



WELCOME TO OUR

Half Termly Newsletter

◆ INTRODUCTION TO THE NEWSLETTER AND PREP SCHOOL

Welcome to our Prep School Newsletter. We have had a wonderful start to the term, and it is so exciting to be wrapped in the middle of our new Prep School project. There is a great buzz around the school, and the children have been wonderfully positive when embracing all the changes that may be in front of them. As we continue constructing our new dedicated facility on the old blue playground, the building of our Prep School platform is happening continuously in class, out on the sports pitches, and in all the various activities that our pupils are lucky enough to participate in, whether they be in school or out of school.

Over the course of the first few weeks, we have been speaking to the children about our four pillars of a happy education: a drive to help them all be **happy, busy, polite and kind**. We have also spoken about positive teamwork, good sportsmanship and respect, and how dressing smartly can help make a positive impact - both on themselves and on others.

On a personal note, I am loving being a part of Team Runnymede, and have been made to feel very welcome by my colleagues and the pupils - even when I set the latter an impromptu French test!

Have a super break over Half Term, and I look forward to seeing everyone back, with a big smile on their face, on Monday 6th November.

Duncan Bailey
Headmaster

The Termly Newsletter

Each half term we will be issuing a Newsletter, to give families and the community an insight into the Prep School, with exciting updates on the curriculum and life at Runnymede!

Values

RESPECT
CURIOSITY
DETERMINATION
RESPONSIBILITY
INTEGRITY
COMMUNITY
TOLERANCE
KINDNESS
ENTHUSIASM

In this newsletter you will find:

↓ An range of highlights from our first Prep School Half Term, including curriculum highlights, trips, introductions to the Head Girl and Boy, and more!



Head Girl and Head Boy!

WELCOME FROM ADRIANA AND ERMIS!

Hello, my name is Ermis and I am the Head Boy for the Prep School 23-23. It is a massive honour to be in such a position of responsibility this year. I have to be able to listen, interpret ideas, be kind, give feedback and dedicate my breaktimes to my duties. I have set myself a number of goals this year including; getting Year 7 to use the Julia Powell area during free time and to make sure there is equal treatment of all students. In conclusion, I want to make the school a better place where all students feel happy and safe.

Ermis 7H

Hello and welcome to Runnymede Prep School. Firstly, the Prep School Runnymede is the first of its kind, making it very promising and exciting for the students. We are currently building a library next to the founders building where the teachers parking used to be. And of course, we are also building the Prep School and the new underground parking!

Runnymede has an incredible amount of heart warming staff and teachers, and wonderfully smart students. Runnymede has a lot of magnificent things to offer and I hope you think that too.

I am really proud of being head girl. I think of it as a great achievement that will give me a huge amount of responsibility and a great amount of pride.

Adriana 7P

Welcome Breakfast

We were delighted to welcome new pupils to Runnymede Prep School in September. It is brilliant to see we are growing our community. After a few weeks of settling in, pupils were invited to a Runnymede Prep School Breakfast, where new pupils were able to reflect on their experiences and to meet other new pupils!

It was lovely to have Mr and Mrs Powell, alongside the senior school head boy and girl to join us!

Ms Howe



RUNNYMEDE COLLEGE
Delight, Ornament, Ability

A Day in the Life...

Year 4

My favourite day at Runnymede College this term, by Carlota Neves-Correia. It was a Wednesday morning, during the month of October. I was very nervous when I woke up because finally the day had arrived: it was the cross-country! I got dressed in a heartbeat and proudly put on my green house-shirt whilst thinking about how fun this day was going to be. In a flash, I grabbed my school bag and dashed out of the door. I was one of the first pupils in my year to arrive at the park that morning.

All of a sudden, it was my time to race! My heart was pounding with excitement but, at the same time, I felt very confident. I looked up to the sun and took a deep breath. As soon as the whistle blew, we were off.

I finished the race with a smile on my face and the joy of a job well done! I walked with my friends back to my classroom and enjoyed the rest of day!

Thank you, Mr Bailey, for making my first Runnymede cross-country possible!

Carlota 4C



Year 5

First of all, we went in a bus for 1 hour. Then we got there and they explained to us what activities we were going to do. My class started with zip line, which was my favorite activity of the day. Zip line had levels, you started in level 1 which was one meter from the ground. Then you kept going until you reached level 3 (the hardest one). After that we did archery, which was quite easy for me. We did a competition girls vs boys. Guess who won?... boys this time. Next time the girls will have revenge! We were starving so altogether we had a delicious snack. With our stomachs full, we did the next activity. This time they put us into groups and gave us materials which we used to protect an egg. We were testing them to see if they broke when we threw them to the ground. If they didn't crack, we threw them against something harder, a rock. After that the school gave us lunch and a Kit Kat. When we finished lunch, we went canoeing in a river and to make it even more difficult we played Simon said at the same time! The last person to follow the Simon says had to complete a punishment, including dancing the "macarena". After a long day we went back to the bus to head back to school. We reached there at five and got picked up by our parents. After all, we had an amazing time and a new experience!

Sofia 5B



A Day in the Life...

Year 6

I woke up at 6:45 knowing that there was going to be a great day in front of me. I got dressed, put on my smart blazer on and went to school.

I live in Madrid centre so Runnymede has school buses that drive different routes and all end up at school. When I arrived at the school I suddenly felt a shiver of happiness as I was going to go to Faunia, (a trip that the school had organized to go and see animals). We saw a lot of outstanding animals and the monitors were very kind. Finally, when we had finished that exotic day, we went back to school and did some learning. Then we all went home.

I chose this day so that everybody will know that Runnymede is a fun school, and gives the chance for children to see new places and learn about them. It's not just about being stuck in a classroom working, it's also about learning about your surroundings.

