

Message from the Headteacher

Autumn term has been challenging this year, with our delayed site move- I would like to thank parents/carers and all other stakeholders for your continued support of the school during this time. I would also personally like to thank my team at Serenity for showing such resilience and flexibility in their practise this term. Our pupils have had several great successes this term. We have had positive updates from our previous year 11's who have all now transitioned onto new post-16 provisions and appetencies. Our new starters have all generally settled well into school. We look forward to moving into the new school building, where the pupils will have access to a vast amount of space, we will also be introducing animal therapy once settled into Coulsdon. With the rise of positive covid cased over the winter we ask you all keep safe and well and continue to test regularly as we approach the new school year.

Have a happy and restful break and we look forward to seeing you all January 5th!

Ms C Ayisi

Miss Richter's Attendance Awards

I want to say a big well done to everyone who has improved their attendance this term. It has been a difficult for all of us not to start the year the way we wish we could have, so I look forward to the new term! A big shout out to the following students:

Most improved attendance:

Oliver, Jacob, Jamal

Most consistent attendance:

Charlie, James, Thyrek, Soufiane

Best attendance:

Ralph, Harry, Faraj



Staff Leavers

This term we are saying a very sad farewell to Ms Parry-Dean our Progress Partner and Ms Vile our Speech and Language Therapist Assistant. They will be dearly missed by all but we will them all the best in their future!





International Human Rights Day

On Monday 6th December Harry and James two of our newest members of student council lead the whole school assembly supported by Mr Foster on International Human Rights.

Harry showed that he is very confident when it comes to public speaking and James used his IT skills to ensure the whole thing ran smoothly. Students discussed the various human rights that we are born with and how they ensure that we are kept safe and well.

With rights come responsibilities, we have the right to education, however we have a responsibility to listen and learn. We have the right to freedom of speech, we have a responsibility to respect the opinions of others.

Tutor groups and student council will be taking an active role in delivering topics to the whole school. We look forward to welcoming you into school to witness this.

Student council members.



Mr Foster

Literacy and Numeracy interventions

It's been a busy term for Literacy and Numeracy interventions. Literacy has seen a focus on spelling and spelling rules, punctuation, homophones, facts and opinions and inference skills.

In Numeracy we have been using our knowledge of adding, subtracting, multiplication and division to solve real life scenarios. We have been using a variety of methods to communicate clearly the strategies and processes used to achieve our solutions.

We've also had some fun along the way, playing language games around words and definitions, and number games involving shopping.

Ms Quarcoo and Ms Brookes



Battersea Park Zoo Trip

On September 22nd we took a mixed group of KS3/4 students to Battersea Park Zoo. We met at Coulsdon South train station and took a train to Clapham Junction, we connected and went to Queenstown Road, then a short walk.

It was a really nice experience, and it was a good way of introducing legacy students to the new cohort of KS3 students.

The weather was excellent, and it was great to see all the different animals in large enclosures enjoying their enrichment activities.



Food Tech

This term we all visited George St. market and discovered what it has to offer to the local community. The students engaged with some of the stall holders whilst they were looking for local and international products. They had their own spending money and made their own choices- looking for various products they wanted to prepare in the school's kitchen.

The trip was a great success as all the students enjoyed themselves exploring the market. They all returned with some fruits to explore.

Ms Kiss





Children In Need!

On Friday 19th November Serenity School celebrated Children in Need by having a pyjama day, everyone got dressed up in their best pyjamas or onesies and together we raised a total of £25!



Maths

What a busy term the students have had! We have been concentrating on number this term which has covered a wide range of skills and ideas. We have been looking at place value; including decimals, sequences; reading, writing and ordering numbers. Our calculation strand has included, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division involving increasingly large numbers, up to a million in some examples. In order to put this number work in to practice, we have been looking at money; addition, working out change and budgeting.

Great work, Serenity. Well done!

Ms Heron



National History Museum Trip



At the start of the Autumn term KS3 and KS4 enjoyed a fun packed day of exploring at the Natural Museum. The students thoroughly enjoyed the busy commute up on the train, they were super excited to catch up with one another after their summer break. All the students engaged in various conversations and played games with staff on the journey up, it was really refreshing as it was one of the first trips for some new students who settled in well.

Upon arrival, the students were keen to navigate their way around the Museum, with the 'Dinosaurs', 'Space' and 'What an Earth?' galleries being the most popular amongst the students. The students spent a lot of time in the 'Volcanoes and Earthquakes' gallery where they were wowed by the dramatic film footage, interactive games and the very famous earthquake stimulator, which was a firm favourite. The highlight of the trip was when the students could benefit from the very spacious outdoor area, where they played a range of games. All the students were playing tag and the Faraj who was the chaser could catch everyone, but not be caught by anyone, due to how fast he was. We all agreed that Faraj was crowned Serenity Schools fastest runner that day! Overall, all staff and students had a blast at the Museum, and we look forward to the next school trip!

