



Paces School for Conductive Education.

Spring Term 2 2022

Dear Parents,

I am very pleased to announce that we successfully signed the lease for Thorncliffe Hall. Now the real fun starts! We are currently working hard to ensure that the refurbishment of the building is a success. I will write again after Easter when I hope to have a clearer idea with regards to the timescale for the completion of the works and the move to the new building.

This has been another very busy term and we have very much enjoyed spending time outside over the past few days. We hope that in the summer term we will be able to get outside even more, and we look forward to welcoming more parents back into school. Have a lovely Easter.



CEPEG Conference:

Many members of staff attended the recent virtual Conductive Education Conference. Staff were able to listen to a variety of presentations including one from our very own Lizzie who presented the findings of her Masters dissertation. After working in isolation for such a long time it was great to be able to listen to and participate in discussions with other professionals within the field of Conductive Education, even if it was via a screen!

New home for Paces: We've got the keys!



Staff enjoyed their first visit to TCH this week.

Easter fun!

This week we have had lots of Easter related fun. For the first time in two years we welcomed the Easter bunny into school. Thank you to Irwin Mitchell for their lovely Easter treats.



Staff:

This half term we have welcomed Laura to the Wentworth class team and Kennedy to the Balmoral class teams. They are both great additions to our school and have settled in really well.

We also look forward to welcoming Jayne back after the Easter holidays following her incredible battle against cancer. We can't wait to have you back Jayne!

We say a fond farewell to Steve Carrkeally who is sadly retiring at Easter. We thank Steve for all his hard work in the Windsor class and hope you will come and visit us in the future and bring your guitar with you, so we can have a sing song.

Warwick Class:

In the Warwick class, we have continued our 'Once Upon a Time' topic and have had great fun exploring the stories Little Red Riding Hood and The Three Little Pigs. The children have loved using their voices and switches to say the repeating lines in the stories, as well as dressing up as different characters. We have counted cakes for grandma and explored different materials to make houses with, amongst lots of other activities. Last week we had a lovely trip to the library where we listened to stories read by the librarian and explored the many children's books. Through the term, we've also celebrated pancake day, World Book Day, CE awareness week and had 3 birthday parties! As the seasons have started to change, we have also been outside to find signs of spring, as well as learning about Easter and new life.

**Durham Class:**

This half term we have learnt about plants and thought about what plants need to grow. We planted beans, tomatoes, daffodils and potatoes and made observations. The children really enjoyed gardening outdoors.

During maths lessons we explored measuring with a ruler, estimated and measured lengths using various tools and units. We worked on position and direction and finished the term learning about time and money.

The children worked really hard on their phonics lessons this term again, it's lovely to see the progress in their reading.

In RE we have spent some time learning about Lent and Easter. We came up with some ideas for kind gestures we could do to help people during Lent and practised breaking the bread just like Jesus did at the Last Supper. Durham class also took part in an Easter cake decoration afternoon. We celebrated St Patrick's Day in class with an English lesson based around poetry. Durham class created some wonderful poems and rhyming words about Ireland and St Patrick!

**Outreach:**

This term we have enjoyed celebrating Conductive Education Awareness Week with singing, balloons and having lots of fun. Our main focus for this term has been to be as independent as possible. In Conductive Education we always encourage children to be orthofunctional meaning to adapt, to learn and become an independent individual. Encouraging being independent applies to all areas of the child's development. We continually encourage children to try things they may not realise they are capable of doing. From this they gain confidence and begin to understand their potential.

Next term, we are excited to trial some small parent and child groups within our service. This is a great opportunity for families to meet and work alongside each other working on similar targets. We will continue to work closely with you the parent and your child to encourage and motivate each child's desire to achieve and learning. We will still give parents the knowledge, confidence and strength they need to understand how they can support in their child's development.

School Council:

Please welcome our new school council reps:

Durham Class: Isabella and Owen
Wentworth Class: Aoife and Grace
Balmoral Class: Wiktor
Windsor Class: Mia
Hardwick Class: Ramiyah

We look forward to seeing what exciting ideas they bring to the school.



Online Safety:

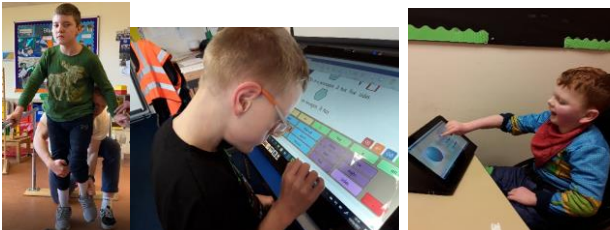
As part of a review of our online safety provision we have created a number of different Acceptable User Policies. We will be working with the pupils after Easter to further support them with their understanding of how to stay safe online. Each pupil will be asked to sign one of three Acceptable User Policies differentiated to meet the needs of the pupils. All staff, governors and volunteers will also be asked to sign a new policy.

