Paces School for Conductive Education.

Autumn Term 2 2021

Dear Parents,

As another term draws to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on all that the pupils of Paces have achieved. They continue to work hard and strive for greatness every day. I have been extremely impressed with pupils' talents in different areas of the curriculum particularly Creative Arts – we have some budding actors in our midst as I'm sure you will agree when you watch the Christmas plays.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas holiday with your families. I look forward to welcoming pupils back into school on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

Well done:

Well done to a group of 10 staff for successfully completing their Level 3 OCN training in Conductive Education. Staff have worked hard to gain this qualification over a period of 18 months completing a variety of units all designed to develop their understanding of supporting pupils more effectively through the use of Conductive Education. Well done to Becky Eve who successfully completed her MD conductor training.

Governor visits:

This term it has been great to welcome governors back into school. The highlight of these visits was a day with Harry Withers. Harry has been a governor for approximately 2 years now and is a fantastic role model for our pupils. With his life long experience of Conductive Education and his positive attitude towards life in general, he is an inspiration for our pupils. He spent time with the Wentworth class talking to them about living with cerebral palsy. Harry also spent the day looking at planning and observing lessons throughout school. We look forward to welcoming Harry back into school to work with more pupils.

Christmas Plays: Once again, we were sad to not be able to welcome parents into school to watch our Christmas plays. However, the whole school have thoroughly enjoyed working to put together this year's Christmas plays.
The Wentworth class wrote their own version of A Christmas Carol. The pupils worked hard to write their own script and learn their lines.

The rest of the school have worked together to create our version of 'Lights, Camel, Action!' based on the format of Strictly Come Dancing.

The Windsor class played the hosts and judges of our show wonderfully.

Durham class performed the Shepherd's Hey receiving top marks from the judges. Warwick class played the part of the angels beautifully and danced the lively Disco star.

Hardwick play the part of the kings and camels performing the Funky Camel and had the judges tapping their feet. The Balmoral Class were the perfect hosts dancing the Innkeepers' Tango. Many thanks to all the staff for their hard work putting the plays together.

Christmas Fun: We really enjoyed our special Christmas lunch on Tuesday and our party afternoon. We particularly enjoyed a visit from the big man himself who delivered us some presents this year.

Outreach: This term Vera and I have been very excited to welcome three new families to the outreach service. Our main focus for this term has been to use both sides of the body. This focus encourages children to practice using the parts of their body that are more challenging to move. We have been getting into the Christmas spirit and practicing our main focus by using our two hands to shake our bells while singing "Jingle bells" …we've had so much fun making lots of noise.
We are proud to say we have been able to offer zoom sessions to the families who haven't been able to attend the face to face. It's great that we can offer a digital service which can still benefit the children.
Vera and I, would like to wish all our outreach families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We can't wait to start the outreach service again in 202 to work with the amazing children, welcome new families and to see what we can learn and achieve next. Abbey Williams

Congratulations!
Huge congratulations to Lizzie who over the past three years has worked extremely hard to successfully gain her Masters Degree in Conductive Education. Lizzie is only the second person in the country to achieve this. We are very proud of her and all her very hard work!

Safeguarding Training:

Until very recently Sheffield City Safeguarding Board have been unable to deliver training due to Covid. This has meant that a number of staff have had to rely on online training and in house training. Now their training is back up and running we have been advised to pull our whole school safeguarding training forward to make the process of training staff manageable. We are therefore going to have a **training day** on **Friday 11th of February** so that all staff can receive this very important training as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding with this matter.

Covid Update:
We continue to monitor guidance with regards to the new variant Omicron. All staff are encouraged to test twice weekly and guidance requests that all pupils in Year 7 and above test before their return to school. Year 7 pupils are then encouraged to also test twice weekly. As on previous occasions this should be done at home rather than in school. Additional LFT testing kits are available on request. Please contact the school office if you require test kits to be sent home before the end of term.
Classrooms will continue to be well ventilated in the spring term so please ensure your child has plenty of layers to put on throughout the school day.

Balmoral Class: We've had another busy half term exploring our topic Mighty Metals. In English we have shared the story of Iron Man, reading the story together. Linked to this, our learning in science has focused on forces and metals. We have explored pushes and pulls and tested metals to see which are magnetic and which aren't. In computing we have been learning about different types of animations such as frame and stop motion and created our own using a variety of programmes. We have also thoroughly enjoyed learning about the game of boccia.

Hardwick Class: We have had a brilliant and busy half term! The children in Hardwick class have definitely settled back into the routine and continued to work hard in every part of the day; whether that be feeding themselves as independently as possible at lunchtime, using a slide sheet to push themselves across the floor ready for the next lesson or using symbols to say they feel happy after a lovely Tac Pac session.

We have finished our Christmas Spectacular – Lights, Camel, Action! Where we played the part of the camels and three kings. We have had the best time practicing: incorporating all our special skills: standing, walking, pushing and pressing switches to illuminate the bright star in the sky! We have made sure to play the part of the funky camels properly and have been seen wearing our cool sunglasses and gold chains all through the day!

