

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 activities which you can read about in this newsletter. Among the highlights were our two seasonal performances entitled 'The Light of The World'. Both performances were creative and inspiring. In a simple but powerful way, the students expressed the real meaning of Christmas, by sharing their unique gifts and talents.

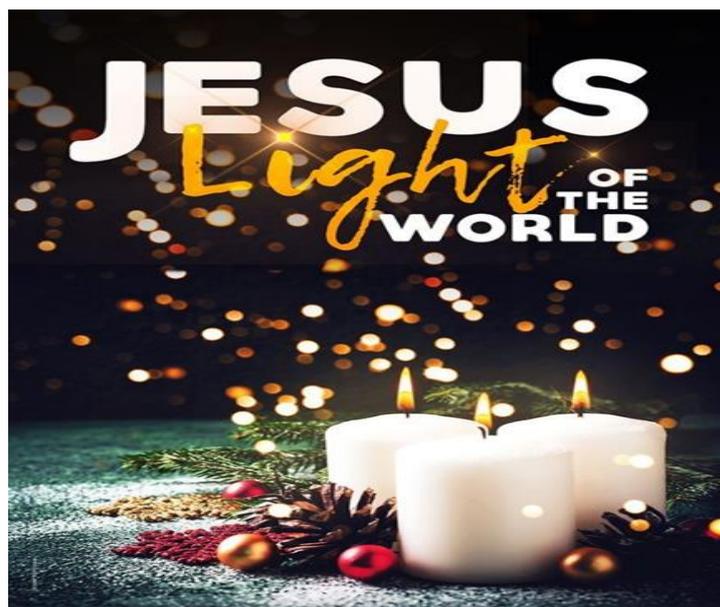
This term, we say farewell to three members of staff, Firstly, Sandra Rudge who worked hard as our Finance Officer for over 12 years. Giles Harper our School Driver, who also supported with lots of community events and Katy O'Callaghan one of our Special Support Assistants, who worked with great devotion to help the students in her care. We thank Sandra, Giles and Katy for all that they have contributed and we wish them good luck and all the best for the future.

On behalf of everyone at Pield Heath, thank you for your support throughout the year. May the blessings of the season, shine on you and your family.

We look forward to welcoming students back on Wednesday 10th January 2024.

Eryl D'Souza

Associate Principal - Community & External Partnerships



Christmas Performances

It was wonderful to have our two Christmas Performances entitled 'The Light of the World' which was opened by The Mayor of Hillingdon Cllr Shehryar Ahmad-Wallana. They were a celebration of drama, dance and music. Special thanks to Pinks Lotay, Antony Colagrossi, Juli Critchfield, and all the staff for their enthusiasm in preparing the performance. It was a wonderful opportunity for all our students to shine in their light brightly.



Tutor Group 3B

During the Autumn term 3B have been working on taking turns in their PSHE lessons. They enjoyed activities that involved using a shopping game to gather ingredients for a recipe. They had to use their memory skills to find key ingredients for their list when another peer had found it first and put it back. Building and taking turns using Jenga bricks was also another great way to bond and build on their friendships within the class. They have continued these skills in their PE lessons taking turns in football and rugby.



Tutor Group 3C

3C have been working on a range of tasks this half-term. This has included preparing their part for the school Christmas performance. The class worked collaboratively to create a dramatic piece of their choice.

They have also been applying their mathematical skills by shopping for staff on Friday mornings. The students collect lists and money and then purchase the required goods at the local supermarket.



Tutor Group 3L

3L have had a very musical and creative half term. They have engaged in various creative activities as well as attending a drumming workshop. They have continued to work hard in a variety of their lessons whether its concentrating on theory work or fun physical activities.



Tutor Group 3P

3P have had a fantastic term and worked hard throughout. They also enjoyed some much-deserved fun at the bowling alley. They came 2nd in the whole competition and we had a student who achieved one of the top 3 highest scores. Students have enjoyed decorating our Christmas door and getting into the festive spirit. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from 3P!



Tutor Group 4B

We are incredibly proud of 4B who have visited our local Library for community skills and showed an understanding of the rules while in the library. They role played shop keepers for a work experience task, selling items to peers and in Maths worked really hard on their addition and subtraction.



Tutor Group 4H

4H have been working hard to improve their writing skills. They used laminated templates to write over to practise their skills. This term the students have been developing their friendship skills by sharing activities and preferred toys. They demonstrated excellent sharing and friendship skills! The students have been working on their enterprise skills. They have been making fruit bowls to sell as enterprise. They made the bowls from multiple layers of newspaper and PVA glue over a bowl shape. Once this stage was completed they painted their bowls with their chosen colour.



