Paces School for Conductive Education

Summer Term 2 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

July again!! Can't quite believe we have reached the end of another academic year and what a busy one it has been. The highlights of this year have been many but the introduction of Careers Week was a particular favourite of mine along with the ever-popular multicultural week, Music Festival and Carol concert. I hope that you have managed to read our Ofsted report and were pleased with the content. Following on from the areas of development identified in the report, our new phonics scheme is proving to be very successful and we look forward to sharing further details with parents and carers about this, as well as sharing our new books and reading activities with you. In addition to this our topic cycles and curriculum lessons ensure that pupils participate in exciting and engaging lessons and I look forward to subject leaders exploring the progress being made across the school in each of these areas. Once again, thanks to all the staff for their hard work and to the pupils for always being amazing and a final thank-you to our wonderful parents and carers who are always so supportive of our school and the work we do. I hope you all have a wonderful, relaxing holiday.

Best wishes, Ruth Liu- Headteacher

Summer School:

We look forward to welcoming some of our older pupils to Summer School starting Wednesday 24th July to Friday 26th July 2024.

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:

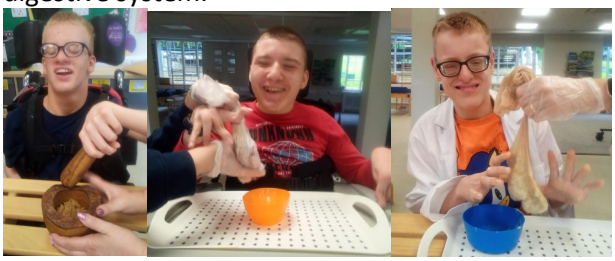
At the end of this term, we will be saying a fond farewell to Taya and Tristan. Tristan has been a pupil at Paces since a very young age and is an absolute credit to his family and the staff in school. Taya joined Paces 7 years ago and since then has grown into a delightful young lady and it has been a pleasure to watch her progress and develop.

We will miss them dearly and wish them lots of luck but we know we will still keep in touch with them both as they transition to our adult services at Smithy Wood alongside their college places.

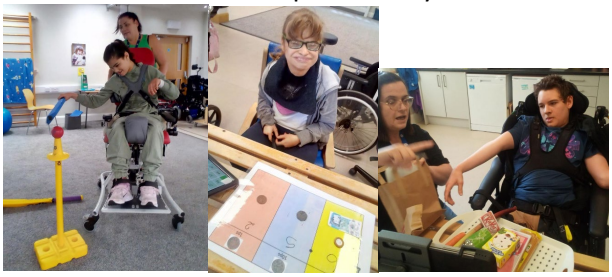
We look forward to welcoming Rive and Daniel to our school in September.

Windsor Class:

Windsor Class have continued studying the human body, focusing most recently on the digestive system. We carried out practical demonstrations to explore how different organs worked; this was rather messy and lots of fun. We also learned about the Bristol Stool chart and how we can use this to help evaluate healthiness. As part of our English work, we looked at the style and features of information texts before students produced impressive work of their own about parts of the digestive system.



We have explored ways to keep healthy, including how to create balanced meals with the Eatwell Plate. We are becoming quite renowned for our culinary skills as a class and invited Balmoral class for our most recent menu: a vegetarian pasta bake which received very high star ratings from our guests! Having worked hard on the Using Money WJEC unit, we were able to practise our skills in a range of role-plays in class, as well as in real-life contexts – like on our trip to the city centre.



Warwick Class:

This term we have had lots of fun singing rhymes and exploring poems relating to our topic 'How many pebbles on the beach?'. This topic has focused our learning on all things seaside.

Our literacy sessions have been nothing short of a magical sensory experience. Using the beach as a source of inspiration, we have made beautiful poems about sand, trains and seaside adventures. These poems have allowed us to express our thoughts and emotions using objects, symbols and pictures. We are thrilled to share some of these masterpieces with you.

In mathematics, we have been counting pebbles, shells and have gone fishing to reinforce our understanding of numbers. The beach-themed counting games and activities have been a fun way for us to develop our mathematical skills.

