

NEWSLETTER, WEEK 5

So lovely to end the week with all year groups back in the building. I'm again very impressed with how calmly our students are adapting to the new processes we are having to introduce to reflect the changing situation. We are delighted that we can resume hot food service from next week which will allow students to enjoy the full range of fabulous food created by Dion and his team from Monday. We are really grateful that you have supported us by bringing packed lunches in the last weeks where needed. Attendance and engagement remain very high, thank you again for your commitment.

Highlights from this weeks session

Year 9 Ignite have been enjoying their creative writing module in English and impressed their teachers with a strong performance in their first baseline assessments. In Spanish, we started to explore Festivals. Students picked some popular ones such "La Tomatina", "El Día de los Muertos" or "Las Fallas" de Valencia but some other were quite unusual and exciting like "El día de la Candelaria", "El festival de Benicassim", or "Las posadas". Students are working on a class presentation to share their findings. In PBL, they have started work on one of three projects: "health skills programme using high fidelity simulation", "the Unilever CTI Dishwasher Challenge" or the "Autodesk/MTC Future of Making". The future of making group are completing a project where they will use CAD software to design and 3D print Christmas tree decorations. We have been learning about reflection/ mirroring, rotations and translations in maths lessons and will apply this knowledge to plot our designs and transfer the coordinates into CAD software (Autodesk Fusion 360). This will let us turn our 2D sketches into 3D models. The Ignite students were delighted to get back on track with their magazine and have even started looking for sponsors to help them print it!! The magazine will be ready in time for Halloween and is a 90's themed project. We can't wait to see the results. They have also been sharing their stories as part of their future skills project and we are seeing some really incredible creative writing and of course learning lots more about the students' lives.

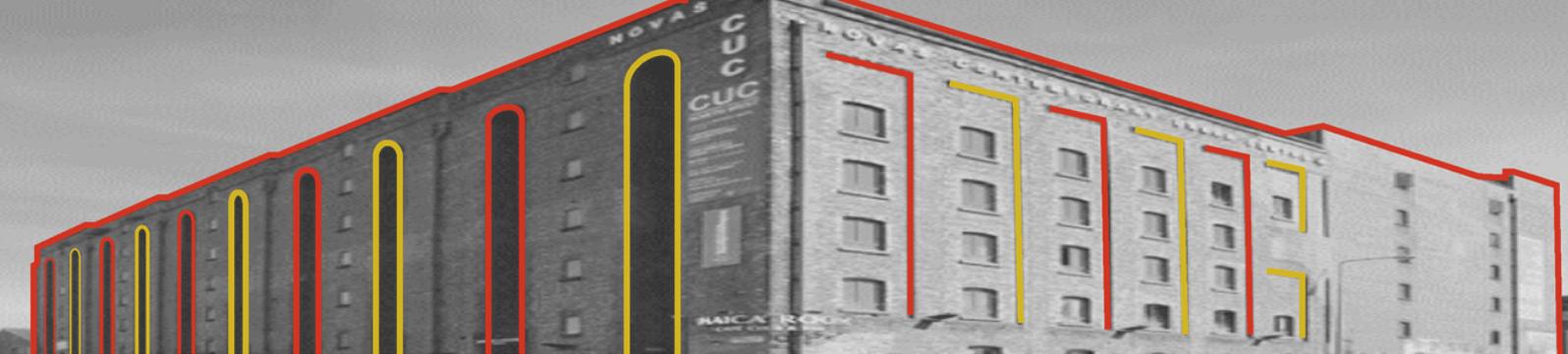
Year 10 have been doing baselines for English Language and are continuing with their study of 'An Inspector Calls'. They have continued investigating medieval medicine in history, looking at bloodletting, using zodiac and apothecarists. We were excited to have a zoom introduction to the Unilever Dishwasher Project from Jennifer Yates who is a "Homecare CTI Manager" at Unilever. Jen set the challenge of designing a demonstration and short TV advert for dishwasher tablets. The challenge will not only get the students thinking about the chemistry of dishwasher tablets but also about how best to get the message across to the consumer. It will definitely require some creativity in creating the final advert. One of our students wanted to know if he could pitch his idea to the CEO once he has completed the project! We love a bit of ambition! Other year 10 students have started a project to design a vaccine for COVID-19, to complete a lab skills programme to improve their technical skills or started to develop ideas for an independent extended project.



