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Dear Leigh UTC Community,

I hope this message finds you well as we embark on a brand new calendar year filled with possibilities and opportunities at The Leigh UTC. I am thrilled to share in this bulletin some exciting updates and highlights from our vibrant school community.

With the academic year in full swing, we continue to launch several initiatives aimed at enhancing the overall educational experience at Leigh UTC. From innovative teaching methods to additional extracurricular opportunities, we are committed to providing a well-rounded education that prepares our students for success in the rapidly evolving world.

As we navigate through this calendar year, please stay informed about important dates, examinations, and any changes to the school schedule. Our website and communication channels will provide regular updates to ensure that everyone is well-informed and prepared.

And finally, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff, supportive parents/carers, and talented students for contributing to the vibrant and dynamic community we have at The Leigh UTC. Together, we can continue to foster an environment that inspires learning, growth, and success.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us. Your feedback is invaluable as we work together to create the best possible educational experience for our students.

Warm regards,

Kevin Watson
Principal of The Leigh UTC & Inspiration Academy



TERM DATES & EVENTS



MODULE 4

Start: Monday 19th February 2024

Finish: Thursday 28th March 2024

MODULE 5

Start: Monday 15th April 2024

Finish: Friday 24th May 2024

MODULE 6

Start: Monday 3rd June 2024

Finish: Friday 19th July 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

- GermanLink School Visit 17th
 April 2024
- Challenge Partners Event 8th
 May 2024
- STEAM WEEK 28th June 2024
- Year 7 & 8 LAT Sports Day 9thJuly 2024
- LBC Day July 2024
- Year 9 & 10 LAT Sports Day 12thJune 2024

2024 - PARENTS' EVENINGS

Year 8 - Thursday 9th May 2024

2024 - RESULTS DAYS

- GCSE Thursday 22nd
 August 2024
- A-Level Thursday 15th August 2024

2024 - BANK HOLIDAYS

- Friday 29th March 2024
 (Bank Holiday)
- Monday 1st April 2024
 (Bank Holiday)
- Monday 6th May 2024
 (Bank Holiday)
- Monday 26th August
 2024 (Bank Holiday)





LORD KNIGHT VISITS THE LEIGH UTC





Former Labour Schools Minister Lord Jim Knight saw how "fabulous" Dartford students were prepared for technical careers on a visit to The Leigh UTC. Lord Knight, who served in the Department for Education from 2006 to 2009, was given a tour of the The Leigh University Technical College and its feeder school, The Inspiration Academy, by Principal Kevin Watson. Simon Beamish the CEO of The Leigh Academies Trust, alongside representatives of the Baker Dearing Educational Trust which supports the 44-strong national network of University Technical Colleges.

Lord Knight was shown several of the Inspiration Academy's classes, and attended an Engineering workshop to meet students in Post-16 studying for their T-Levels qualifications.

Lord Knight commented about the visit; "It was great to witness how the state-of-the-art equipment and high-quality teaching provided by UTCs is not only helping students produce brilliant work but is making those young people ready to join the workforce."

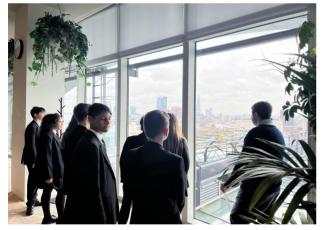




BUSINESS









KS3 ENTERPRISE

Price Waterhouse Cooper Embankment Offices visit Year 7, 8, 9 on Wednesday 29th February - New World New Skills School Series

Following on from our successful PWC trips for our Sixth Form and KS4 Business trips we were invited to the 'New World New Skills' PWC series with our KS3 students based in the prestigious PWC Embankment Offices.

On arrival the students were given a tour of the fantastic offices located above the Charing Cross station. With its open plan the students could see staff working spaces and meeting rooms. The tour was very aspirational, finishing in the plush CEO's offices with views over the west end and the city of London.





BUSINESS AND FINANCE







KS4 ENTERPRISE

Year 10 Business and Finance students had the opportunity in January to attend the launch of the 2024 Made in Bluewater competition.

During the launch students took part in Marketing, Selling and Sustainability sessions with Bluewater and Landsec staff. The challenge this year is to create an experience for customers linked to sustainability. The main aim is to attract more customers to Bluewater. Their pitches took place on 19th March where the students presented to the CEO's of Bluewater and Landsec.





BUSINESS AND FINANCE





KS4 ENTERPRISE

The Year 10 Business and Finance students took part in the Made in Bluewater challenge in which they had to create a new shop attraction to attract guests to Bluewater with sustainability and inclusion as the major aim of the attraction.

Representing Leigh UTC were three teams *The Lounge*, *Out of this World* and *Snapshots and Lattes* who went head to head with three teams from the Leigh Academy.

All three teams received positive feedback from the judges, in particular Out of this World whose proposal focused on a 'Space' theme with an aim of providing a service to guests with autistic children.

The day was a great success with the students learning key skills in the process including presentation, teamwork and creativity.

We look forward to working closely with Bluewater later in the year on an up and coming mentoring project opportunity for our Business and Finance students.





LBC DAY



We are really excited to celebrate the successes of the two Learning Beyond the Curriculum (LBC) days that we have had so far this academic year, with a third upon us in July.

We believe that education goes beyond textbooks and classroom walls, and it is our endeavour to provide students with holistic learning experiences. We have introduced and delivered this bespoke programme at the UTC to increase the opportunities for our young people to learn and feed their inspiration.

The LBC programme is designed to provide our Year 7, 8, 9, 10 students with immersive educational experiences that extend beyond their regular curriculum. Through this programme, we aim to foster personal growth, cultural understanding, and an appreciation for the world around us. Through the academic year, we will be taking our students on three incredible trips, each focusing on specific categories:

Healthy, Active Lifestyles: This will be centred around promoting the importance of living a healthy and active life. This will involve outdoor activities, vital teamwork skills, and opportunities to connect with nature. We believe that physical well-being is essential for a well-rounded education, and this trip will empower our students to make healthier choices in their daily lives.

