THE LEIGH UTC

The Modular Newsletter of The Leigh UTC and Inspiration Academy



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UPCOMING EVENTS

A-Level Results day - 15th August 2024

GCSE Results Day - 22nd August 2024

Open Day - Saturday 21st September 2024

Leigh UTC 10th Anniversary Event -Wednesday 25th September 2024

Post 16 Evening - 16th October 2024

TERM DATES

SUMMER BREAK

19th July 2024 - 2nd September 2024

NEXT TERM - MODULE 1

Start: Monday 2 September 2024 (years 7 & 12 only)

Tuesday 3rd September 2024 (all other years)

Finish: Friday 18th October 2024

KEY VISITS & EVENTS

Read all about our activities and achievements this Module, including our LBC Day, STEAM Week and Sports Days!

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students, Parents, Staff and our wider community,

As we draw the curtain on yet another remarkable academic year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the collective efforts and achievements of our community. It has been a year of growth, learning, and resilience, and we are delighted to share more highlights with you in this Module 6 edition of our magazine.

Firstly, I want to extend my congratulations to our students. Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have been inspiring. Whether you are moving on to further education, entering the workforce, or continuing your journey with us, know that you have made significant strides.

This year, we have seen incredible advancements in our provision, with students participating in numerous competitions, projects and trips that not only showcase their technical skills but also their creativity and innovation. These successes continue to put The Leigh UTC on the map as a beacon of excellence in technical education.

Our partnerships with industry leaders have continued to flourish, providing invaluable opportunities for our students to gain real-world experience. The work placements, internships, and collaborative projects have not only enriched our curriculum but have also helped bridge the gap between education and the professional world, aligned with our mission.

I would also like to acknowledge the unwavering support of our parents and guardians. Your encouragement and involvement play a crucial role in the success of our students. Thank you for being active partners in their education and for entrusting us with their academic and personal development. I am particularly thankful for your contributions to the impressive attendance data which sits considerably above national averages.

As we look forward to the next academic year, which marks a decade since The Leigh UTC was formed in 2014, we are excited about the new opportunities and developments on the horizon. We have plans to enhance our provision further through our Teaching and Learning Drivers, whilst maintaining the now embedded foundations of the professional habits we promote. We will be extending our outreach work to local primary settings in order for more of the community to experience life at the UTC.

Finally, I wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new academic year, refreshed and ready to embark on another journey of discovery and achievement.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Leigh UTC community.

Kind regards,

Kevin Watson Principal, The Leigh UTC



MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF COLLEGE



"SOMETIMES IT IS THE
PEOPLE NO ONE CAN
IMAGINE ANYTHING OF,
WHO DO THE THINGS NO
ONE CAN IMAGINE" - ALAN
MATHISON TURING

ALAN MATHISON TURING - COMPUTER SCIENTIST

Dear Turing College,

As another academic year draws to a close, I take this opportunity to reflect on the remarkable journey we've all shared in Turing college. From the excitement of new beginnings to the culmination of years of dedicated study, this year has been filled with moments of immense pride and accomplishment. Our students continue to inspire us with their academic excellence. We've seen outstanding effort and dedication shown across all subjects.

Beyond academics, our students have shone in co-curricular activities, from winning regional sports competitions to showcasing their talents in the annual musical production. This year has also seen us strengthen our commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive learning environment. We've launched new initiatives focused on mental health and wellbeing, ensuring all students feel valued and empowered to reach their full potential. The dedication of our SSM's has been instrumental in creating this nurturing environment. As we look ahead to the new academic year, we're excited to welcome a new cohort of students and embark on new challenges.

Finally, I want to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our success this year. Thank you to our dedicated staff, for their unwavering commitment to our students' well-being and education. Thank you to our supportive parents and guardians, for your continued partnership in your children's educational journey. And most importantly, thank you to our incredible students, for their hard work, enthusiasm,

and unwavering spirit.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming you back for another year of learning and growth.

Sincerely, Mrs Pamphlett

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF COLLEGE



"AS YOU RATCHET UP, SUCCESS SEEMS LESS UNLIKELY. THE AMBITION WAS ALWAYS THERE BUT THE SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE AND FEASIBILITY OF ACTUALLY ACHIEVING THE AMBITION HAS INCREASED OVER TIME. IT WOULD BE NICE TO BE NUMBER ONE" - EBEN & LIZ UPTON

EBEN AND LIZ UPTON - INNOVATORS

As we reach the end of another academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we have had this year as an academy. This year has been a remarkable testament to the hard work, resilience, and dedication by students, staff, governors and our generous stakeholders. Each one of you have contributed to making this year a success, and this academy. I am immensely proud of all that we have achieved together.

From Year 7 through to Year 11, students have all demonstrated growth, both academically and personally. Their commitment to learning has been evident in the classroom engagement, performances in exams, and the quality of personal and interpersonal growth. The progress you've made is truly commendable, and it's clear that each member of our community has taken significant strides towards their educational goals.

This year, we've celebrated numerous personal, professional and academic successes. Many of our students have excelled in competitions, showcased their talents in projects, and achieved really strong results in national assessments. These accomplishments are a direct reflection of the dedication and the support staff have given to students along the way. It's heartening to see such a strong sense of community and teamwork within our school.

Beyond academics, our growth as an academy has also been evident in the way we have embraced challenges and adapted to new experiences. Whether it was participating in extracurricular activities, volunteering, or taking on leadership roles, members of the UTC community have shown incredible initiative and enthusiasm. These experiences have not only enriched school life but have also prepared our students for future endeavors and life in the work place, which is an essential part of our work at the UTC.

As we look forward to the next academic year, we are encouraged to continue striving for excellence in our community. We remember that every challenge is an opportunity to learn and grow. Thank you all for making this year successful and memorable. Enjoy your well-deserved break, and I look forward to seeing all of you in September, ready to achieve even greater heights. Stay curious, stay motivated, and never underestimate the power of perseverance. Wishing you a restful and enjoyable Summer holiday,



MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF COLLEGE

"Whatever you like, learn about and pursue it...The environment is what you make it" -Yvonne Clark



YVONNE CLARK - ENGINEER

As another academic year draws to a close, I want to extend a heartfelt farewell to our graduating students and a warm welcome to those embarking on their Post-16 journey with us this September. For our departing students, this marks the culmination of years of dedication and hard work. We are incredibly proud of your academic achievements, securing top grades, coveted apprenticeship placements, and university offers at prestigious institutions. You've also impressed us with your commitment beyond the classroom, excelling in co-curricular activities and demonstrating leadership skills. You have all displayed the values of the Leigh UTC in spades. We are so proud of you all.

