### Maths

#### Aristotle

Aristotle have had a fantastic term in Maths with all students showing determination and a flair for problem solving. We have powered through many topics including perimeter, area, volume, symmetry, time and angles. Using jelly, students proved that the volume of liquid from the instructions matched the volume of jelly in the container. I was particularly impressed with students making a symmetrical butterfly using quadrilateral shapes.

#### Socrates

This term we have been thinking all about measure. Students have been very hands on using different equipment to measure different objects. We started off with measuring length and height—students were using tape measures and recording in cm and mm. We then moved on to measuring capacity, students have read the scales on measuring cylinders and jugs to record how much liquid the different containers hold. Next, we moved onto weight, students used the kitchen scales to find objects that weighed different amounts and recorded using kilograms and grams. Students have compared the different measurements and completed word problems involving measures.

### Science

### Socrates

In Science, Socrates have been exploring the world of Materials and Recycling. Students now know many properties of everyday materials. They can categorise everyday items based on their characteristics. They have been working on literacy within Science with spelling tests and building sentences. We have discussed the effects of plastics on the environment and made eye catching posters to display this message. In the last weeks of term, students are partaking in the "Egg Drop Challenge" to use their new knowledge of materials to protect an egg from a nasty fall.

#### Aristotle

This term, Aristotle have been working through knowledge and techniques used in Forensic Science. They have used chromatography to analyse unknown chemicals, used graphology to analyse handwriting, used microscopes to study hair and fibre samples and also looked at how to send covert messages. Using this learning, students worked on a school mystery in which an unknown chemical was spilled by an unknown teacher. Using evidence at the scene all students worked out what the chemical was and who did it. This was really impressive.

# Skills for Living and Work.

In Monday's sessions students have now completed the unit 'Applying for Jobs or Courses'. Students have learned various new skills from, identifying appropriate clothing to wear for an interview to understanding styles of interview questions and how to answer appropriately.

On Fridays the students have started to access the 'Volunteering' unit. This unit consists of understanding what the role of a volunteer is and how to identify roles in the local community. As part of this unit we have looked at local charities and have used a local map of Longton town to identify where charity shops are and how to apply to volunteer.

### Cooking

The kitchen this term has been extremely busy with lots of cooking and, of course, tasting.

We have continued to promote good hygiene practices and looked at risks in the kitchen at home and in the workplace. Students have made some fantastic bakes this term - brownies, banana bread, lemon drizzle cakes and lots more we hope you have tried and enjoyed all of these.

Towards the end of term, the students prepared and made lunch for the school they made healthy chicken burgers which went down a treat!

Next term we will be looking at cooking methods.



## **English**

#### Socrates -

This term we have been learning about the different genres of text. The students have accessed the library to look at all the different genres and have chosen a text based on their interests. Within lessons students have learnt the difference between fiction and non-fiction texts and created their own non-fiction PowerPoint. Students have also looked at features of newspaper reports and have explored different sources of news around the world. Students have also read some diary entries and have established writing features within them, for example, first person, past tense and informal language. Students then used these skills to write their own diary entries.

#### Aristotle-

This term we have had some new recruits to the Aristotle group, which has been exciting. The groups have been reading a variety of different texts and looking at their features. They have translated this knowledge to their own writing and completed some excellent autobiographies. Their spelling, punctuation and grammar skills have improved so much that they are now inputting this knowledge to their own writing. I have been impressed by the improvements in their writing.

Next term we will be studying William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet and comparing it with the modern version—West Side Story

## Humanities

This term we have been thinking all about our own lives and the lives of our families. We have been thinking about how our life is different today than when our grandparents were children. Students have also identified what information is included in family trees and filled in their own for their immediate family. We then moved on to looking at the four countries that make up the UK, students located the capital cities of each country too. Students then located Stoke-on-Trent on Google maps and then found some shops local to the school.



## I.C.T

#### Socrates - ICT

This term the students have been thinking about technology in the home and working on their presentation skills. Students have thought carefully about what technology they have in their home and learnt the difference between information technology and technology. The students have worked hard to produce a PowerPoint all about Easter. The students had to plan what information they would like to include in their PowerPoint and then used this to bring it to life. We have been thinking about how we can make our PowerPoints more engaging, the students have changed the background, made font sizes larger, added images and some have even added sound!

#### Aristotle - ICT

The term we have been learning all about mobile IT devices. The students have learnt how to set up a mobile device, they have had to follow on screen instruction and fill in the information required. Students were then challenged to input some mock up contacts on the device. Once they had done this they then had to retrieve information about the contacts using the search tool. Students have listed the safety features of mobile devices and understand how to keep information private.

## P.E

This term we started off with playing tennis. The students practiced their hand-eye coordination skills. Students learnt how to serve and where to aim the ball when serving.

Students learnt the basic rules of tennis and how to score a match. After half term we then played badminton, this seems to be a favourite amongst the students. The students remembered the rules of badminton and how to score points using tactics they had previously learnt.



## Visual Arts

During this term, Aristotle have completed the previous topic of Printmaking and have now started a new unit 'Sculpting'. So far, we have identified the properties of various materials, why some materials are used in sculpture and why some are not.

Students have been introduced to basic sculpting tools and techniques and are currently planning their ideas to create their very own sculpture.







Socrates have been working with a local community project called Urban Wilderness CIC. So far, students have designed and created props for the Longton Carnival, Pig Walk Parade. The headdresses made by the students will be within the Ainsley part of the parade, celebrating Longton's local heritage. For further information on this event or on other activities Urban Wilderness off please see their website urbanwildernesscic.com









Socrates will access the Sculpting unit after the Easter break.



## School Links

Some of our students are taking part in school links courses at both Burlsem College and Cauldon College. Mechanics, Construction and Gaming Media are all being accessed.

Students are enjoying their time at college, with brilliant work being produced!

Exam Date Reminders for year 11s-

23rd May-Maths-12.00

24th May-Reading 12.00

25th May-Writing 12.00

26th May — Speech, Language and Communication 12.00

### Parent Group-

Parent group begins again after Easter Half term at 11.15am at Intuition School.

For more information contact: Emma or Sue on 07305673869



## Attendance

We have recently updated our Attendance Policy (Feb 2023) so please familiarise yourselves with the processes that the school will use in order to monitor Attendance. Having met with our Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) we feel that the school monitors attendance inline with Local Authority guidance effectively. If your child is unwell frequently we can offer you a referral to the School Nurse service. If your child needs to attend a medical appointment please try to schedule these outside of school hours, however, if this is impossible please provide the school copies of your appointment letters.

| Attendance during one school year | Equals this number of days absent | Which is<br>approximately this<br>many weeks absent | Which means this<br>number of lessons<br>missed |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 95%                               | 9 days                            | 2 weeks   | 50 lessons                                      |
| 90%                               | 19 days                           | 4 weeks   | 100 lessons                                     |
| 85%                               | 29 days                           | 6 weeks   | 150 lessons                                     |
| 80%                               | 38 days                           | 8 weeks   | 200 lessons                                     |

\* If your child is unwell with sickness and/or diarrhoea, please allow 48 hours after the last occurrence, until their return to school. \*

# Upcoming Dates for your Diary

Last day of term – Friday 31st March 2023

Inset day – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Inset day – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023

School reopens for students -Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

May Day – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023. School closed– bank holiday

Monday 8th May 2023 School Closed –bank holiday

Last day of Term – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

School reopens – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

We wish you all a happy Easter and look forward to seeing you in the new term!

