Southover Partnership Partnership EWSLLETTET

Dear Parents and carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. As we move into the Spring term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful events and achievements that have taken place at The Southover Partnership.

During Autumn 1, we celebrated Mental Health Week, a crucial time to raise awareness and promote positive mental well-being. Our students engaged in various activities and workshops, learning valuable strategies to support their mental health. It was heartwarming to witness the enthusiasm and participation from both staff and students alike.



Autumn 202<u>3</u>

In addition to Mental Health Week, we also observed World Food Day. This provided an opportunity for our students to explore different cultures and cuisines from around the world. They enjoyed tasting a wide range of delicious dishes and learning about the importance of sustainable and healthy eating habits.

Moving on to Autumn 2, our students showcased their creativity and literary skills through a Halloween ghost story writing competition. The entries were truly captivating, and it was a pleasure to read such imaginative and spine-chilling tales. We were also delighted to host a series of exams and careers-related workshops, equipping our students with the necessary skills and knowledge for their future endeavours.

As part of our 'literal' commitment to student voice, we held the Southover Voiceover competition. This platform allowed our students to record themselves and become the voice of Southover when people ring the answerphone. We believe in the importance of fostering a strong pupil voice within our institution.

I would like to express my gratitude to Natalie, our dedicated parent trustee, for organising a gettogether for parents during autumn 1. It was a pleasure to speak with you all about the school's development and establish a WhatsApp group for improved communication. Furthermore, Leah. our Occupational Therapist delivered a highly informative training session on sleep, ensuring that parents have access to valuable resources to support their child's well-being.

We now also have a parent WhatsApp Group! The purpose of the group is to create a platform for parents to communicate with each other. If anyone here would like to join, please click on the link: https://chat.whatsapp.com/16Pacsvo9f9GOELX48LzWl

Lastly, I would like to commend our students and staff for their unwavering commitment and hard work throughout this term. Their dedication to academic excellence and personal growth is truly inspiring. I eagerly anticipate the upcoming term and the continued success of our school community.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Warm regards,

Kief Ho



A Message From Jonathan

I hope you are all ready for the lovely Festive break that is approaching. It has been a typical busy term in which the students have great shown development and progress. At the end of term it can be beneficial for the students to look back and see the progress that they have made this term.

We have been joined by some new students who have made their mark and become part of the team already. Sergio was elected to represent the student voice earlier this half term, after a decision making process that was of a high standard. The candidates were of a particularly high standard with excellent manifestos, and all the school was involved in the decision making and the organisation of this event.

Another new student making her mark has been Noa, who despite being in the school for a brief time managed to get enough support for her punchbag idea, that she was the winner of the prestigious Jack Petchey award. Noa has delighted all at Hutton Grove with her sociability and willingness to be in the middle of everything that goes on here.

We understand the difficulties that some students have had this term, and we have not seen as many of students as we would consistently like to see them. Despite hybrid learning, using Teams and other such methods, it does not give the same depth of learning that face to face lessons have. I really hope that we have more students attending regularly next term.

We dressed up and baked for Children in Need, made our annual trip to Stanborough Lakes, and rounded off the term by bouncing at the trampoline park, in a very enjoyable day out that was enjoyed by all.

I'm sure you'd like to join me in thanking all the staff for working so had to educate and look after our students. I look forward to seeing you all fully refreshed and raring to go in the New Year. I hope all our learners take the time to rest and relax for another busy half-term.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Jonathan



A Message From Naila

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and looking forward to this well-earned break.

As we approach the end of the term, it is with great pleasure that I reflect on the productive term we've experienced at SPS.

The start of the new term was marked by a warm welcome to our new students who have integrated remarkably into our school community. It's a delight to see them adapting so well to their new environment.

Our students' remarkable success in their exams deserves special recognition. Their hard work and dedication have truly paid off, setting an exemplary standard for their peers.

This term was also packed with engaging activities. Our memorable trip to Stanborough Lakes stands out as a day of great fun and learning experiences we strive to provide, fostering a strong sense of community among our students.

I would like to say how immensely proud I am of our school's successful fundraising initiative for Children in Need. The generosity displayed by students, staff, and yourselves, the parents and carers, is truly commendable. A special mention must go to Ruby, whose baking skills earned her the title of 'Best Cake' in our fundraising efforts.

Our school's voiceover competition was a unique opportunity for students to showcase their talents. A huge congratulations to Isla for being one of the winners. This initiative is a great example of how we strive to provide diverse and engaging opportunities for our students.

Our focus on career advice this term, facilitated by external speakers, has been invaluable. I extend my gratitude to Anna Vermond, our Deputy Senco and Careers Lead, for organising these informative sessions. These efforts play a crucial role in preparing our students for future success.

