

HEADTEACHER BULLETIN

Friday 23rd September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,
it feels an age since I last wrote to you last, due to the 6 week holidays and then the unexpected period of national mourning that occurred, due to the death of Her Majesty The Queen.

Firstly, an update about the Year 11 students that left us in the summer, who performed well in their final GCSE examinations. We had some notable successes and students who surpassed their targets in lots of subjects. There were some excellent results across the board with Science and PE both performing extremely well. The leavers set a benchmark for the new Year 11 students who as the class of 2022-2023 have the potential to achieve some great successes individually and collectively. We are extremely positive as a staff body that they could achieve even better results than previous Year 11 cohorts.

The new year 7 students have settled in extremely well and they look very smart in the new school uniform. The transition events organised by Mrs Castrey in the summer have certainly paid dividends as the students have really hit the ground running. There will be a 'Meet the Form Tutor' event taking place very soon which will be a great way for parents/carers to receive feedback on their child individually from their key worker.

The remaining years groups have also settled back into the swing of school life really well and this is certainly the case with the Year 10 students who have started their GCSE courses. We have been impressed with their attitude and focus so far.

The school has undoubtedly had a reset and as a result the expectations and standards are even higher than the previous academic year. The students are now ensuring that there is no lost learning with students carrying their iPads and pencil cases from lesson to lesson. This maximises the 60 minute lessons to their fullest.

There are a number of new staff that have joined us this September and this change has brought about the sharing of new ideas and different approaches in the classroom, which is already having an impact.

We are also welcoming a number of trainee teachers from next week that is something that has not happened at KSS in recent years. This will encourage even further, the development of fresh approaches and the latest teaching strategies to support student progress. A big thank you to Mrs Hud for her hard work with this.

Finally, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support with the new expectations around student equipment and uniform. This has been a seamless transition and that is down to you as parents and carers.

Yours faithfully,
Mr S Frost



Upcoming Events:

Year 6 Open Evening - 29.9.22

KSS Saturday Open Morning - 1.10.22

Year 7 Conwy Castle Visit - 4.10.22

Digital Skills



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Essential Digital Skills Qualifications:

Learn using the Computer, Laptop, Tablet or Mobile Smart Phone



Kidsgrove Secondary School

Friday 16th September 2022 – Friday 21st October 2022
(6 Week Course)

Please call/message or email to book an appointment

Any Questions please email
acl.ict@staffordshire.gov.uk

or
Call/WhatsApp or message
on

07875 767 283

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Safeguarding

A message from Mrs Postlethwaite.

To support parents/carers in ensuring that students are safe online, there will be a parent drop in session at KSS on Wednesday 5th of October at 5pm.

It will be great to be able to meet you in person to discuss what we can do together to keep our community safe online. If you have any questions about the event or about safeguarding in general, please contact me @ communications@kss.set.org.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

Shaw Education Trust

- WHAT ARE THE RISKS?
- WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?
- WHAT CAN WE DO?

