

Autumn Term

December 2024



Dear Friends of Pield Heath

In September, we were delighted to welcome new students, who have settled in well. To the staff to whom we are saying farewell, we thank them for all they have contributed and wish them well for the future.

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

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 we prepare to start The Jubilee Year 2025 entitled 'Pilgrims of Hope' 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.'

We look forward to welcoming students back on Wednesday 8th January 2025.

Eryl D'Souza

Associate Principal Community & External Partnerships



Christmas Performances

It was wonderful to have our two Christmas Performances entitled 'A Journey of Hope'. When we follow the news and see so much suffering life can sometimes seem bleak however we need to keep our sense of hope alive. You may be aware that Pope Francis will be opening the Jubilee Year on 24th December. A Jubilee Year only comes around once every 25 years, so it is a time of joy, reconciliation and hope for the world.

It was a privilege to have The Mayor of Hillingdon Cllr Colleen Sullivan. The performances were a celebration of drama, dance and music. Special thanks to Juli Critchfield, Heather Butt, Sandra Parsons, Antony Colagrossi 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 and spread the message of hope.



Tutor Group 3C

As well as rehearsing for the Christmas show, the class have been continuing their studies in all subjects. In English, they have been practicing grammar and comprehension on factual topics such as the life of an octopus!

Here, they are pictured in a THRIVE lesson attempting a blind taste test challenge which each student had to describe and then identify what was being eaten or drunk.



Tutor Group 3N

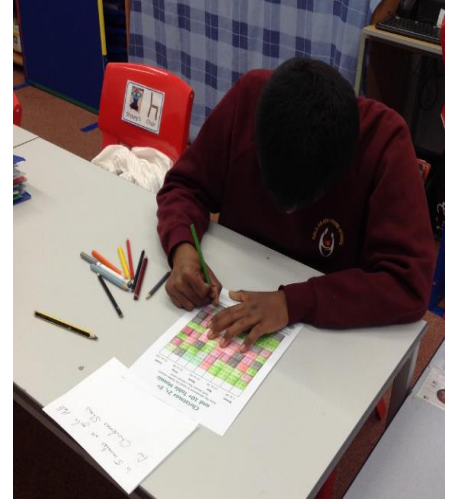
3N has had a fantastic start to the academic year, we have welcomed our new teacher Charmaine and in addition two new helpers to the team. We have engaged in a wide variety of activities in our lessons. On Mondays, we practice having conversations by talking about our weekends, sharing news about the fun things we do outside school. In Literacy, we have been reading a really funny story called 'Princess Smarty Pants'. We really like all of her Pets. In Maths, we have learnt about shape, adding, taking away, using number lines. We have loved singing along to maths songs, playing interactive games and using buzzers to answer questions.

In Community Skills we have had a few trips to Tesco, buying ingredients to make delicious treats. However, more recently we have been travelling to Uxbridge, where we have followed maps to different stores, practiced ordering food items and had a look at all the stores in The Christmas Market.



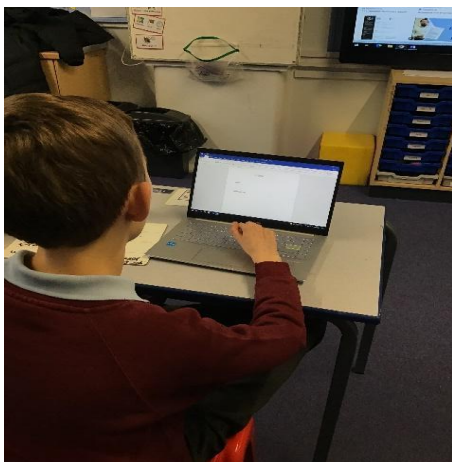
Tutor Group 3P

Students enjoyed singing Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. We learnt the words and actions together. Students made a Christmas tree out of pieces of felt, decorated it with different colours and shapes, and used their knowledge of multiplication facts to complete a maths colour-by-number activity sheet.



