



Autumn 2

NEWSLETTER

TWO RIVERS High



It's that time of year... Our 'Foil Fancies' Christmas tree is on display at St Editha's Church, Tamworth. Made in Art lessons by year 7 & 8 Explorer students and a little help from Voyager. Thank you to everyone who voted for our tree as best dressed... We came **3rd**! All money raised goes towards the upkeep of the church. **Thank you** for your support!

Welcome

to our latest Two Rivers High School.....Newsletter!

At the end of a busy Christmas week it is time to say goodbye to a few staff who are leaving us for new adventures. Mrs Lawton and Ms Bennett are both moving to other schools to further their careers. Mrs Harrison, who has worked at Two Rivers High for 14 years is moving not too far away, to Two Rivers Primary school so I am sure we will still be in touch.

In January we welcome two new teachers Mrs Billingsley and Ms Hollyoak and we hope everyone will return fit and well.

We are looking forward to watching the postponed A Fairytale Christmas Carol play which will be an evening performance on 1st February 2024. **Miss Gail Brindley, Headteacher**



A huge thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the Christmas Raffle - we raised an amazing **£300!**

Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to **Morrisons** for the kind donation of our real Christmas Tree displayed in reception. Our students have enjoyed hanging their handmade decorations on the tree, and also a huge thank you to **Asda in Tamworth** for the kind donation of our potted Christmas Tree. We hope to plant the tree outdoors so we can watch it grow over the coming years.

Upcoming Events

Last Day at school - 22nd December 2023

Staff Training Day - 8th January 2024

Pupils return - 9th January 2024

Friends' Association Coffee & Chat Morning - 25th January 2024

Parents' Evening - 30th January 2024





Tree Planting - National Tree Week

27/11/23- 1/12/23



For National Tree week everyone in school had the opportunity to plant a tree which had been donated by the Woodland Trust.

It was a whole school team effort which helped to improve the health and mental wellbeing of our students. The trees will hopefully add to the biodiversity in Forest School, provide our school grounds with new habitats and food for wildlife, provide our students with cleaner air and help to fight climate change issues.

This half term in English lessons, Ariane have enjoyed using a range of language devices such as: alliteration, similes, repetition, onomatopoeia etc. Inspired by Daniel Thompson's book "Being You, Poems of Positivity" (a local author from Tamworth), students have written their own rhyming poems:

Lola - My hamster is called Flake and he ate a cake.

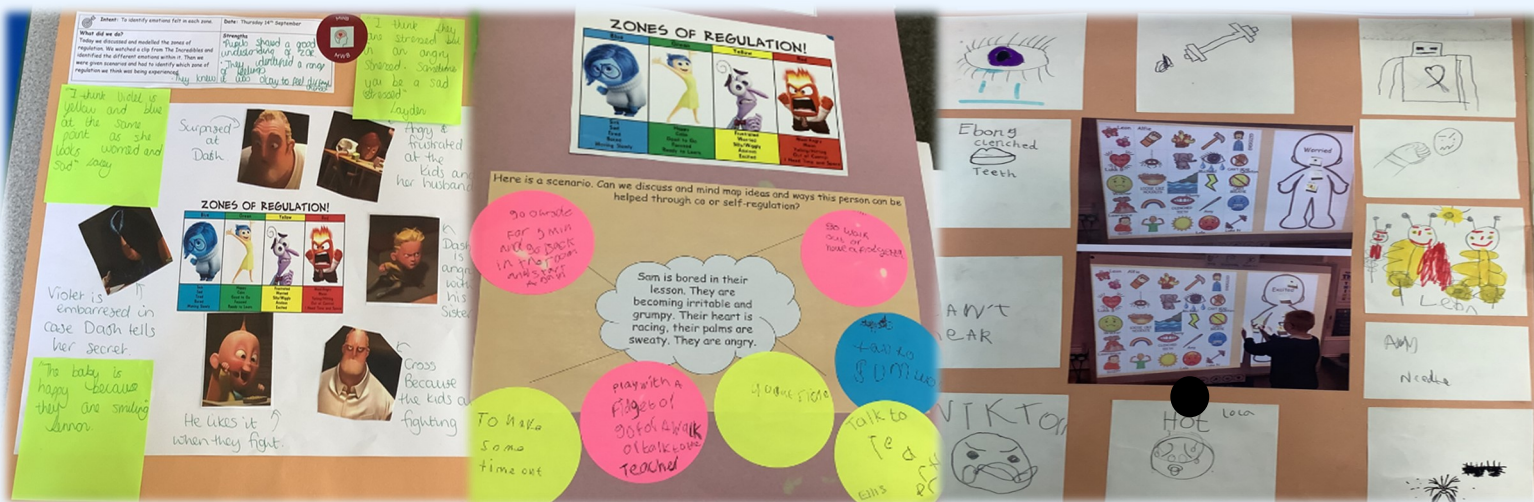
Luke N - My cheese has a disease.

