

Dear Friends of Pield Heath

With Christmas just around the corner, I am sure that you are looking forward to a well-earned festive break. As we reflect on the term, there were many events which you can read about in this newsletter. One of the highlights was our seasonal performance entitled A Song of Peace. The performance was creative and inspiring. In a simple and joyful way, the students expressed the real meaning of Christmas, by sharing their unique gifts and talents.

This term, we said farewell to two members of staff. Firstly, Kirsten Turner who started as an apprentice and has now left to work as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant. Secondly, we say farewell to Gina Sansby our SEND Manager. We thank Gina for all the advice she has given during review meetings and for all her efforts with trying to ensure times of transition for students and families have been as smooth as possible. We wish Kirsten and Gina good luck and all the best for the future.

On behalf of everyone at Pield Heath, thank you for your cooperation and loyal support. As the year draws to a close - may you have the gladness of Christmas which is hope; the spirit of Christmas which is peace; and the heart of Christmas which is love.

We look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 10th January 2023.

*Eryl D'Souza*

Associate Principal

Community & External Partnerships



## Christmas Performances



After the restrictions of the past few years it was wonderful to be able to come together for our Christmas Performances entitled – A Song of Peace. We were delighted to

welcome the deputy Mayor Cllr. Ahmad Wallana. Over the last 2 or 3 years our newspapers have been filled with so much sad news, as we continue to live in precarious times including: The after effects of the global pandemic, the reports of the war in Ukraine and how people are continuing to suffer, as well as the current cost of living crises and our own personal daily struggles. There have been many songs written about peace over the decades which were included. Peace begins with you, peace begins with me, for as Pope Francis said – Peace is the language we all must speak. A special thank you to Antony Colagrossi, Pinks Lotay, Juli Critchfield and to everyone across the school for making these meaningful and memorable events.



## **Fundraising**

### **Children in Need 2022**

This year students raised money for Children in Need. Thank you to Rebecca Eyre and all the staff involved in the bake sale. As well as raising £135 for this worthwhile charity students and staff both had a fun day enjoying the activities. The day ended with a special assembly.



### **CAFOD World Gifts Campaign**

Following the events we had to mark Harvest Fast Day, we have continued to raise awareness of the work of CAFOD by taking part in their World Gifts Campaign.

### Tutor Group 3G

This half term 3G have been really getting into the Christmas spirit. On 14<sup>th</sup> December, the class led a Christmas Mass where we talked about the meaning of Christmas and listened to fr. Nicholas as he reminded us of the seasons greatest gift – the love of Jesus. We also had an opportunity to visit Willows Farm, where we saw the animals and had great fun.



### Tutor Group 3N

During this Autumn term 3N have been working on exchanging money using the Well community café. The students have enjoyed making their own choices and getting to relax in the warm café environment. 3N have also been off site for the first time this term putting into practice all their road safety skills that they have been learning at school and continuing their money exchange skills by a walk to the local Tesco's.



### Tutor Group 3P

This half term 3P have been reading and acting out the story of Room on the Broom in drama. We have also spent time focusing on the importance of personal care and have been brushing our teeth and learning about different toiletries for good hygiene. We have now begun doing Christmas crafts such as making a stocking wish list and painting reindeers.



### Tutor Group 3W

This term, 3W have enjoyed making things out of Lego blocks; Ben and Isaac are seen here demonstrating team work as they build this Lego tower together. The themes of sharing and working together were explored further in this term's Thrive lessons and in Community Skill's classes, the class got the chance to visit Tesco. Students have also really enjoyed moving and engaging physically in their dance classes and have found a dance movement called 'Move & Grow' to be a particularly fun move to practice.



### Tutor Group 3C

3C have worked really hard this half term to prepare their contributions for this year's Christmas production. Members of the group performed a dramatic piece, sang in the choir and also worked with the technical team to provide sound and light. The class also continued with their RE studies and some are pictured here learning about Advent and the Nativity. In the Advent lesson, the children identified kind things that they could do for their friends and family and they explored the journey to Bethlehem and the birth of baby Jesus.



### Tutor Group 4H

4H have been enjoying their community skills trips. They have visited various places from Ruislip lido to their local Tesco to purchase an item of their choice. They have been developing their independence skills and being in the community. The students have been participating in their morning and afternoon prayers each day, with students taking it in turns to lead the class prayer. They have been developing their fine motor and gross motor skills during their ASDAN art lessons, and learning about the artist Frida Kahlo. They have been using large paint brushes, fine paint brushes and rollers.



