

#### **FEBRUARY 2021 EDITION 1 NEWSLETTER**

Half Term: Monday 15th February — Friday 18th February Return: Monday 22nd February



A Nintendo switch game has been found within the school, if your child has recently lost a game please get in touch. We will require the details of the game that has gone missing to ensure that it is yours.



"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free."

Frederick Douglass

# WELCOME

Dear Parents/Carers,



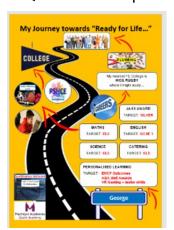
Welcome to our fortnightly Newsletter.

I am writing to let you know that after half term, class teams will be celebrating learners' achievements every fortnight on the <u>Celebrating Learning</u> section of our website (<a href="https://www.thequestacademy.org/celebratinglearning">https://www.thequestacademy.org/celebratinglearning</a>). If your child would like to share some of the work they have completed whilst at home please send in pictures.

During the week beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> all learners will receive a personalised "Quest Road Map".

You will also receive a copy via email. The purpose of this document is to support learners in understanding how their Personal Development Plan targets (PDPs) and in house and external qualifications will support them in acquiring the skills and knowledge needed "Ready for Life".

I would also like to take this opportunity to make you aware that staff working in special schools are now considered to be within the priority group for Coronavirus vaccinations. I am pleased to confirm that the majority of staff at Quest have now received their first vaccination. I hope



that this news provides you with extra reassurance of our ability to keep everyone in the school and wider community safe.

As you will be aware, the Government are due to announce their plans about the wider opening of schools after February half term, we will not make any sudden changes, once we receive more information we will be in contact with you.

Finally, a few dates for your diary:

Friday 5th March - Y9 Option booklet to be sent home

Thursday 18th March - Y9 Options Afternoon Presentation 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm (Zoom)

Monday 22nd March – Deadline for Yr 9 Options to be returned to school

**Thursday 25th March** - Parents Afternoon for all year groups (Zoom or phone)

Thursday 1st April – Progress reports for all year groups to be sent home

Thank you once again for all your on-going support.

I hope that you have an enjoyable half term.

Kind regards,

Nicola Wells.

### **CORONAVIRUS REPORTING OVER HALF TERM**

As we draw closer to the end of this half term I wanted to ensure you are all aware of the protocol should your learner test positive for Coronavirus over the break.



If your learner develops symptoms any time **before 2pm on Sunday 14th February** (48 hours after last attending school) and they test positive for Coronavirus, you must report this to me at <a href="https://www.victoria.Scranage@macintyreacademies.org"><u>Victoria.Scranage@macintyreacademies.org</u></a>, so that I can identify any close contacts as soon as possible.

It would be most helpful if you could include the following details in the email:

- Full name of your learner and their class name
- The date and time they first developed symptoms, if asymptomatic please state
- The date and time that the test was taken and the date and time that the result was received

I will use this information to determine who will need to self-isolate due to being a close contact as per below:

- The period that needs to be considered for close contacts is the 48 hours prior to symptoms starting or 48 hours prior to a positive test if a learner is asymptomatic
- A close contact would be anyone who has been within 2m for more than 15 minutes or anyone who has been within 1m (face to face) for more than one minute.

I will call the parents/carers of all close contacts with instructions for their learner to self-isolate. We ask that parents/carers monitor the telephone of which you have given school the number of in the eventuality that I do contact you.

Where a learner tests positive for Coronavirus, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school (after 2pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February), parents/carers should follow contact-tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. You do not need to contact the school for these cases.

Following the most recent DfE and Public Health England guidance we will be testing learners week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> February and then pausing until after the next school holiday. As you know the guidance is regularly updated so this stance is subject to change.

Many thanks,

Victoria Scranage

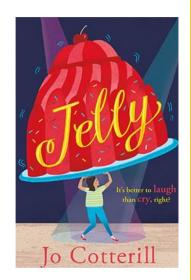
**School Business Manager** 

## 1 Book of the Week

#### Jelly

by Jo Cotterill

Angelica – Jelly for short – is the 'Funny One' at school, known for her clever impressions and comedy sketches. But being funny is a fine line and behind all the humour, Jelly's hiding anxieties about her weight. If they're laughing with her, they're not laughing at her, right? And she has another secret too, a secret hobby: writing poetry. Into this she channels all her worries. Nobody knows, not even her mum, and as far as Jelly's concerned, nobody can ever know. Then her mum gets a



lovely new boyfriend who encourages Jelly to show the world the real her. Can she find the courage she needs to stop hiding?