<u>Culture:</u> This will explore the rich tapestry of cultures around our local surroundings. This experience will broaden their horizons, foster tolerance, and enhance their cultural awareness.

<u>Business:</u> Here, we will delve into the world of business and entrepreneurship, which will provide insights into the dynamics of the business world, from startups to multinational corporations. Our aim is to stimulate and develop the next generation of young entrepreneurs and innovators.





LBC DAY



We believe that the LBC programme will be a valuable addition to every child's education and look forward to it being incorporated in the future years to come. Together, we can inspire and empower our students to become well-rounded individuals who are ready to face the challenges and opportunities of the future.

March 5th saw the second LBC trip of the academic year with Year 7 to 10 and Year 12 all going out to Learn Beyond the Curriculum at the following locations:

Gravity Trampoline Park, Royal Greenwich Observatory, Imperial War Museum, Natural History Museum, Leeds Castle, Museum of London, Science Museum, Silverstone, Ninja Warriors, Go Ape! Adventure Park, Harry Potter World Studios and Mote Park

We believe that these experiences offer our students valuable opportunities for personal growth, learning, and skill development beyond the classroom. They were able to explore new horizons and expand their knowledge and understanding in diverse and engaging environments. The students were really positive about their experiences and we thoroughly look forward to the third LBC day of the year in July.











WORLD BOOK DAY



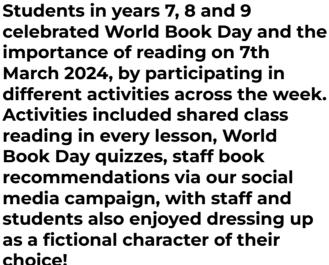












Our social media campaign was awash with book fun, as our staff posed with a book hiding their faces for pictures as 'secret readers' and many staff spoke in videos about their favourite books!





















WORKSHOPS

RAISING ATTAINMENT EVENING

Thank you to all of the Year 11 students and guardians who attended the Attainment Evening on 22nd March 2024.

We hope you enjoyed it and left the evening feeling confident and informed as to what we all need to do next in order to ensure the students are fully prepared for the exam season.

A big thank you to all of the staff who presented their top tips for success in their subject areas and to all that helped organise such a wonderful evening.



OPTIONS EVENING



Thank you to all of the Year 9 students and guardians who attended the options information evening on 16th March 2024.

We hope you found it extremely informative and helpful with the selecting of your options subjects for Year 10.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr O'Donnell and keep your eyes peeled for the next line of communication with key dates regarding the selecting of options in the coming days.





WORKSHOPS



POST-16 CAREERS EVENT

Our Post-16 students had an incredible day at our Careers Event with FM Conway this term.

Students were buzzing with excitement as they delved into the world of Civil Engineering and Supervisory roles alongside our amazing team members: Benjamin Potts, Sean Hale, and Molly Rowe.

Sean's demonstration on AutoCad was a hit, igniting a passion for creativity and innovation among the students.

Our Application Review activity was a huge success, with students gaining valuable insights into the hiring process and sharpening their analytical skills.

The interactive Q&A session fostered collaboration and provided students with a platform to ask burning questions about their future careers.

Thank you to everyone who joined us on 8th March 2024 and made this event a resounding success! Together, we're shaping the future of tomorrow's leaders in engineering and beyond.







WORKSHOPS T-LEVELS EVENTS





Alcatel Submarine Network (ASN) who are part of Nokia, conducted a Year 12 Engineering Workshop celebrating National Apprenticeship Week and their engagement with T-Levels.

Students participated in a series of events, including understanding the types of engineering roles and apprenticeships at ASN.

Students also participated in on-the-spot interviews for T-Level Industry Placements, which will prepare them for when they will partake in these in Year 13.

Thank you to ASN for visiting, and a huge well done to the students who participated.

If you are a Post-16 student looking for T-Levels or other options, there is still time!



A fantastic and inspiring T-Levels event took place at Amazon HQ London on T-Level in March.

The Amazon team made some excellent comments about how our T-Level students presented themselves and the team at Amazon is very much looking forward to hosting industry placements from The Leigh UTC in the future.

If you're considering applying for P16, reach out to us. We are still recruiting for T-Level in Digital or Engineering. Don't hesitate! Apply before spaces fill up!







Y13 UNITED NATIONS TRIP



A group of our Year 13 students were lucky enough to be given the opportunity to travel to Geneva, to visit the United Nations Headquarters building on 8th March 2024. International Women's Dav.

This trip was very insightful for students to gain more knowledge of the 40 United Nations who work collaboratively in close cooperation and with a comprehensive approach on prevalent issues our world faces.

Through its daily activities, UN Geneva significantly contributes to the global United Nations' efforts to maintain international peace and security, advance disarmament, protect and promote human rights, eradicate poverty, provide fast, effective humanitarian relief in emergencies and implement the Sustainable Development Goals of which are at the heart of the IB World Schools Education programme. SUSTAINABLE GUALS
DEVELOPMENT GUALS































COMPUTING





Our Year 11 students recently attended the annual Business Breakfast, which proved to be another successful event this year. Representatives from various companies shared their journeys, inspiring and motivating the students to consider joining the T-Levels Programme.

The students expressed great enthusiasm during the event, leaving with their heads held high and a renewed sense of motivation and aspiration. Many are now keen to apply for the Post-16 programmes offered at The Leigh UTC.

Attending events like these not only exposes students to real-world experiences and opportunities but also fosters a sense of ambition and determination towards their future endeavors. It's encouraging to see our students embracing such opportunities and actively seeking to shape their paths towards success.





STEMETTES LEADERSHIP ACADEMY







SİEWEİİE

We were very privileged to host this unique event on 21st March, whereby our Year 10 and Post-16 girls and non-binary students took part in a workshop run by the Stemettes Leadership Academy to broaden their horizons and inspire their next steps.

The Stemettes are a leadership team that encourage all girls and non-binary students to pursue a career in the STEAM fields, of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, to be considered for employment within Civil Service and Government, MI5, MI6 and GCHQ in which technical skill sets are coveted to work in espionage, surveillance services, national security and public campaigns that help to keep our country safe from threats of a multi-faceted nature.

