



# SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

What we've been up to this month.....



On May 14<sup>th</sup>, staff from **Think Forensic** were welcomed back to Cygnet Bury. Following a visit from the team last year and how much it was enjoyed by our cohort, Excel and Exceed played host to an investigation of a crime scene within our very own school! The crime was the theft of a school laptop. In order to solve the crime, activities included an explanation of the types and importance of forensics, investigating the crime scene, dusting for fingerprints, collecting fibres, soil deposits and clothing and footprint casting.

Following an exploration into the collected evidence, it was concluded that there were three suspects, these being Lauren, Shaneela and Charlie being amongst them. When the interviews were conducted, it appeared that each suspect had an alibi, but not all of them had told the truth! It came to light that the laptop had been stolen by none other than Charlie- his hair and fingerprints having been found at the scene.

It is due to the hard work of all of our detectives that we were able to come to the conclusion of who dunnit- well done everybody!



The world of work is becoming increasingly complex and the current generation of young people face significantly greater challenges than preceding generations in making informed decisions about the training and education routes to follow in pursuit of emerging career ambitions.



So a **careers day** was held by Summit School by a specialist advisor, which was full of aspiration activities, where students were focussing on their future careers. This day focused on enabling students to self-reflect, plan future goals, challenge some of their career misconceptions and mostly enjoy the day with a careers specialist. The students were able to participate in questionnaires which helped them to identify their skills and future goals.

What young people really need, especially at our school, is the chance to improve their soft skills, and having the confidence to speak about themselves. Which may not be the direct reason for this event but a lot of our students rarely get the chance to speak to adults outside of their teachers and parents. So having someone in asking them questions about their ambitions really encouraged that.

The Career day gave students an up-close-and-personal view of an array of occupations, especially ones they have never heard of. The aims were to broaden their perspectives beyond the classic occupations, familiar jobs such as teacher or Policeman. They also were learning what skills and education are required for the industries and fields they have interest in and have the potential aptitude for and have the opportunity to ask questions.

All students enjoyed the day and all those who attended felt inspired and motivated.



Excel and Exceed have spent a half term learning about the **life cycle of butterflies - tying in with our termly theme of 'time.'**

We started off with caterpillars that we ordered from Insect Lore. These came in a little plastic tub with all the nutrients that the caterpillars would need to grow in the bottom of it. As the caterpillars grew fatter, they produced silk which was later used by them to spin their chrysalises.

Following a period of the chrysalises hardening, they were removed- very delicately- from the tub and placed into the butterfly garden. From here, the butterflies emerged from their chrysalises where they were kept for a short period and provided with fruit such as oranges in order for them to strengthen to be released.

The full process took approximately 3 weeks and we are hoping to complete the process once more due to the interest that the caterpillar/butterflies have provoked amongst our pupils.