Gabriella 6P



Year 7

The first half-term in Prep School was very different to Junior School, but in a good way. I adore how we have the privilege to move around the school from class to class, and that way we meet new people and make new friends. The teachers couldn't be more kind-hearted and considerate and I really appreciate what Mr Bailey and all the staff members do for the students. I enjoy every single subject and break time and I have the benefit of spending quality time with my friends at lunch.

At the beginning of the term, we were all very nervous about the Prep School but my experience has been more than positive. This has taught me a great lesson. We need to learn how to embrace change and adapt to any situation that we may face as the world and us change constantly.

Talking about moving on, I wanted to mention my light-hearted, dearest form tutor Ms Tucker. She is leaving this term and I would like her to know that she is a very kind teacher and that I really value everything she has done for the school this term. We will miss her so much!

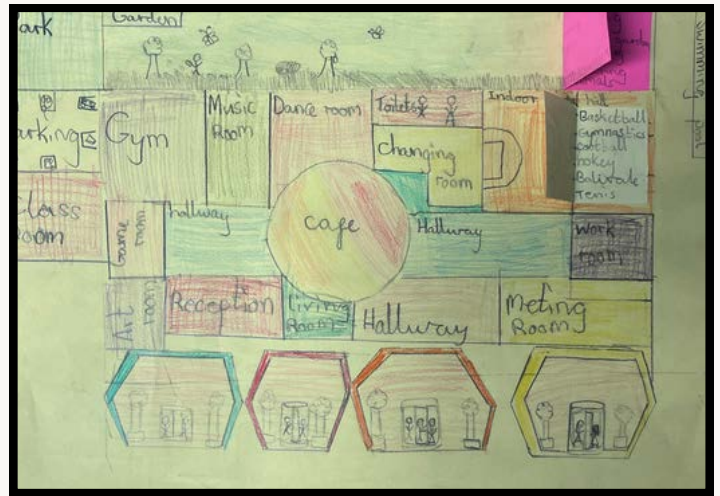
Victoria 7T



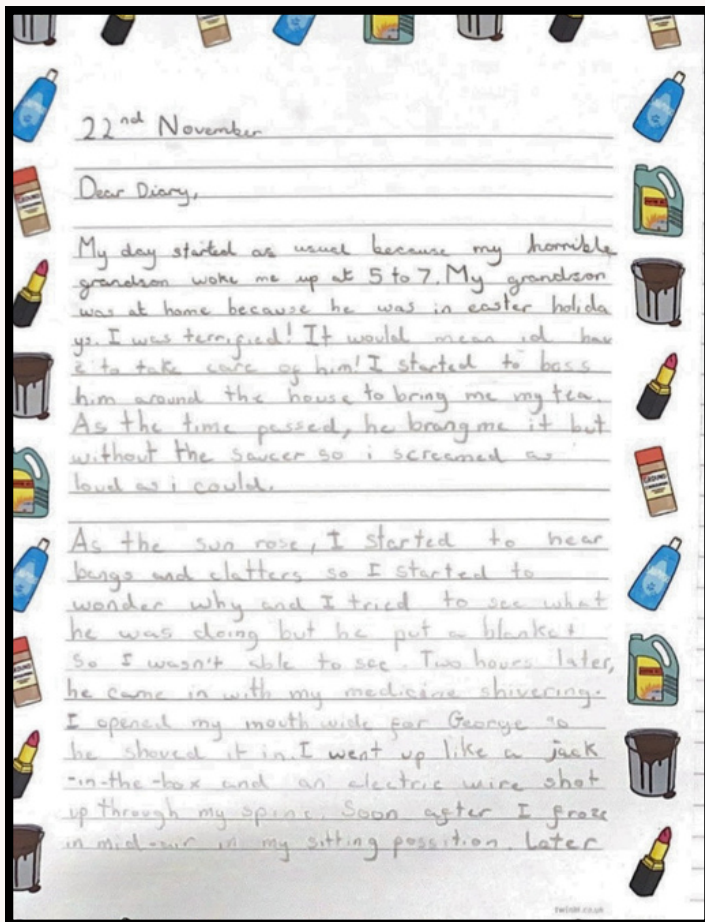
Work To Be Proud Of...

Year 4

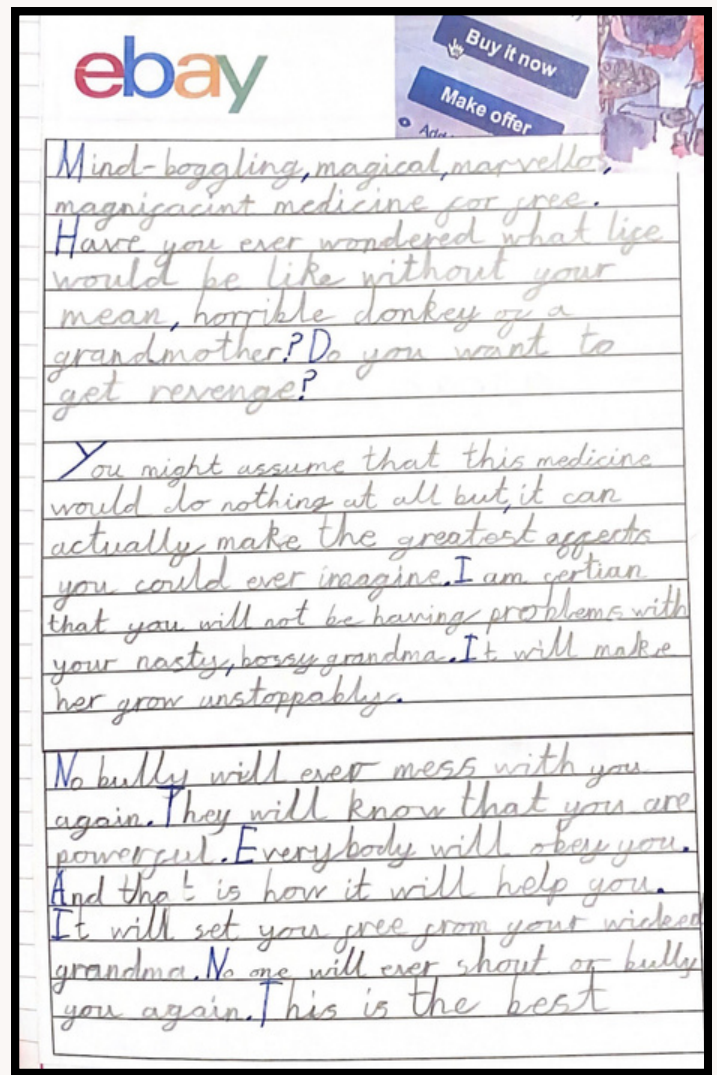
Year 4 have been designing community centres, considering the needs of adults, children and people with disabilities. The pupils looked at award winning architecture for inspiration! Here are some examples from 4Q!



