

WHAT'S THE LATEST FROM ST BEDE'S?

The last blog of the year

It's been a crazy year! We can honestly say it has not been dull! We'd prefer a little less excitement next year as I am sure you would too. The last weeks of the school year are always full of activities and fun. We have still managed to complete transition events, careers events, science events and the launch of our brand new boys' programme, 'Make Talk Your Goal'. Thank you so much, students and parents, for your ongoing support. Please enjoy this week's blog with some great end of year stories.

Leading in literacy

We are now four weeks into our Literacy Leaders scheme with our Year 10 volunteers reading each morning with Year 7 and 8 students. This will gain traction especially as we continue into September with the same pairings and more time spent reading and acquiring new vocabulary. It has been great to see the effort and reliability of our Year 10s who show up each morning ready to read with our younger learners.



St Bede's Young Medics on tour

Back in early 2020 a group of enthusiastic Year 8 and 9 pupils embarked on a 10 week course learning all about what it takes to become a doctor. They grappled with issues such as "How do we measure how infectious a pathogen is", "how do vaccines work", and "what would happen if there was a virus that spread across the globe". Sadly, these crossed over from fictional scenarios to the real world when we entered into a national lockdown in mid-march, a few weeks before the end of the Young Medics course.

Nobody could have predicted what would unfold over the next year, but our students will have been well equipped to understand the pandemic that has since become the forefront of our lives.

Enter Summer 2021, and we felt we had some unfinished business with our Young Medics. West Lancs College had reached out about finishing the programme, and I was delighted to be able to get our medics back together for one more session. On Monday 5th July, we travelled to West Lancs College for a full day of medical experience.



In the morning we learned all about how the heart works, and how defibrillators and CPR can be used to effectively save lives. This was something we have been made all the more aware of based on the recent event at the European Football Championships. I was really proud to see our medics engaging in this, and getting stuck in with the practice CPR on the dummies.

In the afternoon, our pupils had a taste of what life was like studying A level sciences, learning about kidney function and disease, and then looking at diagnostic case studies. They also had the opportunity throughout the day to ask the staff more about what courses they could do at college, and what they might need to do to prepare themselves for future healthcare careers.

Pupils received their certificates for completion of the course, and we left West Lancs College after a great day out.

Thanks to all of my Young Medics for being an excellent group; keep your eyes peeled as we may have even more on offer in the coming year...

Skelmersdale Science Summer School



What do Professor Brian Cox, Storm Troopers, Formula 1 and St. Bede's have in common?

On Tuesday 6th July, all of these were in attendance at West Lancs College for the first (hopefully annual) Skelmersdale Science Summer School. We arrived at the venue in the morning to be greeted by Boogie Storm stormtrooper dance group of BGT fame welcoming us to the day with a fantastic dance performance. Chewbacca was around to make sure we were well greeted, and even Darth Vader showed up later in the day!

The event was formally kicked off by Professor Brian Cox, and we left to start our day. The first session was with Virgin Care, learning about different professions within healthcare, with some discussion and input from a team of local GPs. While this was going on, groups took it in turns to have a go at completing an obstacle course while wearing "beer goggles". This simulated what it was like to be under the influence of alcohol, and was really difficult (and very funny for the people watching)!

Our next session was a series of talks, starting with a mini talk about the origins of the universe from Prof. Brian, and we also heard from a Cosmetic Scientist, and a Mechanical Engineer who had led a team operating a Mars investigation rover!

At this point we split into three groups, and went off in different directions. One of the groups learned about the skills involved in being a Formula 1 mechanic, followed by a talk from Epic Games where they showed off some of their super-secret gaming technology in development. Another group learned all about the manufacture of bricks and building materials, and later on were able to have a go in a crane simulator to learn the skills involved in work at Peel Ports. The third group had a presentation from a team representing Edge Hill University, learning about some of their different available pathways down the healthcare route and what it might take to get there. They then had a presentation from Pilkington's glass, learning about the cutting edge technology developed here in West Lancs, and how some hi-tech glass is produced and manufactured.

The day ended with an awards presentation, where each award was introduced by Prof Brian! Winners were selected from a few activities based on people the organisers felt were really engaged, or offered something special in the activity. St. Bede's won the lion's share of awards here, and as a testament to their engagement got a personal shout out from Prof. Brian Cox for how enthusiastic we were when cheering and applauding our winners. The biggest prize of the day was for the logo competition. This was something I've previously advertised in the blog, as all schools were invited to submit entries to design a logo for the event. Not only did this person make the shortlist submitted by myself to the organisers, they also went on to win the entire logo contest, in a field of well over a thousand entries. A huge congratulations to the winner, Amber Wells, who we are all hugely proud of!



After the awards we stopped for a quick group photo before boarding the coach and returning to St. Bede's. Hopefully all pupils had a fantastic day, we are hugely grateful to West Lancs College for putting it all together, as well as all of the supporting organisations and companies for allowing us to run this trip at no cost to pupils. It was an event that will last in memory for a long time!

Thank you all for your ongoing support with all of our STEM extra-curricular activities this year, have a fantastic summer break!

