



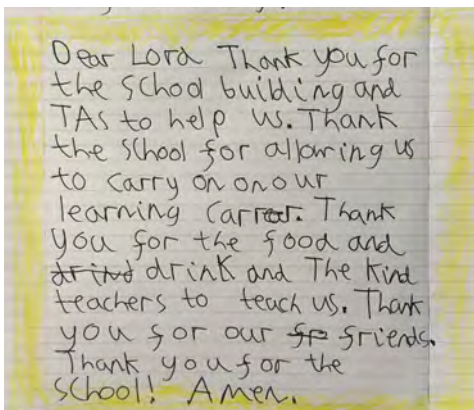
# THE WORKS



**Mr Wall**  
Deputy Head  
Teacher

As the half term comes to an end we want to celebrate all of the fantastic work that our students have produced. I know that for many members of our school community this has been a really challenging term. However, despite this it has been amazing to hear and see the incredible effort that students have been putting into their lessons, many going above and beyond what is expected. Unfortunately, we aren't able to share everyone's work but in this newsletter we have included a small snapshot of what has been produced day in day out by students working incredibly hard and truly embodying our virtues of Wisdom and Resilience. Well done to all our students and thank you to all of you for supporting their learning whilst they are at home.

A prayer written by **Nathan in Year 7**



## NEWS

### MITRE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS UPDATE

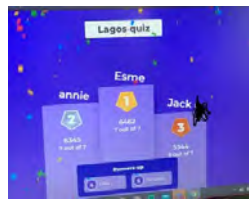
By Matthew Parris CEO, Minster Trust for Education

Considering the difficult circumstances, it has been a pleasure to work with the 7 MITRE schools as they have responded with resilience and optimism to the challenges of recent weeks and months. Head Teachers across the schools have been working together to :

- Develop remote learning
- Establish onsite provision
- Review health and safety
- Implement testing
- Plan for assessment in the absence of exams.



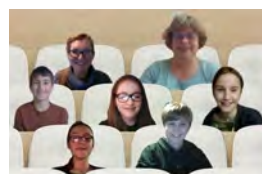
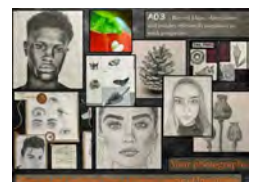
By working together we have been able to find good solutions, share the load and develop really effective practice, with much ongoing effort as we work through the remainder of the academic year.



This term the schools have done an incredible job responding to last minute closure notices. At the heart of each school's efforts is the desire to keep children safe and to provide them with the best education we can in the circumstances.

The richness of activity is apparent in the work children are producing and the way they are engaging with learning in new and interesting ways.

Our thanks go to all in the MITRE schools community: to the students and pupils working hard and doing their best; to the staff developing new skills and committing their efforts to supporting children; to the parents and families for their ongoing support and encouragement.



Wishing the community of schools a restful and recuperative half term break, with hope for coming weeks and months as new opportunities emerge and schools can come back together again.

## CELEBRATION HOUSE WEEK



410

This half term we have continued to celebrate student achievement through e-certificates which have been sent home to those students attaining their bronze and silver WORKS certificates. Departments have celebrated student achievement through the awarding of e-certificates to congratulate students for the fantastic work that has been submitted along with electronic WORKS points.



340

The week's celebration assembly announced the winners of a range of house competitions, which have all accumulated into house points. A special shout out and well done to 9CR3 who have won the House Tutor Quiz twice in a row and who claim to be the cleverest tutor group in the school! Congratulations to the tutor groups who have accumulated the most WORKS points for this half term - 7CR1, 7TW1 8TW1, 8TW2, 9CR2, 10CR5 and 11TW2.



320

The house competition continues to be as competitive as always. Clumber have taken the lead, followed closely by Rufford. Welbeck are in third place, however Thoresby have closed the gap significantly since last half term. The house totals are on the left.



310

We have launched a range of new competitions for our students to get creative over half term and away from computer screens, which are accessible to students on our tutor time page of the Keep Up site.

