



# SECONDARY NEWS

A half-termly Newsletter from the Secondary Department at Marjory Kinnon School

AUTUMN 1 2019

## LS1

This half term, LS1 have been working really hard and have transitioned well into life in the Lower Secondary Department at MKS.

We have been reading 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' as part of our English lessons. We have been using the story to help us give our opinions about illustrations and language choices, write detailed character descriptions, make predictions and write in role. Using drama and role play, we helped the characters address dilemmas and looked at the different perspectives characters had on the same situation.

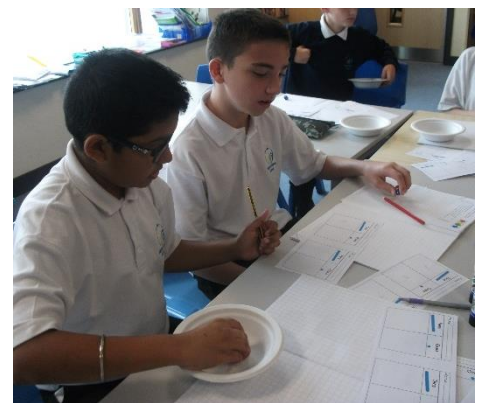


In Mathematics

Mastery, we have been deepening our knowledge of place value. We have practised our reasoning skills and have presented numbers in different ways. Using a range of manipulatives, such as bead strings, Dienes and Cuisenaire rods has helped us to show our understanding and begin to

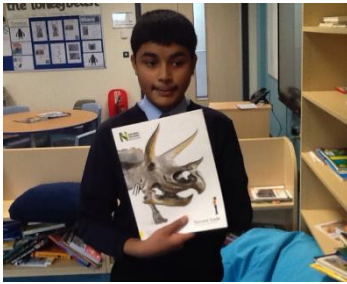
solve challenging real-world problems.

Well done on a great first half term, LS1!



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## LS2



LS2's library session is a wonderful time for sharing stories. The pupils all chose their favourite books and explained to the class why they would recommend them to others.

Quotes from the students:

"They shrink so they can fit in a sandcastle"

"It is about robots"

"Gran is cross"

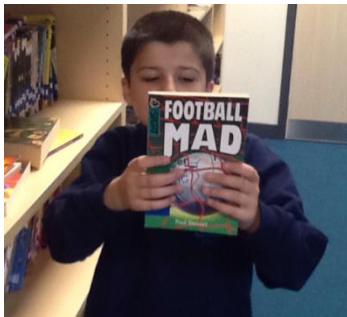
"Children make mess"

"The boom slang snake is dangerous, it is an exciting story"

"It is funny"

"It's about secrets"

"There are bugs and wasps that chase them"

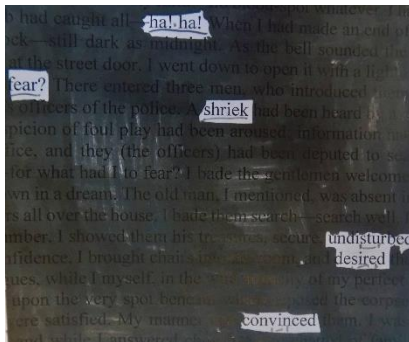


What is your favourite book and why?

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## LS3

It's been an exciting half term for us in LS3. In English, we've been studying the book *The Dark* by Lemony Snicket. One of our favourite lessons was centred on creating blackout poetry. To create the blackout poem,



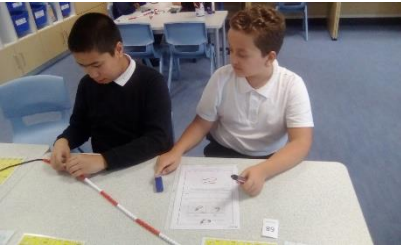
Mr Jenkins gave us a spooky story. We had to choose our favourite words from the story and blackout the rest of them with a black marker pen. With only our favourite words remaining, we were left with some stunning poems. Here is an example of Reece's excellent work.

In Life Skills, we've been learning about household management. Mr Jenkins has been extremely impressed with everyone's efforts at tasks like ironing, washing dishes and changing bed sheets. What a great collection of skills to set us up for the future!

