Jamie Coombs - Javascript project documentation

Design decisions

I decided to have a central navigation bar across the top of my webpage. The navigation bar is the same on every page to allow users 1-click access to all pages on the website, saving them from having to go down deep paths to get to places. I also opted for a colour scheme that would be consistent across the website, a mix of reds, whites and pinks. This scheme can be found on all pages and is also consistent across the banner. I have then used white text to really make the text easy to read and pop on the webpage.
Most of the pages have the same lay out with text on one side and an image on the other. This makes the pages read nicely from up to down whilst having some images to the side so that it doesn't look like a large block of text across the whole page. The gallery and contact pages are designed differently as having them centred fitted the functionality of the pages better.

Development process

I started initially with doing a quick sketch of how I wanted the webpage to be designed. I was fairly set on having a banner at the top with the navigation bar under it as this is a style of website I see often that I like. I then drew a couple of ideas for page layouts and toyed with a couple of designs for the gallery before setting on what would be my final design.I then created the banner as this would be the centre pieces of the website, and gathered up some images from the internet and took some myself of my own axolotl tank. I also did some research and drafted out a few of the page texts so they would be ready to be implemented on the website.

Once the design and resource gathering was completed, I initially worked on the HTML and CS side of the website first. I got a shell down of the layout with no colour choice or anything, and then built it so the layout was correct and the navigation was working. I then set up to build the Javascript pieces within the Gallery and Contact us tab. Finally I cleaned up some of the layouts once I put pictures and text in, changed some of the colours and finally added the CSS fade transition on all pages to really make the website look professional.

Challenges faced

I struggled early on with getting the images to sit correctly in the gallery. This was because each image was a different size and shape. I resolved this by editing the photos in 3rd party tools so that they were all consistent sizes and appeared nicely in the gallery on my web page.
I did also have an issue with creating the galleries functionality. It initially wasn't flowing through the images correctly, but eventually realised there were some issues in my code and I resolved it from there. There were also challenges with the contact us button not correctly displaying errors however that is also now fixed.

Interactivity with Javascript

The gallery has been added to allow users to scroll through pictures with their mouse wheel, and click buttons either side of the gallery to scroll through. This is also programmed to smoothly flow as the user views the pictures, as well as hovering on them making them larger and full colour.
There is also javascript on the contact us page, which is programmed to display an error when no information is entered and the users tries to submit the form.