

Ancora House School Newsletter

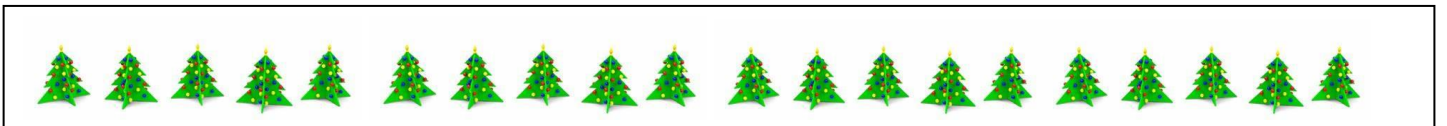
'Building resilience for future success'
Autumn Term 2022



We've had a busy first term of the year and have all enjoyed working with the young people at Ancora House School. Alongside the education programme, our young people have been working with outside providers, including Chester University who have offered sessions on critical thinking and Post 16 options. Gareth Cheeseman has been speaking to young people about key PSHE topics, and Young Enterprise have worked with us on money matters and business. We thoroughly enjoyed taking our young people from Indigo ward to the Pledge Careers Fair in Ellesmere Port where they had the opportunity to meet employers and further education providers.

Happy Christmas and all the best for 2023.

From all the staff Ancora House School.



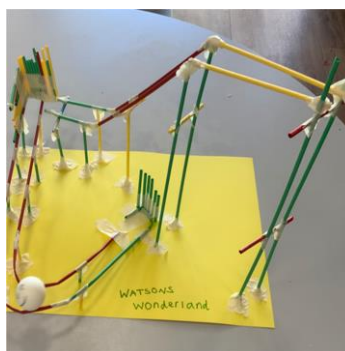
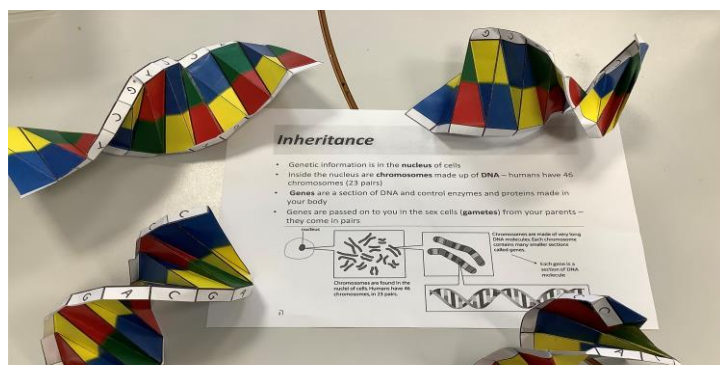
Enjoying Learning at Ancora House School

In Maths group, we had a discussion about the Fibonacci Sequence of 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13... which is generated by adding the previous two terms to get the next term e.g., $1+1=2$, $1+2=3$, $2+3=5$... and how this pattern occurs in nature. We then did a bit of Fibonacci Magic where the young people were challenged to come up with their own Fibonacci sequence and our wonderful Maths teacher, would predict the total of the first 10 terms - they were blown away by her quick addition skills! We then moved on to look at the algebra behind this magic and how she was quickly able to work out the total. We also did a Children in Need task that required a variety of Maths skills all tested at GCSE. Over the next few weeks, we will also be doing some 'Christmaths' tasks - ho, ho, ho!



Super Science and STEAM

We've looked at different aspects of science this half term, using a creative approach to encourage questioning and inquisitiveness about the world around us. The young people always work in a positive way and we have covered areas including: Cells, Genes and Inheritance and Separating Mixtures (using chromatography to separate the colours found in fireworks).



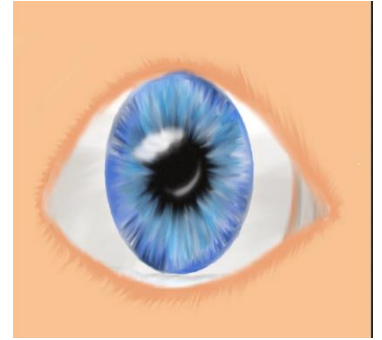
REMEMBRANCE.

In November, our young people remembered the fallen and showed their respect to those lost in battle in the form of discussion, creating wreaths, writing quotes, and designing button poppies.



Our Amazing Artists.....

We had a productive first term in art, the creativity of our young people would rival that of Picasso. There has been lots of lovely artwork produced – probably enough to fill the Tate! We have been the masters of scrapbooking, paint and graphics this term, lots of canvasses have been completed and the iPad pros have gone down a treat. Our young people are teaching us a thing or two when it comes to pro-create!



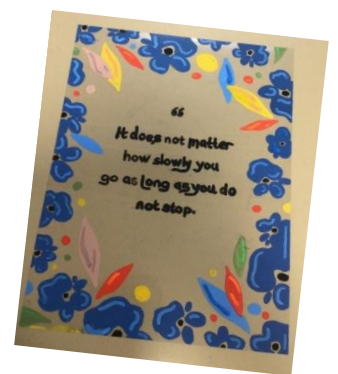
Important discussion in PSHE.

During this half term we have spent time looking at the RSE aspect of the PSHE curriculum. We have had a youth worker come in and run sessions with the young people on a variety of topics including building positive relationships, consent, awareness of sexually transmitted infections and global HIV. During all of these sessions the young people joined in with tasks and discussions and were really

mature in their approach to some sensitive topics.

English Group

In English group, young people were encouraged to research and select inspirational quotes. We really enjoyed reading the quotes that were selected and it is lovely that the young people have displayed these in their rooms on the ward to draw inspiration from.



Careers opportunities

We started the year with excellent feedback from Chester Zoo regarding the summer volunteering project; all six young people involved completed the programme. Two of the six young people continue to volunteer at the zoo, and one has been so inspired that they are applying to study Applied Zoology at degree level at Reaseheath. We are so proud of them all.

We start the new term at Ancora House School with a focus on inspiration, exploration and awareness of opportunities. In that spirit we have worked with partners from various agencies both in school and out in the community. Students have worked with Young Enterprise, being offered both their “Learn to Earn” and “Launchpad” programmes, bringing studying, earning and business development to life!

The University of Chester have worked with young people on developing their critical thinking skills and discussed routes into higher education, raising an awareness of the vast amount of support on offer and busting some myths regarding HE. The Cheshire and Warrington Pledge Partnership gave our young people an insight into Cyber Safety early in the term. Students and staff were equally shocked at the amount of information which is shared online and the possible consequences! The Pledge are completing their work with us this term with a week focused on post 16 options, apprenticeships, FE and T Levels. Students can speak to a representative from Cheshire College South and West, explore apprenticeships, meet employers and get support with CVs and interview preparation.

In November, we visited the Cheshire College South and West Careers Fair. Our young people had the opportunity to meet employers and education providers from a range of local and national businesses and colleges. We are so proud of how the young people interacted with the providers and we especially enjoyed visiting the Chester University Digital Skills – who will be visiting the school for a STEAM Day in 2023!

The DWP ran a workshop on employability skills. It was wonderful to see young people enjoying this practical session and recognizing how many of the employability skills they already have.

Through personal guidance, visits to open events, colleges, training providers and developing links with their community careers teams, young people continue to research their personal career journeys. With all these skills, we look forward to hearing of the successes of our young people in the future.



Wishing you *all* a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New
Year!

From *all* the staff at Ancora House School