This term in Hardwick class we have been reading the 'Owl Babies' story for our PSHE lessons and thinking about how the 3 little owls would feel throughout the story. Using the happy and sad cards we were able to decide how we would feel if we were the baby owls.

In our phonics and writing lessons we have been exploring instruments and practising being loud like a lion and quiet like a mouse! We have also enjoyed our sensory writing trays and making marks on the interactive whiteboard.

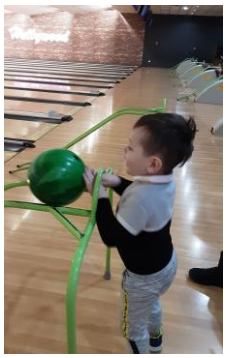
Warwick Class: The Warwick class have had an action packed half term! We started off exploring autumn- going outside to collect and rake leaves, as well as learning about woodland animals. We've been practicing our self-help skills, trying hard to put on and pull off our coats. Continuing our 'Me and My Community' topic, we found out about real life superheroes! The children particularly enjoyed learning about firefighters and loved going outside in maths- pretending to be firefighters counting fires and putting them out with our hoses! More recently, we have thrown ourselves into the Christmas season and loved learning the songs for the Christmas play! We've enjoyed making Christmas cards, Christingles, sweet treats and other lovely activities.

Durham Class: This half term in Durham class we have been exploring our 'Magnificent Monarchs' topic. We have researched and learnt about many members of the royal family and we even had some very prestigious visitors! We discovered that King Henry VIII had 6 wives, Queen Victoria's husband Albert built her a wonderful bathing machine and that our current Queen, Elizabeth II is the longest reigning monarch. To complete our topic the children have enjoyed role playing as a chosen king or queen which showed some real acting potential within Durham class! During Science we have learned about the 4 seasons. We observed changes across the 2 seasons by going on an autumn/winter walk where we identified the signs of autumn/winter. We discussed clothes that we wear from autumn to winter, all the way to spring and summer. The children gathered and recorded data of temperature, rainfall and wind direction in autumn. They loved to explore how some animals adapt to survive.

Educational visits: Following lockdown restrictions, we have been pleased this term to provide each group with a number of opportunities to go an Educational Visits to enhance their learning in the classroom or to develop their social skills.

The Balmoral class have explored many different sports to complement their Olympic themed topic 'Spirit'. They've swum, skated, been caving, beat the staff in a curling competition and even had a go at shooting. They also visited Sheffield cathedral as part of their RE topic.

Several classes have been bowling and out for food with their friends.



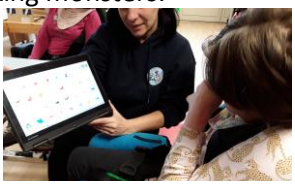
Our Warwick class enjoyed a visit to Gulliver's Valley to meet the big man himself.

Windsor Class:

In Science/Humanities we have been learning about climate change, which all children have really enjoyed. We have explored types of energy looking at renewable and non-renewable energy. The pupils' favourite part was exploring electricity and how it is created, they were all surprised how much electricity we use within our daily lives.

Our English topic has been amazing exploring the film The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe. We have explored the characters personalities and how the film portrays them and their roles within the movie. We loved role playing the story discussing adjectives to best describe the characters. The pupils in Windsor class have created the most amazing written pieces of work using clicker and have become more independent learners.

In ICT, pupils have been learning about Algorithm, linking to English children have used Scratch to create their own characters and scenes, they have created some great and funny looking monsters.



Wentworth Class:

This term was full of excitement, getting ready for Christmas. We have finished the topic of Stone Age and Bronze Age in history where the students learned many amazing facts and gained good knowledge about prehistoric life. In Maths we explored Geometry, learning about shapes and angles in more depth. In Science we learned about adaptation, evolution and inheritance. It was a fascinating topic that enabled us to have lots of debates. English was linked to history, and we also created newspaper articles this term. We also wrote our own Christmas play again this year but chose a classic one, instead of a humorous play this time.

Fundraising update: The Paces Charity Team would like to say a HUGE thank you for your wonderful support this year! Whether you've signed up to one of our events, taken part in our Facebook Selfie Saturday or shared our posts, we are so incredibly grateful.

We have lots in the pipeline for 2022 so that we can raise enough funds to move into our new school so please feel free to get in touch if you would like to get involved at julie.booth@pacessheffield.org.uk

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas!

Phonics workshop:

Thank you to those parents who attended the phonics workshop on the 14th of December. We hope you found it useful in being able to support your child with their reading and of language at home.

Future dates for your diary:

Staff training day	4th Jan 2022
Pupils return to school	5th Jan 2022
Finish for half term	**10th Feb 2022**
Staff training day	**11th Feb 2022**
Return to school	21st Feb 2021
Finish for Easter holiday	1st April 2021
Return to school	20th April 2021

On behalf of all the staff and pupils of Paces School I would like to wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.