

Chelmer Class

Class Welcome

Chelmer's year has started well. We have welcomed back old friends and introduced new ones. Our new friends have fitted in well and have been welcomed by the previous and current Chelmer class. It has been lovely to see their patience and friendship as they help to aid and encourage their peers.

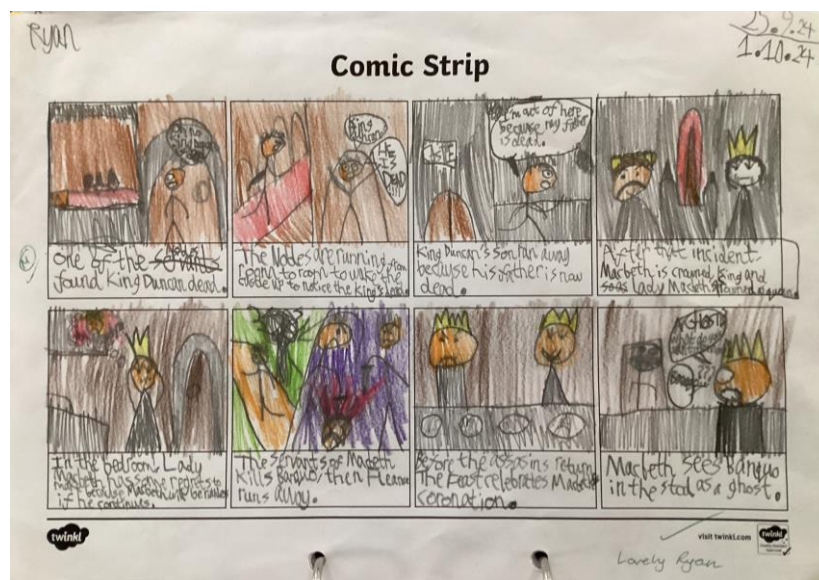
At the end of the week as part of wellbeing and communication we occasionally introduce games to encourage social interaction. Here we have one of the biggest games of uno!



Literacy and Communication

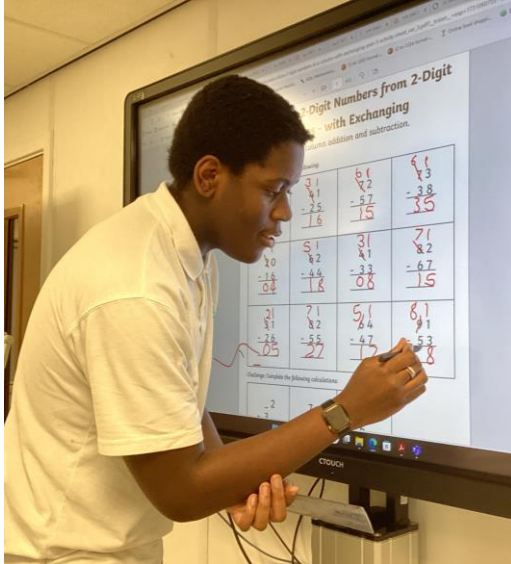
Within this subject we have carried on with independent reading and learning to read and write high frequency words. We have done this through weekly spelling tests, which are peer marked. Reading and writing skills are important to help our students be as independent as possible.

We have been combining our computer knowledge and literacy by creating presentations of Macbeth having finished the story. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to practice our speaking and listening skills by presenting our PowerPoints to our friends. This is a skill some find difficult, but we are hoping to build confidence and welcome some constructive feedback in our safe environment.



