

Stable School News



Issue No.3 | Spring 1



PJ day for Staff and Learners for Children's Mental Health Week 2026 Monday 9th February

Spring 1 has been a wonderful positive and energetic half-term across The Stable School, and we're so proud of everything our learners have achieved. Classrooms have been full of curiosity, creativity and teamwork, and you will see from the news shared by teachers and staff learners have been engaged with learning across all curriculum areas. From exploring non-fiction texts and developing problem-solving confidence, to following a real-life Antarctica expedition and creating bold Neo-Expressionist artwork, the enthusiasm shown by our young people has been fantastic. This term our school has been a vibrant place to be!

Spring 1 HIGHLIGHTS

Many classes have enjoyed inspiring visits to Christchurch Priory, as well as hands-on outdoor learning through our Duke of Edinburgh activities, including litter picking, fitness walks, navigation projects and conservation work on St Catherine's Hill. These opportunities have helped learners grow in independence, resilience, and their sense of responsibility for the environment.

Children's Mental Health Week brought moments of joy and reflection, with activities such as pyjama day, nature walks, relaxation tasks and creative sessions designed to support wellbeing. Across the school, pupils continued developing their social and emotional skills through thoughtful PSHE discussions on family, conflict resolution, and building a growth mindset.

We were also delighted to welcome several new students this half-term, who have been warmly embraced by their peers and are already settling in beautifully.

Our vocational pathways in Construction and Creative Design remain a real strength, with learners producing impressive wooden projects, mixed-media coursework, and highly detailed art pieces. Overall, this half-term has been filled with learning, laughter, and meaningful experiences both in and out of the classroom, and we are excited to build on this momentum as we move into Spring 2.

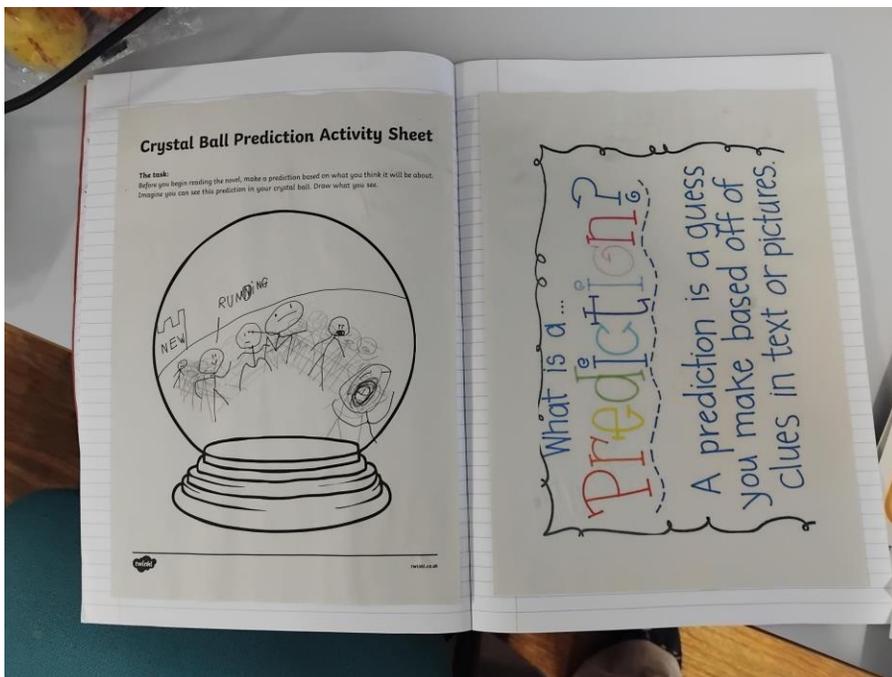
Spring 1 HIGHLIGHTS WAIKIKI

It has been a truly wonderful term in our class, filled with energy, curiosity and so many moments to be proud of. The students amazed us during the Ultimate Egg Drop Challenge, designing parachutes with creativity, teamwork and real scientific thinking before putting them to the test in our Bloodhound Topic. Our visit to The Priory for RE was another highlight, where pupils showed exceptional curiosity, respect and confidence as they asked thoughtful questions and explored the space with genuine interest. In English, they produced fantastic work inspired by Harry Miller's Run, throwing themselves into hot-seating, storyboarding, and deepening their understanding of characters in such imaginative ways.