Mr Oakley



The word on the street

Joseph Roberts, a 17-year-old spoken word artist from Liverpool, came to our school to perform and deliver a workshop for our students. Joseph has just completed his A-levels at Archbishop Beck Catholic High School in Walton where he was a Head Student. He has performed at numerous events and was recently featured on BBC Radio Merseyside. Joseph covers poignant topics in his poetry that many teenagers (and adults) can relate to with titles including: 'A Man's Manual', 'How to Increase Your Net Worth', 'Headspace', 'Reigning' and more. Joseph performed a few of these spoken word pieces, demonstrating how the metre and flow of rap music influences his writing and delivery, making it relatable and enjoyable for young listeners. Joseph held a Q&A afterwards where several students asked thought provoking and interesting questions about his creative process, his sources of inspiration and how he memorises his pieces. The session was rounded off with a spoken word workshop where students were prompted to write a piece starting with 'My Name Is....' and we were delighted to see several students get up and read out their work with a couple even delivering it in a spoken word style. It was a very enjoyable afternoon for all involved and we hope it inspires students to continue expressing themselves through the written and spoken word.



Investigating metals

Miss Tilston's class have been hard at work investigating the reactivity of metals. The practical work in science has been wide ranging. The students frequently engage in practical learning to help with engagement and understanding. We are seeing the benefits of that with students now achieving top grades in both separate sciences and combined science.



Year 7 pupils using red cabbage to make an indicator that we will then use to test the pH of household acids and alkalis:



St Bede's students go potty... for flowers

St Bede's Gardening Angels, Ormskirk School Pastors and Morrisons have created some flower planters and pots. The plants were grown from seed or bulb in school during the third lockdown and then nurtured by our Gardening Angels in Year 7, 8, 9. (see previous blogs)

Thank you to those families who donated pots and planters. The planters and pots have been given to people who has been suffering or isolated by the pandemic in the West Lancashire community. This is part of our school's Laudato Si outreach programme.

We are presently developing our outdoor space to include a Laudato Si garden area. This will also offer the opportunity to support the spiritual and liturgical life of the school by creating a Laudato Si outdoor prayer space.





To Luccy

Just a few choos to show my appreciation for the lovely plants. It was so nice of you to think of me and it cheered me up a lot.

I was very pleased to meet you. and I think you are a lovely thoughtful young lady. Your parents must be very proud of you

Thank you again

June. x

PS. Will you please pass on my thanks to St Bedes Gardening club

Geographers key mapping

Year 7 have been continuing with their groupwork after visiting Ormskirk to collect data for their assessment. This also has links with CEIAG.



New business for Ormskirk

Imagine you work for a private company called 'Urban inc.' Ormskirk council have employed your company to try and improve Ormskirk town centre.

Each of you are a different 'team' employed by 'Urban inc.' and you must bid to get the funding for your business. Only one 'team' can win the bid to open your new business.

They had 3 tasks to complete in Ormskirk: land use survey, Environmental Quality survey and Pedestrian count. They then have to complete a poster and speech to present to the class.



They have really worked hard and as a team!! Division of labour could be seen throughout! Well done Year 7!

Year 9 boys win West Lancs crown

Mr Doolan and the Year 9 boys were successful in the West Lancashire football tournament this term. They played extremely well and dominated the matches they were involved in. The boys played extremely well and demonstrated grit and determination throughout. Their behaviour was very good as well which made them a great representation of the school. Well done to the entire squad and the tactical mastermind that is Mr Doolan.



MFL News

Welcome back to Frau Williams, our Curriculum Leader of MFL! Frau Williams has been on maternity leave after the birth of baby Eden, and is back – refreshed and raring to go!



We also said Auf Wiedersehen and au revoir to Madame Waterhouse last week, who is set to return in September to continue working with small groups of pupils on their MFL speaking skills. Our pupils absolutely love going out to practise with her!

It is with heavy hearts that we also wish a fond farewell to Madame Goode! Merci et danke schön for your hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to our department this year, and viel Glück /bonne chance in your new school!

Tour de France 2021





This year's tour started on Saturday 26th June with 184 riders.

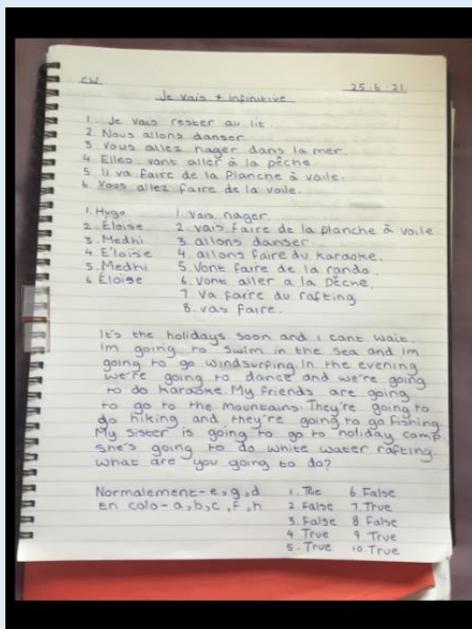
Our competition is also well underway. Pupils have picked a cyclist's name out of a draw, and if that cyclist wins a stage, they get a prize. Paul Smith in year 9 has won twice already as his cyclist Mark Cavendish has sprinted home to win two stages! Check out our MFL Instagram page every night for



updates - @stbedesormskirkmfl

At the end of the tour, the top 3 overall winners will be announced in Paris. If you picked one of these three, you will win a £5 amazon voucher and will receive it in September !

The Course (a one or two day race for women) began and ended on the same day, with 24-year-old Dutchwoman Demi Vollering winning the race. The good news is that next year sees the launch of a long awaited le Tour de France Femmes where professional female cyclists get to compete over several days, like the men, rather than a one or two day event - this feels much more like equality, and something which is long overdue !