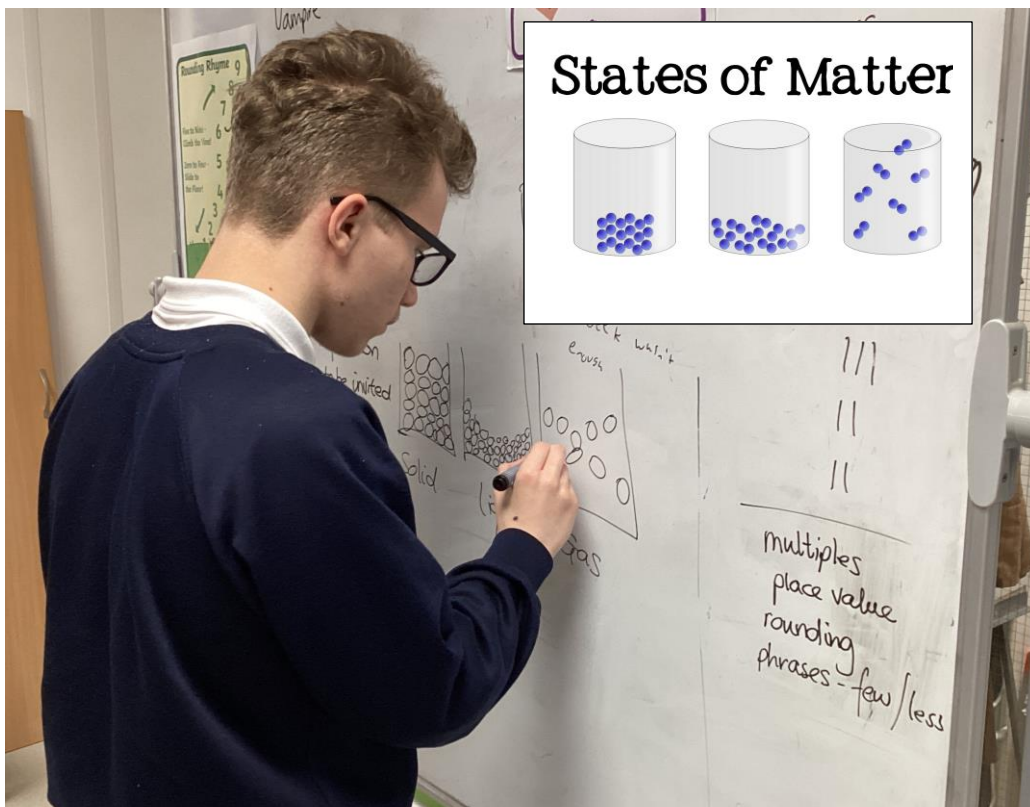
Maths

Having done very well in their maths exam before half term, Chelmer class are now concentrating on the four operations. We have started with addition and subtraction, both with and without borrowing and exchanging. These operations will be part of their exam which takes place before Christmas and will benefit when shopping on their own or with family.



Science

The class are investigating materials and temperature. This week we looked at the different forms of matter, solid, liquid and gas. Here Riley is drawing the format of gas with no visual reminder. This knowledge has been learnt through experiments, such as boiling a kettle and freezing blu-tac. This knowledge helps students that they need to be safe around gases as well as the more obvious boiling water.



Topic

In Art we have been looking at the coast. This is a time for students to learn new skills by mixing shades and tints and to express themselves by trialling different mediums, paints, pastels and in the future, acrylics. This week we have introduced shading and texture. The class have also looked at different methods of creating 3d models of our theme of the sea. We have looked at different ideas, and next week will start our construction. By trying different methods, students learn what they like, and potential ways art may help them to relax. It also gives them a chance to express themselves independently and find out what works and what doesn't. It is a chance to improve our knowledge and accept items that maybe did not work as well.

Humanities this half term is the powerful earth, which should fit in nicely with our coastal art theme.

In food technology we have we have had discussions, often around tea or coffee, a particular highlight of the week for Rocco, about what we would and should eat and what we would like to make.

There are a variety of tastes and opinions, and I will do my best to accommodate them all before the end of the year. So far, we have made vegetable pasta, pasta bake, rice with Quorn and rice with sausages, jacket potatoes and next week macaroni cheese. These are all meals that the students are practicing in small teams to encourage their independence and hopefully provide themselves with variety and choice in later life. We have made different improvements and adaptations throughout the weeks. Tayyab and I are keen to add in a bit more flavour with spices. We shall see.

Notable News

Every day is notable in some way. The students are working together, learning and helping. We are keen that chances of friendship are not lost and are gradually seeing acceptance with joining in social activities, for example playing with others, even for a short time.

I encourage discussion so everyone has a chance to say how they are feeling and how we can make sure everyone is happy and heard.

We are very fortunate to work with a group of young people where there is always something to celebrate and enjoy.

Upcoming Events

This half term we are going to start venturing out in the community, starting with a trip to the local shop to make a small purchase. The following week, we are going to visit a library to find out more about the facilities that are available to us and how to use them.

Before Christmas we intend to walk to the café in Bush Fair to again practice our social skills and talking to people who can help us.

Monday 6th January 2025 – INSET Day (No pupils on site)

Tuesday 7th January 2025 – Pupils return to school

Wednesday 29th January 2025 – Rocksteady Music Workshops for pupils

Friday 7th February – NSPCC Number Day (more information to follow)

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2025 – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 24th February 2025 – Pupils return to school

Thursday 6th March 2025 – World Book Day (more information to follow)

Friday 15th March 2025 – Red Nose Day (more information to follow)

Friday 4th April 2025 – Early finish for pupils

Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April 2025 – EASTER HOLIDAY

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 – Pupils return to school