Ebony - My dog is fluffy, mucky and lucky.

Wiktor - The frog is swimming, the dog is digging.

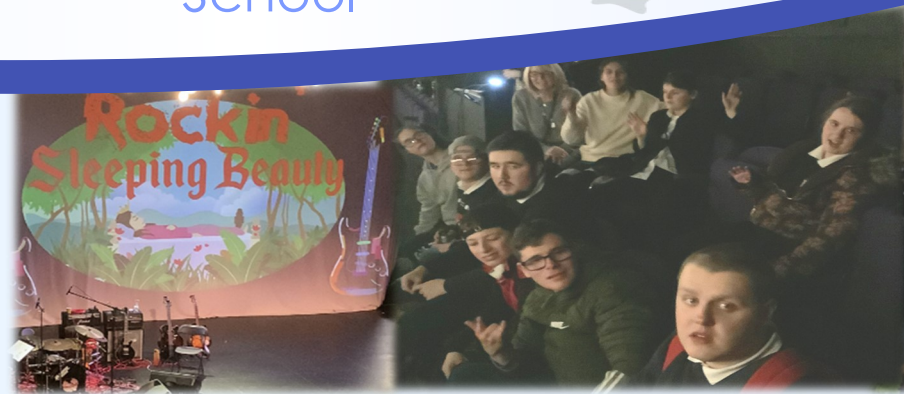


This term as a school, we have focussed on our understanding of mental health and wellbeing. Years 7 and 8 have learned about the zones of regulation and how we can use these to support us. Years 9 and 10 have practised a range of strategies to promote wellbeing including mindful walks, cold therapy and yoga. Our Pioneers have looked into understanding mental wellbeing and how to self and co-regulate. We believe it is essential for our pupils to understand the importance of looking after their mental health and look forward to next term's new learning!



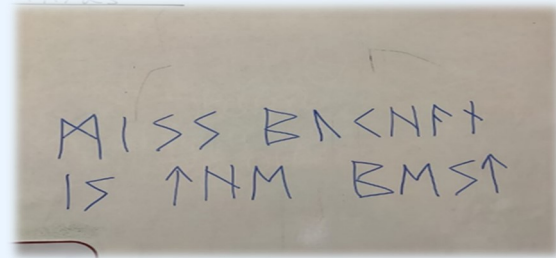


School



On Friday 8th December, students from Discoverers and Pioneers enjoyed a visit to Holroyd Theatre to see Rockin' Sleeping Beauty. Amelia said "it was one of the best pantomimes I have seen" and... Tamara said "it was fabulous!"

Universe have had an excellent start to the year. This half term, we have looked at the four operations in Maths, and have all greatly improved our knowledge of +, - and x. In History, Universe worked hard to write their names in Norse, the ancient Viking language! They even left secret notes for Miss Buchan to decode! Can you decode the message?



