

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been such a long time since we have been able to produce a newsletter and I hope you will forgive the lengthy silence. We have committed to producing more regular news updates beginning from this newsletter, so please rest assured.

Of course, the pandemic has transformed the way we work and affected all of us tremendously. I would like to begin by thanking you all for your understanding as we adjust the arrangements at school, which includes how often your children can attend. After a period of transition, I do think we have quite a settled plan but we certainly do want to offer more time in school for your child as soon as possible, and we will update as soon as the government updates on the national picture.

I would also like to thank you all for the efforts you have made to login and familiarise yourself with our remote learning platform **Firefly!** I know that is far from a substitute for your child being in school every day, which we would dearly love to see, but I hope it has provided you with some learning activities for your child and maintained some contact. I do know lots of parents have also liked the home learning packs. The staff team here have worked particularly hard over recent months to learn how to use **Firefly** and produce engaging home learning packs for you and I hope you can join me in thanking them for their huge effort.

Since the last newsletter, there have been a number of developments and you will learn of these within the letter. We have had a number of new children join the school and while it is very late, I would still like to take this opportunity to say 'Welcome to Queensmill' to our new parents and carers!

One of the other significant developments is that **Andy Nowak**, who has been a Deputy Head here at Queensmill over the past five years, has been appointed as the new **Head of School for Kensington Queensmill**, which will be part of our Multi-Academy Trust. I am exceptionally pleased for Andy and have every confidence that he will do a marvellous job at the new school. We are sad to lose him from the team here at Queensmill but we do have some exceedingly good people who are ready to succeed him as Deputy Head. I will share news of this development as soon as I can.

Finally, as we are all getting more and more familiar with using Microsoft Teams and **Zoom**, do please join Charlotte and others for Virtual Coffee mornings and trainings, when you can, to keep in contact with the school during this time of restriction.

Best wishes,

Freddie Adu

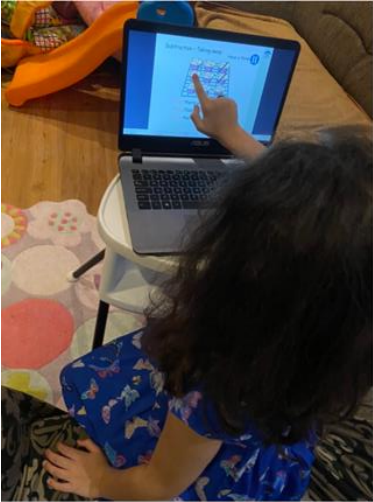


Term dates

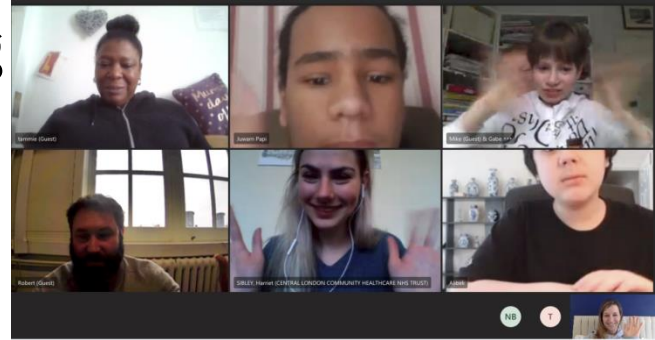
Half-term break	Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February
Spring Term 2	Monday 22nd February - Wednesday 31st March
Spring break	Thursday 1st April - Friday 16th April
Summer Term 1	Monday 19th April - Friday 28th May
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May



Firefly and home learning



Dear Parents and Carers,



Thank you for ongoing efforts to support the children with home learning and accessing the Firefly Platform. Firefly is a safe and secure learning platform that makes learning at home engaging, motivating and more accessible. Firefly extends school life beyond the classroom and gives every student the opportunity to continue to learn and achieve their personal best when they are not attending school. Through Firefly, parents and students can access home learning plan, links to pre-uploaded sessions and learning resources.



