

Spring End of Term

March 2024

Dear Friends of Pield Heath,

As we come to the end of the Spring Term, you can see that it has been eventful. Students have had the opportunity to participate in a wide range of learning activities. Some of the highlights included celebrating World Book Day and Science Week, a visit to the National Portrait Gallery, a Pield Heath's Got Talent Competition and participating in various Fundraising events.

This term, we say farewell to Roxana Tagui, Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning. Artur Kuznicki and Rebecca Eyre who were both tutors in the Victor Braun Centre, Sam Quarterman a Support Assistant as well as Sr Mary and Sr Flaviour who supported in the School, who are returning to work with The Congregation in Zambia. We thank them all for their commitment and devoted service to our community and we wish them every blessing for the future.

As we continue our journey in the Season of Lent and prepare to mark the very special days of Holy Week, we are reminded that Easter is a time of hope, as we look towards the future.

Staff will be resuming on Monday 15th April for a Training Day, we look forward to welcoming our students back on Tuesday 16th April.

Thank you for your support throughout the term.

Wishing you all a Happy and Holy Easter.

Eryl D'Souza
Community & External Partnerships



Tutor Group 3B

3B have built new friendships and welcomed a new classmate. The students have been learning about coins and which coins can be used to make the amounts to buy something. They enjoyed World Book Day and dressing up as their favourite book character joining in the fun with staff. In Knowledge of The World, the class have been learning all about soft and hard and rough and smooth and have built houses using their creative skills with crackers and icing. Each week they have enjoyed going to Tesco's as part of their Community Skills and have taken shopping lists to purchase items for other people as well as for themselves. 3B had so much fun on Science Day through making ice-cream, building structures and trying to make a Mentos volcano.

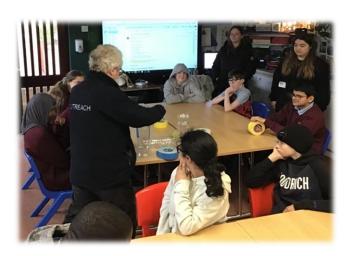


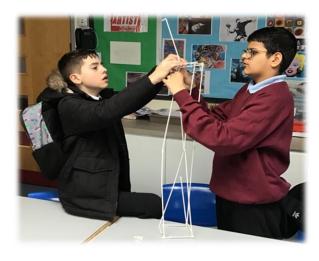




Tutor Group 3C

The class attended the Junior Young Citizens event at Brunel University where they learnt about the advice that local organisations give for keeping safe in the community. As part of Science Week, 3C spent the day: making, testing and firing rockets. The class teams were given three opportunities to refine and retest their designs and competed with the Sixth Form teams.





Tutor Group 3L

3L have taken part in a lot of team building activities, some of it orchestrated by the students themselves which, have formed stronger friendship bonds between them.







Tutor Group 3P

3P went shopping at Hillingdon Pield Road Express during Community Skills. They enjoyed their time together as a team and had a nice day. Everyone relished their time spent together.





Tutor Group 4B

During this term, 4B had two students join us: James M and Daniel. We have all been working very hard and made a lot of progress. In an assembly, we told the story of one of the classes favourites: The Wonky Donkey. We also hosted the Red Nose Day Assembly, where we collected food for the Hillingdon Food Bank and gave it to them for distribution. 4B also enjoyed Number Day and Science Week where we learnt about First Aid and the steps to take in different situations.







Tutor Group 4H

This term, students of 4H have been working on their creative skills by designing cards for Valentine's Day for their loved ones. They used different techniques and materials in this process to achieve the finish product. The students were being caring and respectful to the school environment by picking up litter and keeping our school surroundings clean and tidy. In addition, the students worked beautifully together as a team by preparing to grow vegetables.







Tutor Group PH+A

Students in the group participated in a variety of sensory activities including water play and also doing some jigsaw puzzles. They particularly enjoyed being in costume to celebrate World Book Day. During Community skills lessons, students enjoyed using the bike track and doing some group exercise. They were thrilled to collect Daffodil pots to take home for Mother's Day.





