



Dear Friends of Pield Heath


Welcome to our first newsletter of 2022. Although we started a new year, at times it felt like we were still very much in the eye of the COVID storm. However, we still managed to have some special events. These included, a Mass for Christian Unity Week, we marked Children's Mental Health Week, and took part in the NSPCC Number Day. You can read about the range of other activities in the newsletter.

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 what has been a long and challenging journey.

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 on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

*Eryl D'Souza*

Associate Principal  
Community & External Partnerships



In case you needed  
a reminder...  
Be kind to yourself,  
always, in all ways.

## Social Care Inspection

You will be pleased to know that we received the report for The Social Care Inspection and we were graded Good.

Examples of some of the comments by the Inspector in the report included

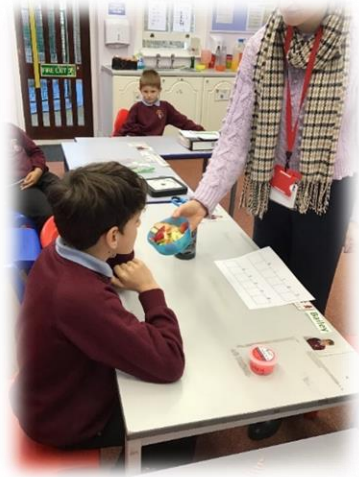
- *'The biggest strength of the residential provision is in the continuity of the positive relationships between the young people and staff.'*
- *'Staff have created a nurturing and calm environment in which young people's needs are understood and met.'*
- *'Leaders and managers have high aspirations for the school, its residential provision and the young people.'*

Well Done to Jennifer Isaac the Care Manager and to all the Care Team at St Joseph's House. Thank you also to the staff at school for your efforts in ensuring the care and wellbeing of all our students. A copy of the [full inspection report](#) is also available on our school website.



## Tutor Group 2E

2E had the opportunity to compete in a ten-pin bowling competition and really enjoyed it. In our English lessons, we have been reading the story of Handa's surprise and we've really enjoyed trying all the different fruits from the story.



## Tutor Group 3D

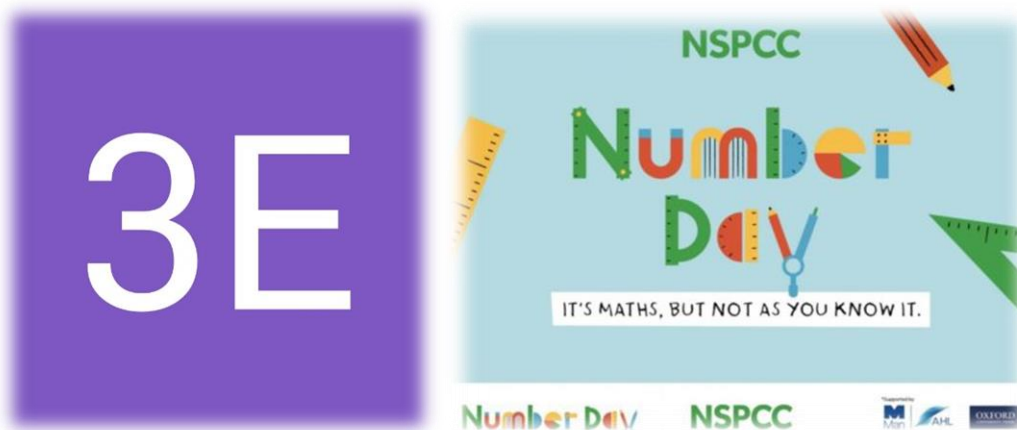
During a recent Horticulture lesson, 3D discussed and then identified different types of foods that birds eat. Each student then made bird food using different types of food including ripe bananas, bread and sunflower seeds. The Students were then able to feed the foods they had made to the birds. This activity gave the students an opportunity to work together taking turns to feed the birds.





### Tutor Group 3E

The students in 3E have had an eventful half term taking part in the many events that have happened throughout the last 6 weeks. Some students took part in the mass at our chapel, helping with the readings for the service. Others have really enjoyed the children's wellbeing and Number Day celebrations.



### Tutor Group 3G

We have been having lots of fun with our topic 'Transport'. We have done many activities for this including painting our own traffic lights and making tracks for cars on our classroom floor. We have also really enjoyed our cooking classes this half term and the whole class has helped to make some lovely treats.