Spring 1 HIGHLIGHTS WAIKIKI

The class have also shown excellent maturity and kindness during off-site activities, including our walks up the hill, where their behaviour and teamwork were outstanding. We were delighted to welcome a new student, and the class have embraced them with warmth and enthusiasm. Our reading sessions have been a joy too — pupils have loved spending time in the library and listening to stories such as *The Twits* and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, showing growing confidence, humour and engagement as readers. It has been a term full of growth, positivity and brilliant learning, and we couldn't be prouder of them.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS POLZEATH

Polzeath have had an absolutely fantastic Spring term so far!

Our trip to Christchurch Priory was a real highlight. The learners were brilliantly engaged — chatting with the vicar, asking thoughtful questions, exploring the tombs, and taking in the stunning architecture. We're already looking forward to visiting again once the upstairs museum reopens later this year!

We've also kicked off our Duke of Edinburgh fitness unit with real energy. Our regular walks up St Catherine's Hill have been a great way to build stamina, and the learners have taken real pride in litter picking along the way, helping keep this beautiful conservation area clean and cared for.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS POLZEATH

More recently, we were invited back by BCP Council for another pine-pulling session — and Polzeath truly showed their pine-pulling prowess! Their hard work helps protect the hill from being overrun by young pine trees. They finished the session with well-earned hot chocolate and biscuits, which made the morning even more special.

Back in the classroom, Polzeath have been diving into Digital Tech with huge enthusiasm. We've started developing our touch-typing skills, and their determination and progress have blown us all away. We can't wait to see how far they'll come.

Overall, Polzeath you've been a pleasure and I am very excited to continue our journey together next half term.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS BUDE

As we move through the Spring term, we would like to share some of the memorable experiences and achievements our learners have enjoyed during Spring 1, both inside and outside the classroom.

Swimming sessions continue every Wednesday afternoon, supporting students in developing water confidence and physical fitness, while on every Monday afternoon, students have taken part in Duke of Edinburgh (DOE) / Junior Award Scheme (JAS) activities. This half term, litter picking on our school campus and along our route has played a key role, bringing the class closer together while promoting responsibility, teamwork, and care for the local environment. These shared experiences have noticeably strengthened relationships and group cohesion.



Litter picking which is part of our DoE/JaS award

SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS BUDE



Pictures of pine pulling on St. Catherine's Hill

Out-of-School Adventures

Students have continued to thrive through a wide range of enriching outdoor and practical activities. One of the highlights this half term was our educational trip to Christchurch Priory, where pupils explored the historical significance of the building and developed their understanding of local history, architecture, and community heritage. The visit supported learning across subjects and encouraged curiosity, respect, and thoughtful discussion.

Despite challenging weather conditions, students showed great resilience during pine pulling up St Catherine's Hill, tackling drizzle and cold with determination. This activity reinforced the importance of environmental conservation while helping students develop perseverance, teamwork, and pride in making a positive difference.

SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS BUDE

Welcoming New Students

We were delighted to welcome two new students to Bude this half term. They are transitioning well and are expected to settle in fully after the half term. They have been warmly supported by their peers, demonstrating the inclusive and caring ethos of the group.

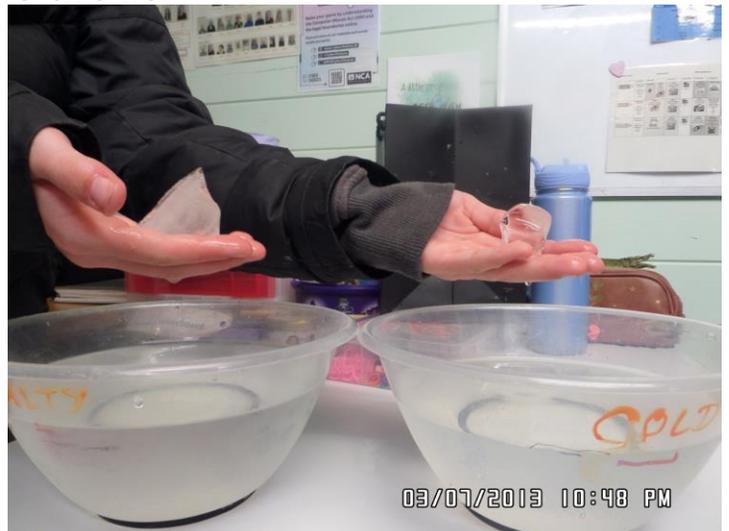
Academic Highlights

In English, students have continued to develop their reading, writing, and communication skills, including the exploration of Purpose, Audience and Format of text through a range of engaging lessons and activities.