KIDSGROVE
SECONDARY SCHOOL

WED 5TH OCT **5:00 PM** **JOIN US**



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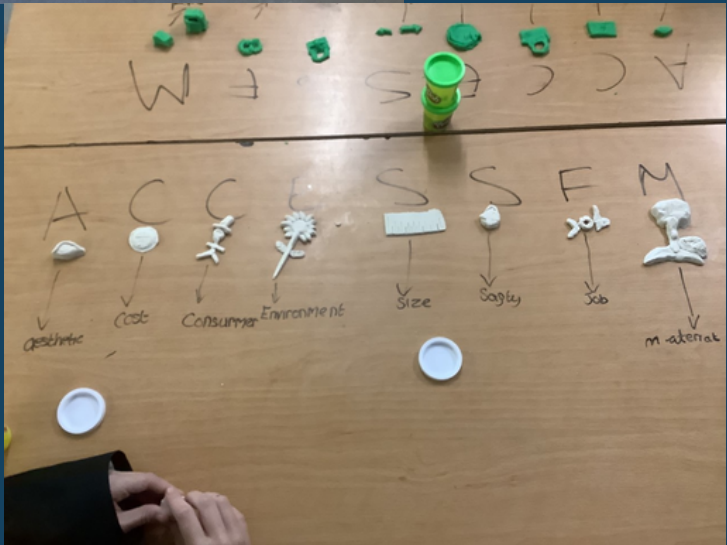
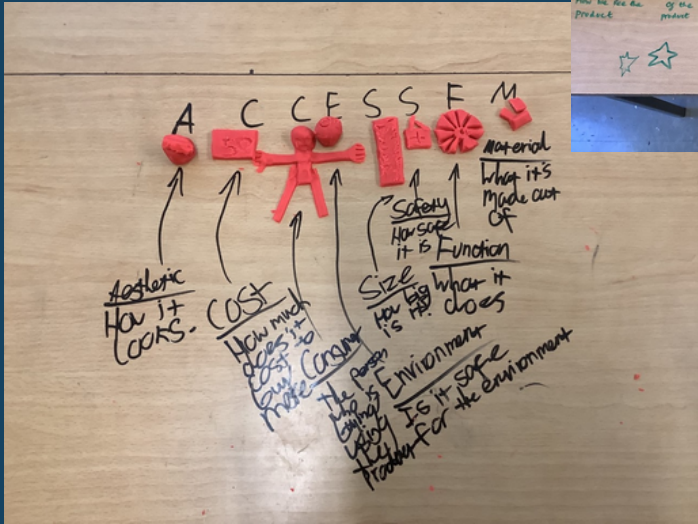
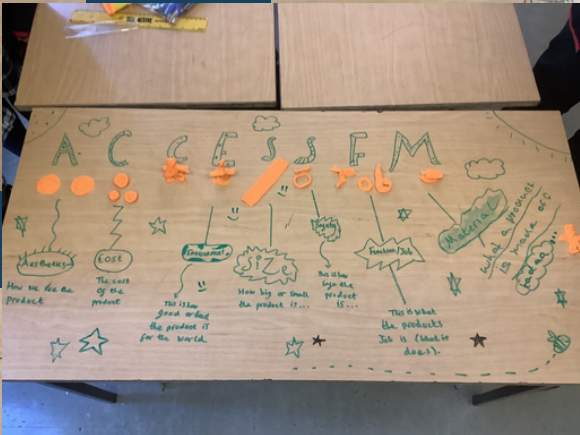
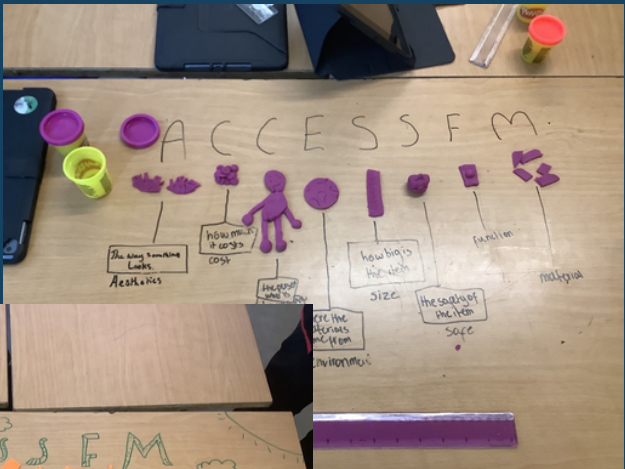
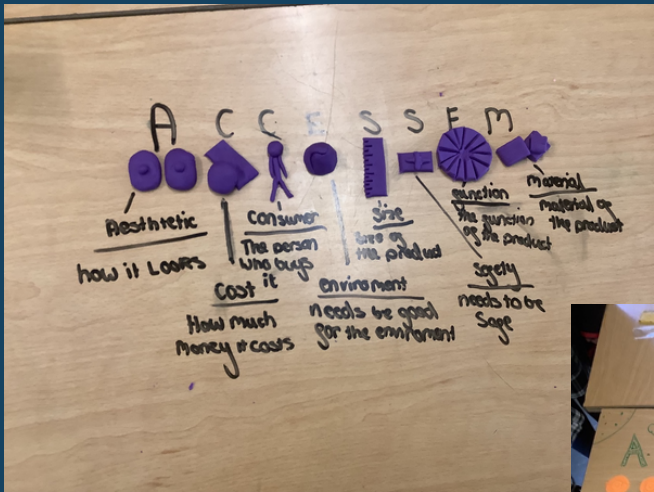


Technology

A message from Mrs Harrison.

