

December 2024

# MARJORY KINNON

Newsletter



## Important Dates:

20th December  
**Last day of term**

6th January  
**Return to School**

17th-21st February  
**Half Term**

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# Cultural Day



On Friday, December 6th, Secondary had its first Cultural Day of the Year! The theme was "Christmas around the world." We all had the chance to share traditions of our own cultures as well as explore new ones. All the students learned key vocabulary in multiple languages and earned stamps while travelling through the world! The common room turned into a relaxing winter wonderland, and we enjoyed Christmas truffles.

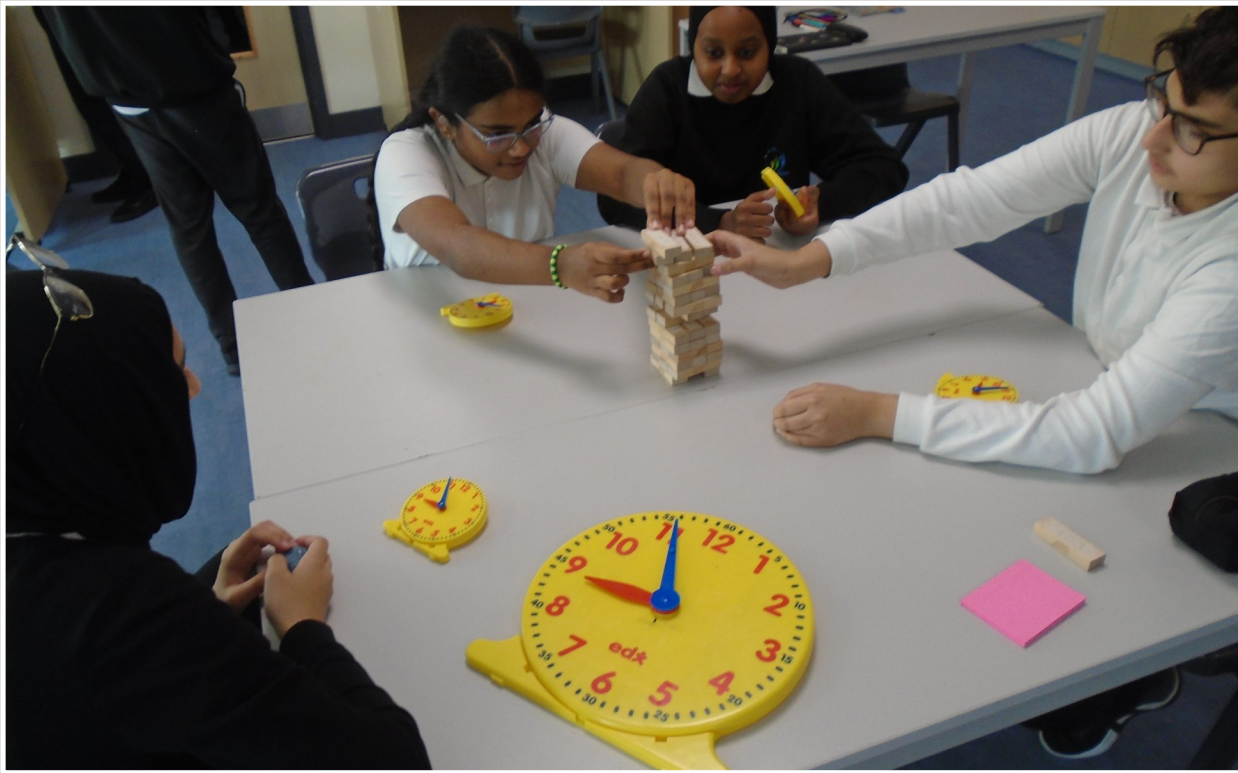


# USI

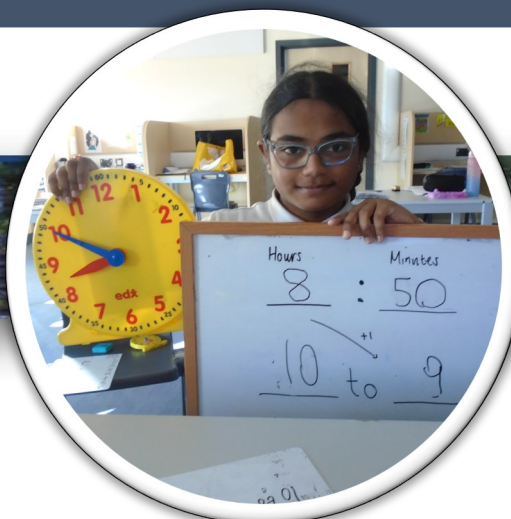


This half term in US1 we've had loads of fun getting involved in some super interesting projects! Each week, we have taken part in the Kier Construction workshops. In these, we've developed our planning and design skills, creating our kitchens. We've also been focusing hard on some vital skills in maths, being able to tell the time and follow a calendar. Lastly, we've spent a lot of time in the kitchen, practicing our cooking skills, ready to serve up a delicious Christmas dinner!





