Paces School for Conductive Education.

Spring Term 1 2022

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of another half term I would like to thank parents for their patience and understanding following the numerous Covid cases we have had in school. Thank you for your support in testing your children and ensuring the transmission of the virus has been kept reasonably at bay.

We look forward towards spring and some better weather in the hope that we might be able to get outdoors a little more and enjoy some fresh air.

Look out next half term for a date for the next PTA meeting. We are hoping to be able to plan a summer fayre and so would welcome parents new and old to join the PTA to organise this event.

Have a lovely half term

Ruth

Captain Tobias BEM:

Huge congratulations to Tobias for being awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year Honours**.** As always, we are super proud of everything Tobias has achieved and we can't wait to hear all about his visit to the Queen.

Annual Review information:

We are currently reviewing our system of collecting your child's up to date information. Our aim is to make it as easy as we can for parents/carers. This will be done in line with your child's annual review. If you could send all paperwork relating to the annual review process back to the school as soon as possible after receiving it, we would much appreciate it.

School Council:

After half term we are looking forward to relaunching our school council. This time we will be looking for one representative from each class to be part of the school council. Information regarding how your child will be able to express an interest in this role will be shared after the half term holidays. We look forward to the school council being a more active part in school life than it has been for the past year due to Covid.

Staffing Update:

Unusually for everyone at Paces we have said goodbye to a number of staff this half term. Emma Davies has made the decision to not return to school following the birth of her beautiful twin boys. We wish Emma well and thank her for her hard work and dedication over the past 16 years!

Becca Toone has sadly left us to return to a role at the children's hospital.

Steve Weston- our caretaker will retire at the end of February. We hope that Steve has a well-deserved retirement with plenty of holidays in the sun.

Becky Eve will take up the role of family support on a temporary basis prior to her leaving for her maternity leave next half term. We will then be able to put something in place that is more permanent to fulfill the role of family support worker.

To replace these members of staff we welcome Laura Radford and Kennedy Jenkinson.

Outreach:

This term we have enjoyed welcoming our families back from the Christmas break.

Our focus for this term has been to keep our feet flat. This vital skill features throughout the tasks in our sessions helping with balance and safe sitting. Weightbearing equally through both feet also prepares us for standing and walking. All our children have worked super hard on this. We have welcomed 1 new family into our outreach service. Unfortunately, we've had to say goodbye to 3 other families due to children starting school or having come to the end of their Paces journey. Vera and I would like to wish them all the very best in the future. We now have slots available on Thursdays and Fridays if anyone knows of any families with a child or children who could benefit from Conductive Education. Please get them to contact Abbey.

Hardwick Class:

This half term we started our new topic Memory Box. We have explored old pictures of ourselves from when we were younger at Paces and made a memory scrap book.

We have explored the story Goldilocks and the Three Bears exploring objects that are hot/soft, soft and hard. We have used instruments to help us tell the story and explored different sounds using our voices. In Art we have created a display of the story using different collage materials.

Is PSHE we are exploring the concepts of sharing and being good friends with our firm favourite Snap the crocodile.

In PE we have enjoyed activities such as skittles and ball games.

Balmoral Class: During this half term all the pupils in the Balmoral class have done some amazing work! We have explored the murky depths of the blue abyss learning all about the creatures that dwell there. We have created our very own sea scene using nouns and adjectives to make them super exciting and interesting! We have developed our life and AAC skills during our cooking afternoons and made some scrumptious different foods, as well as getting extremely messy with our ingredients. We have been practising sorting 2D and 3D shapes into lots of different groups using lots of practical resources. We all hope you have a well-earned rest and look forward to greeting you back next term!

Wentworth Class:

This term students have worked very hard learning about climate zones and Biomes in geography, fractions in maths, Romans in history and the human reproduction system in science. They are really enjoying reading the book The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, by C.S. Lewis and comparing the text to the film adaptation. The class is also enjoying computing lessons with Petar on Mondays, developing their programming skills.

