

# Serenity School



## Head Teacher Welcome- We are Outstanding!

Summer 2023 has been a truly brilliant term, as the school welcomed HMI inspector- Shaun Jarvis, to carry out a full three-day inspection of the school. The inspector spent time with our pupils, parents, and leaders and following three days of scrutiny gave the school a judgment of outstanding in all areas!

During the visit he observed the pupils taking part in daily mile, met with student council and took part in our mental health awareness day. The inspector shared comments such as “ Pupils thrive here in so many ways” and “Pupils love coming to Serenity school”

I would like to thank our pupils, parents and the team for everyone’s contribution to our judgment. We will continue to deliver our school motto Excellence from Enrollment to Graduation.

In other news, we are wishing a fond farewell to Ms Brooks who will be moving on from Serenity after almost two years in post. We would like to wish her the best of luck in the future and thank her for all of his contributions to the school. We are also saying goodbye to Ms Budd and Mr Randall, who have been great additions to the Serenity team, but are sadly moving on to new schools in September.

Please join me in welcoming some of the new staff who will be joining us in September:

- Mrs Pauline Dawson- Assistant Head and SEND class teacher
- Mr Bain - Art Teacher
- Ms Tullett - Progress Partner
- Ms Banton - Progress Partner
- Ms Derbyshire - Progress Partner

Finally, I would like to share with you all that from September 2023, I will no longer be Headteacher at Serenity school Coulsdon. The last three years serving as Headteacher has been massively rewarding for me. In September, I will be stepping into a new role within the organisation working as Director of SEND. I will be working with all schools within our group, and hope to continue to see all of my amazing Coulsdon pupils in my new role once a week.

Coulsdon’s new Headteacher Mr Tranter, will be joining in September. He joins the team with an abundance of enthusiasm and experience; please read his article to find out a little more about him

Wishing you all a happy Summer break and exciting September 2023!

**Ms Ayisi**



# A Message from our new Head Teacher Mr Tranter

Dear Families,

I'm honoured and delighted to be filling Charmaine's very big shoes as Head Teacher of Serenity School, Coulsdon; though the good news is that I will continue to benefit from Charmaine's knowledge and experience in her new role as Director.

I have been working in both special and mainstream education since 2004 and have experienced a variety of roles and settings, from NHS outpatient units to small Church of England primary schools. I arrive at Serenity having just been in the role of Head of School of Snowflake School in West London for two years. As well as this, I am a Guest Lecturer in Behaviour Management for PGCE students at Roehampton University and an Intermediate Tutor of Team Teach positive handling & de-escalation.

I immediately fell in love with Serenity during my interview process: the building, the grounds, but more importantly the staff and pupils, some of whom carried out a very robust questioning in the form of the student council panel: Kieran, Kyle and the others certainly did not take it easy on me!

In my spare time, I like to continue my artistic background by producing and directing fringe & amateur theatre and teaching young people performance skills. I'm also an adoptive father of two and hold an MA in Psychoanalytic Observational Studies from the Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust, as well as the National Professional Qualification in Headship.

I really cannot wait to take up my new role at Serenity, to get to know you and your children and to maintain the outstanding provision that the school already provides.

Have a great summer break,

**Jody Tranter**



## Pupil and Parent Surveys

91% of parents agree that the school keeps them informed how well their child is doing. We will continue our weekly calls to discuss children's progress, please inform the school office if

95% of parents say that any concerns raised with the school are dealt with quickly and effectively, 93% say that their child does well at our school.

We will continue working with parents to improve all numbers to get closer to 100%!

## Attendance

Well done to the following for the best attendance:

Charlotte Sheppard

Ibrahim Hassan Khan

Jesse Siloe

Kamal Lawal

Adem Eskisan

# Numeracy:

This term in Numeracy, we have focused on adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals. Decimal numbers are used often in everyday work and life. They are used in situations where more accuracy is required than the whole numbers can provide.

Examples include: This term we have been recapping on the different areas in Maths which involves Data collection, Fractions, Measurement, Bidmas, Time and Decimals. We want to highlight that some of the maths skills we have learnt in school this term is not just important for us now, but to prepare us for life. So many jobs use maths skills.

