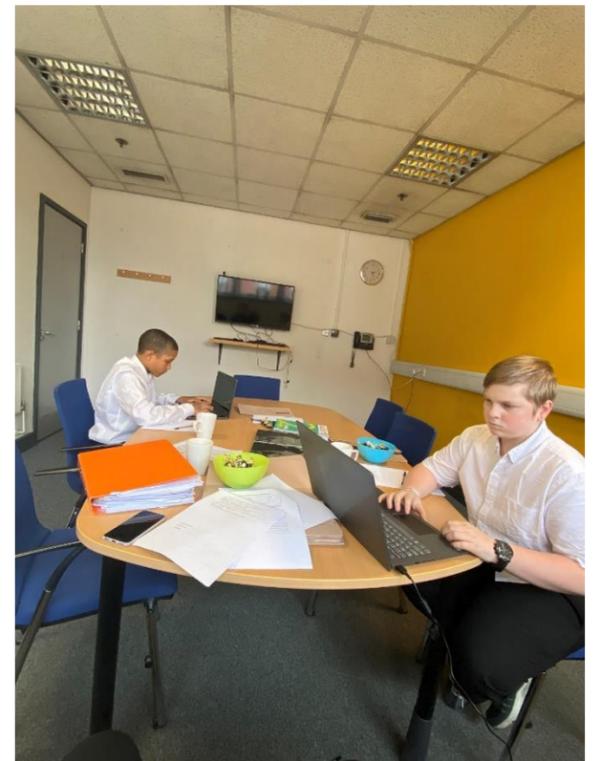
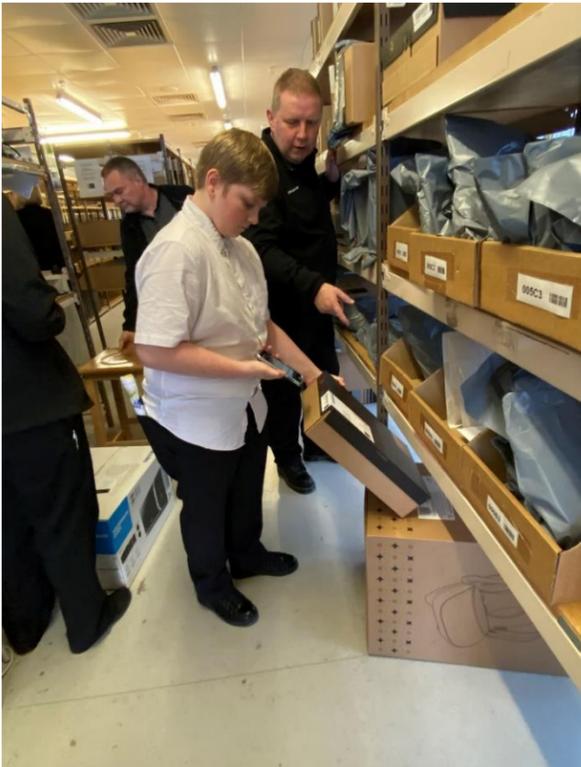




# Stone Soup Academy News

## Half Term 4

# Working towards a Better Future



### Connor Bartle

This year we continued to make wonderful progress with Stone Soup Academies work experience programme. Students will be finishing the academic year with even more qualifications and going on to further their studies at college or through apprenticeships in the field in which they have worked in. This term, students have been working at John Lewis, Trent Bridge Cricket Ground and Crowne Plaza.

There are three different qualifications they can receive including; NCFE Level 1 Award in Exploring Occupational Studies for the Workplace, NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Occupational Studies in the Workplace and NCFE Level 1 Award in Retail Knowledge.

There has been a total of twenty four students achieving this extra qualification so far with eleven of these being in Year 11. The results and the feedback from staff and students has been amazing. This is a wonderful achievement by all the students involved.

**@stonesoupacademynotts**  
**Instagram**  
**@StonesoupAcad**  
**Twitter**

## Mixing it Up

Joshua Glover

In Music Technology all our students have been focused on learning to edit, produce, and mix tracks in Logic. I've been blown away by the quality of their work.

A number of our learners are looking towards a musical future and have interviews at Confetti. We're also broadening our horizons in the classroom to work with interactive music based websites to showcase all our students' excellent work.



## Ready Steady Cook

Leona Dunleavy

It's been another great term studying food at the academy. Students have been busy with coursework and have been cooking up some great dishes during lessons and our Friday afternoon enrichment sessions. Practical lessons are always very popular and where we see our young people thrive. Our students are always so proud to show off their skills and get staff members involved to taste their food. (Which they love!) Some of our students are even cooking dishes again at home for their families and bringing in photos of their baking done at home, which we are thrilled to see.



