



TILT EDUCATION

THE INCLUSIVE LEARNING TEAM

December 2025

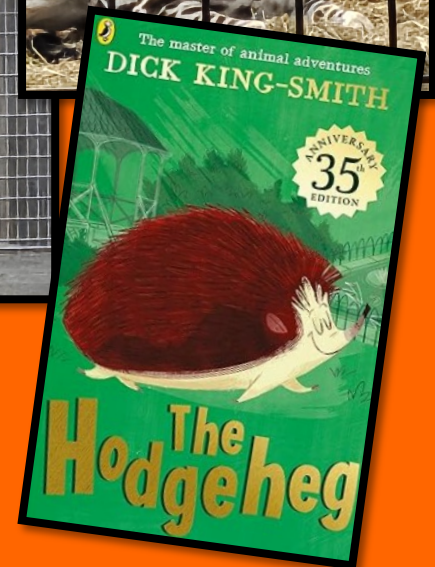
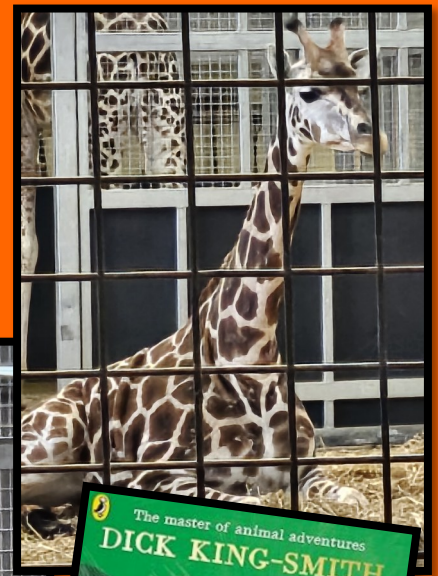
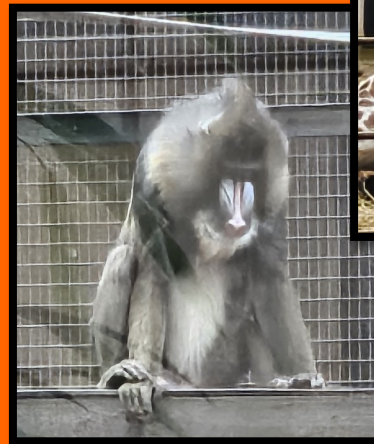
Bringing The Hodgeheg to Life at Chester Zoo

This half term, KS3 pupils enjoyed a visit to Chester Zoo, which links closely to the book they are currently reading in English, *The Hodgeheg* by Dick King-Smith.

In the story, Hodgeheg learns how animals must adapt to survive in a human-shaped world. Pupils explored this idea by considering how Chester Zoo creates safe environments to meet the needs of different animals.

We began in the monkey house, where pupils observed different species and learned about their diets, highlighting how animals' needs are carefully planned for in a zoo setting. Next, we visited the dark and atmospheric bat cave, where pupils moved quietly as bats flew overhead, helping them understand nocturnal animals and how Hodgeheg uses patience to stay safe at night.

A highlight of the day was seeing the rhinos and listening to a short talk from their zookeeper. Pupils were amazed by their size and discussed how animals rely on humans for conservation. After lunch, we visited the giraffes and meerkats, where pupils enjoyed the tunnels and observing animal behaviour.



John Muir Award / Basic First Aid



This half term, students have explored essential first aid skills using resources from St John Ambulance and the British Heart Foundation. They have learnt how to respond calmly and effectively to common emergencies, including assessing risks, treating minor injuries, and performing CPR.

Students then applied these techniques to outdoor scenarios, considering how to adapt their responses when faced with challenges such as limited space, uneven terrain or changing weather conditions.



Personalised Curriculum

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ICT

In ICT, KS3 pupils have designed and built their own arcade-style games using Scratch and block-based programming. They explored core programming concepts, including variables, loops and conditional *IF* statements, and applied these to control movement, scoring systems and player interaction. Through testing, debugging and refining their designs, pupils developed a practical understanding of how simple code structures can be combined to create engaging gameplay and dynamic on-screen behaviours.

At KS4, pupils have been working towards their Level 1/Level 2 IT User Skills qualification. They have refined their multimedia presentations by creating and embedding animations, videos and graphs,

KS4 Employability

Ks4 pupils took part in an informative visit to Newcastle College, gaining an insight into future education and career pathways. Pupils explored the engineering department, where they learned about practical skills, equipment and real-world problem solving.

They also visited the sports facilities, discovering how training, fitness and performance are developed at college level

In the paramedic area, pupils learned about emergency care, teamwork and the skills needed to help others in critical situations.



Exploring the Impact of the Industrial Revolution



In History, pupils explored the Industrial Revolution and considered whether industrialisation truly revolutionised people's lives. We examined life before and after industrialisation, focusing on factories, working conditions, child labour, transport and changes to cities and homes. Pupils analysed sources to understand different experiences of workers and factory owners. Our learning was brought to life during

our visit to the Black Country Living Museum, where students saw historic houses, workshops and machinery first-hand. The trip helped pupils visualise daily life in the 18th and 19th centuries and deepen their understanding of how industrial change affected communities.





Listening to Our Pupils: Making a Positive Difference

Our recent pupil survey provided valuable insight into what is working well and where we can improve. Many pupils report that they understand their lessons, feel supported, and are making good progress. Pupils also shared that staff are fair, approachable and quick to help, and that they feel safe, listened to and well supported in school.

The survey also highlighted areas for development, including the impact of noise on concentration, occasional uncertainty with tasks, and how emotions on arrival can affect readiness to learn. In response, staff have completed targeted training on early identification and support strategies. We have also introduced a picture-based emotional check-in for when pupils enter the building struggling, but don't want to talk, and ensured ear defenders are available in all classrooms.