In technology lessons we have been exploring what 'ACCESSFM' means and why it is used to help analyse a product. Before analyse a product they have been creating play dough models of each of the words to help them better understand what each area of 'ACCESSFM' stands for. In their next technology lesson they will use this task to help analyse a product.

Pupils have done some great work and showed leadership when working in teams. They also enjoyed writing on the desks!



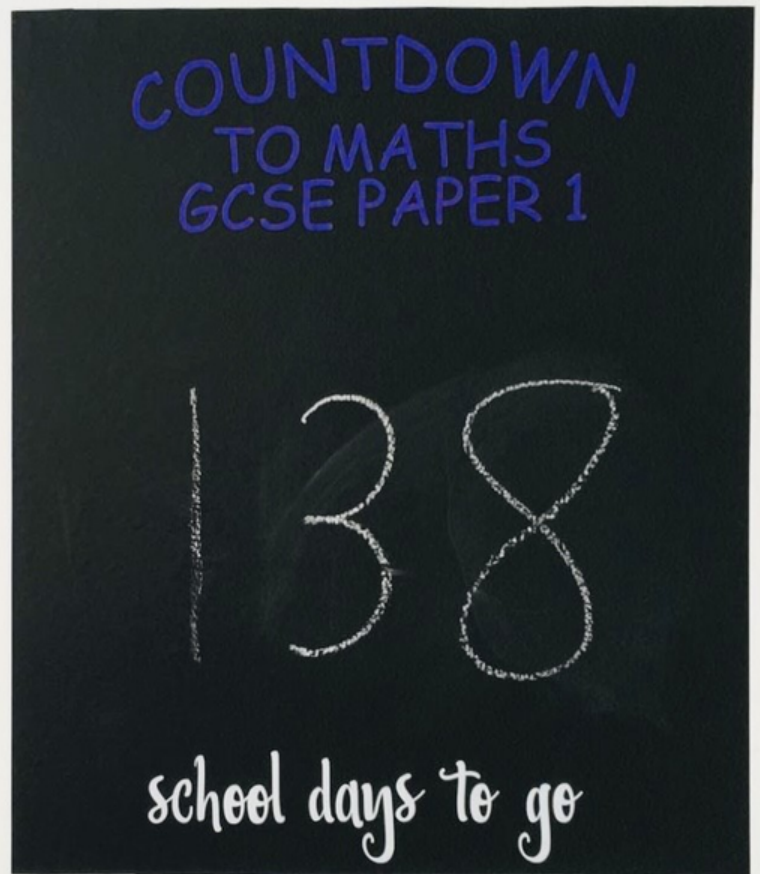
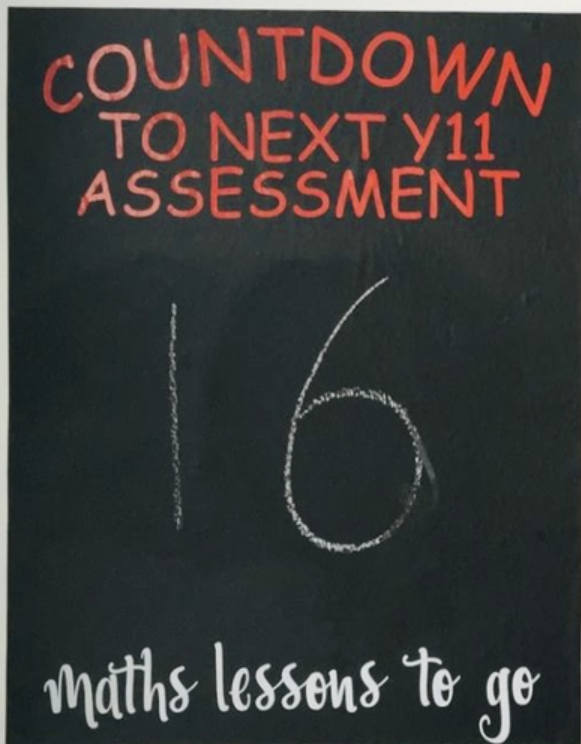
Maths

A message from Mrs Frost.