In English Year 4 have been working on diary entries. They also wrote a persuasive advert about George's Marvellous Medicine.



OSCAR 4C



TERESA 4R



Work To Be Proud Of...

Year 5

Year 5 have been exploring the difference between bullying and being 'mean' using the Samantha-Jayne poem. Pupils were asked to draw a representation of what they thought Samantha-Jayne would look like.

Nobody speaks to Samantha-Jayne,
The silent child with the fancy name,
Who comes to school with hair a mess,
And milk stains down her dirty dress,
Who wears a coat that's far too small,
And stands alone by the playground wall.

Nobody plays with Samantha-Jayne,
Who lives with her mum down Leadmill Lane,
In a run-down flat that's dark and smelly,
Who spends her nights glued to the telly,
And sleeps in a bed that's damp and cold,
In a dark little room that's full of mould.

Nobody cares about Samantha-Jayne,
Who walks to school in wind and rain,
With her unwashed face and hair a mess,
And her coat too small and her dirty dress,
With the tight little mouth and the frightened stare.
No one, no one is there to care.

Samantha-Jayne, Samantha-Jayne,
Oh, what do you dream of, Samantha-Jayne,
As you walk to school all alone.
Or stand in the playground on your own?
Do you dream of friends with whom to play,
To help you through the lonely day?
Do you dream of arms to hold you tight.
To help you through the lonely night?

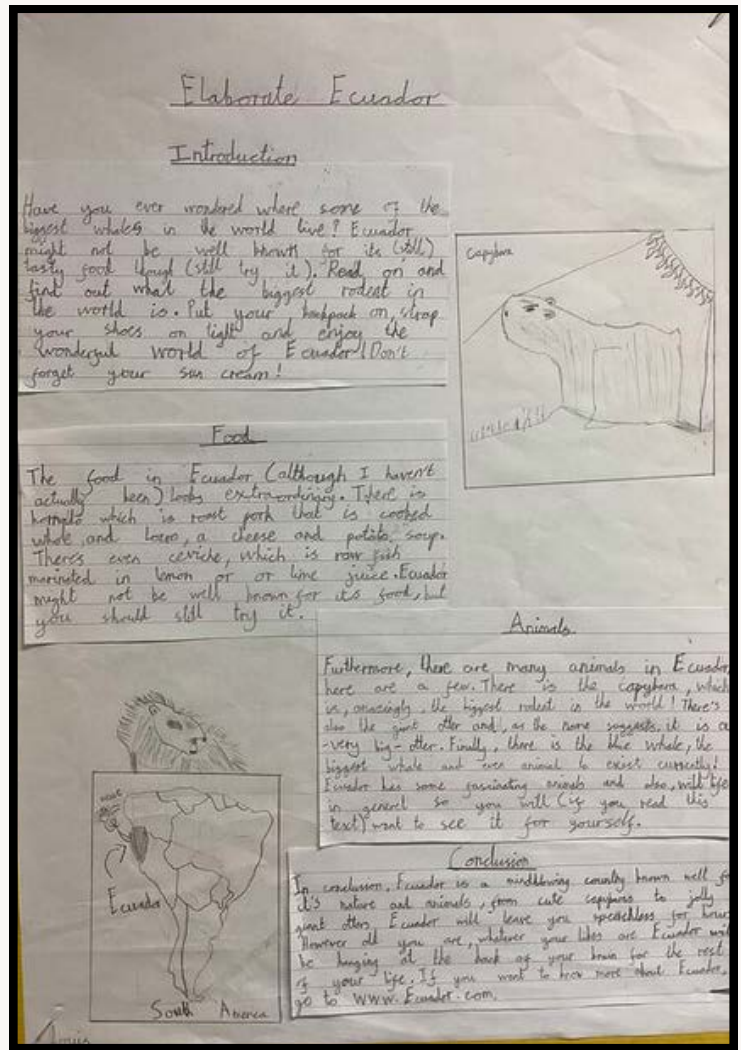


Work To Be Proud Of...