As this term comes to a close, my heart is full of gratitude for our fantastic students, our amazing and dedicated staff without whom none of the above would be possible, and you, the parents and carers, for your unwavering support. Your involvement is a vital part of our school's success.

Looking ahead to the Christmas break, I wish you all a joyous and restful time with your loved ones. May the New Year be filled with happiness, success, and growth for our entire SPS family.

Thank you once again for all your support. Here's to a prosperous and fulfilling 2024!

Warm regards,

Naila Khan

A Message From Aous



Dear parents and carers,

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits! As we near the end of another eventful term, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the recent developments at The Southover Partnership and share our plans for the future.

First and foremost, I am delighted to inform you that our school community continues to grow; we have welcomed new students this term, and it has been a pleasure to witness the diversity and energy they bring to our school. I am immensely proud of our existing students who have been exceptionally welcoming and inclusive to their new classmates. This demonstrates the strong sense of community that we have worked hard to foster here at The Southover Partnership.

With the influx of new students, we have also implemented some school changes to ensure that we are able to provide the best possible education and support to all our learners. One significant change is the introduction of our new school model, which aims to enhance the learning experience for our students. We continue to expand our teaching staff and further refine our curriculum to cater to the unique needs and abilities of every student. This approach will enable us to provide a truly inclusive education that empowers our students to reach their full potential.

Of course, as with any new initiative, we have faced our fair share of challenges. Adapting to the new school model has required a considerable amount of planning and coordination, but I am pleased to say that our dedicated staff have risen to the occasion admirably. Their commitment and hard work have ensured that our students continue to receive a high-quality education despite the difficulties we have faced. This would not have been possible without the unwavering support of all our parents, and for that, I extend my heartfelt gratitude.

As we look ahead to the new year, we are filled with optimism and enthusiasm. Our goal is to build upon the successes of this term and continue to provide an exceptional educational experience for all our students. We will focus on further refining our school model, ensuring that it meets the evolving needs of our learners. We are committed to fostering an environment where every student feels valued, supported, and motivated to excel.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to each and every one of you for your continued trust and support. The Southover Partnership is not just a school; it is a vibrant and caring community where we work together to nurture the potential of every child. I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved thus far, and I am excited about what we will accomplish in the future.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable Christmas break.

Warmest regards,

Aous Mubarak.





We had a great time at Stanborough Lakes. We went kayaking and paddleboarding and played fun games.





Author Event

I am pleased to announce that we held our first ever whole school author event and it was a great success! We had the pleasure of meeting Darren Shan, best known for his young adult fiction series' The Saga of Darren Shan, The Demonata, and Zom-B.

Many of our students at KS3 will read, or have read, his first book in The Saga series, Cirque Du Freak (it was also released as a film in 2009). Darren was 17 when he published his first novel!

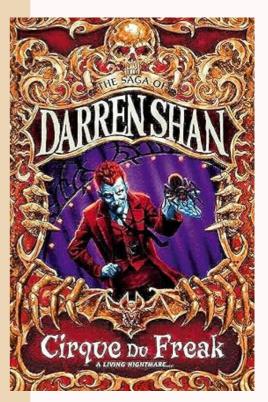
Students were invited to listen to a live reading followed by a Q&A session. We hope that this will be the first of many such events!

Anita Forde (Head Of English)

The chilling Saga of Darren Shan, the ordinary schoolboy plunged into the vampire world.

Darren goes to a banned freak show with his best mate, Steve. It's the wonderfully gothic Cirque Du Freak where weird, frightening half human/half animals appear who interact terrifyingly with the audience. Darren – a spider freak – 'falls in love' with Madam Octa – an enormous tarantala owned by Mr Crepsley. Darren determines to steal the spider so that he can train it to perform amazing deeds. But his daring theft goes horribly wrong and Darren finds himself having to make a bargain with a creature of the night.

Something out of the ordinary is set against the background of children's normal lives to chilling effect. Atmospheric, funny, realistic, moving and... terrifying.



