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Pield Heath House School - Spring Half Term Update, February 2021

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## Spring Half Term Update 12th February 2021



Dear Friends of Pield Heath,

As this is our first newsletter of 2021 it's a good time for us to look ahead as we hope that things will gradually continue to improve for everyone.

It has been very encouraging to see more of our students returning to school. Thanks to the gift of technology, staff have also been engaging with those who have been learning remotely offsite. The Staff continue to be amazing and to find new and creative ways to interact with our students. Sincere thanks also to all our Parents for your ongoing cooperation and for working in partnership with us, during this long and challenging journey. What we all need to remember now is, to be kind to ourselves.

It was lovely to see the snow and the moment of awe and wonder it creates. I recently came across a quote by Kahlil Gibran about kindness - see image below.

So thank you to each and everyone of you for being the Snow for Pield Heath!

On behalf of everyone at Pield Heath, I hope you have a good break and we look forward to welcoming back our students and staff after the half term.

Eryl D'Souza  
Associate Principal - Community & External Partnerships

**CLASS NEWS**

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### Tutor Group - 2B

We shared cupcakes with our friends. We also learnt about building skills/balance whilst playing Jenga.

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### Tutor Group - 3D

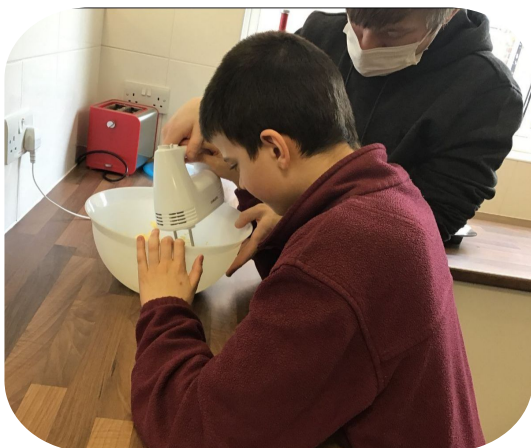
In PSHE we have been looking at ourselves and what makes us happy and what makes “me”. The class made mosaic/collages of their faces. In PE we have been working on aiming, improving our throwing and kicking skills. We also enjoyed our yoga sessions. In cooking we made some lovely treats including cookies and shortbread.



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### Tutor Group - 3K

We enjoyed various arts and crafts activities which have helped us to get to know each other better in our group. We also enjoyed our cookery lesson and our class parties.



### Tutor Group - 3L

Well, it's been an amazing term for 3L with some students having zoom lessons at home, some doing their learning in school and some doing both. All have coped remarkably well and shown great resilience despite all the changes to their normal routine of coming into school.

For those 3L students in school they have been busy learning all about habitats and all about what that means and where the different animals live. We have travelled outside into the school grounds, looking for animals but the most we could find was a crow! We travelled to Miss Ball's classroom to look at their Aquarium and found some lovely different coloured tropical fish! We looked at short video clips and pictures of animals and discussed their various habitats comparing them to how we live and what our habitats look like! They have also been actively participating in the wonderful onsite music sessions.

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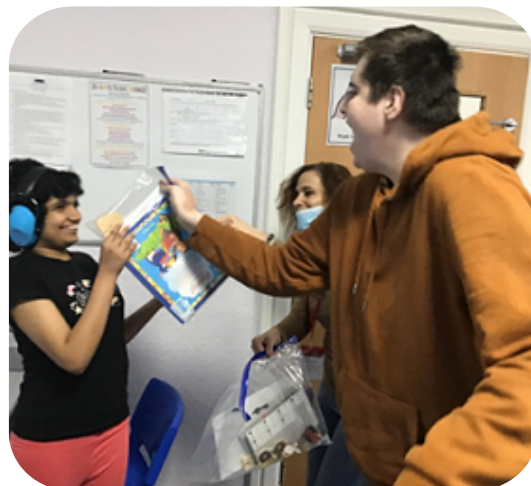
### Tutor Group - 3W

We enjoyed our PE lessons and trying out the different equipment in the Gym.



