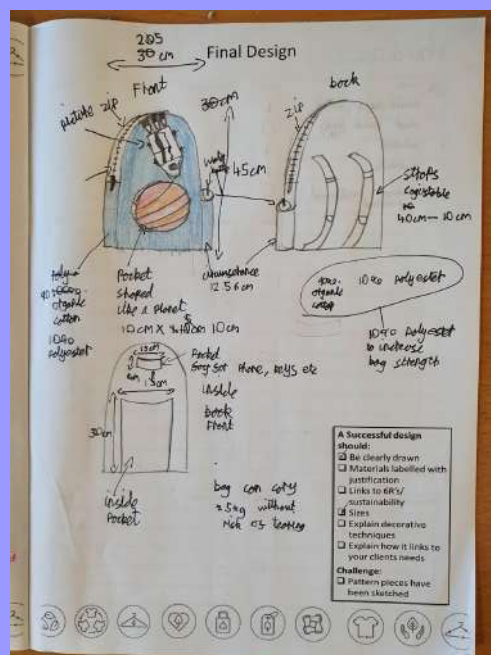
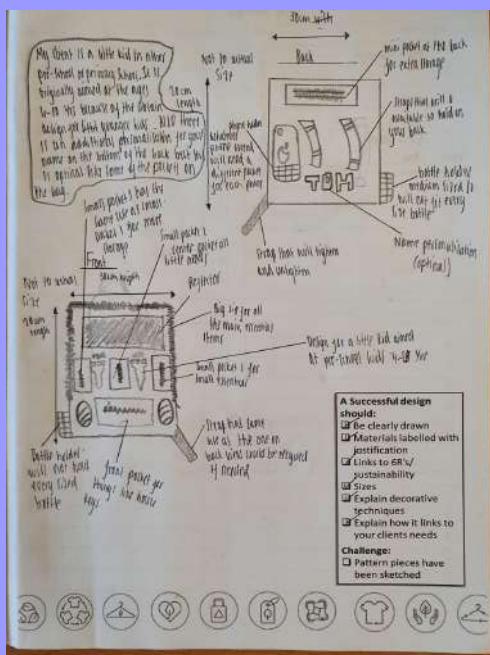
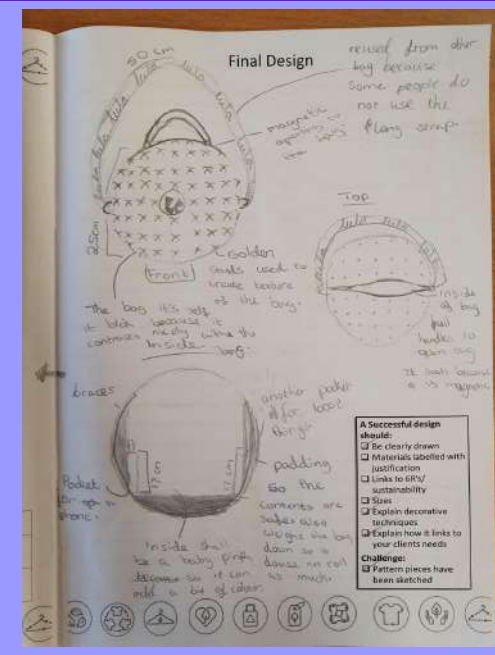
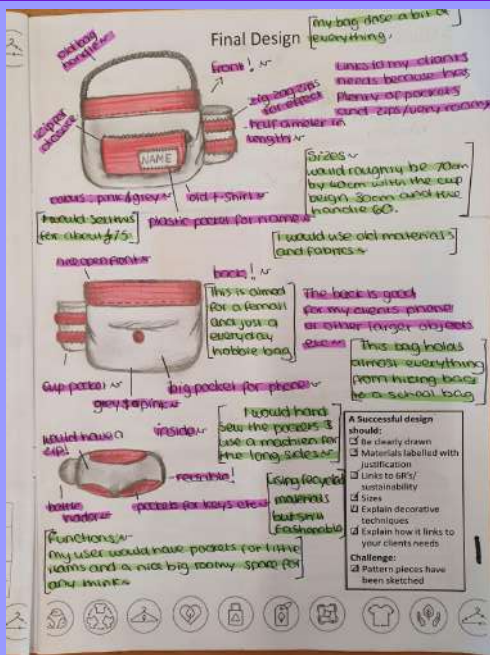
Textiles

Here are some photos of Year 8 DT Textiles final designs.

