

Year 7 Newsletter



December Half Term

As Christmas approaches, the Year 7 students can look back and reflect on what has been another superb half term at Fulford School. The current circumstances have made things challenging, but the students really have adapted and stepped up to make the most of their start to secondary school. The five key learning attributes of resilience, team work, independence, reflection and creativity have been demonstrated in abundance. Embracing the Fulford Way and striving to improve has been evident across the year group. I am proud of every student and their amazing efforts to make a difference with their progress and learning at Fulford. The Christmas holiday is a chance to relax and spend time with family. Enjoy the break and be ready to return in 2021!

Anti-Bullying Week

Mid-way through the half term, students worked on supporting the annual Anti-Bullying Week. Students were encouraged to wear odd socks to raise awareness of the week and the pictures demonstrate some excellent examples! During form time, they worked on various activities which highlighted the ways in which bullies work and the importance of reporting it. There were some brilliant posters designed which have been displayed on the new Year 7 notice board.



The Importance of Reading

At Fulford we recognise the importance of reading and we are making a big effort to improve the literacy skills of all our students. Mr Bond gave an assembly about literacy and how to improve this through the power of reading. Reading is a fantastic skill and here are three simple facts which support why it is essential to read:

- You need to know 95% of vocabulary in a text to understand it, so knowing vocabulary is key! And if you read for 20 minutes a day, you will encounter approximately 1,800,000 words in a year.
- Students who read regularly at aged 10 and more than once a week at age 16 achieved better in Maths and Science as well as English.
- Higher literacy skills are associated with having a stronger sense of belonging to society and being more likely to trust others.

Students start each of their English lessons with silent reading and also complete 20 minutes each week in form. However, we're asking parents to really support this and encourage your child to do some silent reading over Christmas. If they can get into a habit of reading regularly and start to enjoy it, it could have a major impact on the success they have in the future. Maybe if parents did some reading with their child it would facilitate the start of it becoming an independent activity. Students were told that finding a genre of book they can enjoy is really important and there are a whole host of books that can be accessed from the Resource Room. So there is no reason why all students can find something they are interested in.

The **MORE** that you
READ, the more things
you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** that you
Learn, the more places
you'll **GO**.

Dr. Seuss

Festive Feel

In the final two weeks of this half term, students decorated some card templates of Christmas trees to bring a sense of festive cheer to the B Block corridor. The trees were hung up and added to the sense of excitement about the Christmas holidays.



Christmas Card Design

There were some fabulous designs completed by Year 7 students for this years' Christmas card design. It was evident that they had spent a lot of time, effort and skill in making the cards. There was a particularly topical entry for 2020, with Santa wearing a mask and gloves to deliver hand sanitiser - brilliant! Thank you for all the entries.



Bench Ball

Miss Wheater has kindly been giving up her lunchtimes to offer Year 7 students the chance to participate in some lunchtime extra-curricular activities. Due to the restrictions on space, two forms at a time have been playing bench ball in the gym. It has been a welcome change and something different for the students to get involved with.



