

Rolls Royce – Blog Entry – May 2018

This is the last diary entry to our project. What a fantastic year we have had and we are already planning on making next year bigger and better.

This month has been one of our favourites as a team of teachers. Not only have we had fantastic weather that has allowed us to work outside but we have been working hard as a group on project garage – this has been everyone’s favourite task so far. We have also had the first bits of fruit from this year’s garden project.

Donna Page

What a great learning experience this has been – the students have been the ones teaching me on this project! I can honestly say that I knew nothing of engines and mechanics at the start of this term and now I can name every part of a car and its engine. So many of the students excel at mechanics and have spent most of their spare time under a bonnet with their friends and family members, it was fantastic to bring this learning opportunity into the classroom. Having students and parents/family members teaching the teachers has been a great experience. We are now half way through the project, the frame has been welded, steering column, track rod, wheels, brakes and accelerator are all fitted. I wish we had not all been so consumed by the excitement of the project, as when student who had been absent for a short while came into the classroom and posed the question – “how are you going to get it out, it’s now wider than the door?!” ... We do now have a plan!



Tom Dawkins

This term I have had the pleasure of working with our students on our Go Kart. When the Go Kart arrived I was very keen to start assembly as motor vehicles are a passion of mine. Within this project I have been able to share my knowledge of engineering and engage students in conversation about vehicle mechanics to help develop the student’s and the STEM team’s skills. The Go Kart has been challenging as we have used different components and techniques than I am used to working with, as I am usually working on motorbikes, but the students have been great at problem solving and sharing their ideas. I feel that I have improved my ability to pass on skills to the students to help ensure they are able to achieve the most out of our project.



Charlotte Hurst

This month we have had the first few pieces of produce from our garden. The strawberries are growing well and we are harvesting them before the insects and slugs get to them. Our outside learning has also allowed us to do more outside cooking whilst we have been exploring energy sources, the environment and the basics of the fire triangle. We have even gone 'all Bear Grylls' and tried to light fires in alternative ways and looking at the science behind the energy.



Gail Newman

We have finally finished all the renovation of the outside seating in time for eating our wood fired pizzas that we made in our pizza ovens. The recycling of materials has nicely gone hand in hand with the environmental work Mrs Hurst has done.



Rochelle Warner

This month I have been helping with the garden project and looking at the biology behind the plants looking at cells, photosynthesis and pollination. The highlight of the month has been making cell pizzas – students use a pizza as a base for drawing cells rather than a traditional poster. Plus we got to fire them in the pizza oven and then eat them. I have also

had the pleasure of working in the DT department helping with another of our engineering/garage projects – The Powerboat Challenge.