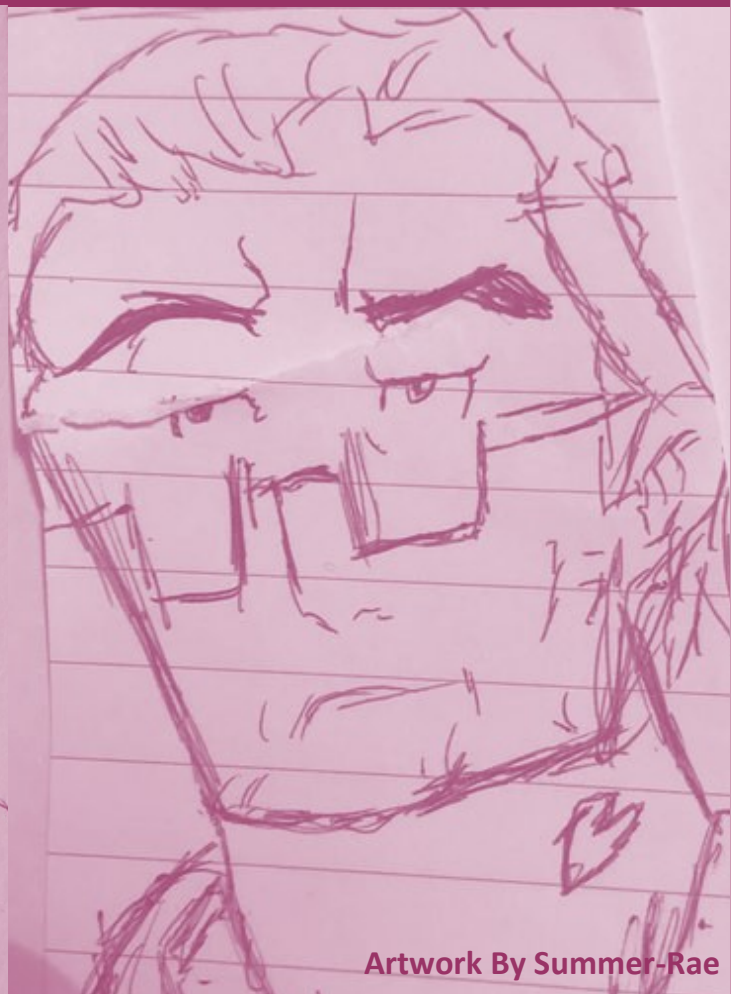




MacIntyre Academies
Quest Academy

OCTOBER 2020 EDITION 1 NEWSLETTER

Half Term Dates: Monday 26th October - Tuesday 3rd November
(returning to school on Wednesday 4th November)



Artwork By Summer-Rae



FACEBOOK PAGE — Quest Academy Family Group



“Quote of the week”

“If you focus on what you left behind, you will never see what lies ahead.”

– Gusteau, Ratatouille.



WELCOME



Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope that you continue to find our Newsletters helpful. If you have any suggestions as to what you would like us to include please contact the office.

Congratulations to all of the learners who were nominated by their class to represent them at the School Council meetings and Equality Champions meetings. After October half term we will be introducing the Digital Leaders Programme. This is a national school initiative run by ChildNet who will provide training for children in school so that they can support their peers keep safe on the Internet.

Both the School Council and Equality Champions have already met this term and have come up with some fantastic ideas about how they can further improve the school and support their peers to gain a better understanding of the world they live in. As a result, in Spring Term 1 the Equality Champions will lead on a programme that will involve all learners taking part in a range of activities linked to different cultures.

I would also like to draw your attention to the information on page 8. This term as part of our commitment to preparing learners so that they are “**Ready for life**” we are focussing on one of our three school rules, **Be Safe**. Examples include:

- How to keep safe on the Internet
- Using safe language
- Using our whole school strategies (Protective Behaviours and the Alert Programme) to help them communicate their emotions. See page 7 for more information about the Alert Programme.

As this is the last Newsletter before we break up on Friday 23rd October I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your continued support. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you further.

Although it is unlikely that we will be able to hold our traditional Christmas Fayre and Celebration Assembly we have decided to hold a virtual assembly and Fayre. Nearer the time we will use our online school shop for you to place orders. Learners, as part of the Adventure, Community and Enterprise (ACE) lessons, have already started making a range of items and are looking forward to receiving orders after October half term.

Thank you to everyone who has returned the Recovery Curriculum questionnaire we have found these very informative and have responded to the comments you have made linked to your child. If you have not returned the questionnaire it is not too late.