Year 5



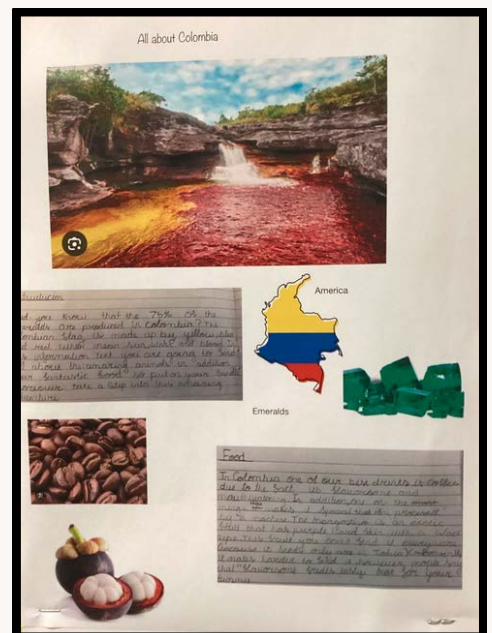
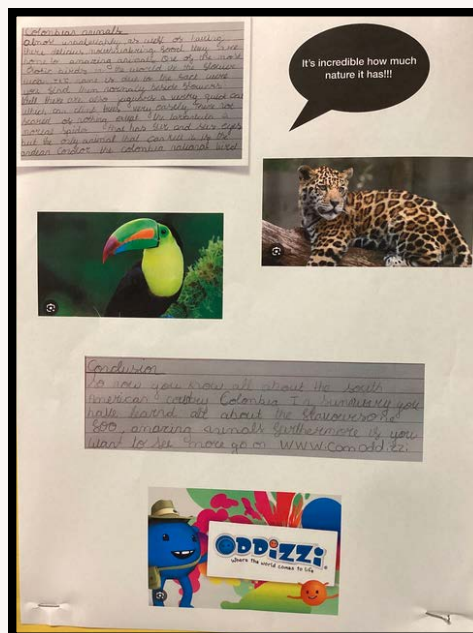
IDENTITY ART
JUANA 5B



INFORMATION TEXT ABOUT ECUADOR
LOUIS 5B



INFORMATION TEXT
ABOUT COLUMBIA
VALENTINA 5C

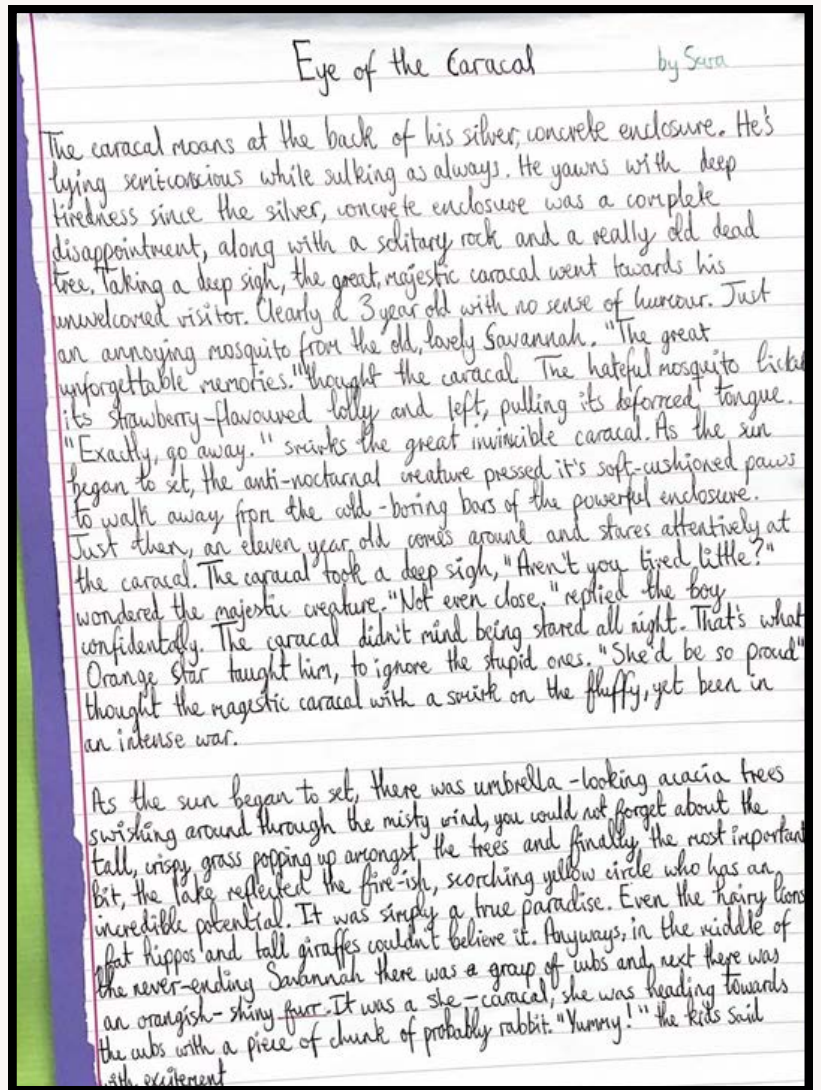
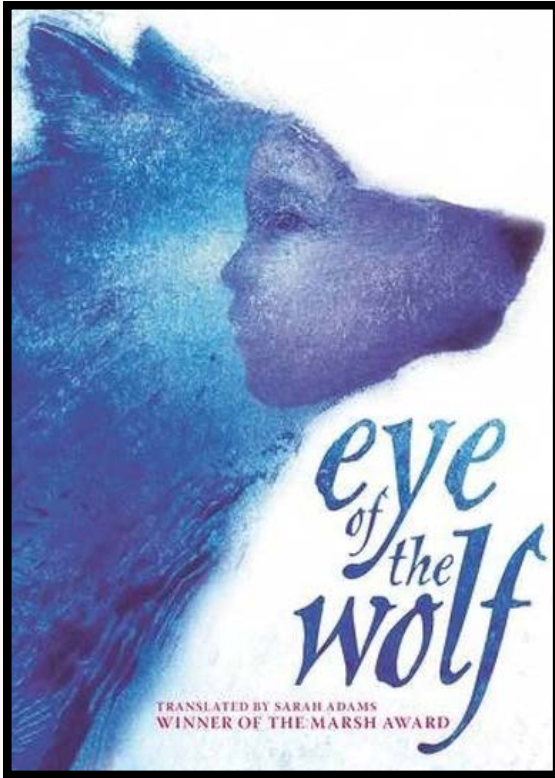


Work To Be Proud Of...