Tutor Group 4H

This term 4H have been developing their friendship skills by sharing activities. Here they are working on their teambuilding skills, by working together and sharing the games. They have been improving their computing skills and mastering how to use a keyboard effectively. They have been using the software Powerpoint to copy and paste images from the internet and type text. The students have been developing their shared activities and group work. They have enjoyed spending time more time together working as a team on a shared outcome. In these photos you can see the students designing a poster for the school based on No Pens Day!



Tutor Group 4L

4L have been reading Princess Smarty Pants in class and answering lots of questions about the story so that they can get a good insight into the story. In Maths they have been working on place value.

But it hasn't been only hard work, they have also been accessing the community to build upon their knowledge of money and get used to being out in the community. They enjoyed representing the school in a Bowling competition.



Tutor Group PH+A

PH+A are always excited and motivated to learn. They have established a good level of trust with the whole team. This term they have enjoyed learning and having fun together as a group, whether it was doing primary movements at the beginning of the day and cooking at the end of the day or working together to help present the Mass in the chapel. Whatever they learnt, they learnt together.



Tutor Group PH+B

This term PH+B have been very busy and happy getting to know each other. We had a joint birthday party for both Imam and Joshua. We enjoyed singing, dancing, and celebrating our friendship! This year we had so much fun learning our song for our Christmas play it was very exciting to see everyone – especially Imam and Bella transition and take part in our Christmas performance. Our favourite class trip was going to Nathan's Farm and seeing all different types of animals, we were all very curious and had a lot of fun.



Tutor Group PH+C

PH+C have enjoyed trips in the community to buy their favourite things. They look forward to their Signalong sessions learning new songs and signs. Some students have been working on addition and subtraction during their Numeracy lessons.



Tutor Group PH+D

Students in PH+D worked hard to practice their skills in the classroom before applying them in real-life situations. They did this by taking part in role-play activities, which helped them prepare to access the local community.

After working hard on these skills students were given the opportunity to visit a local supermarket and select their favourite snack. They were good at waiting in the queue, using a self-check out machine and packing their shopping.



Tutor Group VBC A

This term VBCA have enjoyed lots of activities including learning about cooking and cleaning in preparation for adulthood. They have also been enjoying different leisure activities, especially relaxing activities like having a foot spa and hand massages. The class celebrated Black History Month by looking at the country of Grenada and enjoyed drumming and making a volcano erupt.



Tutor Group VBC B

VBC B class had very busy term. They have been practicing many independent life skills, such as safety off site. They also enjoyed cooking, gardening and participating in personal skills lessons.

They did well on their first project day, when they went to the school café and to Tesco to purchase food for lunch. They then worked together to cook lunch at school.



Tutor Group VBC C

This term VBC C have been accessing the community on public transport and have been visiting the local supermarket, the students have worked very hard to find items on their shopping list and work as a group to cook their very own lunch!



Tutor Group VBC D

VBC D have been planning routes and travelling around Hillingdon as well as into other local borough. The students planned timings and different routes. They learnt how important it is to tap in and out of train stations so they don't lose money on their Oyster Cards. To go along side this, they have learnt all about who can help them when they are out in the community by themselves in the future.

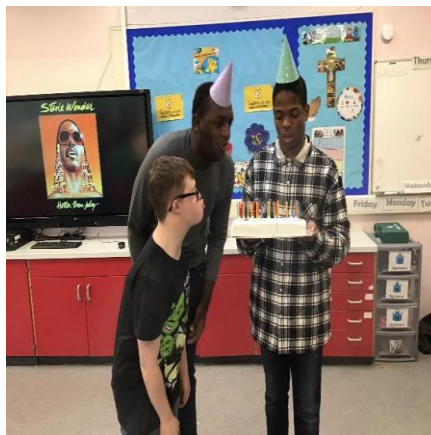
The students have been working well in their option groups which has given them a fantastic introduction to employability and they have been learning new skills within them, whether it is harvesting vegetables from the garden or cooking up a storm in the food tech room, to finding new ways to enjoy music and use their digital skills.

The students celebrated birthdays with their peers and have been hard at work learning a dance routine for the Christmas performance and making props.