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## LS4



This half term LS4 have been learning about place value in maths. The class have been learning to identify how many hundreds, tens and ones are in a three digit number. Pupils were able to arrange numbers in an increasing or decreasing order based on their place value. LS4 have enjoyed using dienes, number lines and bead strings to help them to compare the place value of two-digit numbers. They have become confident at using key vocabulary when describing a number's place value.

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## LS7

In Citizenship this half term LS7 have been learning about Parliament and Democracy. We have learnt about how laws are created in the UK and the process of law making. We also found out about the first laws which came from the Magna Carta in 1215 during the reign of King John. LS7 learnt about the story of Simon De Montfort who caused a rebellion which led to the start of electing MPs into parliament which we have today. The children really enjoyed acting out the Opening of Parliament with Sam pretending to read the Queen's speech and Shalem performing as Black Rod.



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## US1

In US1 we have been looking at developing communication skills and solving problems. We have watched video clips on different problems, in groups we came up with solutions to the problems presented in the video. We have been learning about how to give advice to friends who are feeling worried, by replying to problem page problems, providing advice to help the person feel less worried and more able to solve their own problems. We have been looking at problems we may encounter in everyday life and how we can handle our own problems, e.g. forgetting our homework - explaining to the teacher that we are sorry and we will bring in

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our homework the next day and in future using our diary to support our organisation skills. In addition to this, we have looked at ways to deal with feelings of anxiety and worry, including sharing your feelings and thoughts with someone and drawing to help us relax and be calm, while building up resilience and perseverance skills.



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## US3

In Computing students have been creating and delivering an electronic presentation about their career goals as part of their BTEC IT (Level 1) unit assignment. This particular assignment has helped them think about possible careers they would like to explore at post 16, and what qualifications, skills, and knowledge they would need to achieve their goals in the coming years.

As part of their History Entry Level Accreditation, students have explored the different types of crimes and punishments during the middle ages. They discussed the fairness of the punishments, and compared them to present day punishments. This generated a lot of discussion amongst the students, and it was fascinating to see such a lively debate about the topic.

Students have also been enjoying their courses at Brooklands College. In Media, they have been editing and creating media clips. While in Catering, they have been producing healthy meals to restaurant quality standards.

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## US4



US4 has been busy working on developing their inference skills in English. The students have been analysing a range of images and word choices in texts, in order to make predictions or insights into characters, settings and events.

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In the pictures, the students are working together to organise images into thematic groups, before determining what they suggest about a character. By developing this skill, the students will gain a richer understanding of the texts that they read.

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## Science in Upper Secondary

Students in US4 have been working on their GCSE content studying atoms more closely. They have been looking at the periodic table and all the information, trends and patterns it can provide us. They have also been looking more closely at atoms, their structure, specifically the sub-atomic particles, called protons, electron and neutrons. We then went on to explore the most current model of the atom which states that the electrons surround the nucleus in electron shells or energy levels.

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**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Haris Shah**

**Silver award CHILD Sculpture Competition**

**Presented by the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists Fund**

**UNIQUE ART AWARDS 2019**

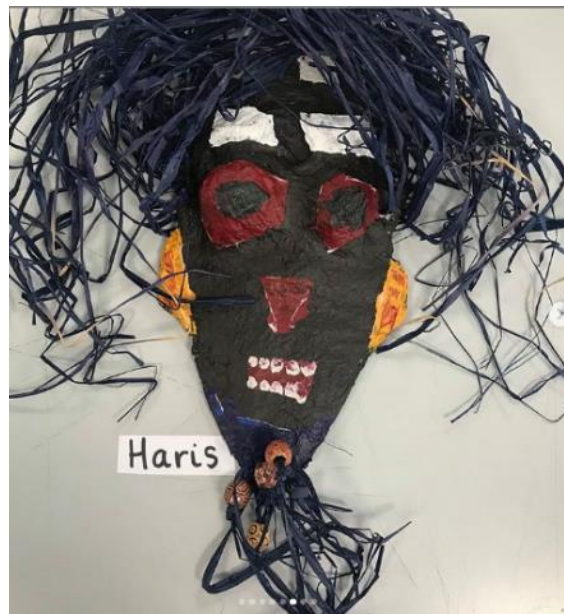
Congratulations to Marjory Kinnon School's very talented student Haris Shah, who won the silver award in the Child Sculpture Competition with his African Mask. This year the Unique Art Awards challenged students to create artwork on the theme of Africa. Haris designed and built his mask using a mixture of cardboard, PVA glue and water, tissue paper, raffia string and acrylic paint.