Their brief was to design an original, sustainable bag to suit a particular client.

After learning about the environmental issues surrounding the production of Textile items, identifying their clients needs and wants, and modelling some ideas, they developed some lovely, unique ideas.

Well done, everyone!



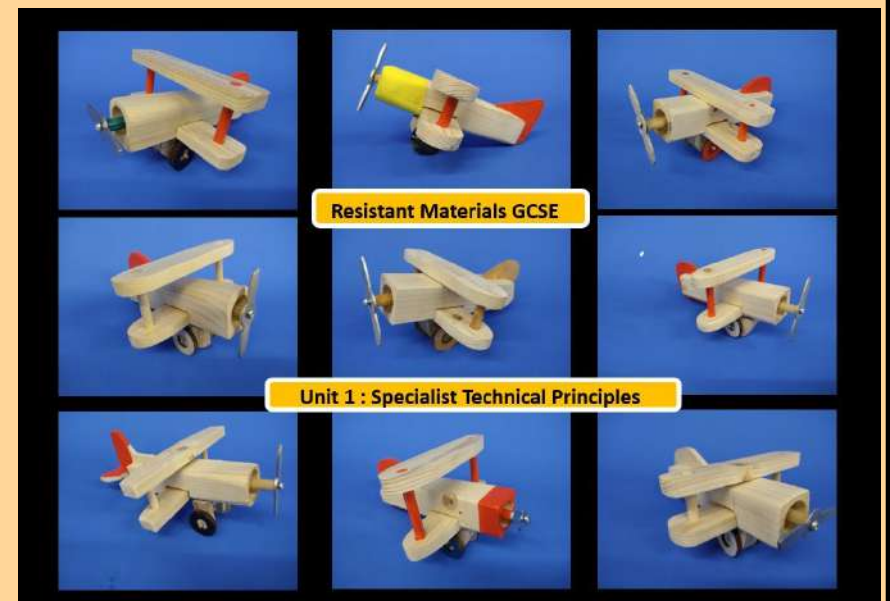
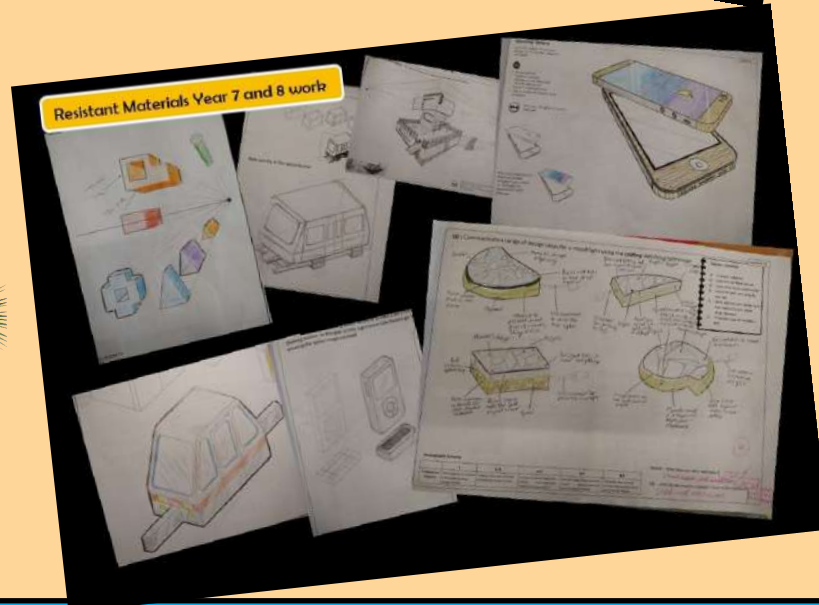
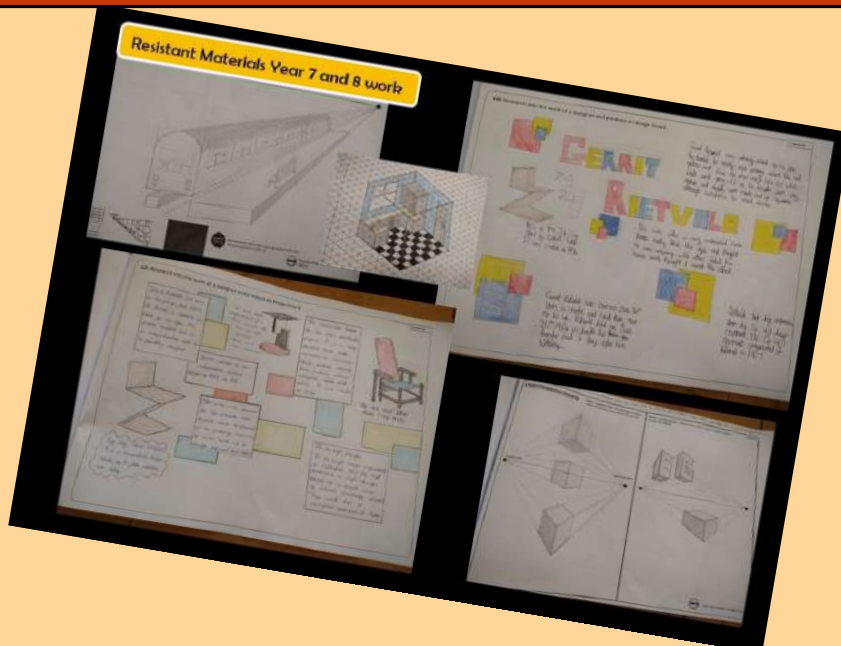
Resistant Materials