### Tutor Group - PH+A

This term we were working on the theme of habitats. We learned to play a fantastic game based on the well-known verse by Michael Rosen "Going on a Bear Hunt". We listened to and practiced the rhymes from the verse. We loved acting out the bear hunt scenarios in different surroundings. Every day we learned about environments: water, fields, rocks and forests. We learned about animals that live there and found out that they were created by God. We also learned the pen grips and practised making marks on



### Tutor Group - PH+B

We have taken part in lots of practical activities to develop our skills. These are some of the examples. Sona brushing her teeth in PSD. Sona and Traian making a poster about the corona virus. Traian learning about the corona virus and how to make ourselves safe by putting on a mask. Traian at the bike track waiting for a bus by the bus stop. During literacy Traian was passing the bag onto Sona to choose from the letter A or R bag. During breakfast time Sona was practicing to butter her bread. In their SALT session PH+B gathered around the group table and enjoyed the balloon activity. Fazal placing his name on the board during the morning circle time. Fazal choosing from the letter 'A' bag in literacy during what's in the bag activity. Danyia enjoying the literacy lesson during the letter song. She enjoyed the singing and actions made by staff.



### Tutor Group - PH+C

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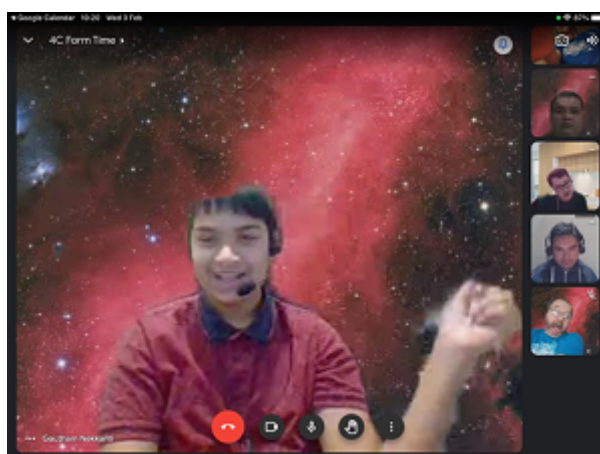
the Earth'. As well as that we have been very busy getting ready for our assembly on Friday and making little gifts for everyone. We all hope you have a very restful half term break.

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### Tutor Group - PH+D

This term PH+D has been working very hard developing our life skills. We have been doing a range of different activities such as hoovering, mopping, washing up and self care.



### Tutor Group - 4C

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how the students have been able to use the email system to upload their completed work. Finally, I want to say a big thank you to all the parents who have been supporting the learning of their children. I know from first hand experience how trying it can be to teach one of your own and I also know that some of you are also having to juggle support for brothers and sisters too. You all deserve a medal!

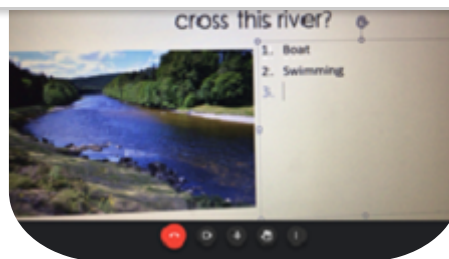
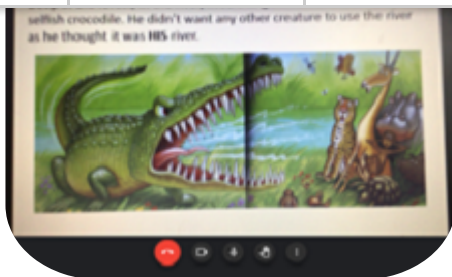
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### Tutor Group - 4M