Lillie is back on her feet after her successful surgery and building her stamina up. The new craze in our class this term is making pictures from 200, 300, 500- and 1000-piece puzzles whenever there is a little time after lunch.

Windsor Class:

Windsor have had a fantastic half term learning about Space and practicing measuring and estimating skills. We have made and exploded planets, measured out a scale model of the solar system in toilet paper and baked beautiful space rock cakes. The students are remembering the names of the planets really well and have had a taste of what astronaut life is like, when we experienced space ice-cream. We have really been enjoying our class story, *The Iron Man,* by Ted Hughes. We have been thinking about the setting, characters and events, the genre, and why people enjoy the story. We even made a huge model Iron Man who has been watching over all our work in class.

Students have been making excellent progress in their Conductive Education tasks, with everyone gaining more confidence in different positions – especially lying on their sides and in supine. We have been working on manipulation skills with balls to improve our hand control to help in ICT and when practicing with the electric wheelchairs. There has been lots of friendly competition in P.E with cricket being a particular favourite.

All the students in Windsor have worked incredibly hard and had lots of fun. They should be very proud of themselves. Well done, Windsor Stars! Hope you all have a wonderful half term!

Future dates:

Return to school:	Mon 21st Feb
World Book Day:	Thurs 3rd March
Comic Relief Day:	Fri 18th March
Break up for Easter:	Fri 1st April
Staff training day:	Tues 19th April
Start of Summer Term:	Wed 20th April
May Day holiday:	Mon 2nd May
Last day half term:	Fri 27th May
Extra bank holiday:	Mon 6th June
Start of half term:	Tues 7th June
Last day of summer term:	Thurs 21st July
Training day:	Friday 22nd July

Safeguarding:

Just a reminder about who is responsible for safeguarding in school.

Ruth Liu-Designated Safeguarding Lead/Online Safety Lead.

Eva Sebeszta Sam Rowland

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Durham Class:

Children in Durham class became official plant experts! They enjoyed planting different plants and have learnt how to look after them. They enjoyed exploring different smells and loved to use plants to make delicious pizza at the end of the term. In English this term we have used our imaginations to travel to another planet to discover fantasy plants! After journeying back to Earth, we have put together a report about the fantasy plant explaining our findings. Using a wide range of vocabulary and adjectives to describe our flowers and plants we have been able to construct some very creative new plant designs.

During maths lesson pupils handled common 2D and 3D shapes, named them and related them to every-day objects. Pupils focused on sorting shapes according to simple properties, including type, size, colour and they had to sort shapes based on whether they roll or stack. Pupil used 2D and 3D shapes to complete and make simple patterns focusing on different shapes, size and colours. They had to recognise the core of the pattern (which part was being repeated) and used this to continue the patterns. Some children learnt about the number of sides and line symmetry, number of edges, vertices and faces.

This term we have also enjoyed our Thursday afternoon swimming sessions. The children have worked so hard in the water, trying new things whilst having lots of fun! We will look forward to continuing this in the summer term.

Clothing:

Just a reminder to please label all of your child's clothes and belongings with their name. We do our absolute best to keep track of everything but in busy classroom environments sometimes things can get muddled and it would be much easier to return items to the right child if they were labelled.

Warwick Class:

The Warwick class have had a lovely start to the new year! As part of our Once Upon a Time topic, we have had lots of fun exploring the stories 'Cinderella', 'Princess Daisy, the Dragon and the Nincompoop Knights' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We've dressed up in costumes, explored different props, made porridge, been on bear hunts, along with lots of other fun adventures. On Tuesday 1st February, we went shopping for noodles and spring rolls and made dragons to celebrate Chinese New Year! Going outside has been a favourite activity this half term, especially using the playground. The children have all worked super hard in the task series and do a wonderful job of celebrating each other's achievements. So much to be proud of!