Allegro hosted a book sale to raise money for a class reward. They worked so hard sorting the books into categories, and pricing them fairly. We had some amazing sales people! Thank you to everyone who came, we raised **£10.50!** Allegro chose to buy a game that they could all play together as part of their reward. **Well done, Allegro!**



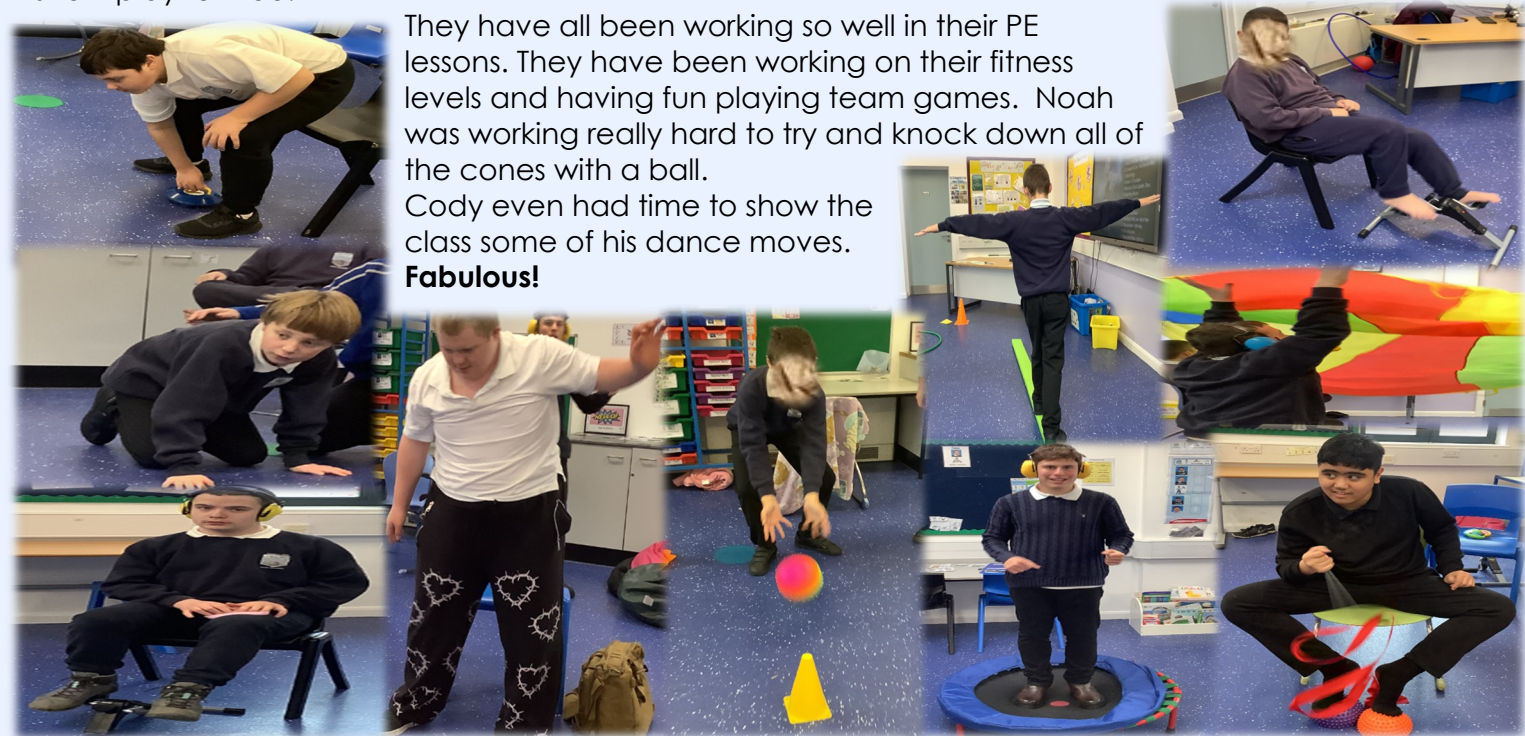
Universe loved going bowling as their reward for a brilliant first term. We had lots of strikes, spares and bowling balls in the gutter, but it was so much fun! **Well done** to the winners!





The students in Arctic and Antarctic have enjoyed their Winter theme in Art this half term. They have explored different ways to apply paint using lots of different materials. They also had some snow play fun too.