During the workshop, the students were discussing the definition of creativity and the many ways of how it can be manifested, including a discussion of the impact that Artificial Intelligence (AI) can have in our working lives.





MATHEMATICS





Maths Feast Success for The Leigh UTC Year 10 Students

Four Year 10 students from The Leigh UTC recently showcased their mathematical prowess at the Maths Feast competition held at Ebbsfleet. Among a gathering of highly capable mathematicians from 15 other LAT schools, Haider, Mohammad, Kitdhes, and Dideoluwa represented our school with distinction. Accompanied by their teacher, Mr. Arnould, they embarked on a challenging journey of logical thinking and problem-solving.

The competition comprised a series of tasks designed to test the students' mathematical acumen and strategic thinking. From tackling high-level mathematical problems to engaging in creative activities like origami, the event provided a platform for students to demonstrate their skills across various domains. Despite facing stiff competition, our students showcased exceptional teamwork and determination throughout the event.

Their efforts bore fruit as they clinched the third-place position overall, a testament to their dedication and hard work. Additionally, the team earned two special certificates: one for highly effective teamwork and another for securing the top spot in round two of the competition. Their achievements not only reflect their individual talents but also highlight the collaborative spirit and commitment to excellence that defines The Leigh UTC community.





COMMUNITY





The Student Voice Team alongside Mrs Narwan organised The Great Dartford Schools' Litter Pick on Friday 15 March 2024.

This event is in its fifth year and Dartford Borough Council (DBC) and Dartford Science and Technology College (DSTC) continue to work together to build on what has become the largest community litter pick of this nature in the UK.

Teacher and event organiser,
Jonathan Dix explained, "This is
an amazing event and I am
thrilled so many schools want to
take part.

This is not about clearing up other people's litter but a real learning opportunity for students about the impact of litter, the environment, teamwork and individual responsibility".

For the second year in a row, students from The Leigh UTC actively participated in the 'Great Dartford Schools' Litter pick', an event organised in collaboration with Dartford Borough Council and DSTC School.

Students from Year 7 to 10 joined forces to clean up the litter in and around the Dartford Bridge Estate.





ART

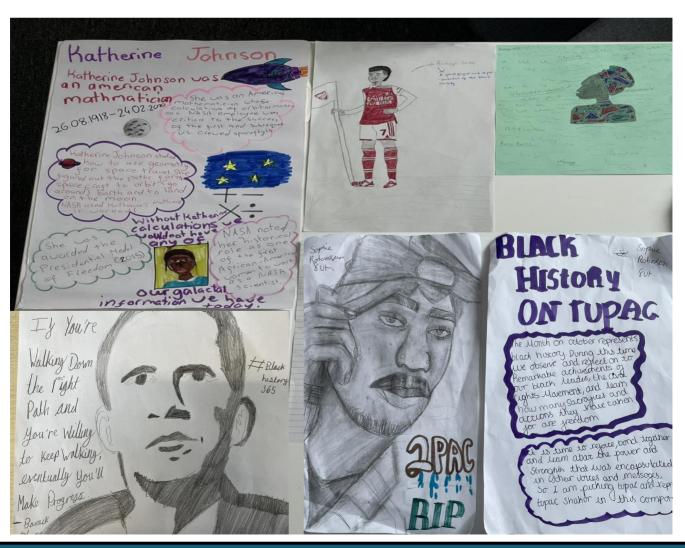


The Art department has been working on students creativity and refining their art skills. They have worked on some wonderful projects from street art to icons and beyond.

They have created some of the most exciting and unique work we have seen in the UTC and they continue to impress us with their skills they have developed and the confidence they are expressing their artist voice.

Year 10 have begun work on their natural forms coursework project and we have some unique approaches and concepts coming forward.

Year 11 are working on their examination projects and have taken this as a great opportunity to showcase their skills. They are engaging with contemporary artists and broadening their creative influences.







DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY



The Design Technology department continues to develop students skills is our three focus areas of Conceptual Design, Food Preparation and Engineering.

Students are completing some exciting products in Engineering such as balance rocket, in Conceptual Design by the creation of graphic designs which can be incorporated into mobile apps and making some incredible recipes in food which continue to build on their cooking skills.



Students complete a range of dishes in food from savoury such as pastas and pizzas to sweet items such as desserts and baked goods.

We are so pleased with the commitment of all the students within the department and cannot wait to see the work they produce.



Year 10 Food Preparation students are the first students on this course here. They have been working hard developing their practical skills and learn about the nutritional value of food. The amazing dishes have been going down a treat with staff and students while also making the building smell amazing.

Year 11 Design Technology students are all underway with their NEA's which means we are seeing some amazing creative projects which we cannot wait to share with you when they are completed.





ENGLISH

It's been an exciting Module in English for Key Stage Three!

Year 7 have begun their exciting studies on Shakespeare, considering his life and works. They have particularly enjoyed learning about Twelfth Night, and all of the mixed identities and love triangles.

Year 8 have been learning about Lois Lowry's 'The Giver', and have loved considering how the dystopian setting is so different to our own community. Year 9 have been studying 'The Woman in Black', a gothic novella by Susan Hill. Year 9 have enjoyed reading the creepy story, and considering how we can tell the novella is a piece of gothic fiction.

Next module, Year 7 will be studying their first full Shakespearean text - A Midsummer Night's Dream. This will focus on the relationships in the play and how the characters interact with each other.

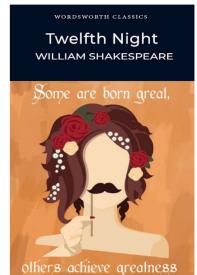
Year 8 will be continuing their dystopian fiction studies, with a unit called '100 Years of Dystopian Fiction'. Students will read extracts from dystopian fiction texts over the last one hundred years, and consider how dystopian fiction is presented cinematically.

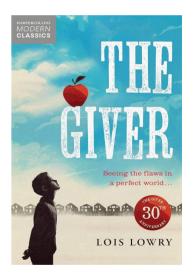
Year 9 will continue their study of 'The Woman in Black', considering how Susan Hill has structured her text to create tension and interest a reader.

