



# ON TRACK EDUCATION



March 2025

We are so very proud of all our students challenging themselves to achieve their goals! Look inside to find out more.

Don't  
miss a  
thing





# BRONZE GLOBAL SCHOOL AWARD!

What's new?

Letter from the Senior Leadership Team....

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are very proud to have recently achieved the Bronze Global School Award. You can read more details about this inside this edition. We have been keeping ourselves busy as always, with a huge range of trips and activities within school: Including a well-attended Easter egg hunt, where MENCAP attended to share information with parents and carers about what support they can offer. We are also lucky to have a new music teacher – Matt, join us and we are hoping to be able to shortly purchase some new musical equipment to use with pupils.

This term we have been more involved with the McCarthy Dixon foundation working with the community to support local food banks. Pupils have been involved in preparing food parcels for the Easter holidays and one of our pupils will be working with the charity on a regular basis on a work experience placement.

We would also like to celebrate our pupils who continue to have successful work experience placements. Feedback from the placements has been extremely positive, which makes us very proud.

Staff and pupils have just got back from a three day residential at the Frontier Centre. This was great fun and full of challenging experiences – high ropes, zip wire, mountain biking, raft building, canoeing and team building activities. Well done to everyone who participated – staff and pupils. More details and pictures to follow in the next edition!

As we get ready to gear up again for the exam season we would like to wish all our pupils doing exams the best of luck. We hope they can all complete some revision over the Easter break and make sure they also have a well-deserved break over the Easter holidays.

Yours sincerely  
Sally O'Connor & Peter Davies





# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## ➔ Attendance

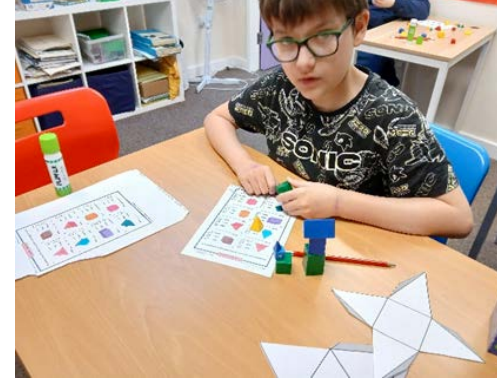
Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

Whole school attendance is 83%. Well done to the 17 students who achieved 100% this term. They will receive a treat at the end of term.

Attendance is important and we would like any feedback from students on incentives we can offer! Please email: [northamptonoffice@ontrackededucation.com](mailto:northamptonoffice@ontrackededucation.com) Please see further down for more info:



## SHAPING UP IN MATHS

This term our amazing Unit 3 students have worked hard on their geometry skills. They have been investigating the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, and finding out about area, perimeter and surface area. Students have started to develop their algebraic reasoning by following formulae with 2 and 3-step calculations: practicing their addition, subtraction and multiplication skills. Many of the students have also been solving problems with composite shapes! Well done to all the maths students in Unit 3.

## FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

Our maths curriculum encourages students to develop their numeracy skills for the future, whether they are used at college, in employment or training, or in the community. This term Year 8 and 9 students have been solving real-life problems in measurement, position/direction, time, money, rounding and estimating, ordering data, and practicing calculations, applying these skills to real-life situations. To test these skills, students will sit an Edexcel Functional Skills qualification at the end of this term, many at a whole level higher than last year. Great work by these students.

## MATHS MOCKS

With three full papers, the Maths GCSE is a challenging qualification. Earlier this term, many of our Unit 1 and sixth form students sat two mock exams for the non-calculator and calculator papers. Students showed excellent concentration to work across a wide range of mathematical skills, achieving some good mock grades. Students will also be given revision packs at Easter. Good luck to all the students in their GCSEs next term.



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?



## GLOBAL SCHOOL AWARD

### On Track Education Northampton Achieves Bronze Level in Global School Awards

On Track Education in Northampton has been awarded the Bronze Level of the prestigious Global School Awards, recognising the school's commitment to ensuring global awareness is an important part of the whole school ethos. The Global School Awards celebrates schools that demonstrate a strong dedication to integrating international dimensions into teaching and learning, preparing students for success in today's interconnected world.