They have all been working so well in their PE lessons. They have been working on their fitness levels and having fun playing team games. Noah was working really hard to try and knock down all of the cones with a ball. Cody even had time to show the class some of his dance moves. **Fabulous!**

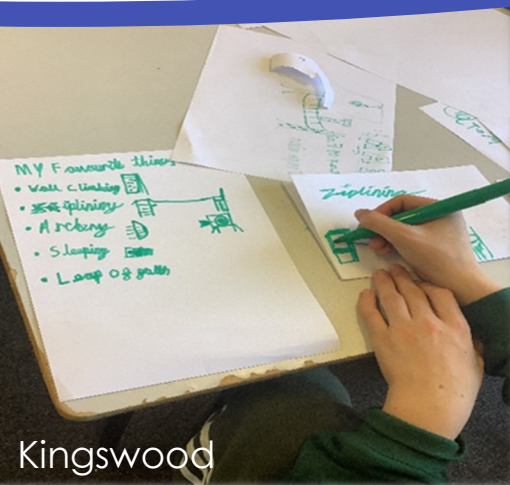


Venture class have been working hard in their Performing Arts Lessons. They have started a topic on musicals that will see them performing to songs from the musicals **'We Will Rock You'** and **'Footloose.'**





School



38 Pioneer students enjoyed a fantastic team building and life skills experience at **Kingswood**. This was a 5 day, 4 night residential in the Staffordshire countryside. We made wonderful memories, had lots of giggles and really challenged ourselves mentally and physically over the week.

'I loved Kingswood and really missed it when I got home.' R

'I loved the leap of faith best'. O

It was great sharing a room with my friends...and making new friends too!' F

Thank you to all of the staff, students and their families for making this experience happen.

We had a guest speaker from a mentoring company called Loudspeaker who commented on the enthusiasm and energy of our students. He said 'There's nothing you guys can't do! You are brave and awesome. Don't ever change.'



In Art lessons, year 9 and 10 Explorer students (Ariane, Venture and Titan) had lots of fun learning how to make successful polyblock prints, inspired by the Birmingham based artist, **Sarah Bagshaw**. They experimented making some festive Christmas prints.

Around



Galaxy have been working on their money skills this term. We have been matching the correct amount to the coin, adding money together and working out what coins we can use to make different amounts.



This term in English, Galaxy have been working on recognising tricky words and being able to identify what a word starts with. Some pupils have also been working really hard on writing their own name.



In 'My Independence' Galaxy opened up their own café. The pupils created a menu and took each others orders. They also used their maths skills to work out how much money they needed to buy a sausage roll.

The pupils also made their own sausage rolls which were **delicious!**



School



Altair and Voyager have enjoyed their topic on fractions this term – particularly the lesson when they investigated what a quarter could look like.



Futsal Competition

Two Rivers hosted a futsal festival for SEND schools across the West Midlands. Pupils were given the opportunity to compete against other schools, consisting of mixed boys and girls teams. All the schools involved thoroughly enjoyed themselves and showed great team spirit.

Next Steps Career Fayre

Supported by Calm Careers, we hosted a 'Next Steps event' in school in November. This brought together training providers, colleges, volunteer opportunities, employers and day care provision from the local area to show a range of options available for when students leave Two Rivers High School. All students accessed the event, as it's never too early to start planning for the future. It was also well attended by parents after school too. The students got a great range of information to help them with their future planning.

We plan to run similar events each year and hopefully increase the number of providers who attend.

Watch out for the next date!





Around



This half term in English, Sirius have been studying **Zombierella** by Joseph Coelho. They have enjoyed becoming journalists and writing their own Newspaper reports, to report on some gruesome events in Grimsville! The children have also put their acting skills to the test as they performed some of their favourite scenes from **Zombierella**.

Sirius have now also begun weekly spelling tests. They are practicing every morning during registration and are performing well in their spelling tests on a Friday morning. In Maths, we have been learning The Four Operations and are now confidentially using column addition and subtraction. In Science our topic has been Materials. Students prepared a circuit board and carried out an experiment to test what materials were electrical conductors.



