Paces School for Conductive Education

Summer Term 2 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't quite believe we have reached the end of another academic year. When I reflect back on the past 12 months, once again the pupils and staff of Paces have achieved so much. I would just like to take the opportunity to thank the staff for all their extremely hard work. This year, more than ever they have demonstrated how passionate they are about their work at Paces school. Their efforts to move us into our new school building were amazing. Staff have continued to develop the spaces over the past year to ensure that our school is a lovely nurturing environment. This year we have enjoyed a huge variety of extra curriculum activities, some of which have been highlighted in this newsletter. Events such as Sports Day, Multicultural Week and the Music Festival take considerable organisation and the whole staff team fully embrace these activities, taking the time to decorate the classroom, dress up and support the pupils to ensure the experiences are of high quality. Our pupils certainly set the standards high in terms of how hard they work to achieve their absolute best and are supported by a staff team that work equally hard. What a very lucky Headteacher I am to work with such fantastic pupils and staff! I hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved holiday.

Best wishes, Ruth Liu- Headteacher

Summer School:

We look forward to welcoming some of our older pupils to Summer School starting Monday 24th July to Friday 28th July 2023.

We have some lovely activities planned and we ask that parents drop their children off at 9.00am and pick up at 3.00pm. The usual school meal will be provided.

Pupils will be involved in Conductive Education programmes in the morning and then we have a range of fun activities in the afternoon.

Pupil Update:

At the end of this term, we will be saying goodbye to Veronica, a much loved and important part of our school team. Veronica has been a pupil at Paces since the age of 3 and is an absolute credit to her family and the staff in school. We will miss her dearly but we know we will still keep in touch with Veronica as she transitions to our adult services at Smithy Wood. Paces won't quite be the same without you Veronica!

Good luck with everything you do and huge thank you for being such a warm and wonderful young lady.

We look forward to welcoming Logan, Cora, and Mominah to our school in September. All have had very successful transition visits and we look forward to working with them.

Windsor Class:

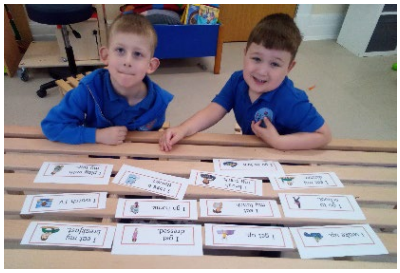
Windsor class have worked so hard this term whilst having a lot of fun. We absolutely loved our week of immersing ourselves in everything Italian. Students demonstrated some impressive life skills, making pasta and pizza dough and cooking and tasting some delicious Italian foods. We were very proud to showcase all we had done for the rest of the school at the end of the week.

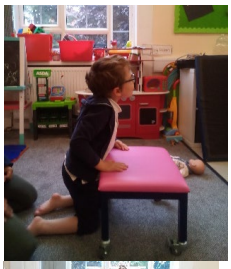
We have enjoyed thinking about plants and nature with our Science topic and class novel in English. Students have really developed their understanding of characters and themes by studying a longer text and their ideas have been outstanding. They also wrote some very convincing persuasive letters linked to the story. Students have added some extra beauty in the school grounds with some fantastic planting. We have also enjoyed some walks to explore nature in the local area, visiting a nearby pond and feeding the ducklings.

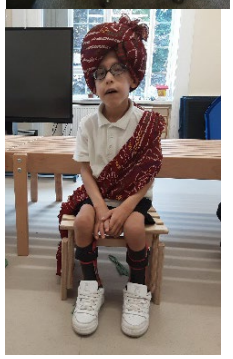
We are so proud of how much the young people in Windsor Class have achieved and it has been a pleasure to see how they have grown in confidence and developed their independence and communication skills. Veronica has been visiting the Paces Adult Services and is already making lots of new friends; we will miss her very much but we wish her all the best for the future. We are looking forward to welcoming our new students into Windsor in September and hope the students who are moving to new classes will visit us often and have a fantastic time developing friendships in their new classes.

Warwick 1 Class:

The second half of the summer term has been jam-packed for the Warwick class! The 'Ready, Steady, Grow' topic has continued to provide a great deal of fun and excitement as we've watched our beans shoot up, investigated where food comes from and learnt lots about farms. We've loved the books 'Handa's Surprise' and 'Rosie's Walk'- reading about sneaky animals in both stories! The children have also really enjoyed using their laptops more- accessing online games and Clicker 8 activities. A recent highlight was learning about India in preparation for our Multicultural Arts Week- we had the best time! Dressing up in Indian clothes, smelling spices, dancing Bollywood style, making Rangoli patterns with coloured rice and cooking chapatis- to name but a few of the fun things we did! Without exception, the pupils have worked incredibly hard on their physical targets and they are rightly proud of their increasing independence. The term ended with a wonderful trip to Wentworth Garden centre where we fed the animals, rode on tractors and played in the playground- huge amounts of fun were had by all. Bring on a well deserved summer break!