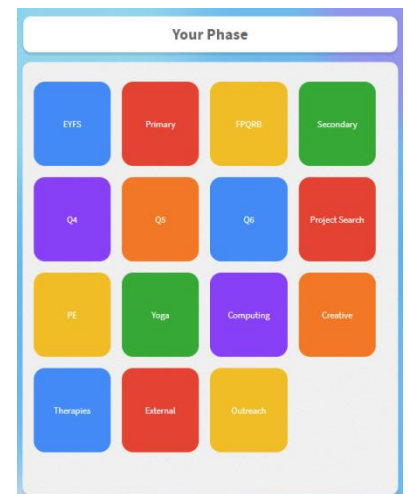
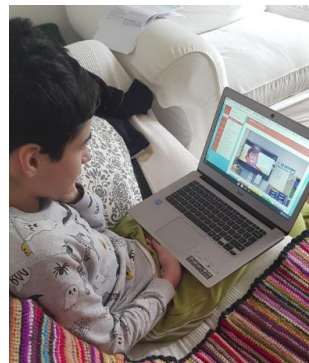
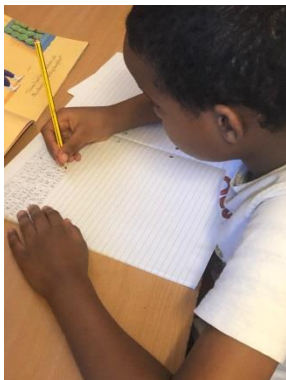
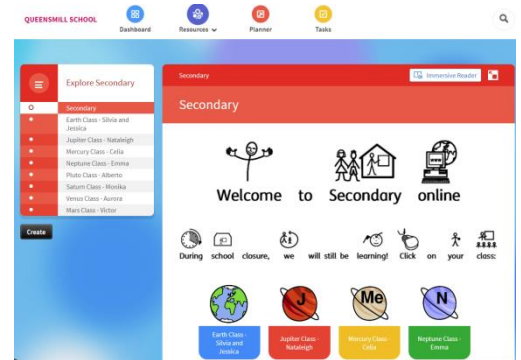
We understand that home learning is very different from school learning so please use the Firefly platform and home learning packs in a way that works best for you and your child. Please check our website for more info on Firefly, home learning ideas and resources.

During this lockdown, we have loaned laptops and iPads to the students to give them access to remote learning and we supported parents with getting the data allowance and internet access. Please contact the school or class teacher if you need access to the internet or would like to loan a laptop to access learning.

Kind Regards,

Joanna Dziopa, Deputy Head

Mary Uprichard, Senior Assistant Head





Kensington Queensmill

Progress on the new school in North Kensington continues.

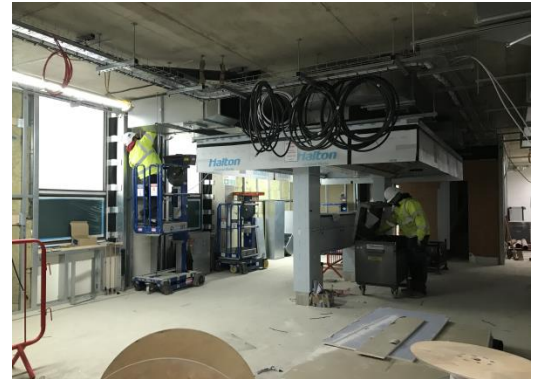
Despite the current national lockdown and cold and snowy weather the building team remain on site working hard towards having the new school ready for July.

Students have been busy in creating a new school logo and the first of our public consultation events was hosted this week, with another before the end of the month.

We are continuing to liaise with Department of Education, having submitted a comprehensive Education Brief and modelling of projected finances. The project steering group are working hard to ensure we meet the relevant deadlines and expectations. Alongside this we are busy identifying a leadership and group of teachers and other staff so that we are able to welcome our new cohort of students in September with all of the great practice and resources we currently have in place at Queensmill, tailored to the new community of families and young people the school will serve.

Whilst the school continues to look like a building site you can see from the images below that it is starting to take shape and we very much look forward to hosting an opening event in July, pandemic and building completion permitted.

Andy Nowak, Designate Head of School, Kensington Queensmill





KQ Logo Competition!

Students at Queensmill were given the opportunity to design the logo for Kensington Queensmill as we feel it is important that the children and young people are involved in the process and design of the new school. Judging was impossibly difficult and Freddie was joined by Andy, Joanna and Aymeline to make a decision. They were able to arrive at a set of finalists before arriving at the eventual winner and the finalists were:

Juliana Q5



Aisha I Daisies



Christian Rockies



Euan Tigers



Micah Appalachian



Mia Jubilee



Inevitably, there can only be one winner, and due to our impressive entries we would like to create a gallery ready for the KQ website and intend to enlarge and frame some of the entries and display them, in possibly the staff room, or other space at the new school, where they won't be a distraction to the children.