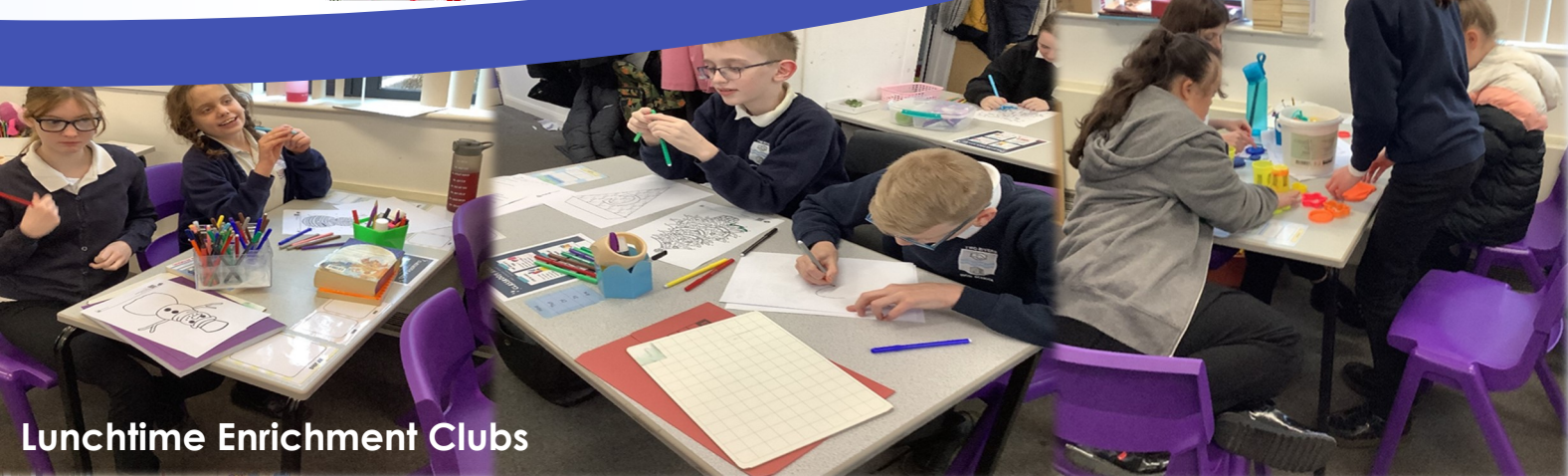
We wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone for supporting the Christmas Fayre. We raised an amazing **£583.34**.

A special thank you to Cat Bancroft for making lovely cakes for us to sell! Also to the parents for making some lovely donations.

The students were brilliant as always and we hope everyone had a lovely time.