Year 6

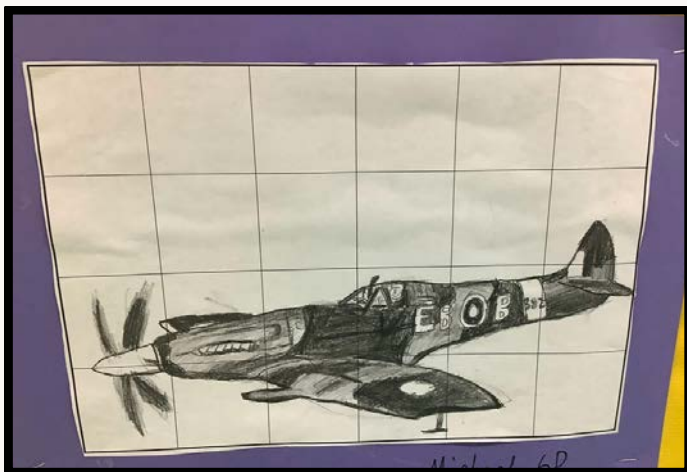
In English Year 6 have been reading *The Eye of the Wolf* by Daniel Pennac.

Pupils were asked to invent their own version of the story, describing an animal in captivity, looking back at life before capture.



SARA 6M

Year 6 have been learning about World War 2 in History. Here are some creative pieces, including the garden which represents the 'Dig For Victory!'



MICHAEL 6P



ADRIANA 6P



Work To Be Proud Of...

Year 7

In English Year 7 have been reading City of Ember. Below are extracts of the excellent written work from pupils, namely two written pieces, one in which pupils explored 'A Day in the Life of Doon', one of the protagonists. Pupils also wrote a descriptive piece on 'How the people reacted when the lights went out'.

People were screaming in terror, crying. People didn't know where they were or where they were going, they only knew that they had four senses, but the worst of everything was that the electricity helper of whom we had talked before had an accident. His electricity panel started throw sparks at him. And suddenly, BOOM! The population were slamming down into the slippery rough pavements, stamping their heads against the sleeping streetlights and orange brick walls. The not-working streetlights now only worked as instruments of torture.

'HOW THE PEOPLE REACTED WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT'.
PABLO 7H

Carrying our precious, yellow maps, we wander into the labyrinth of pipeworks. We fix rusty pipes, we tighten loose bolts, we dash around the complex, we fix leaking pipes until an ear-splitting bang is heard throughout Ember, the signal for our lunch break. Using our maps, we find our way back to the entrance and pour into the Lunch Hall where all the workers of Ember go to lunch. We devour our portion of lunch and talk about our jobs and most importantly, the fate of our beloved Ember. The end of our break is signalled by a colossal, bronze bell in the centre of the Lunch Hall. After lunch, we go back to doing our normal business until the end of our shift at 3 in the afternoon.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF DOON
ZACHARY 7T



Work To Be Proud Of...


Year 7

In Geography pupils were invited to make posters exploring countries and cultures around the world. Here are a few examples from 7P!

ARGENTINA!



Teatro Colón




The Teatro Colón is the main opera house in Buenos Aires, Argentina. It is considered one of the ten best opera houses in the world. It is world talked about for the exceptional acoustics created by size and designs from it's main hall. The list of great singers, composers and dancers who have performed since 1909 is infinite long!!!! Along some of the names that started are Strauss, Stravinsky and many more composers, singers and dancers!

Carmen Igartiburu

Did you know?

Buenos Aires




Argentina's capital city is Buenos Aires. Its area covers about 2,780,400 km².

FOOTBALL



Argentines population is of 45,773,834 in 2023 and historical

Money



The peso is the currency of Argentina, identified by the symbol \$ before starting to use the of many countries using pesos or dollar currencies. coins with a value under one peso are rarely used.
Central bank: Central bank of Argentina
Subunits: centavo
banknotes: \$200, \$5, \$100, \$50, \$20, \$1000, \$10 and \$500 plus current pesos

Football is the most popular sport in South America. Even though it isn't a national sport football is the most loved in Argentina. It is seen as a cultural icon and a source of national pride. The Argentine football association was founded in 1893 making it one of the oldest in the world.

CARMEN 7P

BRAZIL


one of the best washed parks in the world. It is a park with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest park. It is a park with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest park. It is a park with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest park.

FACTS

- Population: 214 million
- Capital: Brasilia
- Official Language: Portuguese
- Currency: Brazilian Real (R\$)
- Timezone: UTC-3
- Area: 8,511,965 km²

The Teatro Colón is in Buenos Aires, Argentina. It is the ten best opera houses in the world. It is world talked about for the exceptional acoustics created by size and designs from it's main hall. The list of great singers, composers and dancers who have performed since 1909 is infinite long!!!! Along some of the names that started are Strauss, Stravinsky and many more composers, singers and dancers!

GASTRONOMY



NATURE

Brazil is the largest country in South America. It is a country with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest country. It is a country with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest country.

MARTÍN 7P

BRAZIL

Tourist Attraction

Cristo Redentor and Copacabana Beach

Capital city

Brasilia

Population

214 million

Area

8,511,965 km²

Interesting facts

Brazil is the largest country in South America. It is a country with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest country. It is a country with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest country.

COPACABANA BEACH

It is a beach with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest beach. It is a beach with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest beach.

BAÍA DOS LANCAS

It is a bay with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest bay. It is a bay with a lot of life and animals. It is the world largest bay.