We're really looking forward to seeing the entries as they are submitted and how the house competition pans out next half term. Will Thoresby take the lead over Welbeck, will Welbeck come back fighting or will Clumber retain the lead over Rufford.



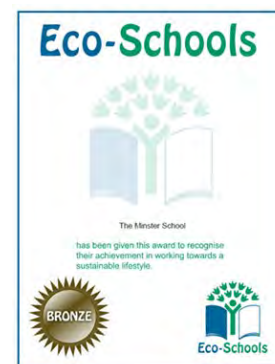
A big thank you to everyone who selected the Minster School for their Co-op charity over the last year. You helped us raise £7,500 funding for our IT department. The first round of Coop funding raised £7509.65 towards a subscription to GCSE Pod online learning platform. The MSPTA have been successful in securing a second round of funding with a focus on the Junior School and Music department which currently stands at £878.77. In order to benefit, we need you to select us here: <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/42636>

Alongside the Coop funding the current fundraising focus is on outdoor equipment/shelter. So far, this academic year, the MSPTA have taken part in the Big PTA Christmas raffle organised through Parentkind as well as signing up to Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising, using alternative ways to raise money in the current climate which are proving successful.

## ECO BRONZE AWARD

Receiving the bronze award was fantastic news and caused great excitement. The eco committee have achieved this award, through being creative and using new and different ways of working. A huge well done and thank you to Arthur, Eilidh, Weronika, India, Sophie, Dominic, Grace, Emma and Eloise for your leadership, creativity, and resilience.

The group focus is now on working towards the silver award and the eco committee are enthusiastic, that school closures, year group bubbles and moving to being virtual, won't hamper their efforts in continuing to work with the school community to gain the silver award. Congratulations to all of the community as it is by our collective actions that we have gained the first award in working towards the Eco Schools Green Flag award.



## MEXICO DAY

### SPICES UP THE LUNCH TIME MENU



Thank you to our wonderful Mid-day supervisors and all the kitchen team for delighting us with a Mexican themed lunch. It lifted our spirits in a week where we were focussing on

mental health. The Mid-day supervisors, Becky and Teresa, very kindly made and decorated cupcakes and provided a lunch of chicken and beef tacos for our Junior children. Your efforts are appreciated by us all.

## YEAR 7 ENGLISH IMAGERY POEM

Sparkly, golden sand as bright as the shining sun.

Glimmering, lime colouring grass blending into the beautiful, golden sunshine beams, making you feeling your home sweet home warming you up all safe and sound at the fireplace toasting you up underneath your feet.

Thank you **Anna in YR7** for a beautiful poem written during an English lesson.

## YEAR 8 SPANISH



By Muhammad

el café español

primer plato:

sopa del día: tomate la sopa  
ensalada con pimientos, lucuga y  
tomates  
coronilla

de segundo plato:

la tortilla española  
calamares  
paella  
el pescado y patatas fritas

de postre:

el helado de chocolate/fresa/vainilla  
em panada con manzana



By George



05/02/2021

Menu:

Primer Plato

- Pan de ajo cursi €1.00
- Bolas de masa y palos de zanahoria €1.00
- Palos de pan con palitos de pepino y zanahorias €1.00

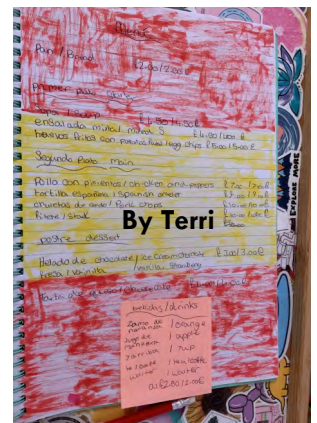


Segundo plato

- Paella €3.00
- Tortilla de patata €3.00
- Ensalada Waldorf €2.00
- Caldo de pescado €3.00
- Gazpacho Clásico €3.00