Students of the Month

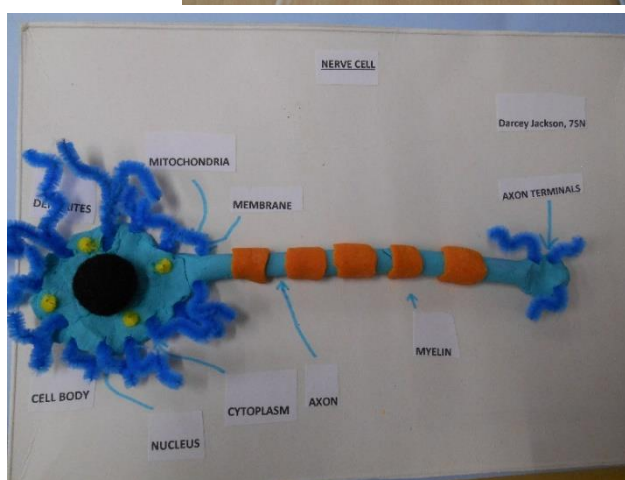
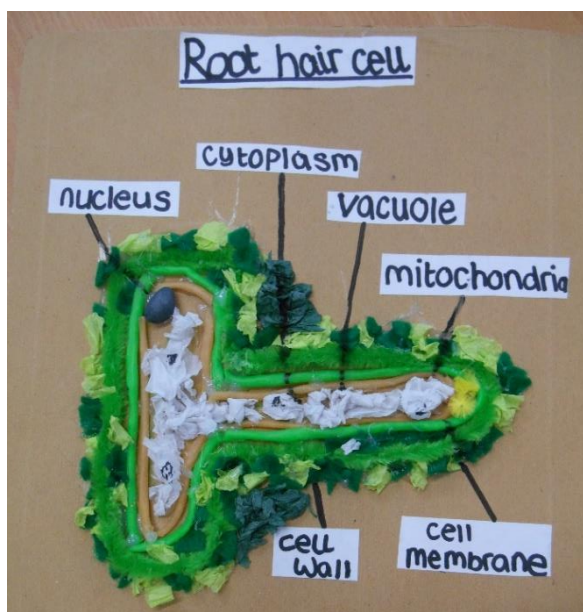
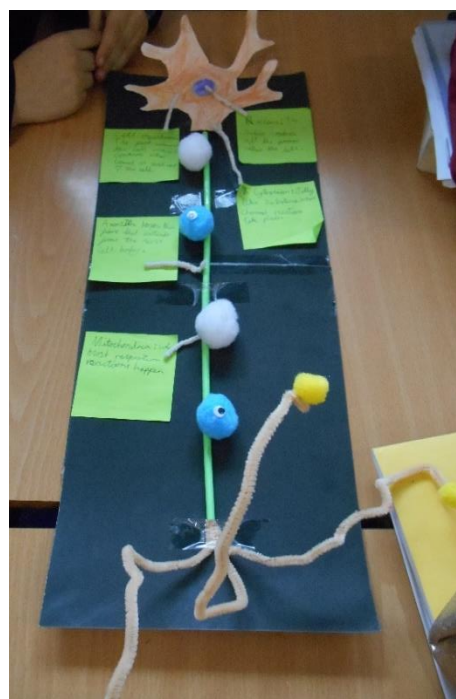
For November, the Student of the Month winner was Emma Meader (7AK) for always working hard in lessons and displaying a great approach to learning at home. Runner-up Student of the Month in November was Yugen Korangi Gurung (7SN) for his fantastic entry in the Half-Term Cooking Challenge. It is fantastic to hear of their achievements, keep it up!



The Year 7 Student of the Month for December was Elizabeth Andrew (7BA) for brilliant work and contribution in History lessons. The runner-up was Aiko Bailey (7BA) for approaching all PE tasks with a smile on her face and maximum effort - well done!

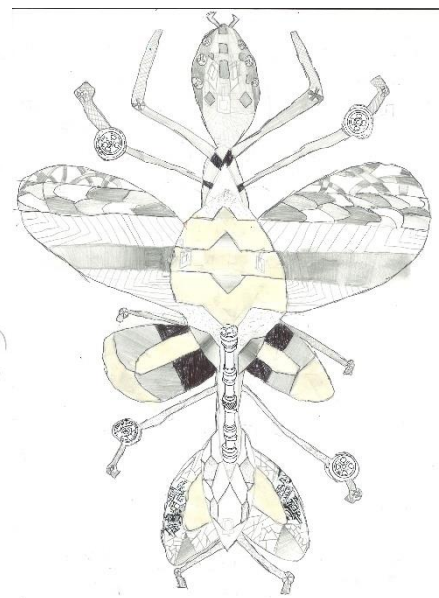
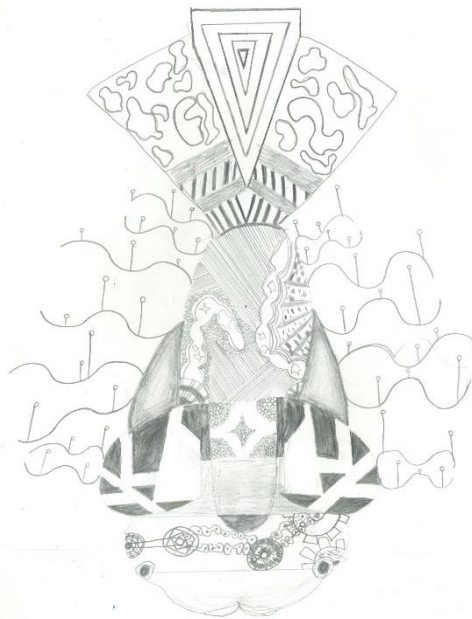
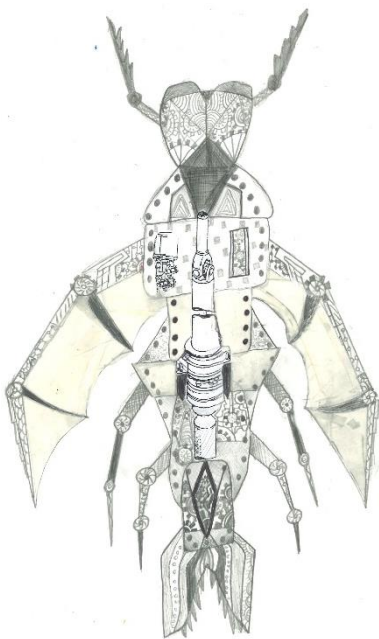
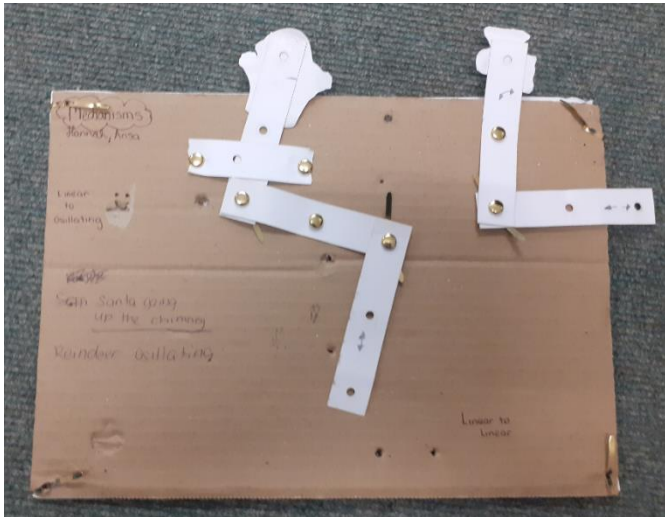
Example work from Science