It was lovely to see **Year 7** engaging with the isolation work sent to them – they have demonstrated so much maturity, dedication and organisation from the start of this challenging year!

This week year 7 have also been putting together trioramas to show off their understanding of the weather in French!

Year 8 DT/German Project

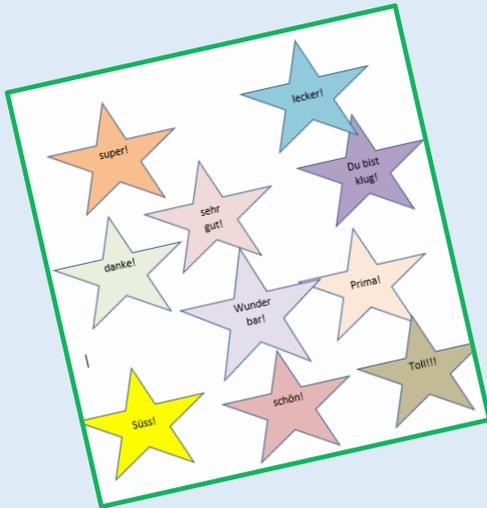
Schwarz-Weiß Gebäck



1. Knead the softened butter, castor sugar and flour together.
2. Divide the dough, knead the cocoa into one half until everything is brown.
3. Then roughly knead the two parts together so that a rough black and white pattern is created.
4. Then make some evenly shaped dough sausages and wrap in cling film.
5. Chill for 30 minutes. You can also put the dough in the freezer.
6. When the dough is firm, cut the "sausages" into slices and bake on a baking sheet at 180 degrees for 10-15 minutes. When they are cooked, let them cool for five minutes, then lay them on a plate.

Pupils in year 8 got the opportunity in their DT and German lessons to make a traditional German biscuit recipe of shortbread with chocolate flavoured shortbread! After baking, they invited more year 8 pupils in to sample their biscuits and to give some positive German feedback using post-its!

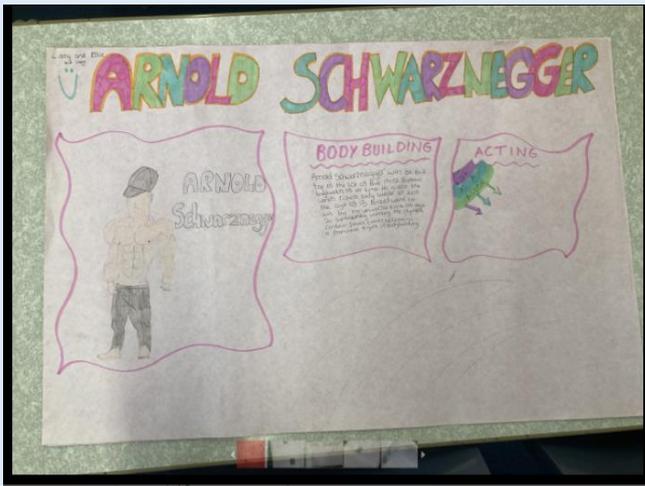
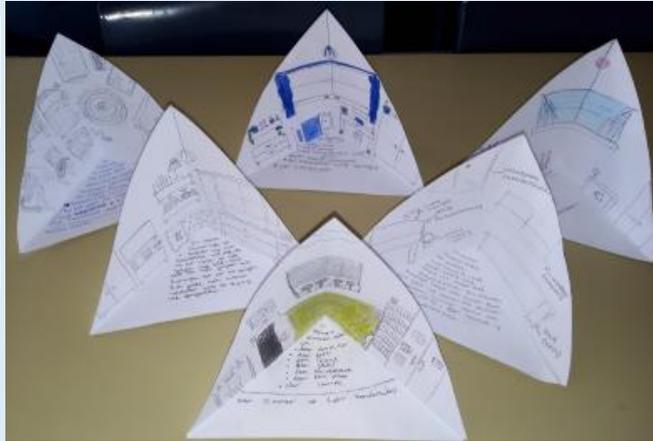






Year 8 German

Pupils have also been learning how to describe their house and to talk about their dream house and dream bedrooms. They also made these cute trioramas!



Whilst isolating, some of **year 8** were given the challenge of researching a famous Austrian person. This forms part of the very important cultural side of studying a language. There were some lovely presentations on all sorts of famous Austrians, from Arnold Schwarzenegger to Mozart's sister!

Who is she and why is she famous?

- Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia Mozart (30 July 1751 – 29 October 1829) was the older sister of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and daughter of Leopold and Anna Maria Mozart.
- Maria Anna, just like her brother, was a child prodigy, who discovered her talent as a musician at the mere age of seven.
- In 1762, Her father, Leopold took their family on a concert tour throughout western and central Europe. Her and her brother often received presents after playing for noble families – and even though this talent may not have been financially successful, they were given the gift of praise and publicity.