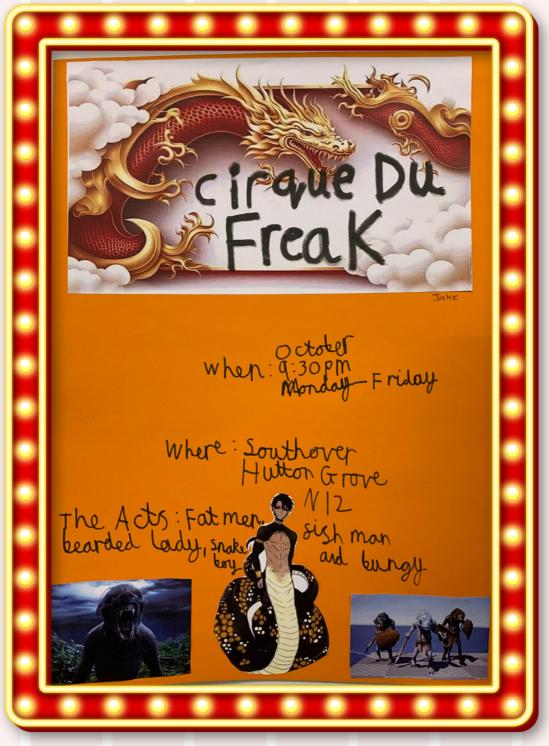


English



LO: Using Features of a Flyer

Jake has been reading Cirque Du Freak by Darren Shan. It tells the story of a boy and his friend who visit a travelling circus of freaks! Jake has tried to recreate the secret, enticing flyer...





Portraiture





by Noa



by Tia

by Noa

Occupational Therapy at The Southover Partnership

Dear parents, carers and pupils,

Ah yes... those children's hand clapping games of lore...

Parents and carers, you have probably experienced or seen children playing hand clapping games when you attended school... Children and teenagers nowadays are often playing digital games on electronic devices in favour of 'old-fashioned' hand clapping games.



Whilst video games have developmental benefits (yes they do, particularly with regards manual dexterity and visual attention) they also have disadvantages including a sedentary lifestyle, diminished gross motor movement, limited social participation, and less opportunity for enjoying the effects of fresh air and nature. As such, we need to try incorporating these latter elements in promoting healthy development.

At school we have started implementing a twice-weekly physical activity circuit with some good music in order to encourage pupils to start their day with a daily boost of positive neurochemicals, strength training and aerobic exercise, which increase oxygen and blood-flow to their brains. Perfect for learning!

To extend this further, we will be starting a lunchtime activity group in January where we will be learning hand clapping rhythms to music, giving our brain a workout in motor coordination, attention, memory, and timing. The group will also encourage social participation and 'community' spirit as each member plays a role in creating the beat to the songs. This brain workout will be the adolescent version of children's hand clapping games, which will hopefully be meaningful to our pupils.

If your child would like to get a head-start on learning a rhythm, ask them to practice the hand-cup sequence of the 'cup song' (- 'when I'm gone') by Anna Kendrick from the movie 'Pitch Perfect'. To make the activity easier at first, they can learn the sequence to a slowed-down version of the song and gradually speed up the song. They can also learn the sequence by practicing part of the sequence first, before progressing to the full sequence. I find that a paper coffee cup works best for the purpose of the 'cup song', as it has a good balance of sound and weight.

Invite family members to join in with the game and have fun!!

Have a lovely winter break.

Leah Shainfeld

HCPC-registered Occupational Therapist



Student Voice





We went ahead by putting posters on the wall, and no names, so that no one was biased. We didn't tell anyone the names! The posters had multiple things on that people suggested could happen after they got elected school council rep. From there, students and teachers could vote for a councillor but didn't know the names, just what they wanted to implement.

We put voting slips into a ballot box that Tia made and each candidate was numbered not named. Then the votes were counted and I succeeded! That's my depiction of what happened when I was elected.

By Sergio (Student Voice Rep, HG)



Photography







Speech and Language Therapy at The Southover Partnership



Who I am?

My name is Nicole, and I am a Specialist Speech and Language Therapist with experience working with individuals with Special Educational Needs and Social Emotional Mental Health needs.

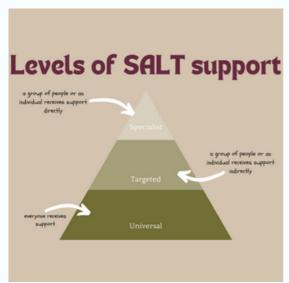
I work full time, across all three school sites as well as supporting outreach services. This is allowing me to get to know all the students and staff within the Southover Partnership community.

What will SALT support look like?

Universal support is available to all and focusses on addressing general needs or prevention. It includes educating parents/carers, other professionals, and education staff to facilitate support for the individuals with special educational needs. Universal provision includes but is not limited to; training the team around the young person, promoting communication friendly environments, and giving advice.

Targeted support includes interventions delivered in collaboration with others. Therapists or will model therapy and train others to implement the therapy programs according to the individual's needs. Therapy assistants, parents and education staff are provided with relevant training, advice, and resources from the therapist.

Specialist support is available to individuals whose needs cannot be met through universal and targeted provisions. At this level, the therapist will provide direct and/or individualised intervention pathways. Provision of this level includes but is not limited to; advice, episodes of care of highly specific interventions and specialist packages to support educational settings.



What's coming next?

It has been lovely meeting the staff and students across all three sites so far.

The SALT services will continue to expand by providing staff advice strategies, training, and specialist knowledge to enable them to further support the students. Face to face and online contact will be available to students who the school has identify require the support.