### *In this Issue*

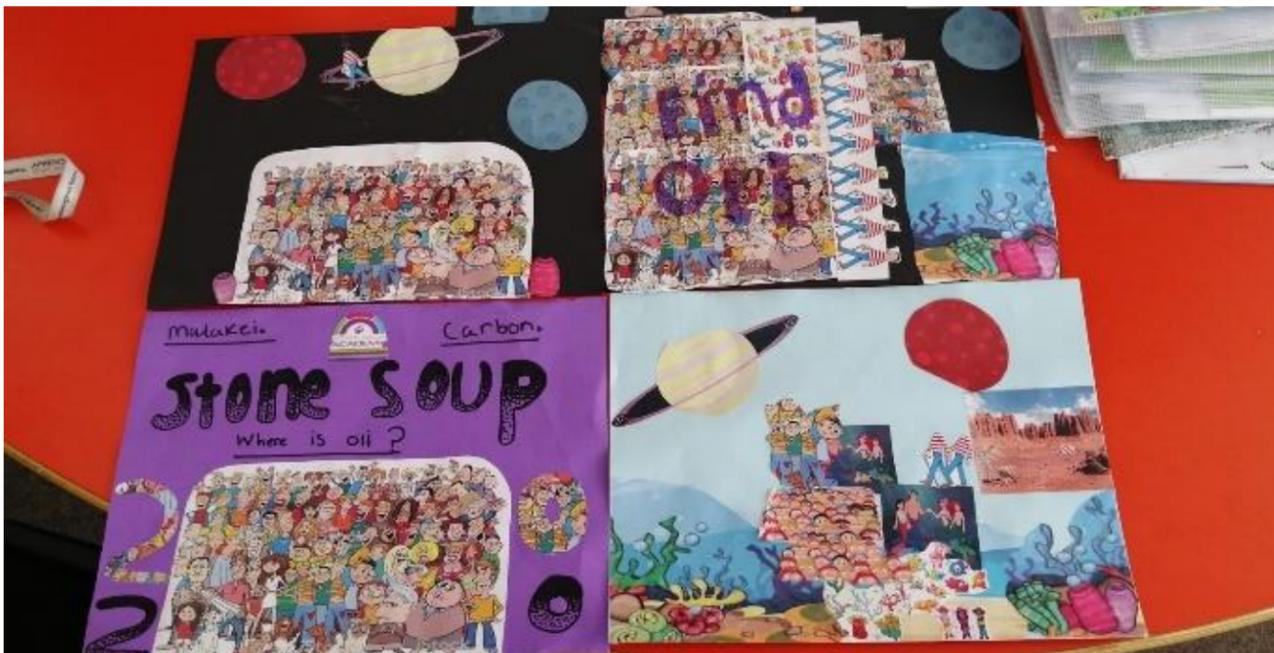
Work Experience  
Music  
Cooking  
English  
Sport  
Virtual School  
FIT Friday  
KS3 Curriculum  
RE  
Math

Engagement  
Alumni  
Parent Leadership Group  
Functional Skills  
Robertson Construction Day  
Creative Quarter  
PSHE  
Photography  
Wales  
AP Football

# “Where’s Oli”

## Kerry Day

We had a very successful and fun World Book Day in which we launched the competition in the English Department called “Where’s Oli.” The idea behind this was to create a scene similar to a Where’s Wally and hide our Engagement Team member Oliver in there. The winner was judged by Oliver Sillito and he chose the one that was the most creative and that he found hardest to solve. Malakei Carbon and Mia Blevins were the winners in Kerry’s English group and Jasmine Johnson and Renea Clark were the winners in Richard’s English group. The students had lots of fun with it and the winners went away with 30 Dojos and an Easter Egg.



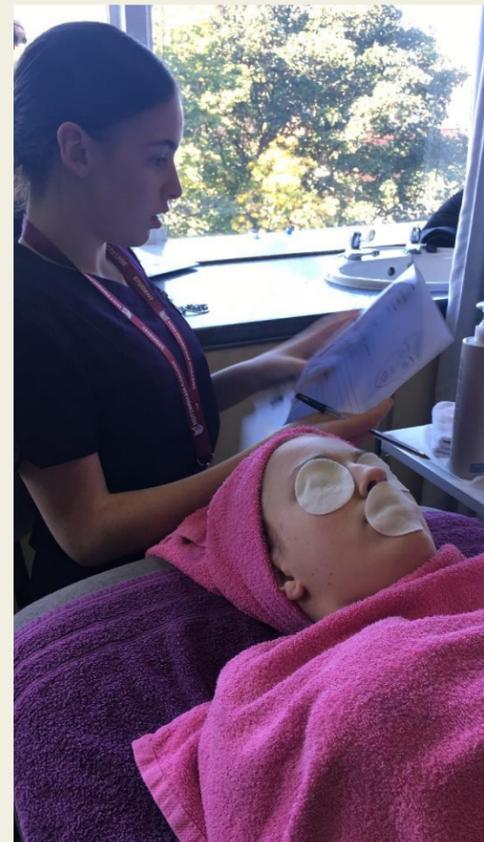
The English Mock took place during the last week of term and we had some outstanding grades including a Level 5 from Matthew Humpries and a Level 4 from Porsha Keane. Porsha has now received her third level 4 in a Mock exam. The students were all successful in following exam conditions and as a department we were very proud of them.

As a department we have continued to award a student of the week with chocolates and a certificate. Matty Humpries has successfully won student of the week twice in a row at the end of term, which has never been done before! Well done Matty!

We continued with the Spelling Bee this term and the form tutors all agreed that the engagement is better during form times when this takes place so this will continue on when we are back in school.

