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Pield Heath House School - Summer Half Term Update, May 2020

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Summer Half Term Update 22nd May 2020



Dear Friends of Pield Heath,

I hope this finds you and your families in good health, not only coping, but living fully in the 'new normal'. This half term will be remembered for many things involved with the Lockdown. Using terms such as social distancing and learning new skills to communicate remotely via 'Teams' and 'Zoom'.

Although we have not been able to all come together, nonetheless we can still look back over the last few weeks and see how we have been able to enjoy different experiences.

One wonderful piece of Good News to share is the residential provision inspection report from Ofsted for St Joseph's House, where we were graded as Outstanding for the 7th consecutive time.

As a school we don't always have the answers, but we'll always do our best to help, think alongside you and, if nothing else, provide a listening ear.

Take care, look after yourself over the half term and let's hope the sun continues to shine.

Thank you,

Eryl D'Souza
Associate Principal – Community & External Partnerships



Residential 'Outstanding'

We are delighted that our Residential care has, once again, been graded 'Outstanding' at our recent Ofsted inspection for the 7th successive time. Students benefit significantly from this experience which enables them to develop their life skills as well as take part in a range of extra curricular activities.

A special thank you to Jennifer Isaac, Care Manager and the Care Staff at St Joseph's House for all their commitment. We



Lower School News

3N have been doing lots of school work and have learnt how to do some new things. We have made different treats including chocolate muffins. Some of 3N learnt how to solve Sudoku, others have learnt how to make their own music and look after the garden.

3B have also been keeping very busy during their time at home alongside their work that has been set for them by Mr Braiden. Families have been taking part in different activities such as cooking, face painting and games. We hope to see everyone as soon as it is safe to do so!

3D have been doing lots of wonderful activities such as walking, relaxing in the garden, doing some school work, enjoying lots of sports and even some DIY! Miss you all, see you soon.

3P and the Hub students have been developing their Horticulture skills and enjoying other creative activities such as using the floor keyboard to make some wonderful music. At home students have enjoyed their home learning tasks as well as watching their videos and listening to their favourite songs. We look forward to the time that we are all back in school and having fun learning together.

3L students are happy and healthy and being very sensible and staying safe. They have been remembering that everyone is staying at home at the moment to stay safe and to stop the spread of the Corona Virus.

3C have been continuing their learning at home for a range of subjects including sorting money. Mr C would like to thank the students and parents for all their efforts to complete the set tasks and looks forward to the time when we can all be together again.



