



Term 1 Newsletter

Welcome to our first newsletter of the school year. I hope you enjoy reading about the amazing activities and fabulous achievements at all our school sites.

Ms Morrison, Headteacher

The Leap



This term, we have started our mornings with a Create session. We have made lots of different slimes and we have enjoyed some messy play by getting our hands in shaving foam and water beads! We have really enjoyed different sensory activities. These sessions have helped us have a calm start to our day.

We have been taking part in weekly music lessons with our lovely visitor Charlotte. We have been learning how to play the ukulele and the keyboard. We have enjoyed exploring the different settings on the keyboard and finding out what sounds each key makes.



At The LEAP, we want all of our pupils to enjoy reading. We have created a reading space in our social area to remind our pupils how great reading can be! We also have comfy reading corners in both of our classrooms. We also have bought different magazines and even some Kindles to encourage our pupils to read.

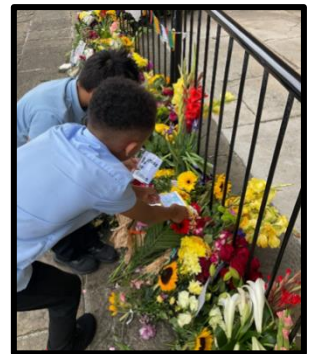


In our science lessons, we have been learning about the life cycles of plants. We have learnt about each part of a plant and how water is transported. We have grown beans and we have seen the roots and stem grow over time. Our pupils have shown great understanding of the role of each part of a plant. We have also planted cress indoors and outdoors!



The LEAP staff team worked really hard to prepare for an open evening to promote the provision to local schools. The school looked amazing and our visitors gave great feedback!

When our pupils heard about the death of Queen Elizabeth II, they wanted to remember her by leaving flowers and messages at Bristol Cathedral. We did some research and found out facts about her reign and her life. It was a great way of paying our respects to the Queen.



Brentry Bulletin

We have had a fantastic start to the new school year. The students have been engaged, enthusiastic and committed to their education, despite Covid blowing through the school yet again. We are really proud to have our first, timetabled DT lessons, in the John James funded new DT room and it is great to see students engaged in practical activities and producing simply stunning work. Happy half term.

This term has seen the opening of the DT workshop and everyone has got really stuck in using tools and machines – it has been great to watch students developing new skills in an unfamiliar setting. We have been really impressed with the maturity and skill that everyone has shown when using these new machines. Students have covered the basics of marking out, cutting, sanding, drilling and finishing processes and have used these skills to manufacture a wooden toy boat – next term we will use these skills to design and make our own design for a pull-along children's toy





Miss Z has been doing some great mentoring sessions to help our students wellbeing and improve their communication skills.

Students have really enjoyed making slime, focusing on their sensory needs. We discussed texture and how we respond to holding different things.



We made wooden birds in different colours and discussed how different colours make us feel. We then talked about what colour positive relationships would be, moods and how to respond to difficult situations in a more positive way.

Miss Suckley is now the main food teacher at Brentry and the food tech room has never looked better – her kitchen organisation skills are second to none! In food technology this term we have been cooking healthy eating takeaways – cheaper and better for your health! Popcorn chicken, lamb kebabs and Enchiladas have been particularly popular.



Fishponds Focus

There has been a very positive start to the new academic year. We have been busy welcoming in five new students and have also said goodbye to Makayla, who has settled in very well to her new school. Hopefully, she will be the first of many to successfully move on this year.

And great to see our ex-pupil SC this afternoon. She's at college and caught staff up with what's been going on for her and how she's getting on. We have such an impact on our pupils and we don't always get to hear their good news.



This term has seen some historic moments for the country being examined in our assemblies. The unexpected death of Queen Elizabeth II had a major impact on the country and caused some debate within the school. The history of the monarchy and the Queen's reign was examined and the number of facts that many of the students knew about the Queen was very impressive. They had obviously been paying close attention to the media.



Of equal importance was the return of **Black History Month**. Again, this has formed the basis of assemblies that look at the largely unpublicised role that black people have played in the history of the country. Often when we talk about Black history two topics come up... What are they?

Usually it's Slavery and Martin Luther King or Rosa Parks.

Of course these are important parts of history but this shows quite clearly just how limited our understanding of Black History is, in particular Black British History and the Black History on our doorstep. One of the unsung heroes that the students have been learning about is Mary Seacole. Everyone in primary school learns about Florence Nightingale but Mary Seacole is relatively unknown even though she was a pioneer in health care at the same time and place as Florence. Mary Seacole was a mixed race, British-Jamaican lady, who overcame racial prejudice to help others. She is most famous for travelling to the Crimea in 1855 to help care for soldiers wounded in the war. The soldiers even called her 'Mother Seacole'. In many ways she was the mother of modern nursing.



This term students have been studying crime fiction in English and even got to solve their own murder! Mr Quinn was tragically poisoned in the English room and the culprit was one of his own staff. Students worked through evidence packs, read interviews and matched up fingerprints to decide who they think committed the crime. They then wrote a formal report explaining their deductions.

The real question is: Which students worked out the real murderer?



Forensic Information.

The body was discovered in the English room at 18:00 hours.

Next to the body was a mug which we have analysed at the lab.

We found fingerprints both on the cup and around the body which you will find in your evidence packs.

We also found traces of the poison cyanide in the cup of water.

The time of death was between 17:15 hours and 17:45 hours.