WJEC results:

Well done to Lara, Mia, Tristan, Elliot, Veronica, Lillia, Charlotte and Nico who successfully gained credits in some of all of the following WJEC units of work:

Working as part of a group
Chemical products and the environment
Exploring Poetry
Working with fractions
Science and the plant world.
Introduction to animal care
Creating Narrative
Data Handling
Exploring audio and visual texts

Congratulations to Shakela, Aoife and Taya for completing units in Introduction to Whole Numbers, Introduction to Whole Numbers and Using Money.

They all worked extremely hard to complete these units. A big thank and well done to the staff team in Windsor and Wentworth for supporting students with their exam board work.

Durham Class:

Durham class have had a fantastic half term. We can't believe how fast the end of the year has come around! This half term we have been learning all about Pompeii, and what happened when the volcano erupted. We have written an historical narrative about the disaster. We have also discussed earthquakes and tsunamis, thinking about what a natural disaster is.
We have continued practising our number skills, and have all been very proud of the progress we have made! In Science, we have learnt about fair tests, and what we need to do to make sure our experiments are fair.
We enjoyed a lovely trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park, and had a fantastic time seeing all the different animals. We really enjoyed our Music Festival last week, and our teddy bear's picnic! We also had lots of fun when Iron Man came to visit!
Have a lovely summer! Jemma and the Durham Team.

School Council:
The music festival went well and we all enjoyed it.
We would like to thank Jemma, Kim and all the people who came into help us – Vicky for doing our hair, and Abi, Matt and Barnsdale Hood for playing music for us.
Also, this year has been a great year and we are excited for our new classes in September.

Owen, Isabella and Student Council.

Future dates for your diary:

Summer School	24-28th July 2023
Staff training days	4th & 5th September 2023
Pupils return to school	6th September 2023
Finish for half term	20th October 2023
Return to school	30th October 2023

Balmoral Class:
The six-week holiday is finally upon us, and the students in the Balmoral class have certainly earned the break! They have worked stupendously hard to complete all of their individual targets as well as have a little fun along the way. Let us show you what we have been up to!
We have been canoeing in sunshine- unfortunately the majority of us ended up rowing straight into the bushes!
We had a brilliant time at sports day, showing our mastery of all the sports we've practiced throughout the year! Our chant was not bad either!
In English, we've been bringing out our inner poets, exploring poetry and rhymes about the heart. In Maths, we have been practicing measuring both length and height, as well as perimeter around different shapes.
The whole of the Balmoral class staff team would like to express how much we have enjoyed teaching the students through the 2022-2023 academic year. The students continue to amaze us with their dedication and hard work during both their physical and academic studies, and hope you all have a wonderful summer holidays!

Wentworth Class:
This term was extremely packed and we had lots of fun. The multicultural week was brilliant, we created decorations and artwork from China and truly enjoyed learning about different countries. In History, the students have been learning about WW1 and simulated a trench battle using nerf guns, trenches and realistic WW1 sound effects around them. In Art lessons they made soldiers' hats and in D&T they made a Trench Stew, looking at a ration shopping list. In English students have finished their work 'Exploring Narratives' which will go towards their WJEC qualification. Sports Day was a successful day for the Wentworth class as we won the trophy which we will be able to keep until next year's Sports Day.

New Staff:

We look forward to welcoming Brittany Machin our new teacher, with experience of working in a local special school.
Congratulations to Petar Tica who will start in his new role as Assistant Headteacher in September, supporting Lizzie, Eva and Ruth in the Senior Leadership Team.
Rochelle will also be employed as a conductor from September and support several of the classes with the Conductive Education programmes.

Hardwick Class:

We have had a fabulous summer term in Hardwick. We have had lots of themed days such as multicultural arts week where we learned about France which was our chosen country. We finished off the week by going around different classrooms which were decorated as Poland, China, Italy, India and Australia! The pupils enjoyed learning about all the other countries, exploring their arts and tasting different homemade food.
We enjoyed a great sports day despite the rain and we came first in Rifle Shooting!! GO HARDWICK!!
We have also had some fun trips and days out together as a class, where the children have been able to explore and learn beyond the classroom. We have been for a walk to the local duck pond, litter picking as part of environmental week, picnic in the park, the local library and our end of year trip to the Tropical Butterfly House. We were very lucky that these trips were in the glorious sunshine.
All the children have worked so hard on their targets this term, we have heard brand new words said out loud, pupils standing and walking for longer periods of time, pupils using communication aids to say what they want (and don't want!!) and developing skills with eating! It has been a wonderful and exciting summer term!

We hope everyone has a lovely summer holiday.