LO: To write a creative spooky story for Halloween.

The Wicked Witch of Primark

By Sadie Yr10

It is a dark thundery night, and it is Sam's first night working at the shopping centre. As Sam walks past Primark, he hears a noise and the wicked witch appears. The witch tells Sam that she wants a good t-shirt. Sam is terrified and begins to search all of Primark.

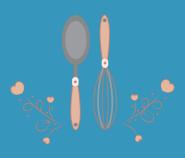
Sam finds lots of different t-shirts, but the witch is not happy with any of them. The witch gets very mad and begins to chase Sam around the shop. Sam is terrified and runs as fast as he can. Sam is not looking where he is going and crashes into a dummy. The witch catches up with him and with fear Sam holds up the dummy. The witch sees a dummy wearing a t-shirt with a cute black cat on.

The witch has a massive smile on her face. The witch asks for the t-shirt and pays for it. The witch likes the t-shirt. As Sam is going home after a long night's work, he hears a loud laugh and looks up into the sky. He sees the witch on her broomstick flying home wearing her new cat t-shirt.





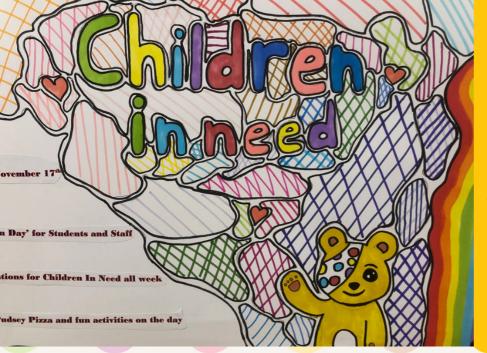






SPS had lots of fun activities for children in need. The best part was holding a 'Spotacular Bake Off' at lunchtime. Each item was tasted and marked for appearance, texture and taste. The winner was........... Ruby, who scored the highest in ALL categories for her amazing Victoria sponge cake! Omid came a close second for his delicious chocolate cupcakes! We raised a massive £60, well done everyone!





Your support means that Children in Need can be there for children and young people right across the UK, helping them to be the best they can be. This includes supporting children & young people living in poverty, providing emergency support to families in crisis, providing comfort to children feeling sad, lost and alone, helping children overcome social injustice and supporting children to feel safe and secure again.



Jake made LOADS of Pudsey Pizzas!







Noa designed the pizza box

Nen-School Uniform Day





Hutton Grove had a 'wear a uniform to school' day!



4th December 2023 Louie - WL2 Functional Skills SPS



LO: To write an account using discourse markers and direct address

On Friday the 17th of November, a representative of the ASK apprenticeship team visited my school to deliver a presentation on apprenticeships.

To begin, she asked questions to find out how confident we were in our knowledge of apprenticeships.

Secondly, she presented the range of apprentice job roles available and the different grades you will need for the level you want to start at. Do you know how many different types of industries offer apprenticeships now? Well, you might be surprised at the variety of jobs you can do. From learning bricklaying to learning how to become a teaching assistant, or even a dental nurse.

Next, the woman gave us a true or false quiz. This quiz improved my understanding of apprenticeships. For example, did you know you get paid whilst doing an apprenticeship?

She proceeded to present to us the wages of different jobs which provided me with a good understanding of how much you get paid in different industries.

After she had shown us different ways to search for a suitable apprenticeship and career starting guides, she then showed us how to apply for an apprenticeship on the government website.

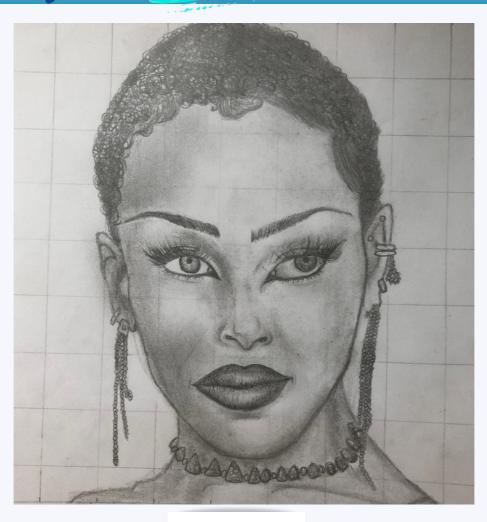
This talk was very useful and helped me have a better insight into what apprenticeships are.

By Louie, Year 13

ACT.







by Tia



by Adam

LO: To write a persuasive speech about a topic you are passionate about

Vote for Carlo

My name is Carlo Jenks. I am running to become the Student Voice Representative. Today, I will give you some reasons to vote for me.

This school has had a lack of student representation for quite some time now and I can't stand it anymore! If I am taken on as the Student Representative, I will install a suggestion box and I will fight for all suggestions within reason.