In the last week of term, you will be contacted by your child’s class team where they will talk about how they have settled and to talk about their Personal Development Plan Targets (PDPs)

Kind regards,

Nicola Wells

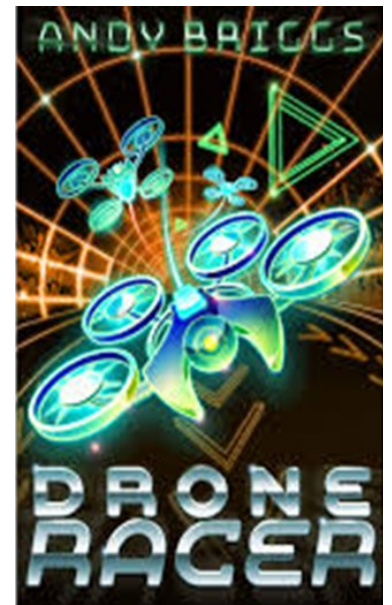
Drone Racer

by Andy Briggs

Carson and his friends are into drone racing: the hot new trend of racing remote-controlled flying drones. As the youngest team, the 12-year-olds find themselves outclassed by the older kids with more expensive tech and less regard for the rules.

However, when the Carsonators come across a discarded drone in a junkyard and power it up, it's way faster than anything else they've seen.

Plus, it talks! Unfortunately, the drone is in fact the Vanta Hawk, a classified, high-level and strictly experimental weapon – and the military want it back.



SCHOOL COUNCIL AND EQUALITY CHAMPION MEMBERS

Our first School Council Meeting took place on Wednesday 7th October.

Every class chose/ voted for their representatives, please see the list below:

SCHOOL COUNCIL:

- Florence Nightingale - Theo S.
- Rosa Parks—Theo B.
- Helen Keller - Jayden
- Albert Einstein - Louis B.
- Shakespeare - Adam H.
- JK Rowling - Billy H.
- Winston Churchill - Isaac
- Alan Turing - Rory D.
- George Eliot - Ruby
- Gandhi - Sebastian
- Lewis Hamilton - Callum R.
- Dalai Lama- Andrew

EQUALITY CHAMPIONS:

- Kieran L.
- Sebastian
- Ruby
- Harvey C.
- Oscar
- Ryan
- Riley
- AJ





Halloween 2020 might look a little bit different to previous years.

But that doesn't mean that we can't still have lots of creative Halloween fun together!

This October, we'd love to get as many homes as possible in our neighbourhoods involved in **The Big Neighbourhood Pumpkin Trail** (just like we did with the rainbows). All you need to do is paint, draw, or even just print a pumpkin and stick it in your window!

Although traditional trick or treating might be off the cards this year, we can create one massive Pumpkin Trail for children to join in with in their local areas! The kids could go on a pumpkin hunt and for everyone they find parents/carers could pop a treat into their bag. This could be done throughout half term as well so you don't have to stick to just one night.

Let's make Halloween 2020 a real occasion to remember, despite the difficult times we're having and of course, stay safe all!

[#halloween2020](#) [#thebigneighbourhoodpumpkintrail](#)

It would be really nice if we could do this locally. Imagine the whole of Half-term / Halloween week we had families walking around in the day looking out for them. Even if we end up back on a lockdown this can be done and enjoyed safely.



Learners are welcome to decorate their hair for Halloween on the last Friday (23rd October) of half-term.



RECOVERY CURRICULUM QUESTIONNAIRE



Thank you to those who have returned their Questionnaires. The feedback has been really helpful and we will act on any comments raised.

If you would still like to complete this Questionnaire this can be found here on our Quest Academy Website under [Newsletters and Letters](#), please feel free to return any questionnaires back to quest.office@macintyreacademies.org

Elaine Yates

Administrator

SAFEGUARDING NEWS



This newsletter's safeguarding focus is on the night's drawing in now the clocks are going back.



Everyone will of course have different curfews for their children but just a note to follow the "Be Safe-Be Seen" message.

Fluorescent and Reflective – The two materials that get you noticed. If possible encourage your children to wear these kinds of clothes even if it is just to walk a short distance from your house. If you or your children cycle this is also a good message to follow.



To be completely safe, consider clothing items which combine elements of both fluorescent and reflective material. They enable you to be seen all around the clock. Remember – fluorescent for day, reflective for night.

If your child does not own such material wearing something white, bright or colourful will help. Going out at night in dark clothing could put their safety at risk.

THE TALE OF THE STARFISH

IT ALL STARTED WHEN...