The school's work includes; We have a rewarding partnership with Christa Valley International school in Ghana. We have had a zoom meeting sharing similarities and differences. Christa Valley's children performed a show for us where we could see them in their national dress and dancing. We have also shared information on period poverty and this is something we are developing for our next project along with UN rights and how this differs between countries. We have completed a charity event on World water day to highlight also how fortunate we are to always have access to clean running water, showcasing their dedication to fostering a global mind-set among pupils.

Upon hearing the news, Head-teacher said: Sally O'Connor and Pete Davies were thrilled with the news of achieving the Bronze Global School Award. Staff and pupils have worked hard to collate evidence and learn more about other cultures. In the next on line meeting they will be discussing the environment and how pupils in both countries can play their part to make a difference.

John Rolfe MBE, Community and Partnerships Manager at the Global School Alliance, said: "We are proud and delighted to support On Track Education Northampton with their impactful and exciting global journey. The global dimensions of teaching and learning have always been at the very heart of the work at the Global School Alliance and we look forward to working further with this great school."

#### FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE GLOBAL SCHOOL AWARDS

The Global School Awards are a supportive and motivational framework that guides and supports schools through their international work. With three certified levels of recognition, the Awards programme takes schools from introducing international work to the curriculum, to embedding it within the school's culture and wider ethos.

For more information, please visit <https://www.globalschoolalliance.com/global-school-awards/> or contact us at [contact@globalschoolalliance.com](mailto:contact@globalschoolalliance.com) / @GSchoolAlliance.

To arrange an interview with the school or for images, please contact On Track Education Northampton - 01604 645934



WE'RE AN  
**AWARD-WINNING  
GLOBAL SCHOOL**



**Global  
School Alliance**



# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## ➔ Science

In science our students have celebrated British science week which was from the 7th to the 16th of March.

During the week students were given the opportunity to play different games according to their age group.

They were focusing on adaptation and change.

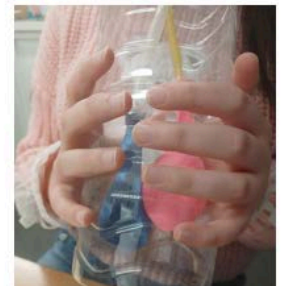
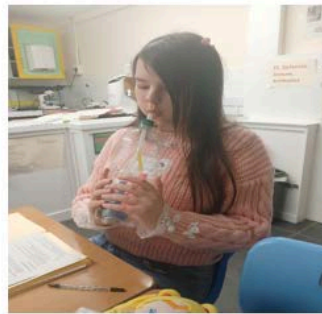
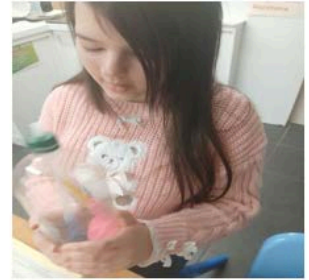
Some students learnt about how to defeat a cancer tumour and the treatment that is available to treat cancer such as chemotherapy.

Others learnt about how different animals adapt to their environment, whilst the younger students learnt about how antibodies and antigens work.

All of the students enjoyed the experience.

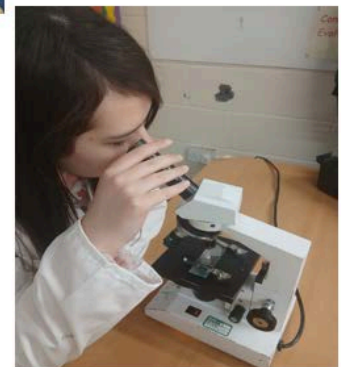
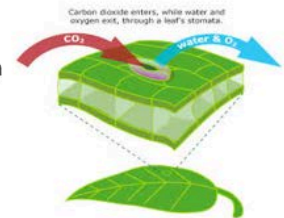
### My Science Experiment

Making lungs out of a bottle, balloons and some tubing.



