MCA TODAY

THE SCIENCE EDITION

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE MOMENT?

YEAR 7

Year 7 have recently finished their topic on atoms and the periodic table, developing their understanding of elements, compounds and the structure of matter. This half term, they will begin a new unit on mixtures and separation techniques.

YEAR 8

Year 8 are finishing their topic on magnetism, exploring magnetic fields, electromagnets and their uses in everyday life. They will then move on to a new unit focused on how to improve health in Manchester, linking science to real-world issues within their local community.

YEAR 9

Year 9 are currently exploring topics in greater depth across the three science disciplines. In Biology, they are studying what humans need to survive; in Chemistry, they are learning about states of matter and mixtures; and in Physics, they are investigating forces and motion.

YEAR 11

Year 11 are currently completing their second set of PPEs (mock exams). We wish them the very best of luck and commend them for their hard work and preparation.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

British Science Week begins on 9th March. Throughout the week, Year 7 and 8 pupils will take part in a variety of exciting, science-focused activities within their lessons, designed to spark curiosity and celebrate the impact of science in the world around us. From stepping into the role of a palaeontologist for the lesson to becoming detectives investigating the truths and myths behind science and mythology, students will have the opportunity to explore science in engaging and imaginative ways.

FAMILY FOCUS

Science homework is set for all pupils in every year group through the Tassomai app. Completing 100% of their weekly goal is highly beneficial to their education, as the content is carefully linked to what is being taught in lessons and helps to prepare students for upcoming tests and exams. We kindly ask that parents and carers encourage their child to engage regularly with the app and complete their weekly goals to support their progress in Science.

BOOKS WE'RE LOVING THIS WEEK

Here are some amazing, Science related reads that we recommend, all available at the MCA Library:

A Wrinkle in Time – Madeleine L'engle
Frankenstein – Mary Shelley
Cosmic – Frank Cottrell-Boyce

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

A group of Year 10 students will be
Mr Chatterton is the KS3 Lead in Science. He is currently reading Glorious Exploits by Ferdia Lennon. It's a darkly funny historical novel about two Sicilians staging a Greek play with prisoners of war. Mr Chatterton says it's witty, moving, and well worth reading.

CELEBRATIONS

Year 7 Science – Future Rocket Engineers in the Making!

Year 7 have begun an exciting engineering project focused on designing their own bottle rockets. At this stage, students are carefully planning and developing their ideas, thinking like real aerospace engineers. They have been exploring how shape, materials and fin design affect how a rocket travels through the air. Pupils are applying their knowledge of forces and air resistance to create detailed designs, explaining why certain shapes may be more aerodynamic and stable than others. As part of their research, students have been learning about real rocket missions, including the work of NASA and the historic Apollo 11 lunar landing. This has inspired some ambitious and creative designs! The quality of ideas, labelled diagrams and scientific reasoning has been fantastic. We are looking forward to seeing these designs come to life in the coming weeks.