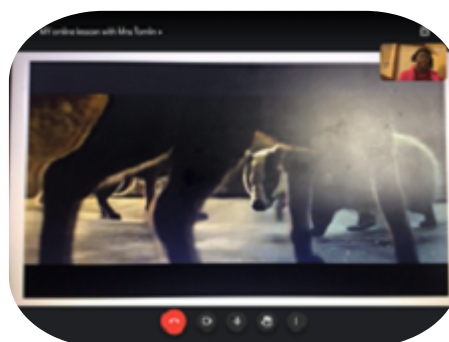
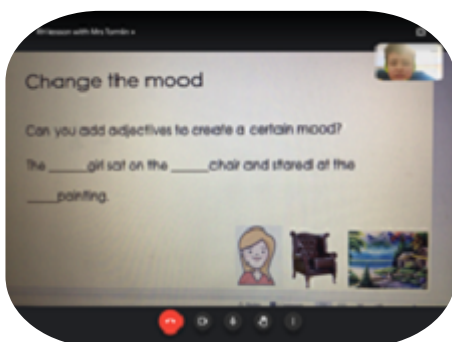
This term 4M students started taking part in the Covid testing, they were all absolute superstars! Well done 4M for remembering the test is nothing to worry about and is to keep us safe. Across the term we have been working on the theme habitats. We've had some fantastic lessons keeping our minds and bodies busy thinking about all the different habitats there are. In particular, we really enjoyed our dance lesson with Daisy where we learnt about an island and what could be there. Here you can see one of our students wandering through the spider webs and others on the stepping stones through the island trail. We also have implemented spirituality across all of our learning and have participated in many nature-walks to appreciate God's creation and beautiful world. In addition to this we have used our imagination to create different symbols that celebrate spirituality.



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### Tutor Group - 4T

4T have adapted to remote learning, enjoying a range of activities during their online lessons. They have worked really hard, striving towards their short term targets.



### Tutor Group - VBC A+

Our group have had a good half term and we had been learning various new skills- we have been working on our life skills and did various arts and crafts activities. We enjoyed the activities that were planned for Show you Care Week.



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photos and the students at school made sure our birds still had something to eat on those frozen days.



### Tutor Group - VBC C

Ethan likes doing things for others. He made his class smoothies. Abdi, loves music, singing and dance to keep calm. Clarke likes being creative in the kitchen. Cam'Ron loves to keep fit, so likes to run each day. Thomas, Jason and Casey have been busy at home.



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### Updates from the Therapies Team

Our Therapy Team includes 3 Speech and Language Therapists (SALT) and an Occupational Therapist (OT).

Our Speech and Language Therapists are Sara Ali (SALT lead), Petrece McLeod and Lydia Chong. They support learners to communicate functionally and effectively throughout the day across home, school and community settings. SALTs work closely with teaching staff to develop learners' attention and listening skills (e.g. ability to focus on a task), understanding of language (e.g. ability to follow instructions, understand vocabulary), use of language (e.g. verbal communication, PECS, communication books), speech (e.g. producing sounds correctly within words), and social communication skills (e.g. turn taking, self-awareness, conversations).

Our Occupational Therapist, Bhindu Odedra, helps our learners to maintain calm alertness through sensory strategies and to optimise their independent functioning at school and at home by developing attention skills, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, visual-motor skills, emotional regulation skills, self-care skills, and provision of adaptive equipment.

The therapy team is led by Bhindu Odedra, Clinical Lead for Therapies Team.



**Bhindu Odedra**  
Clinical Lead for Therapies Team



**Sara Ali**  
Speech & Language Therapist



**Petrece McLeod**  
Speech & Language Therapist



**Lydia Chong**  
Speech & Language Therapist



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Although we mark this important event annually, inevitably this year the week had even greater significance. The theme for the week which was from 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February was 'Express Yourself'. We had an assembly and reflection highlighting the importance of our keeping our mind and body healthy. As part of our ongoing support, staff will continue to use a wide range of resources to support our students and their families with various activities including Thrive, Therapy, emotional and social stories, arts and crafts activities, music, dance and meditations.



### Safer Internet Day 2021

This took place on 9th February. The theme this year was 'An Internet We Trust: Exploring Reliability in the Online World.' Every year, Safer Internet Day provides us with the perfect opportunity to reflect and assess our online habits, both good and bad. While online safety is highly necessary at all times, having a special day, helps to remind us of the importance for everyone of keeping children safe online, especially during these unprecedented times.



### Parents Forum

Our next Parents Forum will be on the theme of Parent / Carer Wellbeing, it will be led by Lynne Laverty and Therese Glynn. Further details to follow after half term.



### 'Show someone you Care'

Leading into this last week of this half term we had the theme "Show someone you Care" where students took part in various activities including making cards. It was great to bring all this together and mark Valentine's Day by having a special assembly where the students in Sarah Ball's class distributed treats they had made to all the classes. To end the day students had a zoom disco in their groups. A sincere thank you to Petra Voniatis for organising this special event again this year.