Coronavirus Update - We're pleased to say that we have no further confirmed cases of Coronavirus in either our staff team or student body.

Please do continue to update us as a priority if your child displays any symptoms of Coronavirus. We appreciate that the Liverpool Lockdown may be causing increased anxiety. Please be reassured that students are doing well in the building and we will notify you if we have any concerns.

If a student is absent, we need you to officially report their absence each day by phone call to Louise Kennett. If your student has missed work, they need to email their coach and teachers to ensure they are not falling behind.



Year 11 have been coping well with their PPEs and working hard at revision in class in English. In History they have focused on crucial exam skills and are working through past papers and model answers. In PBL, they are working on the www.jouneyofhope.co sustainable transport project and will be picking it back up next week after their mock exams. We will be updating the website and liaising with a school in China to share best practice on sustainability projects across both countries.

Bridging Programme - Our esports Google Meets - Nathan Pritchard, Year 12 Student

Last week we had our first esports Google Meet. In the meeting we spoke of things we would never speak to a teacher about. We discussed the different genres of games, our gaming team logo and name which will be our first ever esports team name. I for one thought this meeting was very interesting because we, the pupils, disputed what were the most popular gaming genres, the genre codes and conventions of all the genres. We discussed different games, such as sports games like Fifa and we also discussed Battle Royale games which are First-Person Shooter survival games in a huge game map.

We had another Google Meet on Monday, where we discussed how the industry translates from gaming into your bedroom to playing in a tournament centre. We further discussed game genres and also discussed the tactics we as a team would use whilst gaming in our spare time, we also looked at the different job roles and some salaries in the esports industry. For example, the world's best League of Legends player Lee "Faker" Sang-hyeok who has a net worth of around \$4 million and has earned an additional \$1 million during his programming career! We are looking forward to eventually representing the school when competing with other schools in esports tournaments.

Year 12 have been studying Henry VII's foreign policy and Colonial Life and society in America just before the American Independence in History. In Programming, students are developing further their C# and website back end development, along with learning best practices and sound page design. Biologists have been working on the complex structure and function of the plasma membrane in eukaryotes. Chemistry students have taken a look at electron configuration and ionisation. Geographers have been looking at drainage basins and water balance. Physics students have been observing moments and calculating centres of mass. Those studying Criminology have been looking at the media representation of crime. Year 12 have had their first session in the labs and started their Lab Skills Module learning how to accurately use a Micropipette. They have also been introduced to the Baltic Research Institute and invited to apply for roles. Many students have started to form their EPQ projects. I think we will have some interesting and diverse projects reflecting our diverse student body. We are looking at a mixture of practical and academic work and will publish the best of these. Applications are now being taken for students in Year 12 to join the health team run by former UTC Student, Joe Benson.



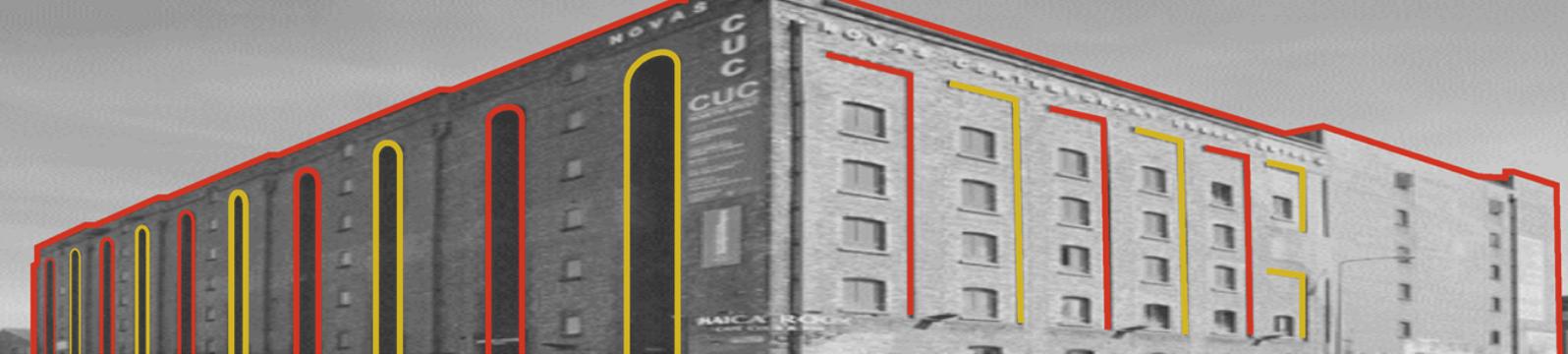
Introducing the Junior Leadership Team.