Tutor Group PH+A

PH+A are now more settled and comfortable in our new classroom. Students have established a good level of trust with peers and adults. They enjoyed getting ready for the Christmas Performance and going to the Christmas Fayre – they did themselves proud. Well Done to all in PH+A



Tutor Group PH+B

PH+B students visited the library to broaden their knowledge and explore new books and stories, as well as engaged in interactive sensory activities to improve their senses and sensory input. The students were attracted to the interactive sensory table as they observed the sensory movements of plants, animals, butterflies, and fish. They enjoyed a class reading and storytelling session in another room within the library. They were really engaged with the adult who conducted the session and looked at and interacted with all of the sensory elements as well as the objects of reverence associated with the story. They concluded their visit by returning to their interactive table and taking another look at and enjoying all of the sensory stimuli displayed. At the end of their trip, the students received sensory book gifts to share with peers around the school, as well as food to enjoy at school, from the library staff.



Tutor Group PH+C

PH+C have had a good half term. They learned to generalise many skills acquired at school into outside school settings. They visited the local Tesco for the first time.

They practised following the shopping routine by greeting the shop assistant, choosing the snack, paying, waiting for change and saying thank you and good bye.

During their school trips PH+C used the opportunity to practise The 4 steps road code: stop, look both ways, listen and think before crossing the road.



Tutor Group PH+D

It's been a hectic term for PH+D. They have been accessing the Community which gave them a chance to develop their money skills. They enjoyed preparing for the Christmas performance. We also had a lovely day out courtesy of The Levenfiche Foundation and went to Thames Valley Adventure Playground, more recently they enjoyed going Christmas shopping.



Tutor Group VBC A

This term VBC A has been accessing the wider community. They have been visiting local shops, parks and restaurants. Students have engaged well within this and have made super progress with travel training!



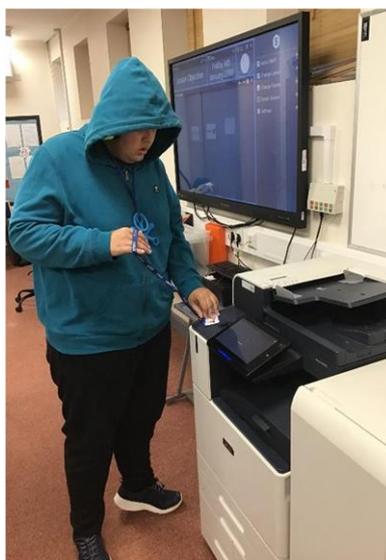
Tutor Group VBC B

As a class, we have been working to better integrate ourselves within our community. Recently, we presented an assembly to the whole school where students used AAC devices and speech to speak publicly. In addition to this, we have been practicing for our upcoming Christmas play which will feature all of the students. Furthermore, we have decorated our door in time for the Christmas door competition.



Tutor Group VBC C

After a restful half term, everyone returned to school happy. In Autumn 2, we had a few celebrations reflecting our learning objectives. We celebrated Halloween, Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Diwali, Children in Need and Christmas. In Maths, we learnt about money and its financial uses. We had many fun activities across the curriculum while preparing, decorating and celebrating Diwali and Christmas. We proudly presented the Look Assembly where we prepared a celebration of National Tree Week and built up the spirit of the Christmas Tree in the upcoming time as part of the grand finale of our presentation. We keep working hard on our academic targets, building awareness about the importance of our academic achievements, well-being, spiritual development and physical health.



Tutor Group VBC D

Children in Need – class members dressed up for the day. We also did a whole school assembly about the event, singing, signing and getting staff to complete a Joe Wickes challenge. Andrew, Calvin, Shamil and Ryan dressed up in yellow. VBC D have been enjoying taking part in a range of activities in hobbies. They have all tried learning a musical instrument. The class enjoyed celebrating birthdays this term. This is Gad's party – he turned 18. Also Happy Birthday to Harry, Andrew and Shamil.



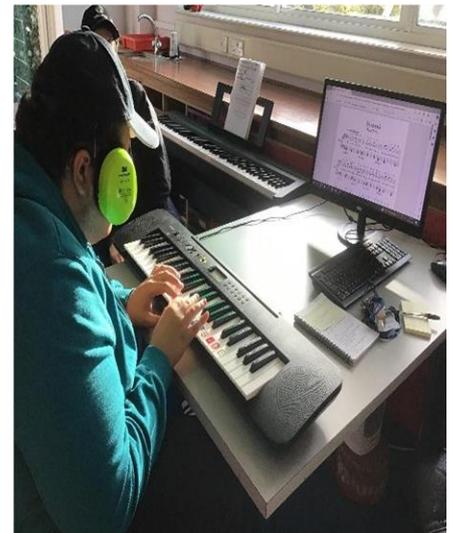
Tutor Group VBC E

VBC E organised this year's Reverse Advent Calendar. They sent out emails to all staff asking for donations throughout the month of December. Staff were very generous, donating food, clothes and toiletries – thank you all so very much. VBC / E will be delivering all the donations to St Edmunds Church, Yeading Lane on Thursday 21st December.