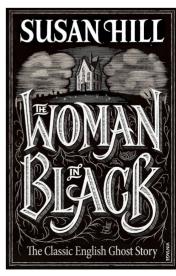
YEAR 10 FUTURE AUTHORS

Year 10 students have been superb at their ability to annotate work and provide detail of their analysis and evaluation in their literacy lessons where they have been focused on The Christmas Carol.













ENGLISH



KEY STAGE THREE

Year 7 have had a Shakespearean filled Module, studying *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. They have enjoyed deciphering Shakespeare's language, and participated in some acting practice taking on roles within the play.

Year 8 have been developing their knowledge of dystopian fiction, looking at extracts from the last 100 Years of Dystopian Fiction. Students have enjoyed seeing the genre change across the years, and have particularly enjoyed looking at two poems written about non-fiction events which could be considered dystopian.

Year 9 have been continuing their study of Susan Hill's *The Woman in Black*, and have enjoyed delving deeper into the mystery of the ghost story. All KS3 classes have worked incredibly hard this Module, and the English department wish them a very restful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming you

back in April.



KEY STAGE FOUR

Years 10 and 11 have been continuing their hard work towards their GCSE exams, which creep ever closer for Year 11. At the beginning of the Module, a group of Year 10 and 11 students attended a performance of *Macbeth* in Gravesend, to help with their studies of the Shakespeare classic. The students were an excellent representation of the academy, and thoroughly enjoyed seeing the tragedy played before their eyes. As Year 11 prepare for their upcoming exams, we wish them a restful but productive break. We look forward to welcoming you back in April.





ENGLISH WRITERS



FUTURE AUTHORS

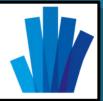
Year 9 have been studying The Gothic genre as part of their studies in English Literature. As a class they have been reading the gothic novella 'The Woman In Black' by Susan Hill. It is a classic victorian ghost story.

Students were asked to write a piece of creative writing, introducing a ghost story, in the manner of methods used by Susan Hill.

The focus on language, and description to build tension in order for the reader to be enticed to read on, was demonstrated particularly well by Connor, in his piece displayed here.

Linkly
1 a llad up on the gring curb, I couldn't
As I pulled up on the grimy curb, I couldn't lelp but feel a strange sense of foreboding as I took in the way the home appeared. Desolate,
help but teel a strange acres appeared. Desolate,
took in the way the none and probably infested
empty for so many years I slowly stopped out
with one foul thing another, sound accept a moment,
empty for so many years and probably infested empty for so many years and probably infested with one foul thing another. I slowly stepped out out of my archaic car and, after a moment,
relicitantly pushed open the wought won gates.
Most of the black point had clearly chipped away
over the years creating a sort of comoffange like
pattern on the fences. This placed becaused to
also description to
place. Largh use of description to build tension to sterped uside,
I austed open the front door and stepped inside,
I pushed open the front door and stepped inside, the first thing that hit we was the awful
sterch of mould, damp, lotting wood and something
familiar that I couldn't put my finger an.
I cheesed around every one, trying to keep
create about any to me - except one.
my verie. Nove stood out to me - except one. A peculiar little nursery attacked to a ranged
A PECONO 11 THE MONSEY WHOLES IN MISSEM WISS
storage room in the basement. This nursery was
not covered in rearry as much fifth as the rest
of the place - in fact it was relatively clean.
children's toys lived on the stellnes, there was in-date baby formula in the cupboods. Every
in-date baby formula in the coperais. Lary
ming was givete pleasant, except our ing, a
dark force in this warm environment how
can you develop and express the
dark force so the reader can feel
'dark force' so the reader can feel the sensation?
WWW. Beautiful building of tension through description.
through description.





MATHEMATICS



Imagine for a minute a world without maths....could we survive?

The world we live in is full of maths. It's how we tell time, measure distances, and purchase the things we need.

The necessary skills we learn from math; here are 5 reasons maths is important:

- 1. Maths is good for your brain.
- 2. Maths helps you with life skills.
- 3. Maths makes you a better cook.
- 4. Maths increases your problem-solving skills
- 5. Maths will help you in any career.



UKMT

Later this year, year 7 and 8 students have the opportunity to compete in the United Kingdom Mathematical Challenge. These competitions are the biggest maths competition run nationally.

The Junior Maths Challenge will be held in the summer (25th April). The Challenges will be held at school. Students can be awarded a Gold, Silver or Bronze certificate.

In previous years, students who practiced regularly have done very well in the challenges – please let your maths teacher know if you are interested in taking part and we can set you up with some great practice materials.





GERMAN

The German Department has introduced a new language app called "languagenut" this Module which supports students in all areas of language learning. Download to your mobile via your app store, log on online or follow the QR Code.













Following the huge success of the German trip to Cologne and our link school, Das Geschwister-Scholl-Gymnasium in Aachen, Germany again this year, students have been given the chance to focus on their speaking skills and take part in regular conversations using their German. The German Ambassadors have had another busy term supporting younger students with their language development and taking a real leadership role in developing German across the academy. Vielen Dank!





GERMAN

Package

| Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Comparison | Compari



International Day of Mother Languages

The German Ambassador came together for a presentation in assembly to celebrate the International Mother Languages Day, exhibiting a variety of ethnic backgrounds and their national dialect. This event was designed to embody the qualities of an IB learner, including being open-minded and encouraging others to critically appreciate other people's cultures and beliefs while maintaining their own. During this assembly, the German Botschafter shared their cultural background, including traditional costumes from Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland and Italy. They also presented some interesting cultural information about their native countries, e.g what to do when meeting and greeting people. The Botschafter even tried teaching the audience a few words in their own tongue.



Teaching other students

Our Year 10 German Ambassadors visited some year 9 classes to teach students about the concept of German cases - the Akkusativ and Dativ.

E.g.

Ich arbeite in einem Büro. (I work in an office.) . The "Dativ" case is used as it's static, no movement.

Ich gehe in das Büro. (I go into the office.). The "Akkusativ" case is used as the process of moving into/towards a room is described! In addition, the articles will change, depending on the gender! (der/die/das> einem/eine/ein.) Hopefully all our students now know the difference!