We enjoyed going on our educational visit to Ethel Barge, we were so good at driving the boat. We had to finish the term going to one of our favourite places Cannon Hall Farm to try out their new inclusive park and of course, we had to say hello to the animals too.

We said goodbye to our good friend Rosie from Sheffield music hub, who we have worked with once a week for music, which we've loved! She brought along lots of different musical instruments for us to can play with, our favourite was the violin. She used all our voices to make a song that sounds like we're at the seaside!

WJEC results:

We are so proud of our secondary students in Windsor and Wentworth who have been working so hard on their WJEC Pathways units.

Across the two classes, students were entered for 20 units in Additional English at Entry Level 2, as well as two at Entry Level 3; 14 Science Today units were entered at Entry Level 2; 16 Mathematics units were entered at Entry Level 2, and 7 at Entry Level 3. I am very pleased to say that all of these units were successfully passed!

It is wonderful to see students' achievements recognised as they leave us, especially as this can help further education providers see just how amazing and capable they are. Special congratulations go to Tristan and Taya who have now cashed in the WJEC units they have gained as full qualifications: Tristan has achieved Certificates at Entry Level 2 in Additional English, Mathematics and Science Today, and Taya has achieved Awards at Entry Level 2 in English and Mathematics. We wish them every success in their future studies!

Chatsworth Class:

What a wonderfully busy half term we have had! We have continued with our 'The Body and Food' topic, and have split our learning into a series of mini units: 'My Body – Growing Up', 'The Growing of Food' and 'What Can My Body Do?'. We have learnt lots about our bodies, especially during our whole-school Growing Up Days where we focused solely on big topics such as getting taller, personal hygiene and simple dressing skills. In Science, we have continued to explore the growth of food and enjoyed regrowing some spring onions using just the root. It has been fascinating to watch them grow taller each day! As always, all of the pupils have worked exceptionally hard during the daily task series, and it has been delightful to see the progress each pupil has made with their physical skills since September. For many of our learning experiences, we have spent lots of quality time outside in the sunshine. We have been to the local café, had a class picnic with our own culinary creations, and even visited a local Macmillan Coffee Morning, where we put all our mathematical knowledge about money and the concept of buying things to good use. We also had a fantastic day on our end-of-year visit to Tenpin, where the Chatsworth pupils left no pins standing and had lots of fun in our very own karaoke booth. We think their favourite part was listening to the staff trying their best to sing 80's ballads! Finally, the Chatsworth team would like to thank all of our parents and carers for being so supportive throughout the year. Have a fabulous summer, and we look forward to seeing you in September!

Wentworth Class:

This half term the Wentworth Class have been involved in a range of enriching experiences that have fostered their creativity, teamwork, and academic skills. Our pupils have embarked on the journey of creating their own narratives. This activity has been a wonderful opportunity for them to express their creativity and improve their writing skills. We participated in an exciting Boccia tournament. This not only promoted physical activity but also encouraged teamwork and sportsmanship among the students. Our visit to Cannon Hall Farm was a highlight of the term. The pupils explored food production processes, gaining valuable hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of agriculture. The students have been busy creating content for social media to advertise our upcoming ball. This project has helped them develop important digital and marketing skills, preparing them for the modern world. Lastly, our pupils have been working diligently on improving their multiplication skills. Their progress in this fundamental area of mathematics is commendable.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and dedication our pupils have shown in all these areas. Thank you for your continued support.

Durham Class:

Durham Class have loved learning about Pirates this term, and we celebrated the end of the topic by having a Pirates in Pyjamas party. We all had an amazing time.

We wrote Pirate Descriptions in English, naming our pirates and thinking about what they looked like and what their likes and dislikes were.

We made our own pirate ship, which we named H.M.S. Durham Dodger, and loved taking photos being the captain of the ship. We also designed and made our own pirate flags.

It's been such a fun term, and we're all ready for summer! Have a lovely holiday!

