



Seven Hills News

Message from Headteacher

As we begin a new academic year, it has been a real pleasure to welcome students, families and staff back to school. There is a genuine sense of excitement across the school as we look ahead to the opportunities this year will bring.

We are particularly pleased to be starting the year as part of Nexus Multi-Academy Trust. Already, there is a great deal of collaboration taking place between colleagues across the Trust, with staff sharing expertise, ideas and best practice. We are confident that these partnerships will translate into even richer learning experiences and opportunities for our students both in and beyond the classroom.

This term has also seen the launch of our new school values with staff. These values will help to shape the culture, expectations and aspirations that underpin everything we do.

Our next step is to introduce them to students in meaningful and engaging ways, ensuring they are not just words on a page but something that is lived and experienced throughout our school community every day.

Throughout the year, this newsletter will provide a window into life across the school, celebrating the achievements, learning and experiences taking place within our different pathways. We hope it gives families an insight into the breadth of opportunities our students access and the many ways in which they continue to learn, develop and thrive.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing another successful year with you.

Wishing you all a restful half term holiday.

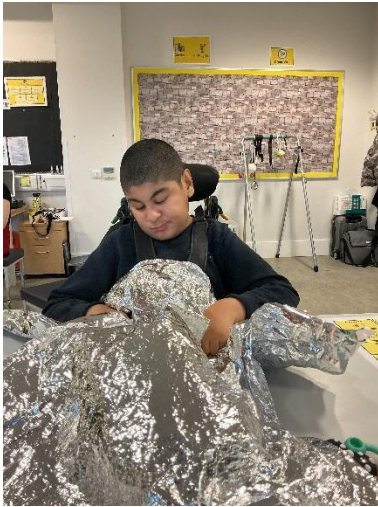
Kerry Tute
Headteacher



DISCOVERY PATHWAY

7HS Castles and Knights

During our Castles and Knights topic, students have enjoyed exploring resources in a range of sessions which represent different items within the topic, for example, silver foil blankets for a knight's armour, jester's hat and coconuts to make the sound of horses trotting.



Students especially like dressing up as kings in our sensory story and having their royal photograph taken! They have also made scratch art swords, stained glass windows and coats of arms, as well as exploring medieval music through playing different instruments.



DYNAMIC PATHWAY

7CH – Exploring Autumn

During the term students from 7CH have been exploring Autumn and the changing seasons as part of their communication lessons. During these lessons they have worked on communicating their wants, needs and preferences using their vocabulary boards and other preferred methods. Also , these sessions have supported sensory development, curiosity and engagement.



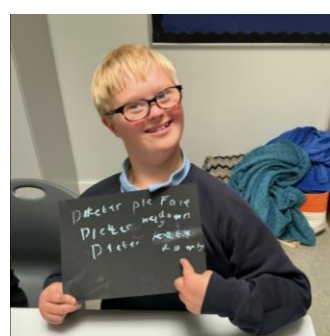
ENQUIRY PATHWAY

7FL – So much happening!

7FL completed a team building challenge where we worked in pairs to make a lego structure identical to the one that the teacher had made. It required excellent observation skills and attention to detail.



We also began our topic of, 'Childhood'. We have explored what childhood was like in the past through playing games from the 1950's; role playing a Victorian classroom and washing clothes using old fashioned bars of soaps and washboards.



ENQUIRY PATHWAY

7HM – Exploring the Theme Childhood

This half term, 7HM have explored 'Childhood' through the story *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*, sharing special memories, family experiences and personal interests. Students celebrated their similarities and differences through memory bags and creative activities. In Food Studies, they explored 'growing up through food', preparing delicious, nostalgic dishes.

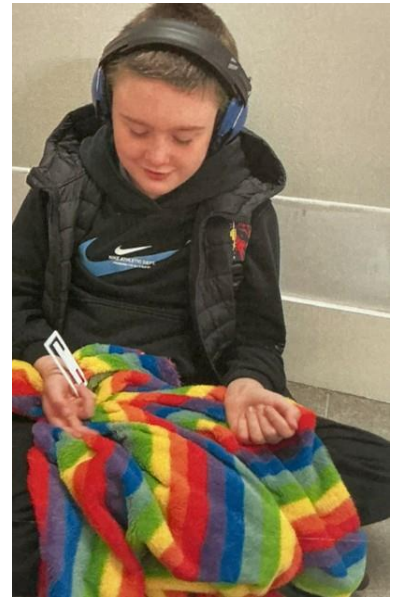
In '*Shade and Shelter*', students investigated materials and their properties through practical science experiments, testing strength, waterproofing and suitability. In History, they explored homes and toys from the past, discovering how materials have changed over time. Students also created fantastic artwork inspired by homes, shadows, and warm and cool colours.



INVESTIGATION PATHWAY

71C – All About Me

As part of our 'All About Me' topic which we started the school year with, we have used our senses to explore the story of The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister. We created a small word ocean scene, made paper plate jellyfish, as well as a giant rainbow fish as a class project.