By Kaitlynn

Spanish –



By Terri

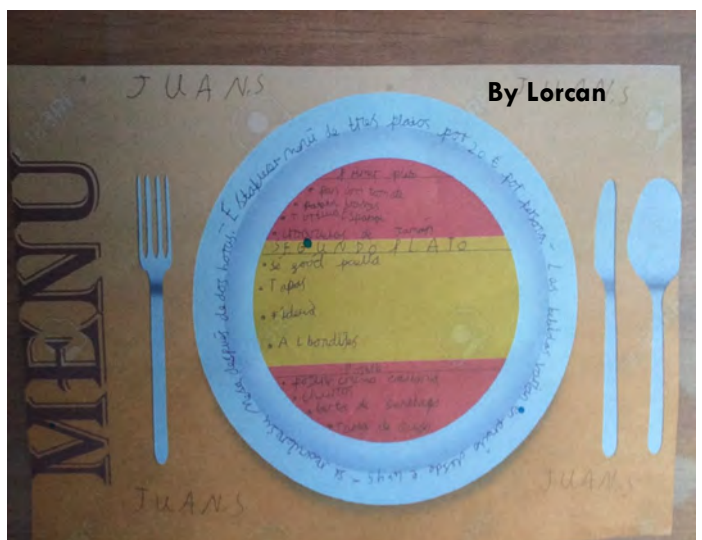
## MFL COMPETITION

Students had to label items around their house using post-its or pieces of paper and make a montage of the photos in the language that they study: Spanish, French or German. Congratulations to the winner; **Samuel in YR8, Welbeck house.**



Above and below:

Spanish menus created by Year 8 students, Delicioso !



By Lorcan



## CREATIVITY, QUESTIONS AND QUANTUM CONNUMDRUMS

BY BEN, YR12

Traversing through time like Doctor Who or soaring through space in galaxies far, far away may seem like figments of science fiction, with no possibility of becoming realities. However, the crux of the scientific discipline is endeavouring to explain the inexplicable, understand the unfathomable, and expand humanity's knowledge of the universe.

Materialising that which was once believed to be mere fiction has been proven possible through science – the development of pocket-sized super-computers (smartphones), for example. Yet seldom is science considered a creative endeavour. One would suspect that the ruthless, logic-fuelled rationality of scientists across the globe fuels advancement, however it's creativity that's at the core of scientific progress. The people working at the frontiers of scientific understanding are, by nature, some of the most creative people on earth. An archetypal example of this was the establishment of quantum physics – arguably the most influential advancement in physics yet. Not only was it charged by creativity, but it is the prime example of a theory, once thought to have been ridiculous, becoming one of the most crucially fundamental, globally accepted theories ever.

In the 1860s, scientists knew that all objects of sufficiently high temperature emitted radiation. Physicist Gustav Kirchhoff imagined a theoretical object - a perfect emitter and absorber of radiation - which he called a 'blackbody'. He strived to determine a formula which described the different amounts of radiation of various frequencies emitted by a blackbody. While physicists of the time had a seemingly accurate understanding of radiation, nobody could solve this problem.

Yet some problems cannot be solved using facts and logic; they require divergent, lateral thinking, and great creativity. Revolutionary physicist Max Planck had exactly this. He proposed that, contrary to all existing scientific evidence, electromagnetic radiation, like visible light, is found in discrete "bundles", or "quanta", which behave like *particles*, not like waves as all previous findings had proven. At the time, scientists believed Planck's theory was nonsense. After all, light diffracts just like all other waves - it cannot possibly be a particle! However, Planck found that while the laws of classical physics were unable to solve the blackbody problem, his counterintuitive proposition matched the experimental evidence of the time. Planck's antithetical theory led to the development of quantum physics as we know it.

Creativity is the use of imagination or original ideas to create something new. Planck was the epitome of creativity, creating a completely novel, and extremely valuable, theory which was a paradigm shift in our scientific understanding. Richard Feynman once said that "the price of gaining such an accurate theory has been the erosion of our common sense". While some problems seem unsolvable, scientists must be creative and perceive the problem from unique angles, creating theories to understand the once unfathomable.