The winning entry was.....**Euan!**

It is a shame we can only have one winner but I hope you'll agree that Euan's winning entry is a fitting winner!

Euan Tigers





Early Years

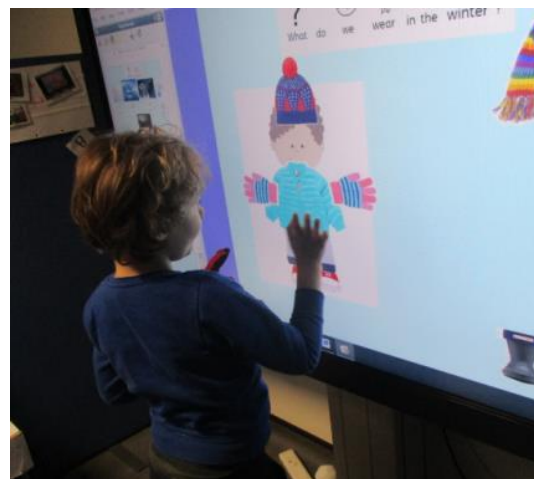
District class have been very busy this term exploring their topic musical instruments! We have been discovering a new instrument each week and exploring it through playing it, making it and listening to it! We have also been having lots of fun in our music lessons incorporating sounds with art. District class loved getting creative in the music room expressing themselves through painting and colouring whilst listening to a range of musical sounds to support their creativity!



In Jubilee Class, our topic for this half term has been wheels. We have been having lots of fun exploring vehicles with wheels: we drove toy cars through paint.

We have also been learning about the weather and seasons. We learned about the clothes you should wear in the winter, winter weather and hibernation. We also thought about the differences between summer and winter.

In phonics, we linked our learning about the letter i to our learning about weather and last term's topic 'our world' by building igloos out of ice cubes.



Circle class have had a wonderful year so far exploring the exciting topics of *Looking After Myself*, *Weather and Seasons* and *Cooking*. There was one session which our pupils really enjoyed where Circle class were learning about winter and how snow is formed. Students added water to 'the sky' which was a cardboard box with ice inside. Students could reach in and touch the ice to feel that in the sky it was really cold, then through a little hole out popped some snow. Circle Class absolutely loved this and were all actively participating for the whole of the experiment!



In Victoria class, students have been busy exploring hot and cold. They have learned to use the microwave to make hot chocolate and thoroughly enjoyed mixing water, food colouring and magic balls before freezing their very own ice gloves!



★ Primary

Waterloo class have settled very well into the primary department and are enjoying developing their independence as well as exciting new learning with a favourite topic being colours!



With the topic of food and drink, Bakerloo class have been reading Handa's Surprise in their big book sessions. Students have loved exploring and counting different foods both real and play in big book sessions as well as in topic and cooking sessions.



This term, Metropolitan class has been learning about "People who help us". The children enjoyed decorating their hats and they loved wearing them!



Piccadilly Class had great fun acting their way through Alice in Wonderland during Drama sessions!



Erykah (Alice) falling down the rabbit hole!



Hayssam (the white rabbit) being chased by Alice!

Elias (the mad hatter) posing for the camera!



Central class thoroughly enjoyed tasting food from around the world and this week are celebrating Chinese New Year! Students have also worked really hard beginning to understand the zones of regulation and corresponding feelings. It has been wonderful to see communication flourish and the staff are very proud!



Reading Room

During the summer, staff worked tirelessly to transform our old resource room into Queensmill's reading room.

The reading room is our calm space for engaging and creative reading. Students access and develop reading skills through a range of styles; traditionally, digitally, interactively and innovatively. The reading room is our quiet room, where students find peace in choosing how to engage with their learning in a comfortable and relaxed environment.

Here students have access to story books, big books, reading books, story sacks, props, a special interest library, laptop and ipad stations, augmented reality books and more all within a comfortable, focused learning environment. Teachers have been blown away by the students' independence and enjoyment gained from time in the reading room and are looking forward to developing independent research skills as they set projects in the future!