## SCHOOL NEWS

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### Horticulture

The Pield Heath Student Gardeners were kept very busy this term preparing our Community Café, The Well for planting this Spring. A lorry brought us two massive bags of compost and we have all been kept very busy transporting it into the beds. The cold weather does not stop us!

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### St Josephs House

Students have enjoyed their time at St Josephs House preparing the table for their meals and loading the dishwasher. They have also used the therapy ball and band to take part in various exercises.





### Team Enterprise Calendar

Our Team Enterprise Company 'Gold Stars' designed another beautiful Calendar for 2021, with a selection of beautiful artwork produced by the students. The themes they chose were very uplifting.

Thank you to Sandra Parsons and John Cook, for all their support as well as to all the staff and students in Gold Stars – Well Done everyone!

## COMMUNITY



### The Year of St Joseph

As you may be aware Pope Francis has declared a special Year of St Joseph. With the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.

The Pope wrote *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation." During this year, we plan to do various activities to mark this special event.



### RE Lessons

This term in their RE lessons students learned about Local Community. They took part in various activities and looked at different jobs and the way people serve as community helpers. They also focussed on the role of the Priest as a Spiritual leader. In their RE lessons, students shared Bible Stories and listened to The Parable of the Lost Sheep, as an example of how we can find ways of being closer to God.

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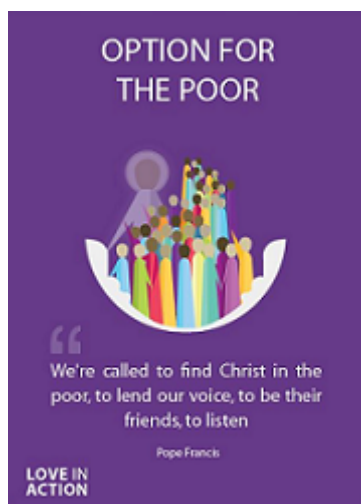
### Christian Unity Week

We marked Christian Unity Week which was from 18th - 25th January. The theme that was chosen for this year was 'Abiding in Christ'.



### Racial Justice Sunday

Following on from the various activities that we did last term during Black History Month this year we marked Racial Justice Sunday on 31<sup>st</sup> January by sharing some resources and prayers with our community.



### Caritas 'Love in Action' Programme

Love in Action is an engagement programme designed by Caritas, Westminster to introduce Parishes and Schools to the principles of [Catholic Social Teaching \(CST\)](#).

There are 6 Principles that we will be looking at over the programme.

- Dignity
- Solidarity and Peace
- Option for the Poor
- Creation
- Community and Participation
- Dignity of Workers

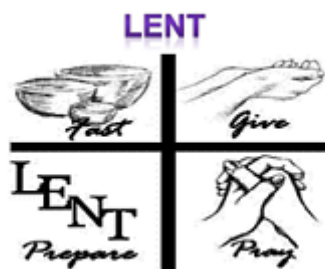
In Spring Term 1 we have been looking at ways in which we can highlight the principle of Option for the Poor.

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### Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

We marked the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes – World Day of the Sick by having a special service.

As you know our school comes under Uxbridge Parish which is called Our Lady of Lourdes and St Michael, so it is a special day also for our local Parish.



### Lent - Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday

As you may already be aware next Tuesday 16th February is Shrove Tuesday, so you can enjoy making and eating pancakes!

This is followed by Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. In normal circumstances we would have had a whole school Mass but due to the current situation and as this year it happens to fall in the half term, Cardinal Vincent Nichols has sent information entitled 'Ash Wednesday at Home' which can be found on our school website.



### Thinking of You

As this has and continues to be such a challenging time. In our chapel we have an ongoing display called Thinking of You. All staff and students are welcome to go along to our chapel where they can place



### Good News

Days are getting longer, Spring is on it's way!

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

#### **Important Dates for your diary:**

##### **Spring Term 2021**

Spring 1 – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021\*

Half Term – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Spring 2 – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021\*

**\* School finishes at 2.30pm**

##### **Summer Term 2021**

Summer 1 – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021\*

Bank Holiday – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021

Half Term – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Summer 2 – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021\*

**\* School finishes at 2.30pm**

##### **Training Days 2020-2021 (Staff Only)**

19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

20<sup>th</sup> April 2021



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