Early Life:

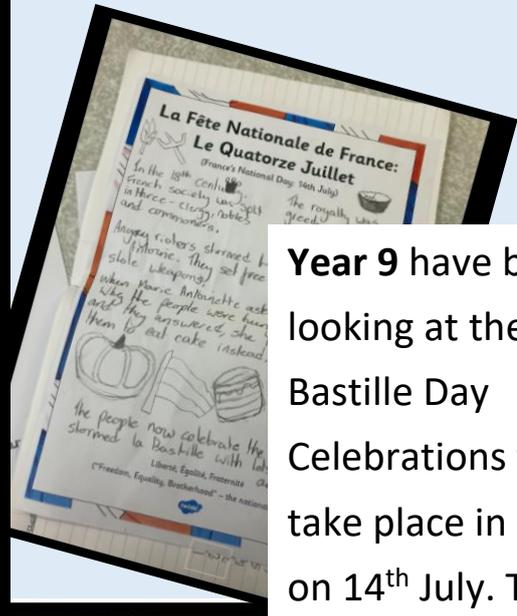
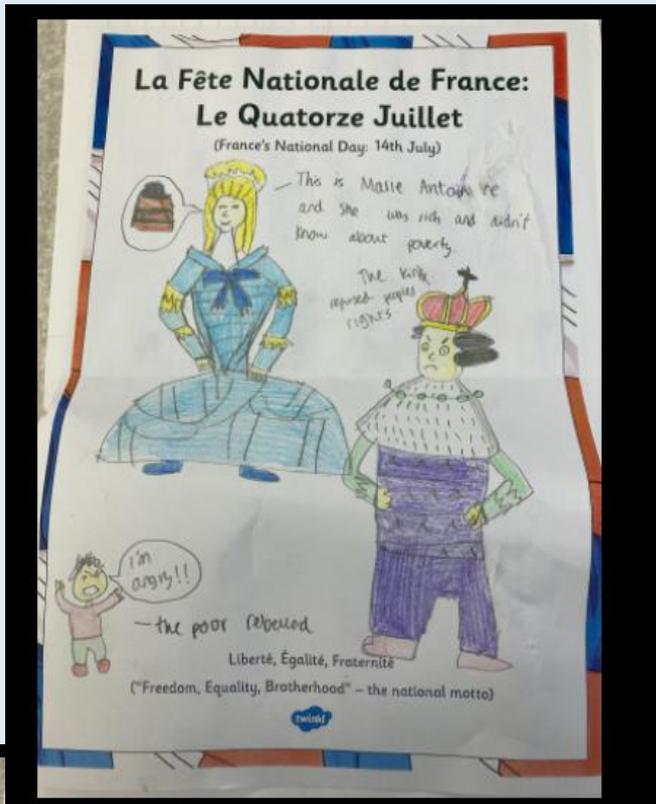
- Maria was born in Salzburg, Austria on the 30th July 1751. She was the eldest of seven children, though tragically only Anna and Wolfgang survived infancy. Her more famous brother was born on the 27th January 1756. Maria Anna's family nickname was Nonnert.
- Her father, Leopold Mozart, was a professional musician. He composed, conducted and taught, as well as playing the violin. Her mother, Anna Maria Walburga Mozart, lovingly cared for her husband and children. In addition, she often accompanied them on

Her father began to take her to her old brother, in their talents next three

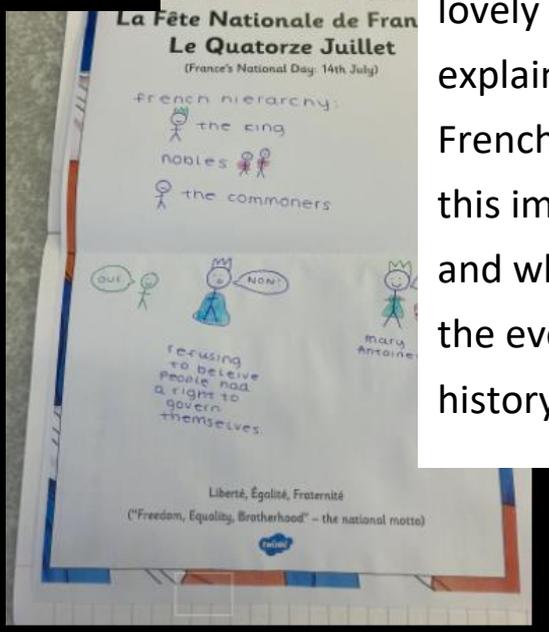
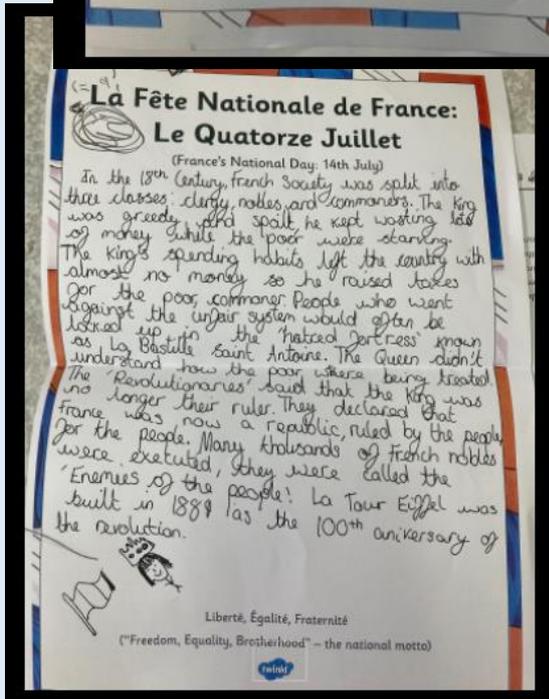
My opinion:

- I quite like Mozart's pieces as in the one linked in the previous slide has a fast tempo and is upbeat making it more interesting and fun to listen to. Although, there are some calmer more soothing sections which add some contrast to the song making it even better! @





Year 9 have been looking at the Bastille Day Celebrations that take place in France on 14th July. They put together some lovely posters explaining how the French celebrate this important day and what led up to the event in France's history



Talented Former Pupil

One of our past pupils has recently graduated from the University of Chester with a 2:1 Joint Honours degree in French and German. We are so proud of her, and she has written something for our blog about her experiences abroad. What an inspiration she is!