## Tutor Group 4N

This half term, 4N have been busy preparing for Christmas. The class took a Christmas shopping trip into Uxbridge town centre where students were able to buy gifts and practice public interaction. The class also put together a wonderful assembly on the subject of Human Rights.



## Tutor Group PH+A

This term we have welcomed a new student to our class who is enjoying being with new friends and having a new room. The rest of the class have started to enjoy playing different games with each other and are learning to take turns playing them. Some of the students have enjoyed going out shopping for their own snacks, making choices and paying using either the cashier or self-service. In the last couple of weeks of term, they have been preparing for Christmas by making decorations for home and in the classroom. We have also celebrated a couple of class birthdays with parties this term.



### Tutor Group PH+B

This term in Knowledge of the World sessions, PH+B students have been thinking about what they want to be when they grow up. Bella wanted to be a nurse so that she can help injured people, while Ali hopes to be a security guard and Ibrahim wishes to be an engineer.



### Tutor Group PH+ C

PH+C have had a fantastic time this term. We have been really busy working on our signing with Juli. We held a bake sale for children in need which the students helped advertise and sell cakes to the whole school. We have been looking at our different emotions and what they look like to us. We have also been enjoying our new bikes this term.





## Tutor Group PH+ D

PH+D have been very busy this term. In RE we talked about welcoming babies into the church through Baptism. In Art we were experimenting with mixing primary colours to make secondary colours. We have also been preparing for Christmas and learning about the characters in the Christmas story.

PH+D would like to wish everybody a very lovely Christmas break.



## Tutor Group VBC A+

This Term VBC A+ have been working on their Community Skills. The class have been going for lovely walks within our community, practicing our road safety skills at road crossings and visiting the school cafe.



## Tutor Group VBC B

VBC B have been working incredibly hard this half term. With the weather outside getting colder our class have kept themselves busy in the warmth doing lots of work. We have continued to develop our independence and friendships alongside our education.



## Tutor Group VBC C

On 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022, VBC C performed the story of Rudolph to the school in our assembly. Gad played the part of Santa feeding his reindeers magic oats. Ryan, Mikey and David were reindeers and Harry had the role of Rudolph leading the sleigh and saving Christmas. Calvin from 4H helped out as an extra reindeer.



## Tutor Group VBCD

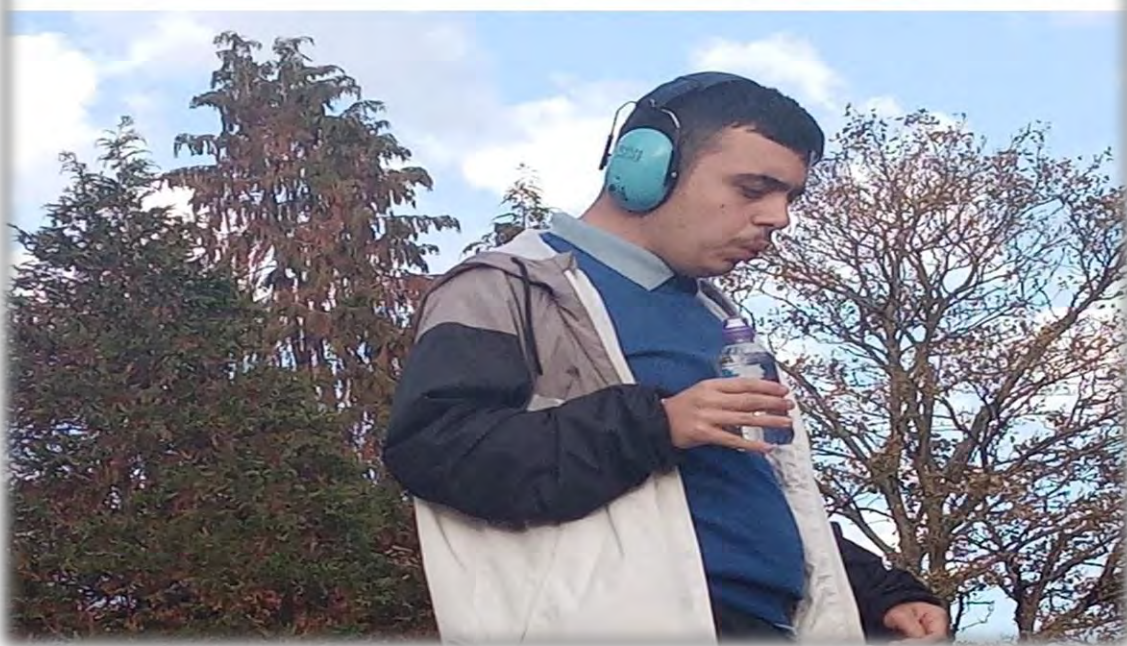
This term, the students of VBC D really enjoyed organising the Whole School World Cup Draw. We worked together to ensure every class had a team to support, sent emails to let every class know who they would be supporting and very much enjoyed interviewing several members of staff and students before their game. And of course, we enjoyed watching the first England match together.