Upper School News

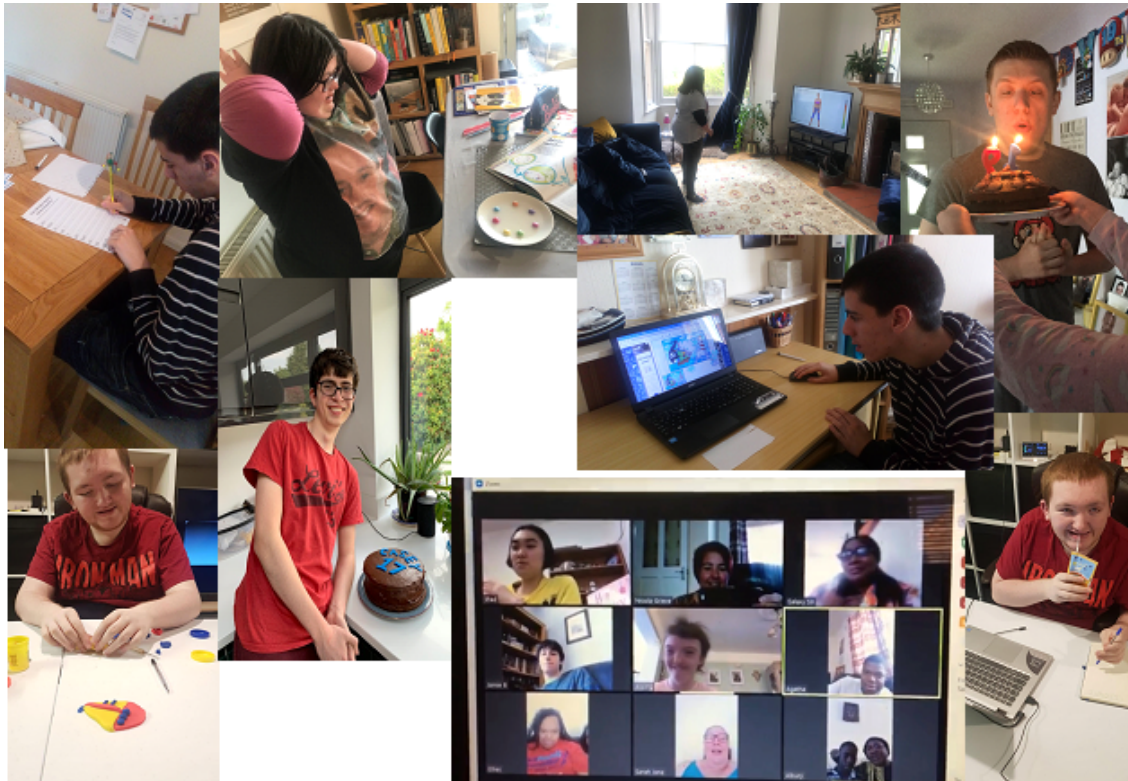
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VBC B are all well and happy at home. Our students have been busy with their families completing school work and displaying good behaviour at home. They have been using online learning programmes to improve their numeracy and literacy skills. Parents have said they have been surprised at how much they have been helping around the house with cleaning, laundry and completing gardening tasks. They are all missing school and are looking forward to returning.

VBC C students have been working very hard at home during lockdown. Clarke has been practising his model making skills using clay to make boats. He has also been improving his computer skills and writing letters to his friends. Charlotte has been working hard at home and getting fit during her daily Zumba class.

VBC D have celebrated 2 birthdays this month with virtual "Zoom Parties". Happy birthday to ID, one of our lovely support assistants and Happy 18th to our twins Albury and Oliver.

Casey and Ryan in VBC E, also known as 'The Jones Brothers' celebrated their birthdays. We sent a Yoda card to Casey and a video card from Rick Astley to Ryan who danced in his kitchen, Ryan not Rick! Best wishes from friends and staff. See you all soon!



Thanks to the families across the school for sharing all the lovely activities that your children have participated in this half term.

Music

What a fast, fantastic and fun half term this was. Although it was strange in some ways it was filled with music which continued to play a very important role for our Pield Heath Community. Personally I enjoyed singing with students over the phone to start with. Later on, I enjoyed delivering music provision to students at school. The highlight however was having our first virtual Zoom choir. Firstly, we kicked off with The Upper School choir singing the school favourites like "Spotty Socks, Oleo, True Colours" and many others. Later we followed with The Lower School Choir singing "In my Paintbox, Sing of a Rainbow and the Community song". I hope next time we will be joined by more of you. I hope everyone is busy making music at home, following activities suggested on our school website or making instruments from everyday objects like the one I showed on the Zoom choir. Most importantly I hope you are enjoying listening to the beautiful music from nature and keeping your spirits up.

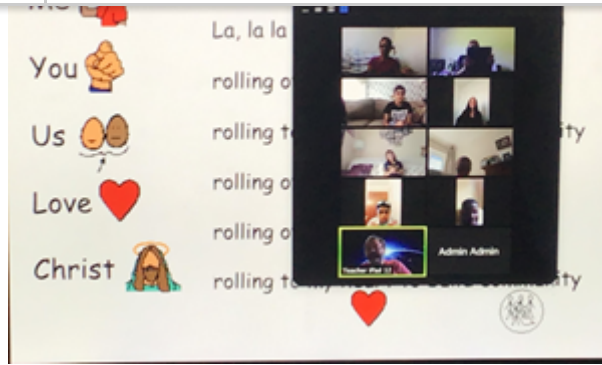
Petra Voniatis

Music Coordinator

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Therapies

This half term, the Speech and Language Therapy department have been busy supporting families to facilitate and promote student’s communication skills at home. This includes contacting parents to offer advice and strategies, liaising with teachers, writing programmes and modelling therapy techniques.