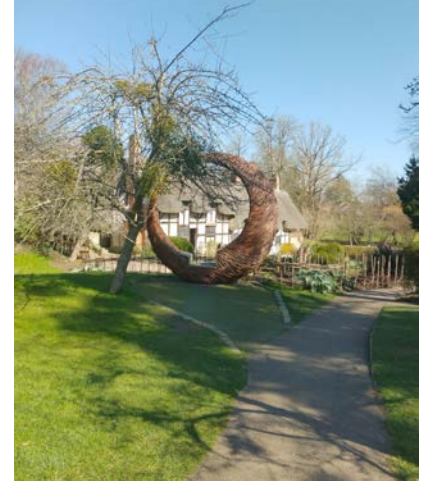
### My Science Experiment

Making a cast of leaf stomata that can be observed microscopically.



➔ Shakespeare trip

Our recent school trip to the house of Anne Hathaway and the birthplace of William Shakespeare was nothing short of extraordinary. Students and teachers alike were transported back in time as they explored the very places where the world's most renowned playwright began his journey. At Anne Hathaway's charming cottage, we marveled at the beautifully preserved architecture and gardens, while gaining insights into Shakespeare's early life and the people who influenced him. The birthplace of the Bard himself in Stratford-upon-Avon offered a fascinating glimpse into Elizabethan England and Shakespeare's formative years. Engaging guides and interactive displays made the experience not just educational, but truly captivating. This visit deepened our appreciation for Shakespeare's timeless works and gave us a richer understanding of the era that shaped his creativity. A heartfelt thank you to Holly and everyone else who made this unforgettable day possible!



# WORLD BOOK DAY

**This year, our school marked World Book Day in style with a fantastic mix of fun and learning. The highlight of the day was a lively book quiz, where students showcased their literary knowledge and teamwork as they tackled questions about beloved novels and iconic authors. The excitement in the room was palpable as teams competed for the title of book quiz champions.**

**Adding to the festive atmosphere, students and staff alike embraced the opportunity to dress up as their favourite literary characters. From classic heroes to mischievous villains, the school was awash with creativity and colourful costumes, bringing beloved stories to life. World Book Day reminded us of the joy and magic of reading, and we are already looking forward to next year's celebration!**



# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## ➔ CRUFTS 2025

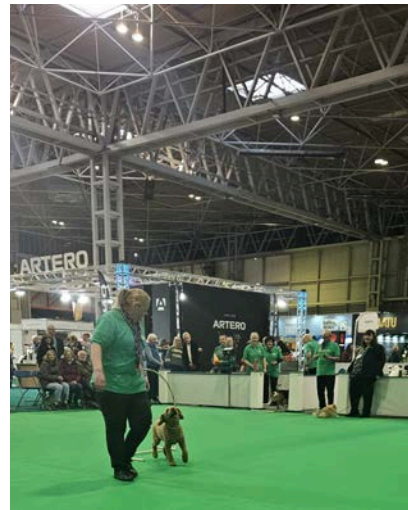
IN MARCH A STUDENT WAS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO THE FAMOUS DOG SHOW CRUFTS AS PART OF HER ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR STUDIES. WE MET MANY DOG BREEDS, SOME SHE HADN'T HEARD OF, WATCHED AGILITY, YOUNG KENNEL CLUB ACTIVITIES AND SPOKE TO A LOT OF PEOPLE ABOUT THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF ANIMALS.

## ➔ SWIMMING



4 students have gained their 50 metres certificates  
2 students have gained their 5 metres certificates  
1 student has gained their 10 metres certificate  
1 student has gained their 25 metres certificate

Their swimming teachers are incredibly proud of them all this term, they have all swam amazingly & shown a big improvement.



## COMMUNITY STUDIES ZOO TRIP

STUDENTS ENJOYED A VISIT TO JOHNSON'S ZOO AS PART OF COMMUNITY STUDIES. THERE WERE A RANGE OF INTERESTING ANIMALS THAT WE ALL ENJOYED SEEING. A GREAT DAY FOR ALL.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## ➔ Careers

### Apprenticeship Week

During Apprenticeship week we were invited to visit EAS Mechanical Limited for an apprenticeship talk and experience Plumbing and Electrical work. It was an excellent morning out for our students, who were inspired by this experience. The students came away buzzing with excitement! Thank you to the staff for having us attend.