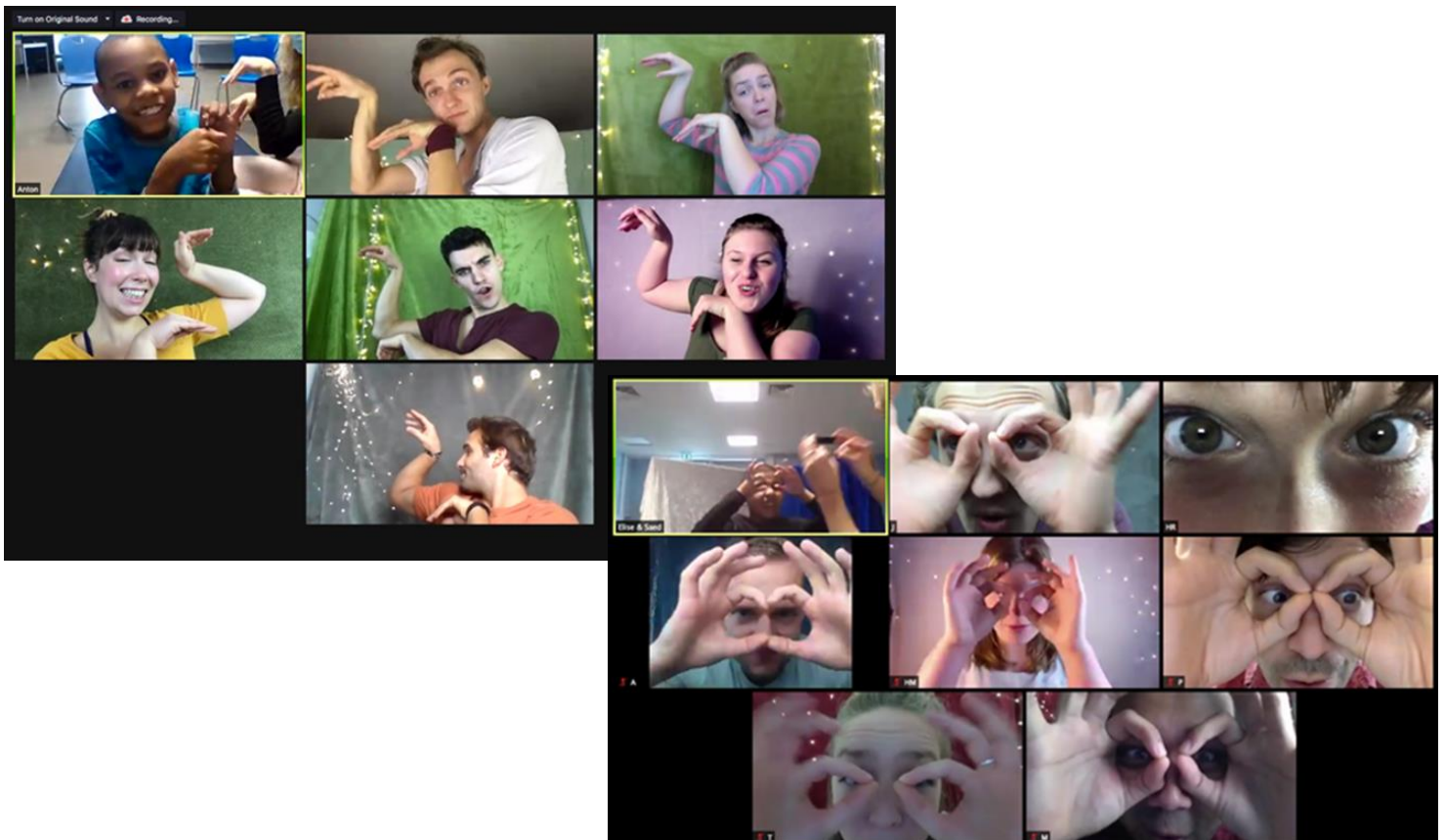




Creative Arts: Drama



Due to social distancing measures, we have taken our work with Flute Theatre online! Pupils across the whole school have had the opportunity to partake in virtual performances on Zoom. We have explored Shakespeare's Pericles and A Midsummer Night's Dream through interactive online games. Pupils have been laughing and playing alongside fairies, pirates, fishermen and Donkeys! The performances are a wonderful opportunity for pupils to continue practicing their creative skills, despite the new restrictions we face. As always, our pupils have showcased how beautifully expressive and magnificently creative they are.