Callum, Matus and Tomas, Year 10

All KS3 classes were involved in different research projects in Module 4.

Year 7 worked on a German speaking city, including 10 fascinating facts and sights about the place and also their local football club. Students had to design a menu with German food items and Euros.

Year 8 students researched a variety of German speaking musicians who perform in the German language. Students learned that German pop songs are very often performed in English. They studied the lyrics from the songs of their chosen artists and translated them into English.

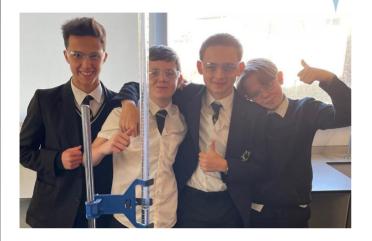
In year 9 students researched different career paths using the German language with the topic of "Die Arbeit" (work) and created presentations with their findings. Students were surprised at the variety of opportunities there are locally for which speaking a language like German can open doors!

The best projects were awarded with a special prize!





SCIENCE



Y9 TITRATION ACIDS AND ALKALIS

Y9 participated in a practical this week where they worked on titration. Within this experiment they were able to identify the exact amount of acid required to neutralise an alkali.

The week of the 8th March saw the celebration of British Science Week with this year's theme being time.

Students were treated to an assembly to highlight why British Science week is celebrated each year and this year marks the 30th anniversary.

Being a STEM school, British Science week is particularly relevant as its aim is to "spark enthusiasm and celebrate science, technology, engineering and maths with people of all ages and from all walks of life".

The assembly highlighted why time is such an important topic across many areas including complex technology and living organisms.

They were introduced to some of the most famous British scientists to emphasise the fact that nothing stops any of them from being a future scientist, pioneer or engineer. In the STEM club students have been designing a poster related to the theme to enter the British Science week competition.





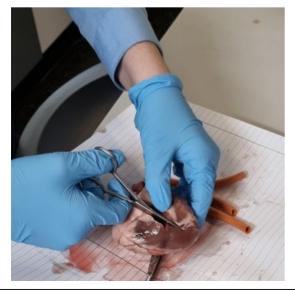


SCIENCE



Students in year 10 have been rolling up their sleeves and putting on gloves before getting to grips with the anatomy of the heart. The dissection of a heart is somewhat of a right of passage for students of science but it is also an opportunity to think about the shared ancestry that all animals have. A commonality that is spread over billions of years and across the globe.

This year British science week has taken 'time' for its central concept. Time is experienced differently by different organisms and these differences are also seen in the functioning of the heart. It is estimated that on average animals have around a billion beats of the heart in their lifetime. This ranges from 200 million beats a lifetime for an ornate box turtle to 2.5 billion beats for a human being. We also find that smaller animals have hearts that beat faster and therefore reach 1 billion beats well before larger animals, smaller organisms tend to have shorter lifespans. When we ask students to learn about the heart, we invite them to learn about how the heart's structure is related to its function but also to reveal to them how the body is highly organised to ensure the efficient transportation of nutrients around the body. Again, we find that time is a crucial factor. If Organs do not get nutrients in time they will fail and severe consequences will ensue.



Organism	Average resting heart rate in beats per minute	Average lifespan in years
Hamster	450	2-3
Cat	150	12-18
Human	60	68-74
Whale	20	50-90





AESTHETICS IN PE GYMNASTICS







KS3 GYMNASTS

KS3 have been working hard in their PE gymnastics lessons where they have been focused on their planning of a performance through the MYP. Students have focused on how to make their routines fluid and seamless using travel, levels, jump, musicality and set skills that they have learned throughout the module.





ENGINEERING







Using the new Haas 4 axis CNC

We are incredibly lucky to have a 4 axis CNC mill at the Leigh UTC and have our first cohort of students now using it within their course. Please read a report from one of our students who is in the first cohort to independently set up and use the mill themselves.

A report by Daniel Y13 - an Engineering T level student

'It was an honour to be the first person to use the HAAS CNC milling machine as it is a very technical piece of machinery and a privilege to work on. The machine itself can come across as complicated but if you follow the standard operating procedure (SOP), it is quite straightforward.

It is also very advanced as you can use CAD software (Fusion 360) to program a G-code for a billet that will create the desired part in the machine, or you can write the code yourself. It has a variety of work holding devices which makes it very versatile and can be used to work on almost all types of materials in an array of shapes and sizes. Altogether it is a fantastic machine to work on, especially if you have written the original code, as you can follow your own instructions to create your work. I have really enjoyed learning to use this piece of industry standard machinery'.

Please view the video I have made for you by scanning the QR code. I hope you enjoy it!



ATTENDANCE



Thank You

100 Nando's Attendance





We celebrated with the lucky winners of our 100% attendance draw by taking them to lunch at Nandos in Crayford.

Earlier in the week there was a live draw where we placed all of the names of students who have not had a single day off so far this academic year and pulled out 12 names who were lucky enough to enjoy a lunch on us!

The students were fantastic on the trip, where all were extremely polite and thankful to not only the UTC Academy but also to the members of the public and the staff at Nandos.

We would also like to highlight that the staff at Nandos Crayford were superb.

A big thank you and well done to all students and families for ensuring the students are in every single day, it really does make a difference.

We are pleased to announce that on March 27, 2024, at 11:30 am. a film event will be held for students with attendance rates above 98% for the current academic year. A list of students who will be absent from lessons has been provided. The event will be hosted in the UTC lecture theatre, where snacks and drinks will be provided for everyone's enjoyment during the film. Students are allowed to bring their own snacks and drinks, but they must adhere to the list of prohibited items, including carbonated and energy drinks, as well as food items containing nuts, which are not permitted in school.

There will be a break before the first lunch for students to purchase food from the UTC canteen and return to enjoy it while watching the film.









MESSAGE FROM HOC



MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF COLLEGE



Kathryn Pamphlett- Head of Clark College:
To all the members of Clark College and their families,
I just wanted to say thank you for continuing to make
me proud and work so hard throughout each and
every module. The Clark College students continue to
be incredible role models to all the younger students.
We are so excited to have our new student leadership
team and will be sharing the great work they do.