Tutor Group VBC E

VBC E have had a hectic term. They have been learning about looking after the environment in PSHE and how to do recycling. They have been going to Uxbridge College every Wednesday to learn new skills and get ready to move into their next stage of learning. We have also had some fun with several birthdays this term – Harry, Gad and Shayon shared a lovely party. And we led the Children In Need assembly.



Tutor Group VBC F

This term, VBC F have been planning our Christmas Fayre sale.

Part of the planning involved us shopping for Christmas mugs. Instead of shopping in the big stores, we chose to buy our mugs from local charity shops.

We all understand how important it is to help these businesses, especially this time of year.

The sale was an amazing success. Thank you to everyone that supported us by buying plants and gifts. The money will be used to fund exciting projects for the students in the Spring term.



Outdoor Learning

This term, VBC A have been enjoying weekly trips to Nathan's Farm in Chalfont St Peter.

The farm is an amazing experience for our students. They can feed and pet the animals. They are all demonstrating great confidence, remaining calm and quite so they do not scare them.

With the help of the farm animals, we teach our students the vital skills of empathy and care.



Students and staff enjoyed the beautiful colours, sounds and sights of Autumn Glory. Thank you to Nicola Grieve our Outdoor Learning Development Manager and all the students and staff who look after and care for our beautiful grounds.



Sport

Field Heath hosted the Primary and Secondary Hillingdon SEN boccia this term. These were both big events with 10 schools in the primary and 9 in the secondary.

3P and 4L represented us and both played really well, with Mason M, Mason L and Ashley doing a fantastic job officiating.



Thrive

Across Thrive there has been lots of engagement and enthusiasm. Some moments I would like to share with you in particular; As a group in the Level Being, students in 3P have been using Thrive as an opportunity to regulate and find moments of calm. Within these moments they have found space and elements of trust to interact with certain materials they are unsure of and co-explore with peers and trusted staff members. 4L have displayed beautiful signs of development in their acceptance and kindness. We had a visitor for our Thrive session and all of the students were more than happy for Dominic to stay and join in. They demonstrated their ability to show kindness, tolerance for handling changes and showcasing the Field Heath Values with Care. ORANGES IS BACK! Over in the VBC, VBCD have been working really hard on developing active listening skills, finding connections in sharing language and experiences. They have been developing their social skills as a class group; allowing space and understanding for conversation and the importance of listening to one another.

For more images please click [here](#).



Therapists

During the Autumn 2024 Caitlin, Nathan, Shaury and Freeman have worked hard during their Therapy sessions.

Below Caitlin is laying on her tummy for a big stretch.

Nathan, Shaury and Freeman are using their “speedometers” to identify Winnie The Pooh characters body speeds during the class based Alert programme.



No Pens Day

We marked No Pens Day on 27th November. This was an opportunity to do creative activities. The day finished with a Show and Tell assembly.



Panathlon

Students took part in a Panathlon at Ruislip High School. The students performed fantastically and were unfortunate to not bring back a gold medal. As we say though " It is the taking part that counts!"

Thank you to Julia and Donna for their amazing support and engagement throughout.



Special Events

Masses

The academic year started with a Training Day where we had a Service on the theme of Work, Rest and Play. Examples were shared of where the importance a balance in our lives is reflected in Scripture. A reflection entitled – Take Time was shared with all staff.



In September, we had our first Mass of the school year which was prepared by Sundus Zaidan PH+D. The theme was to celebrate The Birthday of Our Lady.

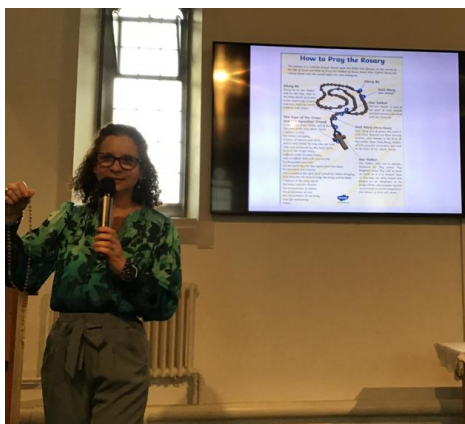
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARY



Deanery Mass – The Annual Hillingdon Deanery Mass this year was celebrated by the new Auxillary Bishop of Westminster Bishop James Curry. The Mass was concelebrated by Fr Nicholas Schofield and Fr Brian.