YEAR 11 MATHS REVISION

It may only be the start of the academic year, but we would like to celebrate the commitment already shown by many Year 11 towards their studies. The maths department are already on countdown to the first formal assessment of the year and would like to congratulate the 17 students that attended after school revision this week on their fantastic work ethic.

Keep it up Year 11 ... it will be worth it!



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Year 10 and 11

A message from Mrs Postlethwaite.

The Year 10 and 11 reward trip takes place on the 20.10.22. To ensure that you are eligible to attend please see the criteria below:

Arriving in school on time.

Ensuring you have your Smart Start equipment with you.

Responding positively to staff.

Putting effort into all lessons, even when the going gets tough!

Your form tutor will share with you the finer details about the criteria (which won't be too much of a challenge).



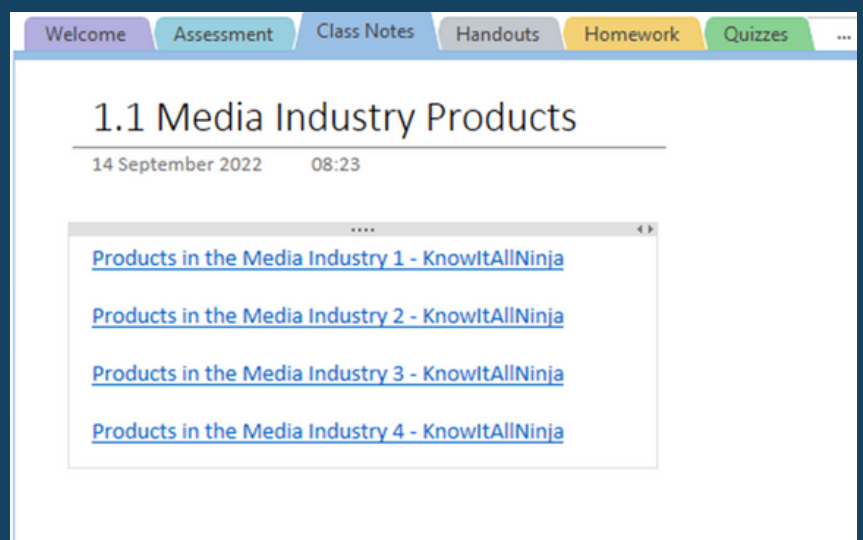
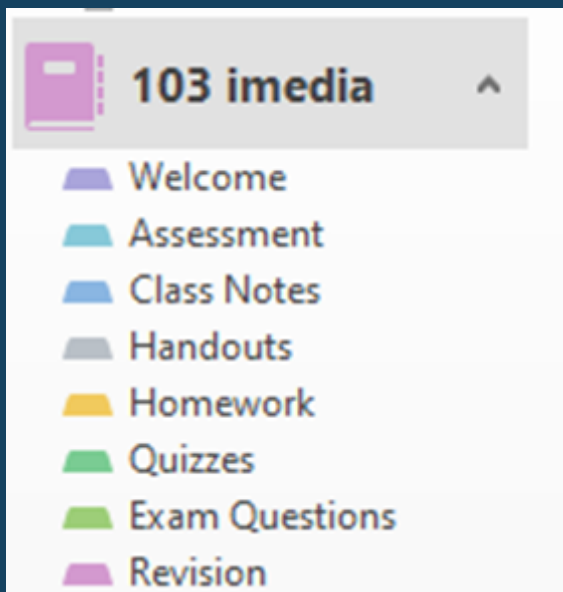
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iMedia

A message from Mrs Morrell.