### Tutor Group 3L

The students in 3L have really enjoyed their topic this term - transport. As part of this, we have learnt about zebra crossings and traffic lights, visited the bike track and have talked about bikes. The class also had a go at cycling as well as using the zebra crossing. In Knowledge of the World we have been making vehicles as well as messy play and playing with remote control cars.



### Tutor Group 3W

In 3W, the students have loved cooking! They have been learning about how to use a pan safely in the kitchen. They have made some delicious food such as Eggy Bread, Quesadillas and Egg Fried Rice. The students have been working on building their independence skills in Cooking by washing up items that they have used. They have also worked on Health and Safety skills by putting on PPE and making sure that their working areas are safe.



## Tutor Group PH+A

This half term, PH+A have developed their Signalong and have continued to work hard on their independent living skills. They enjoyed taking part in the Dress to Express event as well as all the assemblies where they learnt some new songs.



## Tutor Group PH+B

In RE lessons, the PH+B students have learnt about how to greet and value their peers, friends and adults. They learnt how to sign some key words such as Please, Thank you and Sorry. In communication and interactions sessions, the students have been given the opportunity to explore different sensory play and make choices about what items/objects they prefer to explore and play with.





## Tutor Group PH+C

The students in PH+C have enjoyed learning about different types of transport during Knowledge of the World. We also have explored playing with a range of different transport models!



## Tutor Group 4C

During English lessons, 4C class discussed what peace means to them and to other people from different parts of world. The class also listened to a few famous speeches by leaders such as Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy. The students have been trying to define peace in their own words and each of the students attempted to write a Poem of Peace. They noticed that peace is a time without any fights or wars, and that peace also means a state of harmony, quiet and calm that is not disturbed by anything at all.

In Science lessons, we learned about the origin of the universe, galaxies and different types of stars. Each of the students drew a picture of a constellation of their choice, noticing how they change with the summer and winter seasons. The boys learned that a constellation is a group of stars in the night sky that make up a recognisable picture or pattern.



### Tutor Group 4T

This term 4T has done lots of very good work and enjoyed many practical activities. We have continued to practice different skills to help prepare us for being out in the community. We have enjoyed being able to buy things at school. We have also been working towards making a meal/snack for ourselves and peers.



### Tutor Group 4W

This term we celebrated Peace promoted by Pope Francis. We worked to develop positive relationships with other students and learned in PSHE about good ways of solving conflicts, using our quiet voice when talking to others and practised cooperation while playing games in pairs. We were also learning about ways of appreciating our friendships. We now know we should do our best and be thankful for our families and friends. We also practised new signs, which we learned thanks to Juli, the new Signalong lead. Now we can sign many new words, e.g. remember, hello, today





### Tutor Group VBC A+

VBC A+ has had a positive start to the year. The class has been working very hard on developing their independent life skills. This has included identifying and adding money, getting dressed, cooking and setting the table before lunch.



### Tutor Group VBC B

Throughout this term VBCB have been working on increasing their independence skills. Taking on new responsibilities such as working in the café, working independently and exploring new places in the community. We are looking forward to the warmer months and exploring the world around us.



### Tutor Group VBC C

VBC C started off the new Spring term by visiting our favourite Work Experience venue, Nathan's Farm. The weather was very cold (-2) but the sun was shining and we had a magical morning together. Ethan works here every Friday and he enjoyed introducing his classmates to the animals and farm staff. We met the baby animals that were born over Christmas and helped the farm staff to feed them.



### St Joseph's House

This term, the students have been focusing on improving their number work and their wider life skills. Activities have included a fun group interaction with numbers, where students had the opportunity to dance and exercise while counting from 1 to 7. Students also practiced everyday skills such as preparing drinks for themselves and clearing up after mealtimes.



## Speech and Language (SaLT)



Bright



Ideas

to



Support

Communication



If your young person is finding it



difficult to



follow



an instruction,

1



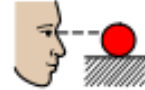
1. Make



sure



they are



looking at



you

2



2. Repeat

+



and simply it

3



3. Give



them



time to



process

the








instruction


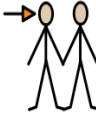










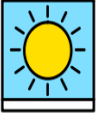
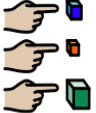



## Occupational Therapy

 Occupational Therapy  Bright  Ideas to  Help  Your  Young Person to  Start








 Their  Day  at  Home  with  a Sensory  Circuit.