'Hello! My name is Niamh and I left St Bede's in 2014. It was here at school where I found my passion for languages. Since leaving school, I have had opportunities to experience living and working abroad; during this time I have gained a degree in French and German.

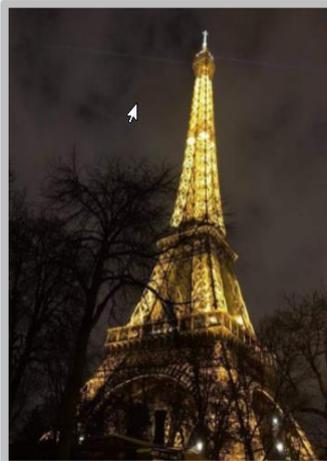
Summer 2019 was my first adventure of living and exploring a new country; even though it was very nerve wracking it was extremely exciting. I was given the opportunity to work at The Technische Universität Braunschweig in Germany, where I worked alongside the languages department organising events such as their own Brexit debate and helping plan lectures making us feel part of the team. Not only did I make many new German friends, I lived with a German family and another friend from university which I found highly beneficial as they helped us fit into the German community and helped improve our German as we had no choice but to speak German with them!

As part of my degree I also spent the academic year as an English language assistant in a Lycée on the outskirts of Paris. This was an incredible experience as I was living the dream in Paris. I only worked 12 hours a week so there was plenty of time to experience different things. Exploring Paris was at the top of my list and in no time I didn't feel like a tourist but a Parisian by gaining confidence speaking French and embracing the culture by socialising with teachers at the school. There was also plenty of time to explore France and hop on trains and coaches to neighbouring countries such as Belgium where of course I had to taste proper Belgian waffles!! Another favourite activity of mine was taking trips to the magical Disneyland Paris; days out there never got boring! Being away from home was sometimes hard but I was never lonely as I lived with three other assistants from Mexico, Italy and Tunisia. We would have culture evenings when we would make food from our countries, and Génesis from Mexico made the best Guacamole! I'm so lucky to now have friends around the world who I'm sure I will visit in the future!

Currently, I am an au pair for the second summer in a town on Lake Annecy called Talloires. I'm living with a family who own a hotel on the lake so there are many opportunities to speak French with the staff, eat real French cuisine (my favourite being Raclette) and explore what the region has to offer! My host family are the best and became my second family and I became the children's big sister. I have made unforgettable memories with them, such as paragliding, afternoon trips up the mountains in the camper van to have our goûter, holidays to Lake Lemman and more to come this summer! During my free time, I have made lifelong friends with whom I have visited many interesting places such as Lyon and Geneva, hiked up mountains to see the view of the lake or our favourite simple activity of taking trips to the beaches for pik-nics, swimming in the lake and doing water sports.

All my experiences helped me grow as a person and gain so much confidence to speak French and German and live in another country. I have done things that I would never thought I could do. Once you start you can't stop. I have so many plans for next year before doing teacher training such as working a ski season in the Alps. I hope this has given you an insight into the things you can do and achieve with languages 😊.'

HEADTEACHER'S BLOG



Russian Club

The last lesson before summer will take place this Friday, when we will be learning how to talk about our summer plans in Russian!



Keep following us on INSTAGRAM, and please comment on our posts. We love hearing from pupils and parents.

Thank you to everyone for your support throughout the year, and if we don't see you at summer school, we wish you all schöne Ferien/ de bonnes vacances!



Head Students elected

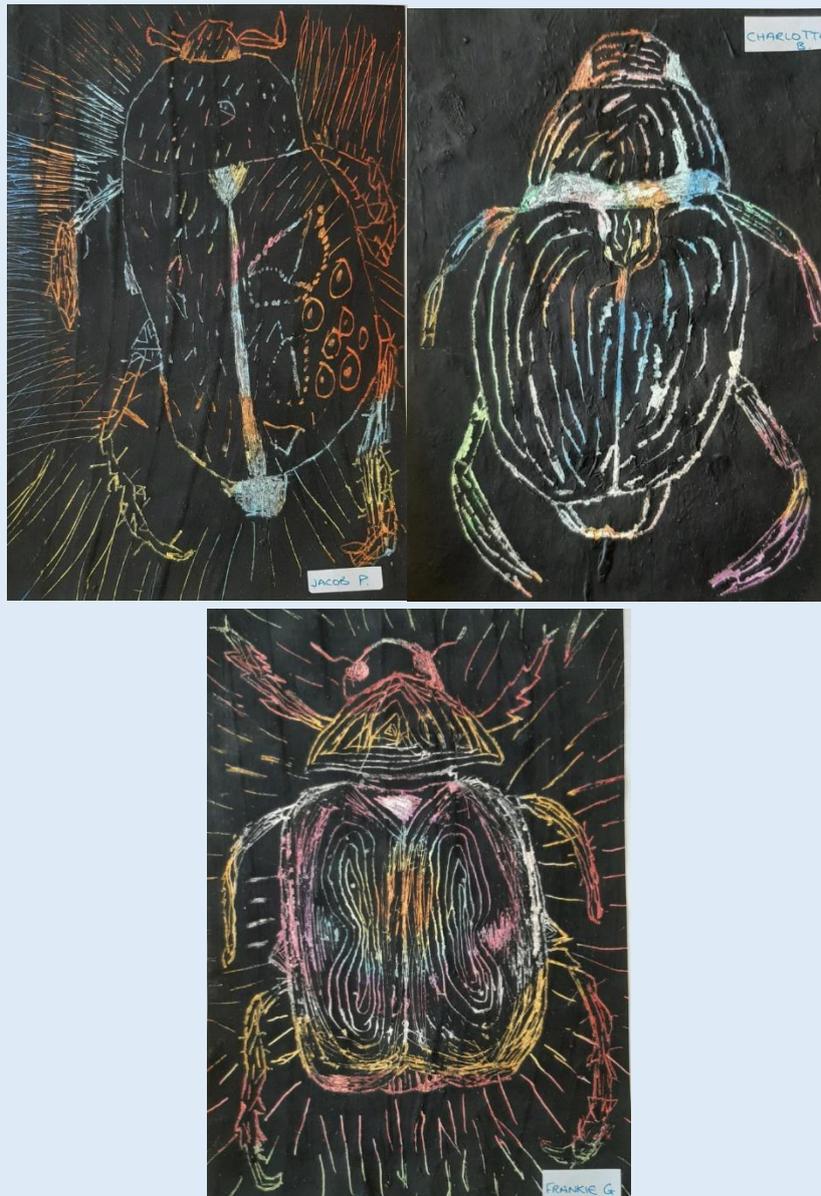
Over the past few weeks, we have been going through an application process to decide who the next head students will be. We would now like to introduce you to our new Student Leadership Team! Well done to everybody who took part in the process - you were all fantastic! The team is made up of (from L-R); Grace Hayes (deputy head student), Alice King (deputy head student), Will Jackson (deputy head