In Maths, pupils have focused on building strong core skills, including problem-solving and applying mathematical knowledge in different contexts.

In Science, students have explored key topics of healthy lifestyles and knowing about environmental conservation focusing on the arctic.

*Science experiment
with ice!*



Looking Ahead

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are proud of the progress students have made during Spring 1 and look forward to an exciting and productive remainder of the term filled with further learning opportunities and adventures.

The Bude Team

SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS FISTRAL

Spring Term 1 has been a vibrant and inspiring half-term for our Year 9 Fistral class. The classroom has been full of curiosity, thoughtful discussion, teamwork, and moments of real awe as learners embraced new challenges and experiences across the curriculum.

In Maths, students approached fractions, decimals, and percentages with growing confidence and determination. Through practical activities and problem-solving tasks, learners showed real enthusiasm as concepts began to click, celebrating their successes and supporting one another when challenges arose. Our Duke of Edinburgh sessions have been a highlight of the term. Students thoroughly enjoyed plotting treasure maps, planning excursions, and developing essential teamwork skills. Watching them collaborate, problem-solve, and take leadership roles has been a pleasure, and their sense of adventure has been infectious! We also had time getting the little fingers busy making “Green men” with clay and other crafting activities.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS FISTRAL

In PSHE, we placed a strong focus on mental health, with particular emphasis on conflict management and resolution. Learners engaged maturely in discussions, reflecting on their emotions and coping strategies to navigate challenges positively. Alongside this, we continued developing our growth mindset, helping learners build confidence in their personal strengths and future ambitions



History lessons have been deeply immersive and thought-provoking as we continued our study of World War II, focusing on Nazi propaganda, echo chambers, and the manipulation of public opinion. Learners demonstrated impressive maturity and insight as they explored how these tactics contributed to one of the darkest periods in history, engaging in meaningful discussions and critical thinking.

Our commitment to the wider community remains strong. Learners once again took part in the hill conservation project, enthusiastically supporting pine pulling efforts. They also enjoyed a visit to the magnificent Christchurch Priory, where many showed genuine curiosity and appreciation for local history and architecture.

We are incredibly proud of everything the students have achieved and look forward to building on this momentum in the next half-term

SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS ABERSOCH

Year 9 have been exploring families in PSHE. This has included exploring the different types of families that are found in society. It has also included learning about conflict resolution. As always, the learners have contributed to sessions with maturity and sensitivity. This week, we have a host of activities planned for Mental Health Week including a nature walk and a community litter-picking morning.

In the next half-term, year 9s will begin their transition to KS4 journey. This will be supported by trusted adults with lots of reflection along the way to ensure the learners are empowered to negotiate the change in a positive manner. Recently, year 9 learners had a talk from Bournemouth and Poole College staff about T Level qualifications as these are an option they might consider at post-16.



A tomb crest of a local family at the Priory

SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS ABERSOCH

In English, the years 9s have been studying non-fiction texts. They have been learning about presentation and organisation feature and applying this understanding through the creation of different text types.

In Maths, learners have been revisiting and developing their understanding of fractions, percentages, and decimals. I have been especially impressed by the growth mindset displayed by many learners when faced with new challenges.

It has been great, as always, to see the learners grow and develop in new ways. Some have been having sessions with Junior Coleman and Learning Muay Thai.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS OAHU

Oahu students hit the ground running when they returned to school after the Christmas break, taking their mock examinations and course assessments. They were punctual, prepared and positive! We were all very impressed with the way they approached this challenge, and they should be very proud.

This week we have been enjoying activities to support Mental Health Week. There was a good turnout for pyjama day, with one student really going for it by also bringing his own bed in for some break time relaxation!