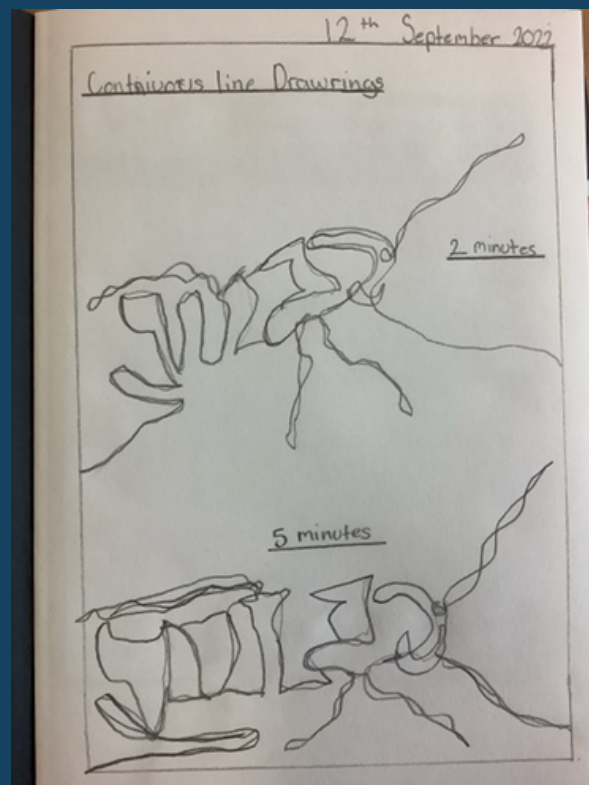
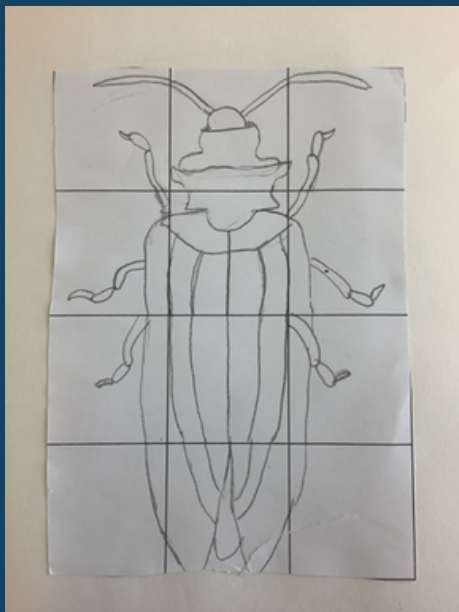
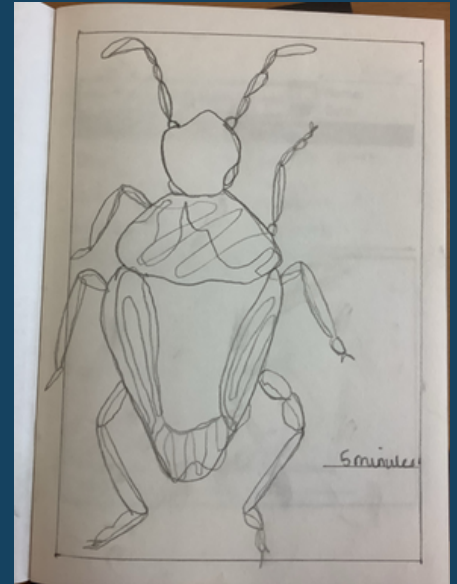
The new Y10 iMedia students have been getting used to a new way of working. They have been testing the use of 'Microsoft OneNote' as a replacement to the traditional exercise book. This has effectively turned their iPad into a digital workbook. Each student has their own area where they can access assessment data, class notes, class handouts, homework, quizzes, and exam questions. They have even got a collaboration space where students in the class can work together to enhance their understanding of a topic. So far, the feedback from the students has been great – the students like real time feedback from the teacher (as I can see how they are progressing during the lesson on my iPad), they are enjoying collaborating on new ideas and have found it useful to access their work easily at home. Great start Y10!



