

NEWSLETTER

Transition Week



Over the past week, we have welcomed 230 new students to Shuttleworth!

That's right, it's been our famous Transition Week, which gives all of the Year 6 children who will be starting here in September a chance to settle in, make new friends, and have fun here at Shuttleworth. This week's theme has been sustainability, with the children designing products to help make their new school both better for the environment and as a learning environment! Every child has worked within a group to develop an idea for a sustainable invention that will improve school life, designed and built a prototype, written a sales pitch for it, and created an advertisement.

Mrs. Price, our Transition Lead, and Mr. Turner, who will be the new Year 7s' Pastoral Leader, have been working tirelessly to create a great environment that promotes a smooth and stress-free transition from primary school to secondary school. They are both excited to have so many brilliant young people coming to our school!

Student ambassadors have been helping out too; guiding new students around the school and assisting our teachers. We're very proud of them for setting such a fantastic example for our new pupils. Over the page, Joseph Borg, one of our Year 7 student ambassadors, has a terrific testimony so you can hear first-hand about the transition experience.

Our new students have really enjoyed their first taste of Shuttleworth, and it's been a pleasure to have their smiling faces gracing our corridors and classrooms for the past week. We can't wait to see them again in September!

Ambassador Aspirations

Joseph Borg, one of our Year 7 student ambassadors, has been inspired by Shuttleworth College's Year 11 prefects – and wants to be one!

As he nears the end of his first year here at Shuttleworth, he was asked about his impressions of the school. Joseph responded by singing the school's praises, saying; "It's brilliant, such a fantastic school, the facilities are fantastic!"

"I'm really proud to attend Shuttleworth," the ambassador continued, "I want to be a role model for the students because the prefects have inspired me to be just like them. They helped me out so much during transition and I think I'd be lost without them. They've helped me to make friends and they're really good. "Obviously it's a much bigger school than primary school and you have to move around a lot which you don't at primary school. There are more students, but that means there are so many more people to help you."

During transition week, Joseph also reflected on his own transition experience.

"I first met Mr Turner in Year 3 or 4 when he came into my primary school, and he seemed like a really good person. He gave me really good explanations about what Shuttleworth was like and I knew I could trust him. I'd already been to Shuttleworth with my school for different activities, like the telescope challenge in Year 5, and enrichment. I think the transition week was brilliant as well as I got to know other people and make more friends so I was excited rather than nervous about my new school."



Joseph (centre), with Mr. Turner and two prefects.



SHUTTLEWORTH COLLEGE

**has been shortlisted for
the East Lancashire
Education Awards!**

We have been nominated for:
Secondary School of the Year
Inspirational Teaching Award
Unsung Hero Award
Young Scientist/Engineer Award
Secondary Pupil of the Year
Career Aspiration Award

Year 5 Sports Day

Last Friday, we welcomed children from several local primary schools, including Padiham Primary, Padiham Green, Lowerhouse, Whittlefield, and Ightenhill, to our Year 5 sports day. The whole affair was a resounding success, with hundreds of happy children getting stuck in to sport!

The day began with football matches, closely followed by rounders. After lunch, athletics was the event of the hour, with many events, including various races and the long jump!

The event was part of our ongoing transition programme, an incredible initiative that involves outreach to local primary schools, enrichment, and lots of taster days to make the transition from primary schools into Shuttleworth as smooth and stress-free as possible.



PSHE Day

At Shuttleworth, we believe that education is not just about academia, but also about forming the young people in our care into well-rounded, healthy, and happy members of the wider community. That's why, last Thursday, we hosted one of our specialist PSHE 'Drop Down Days' to educate our students in how to respond to difficult situations that they may face as they progress into adulthood.

Our Year 7s have been exploring the world of politics, reading manifestos and increasing their understanding of the voting and election process. They also had the opportunity to create their own political parties, write manifestos and values, and give speeches on the behalf of their party! Their actions included creating more sustainable power sources, creating more homeless shelters, and campaigning for equality.

Year 8 focused on dangerous behaviours, discussing the perils of gang violence, open water swimming, and online dangers; all of which are hazards they are likely to encounter in the near future. They also explored the consequences of smoking and alcohol consumption, and developed techniques to resist peer pressure.

Our Year 9 students worked on their understanding of their health and wellbeing, furthering their understanding of healthy eating and exercise, as well as their awareness of cancer. A focus was also placed on mental health issues, explaining the symptoms, how to help a friend, and what to do if they find themselves affected by it. As a school, we feel that that it is incredibly important to prevent such conditions in our students and to promote their wellbeing to combat the national rise in rates of anxiety and depression among teenagers. The pupils also received basic first aid training, learning what to do in an emergency situation and practicing on CPR dummies.

Year 10 also discussed dangerous behaviour, but in different areas. As well as lessons on gambling awareness, intoxication, and the consequences of fighting under the title 'Just One Punch', they also had the privilege of listening to talk on the reality of homelessness given by a special guest speaker. The Fire Service also visited Shuttleworth to warn our students about dangerous driving, bringing in an actual car wreck to show them the very real consequences of the crime.



Faculty of the Fortnight: ENGLISH

English has now taken over from Maths as our faculty of the fortnight!

With Maths having marked their competition; which was won by Harry Guest and Cameron Wilkins who tied for first place, both achieving 8/10 correct answers; English have started their own, presenting a different literary puzzle every day on our twitter, [@Shuttle_College](#). But they've been up to lots more!



Year 7 are studying Shakespeare's Macbeth. Mrs. Bury, their English teacher, has assigned each of her students a role to read out and our pupils are greatly enjoying the eerie tale. Our three 'witches' are delighted with their characters, who, one told us, "speak in riddles". "Macbeth is an amazing story," said another, "it is still really creepy despite being written so long ago and the characters' flaws make them very interesting. I'm excited to read more!"

Our 'Reading Leaders' scheme is also producing outstanding results, putting the fifteen minutes of form time at the start of every day to good use. The scheme pairs certain Year 7 and 8 students, who find reading and comprehension difficult, with higher ability Year 9 and 10 students, who work with them throughout the year.

During this time, they participate in a variety of fun, literacy activities. These include Jenga with literacy questions written on the blocks and bananagrams,



which use a variation on Scrabble to help the children develop their vocabulary and spelling. They also work in paired reading scenarios, in which the younger children read a book aloud to their partner. The older children are given dice with prompt comprehension questions which they ask their partner to assess their understanding. This promotes reading for pleasure as well being extremely successful in improving reading, confidence reading aloud, and interpersonal skills.

Current Concerns

We know it can be difficult to keep up with what your child is doing online. After all, they've grown up with technology, making it feel like they're always going to be one step ahead. However, keeping your child safe online is of the utmost importance. Whilst here at Shuttleworth dangerous sites are blocked on our IT systems, they might not be on your home computer or on your child's phone.

One of our most pressing concerns at this moment is the young people's usage of the online game 'Doki Doki' also known as 'Doki Doki Literature Club'. This is a psychological horror game with suicide as a main feature. Concern has been expressed that the game may trigger suicidal thoughts in young people who may be emotionally vulnerable. We ask you, as parents and carers, to be vigilant and ensure that children are not downloading or playing the game.

If you have concerns for the welfare of any young person who may be using this game, please use the links in this article on our website to seek advice:

<http://shuttleworthcollege.org/current-concerns/>

Good news to share about your child?
Promoting a community event? Get in touch with our marketing & communications team, by contacting Laura Nutter via lnutter@shuttleworth.lancs.sch.uk