Katie Shchedrova - Head of Turing College:
On behalf of Turing college, I would like to wish all students, staff, and families a restful half term break and say thank you for all of the hard work and wonderful achievements over modules 3 & 4. A special shout-out to our assembly prize winners and those who embody our core values each day in and around the school.

Gabriel Alamu - Head of Upton College:
We all recognise that learning is not linear, in fact
learning is messy and sometimes hard. Sometimes
when we are learning we must even go backwards to
move forward. However, the expectation of and for
learning must never go backwards. It must move
forward and be raised higher, in each moment, each
hour, each day. Our expectations of our students at the
Leigh UTC continue to be set high, with the
fundamental aim of getting the best out of our
students, each and every one of them. As Abigail
Addams once said 'Learning is not attained by chance.
It must be sought for with readiness and attended with
diligence'.









WELLBEING AT THE LEIGH UTC



WELLBEING WEDNESDAY



Each module, staff are given a 'Wellbeing Wednesday', where sessions are offered by either a member of staff or an external company, for any member of the UTC to participate in if they wish to. Staff are also given the opportunity to leave at an earlier time to focus on something they enjoy to maintain that healthy work life balance.

Our social media platforms include a Wellbeing Wednesday tip of the week for any of our followers. These are directed at students and staff, but can be taken up by any member of the UTC community and are also shared weekly for staff in the bulletin.

Below are a few examples of what we have focused on this module:

- 'Dedicating some time to yourself to relax and reduce your stress'
- 'Find ways to learn and be creative'
- 'Reach out and connect'
- 'Improve your sleep'
- '5 Steps to Wellbeing at Work and School'

Sources of Support:

Mind: Telephone number: 0300 123 3393

Remploy: This is a confidential service offering advice and support for mental health issues, anxiety and stress at work. Telephone number 0300 456 8114

Samaritans: Offer emotional support 24 hours a day, in full confidence. Call 116 123





WELLBEING AT THE LEIGH UTC





Wellbeing Wednesday tip of the week is to make sure you dedicate some time to yourself to do some of the things you enjoy doing in a strategy to reduce the stress and relax more.

For more information and tips on relaxation techniques please click the link here from Mind charity.

https://www.mind.org.uk/.../relaxation/relaxation-tips/



WELLBEING AT THE LEIGH UTC





Wellbeing Wednesday Tip of the Week: Find ways to learn something new and be creative!

This can be anything from downloading apps to learn a new language, listening to TED talks on YouTube or informative podcasts, to finding a new class near you that introduces you to new things and even something as simple as mindfulness colouring in can help us to remain calm and present.

For more ideas as to how to become more creative around your local area, please click the link below:

HTTPS://WWW.MIND.ORG.UK/INFORMATION-SUPPORT/TIPS-FOR-EVERYDAY







Wellbeing tip of the week - Connect with others

Connecting with others can help us have a greater sense of belonging and reduce feelings of loneliness.

Talk to someone you trust

Opening up to someone you trust can help you feel listened to and supported. It could be a friend, partner or family member. Or you could call a helpline or listening service. Sometimes just acknowledging your feelings by saying them out loud can help.

Try peer support

If you're finding things hard, talking to people who have similar feelings or experiences can sometimes help. This could be face-to-face at a peer support group, or through an online community like Mind's Side by Side.

Find ways to make a difference

Doing things for others can have a positive effect on wellbeing. You could find ways to support a cause that's important to you. For example, by signing petitions, donating to charity shops or food banks, or showing your support on social media. You could also try doing small acts of kindness for people you know or for strangers. This could be things like holding a door open for someone, making someone a cup of tea, or posting a nice comment or review online.







Wellbeing Wednesday top if the week: Improve your sleep!

Sleep is an extremely important part of our health and wellbeing and we need to take control of it.

Below are some tips and a link for you to click with ways in which you can improve it and some relaxation ideas to use before bed too.

Give them a go and let us know how you get on.







This module we have been sharing the 5 steps to support wellbeing at work and school, with a different focus each Wednesday.

This post above was the first of the module with the tip of that week starting with step 1- Connect.







Wellbeing Wednesday tip of the week: Step 2 - Get active!

Many people find that physical activity helps them maintain positive mental health.

This doesn't have to mean running marathons or training every day at the gym. There are lots of different things you can do to be a bit more active.

Studies have shown that getting active can help you sleep better, have happier moods, and reduce feelings of stress, anxiety and racing thoughts.

Here are a few ideas for how you can get active today:

- •Take the stairs rather than the lift
- Go for a walk at lunchtime
- · Walk into work maybe you could go with a colleague
- · Get off the bus a stop earlier than usual and walk the final part of your journey to work
- Organise a work sporting activity
- Have a kick-about in a local park
- •Do some stretches before you leave for work in the morning
- ·If you're in the office, walk over to someone's desk instead of calling or emailing







Step 3 - Take Notice

Reminding yourself to take notice can help you to be aware of how you're feeling. It can help you understand what triggers your feelings of stress or anxiety.

Some studies have shown that savouring 'the moment' can also help you to feel more positive about life.

Take some time to enjoy the moment and the environment around you.

Here are a few ideas:

- Get a plant for your workspace
- Have a 'clear the clutter' day
- Take a different route on your journey to or from work







Wellbeing Wednesday: Step 4 - Learn

We're always learning new things – often without realising it. Feeling like you're learning and developing can boost your self-esteem.

And sometimes, setting goals can help you to feel more productive and more in control of your life.

What can you learn today? Here are a few ideas:

Find out something new about your peers, colleagues and friends. Sign up for a new class, online or in person.

Dood the news or a book

Read the news or a book.

Set up a book club between your friends.

Do a crossword or Sudoku.

Research something you've always wondered about.

Learn a new word or better still, a language. Duolingo is great for this!







Wellbeing Wednesday: Fuel Yourself

Eating not only gives us energy for the day ahead but also has a big impact on our mood. The greasy pizza may taste great for a short period of time but the mood will often dip after this.

Plan your food for the week ahead and include some dishes that you have not made for a while. An array of colours on your plate is proven to boost mood and energy.

However, it is also important that you do have a treat now and then too, so make sure you include this in your preparation.