In Science this half term, students have been making models of specialised cells. They were tasked with making a cell using whatever materials they could find and labelling the correct structures in the cell. Below are some excellent examples of a nerve cell, root hair cell and red blood cell.



Example work from Design and Technology and Art

Year 7 students have been investigating how they can alter motion using mechanical components. They have used their knowledge to make some mechanical cards with moving characters. In Art they have been designing insects using different shapes and shadings.



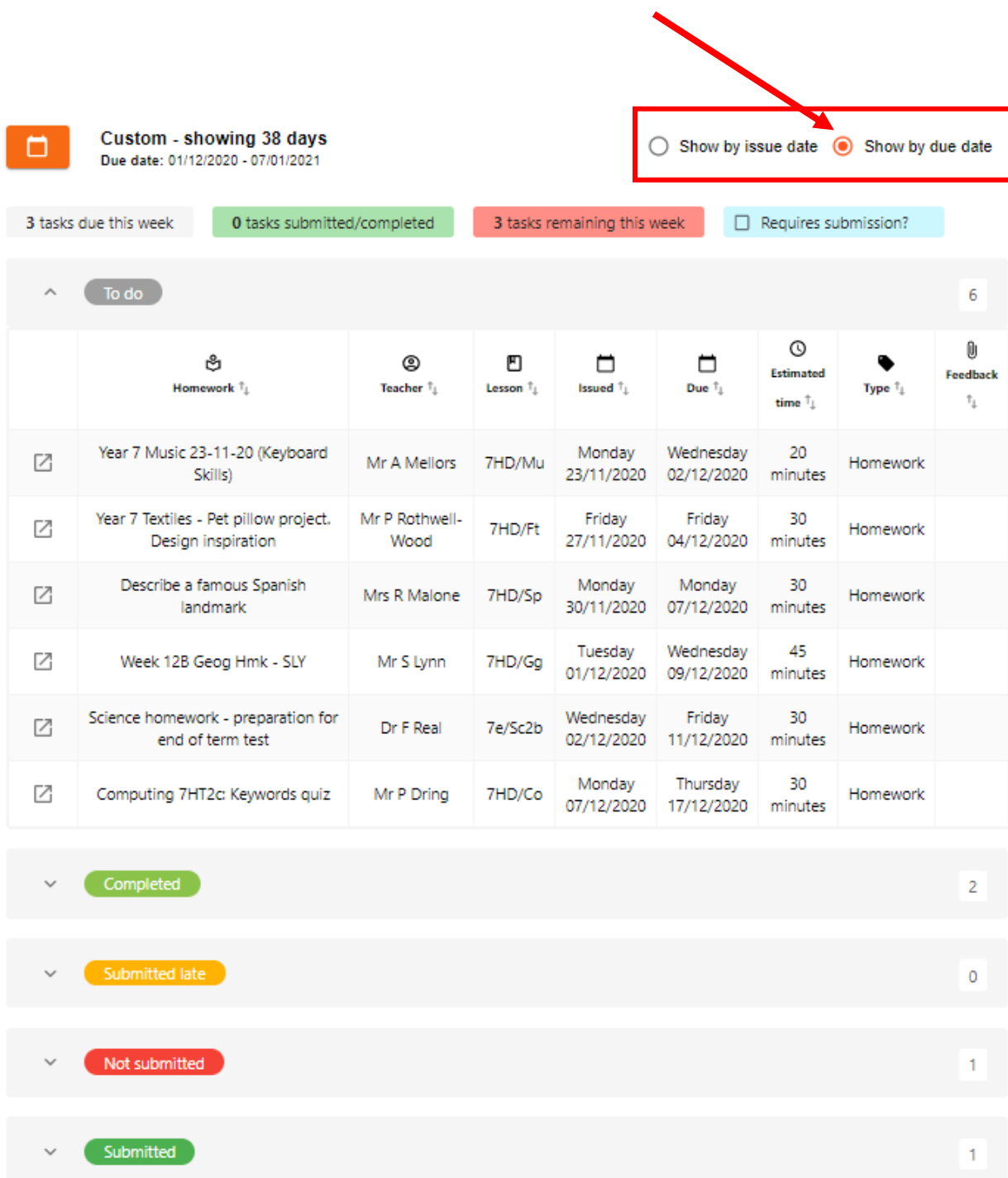
Food Bank Appeal

A massive thank you to all the students that donated towards the Food Bank Appeal which ran over the last three weeks of half-term. An impressive number of items were collected in forms and the charity were extremely grateful for the donations.

Homework and Class Charts

We're finding that students are still having difficulties with managing homework and handing it in on time. A large proportion of negatives in the Year group are for homework issues. We think one of the biggest problems is the way students view their homework tasks on Class Charts. The default setting at the top of the homework page is to show the tasks by issue date however if the students click to show by due date (see red box on the image) this will help them to view all the homework that has been set as it includes previous weeks.

We would really value your support with this and ask that you check with your child to ensure they know how to change this view. Any further support or encouragement you can offer with their homework is very much appreciated.



The screenshot shows a homework management interface. At the top, there is a filter section with a calendar icon and the text "Custom - showing 38 days" and "Due date: 01/12/2020 - 07/01/2021". Below this, there are four status indicators: "3 tasks due this week" (green), "0 tasks submitted/completed" (green), "3 tasks remaining this week" (red), and "Requires submission?" (checkbox). A red box highlights the filter options: "Show by issue date" (radio button) and "Show by due date" (radio button, selected). A red arrow points to the "Show by due date" option. Below the filter, there is a table of homework tasks. The table has columns for Homework, Teacher, Lesson, Issued, Due, Estimated time, Type, and Feedback. The tasks are listed in a table with 6 rows. Below the table, there are four summary rows: "Completed" (2), "Submitted late" (0), "Not submitted" (1), and "Submitted" (1).