Have you found yourselves bored during lunch or break with nothing to do? I aim to fix that. My first action as Student Representative will be to push for more exercise equipment to be used during the breaks. As well as this, I will propose shortened lessons leading to increased lunch breaks, this will also increase the time one can spend in clubs.

I will also push to implement more wanted clubs for lunchtime use while also removing the old clubs that are found to be unpopular or "cringe".

I will also provide entertaining books (manga) that two students, as well as myself, like.

I implore you to visit your ballet box and vote for the representative you deserve. Thank you for taking the time to listen to this speech.

By Carlo, Year 12



Science

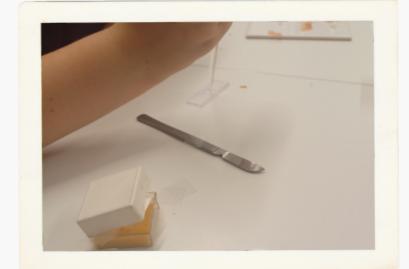


Onion Skin Experiment

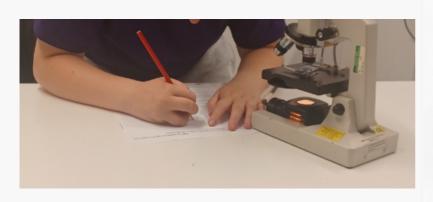
- 1.Cut the onion
- 2.Peel off a piece of skin
- 3.Put on slide



4.Add water and dye5.Add cover slip



- 6.Look under microscope
- 7. Draw what you see







LO: To write a piece of creative writing using adjectives, metaphor, and simile

Ocho's Grand Adventure





ho Bibb

Hello, my name is Ocho. I live on planet Zeeee. Sorry, I am currently having my flavoured paint for lunch. It tastes of blueberries, sawdust and camembert cheese. One day, when I was having my lunch, I suddenly became as thirsty as a beached whale. So, I went to the kitchen to grab a cup of water when Bibbles, my neighbour, angrily broke down my door like a hungry lion. He is very, very jealous of my paint!

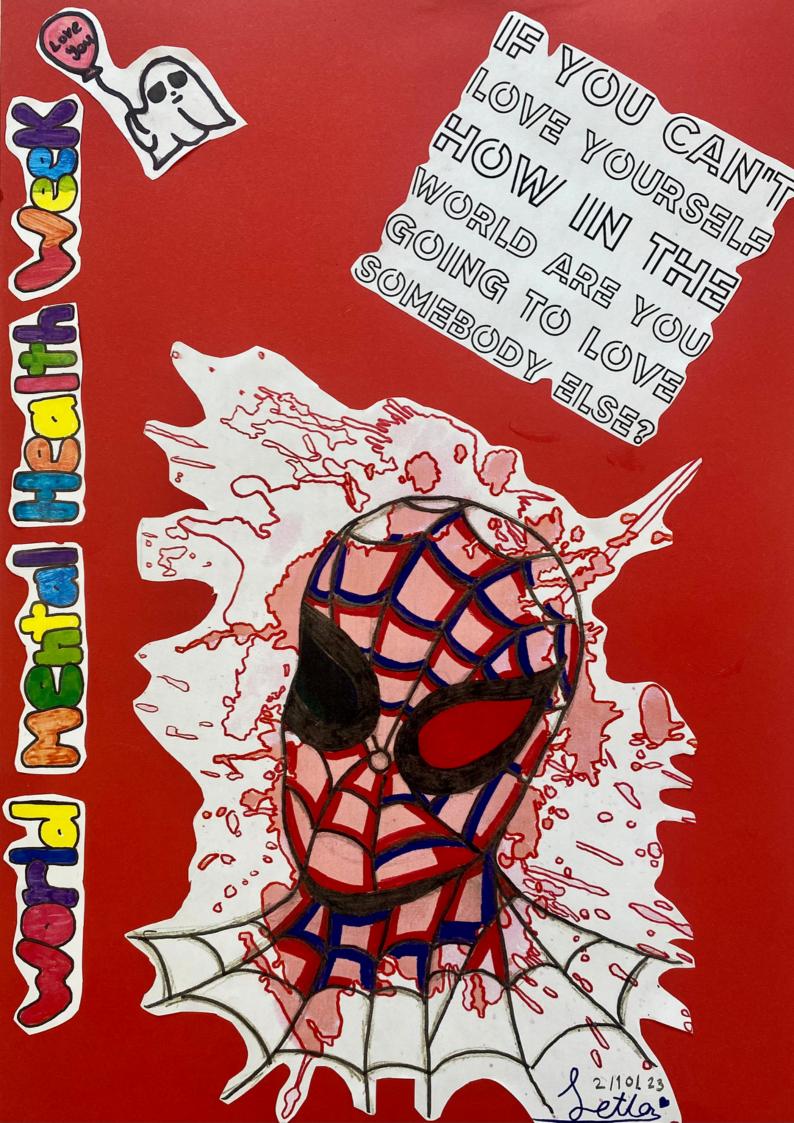
Then Bibbles tried to take my paint so I grabbed him before he could run away. He dropped my paint and I gasped. My eyes started glowing red like a volcano. I pushed him and he fell to the floor. Bibbles stopped me and said, "I smell burning!" I forgot I was cooking some paint and left the oven on...