GABRIELA 7P



Year 5 Trips

Que Química!' at MUNCYT

Curiosity is one of the core values at Runnymede College and the Year 5 trip to the Museo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (MUNCYT) certainly captured the children's curiosity and led them on a fascinating journey through the scientific method, from hypothesis to drawing conclusions. Hands-on scientific investigations involved irreversible chemical changes to materials. These chemical changes produced new materials, a solid foam 'head' and a crystal forest, which the children could then take home with them. What's more, the children then investigated the property of density of different liquids and solids, creating a tower of materials of different densities. This workshop enriched the children's learning in their science topic, 'Properties and Changes in Materials', as well as took their learning beyond the four walls of the classroom, showing them what the community has to offer in enriching their learning beyond the school gate.

Ms Brackin HoY 5



Year 5's Adventure: Building Resilience and Having Fun!

Despite a chilly start, Year 5's team-building trip in the beautiful Lozoya valley was a great success! The children worked through their initial nerves to take on an exciting rope course with a short but fun zip line to return to the ground. On the lake, they had great fun manoeuvring their kayaks and overcoming challenges like dancing the 'Macarena' without falling in. As the children participated in an extensive range of activities, they supported each other with cheers of 'You can do it!' echoing around the charming town of Lozoya. They learned the importance of effective communication and cooperation to achieve a common goal, all while having a brilliant time. The trip left a lasting impression, instilling in the children a sense of unity and strength. It was an adventure that blended fun with invaluable life lessons, leaving the the Year 5s eager to tackle future challenges back at school with newfound confidence and camaraderie.

Ms Brackin HoY 5



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Year 6 Trip to Faunia

I liked going to Faunia because there were many different animals and plants to see. One of my personal favourites was the fake but realistic storm which happens on the hour every hour. There were also some areas with animals that were out in the open. You weren't allowed to feed or touch the animals because they might have an infection or the food might not be healthy for them. What really caught my attention was that they had four crocodiles.

They explained to us that the reason that they were all female was because if there was a male they would maybe mate and have babies. (Crocodiles can have up to one hundred eggs). They also chose four female crocodiles because if it was four male crocodiles they would be more fierce, they would battle for territory, and they could jump higher. They also had a shallow pool kind of river so that the crocodiles could swim around. It was shallow because if it was deep they might go to the bottom, take speed, and jump out of their enclosure.

They also have an activity centre where you can run through an obstacle course, zip line across the entire obstacle course and climb walls!

Nico 6M



The jungle!

When we first came in we went into the section called the jungle. There of course was animals from the jungle. The first animals that we saw were fish. All kinds of them. Some were beautiful, some were less. But what I most liked was the sea lions! They were so cool! I think we even saw one that was sleeping. After that we saw monkeys, parrots, more monkeys and after we saw an awesome rainforest show! There was a beautiful multicoloured parrot in a branch, some monkeys and....Toucans! I loved them! There was a branch right next to where we were sitting and one of the toucans flew to the branch! They are so beautiful!

The lemurs!

After the Jungle section we went to the lemurs and birds section. We had to open and close 2 doors so they couldn't escape. The lemurs habitats are being destroyed (which are the trees), so they bring them here to faunia! It's so kind of them! Well as I was saying, the lemurs had grey and white fur, with yellow eyes. Did you know that before lemurs got discovered people thought that they were ghosts because of their yellow eyes at night. We also saw all types of birds but

honestly the bird that

The sea lion show!

After that, it was lunch time. But it was the most entertaining lunch ever! There was a sea lion show while we ate! The sea lions jumped up and down from the water to the floor to the water and from the floor to the water again. They waved at us, they clapped, they spun, twisted and twirled across the water. One of them even walked across the floor and plopped the trash into the right trash can! They were so cute! After they finished, we picked up the trash that was left from what we ate and went to the next section.

Miranda 6M



Year 4 and 7 Trip

Kayak Trip

The kayak trip we took on Friday 6th October, was an amazing trip because it was an experience that this year group had not done in school before. It was both interesting and exciting to learn these three sports on the water. It was also a fun, competitive day in which you had to give your all. It was full of teamwork, coordination was the key factor. Overall I think it was a very enjoyable trip and a really exciting day for all of us.

Samir 7T



National Archaeological Museum

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed this term's history topic of Ancient Egyptians. After all our hard work we decided there would be no better way to celebrate all we have learnt so far, than to go and see some real life mummies at the National Archaeological Museum!

Our guides were incredibly impressed by all our new found Ancient Egyptian knowledge and even suggested we should be the ones leading the tour! It was an incredible opportunity to have such an array of ancient artefacts before our very eyes.

Year 4 were extremely well behaved, inquisitive and respectful and our behaviour and smart appearance was complimented on many times by various members of the public.

Mr Cotter HoY 4

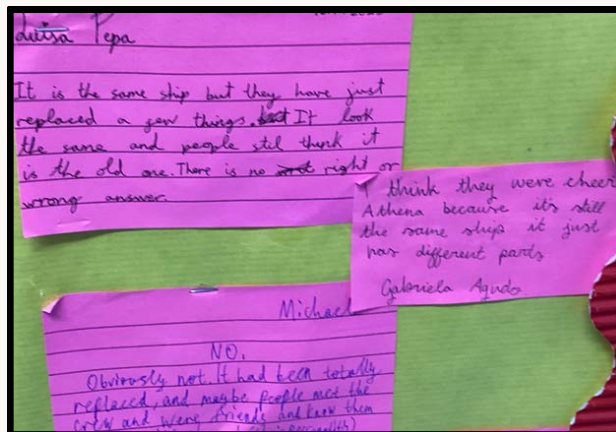
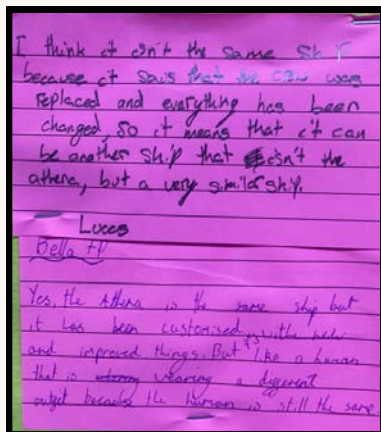


PSHE

PSHE gives us an opportunity to deliver a programme of learning through which the children in the Prep School acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to manage their lives. PSHE is taught under the umbrella of three main strands: Identity, which we are following at the moment; Kindness, in the Spring Term and finally, Curiosity, which is taught in the Summer Term. Students were asked to write their opinion on the following question on Identity.