Mr Curtis has been really pleased with his students' Resistant Materials work.

Year 7 are developing skills in graphical communication.

Year 8 have been producing designs for a USB powered mood light inspired by 20th Century design movements.

Some examples are pictured here.





'High Five' for Ben, Martha and Daisy

Mrs Rotimi's **Chemistry** group have recently started quantitative chemistry which involves students learning lots of tricky concepts.

This particular homework relates to students understanding of the 'law of conservation of mass' and showing their own understanding of how to calculate relative formula mass using their own thought out examples and differentiated questions.

Ben's response is first class - well done, Ben

What is the conservation of mass?

The law of the conservation of mass is the fundamental rule in chemistry that no atoms can be created or destroyed, no matter what happens to them (apart from if they end up in a black hole). If you were to measure the total mass of all of the reactants in a chemical reaction, and the total mass of all of the products, they would both be the same.

Question: I have 160g of magnesium which I react with 40g of oxygen. What is the mass of the magnesium oxide that forms? (200g)

What is the relative formula mass?

Relative formula mass (M_r) is the total of the relative atomic masses of every atom/ion in a compound. If there are more than one of the same element in a compound, you must remember to multiply that element's atomic mass by the number of that element. For example, the chemical formula for potassium permanganate is $KMnO_4$ so its relative formula mass is 39.1 (potassium) + 55 (manganese) + 4×16 (oxygen) = $39.1 + 55 + 64$ which is 158.1 . Therefore, the relative formula mass of potassium permanganate is 158.1 !

