



Hello to all parents, carers and pupils of AVESC. This term has been an extremely busy but positive with increases in educational experiences and trips, creative curriculums, new staff starting and new pupils coming on roll. Unfortunately, the nation is experiencing the resurgence of COVID which is effecting everyone. I hope that we are all able to spend the festive period with family and friends and not be effected too much by this new variant. Please keep safe by following the government guidance and I hope that there are limited disruptions to the return to education after the Christmas break. I would like to thank all the staff, parents and pupils for your ongoing support of the academy. From everyone here at AVESC, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Mr T. England— Headteacher AVESC

A Christmas Carol visit for GCSE Literature—Sawley Site

On November 11th, five pupils from the AVESC Sawley site travelled to Nottingham to watch a performance of "A Christmas Carol" at the Nottingham Playhouse Theatre. The performance was directed by Mark Gatiss (of such well known television shows as "Sherlock" and "League of Gentlemen"), who also took up various roles in the production, including a spectacularly terrifying ghost of Jacob Marley.

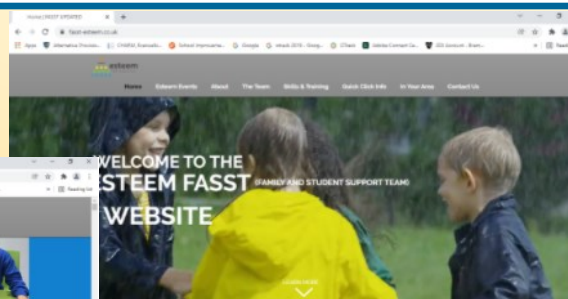
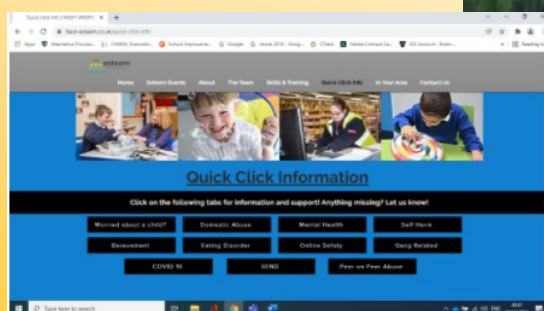


Not only did the trip contribute to the pupils' progress towards their English Literature GCSE and understanding of the famous Dickens novel of the same name, it also gave them a chance for a new culturally enriching experience. The trip was a success, and it was very encouraging to see how well our pupils responded amongst other theatre goers, including many other school pupils attending the same performance.

Safeguarding support available at

<https://www.fasst-esteem.co.uk/>

'Quick Click info' offers the facility to take parents to supportive websites and training packages are also available via the 'Skills and Training' link.





Alternative Provision Team

Some pupils have timetabled sessions at Barrow Hill on a Fridays where they can engage in small group learning activities with a personal health and social development focus. The Autumn term programme has been staying safe and healthy. Sessions have involved learning around mental health and wellbeing where they have researched various stress relievers such a bubble blowing and attempted origami as part of mindfulness. Pupils have engaged in practical activities using marshmallows to construct towers and use catapults to understand the importance of resilience, teamwork, communication and target setting as wellbeing strategies.



**Pupils engaging in the
marshmallow tower challenge**

Pupils practiced their CPR skills through the use of Resus Annie whilst learning basic first aid and how to respond in different scenarios. Pupils have engaged in sessions about how to stay as safe as possible when out with friends and assessed risk to themselves and others. Online safety has been practised devising strong and have discussed how to recognise exploitation and grooming online occur using social media.



**Practising resuscitation on
resus Annie**

Pupils have learnt the importance of personal hygiene, and dentistry. They have also studied the NHS system in this to other countries such as America and Universal health

Future sessions will lead onto the importance of being healthy in terms of their diet. Pupils will engage in food tasting sessions and study foods from different cultures and around the world.



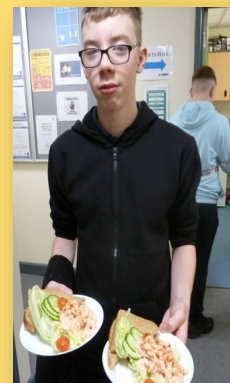
Making a stress bomb

studied and pupils have effective passwords. They any warning signs of and the dangers that can

healthy sleeping habits England and compared care.

Bennerley Community Christmas Lunch

Three of the pupils at Bennerley enjoyed helping out at the Community Christmas lunch and worked together to decorate tables for the event. They then had some waiter service training which included how to take orders and delivering food to the tables.



Bennerley Sites Wednesday Mission

Pupils at Bennerley have been working hard on Wednesday afternoons and taking part in mission activities. Pupils have been developing their teamwork skills and they have been focussing on following instructions and evaluating their plans. It's been lots of fun! Recent missions have included the egg challenge and creating a Christmas tree.

"I loved making the Christmas trees because I love decorating and building"



"I like doing different things each week, it's interesting and fun"

"I like the missions because it's fun and it doesn't feel like work"



Space Week—Bennerley Site

World Space Week is an international celebration of science and technology. Pupils worked together to plan, design, build and present their models of a sustainable space station. There were some fantastic ideas and models built and all pupils presented their ideas to the whole school.

Pupils also learnt about space and the International Space Station.

Did you know?

It flies around the world every 90 minutes, travelling at 5 miles per second.

In the space of just 24 hours, the space station makes 16 orbits of Earth, travelling through 16 sunrises and sunsets.

It's 357ft long from end to end - that's about the same as a football pitch.



Life Skills—Kirk Hallam Site

During Life Skills this half term our KS2 afternoon pupils have been exploring how to go to a shop and purchase products. They have been studying scenarios that could occur whilst being in a shop or supermarket and how they would overcome them. Pupils have also been investigating the importance of being prepared and organised when visiting supermarkets.

Pupils then explored healthy eating and healthy sandwich fillings. This finally resulted in them walking to the local convenience store and buying items to take back to KHSC and make sandwiches.



Remembrance—Kirk Hallam Site



For Remembrance this year, KS3 pupils made poppy wreaths using their handprints and wrote meaningful words or phrases such as 'honourable' and 'thankful'. linked to the world wars on them. Pupils also made poppies from recycled plastic bottles (upcycling) which we used to create a mini-Remembrance Garden in on our site.



Interview with an author—Kirk Hallam Site

The KS2 pupils had an interactive session with the famous Chocolate Cake Author Michael Rosen. They had an hour's webinar session with him. The pupils were incredibly engaged and even got the chance to ask Michael Rosen a question! Kirk Hallam Support Centre even got a shout out! The pupils enjoyed engaging with him and taking part in his activities and challenges. All pupils that entered the Young Writer's competition in October have had their work published in the Young Writes book. What an amazing achievement to have so many published authors within our ranks.