The house was on fire!

Bibbles asked, "Why don't you come and stay with me at my house?"

I said, "Now Bibbles, we do not get along." But he forced me to go and so I did. I arrived at Bibbles' place and oh boy, was it clean. We now live happily together and even though we had that fight, we are now best friends.

By Ruby, Year 7





LO: To write a persuasive speech about a topic you are passionate about.

Why XL Bullies Should Not Be Banned

How would you feel if someone said your pet is going to be banned? The government is trying to ban XL bullies because they view them to be dangerous and vicious beasts. I think the reason why some XL bullies are vicious are because of the way the owners treat them. However, some XL bullies are nice, loving household pets, and it is not fair on them. The creator of the XL bully Dave Wilson has said, "We started to create a dog with a very low docile temperament.

The ultimate companion breed." This proves that these dogs were bred to be a nice dog.

By Casey Yr 11



This year's student winner is Louie.

Louie's peers chose him to win this award due to his dedication to his educational development. This is evident by his constant attendance not only to his academic lessons in school, but his work experience in a garage where he is honing and developing his skills as a mechanic. Louie is showing great resilience and determination in all aspects of his education and everyone at Southover cannot wait to see him reach his full potential and are confident that he can go and achieve great things in whatever field he decides to work in. Well done Louie and keep up the great work!

Louie decided to spend the £300.00 on a Smart TV and an Amazon fire stick which will be used for film club. He then used the remainder of the money for a pizza party at lunchtime with everyone.





This term we were allowed to introduce a leader award and celebrate a member of staff who deserves to be appreciated for all the hard work they have done for Southover.

This term we nominated Dany Smith, Maths and Science teacher at SPS.

"Dany has worked at Southover Partnership for over 20 years and throughout this time she has consistently put the needs of the students at the forefront of her commitments.

She always makes time for the students and participates in group activities. She is forever encouraging the students to join in and engage in activities. Dany values each individual in their own right and shows respect of their needs and wishes. She is a positive presence for all and has the patience of a Saint. Dany has earnt the respect of everyone across the school with her infectious personality."

Dany has £1000.00 to spend at Southover and we cannot wait to see what she decides to use it on.

All winners will attend a celebration evening next year where they will be celebrated for their achievements. They will be joined by their families and peers and will receive a certificate.

Thank you to Sam for organising the Jack Petchey awards for SPS.



Art





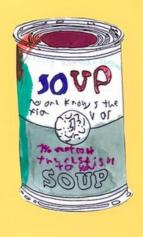




















Artwork by Jake and Sergio

f your time. Tal

English

most of your tip

Objective: Write an imaginative story from a specific stimulus.





A Zombie Apocalypse

2024. I have been alive with some newfound friends hoping for survival. It all started with a crash not a cool plane crash... a window. I woke up and looked around a shouted SAMANTHA... no response I go to the living room and see my dead wife and a man just standing there not facing me. I shout I will call the cops... no response. All of a sudden the man jumped up and started walking quickly towards me. With his eye missing and blood all over his face I had no clue what to do but throw a mean uppercut. It got him down but he just started crawling. I knew this was no human so I stomped his head.

I forgot about my wife, then looking at her body I began to cry when all of a sudden my wife started twitching and... cracking? I went to the kitchen to get a frying pan and I looked back and Samantha was just standing there... I knew that she was dead because she had her lower jaw missing and glass shards in her face. I was so startled I hit her in the face with the pan so hard her head had blood all over but she didn't scream. Out of nowhere she just jumped at me and missed hitting the ground. I had no choice but to run I couldn't just kill my wife.

20 minutes later. I saw zombies all in the streets just like a horror film. with no choice I went through an open door. No zombies... whoever was here left like me wandering around to find an unopened can of Diet Coke, now I prefer Pepsi but I still wanted a drink so I downed it and saw a fire axe on the wall. No hesitation I grabbed it and finished the coke. Sugar rush through my body I was ready... prepared for this new world when I saw the table. A dead kid was there. I saw a knife in his head and a backpack. I knew I would need those things so with no other choice I grabbed em. I had heard that a knife was one of the most useful survival tools, so I grabbed a cup of Raman noodle from the house I was in and set off ready to go looking outside. I just watched. Some zombies were like I've never seen in movies. Their blood clotted into crystals near some small open bits if you looked closely... interesting. After managing to leave with only needing to kill 3 zombies, I managed to get to a forest I mean not like people would die here right? With no other options I went in. 3 hours later I was wandering, my stomach rumbling like an avalanche so I brought out ma grub and snacked... much better. 1 hour later I pull off a branch. 20 minutes later I use the knife to carve a spear and 10 minutes after that I found a tent. I pray there are no zombies in my head and Hail Mary...

