

Pield Heath House School Autumn Newsletter - December 2019

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Autumn Newsletter December 2019



Dear Friends of Pield Heath,

Christmas gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect on the year that has passed. Looking back just one of the many highlights of this term was our Christmas Performance 'Magical Moments of Christmas'. In a simple but powerful way, the students expressed the real meaning of Christmas, by sharing their unique gifts and talents.

In September, we were delighted to welcome new students, who have settled in well. This term, we say goodbye to James Thomas who is leaving to settle in Germany. James worked as a Key Stage 5 Tutor and was our ICT Coordinator. We also say farewell to Joanne Stroud, PA to the Senior Leadership Team who has worked tirelessly in the background to support the management team as well as the whole school community with all our events over the last seven years. We thank James and Joanne for sharing their skills and expertise and we wish them all the best for the future.

On behalf of everyone at Pield Heath, I would like to thank you for your generous support and wish you and your family Peace and Joy at Christmas and every blessing in the New Year.

As the year draws to a close and we look forward to the start of a new decade 2020, I would like to share with you a short quotation I came across from A. Pahro where she asks the question – What is Christmas?

'Christmas is

Tenderness for the past,

Courage for the present and

Hope for the future.'

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Eryl D'Souza

Associate Principal - Community & External Partnerships

Class and Subject News



Tutor Group - 2T

All the students in 2T have made a positive start and enjoyed learning new things by doing amazing science experiments. By working together as a team we have also made great friends with each other.

We also enjoyed some great school trips.



Tutor Group - 3B

3B really enjoyed learning about the Sacrament of Baptism in RE this term. They took it in turns to role play aspects of the ceremony in our chapel. The whole class enjoyed the lesson and worked really well. Everyone was engaged and came away having learnt a lot about Baptism and the importance of this special sacrament.

Tutor Group - 3N

In 3N this term in P.E. the class has been doing weekly Yotism. This is Yoga designed especially for people with Autism. It has a high level of structure and the students 3N all love it. They are getting very good at accurately holding a range of

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Tutor Group - 3C

3C have been working hard this term as usual. Students have been chosen to be published in a poetry book after entering the **Young Writers** poetry competition. The class chose characters from **Romeo and Juliet** to write about and this gave them a chance to show off their Shakespearian knowledge as well as their poetry skills.



Tutor Group - 3L

The students in 3L have had an amazing first term they have worked hard and have grown in confidence since the beginning of the year. As a reward for picking South Africa in The World Cup 3L secured themselves a trip to McDonalds, a trip we all enjoyed especially the students as you can see. The children have enjoyed their RE lessons this term covering a broad range of topics including the annunciation, pilgrimage and of course culminating with Advent and the Christmas story. They have enjoyed a variety of activities in all subjects including drama where they were rehearsing for their Christmas production, and what an amazing production that was!

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3D's Assembly was held on 8 November 2019. Our assembly looked at Different Emotions which the students had been learning about over the previous few weeks. In class the students learnt to identify different emotions by first of all seeing those emotions in pictures and images. A variety of emotions were covered, including: happiness, fear, sadness, anger, surprise etc. The students also had the chance to do role plays each expressing an emotion and then the other students had to guess the emotion was expressed/demonstrated.



Tutor Group - 3P

3P enjoyed learning about the festive season, watching the nativity, making their own manger and really enjoyed making Christmas cards and tree decorations for their school friends and family.



Tutor Group - 3S

3S have had a busy but great start to the new school year, we have made new friends and are now used to our new classroom as well as the different lessons like cooking and having different teachers. We celebrated birthdays and helped decorate the classroom for Christmas.

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worked extremely hard within their different subjects. They thoroughly enjoyed Christmas Shopping in Uxbridge using their community and money skills to buy presents. We then had a lovely time at Pizza Hut where we had lunch.



Tutor Group - VBC A

In VBC A, we have had a great start to the year, getting to know our new Tutor, SSAs and classroom in the sixth form. We enjoyed taking part in various options and our new timetable, which has allowed us to develop our life skills, independence and interpersonal skills. We look forward to continuing to develop these throughout the year.

We particularly enjoy baking in the cafe, completing Work Experience in the lower dining hall, feeding the birds in horticulture and going bowling. The highlight of our term was working together to produce our sketch for the brilliant Christmas performance.

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Tutor Group - VBC B

VBC B enjoyed all their lessons across the curriculum this term. They have been learning about Christianity, and focusing on the Catholic faith. The class participated in lots of practical activities, including what happens during the Sacrament of Confirmation.