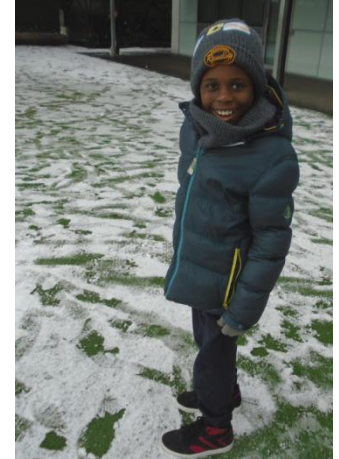




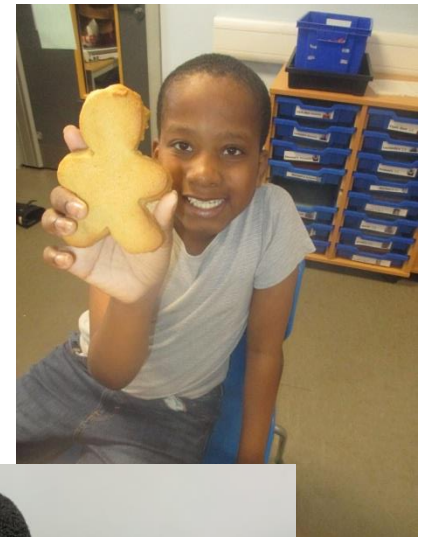
Secondary



Secondary classes have been busy with lots of engaging activities including calming art projects, games, cooking. The snow has brought us some joy and we have worked on building our relationships.



Mercury class students have fun in our weekly joint attention session! We all watch intently at what is in the bucket, watching different experiments, building anticipation, exploring different materials and taking turns!



Earth class have been enjoying their remote Signalong lessons learning daily routine, snack, feelings and keeping safe with covid vocabulary. Onestudent even had the huge responsibility of taking part in questioning the candidates interviewing for Kensington Queensmill Head appointment!





Post 16

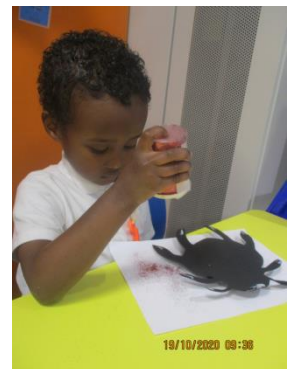
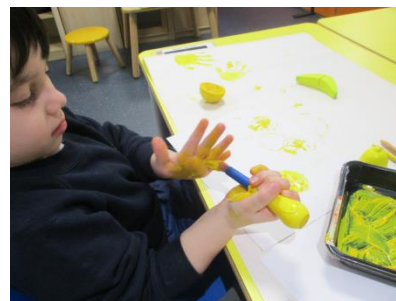
Since returning to school in September, Neptune class have been working hard on their life skills and work experience.

We have been helping to look after the playgrounds, keeping our classroom tidy as well as helping to maintain the hygiene in Q Gym. The students have worked really hard.



Pavilion

This term Pavilion class has been exploring food and colours! The students have enjoyed using food creatively; making faces, writing names and to make some wonderful art work!





Fulham Primary

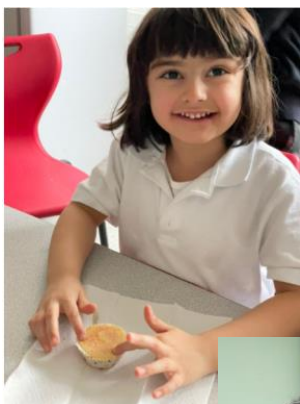
In Rhinos Class our topic is Ancient Egypt! We have been doing lots of research on the Pyramids, mummification and how life was in Ancient Egypt! We have been learning how to decode Hieroglyphics and also how to write our own sentences using the Ancient Egyptian form of writing. We have really enjoyed this topic and the different activities that we have been completing at home and at school!



"In this picture I am having fun at the gym, climbing, running stuff like that it was extremely fun I beat my best friend Euan speaking of him it's his turn now to type."

"I was making a custom-made cube block thing and had to re-do it again and it is really fun making it. Others can follow my design."