As a college focus on our post 16 students, we strive to equip you with not just academic excellence but also the essential skills to thrive in the ever-evolving world, our Routes to Success programme continues to help prepare you all for the next step and all of you stepped up and performed at such a high level. These experiences, coupled with your academic foundation, have prepared you for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. To our incoming Post-16 students, we extend a warm welcome. We understand this transition can be exciting and sometimes daunting. Rest assured, our dedicated staff and strong support network are here to guide you every step of the way. We offer a diverse range of courses, from traditional A-Levels to cutting-edge vocational qualifications, ensuring you find the perfect pathway to achieve your goals. We also boast vibrant student life, with clubs, societies, and events that cater to a wide range of interests, fostering a sense of belonging and community. As we look towards the new academic year, we're committed to continuous improvement. We will be further developing our Post 16 provision and continue to invite your invaluable contributions.

This year's success wouldn't be possible without the dedication of our phenomenal teaching staff, who nurture your academic growth and personal development. A special mention to our amazing ladies of Mrs Martin and Mrs Wilton whose positive impact is undeniable. They foster a sense of community within the college and empower each Clark students to reach their full potential.

We also appreciate the unwavering support of our parents and guardians, who have partnered with us throughout your educational journey.

Enjoy some well-deserved summer rest. We are excited to see you again in September.

Best wishes, Mrs Pamphlett, Head of Clark College



PROM





On Friday 21st June we had the pleasure of hosting our Year 11 Prom, it was an amazing evening and a great celebration of the time the students have been at the UTC.

Year 11 had a great time dancing the evening away with a disco, they had soft and non-alcoholic drinks, candy-floss and a barbeque. As part of the entertainment, students could pose with 'Instagram' cardboard cutouts to share photographs and remember special moments with their peers and friends.





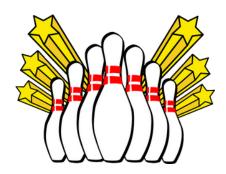






GERMAN AMBASSADORS TRIP





Strike! German Ambassadors Roll into Fun at the Bowling Alley

In Module 5, the German Ambassadors took a playful turn as students traded their textbooks for bowling shoes at the local alley.

This reward trip was a celebration of their support for the German Department throughout the year, providing an opportunity for some friendly competition.

For these German Botschafter, the experience was more than just a fun afternoon; it was a reminder that hard work pays off and that sometimes, the best way to learn and grow is through shared experiences and a bit of good old-fashioned fun.

The German Department would like to extend a big thank you to all the German Ambassadors for their tremendous efforts and contributions throughout the year.

Their dedication has been invaluable, and this event was a token of appreciation for their hard work.



STUDENT CADET CELEBRATES RNLI

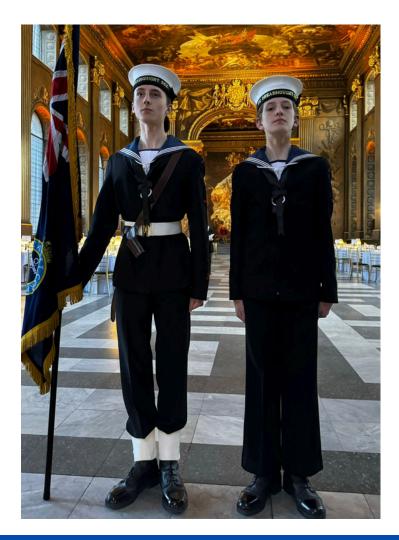
Jasper in Year 9 was in attendance for the 200th anniversary of the RNLI, at the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich when he greeted Princess Anne via salute with his naval cadet branch. The Royal Navy were in attendance to pay tribute to their fellow naval service who are experts in crisis.

The RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) charity celebrated 200 years of saving lives by launching a programme of events across the UK and Ireland, including 'events on your doorstep', a tea and sea shanties day, several exhibitions at their lifeboat museums, a special television program on BBC Antiques Roadshow and a lifeboat flotilla on the Thames.

This amazing charity often relies on volunteers to risk their own lives to save others at all hours, and at any time of the day or night and in all conditions. At first, this public service of volunteers relied upon a handful of benefactors, but with unwavering support of the public, it has evolved and been able to form and fund its own crews, lifeboats and advancing technological equipment to be able to save over 144,000 lives. The RNLI consists of ordinary people doing extraordinary work to man 238 lifeboat stations, watching over 242 beaches and coastlines and thousands of hardworking fundraisers to raise awareness of the fantastic and often dangerous work they do.







LAT SPORTS DAYS



LAT SPORTS DAY - YEARS 7 & 8

On the 9th July we had several of our students compete in the Leigh Academies Trust Y7 & 8 Sports Day and the students performed magnificently.

Our first gold medal of the day went to Y7 Zac in the 1500m!





LAT SPORTS DAY - YEARS 9 & 10

The Year 9 and 10 LAT Sports Day was a huge success with silverware being won by so many of our students.

It was a fantastic day and a big thank you to Dartford Harriers for hosting the event!

The Students at the Leigh UTC were all outstanding over the course of the two events and there have been 10 new academy records set, lots of top 3 finishes and two individual event winners, with Y7 Zac in the 1500m who even beat the year 8-10 record too and Y9 Emilija in her javelin event!

The year 9 boys were close to a top 3 finish overall and the year 10 boys finished second overall out of 16 LAT academies.

LEIGH UTC SPORTS DAY

A Huge Success - Leigh UTC Sports Day 2024!

We are thrilled to share that our Sports Day on 17th July 2024 was a fantastic success!

With the sun shining brightly, creating the perfect backdrop for friendly competition, staff and students gave their all, making it a day filled with excitement and joy! The students wore their college colours face paint and everyone was full of smiles!



<u>Highlights of the Day:</u>

Amazing Athletic Performances: Students from Years 7 - 10 & 12 showcased their talents in various track and field events. We saw some impressive sprints, jumps, and throws, with everyone giving their best effort.



Team Spirit: The competition between colleges was intense yet friendly. It was wonderful to see students supporting each other and celebrating each other's successes.

Fun Run Success: The voluntary fun run for Young Minds was a highlight. Students and staff showed creativity and determination, traveling around the track in imaginative ways. This event not only added to the fun but also helped raise awareness and funds for children's mental health.