For more information visit the Mind homepage with plenty of different options and tips.





EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS



The extra curricular clubs have grown from strength to strength this module with several new clubs being offered following feedback from students via the extra curricular surveys that we send out at the end of every module.

Students have commented consistently about how much they enjoy the clubs that are on offer and appreciate the dedication of the staff who give up their free time to ensure that our students have as many opportunities to learn new skills, meet new people who have similar interests and to build a passion for something new.

Many students have even sought external clubs and agencies that offer these clubs, so that they are able to continue to progress in these areas outside of the academy.

We are very proud of the students who have taken the initiative and shown bravery to try something new, along with the amount of older students in Year 11 and the Sixth Form who volunteer their time to support and develop the younger year groups in these areas.

Module 4 saw the introduction of a much desired KS4 Music club and an extra KS3 Football club. The Music students have been fantastic in their lunchtime club, bringing in their guitars and amps and playing for a number of other students in the lecture theatre. The KS3 Football club was moved as we have had so many fixtures due to successful runs in the cup competitions, that we needed to put on a second training session to give all students the opportunity to participate in the club and to break into the team.



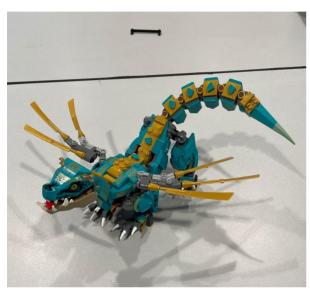


LEGO CLUB



MASTERPIECE







The Lego club has constantly been increasing with students displaying their creative and mechanical side. They have been combining their love of building and infrastructure with coding and engineering where they have been working together to produce machines and robots that will move via a control pad that they have downloaded and used on their chromebooks.

They have put in tireless amounts of hours and passion into the club and the results are truly astounding. We are currently proactively searching for competitions that they can enter against other schools in the country, so keep your eyes peeled with the next update about how the students are doing and if you have any spare lego that you wish to donate, we will happily take it off of your hands! Alfie in Year 8 has produced this masterpiece. Alfie enjoyed this so much that he worked on this at home and also within the club during his lunch time. We have a team of students working on computer coding software to power their lego models and make them come alive!

A huge thank you must go to the local Scout community who donated thousands of bits of lego and the students are unbelievably appreciative of this and have had hours of fun because of this kind donation.





STEM CLUB



"The STEM Club is an after school club which allows us to develop a better understanding of science with fun and interactive experiments.

It's on every Tuesday from 3:15pm to 4:00 pm. So far, we have made flying rockets, which were made from plastic bottles and we used a bike pump to fly the bottle.

We also made parachutes with cardboard pieces, string and paper and then we put an egg into it and flew it to see if it will actually work. We also tested the indigestion remedies, using the pH scale. Right now, we are doing Wizardry & Witchcraft.

We researched and came up with ideas and stuff we can do. We are now also trying to come up with ways we can save the world. The aim of this is to create a prototype and project to enter the Big Bang competition for schools."



STUDENT COMMENTS

"I enjoyed the fact that when we were flying rockets it flew high from one end to the other end in the sports hall."

"I enjoyed it when we tried to see if the parachutes we made worked properly and how other years also got engaged to try it."

"The STEM Club is so fun as we get to do experiments that we never do in the class."

"I enjoyed the fact how we always got into small teams and competed against each other."





COMPUTING CLUB



At the club, students were engaged in practicing Python programming by working on various projects. For instance, some students developed number guessing games, while others focused on creating Python-based calculators. In the upcoming module, we'll be delving into LEGO projects, and the students are eagerly anticipating the club sessions.

Year 7: The students were actively involved in developing a reading mobile application designed to be interactive and engaging. Additionally, we explored the significance of establishing a secured network, which links to our cybersecurity theme for this module.

In the upcoming modules we will be exploring game design and programming a game that will be raising awareness on sustainability of the ocean.

Year 8: We would like to celebrate some successes of our Year 8 students who have been working on and completing their MYP Criteria C and Criteria D assessment tasks. The Year 8 students have successfully created a Micro:bit program that solves a real world problem of tackling world hunger. Students then proceed to integrate their coded solution onto a physical Micro:bit chip which would output the result of their specific program. The hands-on element of this project was not only engaging but also allowed students to aspire towards creating a product that could be showcased to their peers and teachers.

Year 9: Emergency Services using Micro Bits.

This module the Year 9 students have spent the time focusing on enhancing the existing emergency communication system.

They have had fun showcasing their critical thinking and problem solving skills - to design and program a communication system that would work in an emergency incident, and how the system can withstand severe weathers and power outages. Students will be demonstrating more of their programming skills in Module 4.







BADMINTON CLUB



Badminton presents itself as a distinctive sport, where we've observed a delightful group of students from various year groups coming together to engage in a good game of badminton. The incorporation of badminton into our activities has provided students with not only a means to enhance their physical fitness but also an avenue to forge new friendships. Each student has relished the experience of playing badminton, with some even innovating a lively game of "Relay Race."

This exciting game entails two teams engaging in a rally, with players being eliminated upon committing a fault until one team emerges victorious with the most players remaining. I've been overseeing the organisation of these badminton sessions and have witnessed students thoroughly enjoying, participating and having the opportunity to bond over this exhilarating sport.

MATHS CLUB



BOARD GAMES



Board Games aren't Maths are they?

Well, we disagree.

On a Thursday, sit down with other students and discover the enjoyment that can be hard with dice and cards but also the technique to beat your fellow peers and classmates.

If you want to know more come to 2.02 in the UTC where we can show you more!





SPORTS REPORT



The Leigh UTC have been taking part in the District Cup across Year's 7,8,9 and 10. Currently three out of the four age groups have completed all of their matches and we are awaiting to see who we have got in the Semi- finals.

Our Year 8 team have got the best record having won three out of their five fixtures, followed by our Year 7's with two win's from 5 and our Year 9 and 10's with one win. All of the Year 7,8 and 9's teams will have a semi final depending on where we finish in our group. Places 1 and 2 go into the Cup, 3 and 4 into the plate and 5 and 6 into the shield.