Easy Question: The chemical formula for hydrochloric acid is HCl - what is its relative formula mass? (36.5)

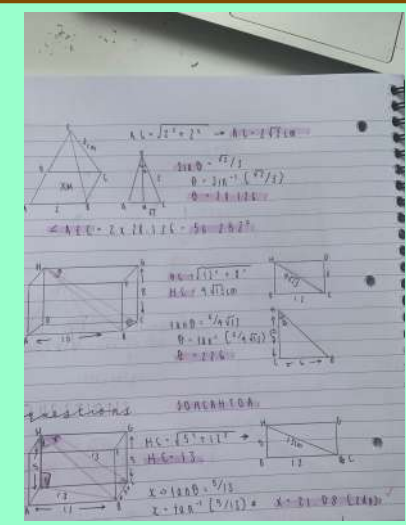
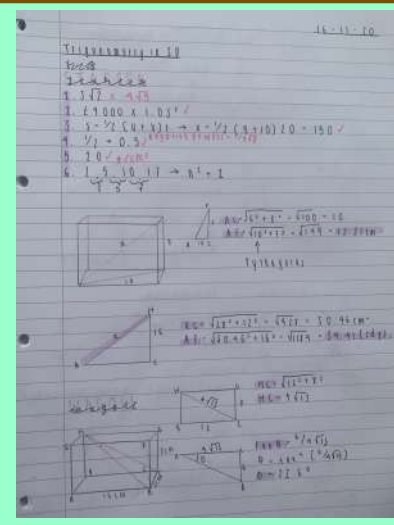
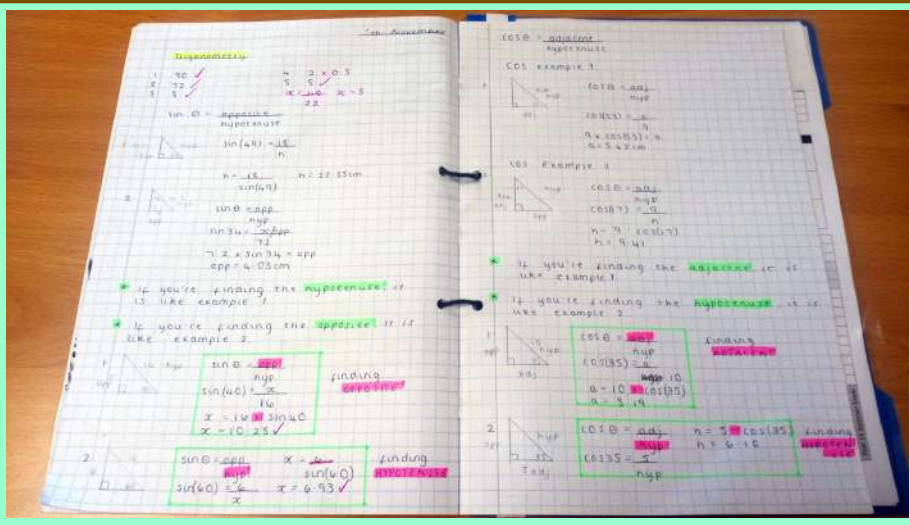
Hard Question: The chemical formula for polonium tetraiodide is PI_4 - what is its relative formula mass? (716.6)

Super Hard Question: The chemical formula for ammonium diuranate is $(NH_4)_2U_2O_7$ - what is its relative formula mass? (624.13)

Some of the remote work over the last few weeks has been very impressive - well done to those of our students who have had to work from home on occasion.

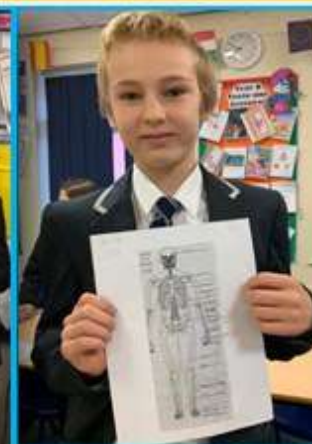
The double page spread shows simultaneous equations by Daisy Mackenzie. The two single page photos display trigonometry by Martha Longman. Both pieces are of very high quality, especially as the students were not in school when they completed them.