A young girl was walking along a beach upon which thousands of starfish had been washed up during a terrible storm. When she came to each starfish, she would pick it up, and throw it back into the ocean. People watched her with amusement.



She had been doing this for some time when a man approached her and said, "Little girl, why are you doing this? Look at this beach! You can't save all these starfish. You can't begin to make a difference!"

The girl seemed crushed, suddenly deflated. But after a few moments, she bent down, picked up another starfish, and hurled it as far as she could into the ocean. Then she looked up at the man and replied, **"Well, I made a difference for that one!"**

The old man looked at the girl inquisitively and thought about what she had done and said. Inspired, he joined the little girl in throwing starfish back into the sea. Soon others joined, and all the starfish were saved.

Adapted from "The Star Thrower" by Loren C. Eiseley

**No Pens Day
Wednesday**

No Pens Day Wednesday is an

annual **day** of spoken language activities that takes place in schools, colleges and early years settings across the country.

**No Pens Day
Wednesday**

This year it is on **Wednesday 25th November 2020!**

**No Pens Day
Wednesday**

We can't wait to see what

interesting work will be created this year!

Taking part in No Pens Day can draw attention to the pupils who find spoken language challenging.

**No Pens Day
Wednesday**

No Pens Day activities can draw attention to potential speech and language difficulties that a child may be experiencing. Some children may be very quiet, use short sentences, or be difficult to understand. They may be slow to respond to spoken information or unable to follow instructions.

When interacting with others, they may struggle to listen, take turns or make eye contact.

SUMMER'S DOODLES

We love showcasing the amazing work produced by our talented learners, check out these fabulous doodles by Summer!



THE ALERT PROGRAM® FOR SELF-REGULATION



Since the start of the new school year, learners all across the school have been getting to know their senses. This has been in preparation for Quest introducing *“How does your engine run?”* ® *The Alert Program® for Self-Regulation* developed by two internationally known Occupational Therapists, Mary Sue Williams and Sherry Shellenberger.

You may begin to hear your children talking about their “engines” going up into high gear (hyper) or into low gear (lethargic) or in a “just right” gear (attentive and focused). By using the engine analogy to teach self-regulation (changing how alert we feel), we are helping our learners learn what to do if they are in a non-optimal state of alertness. We will be teaching learners that there are five ways to change how alert we feel: put something in the mouth, move, touch, look, or listen.

We all self-regulate throughout our day, but rarely do any of us talk about it. For example, think about what you did for your engine this morning to get up and get going. To start your day, did you drink a hot cup of coffee or drink a cold fruit smoothie (mouth category)? Before work, did you go for a jog or walk the dog (move category)? To wake up, did you take a steamy hot shower or pet your cat (touch category)? Did you watch TV (look category) or turn on the radio (listen category)?

We will be teaching learners how to expand the use of these types of engine strategies at school and at home to be in an optimal state for learning, playing, or interacting with their friends, family, and peers. We hope to empower learners to know what to do if their engines are in low gear and need to focus on learning a new math skill or, if their engines are in high gear, what they can do to get ready to sleep at night.

As parents and carers, you can help teach self-regulation by talking about your own engine. If your engine is in a low speed when you are trying to read a book, or if it goes up into a high speed when rushing to get to an appointment, share this with your children.

Don’t be surprised if children who are learning about the Alert Program® concepts suggest an engine strategy such as taking a deep breath (mouth category), stretching (move category), squeezing a stress ball (touch category), watching the sunset (look category), or listening to music (listen category).

We hope you will encourage the use of engine strategies to support self-regulation so your engine and your children’s engines can run just right!

To read more about the Alert Program®, go to www.AlertProgram.com

Harry Sanderson, Occupational Therapist- Quest Academy

BEHAVIOUR UPDATE

As part of getting learners **Ready for Life** we are focussing on using safe language and how they communicate in different settings.



We expect learners to follow the 3 rules:

Swearing shows we are **not ready** to learn

Swearing is **not respectful** for anyone to say or hear

Swearing shows you are not in control and therefore **not safe**

UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

As you are aware from previous newsletters, as a school we feel that it is important for all learners to wear the correct uniform. We understand that learners can grow out of their

uniform very quickly. We would appreciate it if you have any spare uniform if you can send it to school.

To ensure that all learners are in the correct

uniform, including PE kit,

please contact Webb Ellis

to purchase new uniform.