We have produced some good results this season with the Year 8's win over the Leigh Acd (3-2) and the Year 7's win over Ebbsfleet Acd (5-2), being the highlights. We have played 23 fixtures to date across the age groups and have also taken part in the LAT 5 a side Tournaments.

Our female Footballers in Year 7 and 8 took part in a National Football event for International Women's Day on the 8th March 2024 at Dartford Football Club. Nearly 500 000 girls took part in this event across the Country. The day involved lots of workshops and coaching, and finished in a Football tournament. Sarah Tomkins took our Students and they all had a fantastic day, winning their group in the tournament.

Both the Year 8 and Year 10 Boys Football teams have made the District Cup semi finals, after finishing second in the group stages. Both teams will be playing NTC in the semi finals. The Year 10's on the 26/03/24 and the Year 8's on the 27/03/24. The Year 7's have made it through to the Shield Semi-finals after finishing 4th in the group stages. They will be playing Thamesview in a date to be confirmed.

We have also ran clubs in Football, Netball, Basketball and Badminton. These have been very well attended by our Year 7 and 8 students.





BASKETBALL



The Year 7 and 8 Basketball team had their first fixture this module against Mary Magdalene School from Greenwich. They put on a fantastic performance and showed off their great skills that they have learnt in the hours of dedication that they have put in every week in their training sessions.

The game was extremely close throughout all of the quarters with the Magdalene taking an early lead, which was clawed back quickly by the UTC. The first quarter ended 3-2 to the visitors after they sunk one of their three throws early on. After a motivational team talk from Arnell, Shaun, Dave and Karolis at the half, the team came flying out of the blocks into the third quarter, taking control of the game with some lovely plays by Micah, superb shooting from Sarmad, Dennis Rodman esq blocks by Gabriel and some calm lay ups by Trinity.

The UTC took the lead back and led 10-7 going into the final quarter. Magdalene were certainly not down and out in the 4th quarter, scoring a bank shot middle of the quarter, followed with a late jump shot from distance with 10 seconds to play putting them up 11-10.

With a 10 second shot clock ticking down Trinity powered through the opponents defence to take his lay up, only to be fouled with one second left on the clock, resulting in two important free throws to win the game. The first shot had everything that it needed but lacked a tiny bit of power, he stepped up to take the final shot of the game which painfully hit the rim and Magdalene ripped the ball out of the air for the rebound winning the game 11-10. The game was a pleasure for all to watch and we are thoroughly looking forward to travelling over to the away











WHAT'S ON AND WHEN?





STUDENT VOICE



W What is Student Voice?



WHAT IS STUDENT VOICE?

- Opportunity for you to have your say on your school
- ☐ Work with the staff, parents and governors to improve **your** school
- ☐ You bring up the concerns that are important to you and your peers
- This is **your** school and **your** voice needs to be heard

HOW IT WORKS

- ☐ You listen to ideas from your peers
- **You** come up with your own ideas
- You propose these to your year group
- ☐ You introduce these to SLT
- We, together as a team, work together to get the best for **our** school

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- To feedback to teachers about what you like to see in lessons by "we like it when..."
- Report issues and attempt to get the right people to solve them
- □ Rewards
- ☐ Charity work
- Interview potential new staff, so that we get the best staff possible
- Present ideas to SLT, staff and most importantly your peers in assemblies

FOCUS AREAS

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) | Teaching and Learning

Environment and Facilities | Student Experiences





STUDENT VOICE



W Meet the Team









Y7 Chloe



Y7 Zoheer



Y7 Leanne

"We like it when...the staff member uses their sense of humour and lets out their personality."



Y8 Kiera-May



Y8 Christie



Y8 Samuel



Y8 Emily



Y8 Alexander



Y9 Jasper



Y9 Emilijah



Y9 Libby





Y9 Ellanor



Y11 Sam

"We like it when the instructions are short and easy to understand, so that the lesson has pace."



Y10 Freddie



Y10 Ben



Y11 Maya

"We like it when... the staff member tries to understand your point of view before their own in aspects of learning."



LIBRARY & LEARNING RESOURCES



Ways a Parent Can Help with

Let your child see you reading!

Have magazines and books in your home.

Help your child find appropriate word & reading games on the computer.

Keep a dictionary on hand. Help your child look up new words they read or hear.

Read mysteries with your child and try to figure out the clues together.

A

Movie version coming out?

Read the book together first, then talk about which you each liked better.

Set aside a time and place for your child to read -

like a comfy chair and a reading light in a quiet place

6 Visit your public library regularly.

> Look for and read together the books that were your favorites when you were a kid.

Encourage your child to write -

> letters, thank you notes, emails, journals, lists, stories about their own trips, events, and daily life

Ask your child to draw a comic strip about what happens in the story.

Provide word searches, crossword and other word games and puzzles, or help your child make his/her own

Ask your child questions about what he or she is reading, such as:

- What is the story about?
- Who are the important characters in the story?
- Where does the story take place? Why do you think the character made that choice?
- Why did that happen?
- How did you know about ...?
- Would you recommend this book to your friends?



Share with your child about what you're reading... and encourage your child to do the same

Source: www.fortheteachers.org



LIBRARY & LEARNING RESOURCES





Even when the pressure is on, choosing to read

BOOSTS YOUR WELLBEING

Make a
READING
HABIT

try scheduling 10 minutes a day

Choose your
READING
to match your
MOOD

Hide distractions to find YOUR FOCUS

READY
take a breath or two



SOCIALISE

chat about it, read together or join a book club

Discover the World Book Day Book Club at worldbookday.com/bookclub



Changing lives through a love of books and reading

World Book Day® is a charity sponsored by National Book Tokens

Registered charity number 1079257 (England and Wales) | Registered company number 03783095 (UK).

Source: https://www.worldbookday.co.uk



CONTACT US



STAY CONNECTED

Thank you to all the students, staff and families for supporting us through another successful term. If you have any feedback please do not hesitate to contact us on any of the following platforms.



Follow us to stay updated on news, events and other fun activities going on at the Leigh UTC on our social media feeds!



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Developing STEM professionals for the future global market