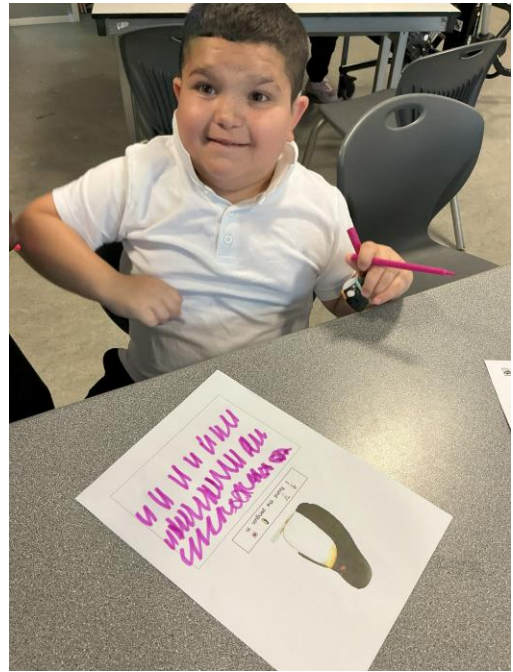
The pictures show the students exploring different parts of the sensory story as well as using our cutting and sticking skills to add rainbow scales to the rainbow fish. All of the students hard work this half term is proudly displayed on the corridor outside the classroom.



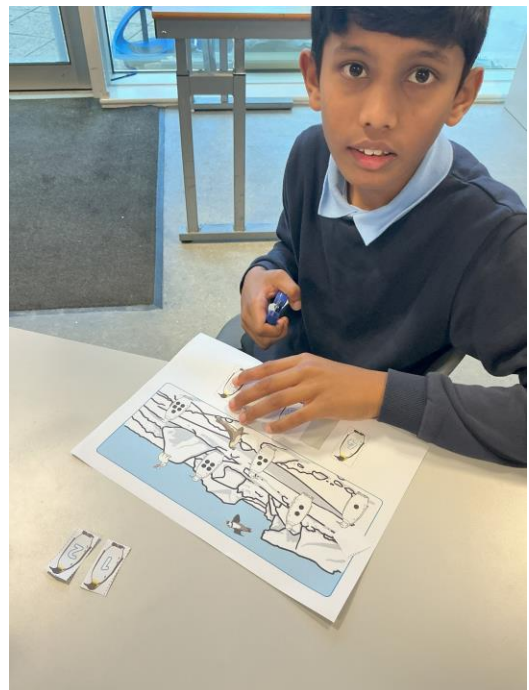
INVESTIGATION PATHWAY

7RS – How we start our day

As students settle into the start of the school year, 7RS have been using the morning registration time to warm up ready for a day of learning. They have enjoyed a range of communication, cognition, fine motor and social activities designed to help them to settle into the day and prepare for the first lesson.



With a different focus on the four fundamentals of learning each day, students can use this time to expand their understanding of taught activities, whilst working on their collaboration and independence skills!



POST 16

16AC – Graves Park trip

16AC visited Graves Park Animal Farm as part of their community lessons. We enjoyed looking at all the different animals before heading to the café for a lovely hot chocolate!



Post 16

16EP – Trip to Norfolk Park

In 16EP, we enjoyed a fantastic school trip to Norfolk Park. Before our visit, we worked together as a class to carefully plan what we would like to do and explore at the park. Once there, we had great fun playing on the different playground equipment, enjoying the fresh air, and taking a walk through the beautiful trees.

The highlight of the day was our visit to the café, where every student confidently chose and/or ordered their own food, putting into practice the communication skills they have been working so hard to develop. It was wonderful to see their growing independence and confidence shine through.



The trip was a huge success, filled with smiles, laughter, and memorable experiences. We were especially proud to receive compliments from members of the public about our students' behaviour. It was a truly special outing, and we are very proud of them all.



POST 16

16JC – Sounds and Letter Shapes

This half term, we have been concentrating on the sounds and shapes of our letters.

We have been practising our letter formations, recognising the starting letters for nouns and the letter sounds in CVC words.

Building on this knowledge, we have been trying to put letter knowledge into practice in our communication and interactions.



Parent Events

Our Parents & Carers programme has had a flying start this term, and it has been wonderful to see so many families getting involved. We have already hosted a Welcome Coffee Morning, a Parenting Workshop, and an informative session delivered by Mencap.

A big thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to the recent poll and help us choose the topic for our next parenting workshop. Your feedback is invaluable in ensuring our sessions meet the needs of our families.

If you are experiencing any difficulties or feel you would benefit from some additional support, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via the school office. I am always happy to help. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events.

Sharanah
Family Support Worker



Dates for your Diary



Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October	Half Term Holiday
Monday 2 November	INSET Day – No students in school
Thursday 5 November	ADHD Drop-In Advice Session (off-site at Scotia Works)
Tuesday 3 November	School Starts
Wednesday 25 November	Preparation for Adulthood Team Advice and Support Session
Wednesday 9 December	Parenting Workshop: <i>Developing Independence Skills</i>
Friday 18 December	Break up at 2.45pm
Monday 21 December– Friday 1 January 2027	Christmas Holidays