We are very impressed with the focus of our young people. Well done to you all!



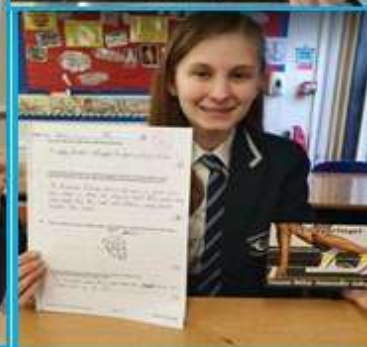


The PE Department have been thrilled with the effort put in during our recent KS3 theory lessons.



Have a great Christmas everyone.
Come back in January refreshed and ready to work just as hard next term

Postcards home for those who scored the highest on the assessments



Thomas Estley Pre-school



Our children working in Forest school sessions helped set up the display.

Thank you to all of the parents who have donated resources to help us out.



Here are some pictures of the preschool display for the village snowman competition. The theme was "We are going on a snow bear hunt".

Every single preschool child has taken part, and the snowmen and polar bears are completely individual and their own work.



Our amazing **Santa Steam Train Ride prize** was drawn in preschool, and was won by Charlie and his family. Mum said, ' Massive thank you to you all again for the tickets for Santa steam train! Charlie absolutely loved every second of it! It was brilliant!' We were very proud of all in preschool who contributed to the win, and only wish that Covid regulations and space had allowed us to take all of pre-school on the train with Charlie. Charlie's Christmas ride is pictured below.



Sneak a peek at French

MFL Y7 project homework on French cuisine:

Well done to all our **Y7 students** for completing their recent French project homework. Students had to study a passage from the poem 'Déjeuner du Matin' by the famous French poet Jacques Prévert, translate some basic French commands about cooking, research what crepes, tarte tatin, gratin dauphinois and ratatouille are and translate the French recipe for Croque-Monsieur into English.



As an option, they could also demonstrate their cooking skills by cooking crepes or Croque-Monsieur at home and explain in French what their parents' reviews were. Look at some amazing photos from our future generation of little chefs!

Super les années 7!

Madame Anderson

MFL specialism

Not defeated by the latest Covid regulations, our new cohort of **Y9 Language Leaders** have worked hard to plan and deliver some online KS2 French lessons in our local primary schools: Hallbrook (Y6), Cosby (Y4) and Richmond (Y5).

The Language Leaders taught the topics of clothes, shops, and parts of the body so far. Next one group will deliver a lesson on Christmas at Hallbrook and we will continue to teach online lessons in the New Year so our KS2 students can be well prepared for the KS3 French curriculum. The lessons have been anticipated with excitement and the KS2 students have responded enthusiastically to the online learning. The feedback from our KS2 colleagues has been super positive.

Un grand merci aux Leaders pour leurs efforts!

Madame Anderson

What is the difference between LE / LA / LES?

Reliez l'image au bon mot

1. la tête
2. la jambe
3. le nez
4. le dos
5. la main
6. le pied
7. les yeux
8. les oreilles
9. les bras
10. les cheveux
11. la bouche
12. le visage

Les vêtements

OÙ EST LA BOULANGERIE ?

À gauche

In Remembrance



Memorial Garden

The Y9 memorial garden leadership group, together with Mrs Ravenhill, have hung a Christmas wreath on the memorial garden gate, in memory of Ellie and Elliott.

The rainbow symbolises hope for a brighter future and resonates in many ways at this time.

Reading Rampage

Congratulations to those who took part in the 2020 Reading Rampage, with the winner now confirmed as Olivia Mai and several others also recommended for their efforts.



Well done to you all!