We are extremely pleased with the way that students have responded to working from home. They have taken a mature and responsible approach to their learning and we have ensured that they have enough material to work through during any time working from home. The English Department looks forward to the next term and would like to wish everyone good health and a lovely safe Easter.

## Hair and Beauty Photos



# Sport Continues to Shine

Duncan Bennett

BTEC Sport have been studying Unit 2: Practical Sports Performance. During practical and theory lessons the aim of the lesson has been to explore rules, regulations and scoring systems across a variety of sports including table tennis, pool, badminton, basketball and football. We have also studied the technical and tactical demands of sports reviewing performance and creating different methods of improving performance.

We have continued to use NTU sports hall, Nottingham Forest football community centre and our gym on site for practical sessions. These have been very successful and continue to be a positive experience for our students studying BTEC Sport. The PE department are hoping to win top prize again with securing another academic year of fantastic qualifications.

## PE Kit “creating unimagined futures”

We have also launched a new PE kit for all students to wear if they would like to. This has helped promote health and hygiene around the academy with many students deciding to use the opportunity to get changed into PE kit and then change into their personal clothes for lessons later in the day. The PE kit has the school badge on the front and “creating unimagined futures” on the back. The students have felt a sense of pride and are delighted with how the kit looks. With acquiring a new PE kit we have also improved the football kit by having numbers on the back and the Stone Soup Academy badge on the front. School sport is helping reinforce the school ethos and giving students pride and unity around the academy.



**More to follow on the AP Football League**

# Stone Soup Academy Virtual Schooling

Younes Henini

At Stone Soup Academy all of our staff are committed to continuing to offer outstanding provision for all our students during this period of challenge brought on through COVID-19. Staff are determined to support all students and keep them safe, engaged and motivated.

Whilst working as a Virtual School we are continuing with the same routines, school day and timetables. Teachers are educating and delivering their lessons remotely via google classroom. Also hard copies have been set home for students who are unable access IT facilities. All our students are doing brilliantly working remotely from home.

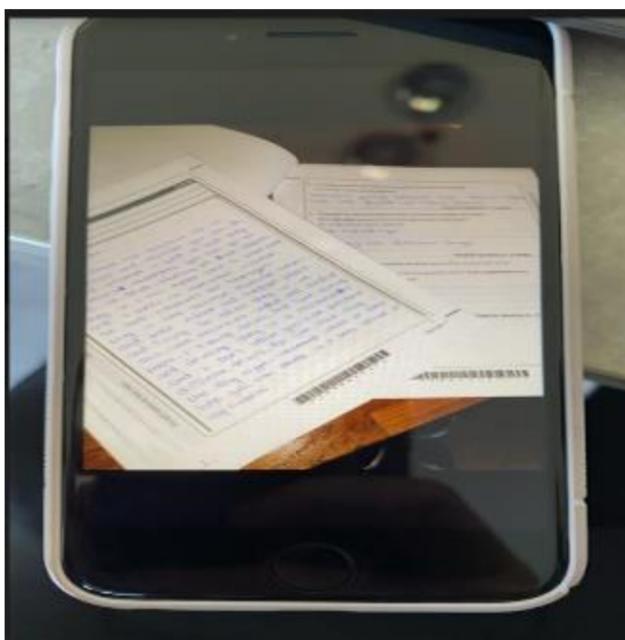
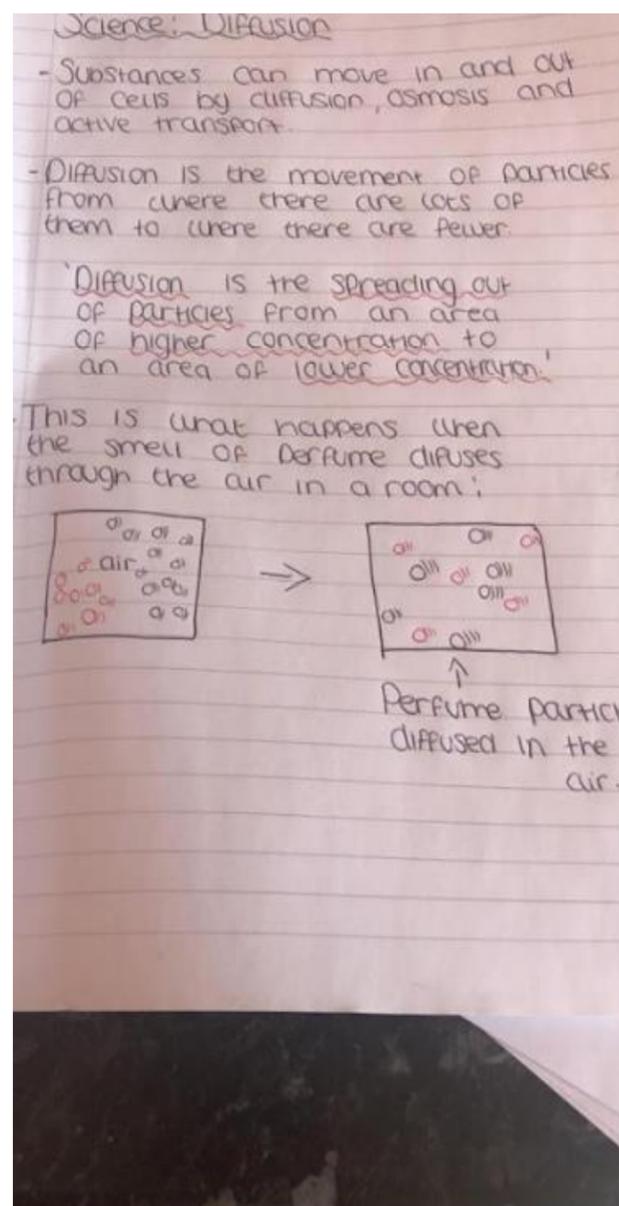
We are carrying on with the same programme of study. All subjects are following their schemes of work as planned. When students complete work they send it back for marking and advice for improvement. Teachers communicate with students via different and appropriate means including google classrooms, emails and phones. All the work and communication is monitored and students are rewarded for their