Young Minds Fundraiser: We are delighted to announce that the fundraiser for Young Minds was a resounding success. Thanks to your participation and the generous support from friends and family, we raised a significant amount to support children's mental health and well-being. Your efforts will make a real difference in the lives of many young people.

Year Group Winners:

- Year 7: Turing College
- Year 8: Upton College
- Year 9: Turing College
- Year 10: Turing College

The Clark College vs. Staff showdown was a highlight, drawing a large crowd. In a thrilling finish, Year 12 students narrowly edged out the staff. Well done to our overall champions of the 2023-24 Sports Day who was Turing College!

Congratulations to all participants for their incredible effort, support and sportsmanship!



WELLBEING AT THE LEIGH UTC

Wellbeing Wednesday Tip of the Week: Boost Your Mood by Fundraising for Charity!

Students and families received exciting information about The Leigh UTC Sports Day on 17th July at Dartford Harriers Athletics Club.

One of the events was a sponsored fun run, in aid to raise money for *Young Minds Children's Mental Health Charity*.

We are still taking sponsors if you would like to, please scan the QR code or simply search for 'The Leigh UTC' on the JustGiving website.

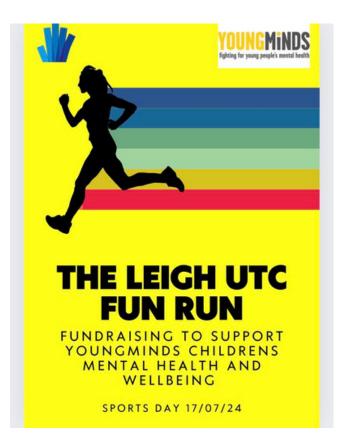
YoungMinds

A mental health charity aimed at improving the mental health support for children, young people and their parents so that every young person has help to prevent their mental health problem reaching crisis point. YoungMinds provide a service where every young person feels seen and heard.

"We're facing a young people's mental health emergency. But here at YoungMinds, we're facing it with hope and optimism. We believe in young people and their ability to change things for themselves and for each other. That's why we aim to connect with as many young people as possible and the trusted adults around them, working with strength, determination and heart to turn the tide on the young people's mental health crisis." - Laura Bunt, Chief Executive at YoungMinds

So far our school has helped to raise £122!





LBC DAY



On 9th July, we hosted our third LBC Day for Years 7 - 10 and it was again very successful, with very positive feedback from students.



Parents were regularly updated with posts on social media and despite some delays with trains and appalling weather, everyone enjoyed their trips!



Students enjoyed various activities at:

Harry Potter Studios
Leeds Castle
Mercedes Benz Museum
Go Ape! Adventure Park
The Old Royal Naval College,
Greenwich
Ninja Warriors!
Mote Park Watersports







DEPARTMENT NEWS - ART

Year 7: have looked at surrealism and hybrid animals. They have been studying the works of surrealist artists such as Salvador Dalí and René Magritte, learning how to blend reality with imagination to create fantastical creatures. Students have engaged in various drawing and painting exercises, experimenting with different media to bring their hybrid animals to life.

Year 8: have been investigating cultural patterns and making various artworks inspired by different traditions and styles. They explored patterns from diverse cultures, including African textiles, Islamic geometric designs. Through this exploration, students created their own culturally-inspired patterns and applied them to a range of projects.

Year 9: have been exploring the theme of identity, looking at artists like Grayson Perry and making responses that reflect their own personal narratives and experiences. Students have delved into self-portraiture, and mixed media works, examining how identity can be expressed through art. They have analysed Perry's use of ceramics and tapestries to tell stories and have created their own pieces that communicate their unique identities and experiences.

Year 10: are currently working on their project "Fragmented" and developing proficiency in various techniques. This project encourages students to explore the concept of fragmentation in both literal and metaphorical senses. They are experimenting with collage, photomontage, and digital manipulation, as well as traditional techniques like painting. The goal is to create complex, layered artworks that explore themes of fragmentation and cohesion.



DEPARTMENT NEWS - DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Our Design & Technology department has been a hive of activity this year, with students across all year groups tackling exciting and challenging projects that honed their creativity, problem-solving, and practical skills. Let's take a whistle-stop tour of some of the year's highlights:

Year 7: Building Block Cityscapes

Year 7 students embarked on a journey to design and create their own miniature cityscapes. They explored urban design principles, learning about scale, layout, and functionality. Using a variety of recycled materials like cardboard boxes and plastic packaging, they brought their unique cityscapes to life, complete with miniature buildings, bridges, and even tiny parks! These desk tidies not only provided a practical solution for organizing school supplies but also showcased their budding design talents.

Year 8: Illuminating Ideas with LED Lighting Projects

Year 8 students delved into the world of electronics with their LED lighting project. They learned about circuits, resistors, and the science behind light-emitting diodes. The challenge was to design and build a functional lighting solution, incorporating LEDs and everyday materials. From desk lamps to mood lighting installations, the final projects demonstrated their grasp of electrical engineering concepts and their ability to translate theory into practical applications.

Year 9: Upcycling Champions

Sustainability took center stage in Year 9's upcycling project. Students were tasked with transforming everyday objects into something new and useful. This project encouraged them to think creatively and consider the environmental impact of our consumption habits. From old t-shirts reborn as tote bags to plastic bottles given a second life as plant pots, the ingenuity and resourcefulness of Year 9 truly shone through.

Year 10: Gearing Up for the NEA

Year 10 students are currently gearing up for their Non-Examined Assessment (NEA), a major project that allows them to showcase their design and technological skills. The NEA provides them with the opportunity to choose a design problem, conduct research, develop prototypes, and create a final product. This year's diverse range of project ideas promises exciting outcomes, from designing and building smartphone accessories to creating innovative furniture solutions.

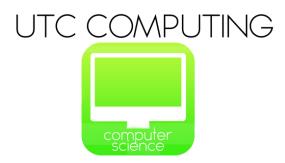
Food for Thought: Culinary Creations Across Year Groups

Our Design & Technology department isn't just about gadgets and gizmos! In the Food area, students across all year groups have been busy developing their culinary skills. From mastering basic knife skills to exploring international cuisines, they've been learning to plan, prepare, and cook a wide range of delicious and nutritious dishes. These valuable life skills will serve them well beyond the classroom, fostering a love for food and the confidence to create healthy and satisfying meals.