Tutor Group PH+B

This term, PH+B students learned about the seasons and weather through a variety of practical, tactile, and sensory activities. The students proceeded outside to experience rain in a real-life scenario, where they learned the fundamental skills of opening and closing an umbrella and holding it in the correct position. The students also experimented with matching the colours of the several seasons and painting snow-falling drops on a piece of cardboard, as well as creating a tactile portrayal of snow falling directly on them using various accessible resources such as white paper, cotton balls etc. Students also enjoyed listening to several seasons and the weather song, as well as learning basic weather and seasonal signs.







Tutor Group PH+C

During Spring term, PH+C learnt about the four seasons of the year: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. The students took part in a sensory circuit exploring different textures, smells and tastes representing each season. We also looked at different types of weather: rainy, sunny, cloudy, snowy or windy. The students enjoyed a new song "What's the weather today?" and learned new signs.







Tutor Group PH+D

PH+D have had a very productive half term. They have been busy with World Book Day and wanting to dress up as skeletons. They have also been busy with Science week and mixing ingredients for different activities. As well as these events PH+D have been continuing their work on money and we have been going shopping to Tesco to buy items. we have also been experiencing sitting quietly in the Café to eat which they enjoy.







Tutor Group VBC A

VBC A have shown a lot of improvement by working hard in relation to engaging with everyday life skills. The students have been focusing on loading and unloading the dishwasher, sorting cutlery, washing up and hoovering.

The students will continue to carry out these independent living skills in preparation for adulthood.







Tutor Group VBC B

VBCB experimented with Coke and Mentos to see if they could make an explosion. This involved using sharpened pencils to pierce a hole through a zip lock bag. We also enjoyed some activities that involved colouring. VBCB used relevant materials to create a cushion and shield to protect an egg to ensure that it did not break. In addition, they rode bikes around the bike track, led by the PE teachers to help with physical exercise.







Tutor Group VBC C

This term we have enjoyed doing lots of practical lessons. Angel and Monica have been working hard together in lots of different lessons. Their favourite lessons have been making bird feeders in Horticulture and completing puzzles during free time. Hamish really enjoyed making turkey meatballs in Cooking and he even asked for the recipe to make them at home!







Tutor Group VBC D

We have been enjoying activities in Hobbies lessons this term. We have been learning about photography and also making Easter crafts.







Tutor Group VBC E

This term, VBC E enjoyed organising the first "Pield Heath Zoom Auction". As part of their hobby's exploration sessions, Yash introduced his friends to shopping in charity shops. The students were given £5 each to buy something that they could put plants in. They brought some great items and then planted and gift wrapped them. Just in time for Mother's Day weekend, the students held a Zoom auction and the whole school community joined and bided on the items. It was an amazing success. Yash was a fantastic Auctioneer.





World Book Day

Students and staff enjoyed taking part in World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. Everyone was encouraged to come dressed as a book character. The day started with an assembly, and there were many literary and craft activities planned throughout the day. Staff across the school enjoyed talking to students about the books that they enjoyed reading the most and students really enjoyed the opportunity to dress up and talk about their favourite books and stories. Thank you to Daniel Williams for coordinating this event.









Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day was on Friday 15th March. As well as marking the day in the usual way, as the theme this year was hungry and homeless this year The Middle Leadership team (MLT) decided to organise a collection of food to donate to the Hillingdon Food Bank. Thank you to Sarah Ball for coordinating this event.







Red Nose Day - Hungry and Homeless Collection for Food Bank in Hillingdon







Science Week

We marked Science Week from 11th – 15th March. Thank you to Clare Lucas for coordinating this event and to Nicky Grieve for all her hard work.

Lessons were focused on "Time" and students enjoyed lots of practical experiments. We were lucky enough to have 2 scientists and 2 engineers come in from NPL and teach us how to make and launch rockets. It was an amazing day full of learning! To end the week, the whole school enjoyed a full day of science activities. We all tried out the famous (and messy) Mentos and Cola experiment and made our own ice cream! Students were challenged to make the strongest cardboard bridge and ride our bikes as fast as we could up and down the hills. The day was a great success with some wonderful feedback from both students and staff.

"The students and the staff had a brilliant time; all the activities were highly engaging and very interesting!"

"It was a well-planned and well-structured day full of exciting activities that students were eager to engage in."