Overall, pupils told us they enjoy coming to school, value calm support and movement breaks, and feel we are helping to prepare them for the future. Their feedback continues to shape our practice as we work together to make our school even better for every learner.

Nature, Texture & Tradition: Christmas Wreath Art

Our Key Stage 4 pupils worked creatively and thoughtfully to design and make a wreath as part of their Art Award. They explored a range of materials, techniques, and textures, considering colour, shape, and pattern in their designs. Pupils planned their ideas carefully, experimented with different artistic approaches, and reflected on what worked well and what they could improve. The activity helped them develop practical art skills, creativity, and confidence.





Celebrating Our Values in Action

At our school, we are committed to creating an inspiring, inclusive and ambitious environment where every pupil is encouraged to reach their full potential and develop a genuine love of learning. Central to this is fostering our core values of **Equality, Cooperation, Mutual Respect, Responsibility, Kindness and Honesty**, which guide how we learn and work together every day.

This half term, we were proud to celebrate a pupil who demonstrated these values by taking responsibility and choosing to do the right thing—even when it was difficult. Their actions showed honesty, courage and a strong sense of personal responsibility, setting a positive example for others.

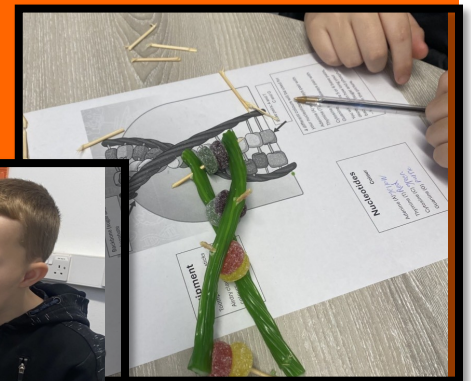
Science

This term in science, pupils took part in a hands-on experiment in which they explored states of matter, identified organelles with microscopes and extracted DNA from strawberries.

The experiment helped pupils understand that DNA is present in all living organisms and serves as the genetic material that carries information responsible for determining traits and characteristics.

By actively participating in each step of the process, pupils were able to see how DNA can be released from cells and observed directly. This experience strengthened their understanding of

genetics and reinforced key scientific skills such as following procedures, making careful observations, and drawing conclusions.



Oh Yes They Did!

As part of our end of year trips a group of our Key Stage 3 pupils visited Crewe Lyceum Theatre to watch *Jack and the Beanstalk*. From the moment the show began, pupils were fully engaged by the colourful sets, lively music and humorous characters. They enjoyed joining in with the audience participation and laughed throughout the performance. The trip supported pupils' understanding of live theatre and storytelling, and all pupils demonstrated exemplary behaviour, representing the school positively and leaving the theatre smiling.





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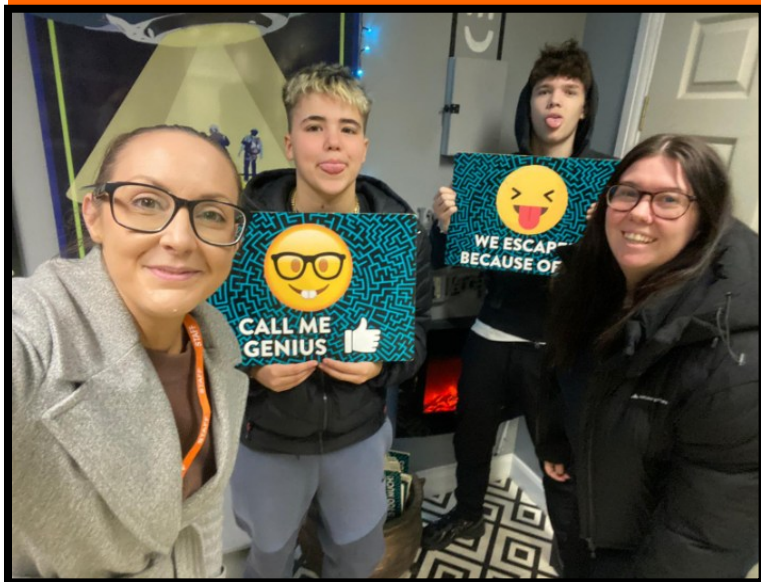
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Sporting Success

Pupils have been developing their skills in table tennis and dodgeball during timetabled PE sessions. These sessions have focused on building fundamental techniques, improving hand-eye coordination, developing teamwork and communication, and encouraging positive sportsmanship through structured games and friendly competition.

In addition to PE lessons, pupils have taken part in darts as part of our lunchtime activities, with pupils showing genuine enthusiasm and commitment. Some pupils are already playing as part of their own teams, while others have significantly improved their throwing accuracy, consistency, and confidence through continued practice and competitive play.

Pupils' efforts and achievements have been recognised with trophies, celebrating competition winners and those who have demonstrated determination, perseverance, and excellent progress within timetabled sessions. It has been wonderful to see pupils challenging themselves, supporting one another, and taking pride in their sporting achievements.



Elementary... or Not Quite!

In English, some of our KS3 pupils have been immersing themselves in the world of Sherlock Holmes. As part of our enrichment programme, they put their detective skills to the test in a Sherlock Holmes-themed escape room, using clues, logic, and teamwork to bring the stories to life.

Despite some excellent sleuthing, the KS3 group didn't quite crack the case in time — but don't worry, they were eventually let out!



Meanwhile, our KS4 pupils rose to the challenge in an Area 51 escape room, successfully solving the puzzles and escaping with seconds to spare. A brilliant effort and a well-deserved congratulations to them!