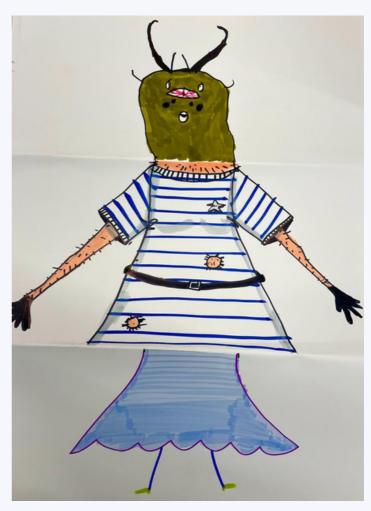
"Hello? Any one there?" a voice said, I responded with a subtle thing... OH MY GOD SURVIVORS. A guy came out and hugged me. I asked, "Anyone with you?" as I say that 2 other fellas and some girl come out and wave... the guy lets go and brings me in the tent and gives me an intro. "This is Joel, Sandy and Thomas." I say "I'm Dwayne and you are?" "Sam", he says. I hand him my spear as a gift and show him my axe and knife. Sam says nice kit as Thomas pulls out a 30-call revolver and shakes a pack of 60 bullets I gasp... and that brings me here where I am carving some clubs and spears for the crew.

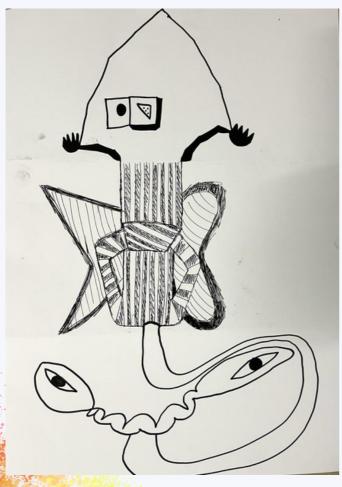
Trip to Jump In

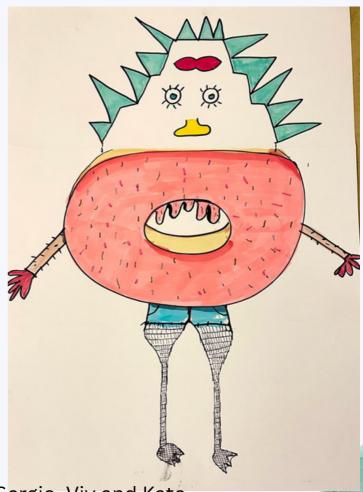


Art





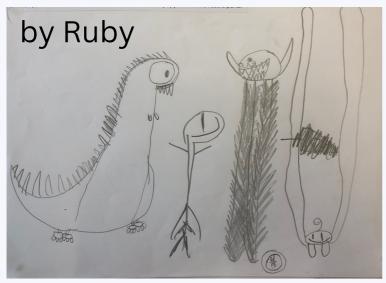


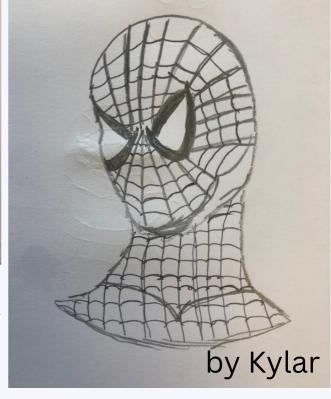


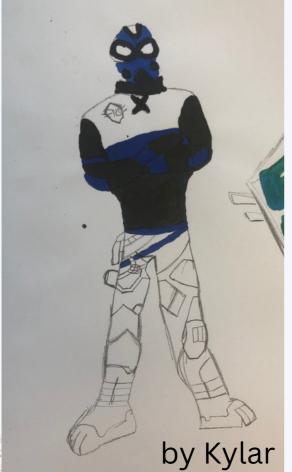
Artwork by Jake, Sergio, Viv and Kate



Character Design





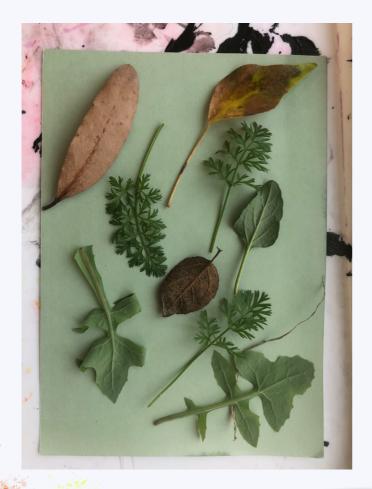






Photography

A **cyanotype** is a monochrome print or image made by placing objects on a pre-prepared light-sensitive surface. Cyanotypes are one of the oldest photographic printing processes in the history of photography. The distinctive feature of the print is its shade of cyan blue, which results from its exposure to ultraviolet light. When the blue print emerged, cyanotypes were traditionally used for reproducing the technical drawings of architects and engineers until the arrival of photocopy machines. However, with its versatility and affordability, the technique was adopted by photographers soon after its discovery.

