

The Well

Pield Heath House School



Pield Heath House School is one of only 2 special schools in Westminster Diocese. It is a non-maintained co-education school, within the Trusteeship of the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. We offer day, week day and respite provision for students aged 7-19.

Following a successful application to the Cardinal's Appeal Fund, we were given a grant to set up a Community café. The name 'The Well' was chosen based on the encounter of the Samaritan Woman and Jesus from St John's Gospel Chapter 4. As part of the Year of the Word – 'The God who Speaks', this beautiful story was shared with all the students and staff. A key aspect was to provide a warm welcome to rest and relax. The importance of water for our mental, physical and spiritual refreshment and overall wellbeing is also another central theme.

As this has been a challenging time for everyone we were keen to show our care and concern for others. For our first Community Event of the new school year we

chose to host a Macmillan Coffee Morning on 25th September. Aware that everyone no doubt, knows someone who has suffered from cancer we also had a board for any prayer requests. Believing that as Pope Francis says 'All it takes is one good person to restore hope.' We took into account the necessary guidelines regarding social distancing and each bubble was scheduled to visit at a specific time. Unfortunately, we were not able to open our doors to parents and the local community; however, they supported generously by buying raffle tickets and generous donations.

Students in our 6th Form – The Victor Braun Centre, have Café Enterprise as part of their curriculum. This offers the ideal opportunity to develop many essential life skills including communication, working as a team, catering, handling money and above all the feeling that they are making a valuable contribution to society. Thanks to the dedicated Team at The Well, on the day of the Coffee morning students worked enthusiastically serving hot drinks and delicious cakes. They also ran some

have-a-go activities e.g. guess the number of coffee Beans, the weight of the cake, and they ran a raffle. Thanks to their enthusiasm, hard work and the generous support of everyone they raised an amazing £543.50.

We believe that hosting this event will bring lots of blessings to 'The Well'. We really appreciate having been given this opportunity to set up a Community Café. The potential for having this provision to support our students with their employability skills is enormous. Staff are invited to order snacks and lunch every day in the café. Once the current situation improves and it is safe to do so, we plan to open the facility to anyone who is lonely and in need of company in both the Parish and the local community. This is very much in keeping with our school mission which is to encourage everyone to live life to the full. (John 10:10)

Eryl D'Souza
Associate Principal
Community & External Partnerships