attendance, engagement and hard work.

To continue with our vision of Creating Unimagined Futures, Stone Soup Academy are dedicated to doing whatever it takes to support all our students, parents and carers through this difficult time. We will continue to ensure that our young people are looked after in every way to get the best education and to ensure that they secure the best possible outcomes.

*Some of the work that has been produced by our students*

## English and Science



# Fit Friday Improves Wellbeing of Academy

**Duncan Bennett**

Staff and students continue to thrive in our monthly fit Fridays. Once a month the staff and students take part in a range of activities to promote healthy lifestyle choices, improve wellbeing and keep active.

So far the list of activities has been extensive, ranging from 5k runs to ultimate Frisbee sessions. This term highlights are the staff and students basketball game and ultimate Frisbee sessions delivered by one of our sporting partners, Nottingham University.

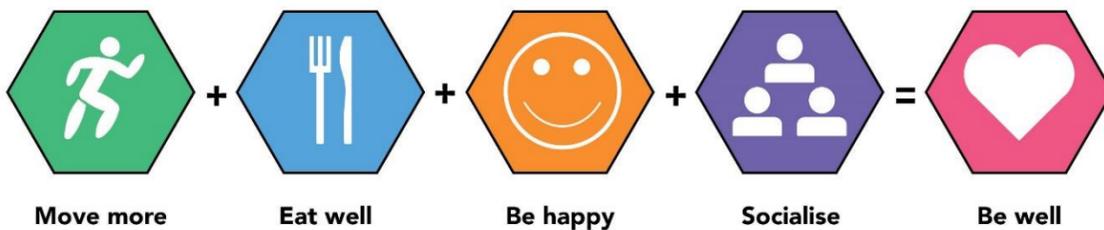
Every teacher is a role model for wellbeing and this has become one of the PE department's missions. With the help of Sport England and Cross fit, Stone Soup Academy have been promoting physical activity and healthy lifestyle choices to all staff and students.

The PE department continue to be involved in Sport England's Healthy Lifestyle project which involves targeting groups of inactive students and changing their lifestyle choices. The inactive group will be measured against punctuation, attendance, behaviour and engagement in lessons. The project looks at the impact of physical literacy on school life. The PE department is looking forward to sharing the results of this project at the National PE Conference in June and sharing the amazing work we do at Stone Soup Academy.

## Every teacher is a role model for wellbeing

**Together, we can help influence the daily habits of our students, while also remembering to look after ourselves.**

Why not try one of these example challenges, or even better come up with ones that work for you and aim to update this each week for students.



<b>Start a Couch to 5K</b> There are lots of free training programmes out there.	<b>Get to 10,000 steps</b> Try walking the dog or going out with friends or family.	<b>Get outside</b> Get out there and climb a hill or swim in the great outdoors.	<b>Get your shut-eye</b> Try going to bed earlier than you normally would.
<b>Get hydrated</b> Drink 2 litres of water every day to get (and stay) hydrated.	<b>Take a screen break</b> Get up and walk about every 30 minutes, or as much as you can.	<b>Take a night off</b> No planning. No marking. Chill out.	<b>Walk or cycle to work</b> If that's not possible, you could get off the bus a bit earlier.
<b>Get off Insta</b> Limit the amount of time you spend on social media.	<b>Try out a new sport</b> Join a team or try a new fitness class.	<b>Eat your 5-a-day</b> You already know the deal. Try out new fruit and veg for variety.	<b>Phone a friend</b> Ring up a mate if you need to chat. Or, reconnect with someone.
<b>Do something kind</b> Give someone a compliment or do something nice for someone.	<b>Download an app</b> Use a mindfulness or meditation app to help you relax.	<b>Get fit on YouTube</b> Try out an 8-minute HIIT workout with Joe Wicks or Fitness Blender.	<b>Eat a healthy breakfast</b> Fuel your day with a nutritious start.



