# CP3402 – Weekly Practical Journal

## Week 1

### What I Did

In Week 1, I was introduced to the basics of web development and content management systems (CMS). Although the assignment later requires the use of a CMS, this week’s practical focused on building a static website using HTML and CSS.  
  
I started by setting up Visual Studio Code (VS Code) as my main development tool. I learned how to create a project folder (LOS-POLLOS-SITE), and inside it I created several HTML files (index.html, about.html, menu.html) and a CSS stylesheet (style.css). I also practiced organizing assets by creating an images/ folder for logos, photos, and menu images.  
  
I explored how to use Live Server to preview my site in real time. Initially, I experimented with simple layouts and tested linking multiple pages together. Later, I added styling via CSS, such as setting background images (fried chicken, city background, and shop photo), aligning content, and adding shadows and rounded corners to images.  
  
One of the highlights of the practice was creating a Los Pollos Hermanos themed website (inspired by Breaking Bad). I replaced the logo with my own modified file (LOGO2-removebg-preview.png), inserted images of fried chicken, and copied menu items from the official restaurant site. I also experimented with adding an in-store menu image, which required me to fix image path issues and ensure correct file extensions (.png).  
  
I also learned about favicon usage. Although emoji (🍗) cannot directly be used as a browser tab icon, I understood that favicons must be actual image files (.png or .ico).

### What I Learned

- The difference between static websites and CMS-based websites (WordPress, etc.).  
- How to structure a website with HTML elements: <header>, <nav>, <main>, <footer>.  
- How to apply CSS styles (backgrounds, images, layout, responsive design).  
- How to handle file paths and image formats correctly (e.g., .png vs .jpg).  
- The purpose of favicons and why browsers require actual image files rather than emoji.  
- The importance of testing and debugging when images do not load or when layout looks wrong.

### Challenges

- At first, I struggled with understanding where to place code (HTML vs CSS).  
- My images sometimes failed to display because of incorrect file paths or extensions.  
- The footer originally took too much vertical space, which required CSS adjustments.  
- I also had to learn the difference between absolute and relative paths to make sure all assets loaded properly.

### Reflections

This week’s work helped me build confidence in using VS Code and HTML/CSS. I realized that web development requires both technical precision (correct file paths, closing tags, linking CSS) and creative design (choosing backgrounds, arranging layouts).  
  
By experimenting with a real-world styled site (Los Pollos Hermanos), I made the learning process more engaging. I now feel more comfortable starting Assignment 1, since I already have a working prototype of a 3-page site with text, images, and styling.  
  
Next week, I aim to deepen my understanding of CSS layouts (flexbox, grid) and possibly experiment with Bootstrap to improve design consistency and responsiveness.