Congratulations:

Congratulations to Lucy Barker and her husband Josh who welcomed baby Albi in June. It was lovely to see Lucy and Albi at our PTA summer picnic.

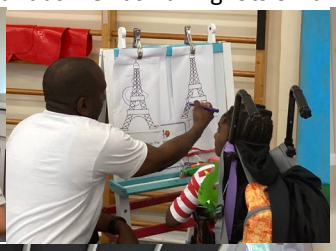
Congratulations:

Congratulations to Rochelle Pearce who successfully completed her undergraduate degree in Conductive Education. This has been a 3-year long course which Rochelle has completed whilst working in school.
Congratulations to Petar Tica who is now a fully qualified Multi-disciplinary Conductor- a process that has taken over 18 months to complete. Thank you to Eva and Lizzie for supporting them through this process.

Multicultural Week:

A new event to the Paces calendar this year was our Multicultural Arts week. Each class chose one country to explore in depth, learning about its culture, traditional music, clothes and food as well as geographical elements of the country, including the weather and any interesting geographical features.

On the Friday, pupils took their passports and travelled round the world participating in activities organised by the host class. Everyone learnt a huge amount as well as having lots of fun.



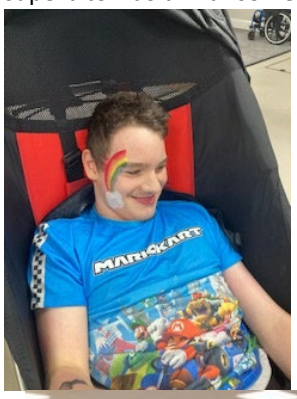
Music Festival:

Another new event for this academic year was our Music Festival. Organised by our school council, pupils spent the day in their house teams and explored a carousal of activities including live music, karaoke, getting 'festival ready' with festival hair, face-paint, glitter tattoos and exploring instruments to create music together. We also premiered our new whole school Makaton performance of 'Better When I'm dancing' which will be on our Facebook page soon. Huge well done to Jemma and the school council for organising a superb day.

PTA Picnic:

The weather didn't spoil the fun on Saturday 15th July when our PTA organised a lovely picnic event.

We welcomed lots of our families and friends who enjoyed some delicious baked goods, face painting, glitter tattoos, a selfie booth as well as lots of games and activities. Huge thanks to Jack and Maggi for the superb tombola with some great prizes.



A huge thank you to all the members of our PTA for all their help this year. We raised a superb £450.00 that will be used to help fund resources for school.

Warwick 2 Class:

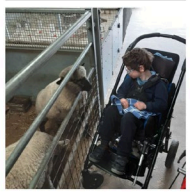
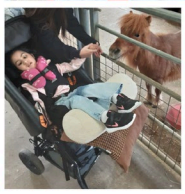
Where has the time gone? This term has gone super quick! We must have been having too much fun planting and watching our beanstalks grow as part of our 'Ready, Steady, Grow' topic. This topic has taught us all about where food comes from.

We have had fun going on farm animal hunts around the school, counting, matching and sorting baby animals. We have also written shopping lists and walked to the shop to buy lots of fruits and vegetables, to make yummy salads and fruit kebabs while learning about the importance of healthy eating!

We got our passports ready and travelled all the way to India for our multi-cultural arts week. We had such a fantastic time learning all about India, making chapattis and Indian sweets that tasted great! We dressed in a sari and kurta just like in our story 'A Sari for Ammi'. We loved trying out mehndi art and decorating our classroom in our beautiful Rangoli pictures. We even got our friends from other classes to add their hand and footprints onto the beautiful peacock we made- one of the sacred birds of India.

Following all our activities about plants, farms and food it was only right to go on a little trip to Wentworth Garden Centre. We enjoyed smelling all the herbs and picked our favourite colour flowers. We got to handle some soft animals and some scaly animals. Our favourite where the reptiles- do you think Ruth would let us have one as a pet? We sat on a tractor, walked around the farm, fed some sheep and nearly got eaten by some cheeky goats!!!

After all this fun, we are all ready for a summer break. We hope you all have a lovely summer holiday.

Educational Visits:

It has been lovely this half term for some of our classes to go out on Educational Visits. Here are some pictures below of groups out and about.

Warwick Class went to Wentworth Gardens and Farm, Durham Class and Balmoral classes went to Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Windsor went to the Winter Gardens and Portland college. Wentworth visited Leeds and ate their lunch in a Chinese restaurant linking to the multicultural week and finally, Hardwick went to the Butterfly House.

Sports Day:

This year Sports Day was a two-day event with half the school competing on one day and the other half the following day. Pupils participated in cricket, football, rifle shooting and Boccia each competing to be the winning team in each event. The Wentworth team were the overall winners of the day. A huge well done to everyone for participating and demonstrating excellent sportsmanship skills.