Music

The students have been engaging in a range of activities working towards the Christmas Production. We had lots of rehearsals, artistic ideas, practicing instruments and exploring props and costumes. It's been a creative whirlwind of a term!



Horticulture

The Field Heath Student Gardeners have been working hard this term to prepare all the plants for the Christmas Fayre.

They enjoyed using baubles, cones, snow spray and lots (and lots) of glitter to decorate the plants, making them look amazing!



Occupational Therapy

 With the festive season  approaching,  now is a  great  time to

 help your young person  achieve  greater  independence with their

 meal  preparation skills by  making a  healthy  dessert.

 **Ingredients** -  **You**  **will**  **Need:**

1  
1. A Ripe/Yellow Banana

2  
2. Fruit flavoured sauce

3   
3. Yoghurt coated fruit pieces

 **Preparation**  **Tasks**

1 
1. Wash your hands

2 
2. Dry your hands

3  
3. Put an apron on

 **Steps for Peeling a Banana**

1. Get a  high  edge  plate.

2. Get a  fork and a  spreading knife with  adult  supervision.

3. Sit  at the  table.

4. Hold  the banana  in  your  helping hand.

5. Use  your  thumb,  pointing and  middle fingers to  make a

 tripod  grip. Pull  the  top of the  banana  skin  down ,

 repeat as needed.

6. Put the  banana  on the  plate.

7. Put the  banana skin  in the  bin.



Meal Preparation Steps:

1. Hold the  fork and  knife in each  hand with your  pointing  finger  towards the  front.

2. Use  the  fork to  stab and  hold the  banana to  keep

 it steady.

3. Use your  knife to  cut the banana.

4. Use your thumb and fingers to open the lid of the fruit


sauce.

5. Turn the sauce upside down and gently squeeze whilst the

 sauce drizzles across the  banana.

6. **Optional:** Use your thumb and pointing finger to make a

 pincer grip to pick up the  yoghurt fruit  pieces and  press  them

 into the  banana to garnish to your  preference.

 Enjoy your  dessert

Written by:



Bhindu Odedra
School Occupational Therapist



Nicola Brown
Level 3 SSA Supporting Therapy Service

Thrive



Nicole Rossi, our Thrive Approach trained SEMH Assistant, delivers Thrive Sessions to 9 class groups across school.

Nicole wanted to share 3 'WOW' moments from the last term.



VBCE can be seen enjoying our "Master Cook" lesson. Students chose their teams and then independently planned their recipes and job role the previous week. Surprise judges were invited and they scored the teams based on presentation, taste, tea work and time management. Was an excellent lesson!



PH+D have shown amazing engagement with the "senses tuff tray", feedback from the classroom given: "this is lovely, this is the first time the whole class have sat down together and done one thing at the same time". They explored materials to touch, taste, smell, look and listen to.



VBC / C in particular one student, made "thank you" cards and gave roses. This included a card to her peers, the staff that help her and mummy and daddy. Spreading thanks, welcomes and kindness. She had initiated who she wanted to thank and why. For example, "thank you for being a good friend".

More information on the Thrive Approach at Pield Heath House School can be found on 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

Community

London Air Ambulance

In November we welcomed The London Air Ambulance. One of their pilots gave us a talk and shared information about the charity.



National Youth Sunday

Sunday 26th November marked the end of the Liturgical year. Students made crowns and found out more about this special feast.



Eco Committee

The student members of the Pield Heath Eco Community enjoyed organising and staffing the Grand opening of the Bookworm Library.

The team worked super hard to finish categorising the books so all of the students of Pield Heath can use the library in the Spring term.

On the day of the grand opening, they decorated the space with a beautiful balloon arch and ensured their guests were happy with a drink on arrival and canapés.

Well done guys, your hard work created an amazing event!



Special Awards

Winefride Tyrrell Award for Leadership 2023

The winner of the Winefride Tyrrell award for student leadership went to James McCloskey. The cup was presented by the Mayor of Hillingdon.