Exercise one: identity. A new ship – let's call her the Athena – sets sail on a round-the-world trip, waved off by a huge crowd. As time goes by, each part of the ship is replaced: every nut, bolt and plank. Even the crew. When the Athena pulls back into port, the crowd cheer as vigorously as before. To them, she looks much the same. But are they cheering on the same ship? What makes the Athena the Athena?

Their answers are displayed on a board in the Prep School. Some of their answers are highlighted below.



Year 4 were tasked with designing a Community Centre with an emphasis on inclusivity. Many focused on rooms with a multi-purpose theme, some included the needs of disabled people whilst others considered including a well-being sanctuary with outdoor space. All were asked to take into account different needs and identities of the community.

Year 5 tackled the difficult subject of 'Conflict' followed by a lesson on 'Mediation'. These lessons are designed to give children strategies to work through and resolve arguments and disagreements.

Year 6 researched some of the UN Conventions for the Rights of Children. The focus was on democracy and how to treat people fairly. Additionally, we also examined listening to different point of view regarding a democratic society using some philosophy games. (P4C - Philosophy for Children).

Year 7 spent three weeks looking at Cyber Security focusing on potential problems with social media accounts and how to stay safe on the internet. The aim of these lessons is primarily safety online; however, we covered multiple examples of how mistakes can be made by clicking a hyperlink, spending money online and surfing the internet using public Wi-Fi.



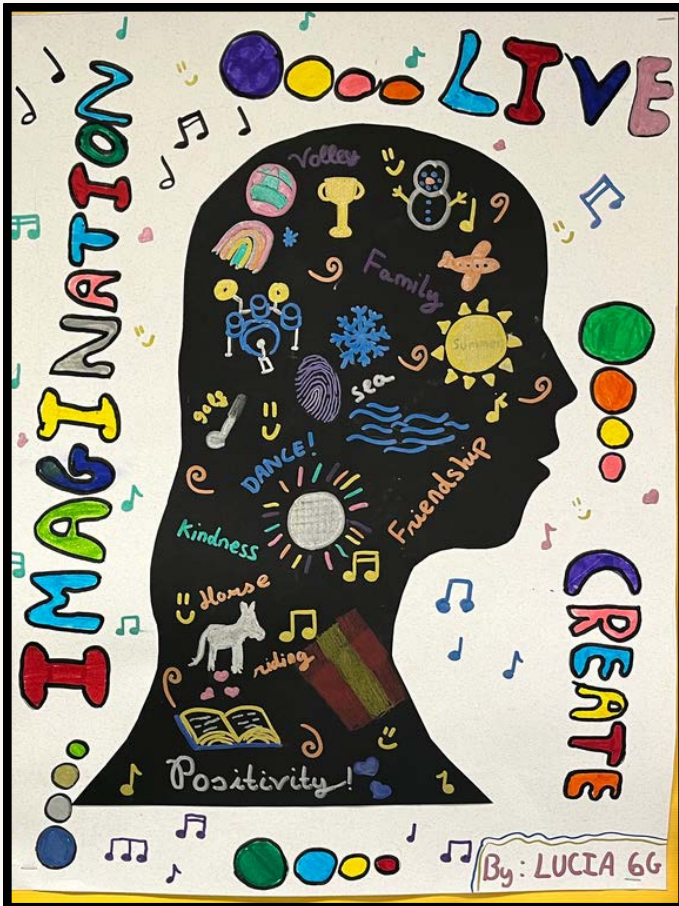
Identity Competition



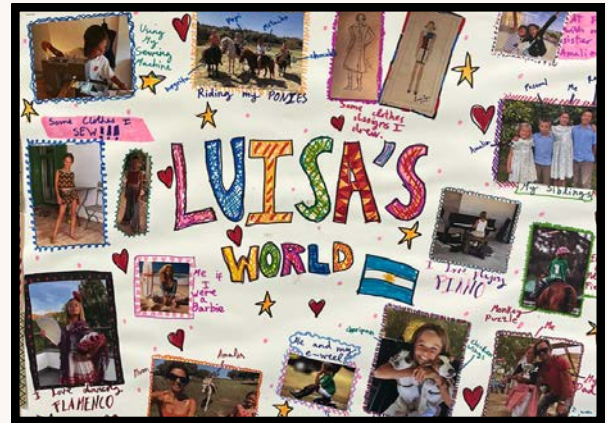
We have covered multiple topics using 'Identity' as our theme. Our 'Identity Competition' led by Ms Howe (Deputy Head Pastoral), received many amazing entries. Children were encouraged to promote their own likes, values and sense of self in poster format. It was incredibly difficult to choose winners; however, the three posters below we felt gave very different perceptions and they are displayed in the upper corridor of the Prep School. The winners are: Luisa 6P for the variety of images from family life to hobbies; Joaquín 4R, for his well-presented images of himself which is both eye-catching and creative and finally, the overall winner, Lucía 6G for her symbolic silhouette showing her inner identity. Thank you to everyone for your entries!

Ms Tucker

The Winners!



LUCIA 6G



LUISA 6P



JOAQUIN 4R



Sports

Cross Country

On Wednesday 11th October Alcobendas held host to one of the most prestigious events in its sporting calendar, the Runnymede Cross Country Competition!