This is just a glimpse into the exciting world of our Design & Technology department. We are proud of the dedication and creativity our students have displayed throughout the year.

As we look ahead, we are excited to see what innovative projects and delicious creations await us next year!

DEPARTMENT NEWS - COMPUTING



In Module 6, all KS3 students have been deeply engaged in exploring the use of programming within communities, with a focus on Criteria D - MYP Design.

This module has provided students with valuable learning experiences and the opportunity to achieve significant milestones.

Year 7 students undertook a similar project, developing a program that translates various keywords based on a chosen language. This initiative aimed at fostering communication and collaboration across different languages and linguistic systems, while also reflecting and respecting personal and cultural expressions.

Meanwhile, Year 8 students focused on testing and evaluating a Python program designed to ask a range of questions to the end user, utilizing the selection programming construct. This exercise honed their ability to create interactive and user-responsive software, reinforcing their logical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Year 9 students have delved into the fundamentals of Python, culminating in the creation of a quiz centered around the culture of Mexico. This project not only enhanced their programming skills but also broadened their cultural understanding and appreciation.

Year 10 students have been focusing on sustainability and creating physical systems which will support exploration of E-Waste and Sustainability.

Through these projects, students have not only advanced their technical competencies but have also experienced the benefits of programming practice, such as improved critical thinking, creativity, and cross-cultural communication.

These skills and insights will be invaluable for future development and technological trends.



T - LEVELS OPPORTUNITIES AT THE LEIGH UTC

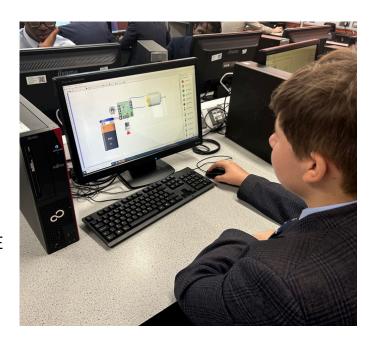
For more information about the T-Levels study programme, please email info@theleighutc.org.uk

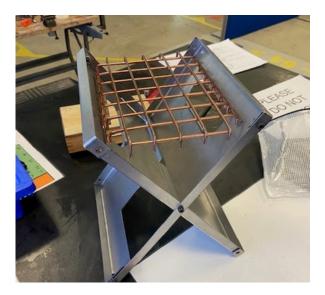
DEPARTMENT NEWS - ENGINEERING



Y10 Engineering students have been completing their final practice project before their main Engineering GCSE Assessment starts. They have been completing a tool makers clamp, which involves a range of skills on Dills, Lathes and Mills as well as heat treatments and oil blackening using the forge.

Y10 Electronics students have been learning how to program circuits and have completed short mini GCSE Style project where they have to put together their own circuit designs and PCB designs in readiness for the beginning their own GCSE project which involves them designing and making a circuit to solve a specific need.





Y12 Btec Engineering. Students have been completing articulated vice designs using secondary machining techniques along with learning about fabrication skills in order to manufacture a barbeque design suitable to be flat-packed into a rucksack for travel.

Y12 T-Level Engineering have completed their 1st Year Core exams and are now undertaking a range of projects for their Occupational Specialism. Such projects involve: Learning how to construct and read CNC drawings, program a CNC lathe, design drawings for laser cutting using CAD and operating both standard and metal laser cutters as well as advanced machining techniques. These are combined to make a small setting hammer along with a holding device for the hammer.



DEPARTMENT NEWS - ENGLISH

As we near the end of the academic year, KS3 are finishing their studies of their English texts.

Year 7 are finishing their study of **Soldier Dog** by Sam Angus. Year 7 have enjoyed learning about the way that war is presented in Literature, and the journey that Stanley has taken throughout the novel.

Year 8 students are finishing their study of *Blood Brothers* by Willy Russell. Year 8 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the play, and understanding the class system in 1960's Liverpool. Well done to Year 8 for being willing to read aloud, and embody the characters.

Year 9 are finishing their study of *Diversity in Literature*. This module, Year 9 students are focusing on short diverse stories, and practising creative writing ahead of the start of their GCSE studies in September. Well done KS3, enjoy the summer holidays, and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Year 10 have had a busy Module 6! At the beginning of the module, Year 10 sat their first set of formal mocks, and did an excellent job in English. They then completed a week of work experience, which we have all loved hearing about! Then, towards the end of the module they completed their Speaking and Listening exams, an essential part of their English GCSE. There were some great, informative presentations for this task. Well done Year 10, enjoy the summer holidays and come back ready to step it up as Year 11! We look forward to seeing you in September.

STUDENT SHOUT-OUTS

Congratulations to Y7's Harry and Kelvin on their award for the highest SparXreader points in English!

SparXreader is a online reading program designed to help raise attainment in reading level, the more electronic books are read, the higher the level and therefore the higher amount of points collected!

They are amongst a small group of students from Y7 and 8 with the highest points out of the whole KS3 cohort.

We are very proud of you all!



DEPARTMENT NEWS - ENGLISH

ENGLISH - LIBRARY LESSONS



"Empower yourself with a good education" -Michelle Obama

Class Book Work

Years 7 - 9 have been progressing very well with their designated class book reading in their Library lessons. As a class, sharing the reading experience is encouraged by reading aloud and following along, with staff also joining in the reading; with much enthusiasm, entertainment and characterisation to help students gauge tone, contextual meaning and language understanding.

Either comprehension questions or a creative writing activity follows based on a scene or discussion point in the chapters which have been read, to help develop understanding of plot narrative, characterisation and literary devices.

A Year 8 student, Alexander, has shown excellent understanding of the novel, *The Lie Tree* in his work here.