Photos of Science Week can be viewed in our Gallery- Please click here







Fundraising

Number Day

NSPCC Maths Number Day – On 2nd February we took part in this event. We dressed up for Digits and used it as an opportunity to look at how important numbers are in our everyday life. Special thanks to Roxana Tagui who coordinated this event.



Thank you to everyone who supported the Mencap Rock Your Socks Off day. A total of £41 was raised and has been sent to the charity.





Place2Be – Netta Hill

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week took place 5 – 11th February.

As a school we actively engage, support and raise awareness of children's mental health, even more so during Children's Mental Health Week. For the last 3 years we have supported the Children's Charity Place2Be. This year's theme for Children's Mental Health Week was 'Your Voice Matters'. We asked our students to be actively involved in shaping activities for their peers, this empowered our students to contribute in raising awareness and funds in great ways and to foster a sense of ownership and engagement. A student in VBC E offered to run a sponsored 'reading' to all class groups, another student asked to run the school disco to celebrate raising



awareness. We had cake sales and art activities to support students understanding of self and just how wonderful they are! We rounded off the week by dressing up to express who we are. In total an amazing £201.00! was raised, a massive thank you to all staff, students, parents and carers for your support and donations.

Thank you to Netta Hill our Inclusion Co-ordinator for organising this event.

If you are interested in learning more about Place2Be and the valuable work they do for children's mental health, you can visit their website at Place2Be.







Positive Affirmations of Artwork

As part of this students in 4B completed positive affirmation artwork, thinking of, and writing positive attributes about themselves. Which they wanted to share with everyone. Thank you to Jessica Harvey our Art; DT Subject Lead for engaging the students with this activity.



Community

Bird Watch

This theme of enjoying the beauty of nature was further developed thanks to The Eco Committee who launched "Big Garden Birdwatch."



Eco Committee

This term, the Eco Committee has made a pledge to help tidy up the school. The Committee members ordered new equipment to help with the task. The equipment was then used by the Pield Heath Student Gardeners who shared the task of litter picking across the whole school. Litter was collected and the students learnt what could be recycled, composted or thrown away. The school is looking beautiful, the garden is coming to life and the students are looking forward to Spring weather.







Signs of Spring

Students have enjoyed participating in activities on our own beautiful school grounds and admiring the daffodils and the awe-inspiring magnolia tree, which is the only plant to flower before getting its leaves.



Community Skills

Visit to an Art Gallery

The Art/Photography students thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the National Portrait Gallery, they discussed colours, subject matter and the sheer scale of the paintings.





Visit to the farm

Students enjoyed a trip to a local farm to see some of the activities that take place during the season of Spring.







In the News

VBC A was invited to Black Park for the opening of their disabled facilities. During the visit they looked at the new facilities and had their picture taken with a Councillor for Buckinghamshire, which will appear in their local newspaper. It was a lovely day out and they also enjoyed tea and cakes!



We marked Christian Unity Week in January. This was an opportunity for us to see how we can work together in a positive way.



Ash Wednesday

As this year Ash Wednesday fell in half term, when we resumed we had a special service led by Nicky Grieve who explained the significance of Ash Wednesday. During the service students were encouraged to share their ideas about what they were going to try and do during Lent.



CAFOD Family Fast Day

We marked CAFOD Family Fast Day on 23rd February. During Lent we did lots of activities related to the season.



Lent Reflection

As part of our journey in Lent we followed the Laudato Si programme in an assembly to move away from ecological bad choices into ecological conversion. As Lent is a special season for reflection and action through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, this year our aim was to try and live it by focusing on the theme "Stop and listen".

"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:9)



Masses

We had a lovely Mass in January to mark Racial Justice Sunday.

In our February Mass Fr Nicholas explained the significance of why Lent is a special time in the liturgical year.





We had a special end of term Mass on the 13th March to highlight the significance of the three days in Holy Week – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Thank you to Fr. Nicholas for celebrating this mass and helping us to prepare for the great Feast of Easter. It was also good to see some of our Governors who joined us for the Mass. During the Mass, Fr Nicholas shared with everyone the significance of the different colours that are used during Holy Week Services and throughout The Liturgical Year.