Tutor Group - VBC C

This term students of VBC C have been working hard making Christmas gifts as part of Team Enterprise to sell at the Christmas Fayre. This year they had been making angels and sleighs. VBC C visited the transport for London Museum in Covent Garden as part of their community skills lesson. They travelled to the museum by train where they used their own oyster cards. They loved the experience and even had a chance to be a 'train driver'. VBC C also visited Uxbridge for the day using public transport as part of their community skills lesson. They practiced waiting for the bus, getting on the bus, using their Oyster cards to pay, and getting off the bus carefully.

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Tutor Group - VBC D

The students and staff of VBC D have had great fun this term on the build up to Christmas. Decorating our room, practising and getting ready for the Christmas play and posing together for this year's Christmas card photo.

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Tutor Group - VBC E

Students from VBC E and VBC D applied for and took part in interviews for the paid job of working in Breakfast Club. Tony O' Shea and Amanda Fitzgerald interviewed them.

Khushi, Casey, Thomas and Jason all got their jobs and took turns, each receiving a pay-packet at the end of the week!

We celebrated Ayub's 18th Birthday in style by going to Nandos.



Sports News

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the Rugby World Cup hosted in Japan. We had a draw and every tutor group was given a country to follow. 3L were the class who supported the Winning Team South Africa and they celebrated this by going out for lunch as a group.



Boccia

Congratulations to the Boccia team who came third. They played against five schools from Hillingdon. As they were the highest placed team with SLD they will be going into the next round to represent Hillingdon at the London Youth Games.



Bowling

Our students were fantastic at a bowling event held in November. They made an excellent team and were competing with 8 teams from different schools. Pield Heath came 2nd and received silver medals, a trophy and certificate. Jonathan was the top scorer from the whole competition and received a gold medal.

Horticulture News



RHS Wisley - Green Plan It Competition

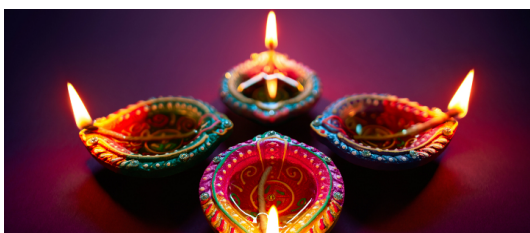
The Pield Heath Student Gardeners worked so very hard towards the RHS Green Plan It competition this term. Ten weeks of hard work and fantastic teamwork paid off when on Wednesday 4th December, at the awards ceremony held at Wisley, we were awarded the "Pupil's Choice" Award for our Eco-garden / Pizza plant model.

The students were absolutely delighted and received the biggest round of applause of the day. Well Done to the Pield Heath Gardeners and to all of the other students that have helped towards the project. We are all very proud of each and every one of you.

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Heart Tuckshop

This term the students in Key Stage 4 launched their new enterprise called The Heart Tuckshop run by 4W which is run in the VBC Common Room every Friday morning.



Diwali Assembly

In October we had a special assembly to mark Diwali the Hindu Festival of Light. In the Assembly we heard the story of Rama and Sita and looked at the theme of Light over Darkness and how good overcame evil.



Anti Bullying Week

In November, we had various activities to mark Anti-Bullying week, organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA). The theme this year was "Change Starts With Us". As the ABA says "Change starts with a conversation, it starts with checking in. It starts with working together. Change starts here. Change starts now. Change starts with us." All staff and students were invited to wear Purple on 'Purple Wednesday' to mark this special week.



Remembrance Day

On 6th November a Mass was held in our Chapel for Remembrance Day.

As well as remembering those who gave their lives during the war we also prayed for our own family and friends in our Community.

Our RE Ambassadors also sold poppies in school to mark Remembrance Day and raise funds for The Royal British Legion.

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in November. This initiative is a great opportunity to strengthen and develop understanding and cooperation between people of different backgrounds.

Our RE Ambassadors visited a Synagogue in London, courtesy of The Levenfiche Foundation. We had a talk given by the Rabbi and were given a tour of the Synagogue.



Winefride Tyrrell Award for Leadership

Sr Winefride Tyrrell was responsible for opening Pield Heath House School in 1901 and was also the co-founder of the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

In memory of Sr Winefride we have set up a Leadership Award. This year's winner was Thomas Hibbs who was presented with the cup by The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Teji Barnes, following the Christmas Performance.



Parents Forum

We had a good response to the Parents Forum which was led by Lynne Laverty and Therese Glynn.