- Erasmus yelled at Faith to get her out of his study because the Revenand was clearly tired and trying to hide something. Additionally, Faith and the rest of her family were told to not enter the room where Erasmus was to be studying, as he stated that he did not want to be interrupted.
- The injured boy is the son of Tom Parris, as Faith discovered in Chapter 6. She also made a comment that both of them are
 probably very interested in cockling, which may explain why two of them from the Parris family came to snoop around.
- 3. The 'nocturnal intruder' was just a boy who had been hit by the traps that were laid out before. They were laid out because Erasmus did not want people on his property, and did also not want to be disrupted from his work in his study.
- 4. The doctor explains that the boy retains injuries to his calf which are as a result of the trap. Luckily however, the teeth of the trap missed his bone and did not affect his bones. Although, there is still a risk of infection as the teeth that pierced through the boy's calf were rusty.
- 5. When she finally rests, Faith has a nightmare of her father turning into stone. This is evident as when she attempts to remove moss from her father's face, stonework is released. This nightmare may be trying to foreshadow what may happen later on in the story, which is a metaphor that displays Erasmus slowly crumbling to his death under the pressure, especially as result of the allegations that have been put before him.
- I believe that Faith's dream may be trying to foreshadow an event that may occur soon. In her dream, Erasmus crumbles like a biscuit when he is touched. It may mean that Erasmus feels that he is crumbling under the pressure, which could result in his death. This idea is strengthened even more when Erasmus retreats to his 'study'. His study may be his personal place where he feels safe, as he has made the room a 'sacred' place. It was defined as his study as soon as they entered the house. Additionally, as a result of the allegations that he is facing, Erasmus is scared and has gone into hiding because he fears that the allegations will have, or already have, reached the island.
- 7. Chapter 6 is named 'yellow eyes' because it reflects the main idea of the story. In Faith's dream, she imagines that her father, Erasmus, is turned into a statue of some sort, which gives him yellow eyes. This effect creates an ideology of a condition called, 'jaundice', which is where your eyes turn yellow. It can be caused by drug intake, and tiredness. With this in mind, Erasmus is displayed as extremely tired and under a lot of pressure, which is the summarising idea of the chapter. A motif of pressure, workload and tragedy.

DEPARTMENT NEWS - GEOGRAPHY

Module 6 has been extremely exciting for the year 9s. They have been studying the Uk's coastline. Students are able to relate to landforms that they have seen while traversing the coastline. Identifying and describing how the coastal landforms are actually formed has been very fascinating to students.

Year 8s have been examining the rainforests and the threats they face due to human activities. Utilizing virtual field studies have been extremely beneficial as students are able to see the different features of the forest and identify reasons why they need to be protected.

Year 7s continued to study the world in which we live. and for this module the focus was on the polar biome and the taiga forest. Students were able to identify plants and animals in each biome and the ways in which they have to adapt to their environment. Most importantly they were made to realize that we need change the ways in which things are done in order to save our biomes.

DEPARTMENT NEWS - HISTORY

Module 6 students across all KS3 have been introduced to the ideas of Protest.

Within Year 7 they have been examining the importance of Magna Carta and the first time that a reigning monarch was held to account by his subjects and considering the long term significance of Magna Carta and its role in international laws and regulations since 1215.



Module 6 students across all KS3 have been

introduced to the ideas of Protest. Within Year 7 they have been examining the importance of Magna Carta and the first time that a reigning monarch was held to account by his subjects and considering the long term significance of Magna Carta and its role in international laws and regulations since 1215.

Year 8 started with looking at a political cartoon of the Peterloo Massacre in 1819 as an introduction to life in the 19th century and the negative aspects of the Industrial Revolution on living, working conditions and representation. Now could not be a more important time to introduce students to the importance of representation and the need for a tolerant, democratic society that often we can take for granted and one that ultimately has only been achieved relatively recently with 1918 being the year the franchise was extended to all men and women over the age of 21.

Finally Year 9 have been introduced to the challenging concepts of capitalism and communism within the lens of the 1917 Russian Revolution. Students are examining what Marx's ideas were and being encouraged to explore the positives and negatives of it. This theme is of vital importance if we are to create students who are global citizens, who are members of society that should engage and participate in all aspects especially that of the democratic process. Leaving school with a strong understanding that they can affect change within this country as so many have done before them and a recognition of their role in society as active citizens rather than subjects. Our freedom and democracy are precious and we must never take it for granted. 20

DEPARTMENT NEWS - MATHS

Maths Euros Project - STEAM Week

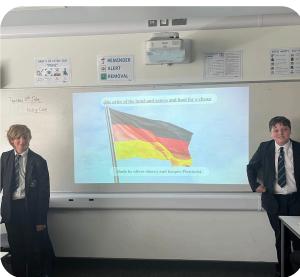
It's Coming Home... but at what cost?

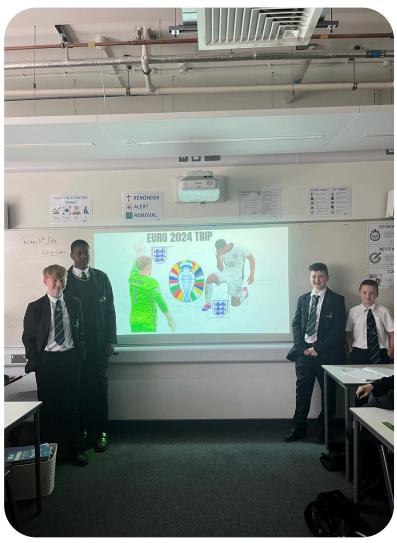
During STEAM week our KS3 students were tasked with working out how much it would cost to support England In Germany. The scenario presented was that they would need to stay in Deutschland throughout the group stages and knockouts factoring in costs spanning: transport, excursions, tickets, accommodation, food and any souvenirs that may take their fancy.

We had some truly fantastic presentations with football and non-footballing fans immersing themselves in their virtual German trip. Some were so good in fact that they were keen to present their findings and the associated costs. We had trips ranging from a few hundred Euros to about 575 million Euros!

A massive well done to all the students involved, the Maths team were really impressed with the initiative and mathematical skill on display.







DEPARTMENT NEWS - PHYSICAL EDUCATION



ATHLETICS

Throughout this module, Athletics training has been a focus. District Sports was a great hit despite the rain and the wind!

Year 7 Zac won the gold in the 1500m race, year 10 Kamsy also won his 400m event, along with winning the bronze in the javelin.

Jordan and Gabriel both took the silver in the shot put and Alfie also won silver in his 800m race.



We were superb in the relays, qualifying for three of the final's but unfortunately we were unable to compete as the weather took a turn and the finals had to be cancelled.

Thank you to all of the students who competed, you all did the UTC proud and were even more excited for the LAT Sports Day competitions coming up on Tuesday 9th July for year 7 & 8 students and Friday 12th July for year 9 & 10 students.

This was all in good preparation for the UTC Sports Day on the 17th July, which was held at Dartford Harriers Athletics

track!

POST 16 SUPPORT

We have been working closely with DBCPS lately and a collection of year 9, 10 and 12 students supported Dartford Bridge Community Primary School in the running of their sports days.