Art

A message from Mrs Mason.

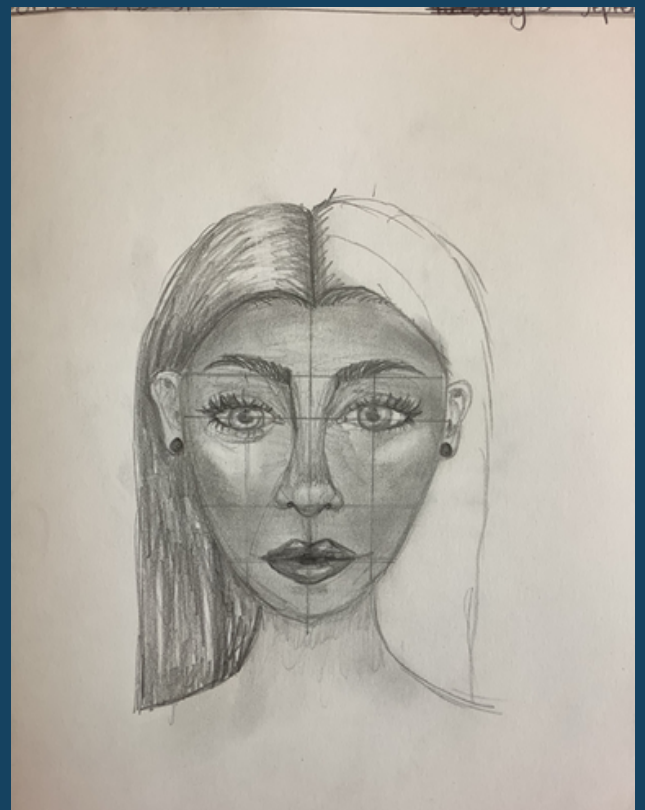
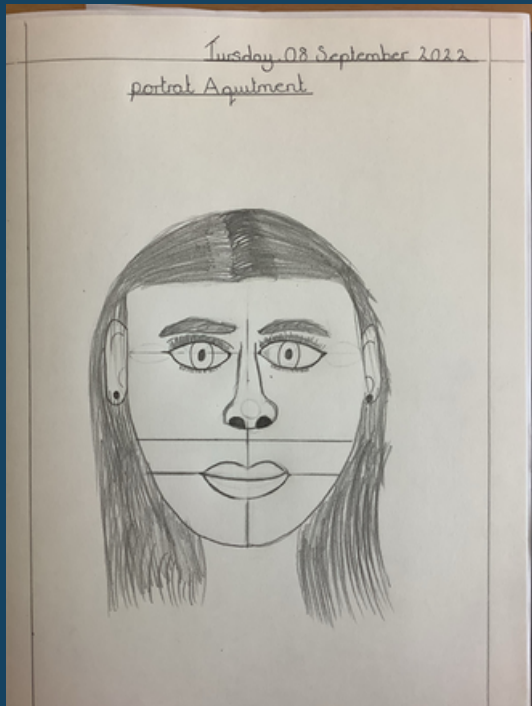
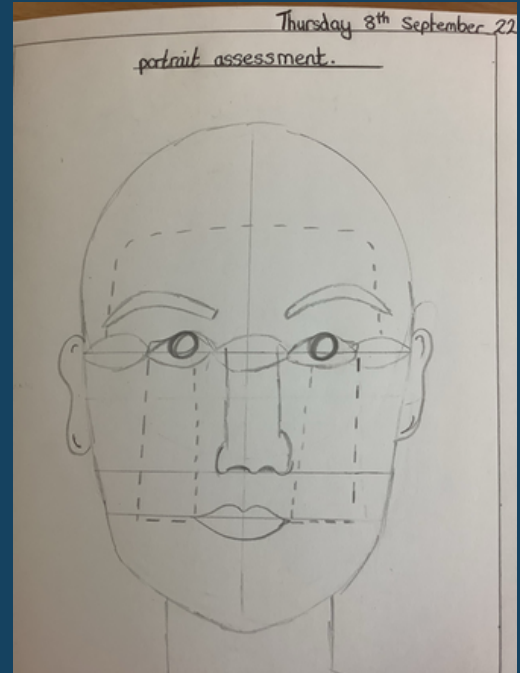
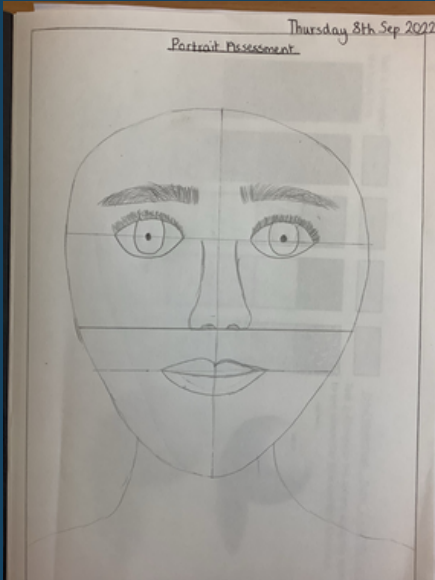
Year 7 have been exploring the formal element of Line by creating a series of timed continuous line drawings. They are now working on accuracy by using the grid method to complete their beetle drawings. Well done to Logan-Jai, Darcy and Amber.