Maths Superstars:

Congratulations to the below students who have been Nominated by the Maths department for their outstanding efforts and attitude to learning in this term.

Formal : Soufiane, Nicolas Owen De Andre, Charlie C

Semi- formal: Adem, Sebastian, Jenny.

# Literacy:

This term, during Tutor literacy, we have been looking at sentence structures – simple, compound, complex - as well as different word classes – nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs.

Our phonics programmes and interventions have continued, and in recent weeks there has been a focus on reading comprehension, writing and discussion in preparation for English assessments and exams.

Wishing you a happy summer. Please don't forget that all students have free access to a whole library of books on our MyOn system.

## Pablo the Therapy Dog

A message from Pablo

What a year it has been for me joining Serenity in June 2022. Its now my 1st anniversary as Serenity school Coulsdon's therapy dog. I have really enjoyed taking part in the daily mile, supporting break and lunch time, and being given lots and lots of cuddles!

My highlights of the year include taking part in all of our school celebrations, and getting a special shoutout from the OFSTED inspector "The therapy dog Pablo, is another helpful support for pupils"

Wow I think I'm famous!

Thank you all for looking after me, especially Torie, Thyrek, Hamza, Jennifer and Charlotte!

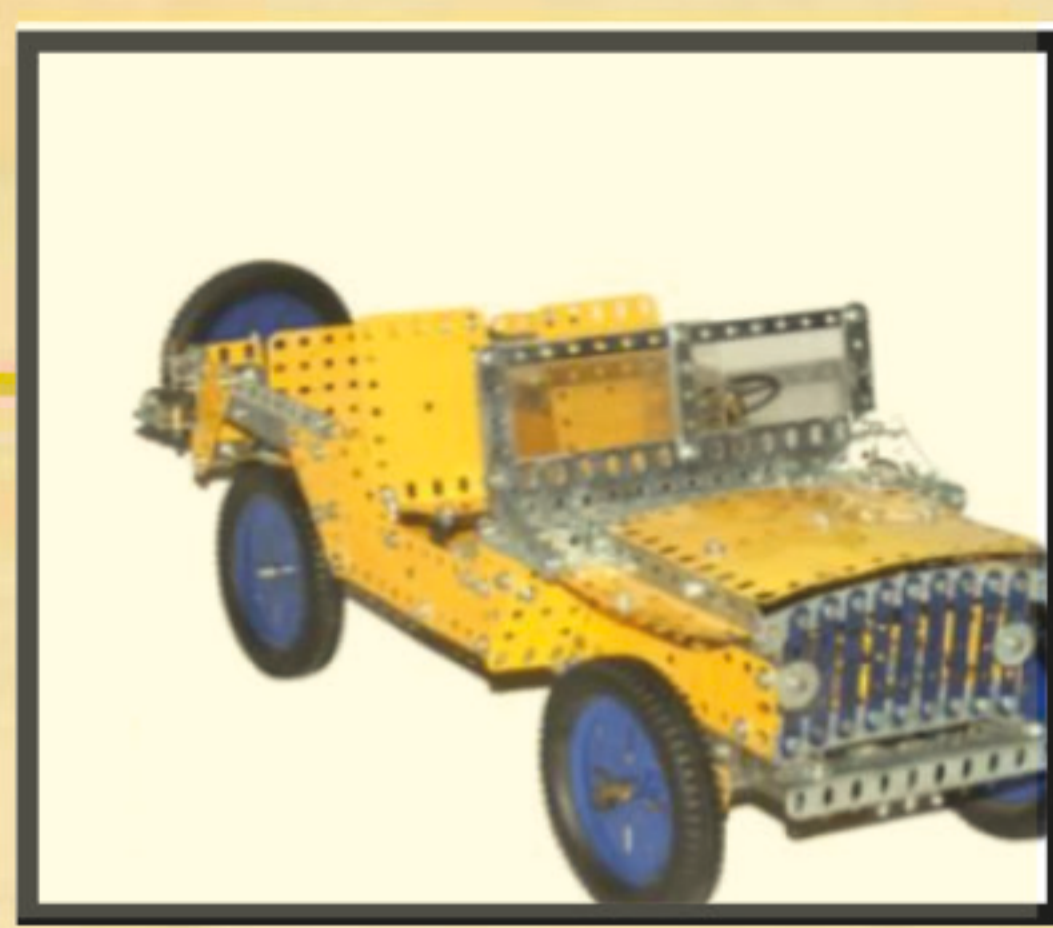
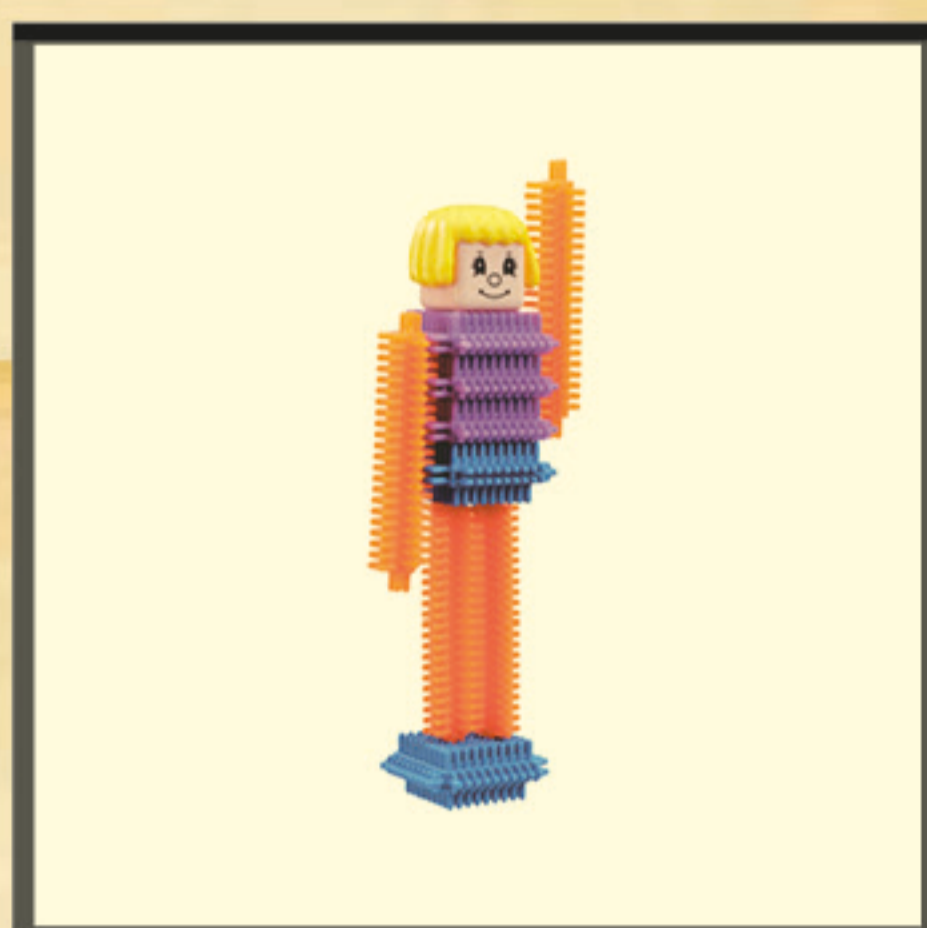
I look forward to seeing you all once a week next year.



# Maple:

This term, Maple class has completed lots of different activities.

In History we were learning about the generation of toys and how they have evolved. We had a discussion with Mr Jones about what his favourite toys were as a child. These were Mr Jones top 3!



In science we learned about the growth of plants and experimented with pumpkin, carrot and parsley. Over the duration of 6 weeks we kept a plant diary to keep track of the plants growth, which was very interesting.

The students of Maple also like to have FUN! We enjoy putting together puzzles, using the mouse bot and playing many card games.

Maple class also benefitted massively from animal therapy on Monday mornings where they enjoy the company of: rabbits, snakes, lizards and various fluffy friends. This group in particular seem to really enjoy this activity!



