**Hello All NEWSLETTER – MAY 2022**

Another busy but exciting half term.  Our year 11 students have been sitting their GCSEs, functional skills, and entry levels.  Other assessments have also been taking place throughout the school, a holiday will be very welcome.  Lots of Gotcha trips have taken place which all the students have enjoyed. We will also be saying goodbye in June to our year 11 and all the staff wish them well for their future.  I wish all of you a happy half term break.

Carol

In Music we have started unleashing some more musically creative talent with Band Skills.8B were a particularly strong band playing along to “Give that Wolf a Banana” from the Eurovision Song Contest. We used Cajon drums, drum kit, bass guitar, microphone and keyboards – everyone had a go on everything – multi talented! Watch out for a KS 3 Battle of the Bands to come…Our two drum students have made excellent progress with Vassy this year and have even been helping their peers with drum skills in their Band Skills Music lessons which has been lovely to see. Peripatetic lessons with Eric are coming along apace and many of our children now have one to one lessons in keyboard, piano and violin. Sadly, Eric will lose a few pupils when our Year Eleven students leave so there are spaces if any of our younger students would like to take on learning an instrument. Eric offers a variety of instruments so if anyone has ever had a hankering to learn something now may be a good chance. We are still building up the school Music equipment and now have a three quarter sized bass guitar which is more manageable for our younger students and some practice pads for the drum kit to protect our hearing in Band Skills. We are also looking into the possibility of a singer-songwriter giving us a talk next term to inspire our young musicians yet further.

Year 10b are thriving on the social trips that happen weekly and are an important part of St Andrews curriculum. Each trip has a learning objective, and the students benefit from exploring our local environment. The recent trip to Sheringham Park was an opportunity to focus on the senses and identify a variety of scents and colours.

The trip also brings opportunities for students to gain confidence in their interactions with each other and practice their independence in the wider community too.

A group of people in a garden

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**Students Return: Tuesday 14th June KEY DATES Last day of Summer Term: Monday 25th July**

**Science News**

In Science this term the students have at last, all been able to make full use of the lovely new improved resources in the science room. So, they have been starting to undertake their Bunsen burner Safety Certificates. Which had sadly been put on hold, due to initially the Covid pandemic and then the room change and setting up the new gas storage area. The students have found this an exciting and sometimes challenging skill, but it has allowed them all to grow in confidence and gain a healthy respect for the importance of the safe use of matches, candles and the Bunsen burners. And also, how to operate the gas cut-off switches, a new safety feature, as well as how to use the new extractor fans.

Other students this term have enjoyed working on a computerised circuit builder where they can build circuits in series and parallel adding switches, light bulbs, resistors, extra batteries and they can then test the circuits using ammeters and voltmeters to take readings. They still also get to use the actual hands-on equipment as well but have found the computerised circuit builder a great method to explore what happens when things go wrong and to practice safely!

Another much enjoyed activity has been Atomic Lab a new BBC bitesize educational game where the students can build an eco-lab by undertaking Biology, Chemistry and Physics experiments successfully. This can also be accessed from home via BBC bitesize, so why not get them to show or teach you and have a go yourselves.

The year 11s (and one year 10 student!) are at present busy with their GCSE Science exams and I have to say how proud we are of them all for the hard work and mature attitude they have shown in their studies and we all wish them good luck.

![A picture containing person, indoor, table, wall

Description automatically generated]() ![A picture containing person, indoor, preparing

Description automatically generated]()

**Environmental Protection Day**   
 A picture containing outdoor, ground

Description automatically generated

A picture containing grass, outdoor, person, field

Description automatically generated

As part of our SMSC day (social, moral, spiritual and culture) on Wednesday 11th May 2022 our pupils participated in an environmental protection day. This involved students in small groups collecting litter on Sheringham promenade and the beach amongst other activities including posters, videos, discussions, and a scavenger hunt.

**KS2a Golden Gotcha Trip**   
KS2a have been working incredibly hard to earn enough “Golden Gotchas” to go on a class reward trip. The class chose to go to Thrigby Wildlife Park and thoroughly enjoyed their time at the park. The students spent the day identifying and grouping the different animals into the correct vertebrate groups. They also watched the tiger feed and interacted with a member of staff, asking him some questions about his job and the animals at the wildlife park.

A group of people standing outside

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

A picture containing text, reptile

Description automatically generated