Our students could not speak highly enough of the DBCPS students and how much fun they had working with them.

We look forward to continually working together with DBCPS in the future.

Well done to every student who volunteered to support and to all the primary students who participated.





DEPARTMENT NEWS - SCIENCE

This module on 3rd July, it was with great pleasure that we welcomed 6 students to the UTC for their transition day sessions in science.

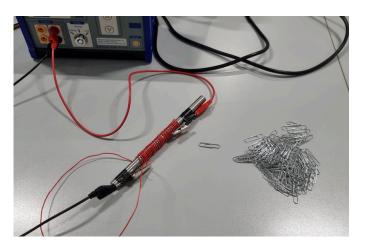
In the sessions it was clear we have some keen scientists joining us from September as they immediately began solving the mystery of the missing robot.

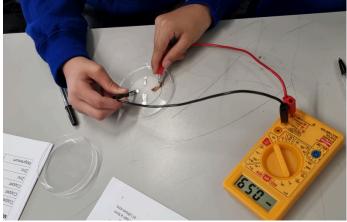
The students used the collected evidence from around the

UTC to locate the robot. This involved creating an electromagnet and modifying it to see how powerful the magnet could be made by increasing the number of coils:

Students also investigated battery spillages and identified the spillage most likely from the missing robot:

Finally the students tried (some succeeded) to create their own electric motors! Elon musk here we come!





LEGO SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT PROJECT

"STEAM is an acronym that encompasses the key subjects in education: science, technology, engineering, art, and maths" - BRAINSPACE MAGAZINE

STEAM week has seen our Year 7 complete a Lego Sustainability and Environment Project.



Their brief was to research, design and build an urban park, meeting key sustainability goals.

There were some creative and well-constructed efforts as you can see in the structures here!





DEPARTMENT NEWS - STEAM WEEK



GENERAL ELECTION

As part of STEAM week, Year 8 have been working extremely hard participating in a parallel general election.

This has included the students being given many different roles and responsibilities, including party leader, speech writers, media journalists and advisors.

The groups have been receiving live video updates and then composing tweets to promote their party in an attempt to win the election.

Y7 students were being educated on the election and what they can do even if they are not old enough to vote. Tips and ideas that they had been discussing as to how to stay informed are via the news or social media to start to form opinions and to use a range of sources to form a well educated opinion.

MYP COMMUNITY PROJECTS







Y9 worked extremely hard all week, planning and preparing the exhibition of their community projects as part of their graduation in which their families were invited to attend. Winning students were presented with a certificate, a trophy, UTC badge and an Amazon voucher.

Their projects were wide ranging, each focusing on a subject or topic close to their hearts, including endangered animals, micro-plastics, aqua-marine life, carbon footprints, drones, renewable energy, prejudice in society, education in underdeveloped countries and racism in football.





DEPARTMENT NEWS - STEAM WEEK



















XC CLUBS AT THE LEIGH UTC

For updates about the XC Clubs please follow us on our social media feeds!

@theleighutc

Module 6 Review: Another Triumph for Leigh UTC's Extra Curricular Program

A Stellar Success in Module 6

As we wrap up Module 6 of the academic year, it is with great pride and excitement that we reflect on another incredibly successful module for Leigh UTC's extra curricular program. This period has been marked by the introduction of innovative new clubs and outstanding activities that have further enriched our students' experiences.

New Clubs Take Flight

Two notable additions to our club lineup this module were the Engineering and Electronics Clubs. These clubs have quickly become student favorites, offering hands-on learning experiences and opportunities to delve into the fascinating world of technology and design. Students have been engaged in projects ranging from building simple circuits to designing complex mechanical systems, fostering both creativity and technical skills.

Basketball Excellence with Coach Sten

We were also thrilled to welcome Coach Sten from the Dartford Tigers Basketball Club, who has led some truly amazing basketball sessions. Under his expert guidance, students have developed their skills, learned new techniques, and embraced the spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship. Coach Sten's enthusiasm and professional insights have greatly enhanced our sports program, and we are grateful for his contributions.

Continued Growth and Engagement

The success of Module 6 is a testament to the ongoing growth and engagement within our extra curricular program. The consistent rise in attendance and participation reflects the hard work and dedication of our students, staff, and volunteers. Our Year 12 and 13 students continue to play a crucial role, offering their support and leadership in various clubs, which has been invaluable in maintaining the high standards of our activities.

Looking Ahead

As we look forward to the next module, we are excited to build on this momentum. Plans are already in motion to expand our club offerings and bring in more expert-led sessions. Our goal remains to provide a diverse, enriching, and inclusive environment where every student can pursue their passions and develop new skills.



XC CLUBS AT THE LEIGH UTC

For updates about the XC Clubs please follow us on our social media feeds!

@theleighutc

A Community Effort

The success of Module 6 would not have been possible without the collective effort of our entire Leigh UTC community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved—students, staff, volunteers, and external partners like Dartford Tigers Basketball and Dartford Football Club. Your contributions have been instrumental in making our extra curricular program a cornerstone of the Leigh UTC experience.

Join the Journey

We encourage all students to get involved and take advantage of the wonderful opportunities available. Whether you're interested in engineering, electronics, sports, or any other activity, there's something for everyone. Let's continue to make The Leigh UTC a place where learning, creativity, and fun thrive together.

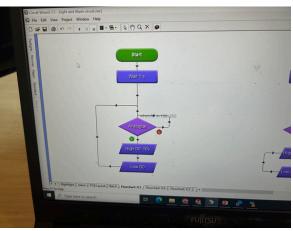
Here's to the continued success and exciting adventures in the modules ahead!

The Leigh UTC Academy Team

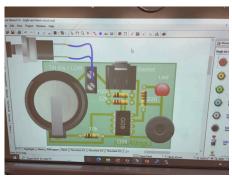












BASKETBALL CLUB

JOIN US ON THURSDAYS AT 3.15PM IN THE SPORTS HALL!

Special Training Sessions with Coach Sten

We are thrilled to share the exciting developments from this module at the Leigh UTC Basketball Club. We were fortunate to have Coach Sten from the Dartford Tigers Basketball team come in and lead a few sessions for us. His expertise and enthusiasm have been incredibly beneficial, providing our players with top-tier training and inspiration.

