

Psychology

Pupils' Psychology Experience

Ellen Whiteside and Susie Black

We began our journey into Psychology, the study of the mind and behaviour in 2020. The first element of this fascinating subject that we learnt about was how psychologists design and conduct research. This was followed by the topic we all looked forward to: psychopathology, which gave insight into psychological disorders: from the characteristic traits and explanations of OCD to the experiences of people who have a phobia of beans!

However, before we knew it, we were plunged into yet another dreaded lockdown. Classrooms were once again swapped for bedrooms and uniforms for cozy sweats. Nevertheless, one thing remained steadfast- our psychology lessons. Mrs Duke ensured we didn't fall behind in our learning and was dedicated in continuing to teach us online. Each day, we tuned into zoom, where we were greeted by the smiling faces of our fellow classmates, Mrs Duke and occasionally one of her adorable pets!

Throughout lockdown we learnt about and discussed numerous concepts, such as the effects of social influence on behaviour, models of memory and the factors that affect the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.



This gave our days meaning by providing us with new and intriguing ideas to consider; as well as quite a few homeworks to keep our brains stimulated.

That said, we were thankful to return to a state of somewhat normality in May and be back in the school building. Just when we thought things couldn't get any more interesting, we had our first glimpse of parenthood. Using sharpies we brought eggs to life by drawing cute little faces on them and giving them names. We then faithfully

brought them to school every day, and photographed them out and about. Over time, these became more than just shells; they became like our children! This experience undoubtedly taught us a lot about Attachment Theory.

Despite a turbulent year, we have thoroughly enjoyed delving into the extensive subject that is Psychology. We look forward to what our A Level year has in store, and to many more tea and coffee sessions on Friday afternoons with the lovely Mrs Duke.