### **CHINESE NEW YEAR 2021**

Celebrations continue from Chinese New Year's Eve (Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February) for 16 days in total. As a public holiday, Chinese people will get 7 days off from work from February 11 – 17 in 2021.



### When is Chinese New Year?



with the New Moon on the first day of the new year and ends on the full moon 15 days later.

### What is the Lantern Festival?



The 15th day of the new year is called the Lantern Festival, which is celebrated at night with lantern displays and children carrying lanterns in a oarade.

### New Year Customs



On the day itself, an ancient custom called Hong Bao, meaning Red Packet takes place. This involves married couples giving children and unmarried adults money in red envelopes.

Long ago, people in China lit bamboo stalks, believing that the crackling flames would frighten evil spirits. Later they began to use fireworks. They are still used today to

welcome the

New Year.



### Decorations

The Chinese decorate their houses by putting up 'red couplets' with greetings and wishes. Red and gold colours represent festivity and symbolise good luck and wealth.



### New Year Parabe

One of the most popular events which takes

place during Chinese New Year is the colourful parade. This is led by huge dragons and dancing lions.



### The Chinese Zodiac

The Chinese Zodiac contains 12 animals. Each year is named after'one of the animals. E.g. The year of the Monkey.



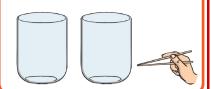
### Year of the Ox





Chopstick Challenge!

How many pom-poms can you move from pot to pot in one minute using your chopsticks?



Chopstick Challenge!

Put the pom-poms into cake cases to make fairy buns using your chopsticks.





Try to catch the sea creatures in the water tray using your chopsticks.





Sort the pom-poms into colours and put them in the correct pot.



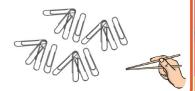


How many pieces of pasta can you move using your chopsticks in one minute?





Pick the paperclips from the jar and move to an empty jar.



In a group, have a race to see who can collect the most mini marshmallows.





Extra Hard Challenge!

Try to move as many grains of rice from one plate to another using your chopsticks in one minute.





### **WCG**

### **NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK**

#### 8th to 11th February

The WCG Marketing Team have been planning some activities for learners to do during National Apprenticeship Week, to show them what apprenticeships are and how beneficial they can be in the next step of education.

Tutors in Years 9, 10 and 11 will be sharing the video and quiz. The webinars are very useful and learners should be encouraged to consider joining any that they think may be relevant in their own time at home. They can complete the first and second activity either during a lesson (for example, PSHE), or after school as homework. It should take roughly an hour to complete the first and second activity and the third is being held outside of school hours (5pm - 6pm, Mon - Thurs 8th -11th Feb).

#### The activities include:

- 1) Introduction to an Apprenticeship video <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?">https://www.youtube.com/watch?</a>
  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?">v=ZjvFxTBYpOE&feature=youtu.be</a>
- 2) Apprenticeship Quiz <a href="https://forms.gle/a9qF8shJxiz4PV4t7">https://forms.gle/a9qF8shJxiz4PV4t7</a>
- 3) 'How to become an Apprentice' Webinars (the link to sign up to these are given below) https://wcg.ac.uk/page/1520/national-apprenticeship-week-2021

Prizes - There are even prizes available for your school and learners. For the school with the most learners involved in the quiz, there will be a £500 cash voucher up for grabs, which your school can choose to spend however you wish! Additionally, for 3 lucky learners who have completed the quiz, the prizes include a 10" Samsung Galaxy Tablet (1st place), and a £100 Love2Shop voucher (for the 2 runners up). We look forward to finding out the winners very soon!

Follow the URL given above to register for our 'how to become an apprentice' webinars we are running after school next week. These webinars will be online live chats which they can use to find out more information regarding apprenticeships, how to get one and have any questions they have answered by our tutors.























### **BBC MANAGING LOCKDOWN STRESS**

The pandemic came abruptly and has put much of our lives on hold. For many young people, it's been a difficult experience from the start, triggered by the loss of usual routines and plans, direct contact with groups of friends, and perhaps more time spent at home than you'd like. Or maybe you've got used to the 'ups and downs' of lockdowns – a mix of good days (or moments), as well as bad days.