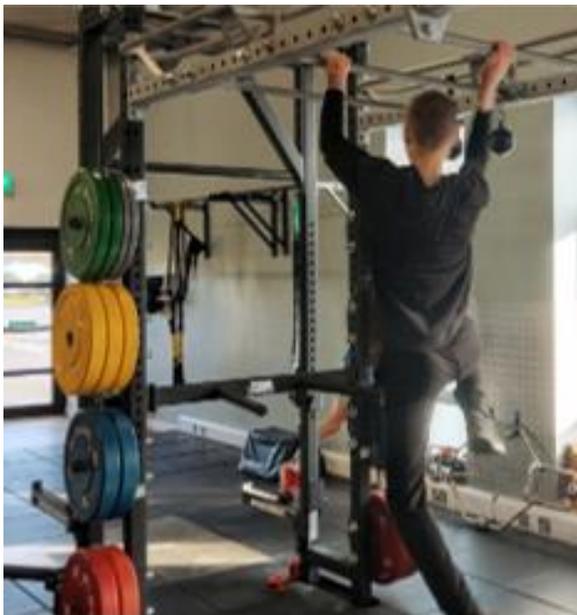


Oahu learners have been focused on completing courses ready for end of year assessments and exams. Maths and English take up much of each morning and have included developing problem-solving skills in geometry, and analytical skills in English language. In history, our topic exploring war and British society is now complete. We investigated the impact of war from Viking invasions to the World Wars. All learners completed their course work and assessment and are ready to move on to find out about how America has developed and become the country it is today.

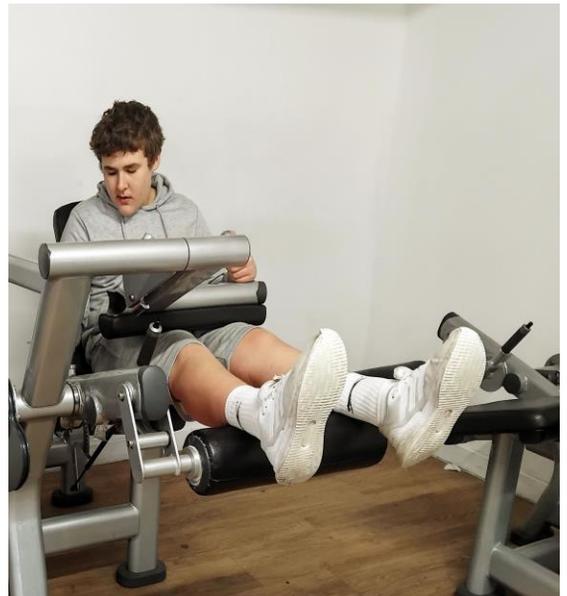
SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS PE

Year 11 and have engaged and really enjoyed some street dancing that included Funk dancing, body popping and Hip-Hop moves, all too some great modern street dance music. Although nervous at first, most learners, gave it ago and loved it.

Many of the year 11 learners have completed the first set of BTEC Sports assessment. This has included planning and running a set of warm up activities for their fellow learners, they have worked hard and have performed excellently well.



Year 10 have enjoyed using Littledown Gym. They have been using the non-resistant and cardio machines to help develop and enhance their fitness levels. They are all following fitness plans that slowly challenge them to improve and make them stronger and fitter.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS PE

Year 9 have been at Ferndown participating in Padel. Padel is a very popular and is a new sport being played across the world. The Year 9 students are improving and developing their Padel skills. It is a game that is easy to pick up and easy to then improve in. Well, Done Year 9!



Year 7/ 8, have been using games skills to develop their fitness. We have had a specialised Fitness instructor from Littledown gym to help motivate and stimulate the learners. The learners have used basketball and football skills to help do this.

A great half term filled with difference sports, with learners showing resilience, enthusiasm and team work, well done all!



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS CONSTRUCTION

Another good term at construction, plenty of hard work from our learners, the focus in years 7,8 and 9 has been continuing our work on the subject of wooden games, shut the box and many more.

We have also been working on a wooden bench for the playground, designed, and built by our year 9 learners.

Year 10 and 11 have been continuing their work towards their Aim levels 1 and 2, the mini chest of drawers are looking great, and I can't wait to show the finished design.



SPIRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS CREATIVE DESIGN

Exploring Bold Ideas & Big Imagination!

This term has been bursting with colour, character and creative risk-taking across Creative Design. Our students from Years 6 to 11 have demonstrated an incredible commitment to experimenting with new styles, materials, and artistic influences — and we're so excited to share a glimpse of their latest achievements.

Neo-Expressionism Comes Alive in Years 6–9

Students in Years 6 to 9 have immersed themselves in the energetic world of Neo-Expressionism, exploring the bold lines, vivid colours, and raw emotional style of Jean-Michael Basquiat.

Inspired by his work, students created striking self-portraits and imaginative character designs, each one capturing Basquiat's iconic balance of chaos and meaning. The results are powerful, playful, and deeply expressive.