student), Joshua Tobin (head student), Holly Doran (head student) and Faith Barker (deputy head student). We look forward to working with you all from September!

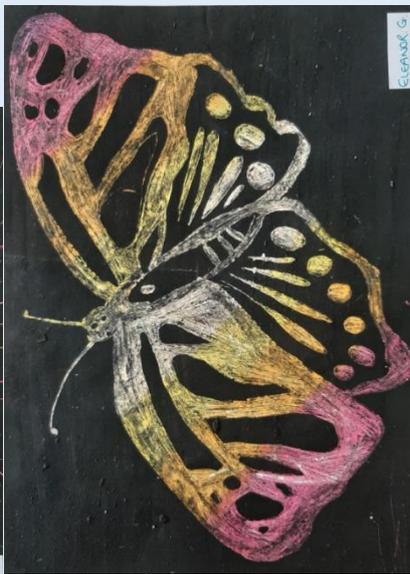
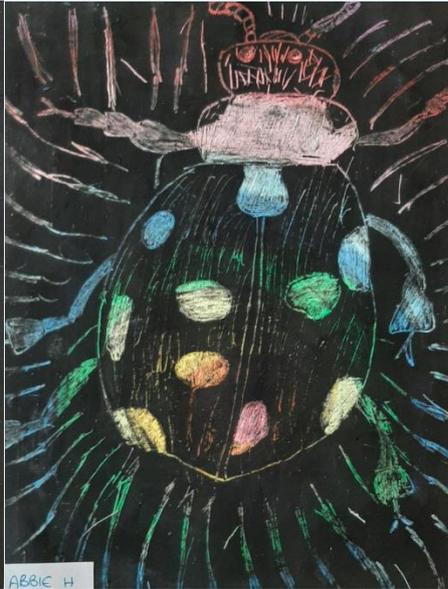


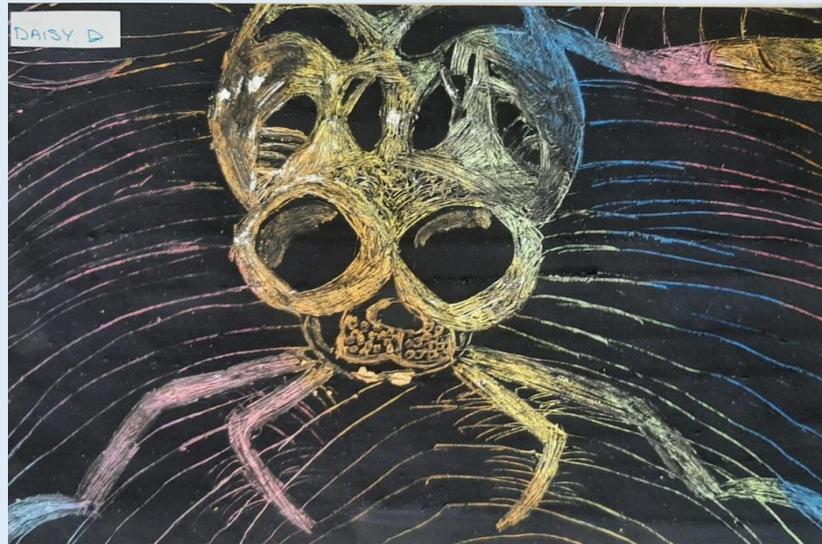
Art attack

Year 7 have created these bold sgraffito sketches of insects. They have been looking at different markmaking techniques and the use of colour. We have spent a lot of time focusing on their drawing skills with this project and I'm sure you'll agree, their understanding of shape, proportion and composition are coming along nicely. I can't wait to see these on display around the school. Well done year 7!!