However lockdown is affecting you, it's likely that at times you have felt stressed. And stress is tough. It can confuse us when normally we think clearly and it can stop us doing the things we want to do. If this is happening to you, now's the time to get on top of your stress before it gets on top of you.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zj42tbk?xtor=CS8-1000-[Discovery Cards]-[Multi Site]-

#### [SL07]-[PS BITESIZE~N~~P ManagingLockdownStress]

- What does stress feel like?
- When does it get worse?
- What can you do about it?
- When to worry?

For more advice on looking after your mental health during this time, you can visit YoungMinds, Mind or The Anna Freud Centre.



### **BBC BITESIZE LOCKDOWN LEARNING MADE FUN**

With Celebrity Supply Teachers, including Marcus Rashford (Manchester United and England superstar footballer) for PE, Geri Halliwell/Horner for English, Martin Bashir for History, Ricky Wilson for Art and many, many more!

<u>Geri Horner - English:</u> In this episode, pop legend, former Spice Girl and children's author Geri Horner turns English teacher as she explores the wonderful world of words in a lesson all about creative writing. She offers her tips on developing the perfect story, including creating characters, setting and plot.

Filmed entirely at her home and with elements shot by Geri herself, she reveals how she gets inspiration from her animals and the world around her.

Martin Bashir - History: World famous journalist Martin Bashir takes a break from reporting on the big stories and interviewing top names to teach a history lesson about something very personal to him. He reveals why Martin Luther King Jnr is his hero from history, why he is inspired by him every day and how we can all learn from his fight against racial inequality in the 1960s.

Marcus Rashford - PE: In this episode, Manchester United and England superstar Marcus

Rashford delivers a very special PE lesson as he demonstrates a stretch and warm-up routine designed to get fans ready for a big game or sporting event. He discusses how he was spotted by Man Utd scouts as a boy and what his alternative career may have been if football hadn't worked out .There are 40 Episodes Available!



### **SHROVE TUESDAY**

Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent (the 40 days leading up to Easter) was traditionally a time of fasting and on Shrove Tuesday, Anglo-Saxon Christians went to confession and were "shriven" (absolved from their sins).

Shrove Tuesday always falls 47 days before Easter Sunday, so the date varies from year to year, falling between February 3rd and March 9th. In 2021 Shrove Tuesday will fall on **Tuesday 16th February**.

Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients.

The pancake has a very long history and featured in cookery books as far back as 1439.

#### FRUIT PANCAKES RECIPE

#### **Ingredients:**

50g fruit, e.g. blueberries, raspberries, banana

125g self-raising flour

1x15ml spoon sugar

1 egg

180ml semi-skimmed milk

Spray oil



Complexity: low-medium

#### **Equipment:**

Chopping board, knife, sieve, whisk, bowl, measuring jug, non-stick frying pan, fish slice, metal spoon.

#### Method:

- 1. Chop the fruit into small chunks or keep whole (depending on size of fruit).
- 2. Sift the flour into a bowl and add the sugar.
- 3. Whisk in the egg and milk.
- 4. Stir in the fruit.
- 5. Heat the frying pan and add a little spray oil.
- 6. Pour in 2x15ml spoons of mixture for each pancake.
- 7. Cook for 2 minutes, until golden, and turn over.
- 8. Cook for a further minute.
- 9. Serve.

#### Top tips:

- Instead of using sugar, try adding a small amount of sweetener instead.
- Use half wholemeal and half white self-raising flour for added fibre.
- Remove the sugar and add chopped ham and sweetcorn instead of the fruit for a savoury version.

**MEASURE** 



WEIGH



SIFT





### **VALENTINES DAY**

What is Valentine's Day (or St Valentine's Day) and how did it start?

Valentine's Day is celebrated every year on 14th February.

It's the day when people show their affection for another person or people by sending cards, flowers or chocolates with messages of love.



#### Who was St Valentine?

The day gets its name from a famous saint, but there are several stories of who he was.

The popular belief about St Valentine is that he was a priest from Rome in the third century AD.

Emperor Claudius II had banned marriage because he thought married men were bad soldiers.

Valentine felt this was unfair, so he broke the rules and arranged marriages in secret.

When Claudius found out, Valentine was thrown in jail and sentenced to death.

There, he fell in love with the jailer's daughter and when he was taken to be killed on 14th February he sent her a love letter signed "from your Valentine".

The first Valentine's Day was in the year 496!

#### **Florence Nightingale**









- Artwork by Rosey, her art has really improved, well done Rosey!
- Theo S and Rosey G playing Nerf War in Social Skills.
- Examples of fantastic home learning (Jacob)
  designed a superhero mask, practiced letter
  formation in phonics and created an informational
  poster on water transportation.