JEAN MICHEL BASQUIAT

SELF PORTRAITS
PORTRAITS AND
CHARACTERS

Neo EXPRESSIONISM



GRAFFITI
Name Tags

ALDO MORA



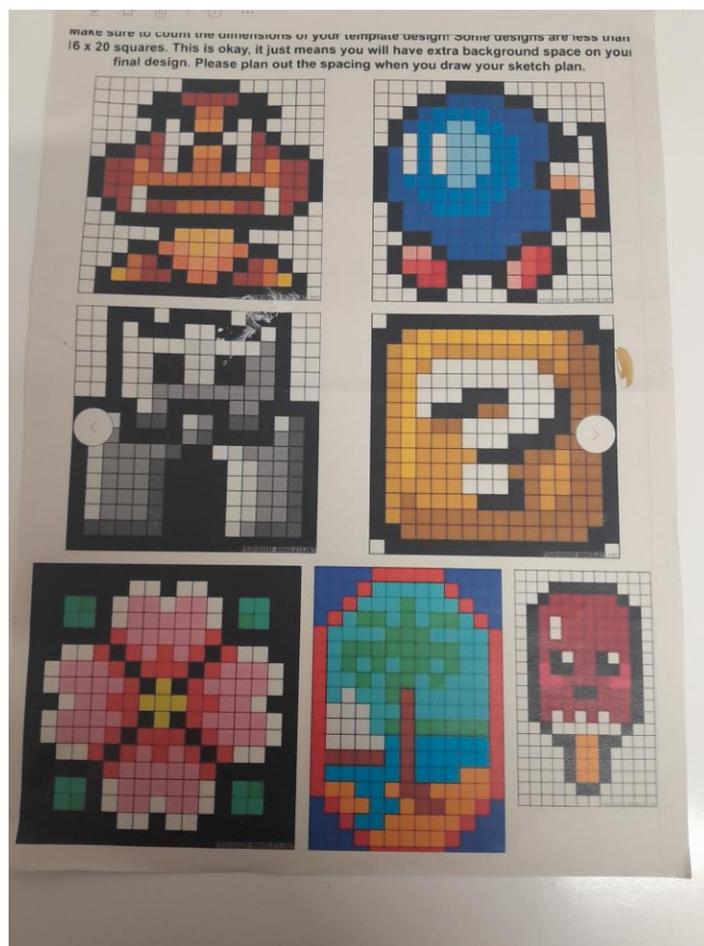
SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS CREATIVE DESIGN

To celebrate their achievements, we've curated beautiful displays featuring their Neo-Expressionist work, alongside an exciting collection of graffiti-style name-tag mixed-media pieces that bring dynamic, urban energy to the barn windows

Pixel Art Mastery: Standout Work in Fitral's Class

Our pixel art project has been a huge success, with Fitral's class demonstrating exceptional skill. Many students pushed themselves to design and construct highly detailed, complex pixel artworks, showing impressive patience, concentration, and creative thinking.

The final pieces should be a reminder of the resilience and perseverance these learners are so capable of.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS CREATIVE DESIGN

Arts & Crafts: A Flourishing Hub of Creativity

Arts and Crafts continues to thrive, with students enthusiastically taking on a wide variety of personal projects that show just how diverse their interests are. Recent creations include:

- Minecraft-inspired headdresses
- Stranger Things paper-maché portals and Demogorgon heads
- Lilo & Stitch-themed totem poles
- Hand-made bracelets, created with care, colour, and clever pattern-making
- Detailed train locomotive illustrations
- A beautiful collection of watercolour cat character illustrations

The room is always buzzing with activity — it's wonderful to see so many learners deeply engaged, experimenting boldly, and expressing themselves through craft.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS CREATIVE DESIGN