Haris was presented his award at a very special presentation night hosted by ITV presenter Alastair Stewart. Haris received a bag of art supplies and a voucher to buy his own art supplies.



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Congratulations on a brilliant achievement Haris!



## ART IN SECONDARY

### Expressive Self Portraits - Art Autumn 1

During Autumn 1 students in KS3 and KS4 have been expressing themselves through self-portraits. In this learning task students were challenged to create an expressive self-portrait using a variety of mediums including water colours, class paint and oil pastels. Students were encouraged to focus on not creating an exact likeness, but to create something that would express their character.

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Pictured below are some of the expressive self-portraits. Can you recognise anyone?



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## Food Technology in Lower Secondary

In Food Technology the pupils have been starting the year by learning all the Health and Safety rules that must be followed when working in the kitchen. They were able to list a good range of rules and understand why they are so important.

We also looked at how to wash and dry up correctly so that everyone knows how important it is to clean up after themselves and leave the work areas and kitchen clean and tidy for other students to use. It has been a very positive start to our new school year and we look forward to preparing and cooking a range of dishes throughout the year.

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## Educational Visit to the Amazon Web Services HQ

Six year 8 girls went and participated in 'Amazon Web Services' (AWS) competition to develop an app to support an issue of their choosing. The competition was developed to promote women in the tech industry and to encourage more girls to consider tech as a career choice when they finish school.

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The girls got to go to AWS's headquarters in Hackney and spent part of the day developing their understanding of how apps are developed including conception, design, and production. They spent the other part of the day developing their communication skills to allow them to present and sell their app to interested parties.

The girls will continue to work on their app idea and their submission with the hope of winning the competition later this year.

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## **PE in Lower Secondary**

Lower Secondary have been learning about agility and reaction time. Students have been performing different challenges that are on the create development cards that they get assessed on.

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## **Music in Lower Secondary**

### West African Drumming

LS1 and LS2 have been learning to play the Djembe and composing a short drumming piece using West African techniques. Pupils have composed their own individual rhythm and then decided which sounds should be used to play their rhythm. As a group, these have then been combined into a longer piece with pupils selecting the order and amount of repetition for each rhythm.

### The Blues

LS3, LS4, LS5 and LS6 have been studying The Blues. They have learned about the historical context of the Blues, which compliments Black History Month, and also the main feature of the music. Pupils have used GarageBand to then compose their own 12-bar Blues using the features they have been learning about. In addition to this, pupils have been listening modern blues music to see how it has developed over time.

### Jazz

LS7 have been learning about Jazz music, which has tied in with Black History Month. They have found out about the origins of Jazz and how it developed. They have explored the main features of each era of Jazz, from Dixie through to Modern Jazz, looking into both the musical and social aspects of the music. In addition

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to this, pupils have been learning to play the 'Jazz Standard' 'Bye Bye Blackbird' on the keyboard and trying their hand at some improvised solos, using Miles Davis' recording as inspiration.

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## Music in Upper Secondary

Upper Secondary classes have begun their accredited work. Some pupils have been learning to play a melody on the keyboard and studying recorded examples of professional keyboard players. Other pupils have begun a unit on Music Appraisal. This has comprised of analysing a range of music from different genres and identifying the musical features and elements used in each example. This has included use of tempo, dynamics, texture, timbre, structure and general features of the genre. Other classes have begun either a module on Composing and are writing a TV News Theme or been working together in an ensemble to prepare a short piece which each pupil playing a different part independently. Pupils have then been required to self-evaluate their work.

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## Travel Training Workshops

At the end of the last term, Barrie, Isaura, Keira, Mahdi and Rumaysa have taken part in Travel Training over 6 weeks, learning and practising road crossings, taking the bus and asking for help from a safe stranger. By the end they felt much more confident in travelling safely in the community. Well done for all of your hard work!



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## KEY DATES



Friday	18th October	School closed for pupils, INSET day for staff
Monday - Friday	21st October - 25th October	HALF TERM
Monday	28 <sup>th</sup> October	Pupils back to school
Thursday	19th December	Last day of term (Finish 1pm)

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