A Boost in Preparation

Coach Sten's sessions have significantly boosted our preparation and skill levels. His experience with the Dartford Tigers has brought a fresh perspective and new techniques that our players have eagerly absorbed. From advanced drills to strategic gameplay, the training has been both challenging and rewarding.

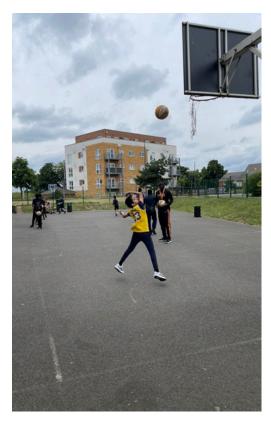


Looking Forward to a Full Term

These sessions with Coach Sten were just the beginning. We are excited to announce that he will be joining us for a full term next year. This extended collaboration promises even more growth and development for our team. We are confident that with Coach Sten's guidance, we will reach new heights and achieve remarkable progress. Do not forget to sign up to next years sessions as places are going fast. Full details will go out again once we return in September.



We want to thank all our players for their dedication and hard work during these special training sessions. Your commitment to improving and your enthusiasm for learning have truly shone through. It's this spirit that makes our club strong and united.



Exciting Times Ahead

As we look forward to a full term with Coach Sten, we are filled with anticipation and excitement. The future of Leigh UTC Basketball Club looks bright, and we are eager to continue this journey with all of you. Thank you for your continuous support and participation. Let's keep striving for excellence and making the most of every opportunity to grow and succeed together.



GERMAN CLUB

JOIN US ON MONDAYS AT 3.15PM IN A2.02!





Celebrating Linguistic Excellence: The Leigh UTC Shines in Languagenut Competition!

This year, the German Department at The Leigh UTC has taken centre stage, competing against several schools. Our students have triumphed in a prestigious *Languagenut* competition, showcasing their exceptional language skills and dedication. The atmosphere is one of immense pride and joy as we reflect on the journey and achievements of our students. The competition saw students engaging with a language app, designed to test and enhance their proficiency in German and demonstrating their linguistic capabilities. Their hard work and determination have paid off spectacularly, earning The Leigh UTC a trophy.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to every student who participated in the competition. Your enthusiasm and perseverance lead to extraordinary achievements. To commemorate this outstanding accomplishment, a special award ceremony was held.

The highlight of the event was the presentation of a trophy, a symbol of our students' hard-earned success. In recognition of their exceptional performance, the highest-scoring students were invited to a delightful German breakfast. This special gathering celebrated their achievements with a culinary experience that offered a taste of German culture. Students enjoyed an array of traditional German delicacies, including pretzels, German bread rolls with a selection of German cheese, ham and salami, fostering an appreciation for the culture behind the language they excelled in.

ENGINEERING CLUB



Module 6 saw he launch of our engineering club to give KS3 students a choice to work with Post 16



The Engineering Club's inaugural workshop session today marked a promising start to an innovative mentorship program.

Year 12 students took on the role of instructors, guiding their younger peers from Years 7 and 8 through the process of designing and manufacturing a screwdriver.

The workshop buzzed with enthusiasm as students collaborated on CAD designs, familiarising themselves with digital tools that bring their ideas to life.



At the lathes, careful demonstrations ensured safe operation while forming techniques were introduced, sparking curiosity about metalworking. This hands-on approach not only imparts practical skills but also fosters leadership and communication abilities in the older students.



As the project progresses, it's expected to inspire a new generation of engineers and showcase the power of peer-led learning in STEM education.



CODING CLUB



Coding Club is a hub to explore the excitement and complexities of coding to help students gain an understanding of the developing technology of our world



The Leigh UTC - Coding Club

Our club is a hub for students to explore the exciting world of coding and robotics through hands-on projects and collaborative learning.

LEGO Projects: Building the Future

Our younger members are diving into the world of engineering and design with LEGO. These projects are not just about assembling blocks; they involve complex problem-solving and innovative thinking. Students learn to build and program LEGO robots, creating everything from automated machines to interactive models. This engaging approach helps them understand the fundamentals of mechanics, electronics, and programming in a fun and accessible way.

Python Activities: Empowering Year 9 Students

For our Year 9 students, the club offers a deeper dive into programming with Python. This powerful and versatile language is perfect for young coders to develop their skills. Through a series of structured activities and projects, they learn to write code, debug programs, and create applications.

Why Join Us?

- Hands-On Learning: Our projects are designed to be interactive and engaging, making complex concepts easier to grasp.
- Collaborative Environment: Students work together, share ideas, and help each other, fostering a supportive learning community.
- Real-World Skills: The skills gained in our club are directly applicable to future academic and career opportunities in technology and engineering.

BADMINTON CLUB

Badminton Club fosters enjoyment, skill development and sportsmanship

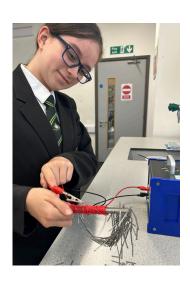


Despite a few initial interruptions, the students have thoroughly enjoyed their badminton sessions, working in teams and honing their skills. The enthusiasm and camaraderie have been great to see, and the experience has been both fun and educational. Looking ahead, we are excited to announce the prospect of forming a badminton league in the next academic year. This league will involve friendly competition with other schools within our trust, providing students with the opportunity to further develop their abilities, engage in healthy competition, and foster a sense of community across institutions.

STEM CLUB



Stem Club is a unique experience to experiment and understand the science of past, present and future



"As a Stem club participant I have seen multiple unique types of experiments and contraptions that I was able to experience when I go to stem club, In stem club we try to create the best possible things to the highest extent that the school can offer, some of the experiments stem club holds can be highly interesting and it can enhance your knowledge of different types of science around the world.

Please remember we try our best to make sure you have the best possible time at the stem club and that it is highly enjoyable for all.

At stem club the things we do include, creating our own electromagnet with an iron rod with coils and a machine which safely sends a certain amount of volts through the coils which makes the rod magnetic, which can therefore hold up any magnetic item, we also learnt about different kinds of circuits, what the component symbols are & what they mean and how the components work. Another thing we did was how we were able to use a plug and unscrew it to reconnect the wires into the correct place which was very fun and it was a challenge to see if we could expand our critical thinking, if you want to try and see if you can accomplish some of these challenges or just have a fun time at stem club" - Naomi, Year 8.