As demonstrated by Planck and his quantum theory, creativity is a fundamental aspect of the scientific process. If a theory cannot fully explain a phenomenon, it is inaccurate or incomplete. Developing new theories requires great creativity and cannot be achieved with the stereotypical "brute-logic" of science. The fact that Planck challenged scientists of his time, their predecessors, and humanity's entire understanding of physics, proves that his theory was *not* fuelled by logic or the known laws of the universe. It was his creativity, used to explain the experimental observations scientists had, which led him to devise this seemingly illogical, yet crucial, theory that would change physics forever.

Without creativity, science would be stagnant. It is an iterative process of critiquing current explanations and posing the questions necessary for improvement. Scientists must create new hypotheses to replace those which have been refuted. This requires repeated improvement, made through a global network of inventive scientists' creative contemplation. Science is as much about asking questions as it is answering them. The vigorous testing of hypotheses is vital in creating flawless, comprehensive explanations. However, the formation of these hypotheses cannot be achieved through methodical reasoning alone. Rather, it is through ingenuity and originality that these questions can be posed in the first place.

Without questions, there are no answers. While it may be the logic-fuelled rationality of the scientific method that answers these questions, it is down to the creativity of individuals to ask them.

## ENGLISH POETRY

The poem:

She rested, she waited,  
The old woman listened to the brilliant birds,  
She stood and watched the dazzling sunset,  
As her wrinkled face looked like a prone,  
Her kind all-seeing eyes sparkled in the sun.

*The Women*

*The happy proud women stands like a hero  
As she looks at the ocean blue sky  
As fluffy clouds scatter along the air  
From down on the ground the women stands like a statue*

*Her wrinkled feet touch the rustic dirt  
While she curls her hand on the bamboo stick  
The sun bright upon her face as she starts to smile  
She wears her well-loved old vintage clothes in the hot day.*

My poem.

She rested, she waited  
The old woman listened to  
The giggling birds chirping around her.

Her smile gleamed as she strode down the old brown path.  
Her old crusty flip-flops just about supporting her feet.  
She was such a small elderly woman.  
Her thin blue shirt keeping her warm on the cold days.

The sun, was shining bright and warm over the horizon across the pale blue clear sky, gave sunlight over all the places and water so you could see the animals.

The tall cliffs, were standing straight like soldiers guarding the island, as they protruded from the water.

The coloured shrubbery, sat like spectators viewing the land, inviting the eye to go from colour to colour.

As old as the world she trapeses across the land like a camel trying to find water.

She wanders along the fields of straw and wheat and hacks away at the crops.

And when the sun is at the end of the horizon she strolls back to her abode.

When she arrives after long trudges through the land she takes a seat and consumes some of her days work.

Then after the day she climbs into a mattress and frame like a feather falling on a carpet.

The day quickly goes by for her while Birds and bats and the animals of the night stalk round.

This is her life like your profession and like your profession she has to wear clothes but not specific.

Her clothes are of plant fibres and seams of string made from wild sheep she keeps in her makeshift barn like gigantic sheds.

And the day repeats and repeats and repeats until the day of sadness where body meets ground.

What if?

As we trenched and limped on,  
Singing a Jolly Little Song,  
Bomb Shells crashed behind us,  
If only a little more Kindness,  
Children, Adults, All,  
Could all of us just not have to fall,  
Dreams teared out and cut apart,  
Drenched with fear and blood,  
If only I could have,  
Could have what?  
I wasn't suddenly just going to make the cut,  
Did the Flag get waved too late,  
All those lives they could have been saved,  
The taste of that Warm, Crisp, Bread once more,  
Instead of them all having to fall back into their graves.

The waves, **viciously like a cheetah**, crashed against the big rocks.

Beaming down, **like the light of heaven**, the sun's rays were magnificent.

Mr Wilson, **who was petrified of the water**, placed his big toe slowly into the deep blue water.