## Message from the Couch:

After recently joining Serenity school, I can only marvel at the interesting but complex needs of many of our students. The one thing that I am constantly aware of is a need for consistency in the therapeutic process. This is perhaps one of the cornerstones of my work and something I constantly remind myself of when working with individuals. This term, I have focussed on getting to know the many personalities that come into my office and try to renew my view of them every time I see them. I gather information on the ways they interact and respond to me and understand that this interaction is often a reflection of some of the interactions they have in the world. I fight the urge to assume to understand their individual stories and trust that the process, together with the student's own ability to reveal their needs slowly unfolds. This can only happen given that they have the time and I have the patience to listen when they are ready to share! I look forward to the new term and the many stories yet to be told!



## Mr Cadette



## Sapling

This term, (thanks to the good weather) Sapling have been practising their road safety when visiting the local park. At the park, they have enjoyed practising athletics. They have been throwing javelin, shot put and also practiced their long jump. They've also played some tennis at the local park. Sapling have really enjoyed their PE lessons in the park and then enjoy a well-deserved break at the park.



This half term in PE in semi-formal we have focused on some summer sports – tennis and athletics. In tennis we have learnt how to serve, the lines on the court and how to rally the ball. In athletics we have learnt how to throw a shot putt and a javelin, long jump and triple jump. Our students in formal have continued with their football, with some of the older students leading the sessions as part of their Sports Leadership course.

As always, our students have given 100% in their lessons and are reaping the rewards. We have been really impressed by their mature attitude towards the PE sessions and welcome the competitive spirit they display.



# Physical Education

# Art

This term has been an interesting one. The end of the year is always tiring but the students have created some fantastic work. Elm, Willow and Sycamore have been creating posters to understand branding and advertising purposes whilst further reinforcing understanding of fundamental design ideas and the formal elements; Sapling have been creating a puppet theatre and Maple have been exploring colour, monochrome and some observational drawing. This term has seen the pupils progress and really show creative flair and innovation. I would like to say a big thank you to those whose effort and diligence made the assessment process much more enjoyable. I would also like to say well done to those in year 9 and year 11 whose work has been submitted this term, congratulations and have a fantastic summer.

It has been a pleasure and I wish you all the luck for the future,



## Sycamore

This term has seen our artist in the group Sebastian complete his level two qualification in art. Harry has exceeded expectations for PSD by completing all booklets given. Finlay has improved in PE through engagement and subsequently enjoyed this subject more. We have also welcomed our new member to the group, Adem, who has become a popular figure around the school and enjoyed his football at breaks. In a short space of time Callum has been able to achieve his qualifications and this has been a real achievement for him; well done.