Art

A message from Mrs Mason.

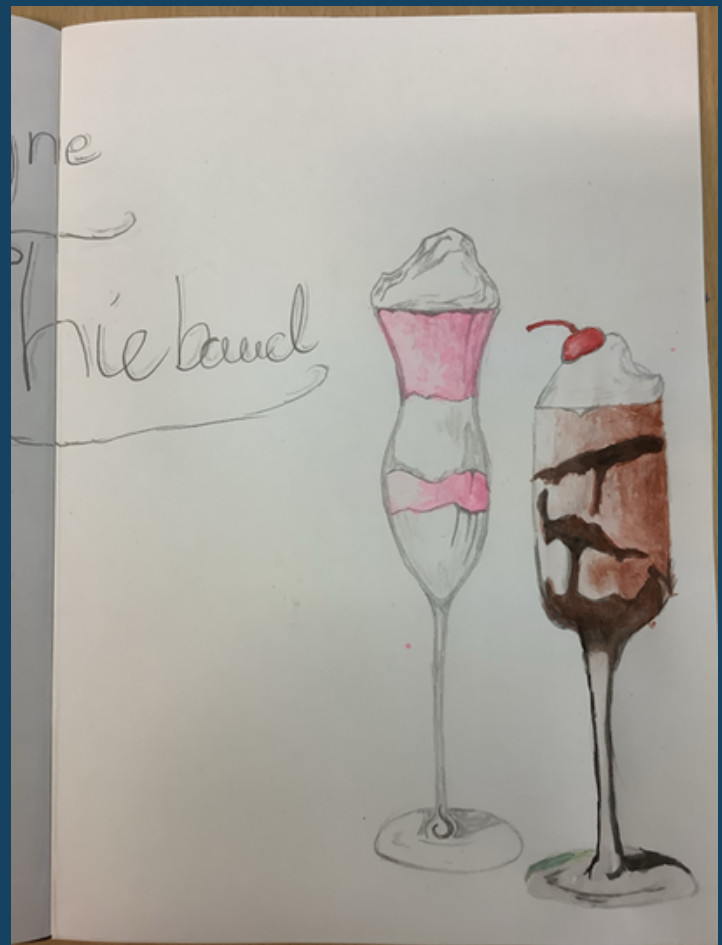
Year 8 have begun exploring Portraits for their first project this year. Here are some of their first attempts. We will be developing proportions and tone in the coming lessons to apply more detail. Well done to Olivia, Ellie, Libby and Sophie.



Art

A message from Mrs Mason.