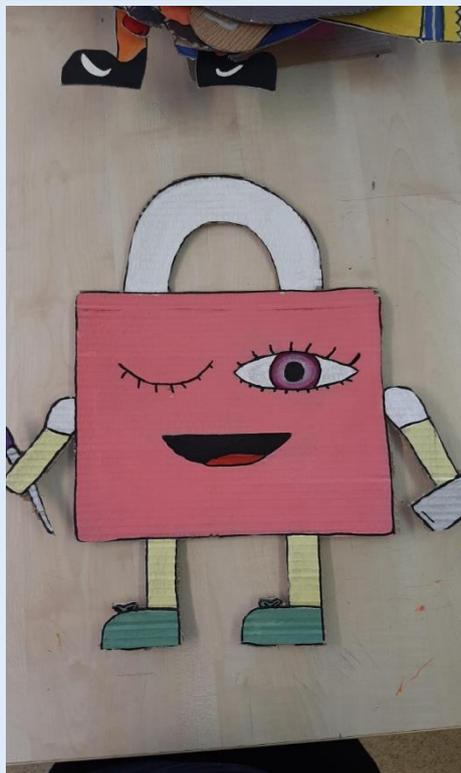








Year 9 have created these fabulous and funny bitmojis. They have taken inspiration from themselves, things they like and the work of Jon Burgerman. I tweeted these pictures last week and got a response from the artist who currently lives over the pond. He was so impressed and very humbled to be of inspiration to our young pupils. An excellent job Year 9! We want to get these up around school to inspire the next group of pupils.







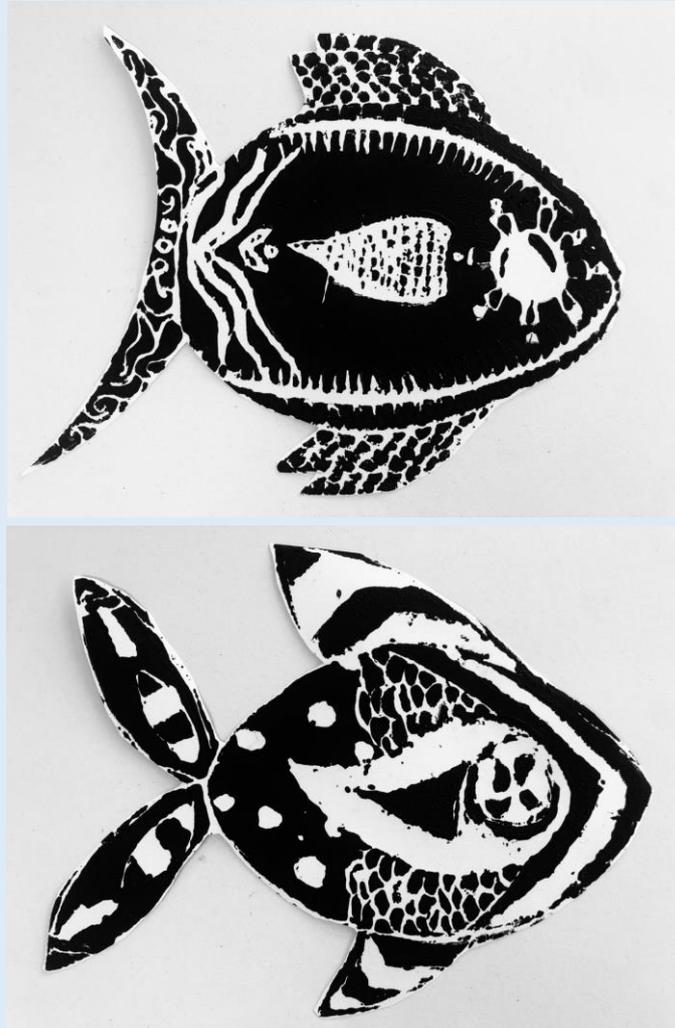




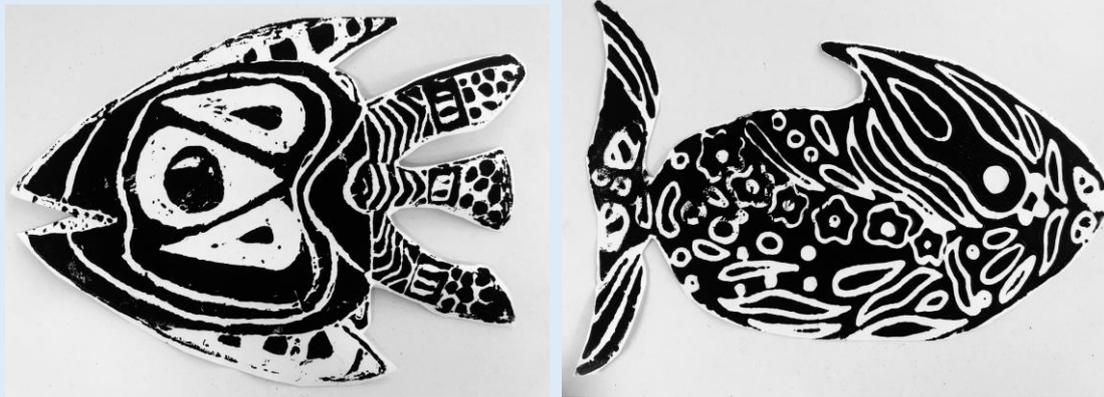
Having been inspired by Venessa Scott, who visited us a few weeks ago, we decided to create another board with a group of year 8 and 9 pupils. The theme for this board is equality. It looks really striking and bold and is a talking point as pupils enter the classroom.



