

Design and Technology

Morning 2021

Design and Technology is in our curriculum. From the lessons that we have had in school so far, we have learnt basic cooking skills, we have had a glimpse at the woodwork sector and we have learnt how to design a wide variety of products such as dresses, tote bags, buildings and products that you would find at home. I could never have imagined that so many careers can be created from design and technology until this morning.

Zoë Hillyard

Firstly, I was allocated to room 31 where Mrs Hillyard presented herself and her career through some PowerPoint slides. Mrs Hillyard is a textiles designer; she has a degree in embroidery and has become a knitwear designer. She expressed her passion for traveling and has previously worked in Mongolia, helping communities to develop yak knitting yarn. Currently she creates ceramic patchwork which are displayed in galleries.



Mrs Hillyard showed us some of her recent creations and later on helped us understand her no waste moto. Not only does she create lovely pieces of work but she creates them out of unwanted products. She goes to charity shops buying previously owned ceramics that can be turned into something new: like artwork. Mrs Hillyard is also a Senior Lecturer at

Birmingham City University teaching students on the BA Textile Design Course. She is an inspiration to many and creates beautiful pieces of art.

Alex Hellum

Next, we went on to meet Mr Hellum. He is a furniture designer and creates great products that can be a huge help in everyday life. Mr Hellum thinks outside the box and he is inspired by people's everyday activity. He closely studies people's or animal's behaviour and creates a product that they would enjoy. For example, he was inspired by his dog to create a special chair that the dog would enjoy to sleep on.



Mr Hellum is also a Lecturer in Product Design at Kingston University. His work is appreciated by a huge number of people and his products are sold worldwide.

Warren Malkin

Later on, we visited Mr Malkin. He is a shoe designer. He has a degree in Mixed-Media Textiles and is an expert in product development. Through his business, Pencil Led Design, he has worked for brands such as Merrell and Caterpillar. Mr Malkin has travelled to factories in China to oversee their development into production. He uses found materials to create one-off pieces and loves to draw. His products are amazing and many members of the public love them.

Kelly Scanlon

Mrs Scanlon was actually a student of Presdales from 1991-1998. She did her A-Levels in Performing Arts, History and Film Studies. She managed to get her degree in American History and Politics although she originally wanted to go into journalism. During University Mrs Scanlon developed a love for fashion and at the end of her final year she started to go for interviews for entry level buying jobs. She started at River Island as a Buyers Admin, cleaning floors, hanging samples, filling paperwork....



This was not what she had in mind. She was one of the only people there without a fashion degree. This didn't change her progress to get to Buyer. These days a lot of retailers would expect a fashion degree background. Finally, she managed to change her chances and could transfer her skills into interiors, furniture's, beauty and free clothes!

The GSK team

Finally, we had a teams meeting with the GSK team; live. We met Kathy Freeman who is an Early Talent Manager, Victoria Dormand who is a graduate and works in Respiratory Technology, Deanna Butler who is also a graduate and works in Tablet Production, Digital

Projects and Engineering and lastly Charlotte Lucock who is an apprentice and works in the engineering sector.



They are all from the GSK pharmaceutical supply chain site- working together to manufacture and supply inhalers and tablets to patients across the world. Their aim is to make people's lives with breathing problems better.

I could never have imagined that Design and Technology could offer so many advantages. This was a great opportunity to meet so many people and learn about their careers.

By Nefeli Tsamili 9JC