Ms Cornwall

Sevenoaks Motor Mechanics Trip



On the 10th of November, KS4 went to Sevenoaks for a mechanics trip. They had a great time riding bikes and starting fires. They started off on a small riding track and moved into the woods where they rode around independently. The following mechanics lesson, the pupils cleaned and fixed any of the damages made to the bikes whilst riding on the trip.

Ms Parry-Dean



Sapling Class

This term Sapling Class have divided their time between working as a class and merging with their peers in Willow Class. The group is made up of a bunch of unique characters with a broad range of interests, with Ralph, Kye and Jacob assuming the role of educators on topics including hot-wheels, video games, and cartoons.

Across the curriculum, pupils have explored a vast range of topics. In English, pupils have read 'Journey to Jo'Burg' and 'There's a boy in the girls' bathroom', completing tasks to examine the novels in detail. In Maths, pupils have started to utilise the four operations (addition, mathematics, multiplication, and division) to solve various problems. Science this term has focused on life cycles, plants, and the components of a healthy lifestyle. ICT has seen the boys conduct independent internet research tasks, with pupils choosing subjects including Daniel Craig, and a recent video game release. Throughout Geography, the boys have drawn upon map skills and reading coordinates to solve problems and explore the different places people live. Art has seen pupils' experiment with traditional and non-traditional materials, frequently using coffee and beetroot to paint. Finally, in tutor time, the boys have examined British Values, Human Rights and various PSHE topics.

All in all, pupils have had an excellent start to the year, producing some fantastic work, with many of their pieces displayed around the school. I wish all pupils and their families a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone after half term.

Have a wonderful Christmas, from Mr. Thompson.





Physical Education KS3/4

This term the pupils have enjoyed their physical education lessons by undertaking two full schemes of work of Basketball and Badminton. Through these sports the pupils enhanced their physical skills such as ball handling, types of passes, how to use their power in Basketball and how to hold a racket and performing a variety of skilful Badminton shots to outwit opponents (even teachers!). Pupils within their PE lessons have recognised the purpose and value of sportsmanship by shaking hands after a game and developing their teamwork skills through discussion and implementation of tactics.

I am pleased with the progress the pupils have made this term as well as their positive attitude and contribution in their PE lessons.

Sports Leaders KS3

The pupils have undertaken their Level 1 Sports Leaders qualification which investigates developing their personal skills and attributes, and how their skills are used to support and influence their peers within a sporting environment. The skills and behaviours a Sports Leader requires are transferable and long lasting as these skills are needed to ensure pupils have a chance of gaining employment, meet new people and community activities.

I am pleased with the outstanding progress the pupils have made this term and the pupils should feel proud of the quality work produced.

Sports KS4

Key Stage 4 pupils started their Sports NCFE Level 2 course for which they have really enjoyed their lessons by completing aspects of Unit 1 Participating in Sport. The pupils have demonstrated a mature and professional outlook when completing their work in lesson. I am proud and pleased of the progress the pupils have made so far this term and I am confident they will leave school with a Level 2 Certificate in Sports.

Mr Ramdhan

Science

This term our KS3 students have learnt about producing progress plans and how they can help the students to set long term and short term goals. They have been working on plant and animal cells this half term. All students have created a key to separate plants and animals as well as other types of organisms.

KS4 have worked tirelessly so far this year, they now have knowledge about DNA, genetics and inheritance of characteristics. This half term they have covered physics topics about energy, conservation of energy and how to calculate an energy bill.

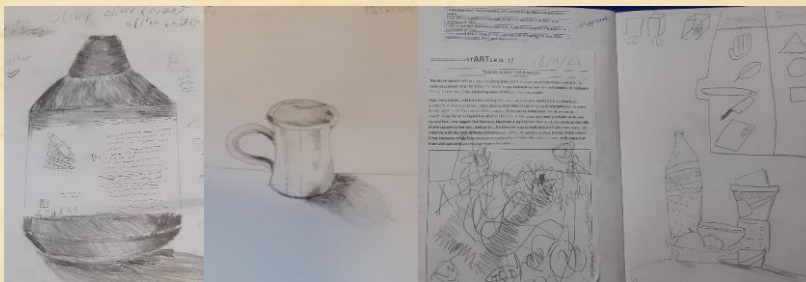
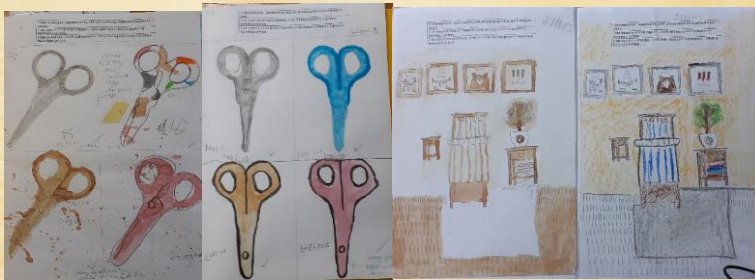
We have also completed a science trip to the Natural History Museum. The students that went on the trip enjoyed looking at all the exhibits and trying out the earthquake simulator (apart from we wanted it to shake more!!!).