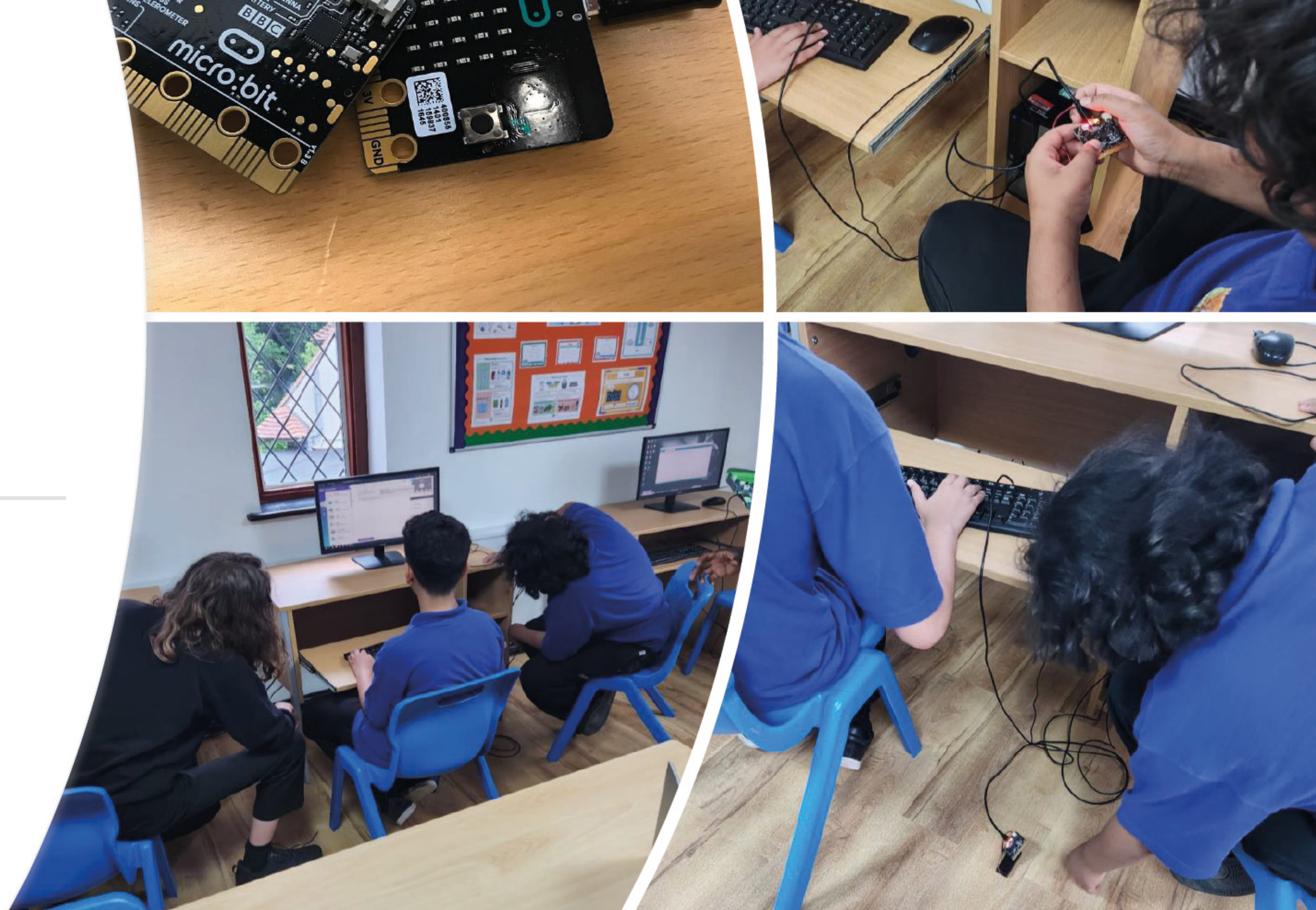
# Summer 2023

MICRO-BIT Coding

## ICT SPARK CLUB



Serenity School



# ICT and Computer Science

During ICT the pupils have been using Micro-bit:

The BBC micro:bit is a small programmable device that helps learners to learn about programming and electronics. It has sensors, buttons, and a display, allowing students to build and test real projects.

By coding and experimenting with the micro:bit, learners can improve problem-solving skills, boost creativity, and develop a better understanding of how computers work. It is easy to use and has a supportive community, making it a great tool for young people to explore technology and innovation.



## FOREST SCHOOL

This year in forest school we have learned how to tie knots, explore local wildlife and plant seedlings. We have explored nature literacy and numeracy and the children have enjoyed the adventures and exposure to the beautiful grounds we are so privileged to have.