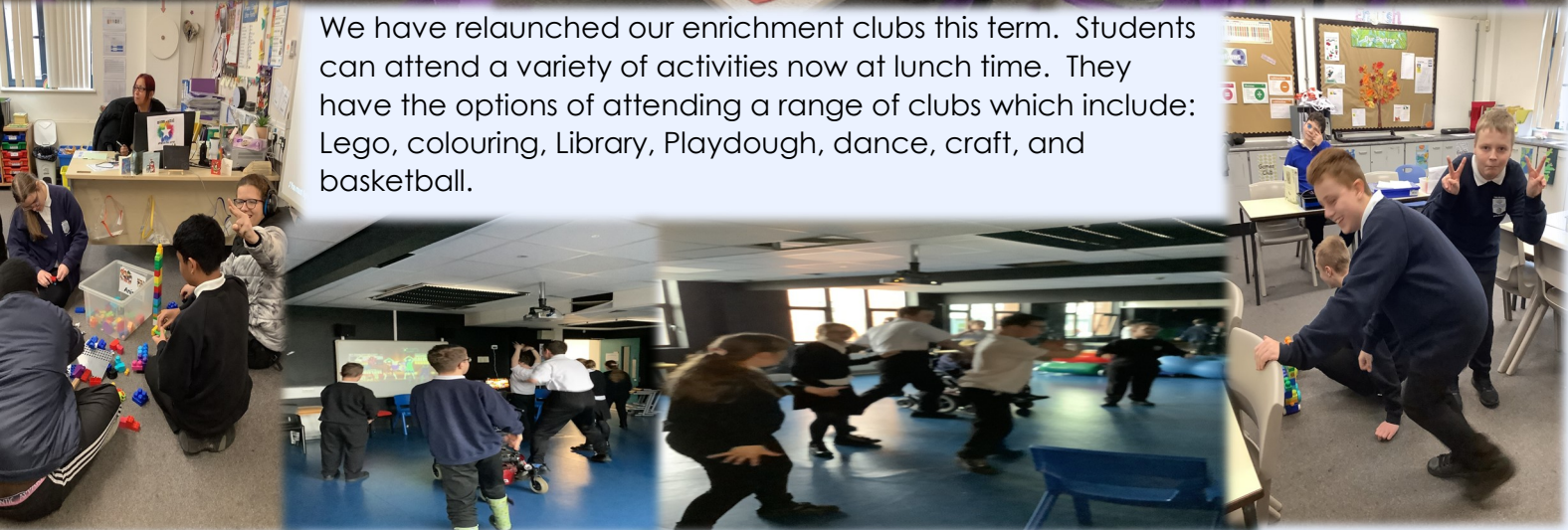


School



Lunchtime Enrichment Clubs

We have relaunched our enrichment clubs this term. Students can attend a variety of activities now at lunch time. They have the options of attending a range of clubs which include: Lego, colouring, Library, Playdough, dance, craft, and basketball.



Merry Christmas

Can you guess which door belongs to who?

Christmas



1.



2.



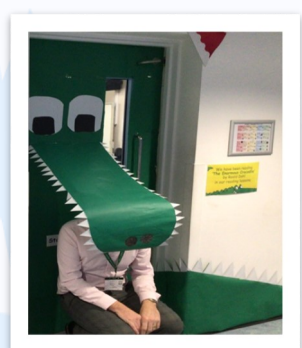
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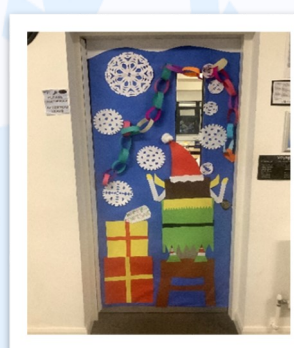
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5.



6.



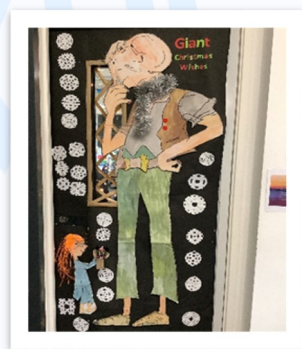
7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



12.



13.



14.

1. Stellar
2. Sirius
3. The Connection Room
4. Nova
5. School Office
6. Ariane
7. Voyager
8. Curiosity
9. Apollo
10. Sovereign
11. Firebird
12. Altair
13. Venture
14. Reflection Room

Doors

Can you guess which door belongs to who?



15.



16.



17.



18.



19.



20.



21.



22.



23.



24.



25.



26.



27.



28.

15. Capella 16. Deputy Head 17. Titan 18. Everest 19. Headteacher 20. Polaris 21. Galaxy 22. Atesda 23. Middle Leaders 24. Allegro 25. Atlantis 26. Universe 27. Intrepid 28. Arctic

Out and About



Nova visited the National Memorial Arboretum on 9th November as part of Nova's Relational Days



The school disco raised an impressive **£206.50** which will be used for trips and visits.



The Friends' Association Christmas Disco raised **£667.10** thank you to all those who helped make this such a special night.

Thank you!

We would also like to say a big thank you to **Two Rivers Friends' Association** for their donation of £5.00 for each student which has been used towards their Christmas reward trips.



A huge thank you to the companies below for providing us with our Christmas raffle prizes.

ABC teachers
Teaching Personnel
YSA Education
Wonky Candles
N S Optimum
GXO