### Pizza Express

Students as part of National Careers week were taken to Pizza Express at Rushden Lakes as part of a work place visit. Students learnt all about the company and how it became the famous chain it is today. We were very lucky to all then make our own cheese pizza, which of course all the students (and staff!) loved very much!



## King Richard 3rd Museum

As part of Science week students were taken to the King Richard 3rd Museum to take part in a DNA workshop. This was a brilliant experience for students to learn all about DNA and how it was vital in finding the lost King. Students took part in a science experiment where they learnt a lot - did you know we share DNA with bananas?! We then explored the museum, where students also learnt about the battle of Northampton and how STEM was used to find the King in the car park. It was a brilliant day and thoroughly enjoyed by all.





# FOREST SCHOOL

## Unit 1

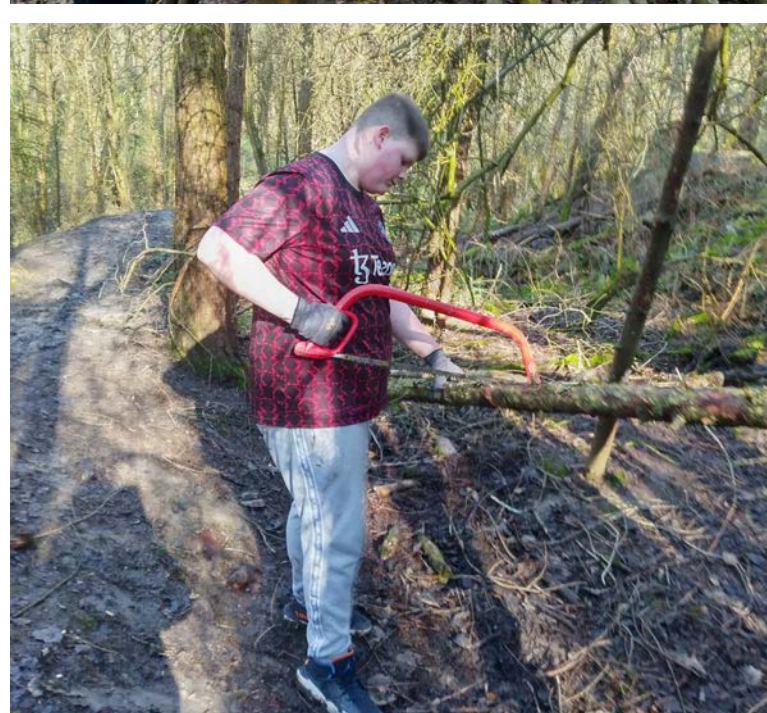
This term Unit 1 have been developing their team building skills. The group have improved their communication and social skills, through playing games and supporting one another in various activities. They have enjoyed working with a number of different tools and are secure and safe in this activity. The groups have come a long way this term and are developing good habits in the outdoor environment.

## Unit 2

This term Unit 2 have been working on developing their team building skills through game play and completing different challenges. This has helped to develop their communication and social skills. The group have been busy building a den over the last month and have worked very hard together to create an amazing den, showing off their communication skills to work as a team. Students have also had the opportunity to go to the deer park and discover different habitats in their environment. All students are confident whilst working with tools and have a secure knowledge using great safety skills.

## Unit 3

The groups have had the opportunity to cook on the open fire and are beginning to secure good knowledge and understanding about fire, fire safety and securing their understanding about the fire triangle. Students have enjoyed cooking bacon rolls and toasting marshmallows on sticks they have whittled to make s'mores, this is always a winner! The groups really enjoy using tools to chop and split wood for the fire, and most students are confident using a number of different tools. The groups have also had the opportunity to go on lots of nature walks and explore the environment around them using an identification sheet to spot different trees and wildlife.