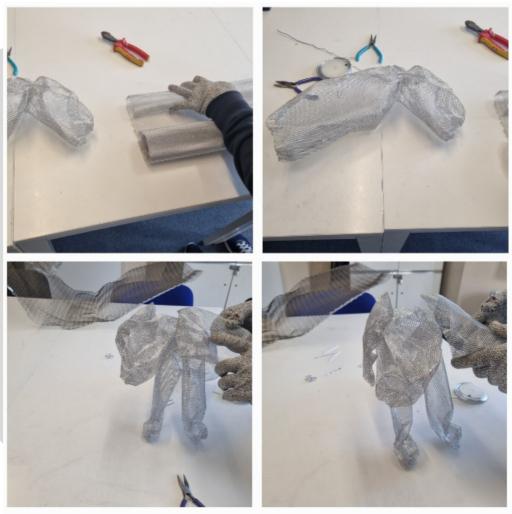




Photography



Design & Technology



Making a Wire Dog

We started off with the head and the body. We cut a massive amount of wire to mold the body, then squeezed a certain part of the wire to make the neck. We used some pegs we made to hold the wire, so it doesn't unfold itself. I love it.

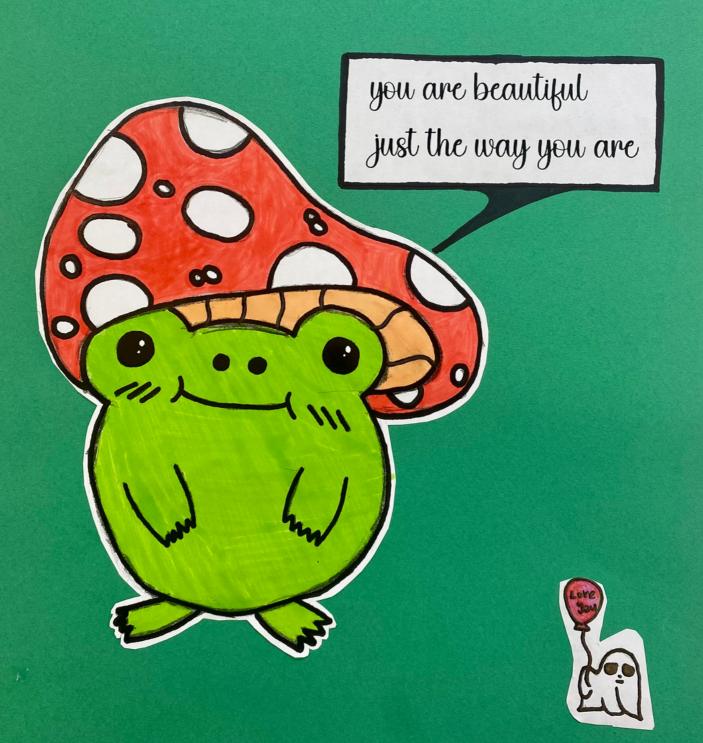
By Krisy



Photography



CONTRACTOR OF THE STATE OF THE









Christmas lunch at SPS was delicious! We had a Christmas themed quiz, Christmas music and crackers.





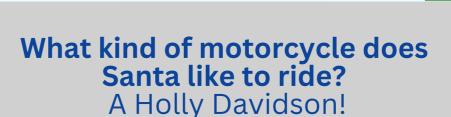
What did the stamp say to the Christmas card?
Stick with me and we'll go places!

What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations?
Tinsil-itis!

What is every parent's favourite Christmas carol?

Silent Night

Why don't you ever see Santa in the hospital?
Because he has private elf care!





What did one snowman say to the other snowman?

Do you smell carrots?



Important Dates

Spring term - Monday 8th January - Friday 9th February 2024

Monday 8th January 2023: INSET day (No students in school)

Tuesday 9th January 2024: Learning Review meetings (Students attend a 20-minute meeting with Parent/Carer)

Wednesday 10th January 2024: Teaching commences.

Half-term - Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February 2024



Have a lovely break! See you in 2024