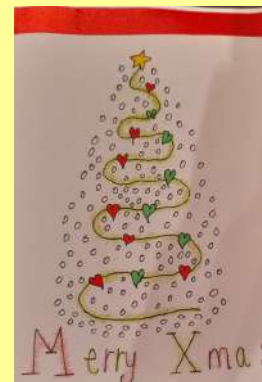


CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2020

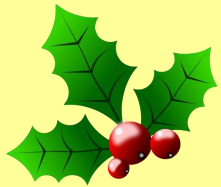
Thank you to everyone who entered the competition – the standard of work was PHENOMENAL and there were so many entries – choosing the winners has been extremely difficult!!!



A special mention goes to all of these entries:



Our winning entry (on the next page) has been chosen for the official TECC Christmas card this year.



CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2020

Merry Christmas Everyone!

First Place



Rebecca Smith in Y10

Well done for producing a stunning hand painted design

Third Place



Evie Rhodes in Y8

Second Place



Scott Taylor in Y7



Although operating very differently this term Our Thomas Estley primary **out-of-school club** bubbles have both still been provided with lots of opportunities to have fun in a safe environment.

There are some snaps here of some of the activities they have been involved in: building big towers, playing puzzles and games and enjoying craft activities. This is in addition to making the most of the outdoors either at the front of school or on the school tennis courts, to get some much needed fresh air and exercise.

Some children put on a performance of Christmas songs.

Breakfast and After School Club were delighted to be involved in the village Snowman Festival, making snowmen both in club and at home to add to our display.

We created two large banners adorned with drawings of snowmen that the children had created.

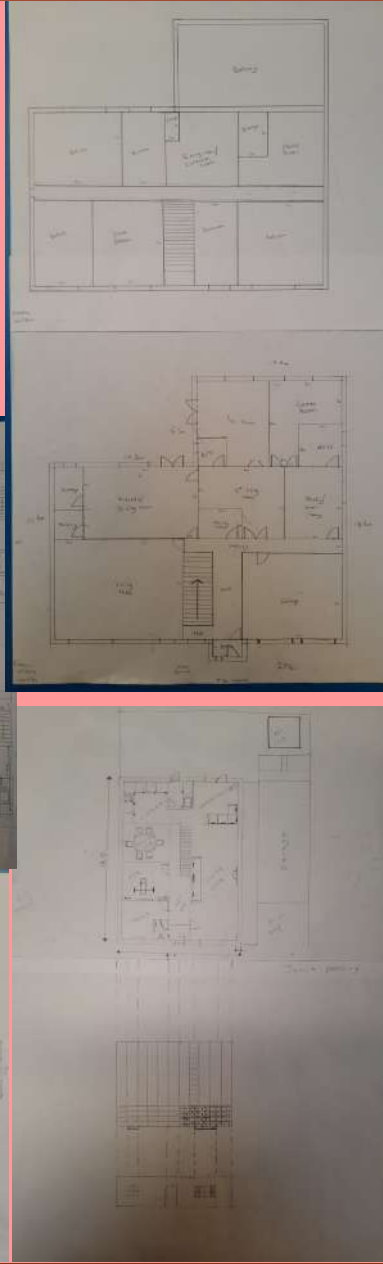
Well done to Hollie, who was the winner of our own



Year 9 STEM Specialism

Hospitality & Catering Yule Logs

Mr Hillman's Year 9 STEM Specialisms group have produced some great work recently, some pictured below. Students first started to think about building scaling - looking at the tallest buildings in the world and calculating their height using a scale. This then led into completing floor plans for their dream homes—these were all planned first then drawn completely to scale. Some students then started to create elevation drawings from their floor plans to see how their house would look from the front. All of their plans were exact to a mm showing great accuracy and careful work! This was a three week project.