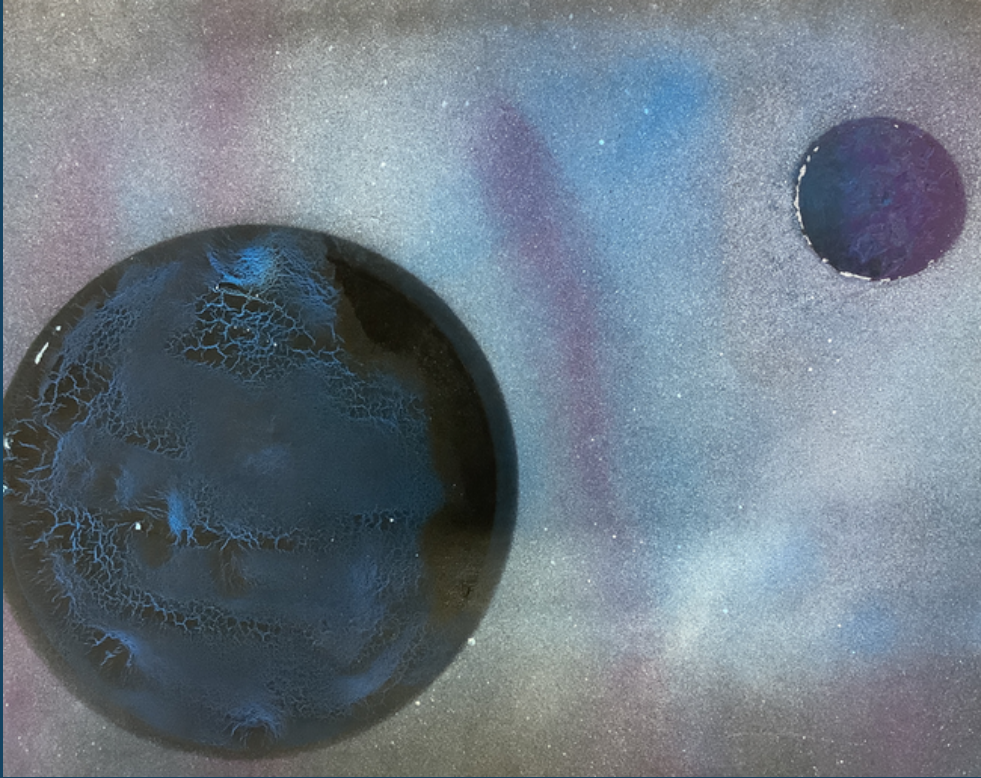
Year 9 have started their Pop Art project and are looking at the work of Wayne Thiebaud. Here are some of the drawings they have begun on the Artist Research pages.



Art

A message from Mrs Mason.

Below is some Art work completed by Tommy (Year 8) at home.



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Engineering in Science

A message from Dr Ma.

On Wednesday 14 September 2022, the Science department hosted a guest speaker who is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) ambassador. Rachel Rawlings is a Chartered Engineer and Quality Systems Manager at 'AirProducts', which is an Industrial Gas Supplier based at Festival Park, Stoke-on-Trent. Rachel delivered four, one hour sessions to students in Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y11, dispelling many stereotypical views on what an engineer looks like and what engineers do, besides bringing the role to life and enthusiastically explaining why it is great to be an engineer!

The students found the sessions engaging and some now wish to pursue a career in Engineering: Lucas Hiiho, Year 9; "I definitely want to become an engineer now as there are so many jobs that you can do!"

Keira Latham, Year 11; "CAD Engineering sounds like a job that I'd find really interesting and enjoyable".



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Student Leaders

The student council met with Mr Frost last week to set out our collective plans for the coming year. The first set of meetings will see the student 'Sprinting' to bring about improvements in teaching and learning.

The students have divided into three groups with the focus on the following areas:

- Adaptive teaching
- Digital Skills
- Behaviour for Learning

We cannot wait to see the ideas gathered from the student leaders at the next meeting.



Open Events



KIDSGROVE LEARNING CAMPUS

**SATURDAY
1ST OCTOBER
9:30 - 12:30**

Open morning

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Kidsgrove Secondary School

OPEN EVENING



**THURSDAY
29TH
SEPTEMBER
5-7PM**

Head Teacher talks at
5.30pm and 6.30pm

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