# Time to Timetable our future Stone Soupers

Kyle Saddington

Within the Key Stage 3 provision we have created a new timetable that is creative. It has a wide variety of subjects so that the learners can experience the full range of education on a level that is fun and engaging for all. The subjects are as follows: Maths, English, Science, PSHE, Business Studies, ICT, Art, Music, Sport and Cooking. Key Stage 3 chose these subjects as we feel it is something that all learners will both benefit and help them develop their motor skills. It will also support transition to year 10 and 11 at High Pavement. One example of some of the activities we do, can be seen in business studies. This is a project that is ongoing throughout the year. This project started off with the Year 9 learners having to come up with an idea that they believed could make money. Once they had come up with this idea they had to complete a presentation professional enough to present to the Principal. Just like Dragon's Den, if the idea was a good one and the presentation was good then they would receive funding and then they could start their ideas. This was something that we saw as a huge success as all learners managed to secure the support they needed from the Principal. The idea is to repay the initial funding and then fund future trips for the Key stage 3 provision itself. This is just one example of projects and lessons we have done through the year.

One of the subjects that all of the Year 9 learners thoroughly enjoy is cooking. Through cooking, all of the year 9's take pride in what they are cooking and strive to make the best of what they are making. This is something that is amazing to see as the results of what they have cooked have been



outstanding. As you can see below in the image we made some chocolate brownies, these were all made independently following the recipe and instructions. This builds independent learning skills and as you can see the end results are great and the taste was equally as good.



# Engagement Team Aim for the Stars

Oliver Sillito

## Enrichment

We really believe in students having a positive relationship with staff outside the classroom which helps inside the classroom. We have had fantastic afternoons cooking, playing football, basketball, attending ice skating and ultimate frisbee lessons!

## New ideas that we hope to do in the future!

We have a number of new ideas that we are looking into as a school to hopefully do to help improve engagement!

## Lunch pass in faculties

We thought it would be great that teachers can vote for three students each week in their faculties and then they take the students out for their weekly lunch pass. This then gives more incentives for students in lessons and helps build positive relationships.

## Reward trips

We are passionate about finding new ways in which we can reward those students who are going above and beyond! Those students who attend every day and are on time and work really hard in their lessons on a daily basis. We are giving these students the chance to explore different opportunities for rewards for them to show them that if you do the work, that you will win the prizes.

## HT6 Project Term

We have been planning a project day for the new year 9s and year 10s when the year 11s leave. We really hope we can still do this with our learners and if we are back for the Summer! Here are some of the new things we are trying to do with it:

## Suits Day

With the success of last year we are hoping to book Broadway cinema again and we will be running it like last year. This year, the students who won the awards last year will be presenting to our new winners. We will also hoping to book some live performances for when parents and students arrive.

## Knife crime event

The last stand up to knife crime event in July went very well. You made have read about it in the Left Lion or watched us on Notts TV. We really would like to push this even further. We have spoken with some big name comedians who love the idea and also local artists, theatre companies and organisations who would love to be on board.

Left Lion wants to partner with us on this event and give us advertisements in their magazine. We had meetings with both Theatre Royal, Nottingham Playhouse and Nottingham Arts Theatre to possibly host it. We have confirmed this as of yet as we are waiting for updates regarding COVID-19. We are really looking forward to the event which should engage both students and parents.



## More on the project term includes

Staff vs Students football match  
Sports Day  
Media, Music and Art project day  
Holme Pierre Point day out  
Drayton Manor day out

# Parent Leadership Group

Becky Ashmore

Last month I had the pleasure of chairing our first parent leadership group. We already have a student leadership group, giving students a chance to voice their opinions and be heard, so we thought we would replicate this with our parents.

We had a great time drinking coffee and eating cake while they all shared their own Stone Soup journeys with me.

It was fantastic to hear things such as ‘Stone Soup just gets it right’ and ‘I wish my eldest child had got a chance to attend Stone Soup’. All parents celebrated the way that we communicate with them and could not praise enough the relationships staff have built with their children. One Mum said she had asked her son why he had engaged with Stone Soup and not mainstream, he stated the simple difference was that the staff at Stone Soup ‘love and respect him’. A stand out quote from one parent was ‘Stone Soup staff go above and beyond any other educational setting I have known, supporting in personal life issues and being that presence in a young person's life that they really need’.

Throughout the fantastic feedback I was given, it was extremely beneficial to hear them talk about ways in which we could improve and have them suggest ideas for the future that they, as parents, believe would benefit the students. I was given parents’ thoughts about how we could ease the transition from Richmond House to High Pavement for the year 9’s which was really useful and ideas regarding further support for our students from the SENCO which have now been put into place.

This meeting was very valuable for both us as an Academy and for the parents who seemed to thoroughly enjoy sharing their thoughts and experiences with both myself and each other. I very much look forward to the next meeting. If any parents are interested in

attending the next meeting or want to share their thoughts and ideas with me via email, do not hesitate to contact me at:

[rashmore@stonesoupacademy.org.uk](mailto:rashmore@stonesoupacademy.org.uk).

# Former Student Returns

Duncan Bennet

A former student has returned to the academy to carry out her college placement. She finished BTEC Sport with a fantastic grade at Stone Soup Academy and wants to work within the sport industry and has returned to deliver practical lessons to a number of our students. This has been great to see and highlights a successful pathway for our current students. She is a great example of the success one can have studying BTEC Sport and a credit to Stone Soup Academy.