• Examples of English work from those currently attending school (Saffron, Rosey, Theo). We are looking at Roald Dahl's 'The Twits' and have had a focus on describing words and comprehension.

#### **Rosa Parks**







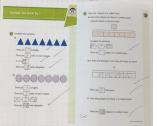


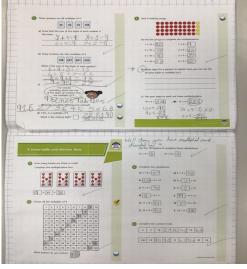






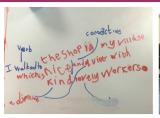






#### **Helen Keller**

In Food Tech, learners









- have enjoyed making curry and experimenting with different levels of spice.
- In Maths we have been working on calculating the area of 2D shapes. The class can now calculate the areas of squares, rectangles and compound shapes.
- In Literacy we have been working on expanding our sentences by using adjectives and connectives.

#### **Albert Einstein**



- Simon has been teaching different members of Albert Einstein how to draw on the iPad using an Apple pencil.
- Albert Einstein have been enjoying creating items for the Quest website. Learners have been developing a
  variety of skills in sewing, Hama beading, paper crafting and clay modelling!
- Albert Einstein played games together and decorated biscuits as part of 'No Pens Wednesday'.



- In Maths we are looking at the area of rectangles and compound shapes and have completed more complex questions with multi step problems.
- For our science lessons, learners created a solar powered box from cardboard and tinfoil to show how the solar power works to heat things up. This week they have moved on to learn who discovered Oxygen and how flames burn due to Oxygen being present.
- In food tech we made some yummy marshmallow that we then used to decorate some biscuits with. The learners also melted down chocolate and used googly eyes in order to turn their decorated biscuits into poo emojis.
- Finally, we have continued adding more places to the towns/cities that the learners have been building as part of the creative curriculum and we were able to use the VR as a reward for all the hard work the learners have put in.

#### Shakespeare



























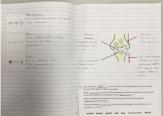
Art and Antonyms: a word opposite in meaning to another (e.g. bad and good).

#### **Lewis Hamilton**





















- In Maths, Year 10 have been studying number sequences and inequalities. We have practised our skills during lessons and are now beginning to answer GCSE level questions in these topics. We have also been investigating prime numbers by colouring in a number square to help answer problems involving prime numbers.
- In English, we have been studying 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck. We have learned about the American Dream and begun making notes on the character descriptions from the opening of the novel. We have also been developing our skills in proof reading to improve our writing, practising using punctuation and checking and correcting spelling mistakes.
- In Science, we have been working really hard studying different types of cells, DNA and inheritance, and natural selection. It has been a challenging topic with lots of new key words, but learners have really showed resilience to achieve their objectives in every lesson.
- Year 10 have also been working on independent research projects on a topic of their choice, producing very informative PowerPoint presentations on topics such as Denisovans, the Battle of Hastings and the History of Rock Music.

#### **JK Rowling**













- In science, the class have had great fun learning all about electricity and circuits, they didn't want the lesson the end.







On the 28th January it was International Lego Day so JK Rowling celebrated by designing monsters, cars and houses of the future.

#### Gandhi

Over the course of Spring 1, Gandhi have explored the Maths topic of fractions, decimals and percentages- working out how to move between each of these data representations and convert them accordingly. In addition to this Ian has been delivering some dynamic visual lessons which have got the class to investigate angles in shapes, including calculating isosceles triangles and quadrilaterals.

- In English the class are examining how contrasts are used to reflect society, delving deep into the moral messages contained in poetry. They have been demonstrating that they can use the SMILE writing framework (Structure/Meaning/Imagery/Language/Effect) to analyse some selected verses or stanzas of poetry.
- In Science the group have explored 2 topics of study- 'Sound' and 'Ecosystems' for which they have explored the qualities of sound waves such as pitch, tone and frequency. In 'ecosystems' the subject content has been vast, including ideas such as genetic variation and hybridity amongst species.
- In Media and Computing the group have explored a new topic entitled 'Understanding Audiences for Media Products' where they have enjoyed investigating how audiences are broken down in the eyes of media producers and how regulators like the British Board of Film Classification shape how media content is classified.
- In Computing the group has completed various programming projects in the block coding language of 'MakeCode' and the script coding language of 'Python'. The theme of the term has been local and global citizenship, so the group have coded algorithms to solve social problems such as 'being active', night safety on roads, clean oceans, sensory classrooms and ideas to help plants grow.
- This term Gandhi have explored two main projects in the **Creative Curriculum**; the first is on geography and the changing economic world, understanding about the challenges developing countries face. Their practical work has been to design and maintain a 'model city', making sure the residents have adequate jobs, good healthcare and are protected by law enforcement. Another project has been to explore the life of Buddha as part of some RE learning.