Please see attached your Acceptable User policy. Please could you sign and send back into school after the Easter holiday.

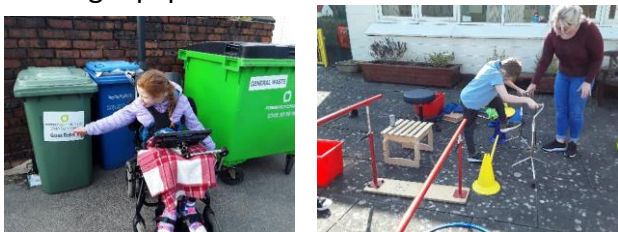


Balmoral Class:

Here in the Balmoral class, we have had a fun filled term in the lead up to Easter. All the pupils have worked extremely hard and made fantastic progress in their academic and physical development. We have continued to explore the deep abyss focusing on improving our independent work. The pupils have been motivated to develop their ICT skills to better access the curriculum.



Pupils have also worked especially hard developing their physical skills. Pupils have displayed amazing determination to improve their ability to take steps with a variety of walking equipment!



The class have been working hard to increase their understanding of the wider world around us, exploring current world issues, which could have a big impact on our futures. As well as this, we have looked at how we can change our daily lives to have a big impact on the current climate crisis. Everyone especially enjoyed searching for recycling facilities close to Paces and are now avid recyclers!

Wentworth Class:

The students have been working extremely hard on their individual targets and spending quality time to evaluate their learning, reflecting on their own and other's behaviour as part of PSHE. During Conductive Education Awareness Week, the students spent time thinking about what it means to them to be at Paces and they shared their thoughts and feelings very maturely with us. As spring has approached us, we have managed to have some lessons outside in the fresh air and sunshine.



Hardwick Class:

We have had a wonderful half term with the topic of: Big City, Bright Lights!

In our story and even PE sessions, we have looked at the story of the Great Fire of London. We have enjoyed putting out the fire, going down Pudding Lane and rescuing the people in their houses. In these lessons we have joined in with the story, walked over tricky terrain and moved across the classroom to get away from the fire!

In Phonics, we have been exploring the different elements of sound. We have looked at rhythm, pitch and volume- using these to promote and extend vocalisations. We have heard all manner of different sounds, even those relating to the different names of pupils in the class. This is definitely one of the loudest sessions in Hardwick, but one which everyone has enjoyed thoroughly, and everyone is talking more and more each time! We have been working hard on our physical skills each day with a focus on the transfers we do to get across the classroom when it is time for the next lesson; we move even faster when it is time for lunch! We have been walking, crawling, pulling and pushing our way across the classroom with much success and independence.



Future dates for your diary:

End of Spring Term	Fri 1 st April
Staff training day	Tues 19 th April
Pupils return	Wed 20 th April
May bank holiday	Mon 2 nd May
Finish for half term	Fri 27 th May
Queen's Jubilee holiday	Mon 6 th June
Pupils/staff return to school	Tues 7 th June
End of term for pupils	Thurs 21 st July
Staff training day	Fri 22 nd July

Windsor Class:



For our Space topic, we have explored how and why the surface of planets might be different and how landforms can be created. We learned about black holes and then used chalk and pastels to make beautiful pictures of them for display. We also linked our understanding of how asteroids make impact craters to some fantastic big outdoor art. Science lessons have been full of - often very messy - practical sessions: we exploded volcanoes using bicarbonate of soda, blew sand around to make sand dunes, and made impact craters in shaving foam.

I have been very impressed to hear how much of our topic knowledge students are able to recall; they are really becoming Space experts. In English, everyone enjoyed the dramatic climax and resolution of *The Iron Man*; students joined in with signing during the reading and gave some really thoughtful ideas about their impressions of the characters. Students are now having lots of fun using our reading work to inspire their own Science Fiction story; it is brilliant to see students using some of the techniques used by the author to help make their own writing hook the reader's attention.

Conductive Education Awareness Week:

This year we fully embraced CE Awareness week spending time in our classes learning a little bit more about CE and why it is important to us. Class groups focussed on what they CAN DO as a result of our CE ethos. We ended the week with celebration assemblies sharing achievements with our friends and staff.