Custom - showing 38 days
Due date: 01/12/2020 - 07/01/2021

3 tasks due this week 0 tasks submitted/completed 3 tasks remaining this week Requires submission?

To do 6

Homework	Teacher	Lesson	Issued	Due	Estimated time	Type	Feedback
Year 7 Music 23-11-20 (Keyboard Skills)	Mr A Mellors	7HD/Mu	Monday 23/11/2020	Wednesday 02/12/2020	20 minutes	Homework	
Year 7 Textiles - Pet pillow project. Design inspiration	Mr P Rothwell-Wood	7HD/Ft	Friday 27/11/2020	Friday 04/12/2020	30 minutes	Homework	
Describe a famous Spanish landmark	Mrs R Malone	7HD/Sp	Monday 30/11/2020	Monday 07/12/2020	30 minutes	Homework	
Week 12B Geog Hmk - SLY	Mr S Lynn	7HD/Gg	Tuesday 01/12/2020	Wednesday 09/12/2020	45 minutes	Homework	
Science homework - preparation for end of term test	Dr F Real	7e/Sc2b	Wednesday 02/12/2020	Friday 11/12/2020	30 minutes	Homework	
Computing 7HT2c: Keywords quiz	Mr P Dring	7HD/Co	Monday 07/12/2020	Thursday 17/12/2020	30 minutes	Homework	

Completed 2

Submitted late 0

Not submitted 1

Submitted 1

Half Term Challenge!

The challenge over the Christmas holidays is to write a poem based on the theme of winter using the image above as a basis for content. There is a word limit of 90 words maximum. Students may focus on one aspect of the picture or on the scene as a whole. The format is optional and we look forward to reading the submissions. Please send entries through to Mr Bonsels at bonselsj@fulford.york.sch.uk.



Year 7 Transition Survey

We're asking all parents to sit down with their child and complete an online survey about their first term at Fulford School. A link will have been sent out via Class Charts but if you have not seen this, you can access the survey here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=evsowXc9NES-DBbNPA5Z4m8LjUO4Sv9Gqk8yNVC05HhUN0NCUVBZTDhSNzJCNDczMIQxUDhZUTRJVi4u>

We value your feedback and are always looking for ways to improve so thank you in advance for completing this.

Merry Christmas

From everyone in the Year 7 pastoral team, we want to say a very 'Merry Christmas' and we look forward to seeing the students in the new year.