#### **Winston Churchill**

Maths has brought on the dreaded task of Algebra!

Although hesitant at first, learners have blown us away with the amount progress they have shown. Their understanding and commitment to something new has shown incredible perseverance and has left them all with a great sense of achievement! Next stop, getting negative numbers involved!

- Our English book of study is 'Holes' by Louis Sachar and our learners have been thoroughly enjoying investigating and deciphering the mysteries of Camp Green Lake. We have been focusing on the main character of Stanley, and tracking how the author shows development and progression in his character through the chapters. We have loved the camper's nicknames and even looked at developing our own set of nicknames in class!
- Our Creative Curriculum project has utilized Minecraft education and we, as a class, have been developing a Multi-Cultural society. Our class 'town' has been developing over the past 5 weeks and includes many essential buildings and features to be fun, inclusive and functional. This week we have been focusing on law and order and have begun to develop police, fire and hospital services for our town. We've even included at courthouse and jail! The learners have really loved working on this project over lockdown and the town is developing very nicely! A great sense of accomplishment for all and the teamwork has been phenomenal!

















#### **George Eliot**













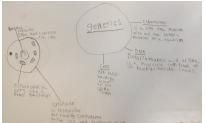


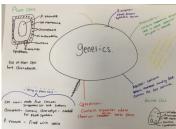
- In our 'Creative Curriculum Minecraft Challenge' learners are working on building their own Minecraft Community, thinking about what important buildings/places are needed.
- 'All about animals' and 'All about autism' Folders: Learners have created their own 'personalised
  projects', where they have put together information and materials on a chosen subject to share with others.
- **Food Tech**: Learners have created their favourite types of food, a delicious Victoria sponge cake and lasagne.
- **Science**: Learners have started to work upon a solar system project in science, learning about all the different planets and interesting facts related to them.

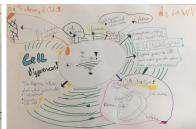
#### **Dalai Lama**



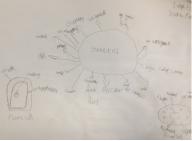
Josh and Hartley have been creating the dishes that they have planned on their bespoke menu plan for their Catering and Hospitality Qualification. This week they made Millionaire Shortbread!















- Dalai Lama did some fantastic mind maps as part of their biology science revision.
- Joe has been working hard on his Michael Jackson portfolio for his Art project on Identity, we are really proud of the progress he makes each week!

#### Jonah Lomu

- Harvey demonstrating that not only can he successfully solve 2 Rubik Cubes, he can also make them balance against each other to form interesting photos!
- Harvey working on bicycle maintenance and restoration, bottom bracket to sort next!
- Tyler operating his Enterprise Car Wash company....with yet another satisfied customer!











### **SAFEGUARDING AND FAMILY FOOTINGS**





# Children's Mental Health Week

Here are a few simple ways you can encourage your child to express themselves:

1) Could you **build on existing interests or passions**? Think about what has helped them get through the past year. A love of dancing? Baking?

Drawing? Fashion?

- 2) Encourage your child by **noticing their unique interests and praising their efforts.**
- 3) **Trying new things** can be a great way to find a new creative outlet. There are lots of online tutorials and video demos that you and your child could be inspired by. Or perhaps ask someone you know to share their creative hobbies and give them a go!
- Some children may not think of themselves as being creative. Try to focus on the importance of the process and the way it can make them feel, rather than the end result. Try not to judge their efforts and remember to give encouragement for trying rather than for doing something well.
- 5) **Listening carefully** can help children feel more comfortable and confident when expressing themselves. Try to minimise distractions and give your child your full attention, being aware of your own body language and eye contact.
- 6) You might want to try **summarising what they've shared and acknowledging their feelings.**Children are expressing themselves all the time but not necessarily with words. 'Listen' to everything they are trying to tell you with their behaviour, or with their play and creativity or with their silence. It's all self-expression.

Remember – you don't need a lot of expensive equipment to get creative at home. Recyclable materials or older items you no longer have a use for can provide amazing inspiration, and of course there's no limit to your imagination!

### **SAFEGUARDING & FAMILY FOOTINGS**



**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.