Year 8 have concluded their 'Sea' project by completing a fish press print, inspired by Jason Scarpace. The students have designed their own fish, by carving into a polystyrene board and rolling ink over the image, to then press onto a piece of paper, creating these beautiful fish prints. Well done year 8, what a lovely and fun way to finish off your project.





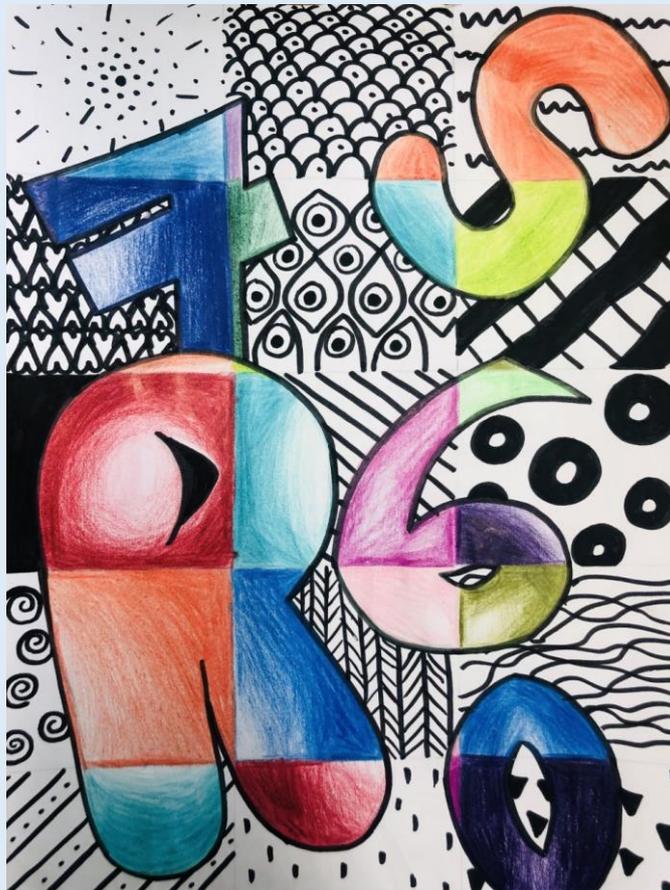


Artistic-Isolating

We have been really impressed by the standard of work from year 7 and 8 during home learning due to isolation. Our pupils produced some beautiful letters and numbers work, inspired by the artist Jasper Johns. The pupils followed our YouTube video perfectly, and created fantastic work, well done!









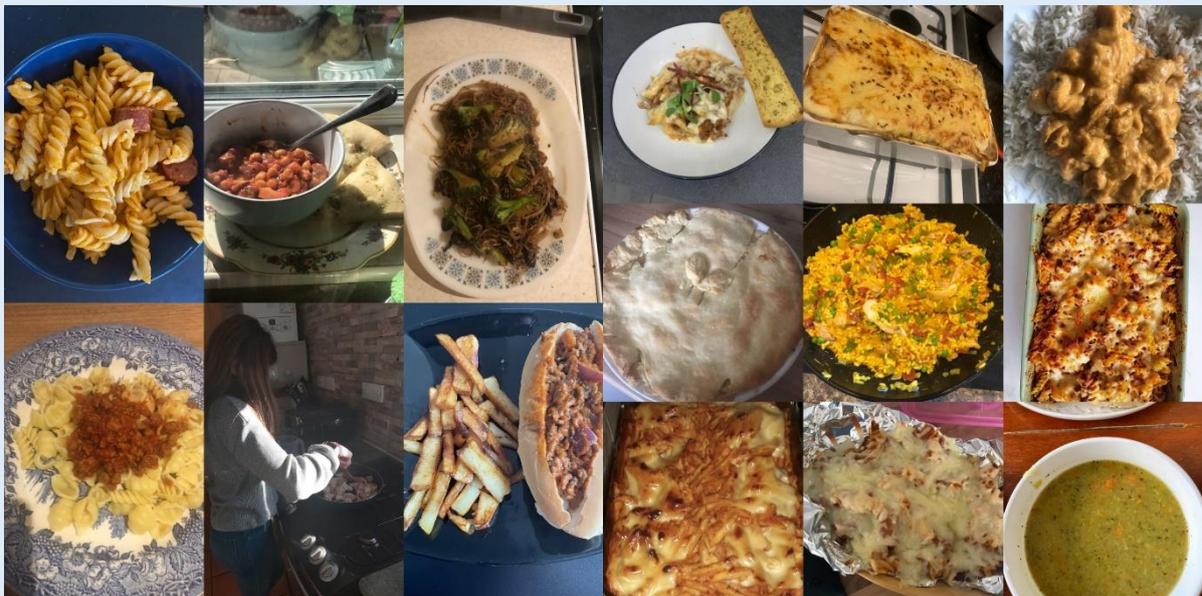
Finally, this is hopefully something that will make you smile as much as it made us; Sam Orlino in year 10, a GCSE art student, has produced his own 'Samona Lisa' very catchy name and fantastic work, Sam. We're just waiting for this to be showcased in the Louvre!



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10

Pupils have been developing their practical skills in preparation for their NEA assessment in Year 11.





Let us know your news!

If you are involved in any exciting activities or you have stories of St Bede's from years gone by please contact school and we can celebrate this in our fortnightly blog. Also if you have a relative or friend who you would like our school community to pray for let us know via admin@sbchs.co.uk.

God bless,

Mr P Denton, Headteacher