**The clear, turquoise ocean, which glistened in the sun, was surrounded by large, sandy cliffs peering into the sun-kissed beach. Heather shrouded the undergrowth, glowing deep shades of lilacs and purples. Soft, beige sand - shaping a beach - was tucked away, nestled in the corner of the cove.**

**The vibrant pink flowers, dazzled with heat, overlook the incredible mountainous beach.**

The energetic blue of the ocean, which was curiously watching for the people splashing, was lonely.

The white of the rocks, which got too warm, hid from the warmth of the sun.

**The lively green grass, which was crawling with worms, was growing.**

**The dynamic sun, a massive ball of heat and lava, provides warmth and growth for all.**

The old crooked woman

Weather burnt face,  
Skin as tight as a tie,  
  
Screwed up trousers,  
Long wooden walking stick,  
  
Brown dusty floor,  
The tall broad horizon.

An old soul standing on dry, dusty ground,  
Tall, wavy blades of grass,  
Cut into her skin.  
Her big, baggy clothes weighing her down,  
As she crosses the savannah.


Her kind, battered face,  
Determined to get home.  
She is like a fire,  
Dangerous but warm.



The tall, wavy plants,  
Are blocking her path.  
The small, dried-up shrubs,  
Are making a wall to stop her.









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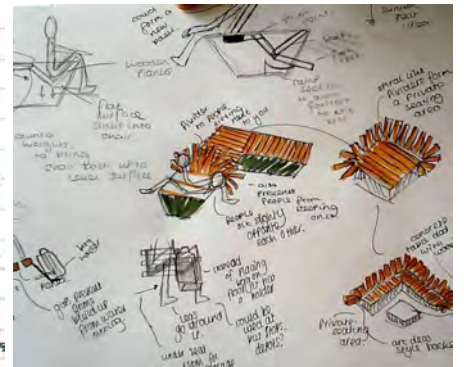
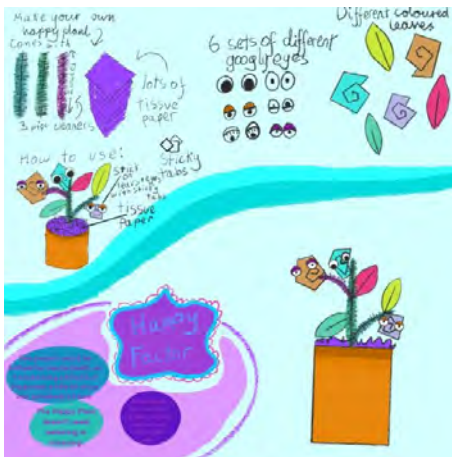
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## PE LOCKDOWN FITNESS



## DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY





## KEY EVENTS

### KEY DATES:

**Wednesday 24th February 2021:**  
6th form musical theatre showcase, 7.30pm

**Tuesday 2nd March 2021:**  
Year 7 parents evening, on-line, 4.00pm to 7.45pm

**Wednesday 10th March 2021:**  
Singer songwriter lockdown sessions, 7.30pm

**Thursday 11th March 2021:**  
Year 12 parents evening, on-line, 4.00pm-7.00pm

### HALF-TERM SCHOOL HOLIDAY

**Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February**



### AIR POLLUTION PROTECT YOUNG LUNGS

Air pollution is small particles, chemicals and gases that are released into the air, which is damaging our environment and our health. Some are naturally occurring, such as dust and sea salt, and others are man-made like vehicle exhaust fumes.

Southwell Town Council is working to improve the air quality in our town. With this in mind, it has formulated a plan, which is being looked at by the District Council, to improve our cycling infrastructure. We would like to hear from students and carers as to how the Council could support and encourage them to walk or cycle to school. Please contact:

[cllrkarenroberts@southwell-tc.gov.uk](mailto:cllrkarenroberts@southwell-tc.gov.uk) with your thoughts.

Please help to protect young lungs and avoid idling in cars anywhere, particularly near the Minster School and our precious children.



### NEW LIBRARY PAGE

Bored of lockdown? Why not join the library page? The library page is a space for you to try fun activities, get ideas for new books to read, or tell us about what you've been reading. You might want to make a map for an imaginary land, or design a playlist for your favourite character!