On 16th October we had a Mass to mark October as the Month of the Rosary. The Mass was prepared by Monika Woloszyn The Mass was celebrated by Fr Nicholas Schofield.



Catholic Social Teaching (CST):

Season of Creation – 1st September – 4th October

This year we are continuing to work on The Westminster Diocese Programme called – Rooted in Love. By doing this we hope to raise our awareness of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) by looking at various themes. This Term we look at the Principle of Care of Creation and The Preferential Option for the Poor.

Rooted in Love

A new project to support schools in their journey with Catholic Social Teaching

Half Term	CST Theme
Autumn A	Care of Creation
Autumn B	Preferential Option for the Poor
Spring A	Solidarity and Peace
Spring B	Community and Participation
Summer A	Dignity of Workers
Summer B	Human Dignity

Harvest Family Fast Day, Friday 4th October-

For our Autumn Term charity we focus on helping the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD). Our RE Ambassadors have been leading this and are actively involved with both raising awareness and funds for the charity. We also were pleased to welcome Miriam McEaney who delivered a presentation about the CAFOD World Gifts Campaign.



Living Life to the Full!

After 4 weeks Ronnie managed to complete this complicated Jigsaw Puzzle.

Well Done Ronnie - what a great achievement!



Black History Month

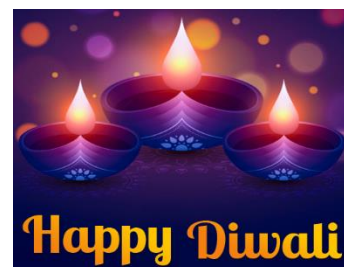
As part of our vents to mark Black History Month where the theme for 2024 was 'Reclaiming Narratives' we had various activities. Every Tutor group was given a country to explore. Students took part in a wide range of activities including a drumming workshop led by Heather Butt, a party where they had the chance to try some traditional African & Caribbean food and a disco. The week culminated in a special assembly where all the groups were invited to contribute more about their chosen country. To see the presentation, click [here](#). We plan to continue to do other activities during the year to celebrate our diverse and rich community.

Special thanks to Heather Butt who led a great drumming workshop which all classes in the school enjoyed as part of the celebrations for Black History Month



Diwali

This year Diwali fell during our half term – so as well as wishing all our families a Happy Diwali before the holiday we had a special assembly after half term to share how this beautiful festival of light was celebrated by our students and their families.



Catering and Hospitality event

The students of the Catering and Hospitality class took on the task of making a luncheon for some honoured guests.

They invited their guests with an invitation designed by themselves and created their own menu which was shared on the invite. The students made out their shopping lists not only for the ingredients but also considered drink options and table setting needs.

The students were inspired by Jamie Oliver and took one of his recipes (tender crisp chicken with sweet tomatoes on a bed of rice) and practiced it to ensure everything would be to perfection on the day along with developing a dessert (apple roses served with vanilla ice cream) that would be well received in any restaurant.

The students were one person short on the day but kept calm and kept to their timings. They prepared all the vegetables and the meat and set the table and chilled the Shloer. The dessert was prepared with precision and looked like art work on the plate.

The students served their guests ensuring to take their coats and pulled out chairs for their guest to be seated.

This was the first event they have built as a team with minimal support from their teacher in fact the teacher became the washing up queen instead.

The whole event was a massive success and I thank the guests for their lovely feedback and the students are now hard at work preparing for the next one in the spring 1 term which will be on a larger scale. I am very proud of the students even if my hands became wrinkly from washing up.



Fundraising

Macmillan Coffee Morning

As in previous years we hosted Macmillan Coffee Mornings for all our school community. Thanks to their enthusiasm, hard work and the generous support of everyone we raised an amazing **£390.71**.

A special thank you to Sarah Jane Beavis and to the wonderful student Team who baked and served a wide variety of homemade cakes and biscuits. Thank you also to everyone for your generosity in making this event such a success.



