



Issue 27 | January/ February 2023

**W**elcome to the January edition of our newsletter for Year 7 parents (and Y5 and 6 prospective parents). In this newsletter discover exciting, engaging and challenging Year 7 lessons. You can find out more detail about the key learning in each curriculum area by exploring the 'Year 7 Curriculum Overviews' in student planners and on our school website.

Don't forget that you can find a copy of this newsletter-and previous editions-on our school website: <https://www.ponthigh.org.uk/parents-carers/y6-transition-information/>. For regular updates on our Y7 achievements and successes, follow us on twitter @Y7PontHigh.



## Year 7 Curriculum

Year 7 have been engaged in some fantastic learning in the spring term. Here are just a few lesson highlights!

In PE, a group of students have been working together building team work skills with Cyra from the Newcastle United Foundation. Here they are pictured participating in high-speed corridor bowling!

English has been packed with drama this term as students began studying Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and looking at how a love potion causes chaos in the forests of ancient Athens!

Exploring different mixtures has been the focus in Science which has led to some very interesting and fun practicals in lessons. In Music, learners have enjoyed exploring rhythm and pulse and, in Computing, they have begun to explore the concept of algorithms.

Our artists have been analysing work inspired by water; our Geographers have been exploring the Middle East and our Historians have studied the British Empire.



In French lessons, Year 7 students have been learning to express their opinions; in Ms Howell's lesson they were practising their new vocabulary for 'mes opinions' in a game of 'jetez la grenouille'!







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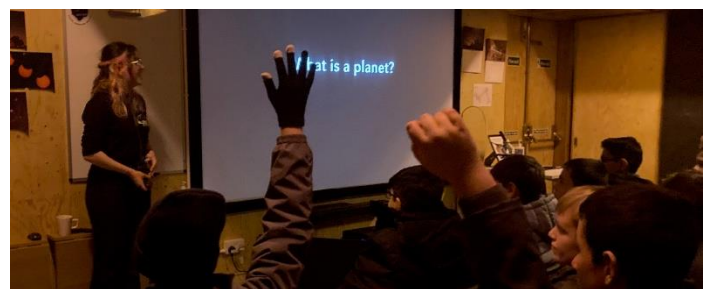
## RSHE: Respectful Relationships



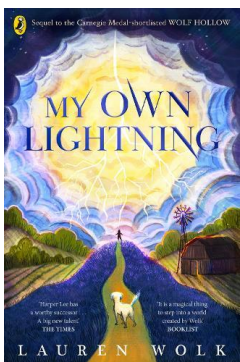
In RSHE this term, students spent time discussing and exploring the concept of peer pressure as part of the ongoing theme of 'Respectful Relationships.' Students have been considering healthy relationships with friends and exploring the skill of communication.

## Space Club Visit to Local Observatory

On 31<sup>st</sup> January, 'Space Club' visited Kielder Observatory for a late evening event on astronomy. Although the weather prevented any star gazing, the students were fascinated by the talks and presentations which covered many of the wonders of space that can be observed through telescopes at the observatory. Mr Warland (Assistant Headteacher) who runs the school Space Club said 'this was an excellent opportunity to see astronomy in action and bring to life many of the topics that we have discussed in Space Club sessions'. For the students the complementary warm hot chocolate was also a highlight! The following day, astronomer Adam Shore from Kielder Observatory visited the school to give a talk on Space Rocks to Y7 and 11 attendees of the school's Space Club. The talk was thoroughly enjoyed by students who got the opportunity to handle a number of meteorites and ask lots of questions to a professional scientist.



## KS2-3 Recommended Read



If you enjoy books about animals, I'd recommend this story! An ideal read for Y5-8 students.

**My Own Lightning** Lauren Wolk

Annabelle is caught in a wild and sudden summer storm - and struck by lightning. She wakes with a memory: a fist, pounding on her heart, bringing her back to life. But there is no sign of whoever saved her, and Annabelle cannot understand who would do such a thing and then flee. To her surprise, Annabelle's brush with lightning leaves her with a strange and beautiful gift: an uncanny connection with the animals around her, and an ability to understand their deepest fears and feelings. And when several newcomers arrive in her life - as well as a figure from the past - Annabelle must use her heightened senses to discover the truth about them all.