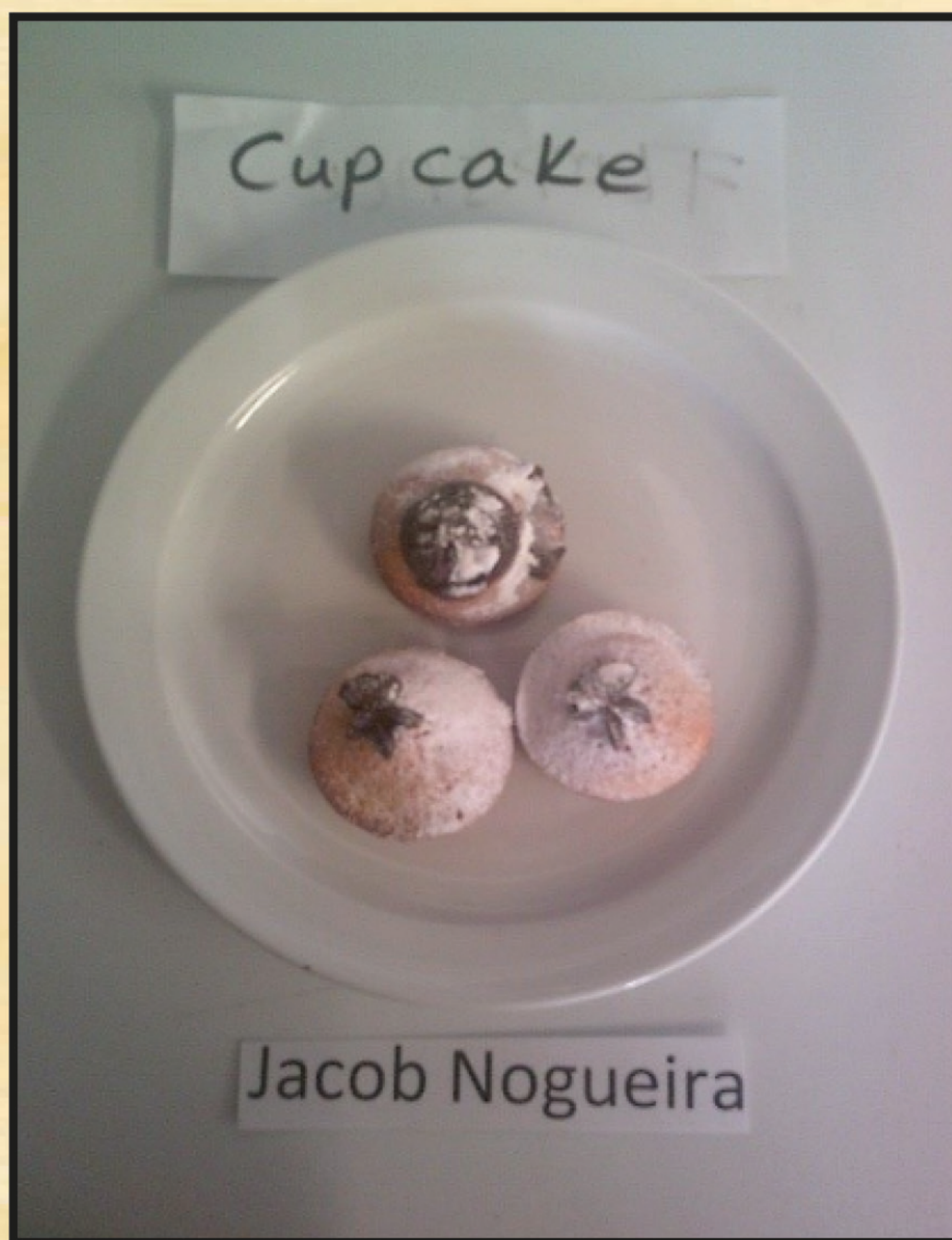
# Food Technology

As usual, our Food Technology sessions are fun and exciting. We continue to explore different kinds of recipes in each session.

Children are not only involved in the preparation of the food they cook, but they all get involved in the washing up process.

They learn safety rules using a knife as well as other equipment. This type of learning is contagious, and all students catch on quickly.

Our future chefs and entrepreneurs:



# WILLOW

This term has seen Willow develop well and have shown their nurturing side being able to support each other through difficult times. They have enjoyed art and created some fantastic work.



Willow have enjoyed PE, art and have integrated their newest member - Charlotte into the group. Kelvin has made big improvements this term and has started interacting with the group much more. Well done to all those in Willow for making good efforts and improvements during the year.

# Cultural diversity Week 2023

Our yearly celebration during cultural diversity week was another success this year. We value and strive to be an inclusive school for all, to celebrate, and embrace culture. This year we had music provided by Calvin Daves (Elm KS3) A buffet style feast, and an ice-cream van arrived and served us all ice-cream.

As the school continues to grow, we look forward continuing to celebrate this amazing annual event.

# ELM

Elm have done well this year the year 9 students have passed their exams and worked hard to complete subjects such as PSD and art.

Well done to those who have really tried hard to improve and concentrate. Soufiane and Owen have shown significant improvements in concentration and behaviour.

We also saw a welcome to Nicholas and Eloise who have fitted in seamlessly.