Mr Williams

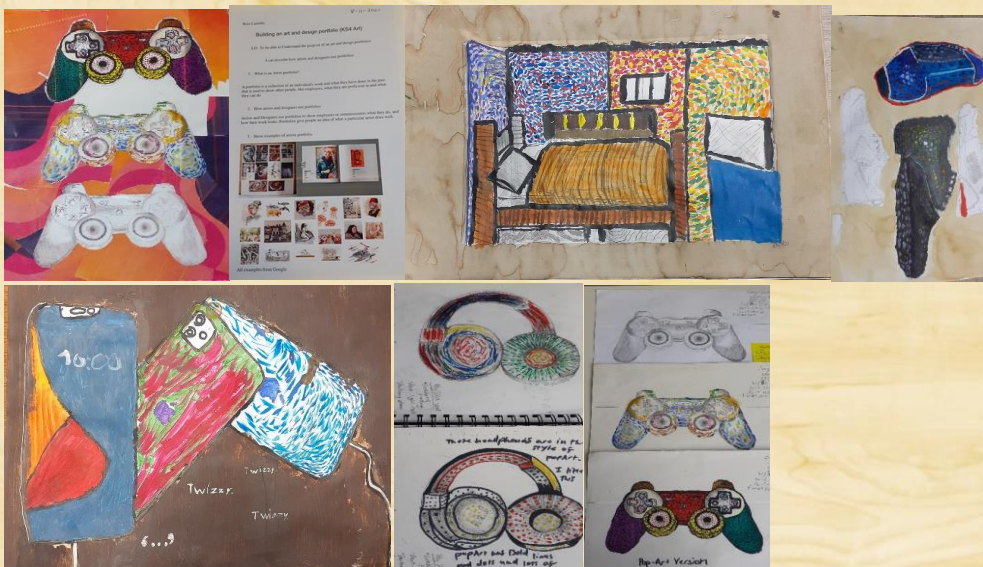


KS3 / KS4 Art

Willow and Elm classes have learning about Tradition and Non-traditional materials and techniques in art and design. They created experimental pieces with beetroot, orange, coffee and blueberries juices alongside traditional materials like pencils, coloured pencils, pastels and watercolours. They also learnt about 2D shapes and 3D forms, tone, overlaps, light, shade and shadows.



KS4 have been making new works to add to their portfolio, experimenting with materials and techniques and annotating their works. They have looked at subjects as varied as mobile phone, response to Van Gogh's bedroom, shoes and play station console. They have used various materials and techniques including collages, watercolours and acrylics.





Flip Out Trip

Our trip to Flip Out based in Centrale Croydon was eventful. We had a lot of fun. The students took turns competing to complete the unique challenges that the attractions at Flip Out provided. Some of the students attempted to challenge the staff to a battle on the obstacle course. This time the talented cohort of students prevailed against the teachers. The obstacle course drew a lot of attention as the competition heated up. Our students were able to socialize and compete with their peers in community spaces.

Mr Morris

Bowling Trip

One of our first school trips in the Autumn term was to Valley Park bowling! We met up and split into form teams to vs each other. Some of us preferred playing the arcade games such as Tomb Raider, Air hockey, Basketball, Mario cart and the Wind turbine machine. Some students from Willow won A LOT of raffle tickets! After a ton of fun, we enjoyed a lovely MacDonalDs lunch before heading home to relax.

Ms Gomez



English

The Willow Tutor Group read the book: ***'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom'***. Although the students improved their reading skills each week, records of their progress were monitored carefully with the support of the Progress Partners. The students also concentrated on Bradley, the main character of the story. They designed and produced an excellent storyboard with the theme: ***Bradley's experience as a student in a negative classroom environment.*** They also wrote a short writing task which compared their experience as a student in Serenity School to Bradley's. Students were then given an extra task as part of their assessment to design the front cover of the text book. Their designs were colourful, interesting and creative.

Ms Noble