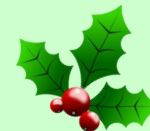


Here are some pictures of **Mrs Keight's and Mrs Owen's Y10 Hospitality and Catering** group's Yule logs. By making this roulade, students have demonstrated skills such as the whisking method to trap air in the eggs and sugar and rolling the baked sponge.



They have learned that air can be used as a raising agent and have created a Bain Marie (hot water bath) as part of making the ganache.

They look absolutely delicious and very Christmassy!



Thomas Estley Family shows kindness and thought for others

Donations to John Storer House

Mrs Little's Year 11 boys group have all pulled together this year and created a fantastic hamper for people in need. This was donated to a Loughborough based charity called John Storer House who are supported with funding from The Bridge and Charnwood Council. This wonderful charity are working hard to support needy people this Christmas time.

Mrs Little, pictured below dropping off the hamper, said,



"It really was quite inspiring to see what they are doing. I'm really proud of my year 11 registration group (S/EL) to have been able to assist people who aren't quite perhaps as privileged as they, and see them make an effort to help support this wonderful charity."

Thank you to all who donated.

Thomas Estley Christmas Foodbank collection

Tutor/Reg group 10E (Mr Hillman) amassed this huge collection of items for the foodbank—every student (all 31) made a donation. Great effort!



Thank you to all who donated to our Thomas Estley Christmas Foodbank collection - which left on Wednesday after COVID safe resting, to its destination.



So many families are in particular need this Christmas and your support and kindness mean so much.



Toys on the Table

What a generous and caring lot the Thomas Estley family are.

Pictured here are the amazing amount of toys donated by students at the college, collected by Harrison Willmott and delivered to 'Toys on the Table' - an amazing charity with an agenda of ensuring that no child goes without a present at Christmas.



When it comes to showing kindness and having thought for others our students, supported by their parents, are second to none. Well done all of you—and special thanks to Harrison for co-ordinating it.



A Big THANK YOU

to everyone at Thomas Estley Community College

for supporting Lutterworth & Villages Foodbank by donating 337 kg of food in December 2020

Thank you for your amazing support!

It's Christmas Jumper Dayyyyyyyyy!!!



Staff Pantomime—Rindecella and the Sugly Blisters

Mr Place



Mrs Knott



Mrs Hartley



Mrs Briggs



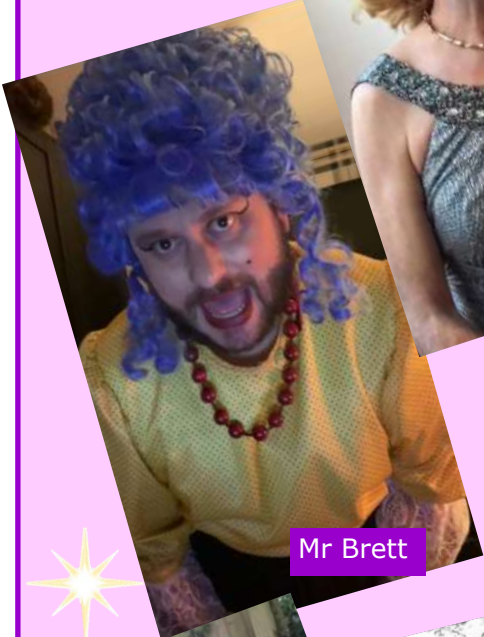
Ms Little



Ms Thorington



Mr Brett



Ms Thorington

Miss Kav
Miss Bancroft



Mrs N Johnston



Mrs Butler



Ms Lee



Mr Hillman



Written and produced by
Mrs J Johnson

'C' is for Christmas



Thomas Estley **Out of school club** had a great party- even if a little different to usual. The children and staff went home exhausted, after enjoying some old favourites, including musical bumps, musical chairs, pin the tail on the donkey and lots more. Happy Christmas everyone!



Students enjoyed variations on **Christmas lunch** within their lunch bubbles - lovely to see them enjoying themselves in the run up to an unusual Christmas!