## St Joseph's House

This half term our residential students have been working hard and continuing to build and develop their independent living and socialisation skills. As well as taking trips to Langley Country Park, and enjoying nature on the school grounds, students have also been preparing for Christmas, going out into the local community to shop and soak up the Christmas atmosphere.





## Music

This term we focused on practicing vocal techniques through Christmas songs. Some classes learnt to play the chords to Silent Night on the keyboard. Other classes learnt techniques that help warm up your vocal chords before singing. In addition to rehearsing for the Christmas performance, classes also participated in bell instrument making and prop making for their songs, as well as helping me put together some props for my choir!



## Horticulture

This term, the Pield Heath Student Gardeners have had lots of fun preparing for the Christmas Fayre.

We grew and harvested fresh Chillies for the "Chilli Chocolate Truffles" and tried them out on the staff!!!! We also had lots of fun creating Christmas posies to sell.





Every child is unique, constantly learning and developing in different ways, each with their



own abilities, talents and potential. Children's healthy development, emotional wellbeing and learning are dependent upon positive relationships; **(PERMA<sup>H</sup>)**

Age or key stage does not predetermine the emotional needs or developmental level of a child.

The Thrive Approach offers us the knowledge and tools to understand the emotional developmental levels of our students. Through Thrive online Group Assessments, Thrive Group Action Plans Pield Heath Staff can identify our student's gaps or 'honey coning' and support healthy emotional development through the use of the recommend Thrive strategies and activities.

Pield Heath staff continue to support students through 'right time' learning, using preferred learning activities to build healthy relationships and shape our student's emotional development.

Thrive time sessions can focus on overcoming barriers to food and textures, learning about online safety through storytelling, learning about turn taking and friendships through games.



More information on the Thrive Approach at PHHS can be found on [www.pieldheathschool.org.uk/Provision](http://www.pieldheathschool.org.uk/Provision)

The Thrive Approach is used in 2,400+ settings across the UK, to find out more go to [www.thriveapproach.com](http://www.thriveapproach.com)

## Special Events

### Winefride Tyrrell Award for Leadership 2022

Sr Winefride Tyrrell was responsible for opening Pield Heath House School in 1901 and was



also the co-founder of the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

In memory of Sr Winefride we have set up a Leadership Award. This year's winner was Mason McGahey. Mason was nominated for representing the school at numerous events and also being an excellent role model. This is the

second time Mason has won this award – he previously won in 2017. Well Done Mason for showing leadership and for your valuable

contribution to our school community. A special thank you to Sr. Rosemary Clerkin for setting up this award.





### World Cup – Draw / Interviews etc

A special thank you to all the students and staff in VBC / D for inviting everyone across the school to choose a team from a lucky dip to support during the tournament. Everyone was asked to decorate their doors with the flag of the country they picked. The students also acted as roving reporters and did pre-match interviews before the game to find out views and to wish teams good luck. Not only was this real-life activity a fantastic way to help the

students develop a range of communication skills, but it was a fun way to celebrate the world cup as a community. Thanks to VBC / D and Well Done to Argentina on your success with winning the World Cup.

## Community

### COP 27



So much has changed recently, but one thing hasn't: the need for climate action.

The reality of the climate crisis has become even more stark for our sisters and brothers in the world's most vulnerable communities. As a community we followed the events of the COP27 talks which started in Egypt on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

### Inter Faith Week

This year, Inter Faith Week took place between 13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>

**November.** The weeks aim was to strengthen inter faith relations and increase awareness and understanding.

It was an opportunity to engage students and staff from all faith and belief backgrounds and encourage respect across our local and wider community.





## In November – We Remember

On 9<sup>th</sup> November we had a mass which was followed on 11<sup>th</sup> November with a special



Assembly to mark Remembrance Day. As well as remembering those who gave their lives during the war we also prayed for our own family and friends in our Community.