This term in PSHCE, the pupils in US2 have taken a very mature approach to learning about body health, which links to the pupils' rights of: 'Every child has the right to the best possible health' – Article 24. We have learned how to assess and manage risks associated with cosmetic and aesthetic procedures, including facial cosmetic surgery, body cosmetic surgery, tattoos and piercings. Pupils have also discussed the media's portrayal of idealised and artificial body shape. In Maths lessons, the pupils have been working really hard on developing a vital life skill - Telling the time. They have also been planning events using a calendar.



# US3



US3 has had a very productive term. They have been working hard on all of their Btec subjects continuing to complete their course work. They have enjoyed making various meals during home cooking and are looking forward to creating a small end-of-term celebratory class lunch. Some pupils have been on external trips to QVC, inter-school football tournaments and attended various workshops run by Keir Construction. US3 are thoroughly looking forward to the Jump Giants trip which has been organised by one of their class peers to celebrate him winning the Jack Petchey Award.



As we wrap up another fantastic term in Outdoor Learning, LS5 took advantage of the cold weather to focus on festive, indoor crafting activities that brought the holiday spirit to life this term. The children worked hard to create beautiful Christmas-themed characters and decorations, demonstrating their fine motor skills, creativity, and teamwork.

One of the highlights of our indoor activities was making Santa and Snowman characters using lolly sticks. The children painted, glued and assembled these charming crafts with a keen eye for detail. It was wonderful to see their personalities shine through in their designs, each piece as unique as the child who made it.



The children also created delightful Cork Snowmen, which were mounted on long sticks. These whimsical decorations were designed to complement the flower pots and plants that they lovingly potted during an earlier lesson adding a festive touch to their floral creations and showcasing their growing artistic talents. We hope these crafts bring a little extra cheer to your homes.

# The MKS Choir



The MKS choir has recently celebrated its one year anniversary! - And in that year the pupil's singing ability and confidence has come on heaps and bounds. After several performances at school events throughout the year, this half-term saw the choir's first performances within the wider community.

We started December with a festive performance at REACH Academy and also sang alongside the Feltham Community Choir. We then went on to spread Christmas cheer at Sunbury Nursing Homes, a performance that was thoroughly enjoyed by the residents. The month was rounded off by singing at a community carols event held at school.

The pupils have stayed committed to attending rehearsals so I'd like to thank them for turning up every week and having a great time singing! Watch out for more to come in the new year... Merry Christmas Everyone!

*Puzzle challenge: In the mornings as part of our teamwork and interactions, pupils are encouraged to build puzzles together. They have made excellent progress since the start of the school year. Two of our pupils can build a 100-piece puzzle in less than 10 minutes, earning them the nickname "Puzzle Machine"*



*During the second half of the Autumn Term, US4 has been busy learning new skills. Some of which included learning how to sew using needle and thread. First, we sewed a button, then proceeded to attach two pieces of fabric to each other and added a ribbon—the result were beautiful plush heart ornaments we are gifting to mums and loved ones. Excellent work boys!*



# US5



Another half-term has come and gone, and it's a big one! The past term was filled with a lot of excitement and learning and the class has had an absolute blast! We were very lucky to be invited for a trip to Heathrow to find out about all of the different jobs that are available to our students. We were given some insight on security, IT jobs, how to become part of the cabin crew and even how to become a pilot!

The class has also been loving their Work and Life Skills BTEC lessons, as they have been cooking up a storm in the kitchen and learning vital independence skills. Hopefully, over the holidays they'll help out in the kitchen at home and serve up some great quality food at home too! It's been a wonderful first term.