You can call and order over

the telephone on **01788**






567 777, email directly

Christine@webb-ellis.co.uk or visit their site [http://www.webb-](http://www.webb-ellis.co.uk/schools/)

[ellis.co.uk/schools/](http://www.webb-ellis.co.uk/schools/)

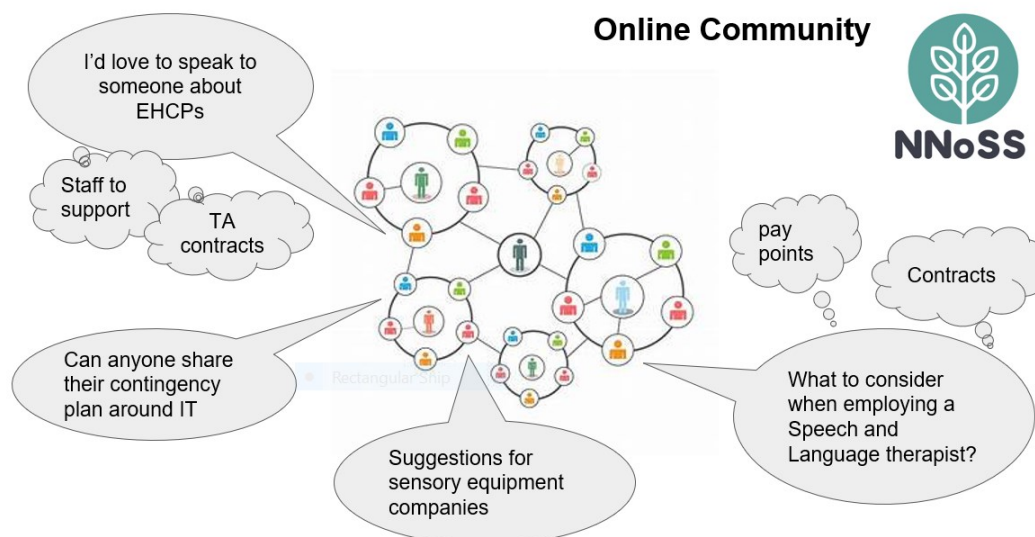


Full Speaker Lineup

				
Pauline Aitchison Deputy Director Schools North East (Host)	Catherine Kelsall School Engagement Lead Department for Education (Confirmed)	Professor Adam Boddison Chief Executive nasen (Confirmed)	Stephen Morales Chief Executive Institute of School Business Leadership (ISBL) (Confirmed)	Victoria Scranage School Business Manager Quest Academy (Confirmed)

Our fantastic Business Manager, **Victoria Scranage** spoke on behalf of the National Network of Special Schools at the Academies Show this week and feedback was fantastic.

Well done Victoria!