The Winners of the Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) award were

The SSA team in PH+A

Anu
Swati
Collette
Kiran

Mahvash Gilani - PH+D



Wellbeing

Tree of Life

We started the new liturgical year with an initiative called The Tree of Life. The idea of this is to remind us to look after our mind, body and soul so that we can all try to – Live Life to the Full – John 10:10



Goodie Bag Winner

The winner of the Wellbeing Goodie Bag this half term was Dale Nicholson – Well Deserved!



Advent and Christmas

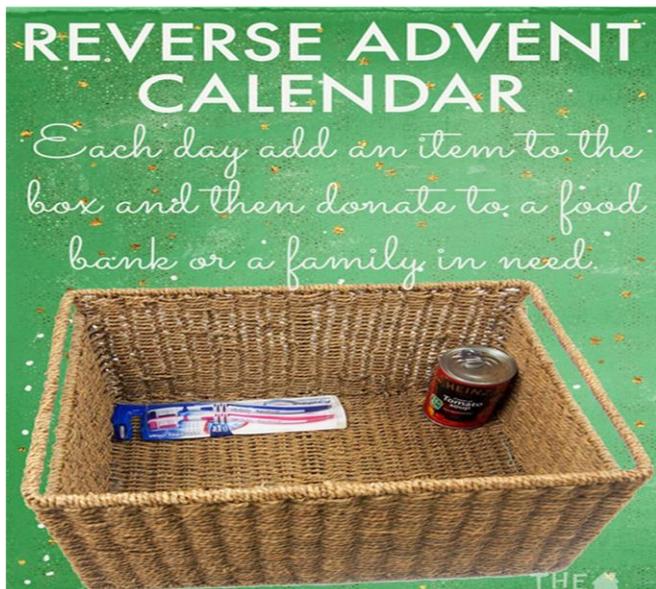
Advent

We marked the Season of Advent in various ways to help us prepare for the great Feast of Christmas. We had an Advent Service to mark the start of the Season. Students took part in designing Advent Wreaths and marked the 4 weeks of Advent by decorating candles. We also had a Staff Reflection which was led by the Staff Liturgy Team.



Reverse Advent Calendar

VBC E organised 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, nice treats to make a difference to another family's joy at Christmas. Many thanks to Nicky Grieve and her Class Team for coordinating this event. This year the collection went to St Edmund's Parish, Hayes.



Christmas Activities

Christmas Shopping

Students enjoyed going shopping and purchasing presents for family and friends. It was also an ideal opportunity to practice their independence and travel training skills.

Students enjoyed a Christmas meal and disco to celebrate Christmas and the End of Term. On 15th December students and staff took part in the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. As well as raising £35 for this worthwhile Charity everyone had a lot of fun with everyone wearing their festive knitwear.



We had a Christmas Mass on 13th December. The Mass was prepared by Roxana Tagui and was celebrated by Fr Nicholas Schofield, Parish Priest at Our Lady of Lourdes & St Michael, Uxbridge.

Christmas Doors Competition

Every class was invited to choose the theme and decorate their classroom doors. There were some amazing and creative designs. Everyone was a winner! To enjoy these, please see the Christmas Doors in the gallery on our website. [Click here](#)

Christmas Fayre

Thank you to everyone for your generosity and support with our Christmas Fayre which the Mayor of Hillingdon opened and took time to meet families and visitors. Despite it being such a wet day thankfully, it all went well.



You will be pleased to know that the winners of the Grand Raffle were:

1st Prize 49" Sharp Smart TV. - E. P. White

2nd Prize £100 M & S Voucher - S. Khalid

3rd Prize Luxury Hamper - J. Stagles

The total raised on the day was an amazing **£1,565.00**

Special thanks to all those who helped before, during and after the event as well as the group of volunteers from Brunel University.

Well done everyone - your time and support was greatly appreciated.



Student Christmas lunches

Special thanks to Gurinder Bains and the Catering Team for all their hard work in preparing the students Christmas lunch and staff buffet.



Fundraising

Children In Need 2023

This year students raised money for Children in Need. As well raising £40 for this worthwhile charity students and staff both had a fun day enjoying various activities.



Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day

Students enjoyed taking part in this event and wearing their favourite festive knitwear.

Christmas jumper day is organised by the charity save the children



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 all over the world. This term we took part in their World Gifts Campaign.



Parents and Carers

Parents Forum

It was lovely to see our families at the last Parents Forum which was led by Juli Critchfield our Signalong Tutor. The next Parents Forum will be from 10.30 - 12.00pm on Wednesday 31st January. The theme will be Maths - Practical Everyday Use and will be led by Roxana Tagui our Assistant Principal.



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 1 2024

Wednesday 10th January – Friday 9th February

School finishes at 2.30pm every Friday

Please click [here](#) for our full school calendar