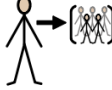
•  Sensory  circuits  are a  set  of activities  designed to  wake up  all

 the  senses.  They  help  to  energise  or  settle  young people  into


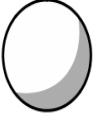




 the  day.  Each  circuit  includes:






- **Alerting activities** such as bouncing on a therapy ball or doing
















 star jumps. It helps to stimulate the body in preparation for active










 participation.










- **Organising activities** such as balancing on a wobble board, throwing and








 catching soft balls, or kicking a ball into a goal. It














 encourages the brain and body to work together.











 Calming activities such as
 
 full
 
 body
 
 stretches,
 
 bear
 
 walks
 
 and



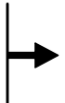



 carrying
 
 the laundry basket,
 
 it provides
 
 heavy
 
 muscle
 
 work
 
 and
 
 deep


 pressure,
 
 to give
 
 awareness
 
 of their
 
 body
 
 in
 
 space
 
 and
 
 helps


 to regulate sensory input.


 Try
 
 this
 
 at
 
 home
 
 with
 
 your
 
 young person
 
 and
 
 enjoy
 
 a


 day
 
 of fun
 
 and
 
 feeling
 
 calm,
 
 alert
 
 and
 
 energised.


 With regards
 
 from
 
**Bhindu Odedra,**

 Your
 
 Occupational Therapist.



## Signalong



We are delighted to introduce our new Signalong Lead Juli Critchfield, a welcome addition to our therapies team. Our school supports total communication, understanding and learning. As you know we use a sign support system called Signalong and remain committed to using this system throughout the school to ensure consistency. This means all staff are trained, including all class-based staff, senior leaders, office and our kitchen and premises staff.

Juli delivers various activities such as sign of the week, weekly signing with our choir and attending sessions within class.



## Horticulture

The Pield Heath Student Gardeners have started to sow their vegetable seeds. It is still very early in the season, and a little cold so we have planted only our Chilli seeds. We are keeping them warm and snug in propagators inside the Horticulture room.

*The seed is the "word of God". The simple seed looks small and insignificant, but it is in fact powerful. It is laden with potential. The seed has the capacity for life and the power of transformation. In the same way, the word of God has the power to give us life.*



## Acts of Kindness

Jason had the opportunity to sing with the charity Rays of Sunshine and to meet the amazing Olly Murs! We are all very proud of you Jason!



## Special Events

### Number Day



On 11th of February we celebrated Number Day. Number Day is a nationally recognised day where schools up and down the country take part to raise money for the NSPCC. Our students took part in a range of activities such as a Number and Shape Hunt in the field, guess the weight of the cake, guess how many sweets are in the jar, a Raffle and giant number games. They also had sports activities such as scoring goals and hoops as well as a Numicon circuit and walking laps around the Bike Track. The students looked fantastic dressed up in Numbers and Shapes! Thank you for supporting us on the day, and a special Thank you to our maths coordinator Beth Wright for leading the day. The students had a fantastic day! Photos will be available to view on our website.

## Community

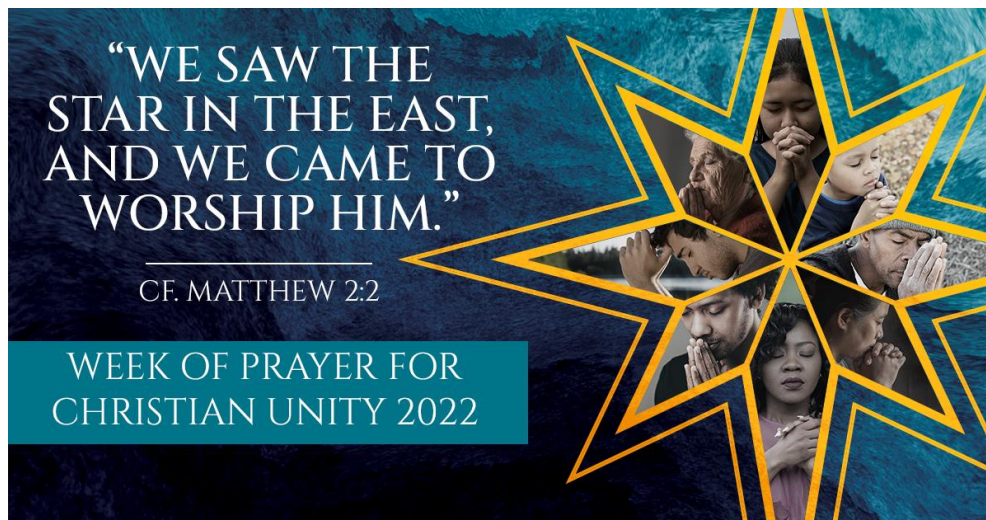
### January Service

On 4<sup>th</sup> January we started our year, as we always do, with a service which all staff across our community joined online. It included a meditation and a chance to think on the theme of *Not Teaching about God but Teaching with God.*