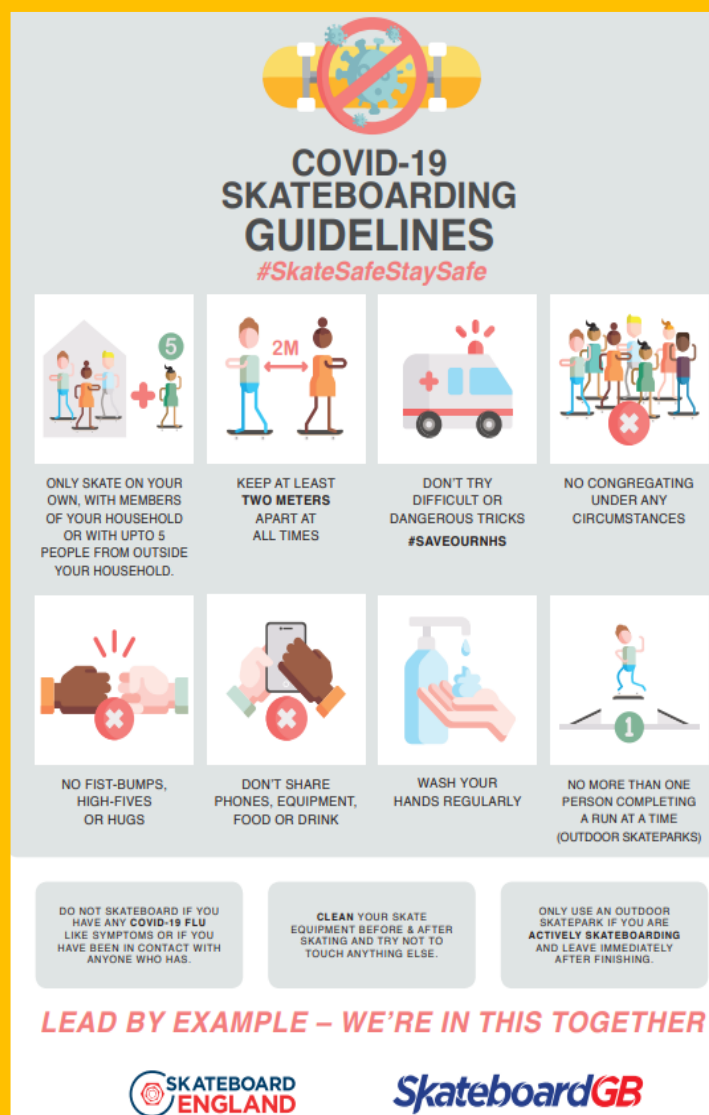


YEAR 8 AND 9: ART AND DESIGN

Learners in Alan Turing and George Eliot have been looking at warm and cool colours, thinking about how they could use them in one piece to contrast against each other.

We have had some amazing work produced!





COVID-19 SKATEBOARDING GUIDELINES
#SkateSafeStaySafe

ONLY SKATE ON YOUR OWN, WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD OR WITH UPTO 5 PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

KEEP AT LEAST TWO METERS APART AT ALL TIMES

DON'T TRY DIFFICULT OR DANGEROUS TRICKS
#SAVEOURNHS

NO CONGREGATING UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

NO FIST-BUMPS, HIGH-FIVES OR HUGS

DON'T SHARE PHONES, EQUIPMENT, FOOD OR DRINK

WASH YOUR HANDS REGULARLY

NO MORE THAN ONE PERSON COMPLETING A RUN AT A TIME (OUTDOOR SKATEPARKS)

DO NOT SKATEBOARD IF YOU HAVE ANY COVID-19 FLU LIKE SYMPTOMS OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANYONE WHO HAS.

CLEAN YOUR SKATE EQUIPMENT BEFORE & AFTER SKATING AND TRY NOT TO TOUCH ANYTHING ELSE.

ONLY USE AN OUTDOOR SKATEPARK IF YOU ARE ACTIVELY SKATEBOARDING AND LEAVE IMMEDIATELY AFTER FINISHING.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE – WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER

SKATEBOARD ENGLAND **SkateboardGB**

QUEST TERM DATES FOR 2020 - 21:

AUTUMN TERM 2020	
INSET day (no learners on site)	Tuesday 1st September 2020
Starts	Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Half term	Monday 26th October 2020 - Tuesday 3rd November 2020
Ends	Friday 18th December 2020
Christmas holiday	Monday 21st December 2019 - Monday 4th January 2020
SPRING TERM 2021	
INSET day (no learners on site)	Monday 4th January 2021
Starts	Tuesday 5th January 2021
Half term	Monday 15th February 2021 - Friday 19th February 2021
Trust INSET (no learners on site)	Friday 5th March 2021
INSET day (no learners on site)	Monday 8th March 2021
INSET day (no learners on site)	Tuesday 9th March 2021
Ends	Thursday 1st April 2021
Spring (Easter) holiday	Friday 2nd April 2021 - Friday 16th April 2021
SUMMER TERM 2021	
Starts	Monday 19th April 2021
Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May 2021
Half term	Monday 31st May 2021 - Friday 4th June 2021
Ends	Friday 23rd July 2021

SAFEGUARDING & FAMILY FOOTINGS TEAM



- **Daisy** is responsible for lower school families and is available on;
daisy.howden@macintyreacademies.org Work mobile 07504001918



- **Joan** is responsible for upper school families and is available on;
Joan.goodrich@macintyreacademies.org Work mobile 07377990796



- If you have any higher level Safeguarding concerns or questions please contact **Anna** on anna.stelfox@macintyreacademies.org Work mobile 07377990797.

We are available to help families with things like accessing family support, Early Help, Child In Need Meetings, Child Protection Meetings, taxi queries, support working with other professionals such as CAMHS, general safeguarding questions and much more.

Quest Contact details:

Quest Academy
Anderson Avenue
Rugby
Warwickshire
CV22 5PE

E: quest.office@macintyreacademies.org

T: 01788 593 112



How to contact members of staff:

Please contact Reception if you would like to speak with a member of staff. You will either be transferred or reception will email the member of staff to let them know that you have called.

Reporting pupil absence and lateness:

If your child is absent for more than 7 days you will need to provide a doctors certificate. If we do not receive a doctors note and have not seen your child we will have no alternative but to refer the matter to the Safeguarding Board in line with our safeguarding procedures.

Please can we remind parent/carers to call school on **01788 593 112**, before 9am if your child may be late or is unwell.

You will also need to contact the taxi company to let them know.