As part of our In November – We Remember activities, we had a display in various places around the school including Reception and the Chapel. There was also an opportunity for people to contribute to

The British Legion National Poppy Appeal.

Elena Georgieva and the 3G class team also paid a visit to the Polish War Memorial in Ruislip to find out more about how people around the world have fought so that we can enjoy peace.



## Staff Winners

Congratulations to one of our fantastic Special Support Assistants, Katherine Sansby, who was this half-term's Staff Wellbeing Hamper winner, and to Artur Kuznicki / 4N class team and Sarah Tomlin/ VBC B class team who are this terms joint PBS award winners.



## Advent and Christmas

### Reverse Advent Calendar



**PH+A** held a reverse Advent Calendar to help the local food bank/parish with items they collected for Christmas. Aware that with the way things have been this year and how it is more important than ever to help out anyone who we can reach so with that in mind. Donations included tinned food, dried food, packet food, Christmas decorations, small toiletry gift sets, small gifts for boys/girls and other nice treats to make a difference to another family's joy at Christmas. Many thanks

to Sarah Ball and her Class Team PH+ A for organising this activity. This year the collection went to the Food Bank at St. Gregory's Parish, South Ruislip

### Advent Events

We started the season by hosting a joint advent service with students from Caritas St. Josephs, Hendon. We had an Advent Service to mark the start of the Season. We participated in some related arts and crafts activities including designing cribs and advent wreaths and also took part in some team building exercises. We also had weekly reflections provided for all staff. Sincere thanks to Sr Rosemary Clerkin for providing us with these inspiring reflections.



We had a Christmas Mass which we were all able to follow in our classes. The Mass was celebrated by Fr Nicholas Schofield, Parish Priest at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Michael, Uxbridge. Thanks also to Angela Atkins, Pastoral assistant, for all her kindness and support throughout the year.



## Christmas Shopping

As in previous years, students had the chance to go into the local town centre. They were given the opportunity to do some Christmas shopping which was an ideal way to practice their life and independence skills in the community as well as having some festive fun followed by a well-earned delicious hot drink break!



## Christmas Activities



Students enjoyed a Christmas meal and disco to celebrate Christmas and the end of term. On 16th December students and staff took part in the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. Everyone had a lot of fun with everyone wearing their very best festive knitwear.

After the Christmas Mass, students enjoyed a delicious traditional Christmas dinner. The staff and governors were also treated to a special Christmas buffet at the end of term. Special thanks to Gurinder Baines, our Catering and Hospitality Manager and the catering team for all their efforts in making these special and enjoyable occasions for everyone in our community. Staff also enjoyed taking part in a quiz; thank you to Karolina Pelikan for organising this fun event.

# Ready to Serve !!



## Christmas Fayre 2022



We had our Christmas Fayre on Thursday 14th December which was opened by The Mayor of Hillingdon Cllr Becky Haggar. We had a large selection of stalls and festive entertainment. We also had the draw for our Grand Christmas Raffle. Thank you to all those who so kindly donated prizes for our raffle. Special thanks to John & Ann Cook, Sandra Parsons, the group of volunteers from Brunel University, as

well as to all the other volunteers who willingly gave their time to help on the day. It was great to see so many of our families as well as some other visitors including the Community Police.

The Mayor said she really enjoyed her visit and passed on her good wishes to everyone for a Happy Christmas.

The winners of the Grand Raffle were:

1st Prize - 40" 4K Smart TV – T. Guerrier

2nd Prize - £100 M&S Voucher – N. Rokni

3rd Prize - Christmas Hamper – A. Mendison



Thank you to everyone for making this event a great success.





### New Year

Our Team Enterprise Company Gold Stars have produced another beautiful Calendar for 2022, with a selection of beautiful artwork produced by the students. Thank you to Sandra Parsons, our Business Adviser John Cook, for all his support and to all the staff and students in Gold Stars – Well Done everyone.

### Parents and Carers

#### ParentPay

We operate a cashless system in school whereby all payments are made online using the ParentPay system. You should have a log on and password specifically for your child's account. If for any reason you have not got these details please contact the finance office who will be able to provide you with all the information.



### Dates for Your Diary

#### Spring Term 2023

Spring Term 1, 2023 – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – \*10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

*\* School finishes at 2.30pm*

For all academic dates – including staff training days – [click here](#)