Here she is celebrating suits day 2019



# Functional Skills, Functioning Well

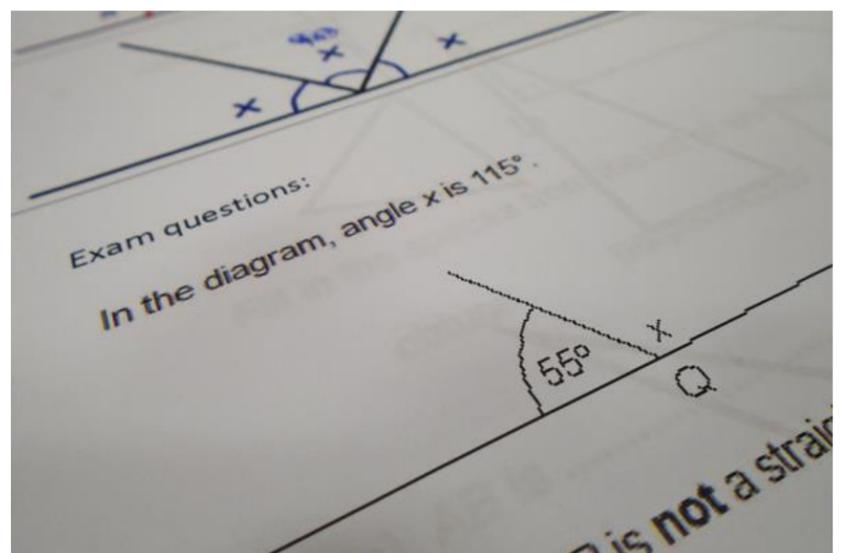
Felicity Bromley-Hall

It's been a busy term for functional skills. Storming through both Maths and English papers, a number of students have already completed Levels 1 and 2 – with excellent results across the board, and lots more to come. The tests are often accepted by colleges in place of/ alongside GCSE results, with a Level 2 being equivalent to a grade 4 (C on the old system) and Level 1 equivalent to grades 2-3 (E-D). So, with lots of great marks, we really have got a lot to celebrate!

As a new member of staff at the Academy, sitting with students for these exams really has been such a highlight. Having them work extremely hard and with such dedication to how these tests will impact their future has been so inspiring to see – for both students and staff, alike.

Special mentions must go to: Leo Roberts-Barton, for cracking on with both Maths and English tests in such a short space of time and being nothing short of a brilliant example to others; Ethan Grice, for staying in after school was over to get his Maths finished, and achieving the highest Level 1 grade alongside Logan Payne; and Owen Mason, for seemingly being in the office every other day for some kind of test or revision – and getting through it all! Highest in Level 2 Maths went to Eduardo and Matt Perry.

We eagerly await the results still left to come in – a very well done to everyone!



# Robertson Construction Day

Jordan Senior

To address Gatsby Benchmark 5 we arranged a career presentations and site visit to Robertson Construction site for a tour of a working construction site and a small practical exercise in bricklaying.

The agenda for the day was:

- Brief overview of Robertson Construction
- A short talk from our Project Manager & Engineer on site in relation to what their job entails – how they started within the construction industry and the qualifications required
- Progress update with details of the contract, the progress and what it will look like when finished.
- Site Safety Induction and talk before going on to the site.