The JLT is a team of students from Year 9 through to Year 13 from both the UTC and Studio. They work together to make whole school decisions, work towards bringing equality and change and promote new kinds of learning and the importance of whole school literacy. The Junior Leaders attend meetings with Jill and the School's senior team or visitors, taking an active role in discussing changes for the better.

JLT has different committees which are student run, and there are lots of different roles to be had to suit all types of personalities and areas of expertise, such as the Equality and Charity committees.

JLT is not a typical school student council. We want to be so much more than that and to bring positive change for everyone at the Studio and UTC in both our school and wider community. We want to be aware of the challenges that ourselves and others face and work to overcome them. We want students to feel confident and assertive to discuss issues that affect them and taken on roles leading and working with others. This year is going to bring new challenges and we will not be able to do the activities and have the meetings in person the way we would normally. But as with everything this year, we will adapt and change the way we do things! Each week we will update you through our Head boy and girl with the activities JLT are involved with or the issues we are trying to tackle.

Laura Bonneson



Year 12 Field Trip

On the 17th Sept we went to Formby with the geography A level Y12 group for fieldwork to investigate the vegetation succession in the sand dunes. It was incredible weather! In fact, probably the best of any field trip ever in the whole history of Geography! (usually guaranteed it will be old and raining) ☺

Students laid out tape measures 250 M transect in total and recorded the changes in vegetation. Then we did a lot of walking (despite the odd complaint) to the pine forest to see National Trust management strategies, preserving the squirrels, rare natterjack toads and sand lizards.

Year 13 have been studying the Mid Tudor Crisis, the issues faced by Edward VI's issues he faced, as well as starting to focus on the American War of Independence. Behind the scenes they are developing their coursework independently on 100 years of anti-Semitism in Europe. Year 13 Programming students have been capturing client requirements in advance of preparing the development brief prior to commencing development on their industry projects. Year 13 Health students are registering their interest in the Cadet Programme, a one day per week work experience programme delivered with the Royal Liverpool Hospital. They are also working hard towards externally assessed units and have already started to complete mock assessments in class..

Notes for this week

- Students need to commit to working equally hard outside of school hours. As all students are working towards important qualifications, independent learning will be a big contributor to their success. Students have access to Google Classroom with all remote work. Please encourage your child to engage with this and to be using their time at home wisely in preparation for their futures.
- A reminder that there is updated legislation in place for the North West of England which means that our students cannot socialise in each other's houses. This is an important measure to maintain their safety and prevent further closures. We appreciate your support in making sure we keep our community safe.
- Reintroducing our canteen services. Dion and the catering team have done an amazing job this week to keep us all fed. We are pleased that our hot food service will resume next week with some new timings and rotas to ensure year group bubbles are maintained. Students are again welcome to buy and eat their lunch in their canteen space.
- As part of the national measures to support students following lockdown we are running resit examinations in October and November for students in last year's year 11 and year 13. All students being entered for October series (A-level) received their statement of entry two weeks ago. Students entered for November series (GCSE) will receive
- their statement of entry in the next week. If you have not received your statement of entry and details of how the examinations will be run by 9th October please email evans.r@lifesciencesutc.net. Detailed information on how the exams are being run will be sent out prior to the first exam
- Current Year 11 students will continue with Pre Public exams on Monday and Tuesday next week. Please remember to treat these exams as if your are preparing for the real thing.

Best wishes, stay safe,
Jill Davies, Principal

Black History Month #blacklivesmatter

Our JLT are working hard to educate our school community. As part of our Black History Month celebration this year, our JLT are teaching us about one significant black historical figure each day. We will not just be focusing on the well-known figures such as MLK and Mary Seacole, but we will also branch out to more recent achievements within the community and people you probably never heard of before. You can learn along with us on our Instagram accounts.

We are extremely proud of our team for making our school community a wonderful and inclusive place to be.

In the Community

It was lovely to hear that Abdulwase Sufain, a young trustee at his Mosque has been supporting Merseyside Police to engage with the local community. He is a great ambassador for the school.