Staff Recognition Award

We have a Staff Recognition Award to reward a member of staff who has been nominated by colleagues for doing something outstanding. The award is made every term.

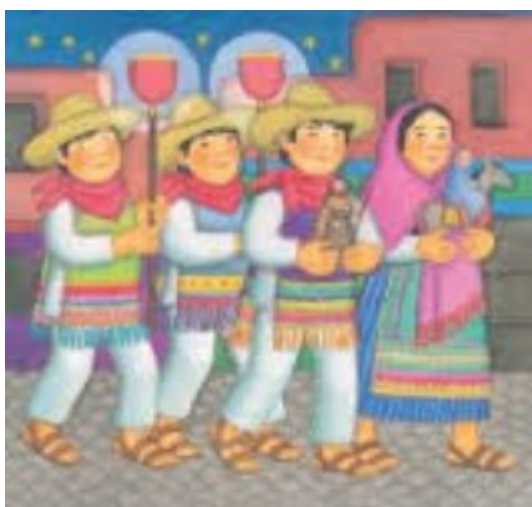
This term the winner is Lisa Carroll.

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Advent

We marked the Season of Advent in various ways to help us prepare for the great Feast of Christmas. Francis Thomas, a Seminarian in Sacred Heart Parish, Ruislip led an Advent Service for Staff.

We also had a joint Advent Service with students and staff from Douay Martyrs School, Ickenham.



The Mexican Posada Tradition

As part of our Advent celebrations we were pleased to participate in the Mexican Tradition of Posada (a Spanish word meaning 'Inn'). Posada celebrations began in Mexico where two young people were chosen to dress up as Mary and Joseph and travel from house to house in their village during Advent. They told people about the coming of Jesus and asked if they would give him a room. At Pield Heath everyone is invited to give room to figures of Mary and Joseph for a day before Christmas. This helps us to make room for Jesus in our lives, in our hearts and in our school community.



Christmas Performances

We welcomed all the Friends of Pield Heath to our Christmas performances. They were a celebration of drama, dance, music and song entitled 'Magical Moments of Christmas'.

Special thanks to Antony Colagrossi, Petra Voniatis, Daisy Gilder and all the staff and students for the dedication in preparing the performance. It was a wonderful opportunity to share the blessings of Christmas.



Christmas Fayre

We had our Christmas Fayre on Thursday 12th December which was opened by The Deputy Mayor Cllr Teji Barnes. We had a large selection

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our raffle.

Special thanks to John & Ann Cook, Sandra Parsons, the group of volunteers from Brunel University, Metro Bank as well as to all the other volunteers who willingly gave their time to help on the day.

Thanks to your generosity the total amount raised was £1385.12. Well done everyone. Your time and support is greatly appreciated.

Christmas Activities

Students enjoyed a Christmas meal and disco to celebrate Christmas and the end of term. On 13th 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 very best festive knitwear. Students participated in our Christmas Mass, after which they enjoyed a traditional meal and had a disco to celebrate the end of term. Well Done to class 4W who were the winners of the most environmentally sustainable class decorations with their Igloo.



FUNDRAISING



Children In Need 2019

This year students raised money for Children in Need. As well as raising £50 for this worthwhile charity students and staff both had a fun day enjoying the activities.



CAFOD World Gifts Campaign

Following the recent visit by Hilda McCafferty from CAFOD who spoke to us about 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 and donated £55. The money was used to buy CAFOD World Gifts. We bought a School Starter Pack, Teach Someone to Read and Fantastic Fish.

Field Heath 100 Club

A great way to support school whilst having a bit

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Pield Heath House School 100 Club

Join our exclusive club, raise funds & WIN!

Membership limited to **100** people
£12 per Academic Year (£2 per half term)

Prize Draw at end of every half-term*

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

*When there are 100 members total pot every half term = £200
1st Prize = £40, 2nd Prize = £20, 3rd Prize = £10

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 is 35% of the membership fee taken that month, the remaining 65% goes to school to fund equipment and resources.

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

Winning numbers in the draw on 19th December were:

1st Prize: 2 2nd Prize: 55 3rd Prize: 47

Winners cheques will be sent in January 2020.

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

Important Dates for your diary:

Spring Term 2020 Dates

Training Day (Staff Only) - 6th January 2020

Spring 1 – 7th January 2020 – 14th February 2020 * School finishes at 2.30pm *

Half Term – 17th February 2020 – 21st February 2020

Spring 2 – 24th February 2020 – 3rd April 2020 * School finishes at 2.30pm *



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