Community

National Youth Sunday

Sunday 24th November marked the end of the Liturgical year. Students made crowns and found out more about this special feast.



COP 29

So much has changed recently, but one thing hasn't: the need for climate action.

The reality of the climate crisis has become even more stark for our sisters and brothers in the world's most vulnerable communities. Following the COP29 talks which took place in Baku, Azerbaijan from November 11th - 22nd in 2024, we need to continue to find ways to look after our wonderful world.



In November – We Remember

We had a special Assembly 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.

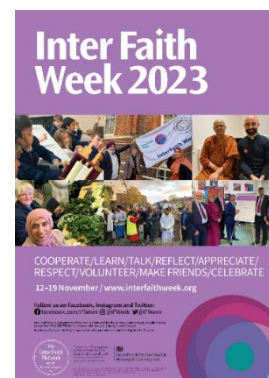
As part of our In November – We Remember activities, we had a display in Reception and there was a chance for people to contribute to The National Poppy Appeal.



Inter Faith Week - November 2024

We marked Inter Faith Week which this year was in November. This initiative is a great opportunity to strengthen and develop understanding and cooperation between people of different backgrounds.

Our RE Ambassadors who represent some of the major world religions will be doing more work on this theme during the year.



Winefride Tyrrell Award for Leadership 2024

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 Mason Leka who was presented with the cup after the Christmas Performance by The Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Colleen Sullivan.

Well Done Mason for showing leadership and for your valuable contribution to our school community.



Christmas

Getting ready for Christmas- Eco Committee

This term, the Eco Committee have been delivering planted Christmas trees to the classrooms.

The trees will be enjoyed by the students and staff throughout December and then returned to be planted in the school gardens at the end of term. The gardeners will look after them throughout the year, ready to bring back inside for December next year, making them a great sustainable option.



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.



Reverse Advent Calendar

VBC A 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 Sarah Ball and her Class Team for coordinating this event. This year the collection went to the local food bank.



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 money for this worthwhile Charity everyone had a lot of fun with everyone wearing their very best festive knitwear.



We had a Christmas Mass on 18th December. Our Christmas Mass was prepared by Clare Lucas / 4L Class Team. One of our RE Ambassadors Ashley was an Altar Server. Everyone participated joyfully with the Celebration of the Mass.

We were delighted that some of our Governors as well as some of The Sisters of the Congregation from Zambia were also able to join us.



We had our Christmas Fayre on 5th December. We had a lovely selection of stalls and festive entertainment. Our Choir performed the song – 'I'd like to teach the world to sing' which was excellent. We also had the draw for our Grand Christmas Raffle. Thank you to all those who so kindly donated prizes for our raffle.



The winners of the Raffle Prizes were:

1st Prize – 50” Smart LED TV - S. Kumar

2nd Prize - £100 Marks & Spencer Voucher – K. Jobsz

3rd Prize – Luxury Christmas Hamper – J. Moon

Special thanks to all those who helped before, during and after the event as well as the group of volunteers from Brunel University. Thanks to your generosity the total amount raised was **£1,164.34**. Well done everyone - your time and support is greatly appreciated.

Thank You to The Catering Team for all their efforts during the term and for the lovely Christmas events which were enjoyed by students and staff.



Wellbeing

4H Charity Event

Students raised awareness for mental health. The students will be using the donations to purchase some lovely items to add to our existing Sensory Room.

Total amount raised was **£65.50**.



World Mental Health Day-

10th October was Mental Health Day. To mark this event all staff were Various resources were shared with staff to help support our mental health. Staff have enjoyed participating in various wellbeing clubs including – walking, yoga and badminton which have been offered by staff for their colleagues.



Wellbeing Goodie Bag

The winners of the Wellbeing Goodie Bag this term were –

Susan McIntosh and Lewis Ashley-Jones



Parent Consultations – It was lovely to see so many of our parents and especially the new families who joined us in September. Hope you found it useful to speak with your child’s tutor as well as with other staff.

PARENT Consultation

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 1 2025

For the academic dates for 2024-2025 please click [here](#).