The page is on SharePoint, and any student is welcome to join. To be added please speak to your tutor or English teacher or email [library@minster.notts.sch.uk](mailto:library@minster.notts.sch.uk)

### GRACIE & POPPY RUN FOR CHARITY

Gracie, Poppy and their Mum are taking part in a challenge to run during February to support an important charity that is in need more than ever - MIND.

"The coronavirus pandemic is having a huge impact on our mental health and there are others out there in our family, friendship groups and wider community that are facing long term challenges.

We all need somebody to fight our corner, to listen, offer support and advice. Nobody should face those times alone and Mind is a charity that does exactly that, so if you can get behind it, we can all play a small part.' If anybody would like to donate, we have set up a Just Giving fundraising page at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/katrina-blunden3>



### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

**Cathy Porter**

Collective worship continues during remote learning. Twice a week links to our reflections are put onto the Keep Up page for students to access. These short reflections give us an opportunity to come together as a community despite being at home, as we make the time to think about our values and all that shapes our community to be a place where we can support each other to succeed. Maybe while we have this unusual opportunity we could join in together as families, grab a cuppa and enjoy a reason to pause in the week.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW GOVERNORS



I'm **Reverend James Halstead** and I've just joined the Governing Board at The Minster School, as the representative of the Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham. After 10 years serving as a Vicar in a different part of the country, I moved to take up

a new job with the Diocese here in 2019. My role is all about teaching and training for adults who are a part of the church – whether in official positions of authority or simply looking to get to know God better and find their place in the church. With that in mind, I'm thrilled to be getting involved, with a particular view to building on the good relationships and collaborations between the school and the wider diocesan family. I've been a Governor before – serving for eight years at two separate schools – but always in primary education: I'm excited to see how everything develops as I now move up to 'big school!' I know the Minster School deeply values its Christian foundation, and I'm looking forward to being a part of the Church of England's ongoing and profound commitment to educating and equipping young people for all the challenges and opportunities which lie ahead. I live in Southwell with my wife (a GP) and 2 daughters (currently at Lowes Wong Junior) – I'm looking forward to meeting you, just as soon as that's possible.



I am **Michele Atkinson** and am delighted to be joining the governing body of a school which means so much to the young people and parents of the local community.

My association with the school spans many years and in several different guises, first as a volunteer offering French conversation for post 16 students, which led to a week's school experience as I considered retraining to be a teacher. Little did I know that fourteen years later I would return as Curriculum Team Leader for Modern Foreign Languages, later to join the senior leadership team with a remit to develop the school's outreach partnerships and lead the Teaching School and Maths Hub.

For the four years before my retirement in April last year I worked with governors, trustees and senior leaders to set up MITRE, the Minster Trust for Education, being the nominated school improvement lead for the trust. But, maybe most importantly, I am the parent of four former Minster School students who between them attended the school from 1996 to 2015. In that time I have seen the school go through many changes and challenges, and it seems always to emerge stronger and a better place to learn and work.

It is this experience which I hope will enable me to support and challenge the school to be the best version of itself to the benefit of each and every student.

### Share to WIN!

5 winners get £100 each

Ends 28th February



Please support the MSPTA - Southwell on #easyfundraising this year, you can raise FREE donations when you shop online with over 4,400 retailers. It's simple and only takes 2 minutes to sign up! This will make a BIG difference to us during this difficult time. Plus, if you sign up, we'll get a £5 bonus donation:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/msptasouthwell/?referral-campaign=c2s&utm\\_source=stwsharebox](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/msptasouthwell/?referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=stwsharebox)

Share to Enter

Earn 3 entries when you share across all three socials!

Contact us:

Email : [office@minster.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@minster.notts.sch.uk) | Twitter : @minster\_school | Tel : 01636 814000 | [www.minster.notts.sch.uk](http://www.minster.notts.sch.uk)  
MSPTA Facebook: @MSPTASouthwell