LIBRARY CLUB

Library Club encourages an inclusive environment, cherishing the treasures of story-telling and imagination to keep reading enabling the skills to become the creative and analytical leaders of tomorrow



Homework catch-ups, puzzles, word-searches, crosswords and independent reading!

Module 6 has mainly focused on dedicating time to catch up on homework to lighten the load at home, whilst many students have enjoyed endeavouring to solve cross-word puzzles on various subjects, such as England's history trivia and Shakespeare. A very good attempt was made as some of these were quite difficult! Puzzles are extremely beneficial calming exercises but also help develop problem-solving, sequencing and logistic pattern skills whilst practising general knowledge skills.

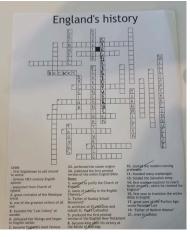
Students also enjoyed time to independently read a book of their choice to gain the benefits of reading and the escapism it affords us all either in a physical book or listening book app via KCC Libraries. Some students are gradually reading their way through the recommended reading lists displayed in the library!

The Library remains an open, safe and inclusive environment for all who wish to escape into a good book or a magazine.



Why not try to read something new?









ATTENDANCE

100% Attendance Reward



All of our students with 100% attendance joined in on a game of glow-in-the-dark dodgeball in the sports hall, organised by @glowinthedarkdodgeballparties. It was a special and enjoyable experience for everyone after their dedication throughout the school year. They also had the opportunity to prepare lunch in our food tech room and savor the delicious results of their hard work. Attendance at school is so important to children's development, their attainment and to help build social and professional working relationships for a bright and confident future.















ATTENDANCE





Important changes to the rules regarding penalty notices for unauthorised school absences.

The Department for Education has recently updated the regulations under the Education Act 1996. Please take note of the following key points:

Unauthorised Leave taken prior to 19 August 2024 (this academic year 2023-2024)

A penalty notice issued for any potential offense that begins prior to the 19 August 2024, will be issued under the existing rules:

- (a) be charged at £120 if paid within 28 days from the date of issue, and £60.00 if paid within 21 days, per parent/carer, per child.
- (b) not count towards the escalation (whereby a second penalty notice within 3 years is charged at a flat rate of £160 and there is a limit of 2 penalty notices within 3 years) and
- (c) should be issued in line with existing Local Authority thresholds for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Unauthorised Leave that begins on or after 19 August 2024

- (a) charged at £160.00 if paid within 28 days from the date of issue, and £80.00 if paid within 21 days, per parent/carer, per child.
- (b) count towards the escalation, (whereby a second penalty notice within 3 years is charged at a flat rate of £160 and there is a limit of 2 penalty notices within 3 years)
- (c) be issued in line with the new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions in 10 weeks.

Important note: If leave was applied and declined for the 2023-2024 academic year, but is taken after August 19, 2024, it will be subject to the new penalty notice charges.

These changes will take effect from 19th August 2024. As always, we strongly encourage regular attendance to ensure your child receives the full benefits of their education. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or need support, please don't hesitate to contact our attendance officer.

For more detailed information on these changes, please see the Department for Education's website:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65f1b048133c22b8eecd38f7/Working_together_to_i mprove_school_attendance_applies_from_19_August_2024_.pdf

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining high attendance standards at our school.

WELLBEING AT THE LEIGH UTC

YOU CAN FOLLOW
US ON SOCIAL
MEDIA

ATHELEIGHUTC



Each module, staff are given a 'Wellbeing Wednesday', where sessions are offered by either a member of staff or an external company, for any member of the UTC to participate in if they wish to. Staff are also given the opportunity to leave at an earlier time to focus on something they enjoy to maintain that healthy work life balance.

Our social media platforms include a Wellbeing Wednesday 'tip of the week' for any of our followers to try. These are directed at staff and students, but can be taken up by any member of the UTC community and are also shared weekly for staff in the bulletin.

Below are a few examples of what we have focused on this module via *Action for Happiness*, who promote a monthly calendar of daily happiness and kindness tips, including:

- 'Joyful June' includes tips to help become happier, kinder and together for you and the community.
- 'Jump Back Up July' includes tips to help manage worries, self-doubt and turn a negative into a positive when things go wrong.
- 'Wellbeing Wednesday Tip of the Week: Boost your mood by Fundraising for Charity' tips on how supporting a charity can benefit our own wellbeing.
- 'Altruistic August' includes tips to help spread kindness not just beyond the community but around the world!

Sources of Support:

Mind: Telephone number: 0300 123 3393

mind

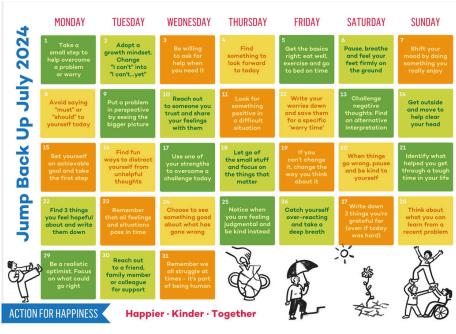
Remploy: This is a confidential service offering advice and support for mental health issues, anxiety and stress at work. Telephone number: 0300 456 8114

Samaritans: Offer emotional support 24 hours a day via a listening service, in full confidence. Call 116 123.

WELLBEING AT THE LEIGH UTC

'Joyful June' includes tips to help
become happier,
kinder and together
for you and the
community.





'Jump Back Up July' includes tips to help
manage worries, selfdoubt and turn a
negative into a positive
when things go wrong.

'Altruistic August' includes tips to help
spread kindness not just
beyond the community but
around the world!

Try some of these things over the summer!



CONTACT US

Thank you to all the students, staff and families in our UTC community for supporting us through another successful module. If you have any feedback please do not hesitate to contact us on any of the following platforms.

> THE LEIGH UTC, THE BRIDGE DEVELOPMENT, BRUNEL WAY, DARTFORD, KENT. **DA1 5TF** PHONE: 01322 626600 EMAIL: WWW.INFO@THELEIGHUTC.ORG.UK

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS?

Should you wish to discuss any concerns with your child's learning, the first point of contact should be your child's Form Tutor or their Student Services Manager. To get in touch, use; info@theleighutc.org.uk

The SEND Team can be contacted directly via the email address; SEND@theleighutc.org.uk

ADMISSIONS

For information regarding admissions please email; admissions@theleighutc.org.uk

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us to stay updated on news, events and other fun activities going on at The Leigh UTC on our social media feeds!







@theleighutc