## Christian Unity Week

We marked Christian Unity Week which was from 18th - 25th January.



On 19<sup>th</sup> January we had a special Mass which was celebrated by Fr Nicholas on this theme where he shared the fact that the 3 Wise Men came from different lands.

Like them we too have our differences however we can still journey together in the same direction knowing that we are all unique and loved by God



## The Synod

As you may be aware, Pope Francis launched a world wide 'Synodal' Process, inviting us all to listen to each other and discern what God is saying to The Church. The aim of this is because he wants to hear from everyone who is willing to be involved, including those who do not feel 'connected' to the church or who have drifted away. Along with all the schools in Westminster Diocese and parishes, we participated in various activities including a staff questionnaire and a service. We had a whole school assembly and children also learnt about this as part of their RE curriculum. The RE Ambassadors looked at the logo and we will continue to work on this project and share their work in ongoing displays around the school. Eventually, all of this information will form part of the discussions at the Synod of Bishops in 2023. The idea of having this Synod is because The Church wants to hear our voices and every voice matters.



## The 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.



This image is of the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes.



People can go to visit the sanctuary.

### Thinking of You

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 a candle to remember anyone they wish. This will also be an ongoing reminder for our whole school community to keep these intentions in our prayers. If there is anyone you would like to be included please send their details for Thinking of You to [admin@pieldschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@pieldschool.org.uk)



### 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 by sharing some resources and prayers with our community. The theme for this year is 'In the Image and Likeness of God.' Bishop Paul McAleenan has shared a video for this event which you can see [here](#).





## The Well

Thank you to the Student and Staff Team at The Well for including a new Wednesday Delivery Service which was a welcome addition, and was appreciated by everyone especially during the cold weather.



## Wellbeing



## Children's Mental Health Week

The theme for the week the 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> February was Growing Together. Over the course of the week, we took part in a range of activities to raise awareness about pertinent to children's mental health. These included THRIVE activities, therapy, emotional and social stories, arts and crafts activities and music and dance. Special thanks Lisa Carroll for creating the lovely display in the reception area and to Netta Hill, our Inclusion Co-ordinator, for organising this special week. We also extend thanks to PH+C Team for supporting Children's Mental Health Week by hosting a sale of delicious goodies.

<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Mindful Monday</b> 	<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Team Tuesday</b> 	<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Dress to express Wednesday</b> 	<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Thank you Thursday (Be Kind)</b> 
--	---	--	---







### **Staff Wellbeing**

The Winner of the Staff Wellbeing Goodie Bag this half term was Kiran Nahar.



### PBS Award

This terms PBS staff award winner is Ravi in VBC B – Well done!



### Parents Forum

Thank you to Lynne Laverty and Zeena Bishop from Autism Services at the Centre for ADHD & Autism Support, who led our Parents Forum on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Thank you also to all those who joined to look at the role of Parents / Carers and to explore and share practical tips to support wellbeing.





## Team Enterprise

Our Team Enterprise Company Gold Stars designed another beautiful Calendar for 2022, with a selection of beautiful artwork produced by the students.



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!

## **Parents and Carers**

### **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 2022**

Spring 1 – Thursday 6th January 2022 – Friday 11th February 2022\*

Half Term – Monday 14th February 2022 – Friday 18th February 2022

Spring 2 – Monday 21st February 2022 – Friday 1st April 2022\*

### **Summer Term 2022**

Summer 1 – Wednesday 20th April 2022 – Friday 27th May 2022\*

Bank Holiday – Monday 2nd May 2022

Half Term – Monday 30th May 2022 – Friday 3rd June 2022

Summer 2 – Tuesday 7th June 2022 – Friday 22nd July 2022\*

***\* School finishes at 2.30pm***

### **Staff Training Days**

19th April 2022

6th June 2022