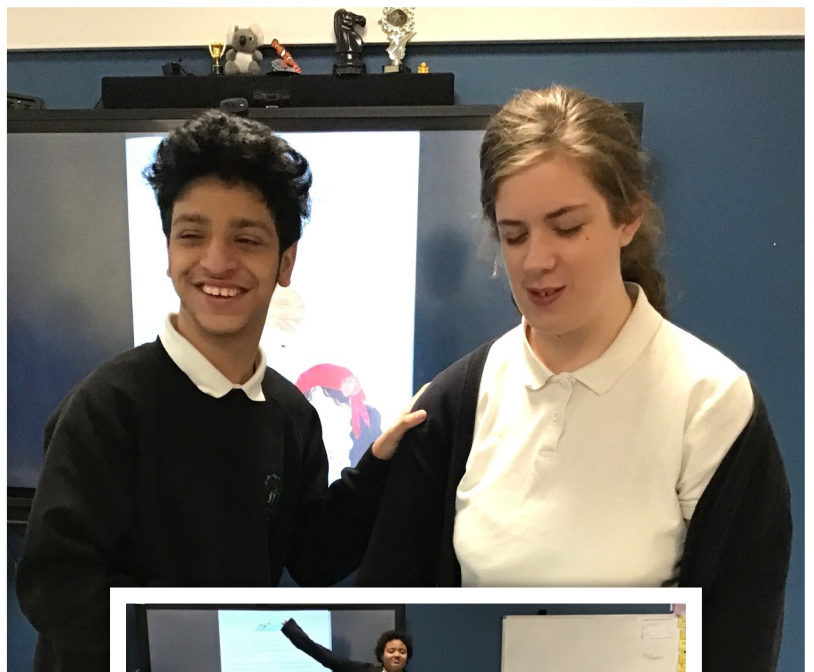
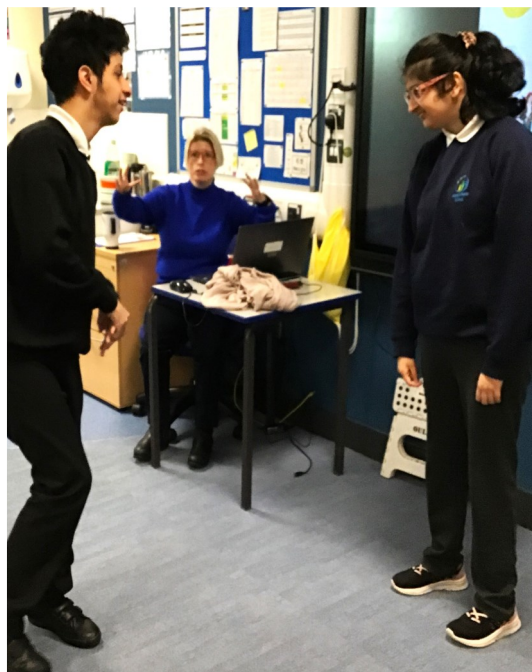
With lots of love from the US5 team, we wish you and your family a fantastic and relaxing break. Happy holidays, Merry Christmas, and have a beautiful new year.



# US6



Once again Class US6 were working hard to develop their comprehension in English lessons. This half-term's book was 'Ossiri and the Bala Mengro' by Richard O'Neill and Katharine Quarmby. Pupils acted out some of the scenes from the story. The class has also learned about some of the history of the Romani and traveller communities.



# Science



Our Year 11 BTEC students are taking part in the research and development of a chemical product. They have been learning about the process of brainstorming ideas, researching how to produce their products, and then testing their creations. Some of the products they have made include playdough, bath bombs, and even candles!

US5 have been learning about types of trace evidence such as shoe prints, fingerprints and hairs and fibres. The pupils have practised lifting fingerprints from objects and identifying the different patterns and points of uniqueness. US5 have also recapped how to use microscopes as these will be needed to observe hairs and fibres.



# Land-based studies



We ended the year with our learners finishing some of their assessments in BTEC. The units we have been focusing on are 'Tool maintenance' and 'Preparing a bed for planting'. On tool maintenance, learners need to check that the tools are fit for purpose, clean, oil and return to the tool shed.

On assessment, preparing your bed for planting involves the following: weeding, double digging, adding fertilizers, consolidating, placing a drill line, seeding or planting out, and cleaning and storing all tools.

# Autumn 2- Art and Design

## Year 11 BTEC Art and Design - AD12: Creating Prints

It's been printing galore for US1, US2 and US3 this half term! They've been investigating a number of block printing techniques: collagraph, poly-block and lino, producing some phenomenal outcomes based around pattern and natural forms. All classes have worked consistently hard throughout the design process researching, analysing, designing, developing, refining, producing and evaluating! Phew!



## Year 10 BTEC Art and Design - AD5: Creating an Art Image

US5 have spent Autumn 2 researching artists and making developments as well as learning how to create a realistic self-portrait using pencil tone and watercolour paints. Their high levels of focus and perseverance have really paid off, what an amazing set of self-portraits.



## US4, US6 and LS5

Students have researched and made work in response to the sculptures of artist, Niki de-Saint Phalle. They've studied and discussed her work, learning new key vocabulary and spent time creating a number of detailed step-by-step drawings of mythological creatures. Classes have explored various materials and techniques with great enthusiasm, producing some wonderful outcomes.