The students in Tigers class have been managing extremely well despite so many changes i.e moving classroom and not being able to see their friends everyday. We have focused on many creative ventures that the students have really enjoyed such as what Euan has described and kept ourselves fit and healthy with target setting goals such as Ethan has explored.

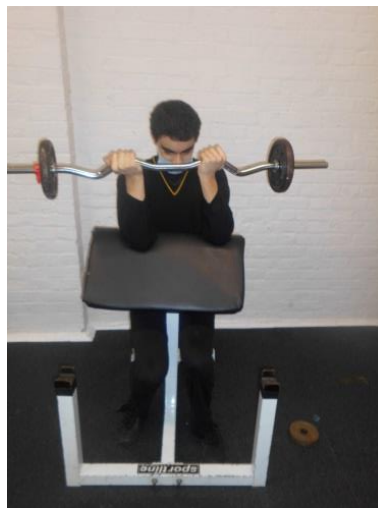
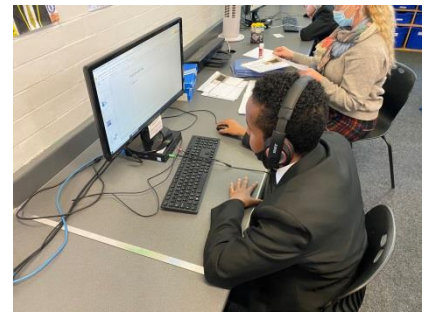


Prior to Christmas Daisies class had been enjoying lots of baking during their cooking lessons. They practice reading instructions, using different utensils to mix the ingredients and then decorating their baked goods. Daisies class has been adjusting well during this lock down period once again. We are so proud at the effort being made both for those coming into school and those working from home. Well done to Daisies class during such a tricky time!



Q4: FCBS

Q4 students have worked extremely hard over the autumn term, and students took part in lots of academic, creative and sporting activities. The photos below show hugely successful Himalayas Christmas decorations businesses. Students keeping fit in the Gym and Rockies class working on the open minds art activity. Over the spring term, we have students working both in school and online at home with students getting used to online lessons and video lessons.





Q5: Fulham Cross

Pupils in Rosa Parks class are beginning to develop their understanding about patterns and sequences. Pupils began by being given a variety of materials (e.g. beads, cubes, pencils, counters) and they were asked to explore how to make patterns with these. Some pupils were able to extend the patterns that their peers had created.



Florence Nightingale class continue to love their fencing lessons! They have also been working hard in their English and developing functional independence skills with their remote cooking lessons.





Q6: Queensmill College

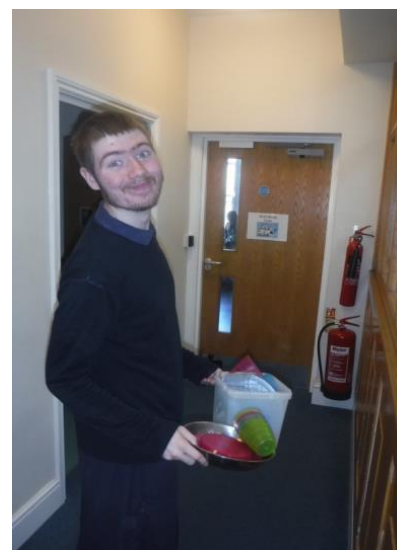
Q6 continues working on the Preparing for Adulthood (PFA) curriculum. During this untypical year, our students at Q6 haven't been doing the same activities in the community that we used to do before. Instead of these, we have continued doing lots of activities and exercise inside of our building and in the garden.

Exercise is one of our students' favourite activities. Ty is playing basketball and Matthew enjoying football and scooter. Kristian loves wearing the boxing gloves and doing some practice. We are lucky as one of our TAs is an expert so he teaches the basics to our students. It's a team work activity that the students enjoy. Students also follow a weekly routine of stretching activities, yoga and relaxation.



Life skills and independent living activities are daily part of Q6 students' routine.

Students have a daily routine of warming up their lunches and are in charge of doing the washing up at the end of every day.



Students are adapting their daily routine into the new COVID rules and they know how to use PPE equipment both at Q6 and out in the community.



This unusual year students' at Q6 have limited access out to the community for work experience. At Q6 we try to create new work experience activities for our students such as gardening activities.