# ECO SCHOOL

## Tips To Save Energy

### Quick Guide To Energy Saving.

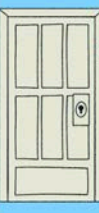


1




**Switch lights off when you leave a room.**

2




**Shut doors to areas you're not using, and only cool or heat the rooms where you spend the most time.**

3




**Ensure taps are fully turned off when they are finished being used.**

4




**Spend less time in the shower**  
Keeping your shower time to just 4 minutes. Save money and water.

5



**Don't leave appliances on.**  
**Switch off standby.**

6



**Wash clothes at lower temperatures: Use your washing machine on a 30-degree cycle instead of a higher temperature.**

Here are some energy saving tips students learnt as part of Energy Saving Week.

## Eco Schools



This term Eco Schools have designed and created a frog pond next to the pond to help increase habitats and encourage wildlife.



What is your habitat designed for?  
The habitat is designed for the frog pond next to the pond.

Special features:  
The habitat is designed for the frog pond next to the pond.

My favourite part of my design is:  
The habitat is designed for the frog pond next to the pond.



# DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

This term we have continued working towards the group achieving their Duke of Edinburgh award. We have been focusing on teamwork, as this is one of the most integral components of the award. To help the group to do this we have been exploring theoretical survival scenarios. Each of the groups have been given predetermined characteristics and they have to work together to get themselves through 'blackouts' and many other situations!

Additionally, we have been supporting students to build on their resilience when walking long distances, and with this, being able to communicate as a team to recognise when each other may need extra support and being able to adjust their journey.

As part of the volunteering section of their award the students took part in a session with our school partner The McCarthy Dixon foundation, packing food packages. Each student within the group was given 5 items that they had to get out of the 25 items in the package. The grand total of bags packed at the end was over 66 in 2 hours!

We are looking forward to another term with the group when we return after Easter!

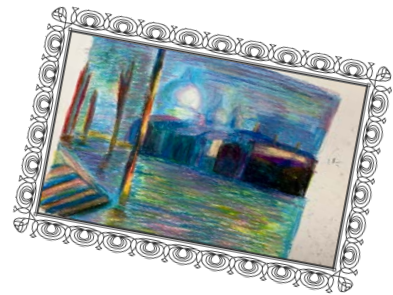


# ART

Our Art students had the opportunity to attend the Van Gogh Immersive Experience in Leicester. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to get fully immersed in Van Gogh's paintings and become part of the masterpieces. Students also put on the VR headsets and were taken back in time to walk through the paintings and get a real feel for them. A fab day had by all, with lots of inspiration and opportunities to explore more beautiful art.

Other Art students have been working really hard, recreating a Monet picture. They have been exploring a new medium of oil pastels, learning to blend and shade with them.

Students should be really proud of what they are producing, and I'm excited to see what they are going to do next!





# ATTENDANCE

Dear Parents / Carers,

Thank you for supporting good school attendance at On Track Education.

Our whole school attendance is at 85% .

Attendance is important and we would welcome feedback from students about any extra support we can provide.

Please email: [northamptonoffice@ontrackededucation.com](mailto:northamptonoffice@ontrackededucation.com)

## ILLNESS

If your child is unwell please inform the office by 08:30am on the days that they are absent.

CONTACT NUMBER: 01604645934 OPT 1 / 07999024135



## HOLIDAYS

DUE TO GOVERNMENT UPDATES, HOLIDAYS WILL NOW BE UNAUTHORISED ABSENCES.

## EVERY DAY COUNTS!

School and **future success** starts with good attendance!



Remember - your education is important - **don't miss out!**

### Top tips to good school attendance

Resolve problems or worries as soon as possible.

Talk to school staff if you're concerned about your child. We want the best for them.

If you have difficulties getting your child to school, please speak to us. We can help.

IS YOUR CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL:

PLEASE REFER TO THIS LINK:

[HTTPS://WWW.NHS.UK/LIVE-WELL/IS-MY-CHILD-TOO-ILL-FOR-SCHOOL/](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/)