# NURTURE

We have been busy in our class, practicing our communications skills and writing, as well as recognising numbers and quantities, as we added and subtracted them. Moreover, we were enjoying our Dance and Aerobics sessions and we have been exploring our surroundings outdoors during Forest School time. The caterpillar cocoons, which we have been keeping in our class finally hatched and we released our beautiful butterflies in the forest. To celebrate this, we had ice cream which we garnished with the fruit we chose and chopped for our Independence and Cooking session.

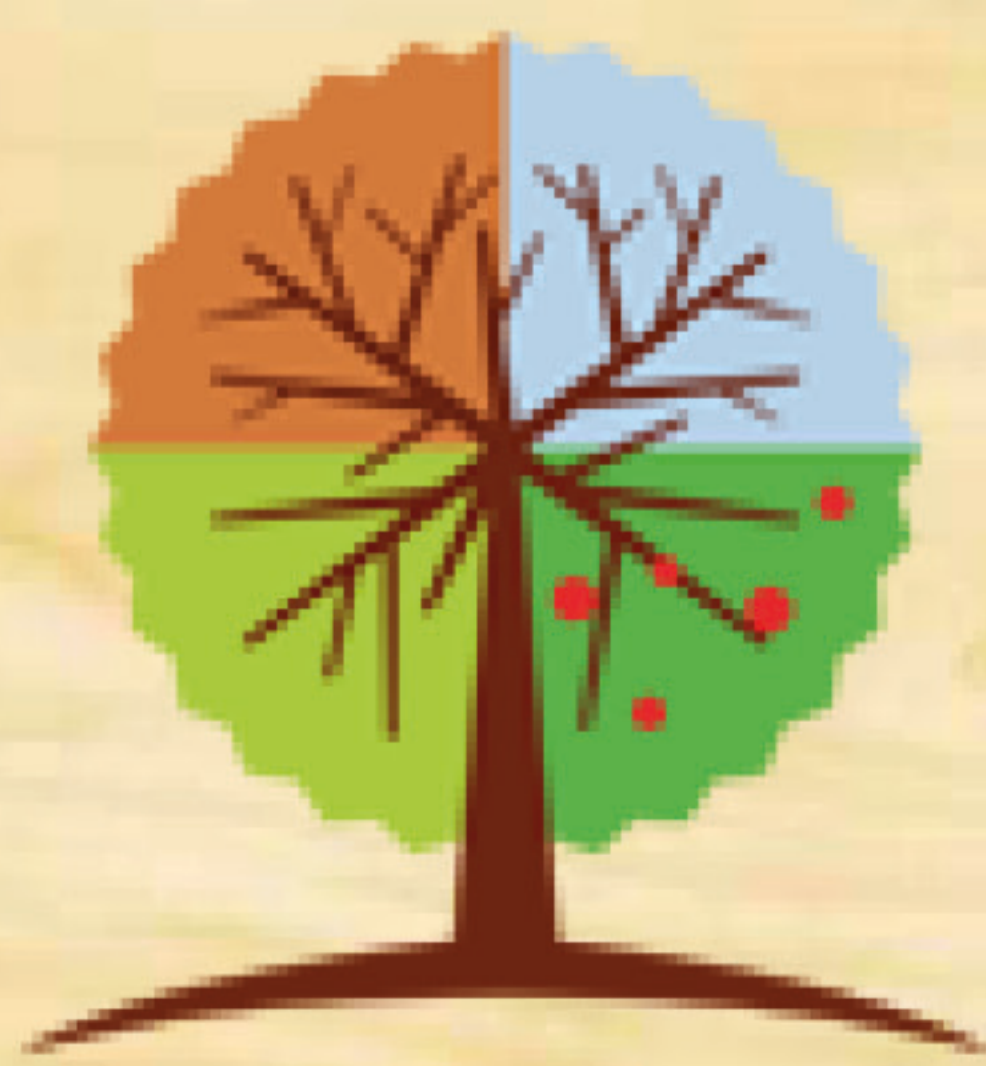


# The Kings Coronation

The King's Coronation was another fun filled day, we dressed the school with Union Jack flags, and ate a feast fit for a Royal! It was a great day to come together and celebrate King Charles, as you can see from the photo it was a red, blue, and white affair.



**We are looking forward to the next academic year, filled with fun, more events, and our first residential as a school. Keep your eyes peeled.**



Serenity School