Years 10–11: Steady Progress in AIM Qualifications

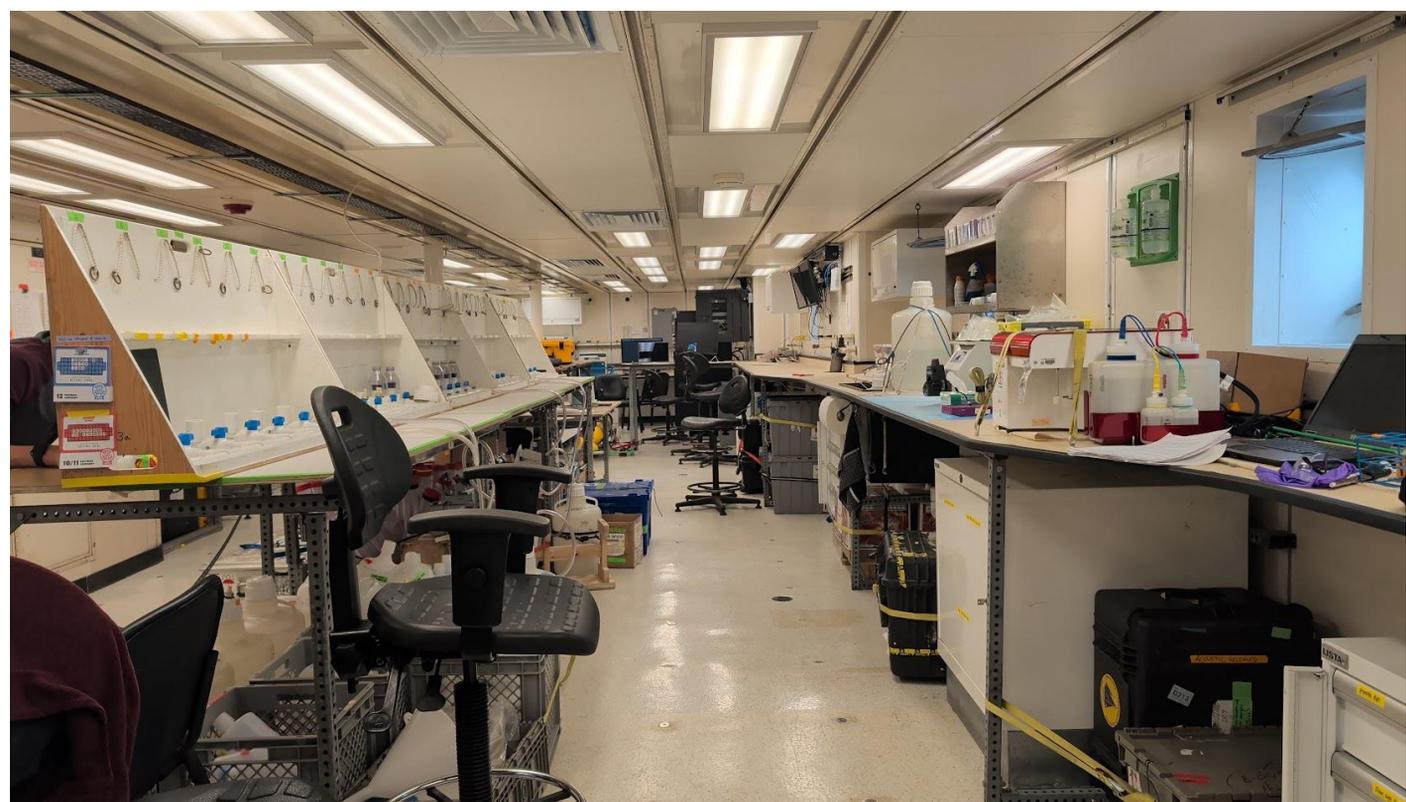
Our Year 10 and 11 students continue to apply themselves to new ways of working as they develop their mixed-media projects for their AIM qualifications. Building on their sketchbook studies, they're exploring material combinations and refining their ideas. Their final project will see them create a mixed-media piece inspired by constellations, or personal interests. These themes will be brought to life through layered textures and symbolic design.

SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS SCIENCE

It has been an exciting term for science, with the Barn learners busy following the experience of the latest American Antarctica expedition, through one of the on-board scientists. They have used this to find out about the type of animals that inhabit this vast wilderness and get pictures showing the microscopic and generally unseen wildlife which they have found fascinating. The up-close photos of sea ice and icebergs have led to discussions about melting ice caps, global warming and why it is important for us to protect our planet. Seeing before and after photos of polystyrene cups being sunk into the deep ocean has brought home the reality of forces and pressure and they are looking forward to receiving the Stable school's own antarctica cup that has been through this process. They have also seen the sea maps and used the depth numbers to see areas of danger for the ship.



SPRING 1 HIGHLIGHTS SCIENCE



The Gatehouse learners have been busy working towards their qualifications, whether it be GCSE or ELC, with year 11 revision sessions continuing after school every Wednesday - well done to the regular crew that turn up every week. The year 10's have made some bird feeders which they will be hanging up over the 2 sites.

Mental Health week was recognised with the students using science to make slime for their own use and they also found out about the brain and what a fantastic organ it is in our bodies.