Speech and Language Therapy

On Site Activities

Our students on site have been taking part in lots of activities such as music sessions, outdoor sports and horticulture activities. Class based activities have also been led by key staff on a 1:1 basis.



COMMUNITY

Clap for Carers

We have all enjoyed participating in the National 8pm Clap for NHS / Carers and Key Workers which has taken place every Thursday to show our appreciation of everyone who has been working together to help us through this time.

Here is a photo of The Sisters of our community showing their support and modelling the 2 metre social distance guidance. Photo courtesy of Sr Julie!



Rainbows

Like other schools and organisations both families and staff were eager to make their Rainbow design. There were lots of amazing pictures, a big Thank You to everyone for your enthusiasm in sending these lovely rainbows which are such a beautiful sign of hope.



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were invited to take part in a initiative called 'Send A Message!'. You are welcome to see both presentations for Students and Staff on our school Website, please click [here](#).



St George's Day

23rd April was a glorious sunny day and it was perfect to mark the Feast of St George's Day – Patron Saint of England. Staff and families joined in the spirit by sharing music and other traditions associate with the day.



Month of May

We marked May as the special month of Mary. We looked at the prayer of Mary called The Magnificat. Students under the supervision of Nicky Grieve our Outdoor Learning Development Manager have maintained the Grotto so that when we all go back we can continue to pray and worship in our beautiful grounds. This certainly is Faith in Action, so thank you Nicky and Well Done everyone!



VE Day

We joined in with the whole country on 8th May for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. We enjoyed seeing the flypast of the Red Arrows, listening to the remarkable stories of this historic day and hearing the Queen address the Nation. Some had special tea parties, others just enjoyed spending the day with their family and imagining what it must have been like on the actual day.

Laudato Si Week 16th – 24th May

Laudato Si' Week honours the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical on care for Our Common Home. The theme of the week is "Everything is Connected." The week

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tomorrow.



Festival of Eid

We kept all the staff and families in our community who were marking Ramadan in our thoughts. We extend our good wishes to them for the festival of Eid Mubarak.



Prayer Circle

If there is anyone in particular you would like us to pray for please email their names and any information to admin@pieldheathschool.org.uk and we can add them to our list of petitions.



Thank a Teacher Day - 20th May

20th May was designated "Thank a Teacher Day". On behalf of all the SLT and Governors we extend our deep appreciation and sincere thanks for all you do. Thank you also to our wonderful team of SSAs and to every adult across the school who enhances and supports the learning and faith development thus helping us all to live life to the full.



At times like this it is important to share some Good News so if you too have anything that you are happy to share please let us know.

Congratulations

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Baby daughter Ella May who was born on 20 April.

FUNDRAISING



Pield Heath 100 Club

Our **100 CLUB** is a great way to support school whilst having a bit of a flutter!

An annual fee of £12 (£2 per half term) buys you one membership number which enters you into a prize draw that takes place on the last day of each half term – 6 draws per Academic Year. If you win, you will be notified and a cheque will be posted to your home address.

The prize money will be 35% of the membership fee taken that month, the remaining 65% will go to school to fund equipment and resources.

1st Prize 20% 2nd Prize 10% 3rd Prize 5%

Winning numbers in the draw this Half-Term were:

1st Prize: 4
2nd Prize: 13
3rd Prize: 19

Winners cheques will be sent after half term.

Remember, there can only be a maximum number of **100** members so this is an *exclusive* club with good odds of winning! For more information please call school or contact eryl.dsouza@pieldheathschool.org.uk



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