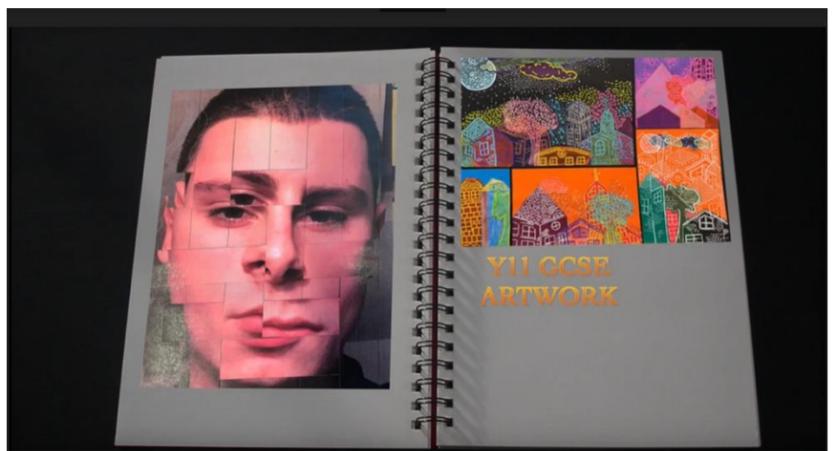


# THE MIGHTY CREATIVES

Fighting for the creative voice of children and young people

Matthew Murphy

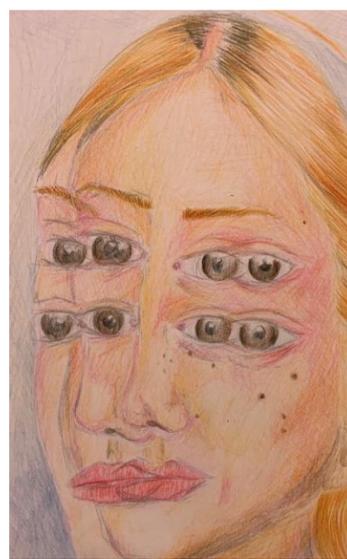
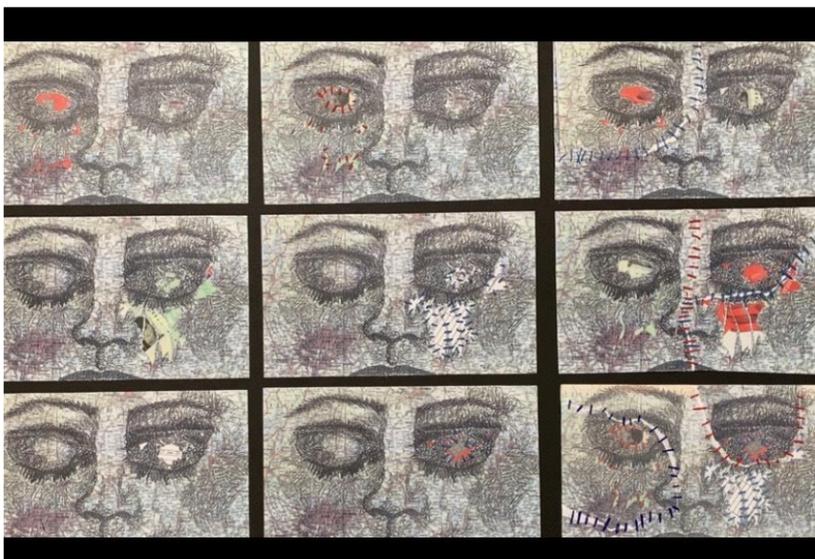
It is with great pride that Stone Soup Academy's Creative Faculty was shortlisted for The Mighty Creatives Learning team Award. Screenshots from the video that was created which demonstrated the outstanding work done across the faculty, and which impressed the judges, can be seen below.



## Creative Quarter

Holly Lee

During the past term the 'Creative Quarter' has been decorated with the student's incredible work. The pupils have been hard at work preparing for their exam. Each student has interpreted the exam brief differently and developed their own project and researched into different artists. This has resulted in some high quality, creative work. The students have experimented with different techniques and materials to create some innovative pieces of art. Below are some examples of student work.



# Physical, Social and Health Education

Osiris Santana

It has been an exciting year for PSHE here at Stone Soup Academy. We've had a variety of visitors come and hold sessions with our students to discuss issues facing our young people today. In an effort to raise awareness around drugs and alcohol, Izzy and Callum from Double Impact held sessions at the Academy for all year 11s, broken down into four groups over the span of two days. In these sessions, Izzy led the students through some candid and honest discussions about drugs and alcohol, substance abuse and assessed what level of knowledge our learners were at in regards to the risks of using and/or selling drugs. Each group of year 11s had their own opinions and experiences, however they all took to Izzy and Callum immediately and showed a profound sense of respect. This respect trebled in size after Callum shared his story, the experiences of a young man excluded in year 11 who turned to selling drugs and eventually using as well. Things spiralled for Callum until his parents were targeted for Callum's debts and he very nearly lost his freedom and, possibly, his life. The feedback was incredible, with all the year 11's showing a positive reaction and commending the experience.

We've also had Romel, a Youth Engagement Officer with Nottinghamshire Police, come in to build stronger relationships between the police and our young people. These talks have covered a variety of subjects including Cyber Crime, Radicalisation, County Lines and Child Sexual Exploitation. These sessions have helped build a sense of trust between some of our learners and the police, something that is vital in the fight to keep young people away from crime.

I also had a really productive and positive meeting with the folks from the Castle Trust. Gareth, the Learning Development Officer, and Josh, the Engagement and Participation Officer, had some fantastic ideas and are looking forward to working with our learners. We discussed getting the students involved in last year's successful project together for an unveiling of their poetry, which the Trust is looking to project on a wall outside the Castle. Gareth also mentioned a Young Leaders Program he was working on based in Clifton and getting some of those students involved, as well as photo portraits of Nottingham residents to be projected with the poems I mentioned before. Furthermore, Josh described some future activities that he'd like to get our learners to partake in. This includes testing a Nottingham based board game (available for students at both sites), trialling interactive based games and exhibits that will be installed in the Castle, having Josh visit both Richmond House and High Pavement to build anticipation amongst young people around Nottingham and giving students access to old tapestry maps in the Castle in hopes to make real life connections to the community.