Lenten Retreat

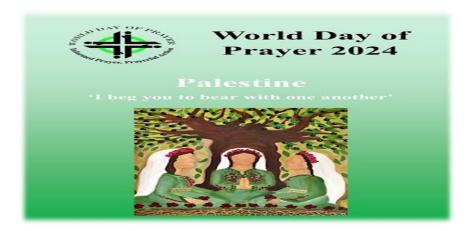
We hosted the Hillingdon Deanery Lenten Retreat led by Fr John Hemmer MHM.

The day included Talks, Mass, Confession and Adoration.



Women's World Day of Prayer

Women's world day of prayer 2024 was held on 1st March. This year activities were prepared by the Christian women of Palestine. The theme they chose was 'I beg you to bear with one another.'



Special Days

St David's Day

We marked St David's Day, Patron Saint of Wales by having a special assembly led by Nicky Chance. Hope all the David's in our community enjoyed their special Feast Day.





St Patrick's Day and St Joseph's Feast Days

We wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day on the 17th March.

We marked the Feast of St Joseph on the 19th March by having a special assembly.







Mother's Day

Thanks to Nicola Grieves our Outdoor Learning Development Manager VBC / E team who hosted a Mother's Day auction on 7th March via Zoom. This was a lovely event which engaged the whole community. Thanks also to the team of students who worked so hard were able to give all our Mums and Carers a bunch of daffodils to say thank you for all they do throughout the year.









International Women's Day

Thanks to Jessica Harvey / 4H Team who led an assembly to mark International Women's Day. The theme this year was Inspire Inclusion. They looked at the value and importance of the women in our school, the women in our homes and families who play a part in our daily lives and also looked at examples of famous women around the world.



World Down Syndrome Day

On 21st March we joined in events to raise awareness of the day and everyone was invited to wear odd socks as part of the National Day.





The Levenfiche Foundation

3L enjoyed a day out at Bubble Planet. Thank you to The Levenfiche Foundation for providing our students with these enjoyable community events.





Music, Dance & Expressive Arts

This term some classes have been working on designing their own instruments for a sensory sound garden. Other classes have had the opportunity to learn their chosen instruments. In expressive arts and dance, we've had a lot of fun trying on costumes and dancing in front of the mirror to our favourite songs!









On 17th January we hosted an iCanDance! Workshop.





Sport

Students have been taking part in trampolining and swimming this term. Trampolining is a great activity which helps students develop coordination and balance.







End of Term Activities

PIELD HEATH'S GOT TALENT

The term ended with a Pield Heath School's Got Talent Event. This was an amazing opportunity for the students to share their various skills. There was a great variety of acts including singing, dancing, storytelling and much more. What a lot of gifts we have as a community. Well done to all who participated, thanks for sharing your talents and giving everyone so much joy. Special thanks to Pinks Lotay Jessica Harvey and Antony Colagrossi for organising this enjoyable event.



Images will be available on the website in the Gallery.

Wellbeing

The winners of the Staff Wellbeing Goodie Bag this term were Rebecca Eyre and Ubah Nuur.





PBS Winners

Congratulations to Catriona Orriss who is this terms PBS winner.



Parents and Carers

Parents Forum

On 31st January we held our Parents Forum. The theme for the session was Maths for Everyday Use and was led by Roxana Tagui.



Parents Consultations

These meetings will take place on Thursday 16th May and Thursday 23rd May further details about the arrangements will be circulated after Easter.

Family Fun Day & Grand Summer Draw



We look forward to welcoming you all to our annual Family Fun Day. All proceeds from the event will go towards supporting the needs of our students and school community. For now, please save the date Thursday 27th June and we will be sharing more information after Easter. We will also be having a Summer Draw on the day. Raffle tickets will be available after Easter. Your support with helping to sell as many tickets as possible would be really appreciated.

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

Summer Term

Staff Training Day - Monday 15th April 2024

Summer Term 1– Tuesday 16th April 2024 – Friday 24th May 2024

Bank Holiday- Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term – Monday 27th May 2024 – Friday 31st May 2024

Summer Term 2- Monday 3rd June 2024 – Wednesday 24th July 2024

For the academic dates for 2024-2025 please click here.