Q7: Project Search

Despite the difficulties we are facing during the pandemic, our Project Search resource base located in West Middlesex University Hospital remained safely open during the Autumn Term, and during that time our six new interns worked towards the ASDAN Employability Award, learning lots of new skills.

During the spring term, so far we have not been able to be onsite at the hospital for safety reasons, but the interns are continuing to work hard and learning from home!



Nay would like to work as a receptionist. She has great social skills and always smiles! She uses her facemask correctly and she is very aware of the rules. Also, she likes to practice data-entry skills using Microsoft Office, so everything is well organised!



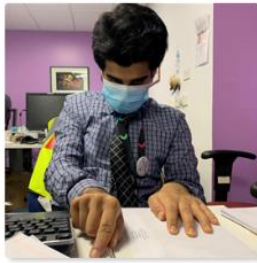
Here is Yoonis, he would like to work in a delivery company. He wears a mask and uses hand gel to deliver the parcels safely! Also, he received his certificate for completing successfully the first term. Well done Yoonis!





Jaswant's face to face interview

This is Jaswant. He would like to work in finance or in an office environment. He is practising interview skills with his teachers and completing a poster about health and safety.



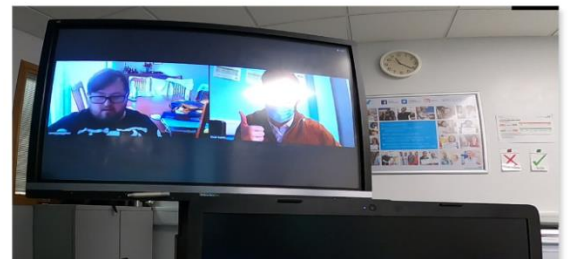
Piyush would like to work in a kitchen. He likes food and one day he would like to cook nice recipes. He learnt about Fire safety so he is aware of the possible dangers that may arise working in a kitchen.



Gavin wants to work in an office or in a DVD shop. One of the skills he is learning is to be more organised and here he is, rolling the wires up to make sure that customers don't trip on them. He also showed great interview skills during our practices!



Gavin's face to face interview



This is Cameron and he would love to be a DJ one day! In the meantime he is learning some "moving and handling" techniques for when he needs to move the speakers safely! He is also completing his online lessons by Zoom and, remembering road safety signs.





Therapies

Parent Workshops 2021

Time: 10.30am-12:00pm

Please see information regarding parent and carers workshops that the Therapy Team will be delivering by Zoom over the next couple of months. I will send out reminder emails with invites to the session nearer the dates.

Date	Topic	Speakers
11/02/21 10:30-12	Routines	Amy & Joe
25/02/21 10:30-12	Toileting	Ellie & Joe
11/03/21 10:30-12	Sleep	Charlotte & Anna
26/03/21 10:30-12	Play & Joint Attention	Amy & Elise
EASTER		
28/04/21 10:30-12	Intensive Interaction	Lucy & Elise
13/05/21 10:30-12	Home and Community Safety	Anna & Charlotte
27/05/21 10:30-12	Creating Communication Opportunities at home	Amy & Lucy
MAY HALF TERM		
TBC	Sensory Diets	Ellie & Charlotte
TBC	Eating	Ellie & Joe
TBC	Behaviour Management	Charlotte and Aaron

NHS Back on Track mental health session will be running on the dates below. I will send out emails with the details of how to join these sessions please note there is some paper work that needs to be filled in 3 days prior to joining these session

- Managing Anxiety and Uncertainty During COVID - **23/02, 11am**, parents
- Managing Your Mood During COVID - **02/03, 11am**, parents

Please contact Charlotte Spencer Family Support Practitioner for more information:

cspencer16.205@lgflmail.org or 0208 740 8112



New Appointments (from September 2020)

Senior Leadership



Lucy Capon- Primary Phase Leader,
Assistant Head



Jess Bowers- Outreach Manager, Assistant
Head

Teachers



Eleni- Waterloo Class, Primary



Robyn- Central Class, Primary



Christina- Piccadilly Class,
Primary



Alberto- Pluto Class, Secondary



Celia- Mercury Class,
Secondary



Teachers



Aurora- Venus Class, Secondary



Silvia- Earth Class, Secondary



Aleksandra – Florence Nightingale, Q5



Andy- DLR, St John



Therapy



Joe Foster- Occupational Therapist