Bright blue skies and a warm autumn sun made the perfect conditions for the morning as the children took their positions in their respective house teams. Despite the difficult course and a rather steep and hilly opening to the race, wave upon wave of red, yellow, blue and green stormed around the dusty lanes, as their house mates cheered them on. An electric atmosphere, real grit and determination and even a few broken course records made for an energising and fulfilling day of sports for our Prep-School children. We hope the thrill of the race will be enough to encourage children to continue on their athletic sporting endeavours with renewed vigour and determination.

Mr Cotter HoY 4



House Basketball

Playtimes during the 1st Term were marked by the Basketball Inter-House Tournament. Every day pupils play to make their best for their Houses, having fun and learning values through sport.

This tournament has given our pupils the chance to discover another sport and we are really happy to see pupils bringing basketball balls to play and practice for playtimes.

Pupils have learnt how to be kind and empathetic with rivals in winning times, and to play with the best spirit. We have learnt that after a match we need to give a true and honest handshake with the other team wishing them the best for next match.

Despite some matches being delayed by the rain, year groups have completed their matches with great pride. The final matches will be played after half term starting Monday 23rd! Thank you pupils for your participation and house spirit!

Dodgeball tournament incoming...

Mr Rodriguez

RESULTS!
YEAR 5 GIRLS
1ST LOCKE
2ND NEWTON

YEAR 5 BOYS
1ST AUSTEN
2ND NEWTON

YEAR 6 GIRLS
1ST AUSTEN
2ND LOCKE



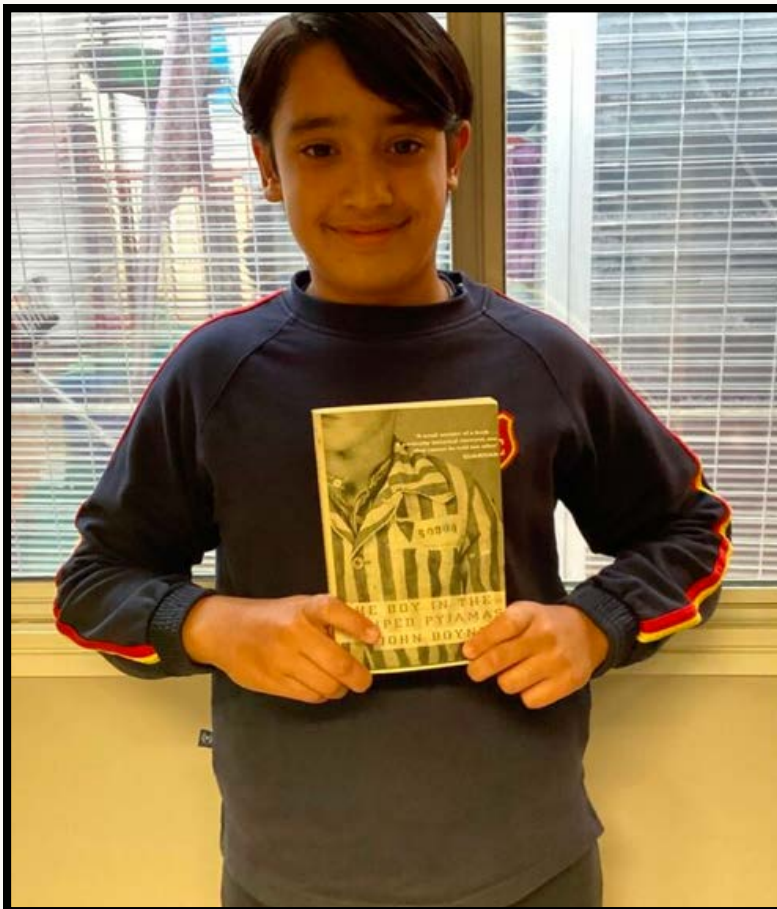
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Delight, Ornament, Ability

Learning!

Black History Month

Black History Month is a time of celebration, recognition and reflection. Black people from African and Caribbean communities have been an integral part of European history for centuries. Our education systems all too often forget to acknowledge this. This term Year 4 enjoyed undertaking their own independent research projects on an influential figure of their choice. Posters, booklets and digital presentations were created and presented to their classmates. With all manner of historical figures being considered, including, Naomi Campbell, Simone Biles, Juan Latino and Martin Luther King Jr, it's clear the children grasped the opportunity for independent research with both hands and really made it their own.

Mr Cotter HoY 4



Year 7 Book Reviews

In Assembly earlier this term, I chose to recommend to the whole of year 7 a book called: 'The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas' by John Aboyne. I chose to recommend this book because it is terrifying but very interesting at the same time. It takes place during the Holocaust and it is full of information about that time. I personally liked it because I enjoy reading books about World War 2 and how they treated the Jews. I found it inspiring to see how Bruno sacrificed his life with Shmuel.

Yash 7T



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Delight, Ornament, Ability

Assembly Performances

Violin
Carmen 7P



Singing
Miranda 6M

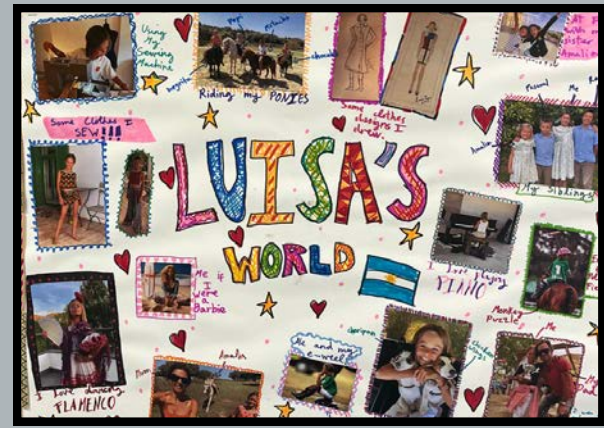


Piano
Cynthia 5F



Clarinet
Gabriel 7H





Have a wonderful half term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on the 6th November!