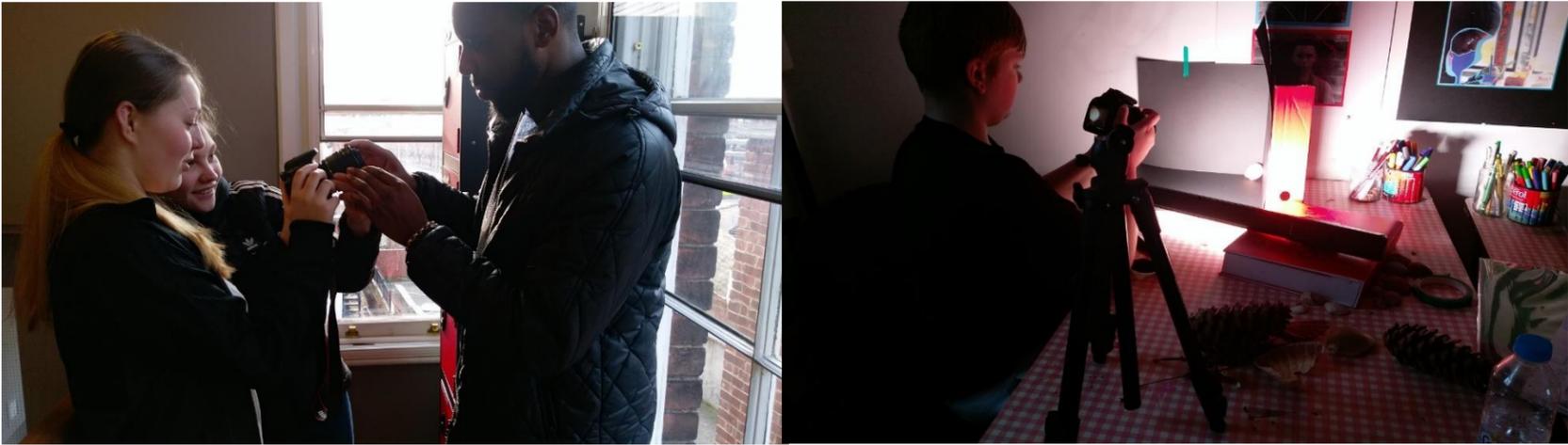
Gareth also talked to the group about an in-house youth group he's looking to start in September that would focus on mentoring, health and wellbeing and further access to the castle to help promote these. As you can see, there's lots to unpack and move forward with over the next two years with the Castle that I am very much looking forward to.



# Working their Socks Off in Photography

Sally Croft

This term in Photography, students have been working their little socks off on their exam! Some incredibly creative work has been produced which I can't wait to share with you once it's all been marked. Choosing from themes such as 'Repetition in Nature' to 'Concealment' the students have all created a real diverse and creative response.



Meanwhile, the Year 10's have been creating some amazing, and rather amusing, images inspired by the Photographer, Andrew H Walker.



# Wales Residential

Kyle Saddington

A number of students attended a residential in Wales this term and had a brilliant time. Here are some photos of the trip.



# Freedom to Express

Darrell Drummond

Our students have been studying Islam recently. They looked at the Five Pillars of Islam and sought to understand the importance of each pillar. We also looked at the life of several prophets and how different religions celebrate the relevance of these spiritual leaders. Celebrations were discussed and also jihad - the struggles that must be overcome in life. As a group we have had a good number of positive discussions around a variety of different subjects, not only from a religious perspective but also from a personal view.

The Year 10 group have all engaged with a lot of the subject material more than expected which is very pleasing. We have discussed religious attitudes towards the elderly and death, towards crime and punishment, towards the rich and poor in society and at no point have the students treated any of the topics with anything other than respect. This has allowed all of the students to express their opinions in a safe environment and explore their personal attitudes towards a wide variety of topics. As we move forward I hope that all our students can benefit from this time spent contemplating issues greater than ourselves.

Four of our Year 11 students have been preparing themselves for the summer exams. They have their revision packs with information and examples of previous questions. The resources that they can access have continued to improve and in these terms they can be more prepared than the cohort who began the course last year. This support will be there for the remainder of all our students time here at Stone Soup.

# Mighty Math

Darrell Drummond

KS4 students have been working hard these last two terms. The curriculum for Year 10 now mirrors that which is in place for the Year 11 group except for the fact that it is invariably not at the same depth of knowledge and understanding. However, the Year 10 group contains a number of students who could do very well in Maths and all of these students have been suitably challenged thus far. The prospect of a small but significant number of students being in a strong position to sit the Higher Tier exams next year is a real possibility.

Our Year 11 group have been working towards their GCSE exams and also sitting their Functional Skills exams too. This double-edged approach seems to be paying dividends in terms of enthusiasm for success and overall engagement with the subject. To prepare for the GCSE exams the students sat a complete series of mock exams. Attendance was good and allows us now to make more accurate predictions for their expected grades. Given the current situation this fact should make our tracking procedures stand up to external scrutiny and justify our faith in the capabilities of our students.

In terms of the Functional Skills qualifications the Year 11 students have been taking the whole exercise very seriously indeed and this has seen them recording some very creditable results. So far 18 of our students have passed their Functional Skills Level 1 qualification and 8 students have been successful at Level 2. These results have had a positive impact on all our students as they approach the end of their time here with us - they have seen that success is an achievable option and a future where they can stay in further education is viable.

## Some more photos from the term



# Stone Soup Academy Supports Next Generation of Souper Stars

Duncan Bennett

Stone Soup Academy were at the heart of launching the first ever Alternative Provision Football Tournament in Nottingham with a broad range of schools participating in the event. The event was held at Nottingham Forest football community centre and was a huge success. The Stone Soupers eventually finishing runners up in the end. The young and talented team consisted of five KS3 pupils and six KS4 pupils.

It was tough coming up against other AP's with all KS4 pupils and this was a welcomed challenge by our ambitious squad. The PE department believed in giving all students at our academy an opportunity with the team being one of few that had KS3 students and the only team to field female students. We were proud of our achievements and we will look forward to participating in the event next year and hope to bring the trophy back to Stone Soup Academy.

