

# NEWSLETTER

## Headteachers Message

The week ended with some of our young people cooking some delicious burgers with Gill, the bigger picture to this activity is that we are supporting our young people with life skills and preparation for adulthood.

As you know, young people find it easier to engage in education if they are offered the right environment, due to this there will be further developments at Northcroft in the next two weeks. The intervention room is being created to ensure that students have a space where they can access intervention support when Michelle visits the school and for staff to run Thrive, ELSA, OT sessions and Lego therapy sessions.

The DT area will also have some additional resources purchased, and during the half term, this area will be developed in readiness for our young people to return after half term.

Northcroft young people who have been attending Northcroft Leisure centre gym on a weekly basis will meet this week with a fitness instructor who will help them put together a tailored plan for personal fitness. This is also linked with the PSHE curriculum, achieving our dreams and goals and supports students with identifying steps and working towards good physical health.

For the year 7s who have been attending Oakwood Climbing Centre weekly this half term, this will be their last session, and next term, they will move on to experiencing outwitting opponent games such as tennis, badminton, paddle tennis, squash and volleyball.

## Highlights of the week

- Year 7 showed excellent perseverance in their climbing activity this week.
- Upper KS3 came up with a class contract to support with their concentration in class.
- Upper KS3 and Year 7 received some excellent feedback from the Stables and Paddocks this week, well done!

## Reminder

- 1pm finish this Thursday
- No school for students this Friday as we have an inset day.

## Dates for the Diary

- **Monday-** The Paddocks
- **Tuesday-** Interventions with Michelle and Gym
- **Wednesday-** Year 7 Rock Climbing
- **Thursday-** Stable Futures and **1pm finish for students.**
- **Friday-** Inset day



# CLASSROOM UPDATES



## Upper KS3

UKS3 have had a busy week both inside and outside the classroom.

We have continued with our poetry in English and have begun exploring another WW1 poem, 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae. We will be looking at comparing this poem to our previous poem 'The Soldier' and why we think the mood and feel of the poem is different.

In history we have been learning about Queen Elizabeth I and the difficulties she faced when she came into power. It has been great to see students sharing their previous knowledge on the tutors and extending this knowledge further.

We had great science lessons where we have been learning about the effects of too little food and too much food in our diet. We made models using play doh of the effect on our cardiac arteries when these become blocked with fats. We have also explored why Body Mass Index (BMI) may not always be an accurate measure of a healthy body weight and what other methods could be used as an alternative.

UKS3 have also had time outside the classroom and in the community. We have had a lovely walk to Victoria Park and a made a start on our 'classroom contract' over a well earned hot chocolate to end the week!



## Year 7

Y7 have been working hard all week, coming to the end of units in Science and History. They investigated sound insulating materials at the Paddocks, making links to their understanding of how particles behave.

In History, we have connected our learning about the Silk road and the Black Death to reasons why peasants were rather unhappy with their lot in life and undertook the peasant's revolt. Students produced a poster to showcase their knowledge.

At climbing, students have made progress playing games that develop their skills. Individualised targets at the Stables have continued to engage students and they were working hard on Thursday variously grooming horses, evaluating animal safety on site and maintaining key areas.

This week we've had a focus on gratitude and being aware of the effects of our words on others. It has been great to hear individuals calling out others for unkind words at times.