Future dates for your diary:

Summer School	24-26th July 2024
Staff training days	2nd & 3rd September 2024
Pupils return to school	4th September 2024
Finish for half term	**Thurs 24th October 2024**
Staff training day	Fri 25th October 2024
Return to school	4th November 2024

Staff updates:

Congratulations to Gemma Spon-Smith who, after an incredible amount of hard work, has gained her qualified teacher status. Gemma is an excellent teacher and it has been a pleasure to work with her over the last year.

Congratulations also to Kathy Fagg for completing Level 5 and some Level 6 from the Diploma in Careers Guidance and Development.

We have three new Conductor Assistants starting with us in September, Sam, Aimee and Nora.

We sadly say good bye to Nicole Roome who has supported in Chatworth class over lunchtime. We wish Nicole well for her future.

We are pleased to welcome Jodie and Roxanne who will be supporting us over lunchtimes.

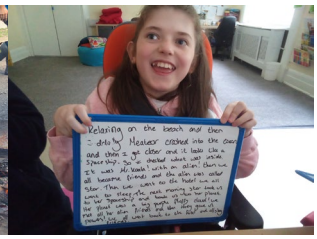
Balmoral Class:

As another academic year draws to a close, we can safely say that we have had a wonderful year as Balmoral Class!

This term we have had our most adventurous term yet, with 4 trips to Hesley Woods where the pupils went caving, canoeing, axe throwing and made s'mores around a camp fire; the pupils enjoyed it immensely with so many new and exciting experiences for all of them. The pupils have further explored the topic 'Flow' by going on the Five Weirs Walk and looking at how the rivers were formed and what kinds of animals and plants live in and around the area.

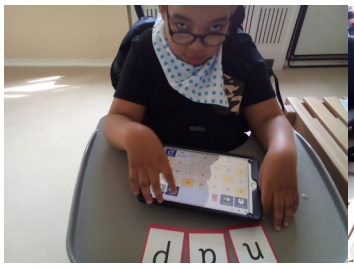
Balmoral Class have enjoyed reading the story of "The Wind in the Willows" as a class and being inspired to write poetry and newspaper reports around the events of the story. In Computing, the pupils have been looking at databases and the differences between data and information, exploring databases in catalogues – which has been quite new for some! They have also looked at databases online by investigating websites such as Amazon, Google and Netflix. They have created their own databases of Top Trumps cards where they created their own categories with packs such as: Boxing, Lego Ninjago, Minecraft and Damsel!

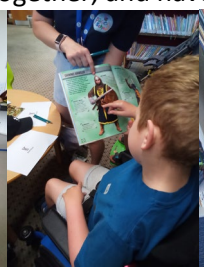
In Art, the pupils have been using water fervently in their work, using ink drops to create beautiful pieces and using watercolour to create stunning landscapes, sunsets and oceans.



Edinburgh Class:

This term has been amazing as we explored the fascinating topic of "Peasants, Princes, and Pestilence." The children have been captivated by this theme and have learned to ask and write insightful questions to deepen their understanding. Our journey included delving into character descriptions, with the character of Pestilence being a spooky and mean favourite among the students. They have also worked on improving their writing by using powerful verbs, crafting sentences about knights, and also letter writing. The topic of Black Death was one of our favourites, learning where it all began and the symptoms. In maths, the children practiced their number skills, counting forwards and backwards, understanding concepts of one more and one less, and exploring the topic of mass. In science, we had a hands-on experience with bacteria growth, conducting some delightfully disgusting experiments. One of our favourite activities has been playing together, engaging in numerous activities that have helped develop and strengthen our amazing communication and friendships. In RE, we have explored the story of Noah and what is meant by promises exploring people in our lives that make them, including the police, doctors and teachers. We have shared many stories, games and songs together, and have had a fantastic time together.





Careers Week:

This year we held our very first Careers Week which was a huge success. Our oldest pupils had the opportunity to listen to presentations from a variety of different college provisions as well as our own adult services, visit careers fayres, engage in work related opportunities and have individual careers guidance interviews.

Pupils have made huge progress in their confidence and independence. It was wonderful to see how they impressed visitors from different colleges and workplaces with their fantastic listening and by asking interesting questions. Our careers-related learning has really helped students think about their futures beyond Paces. In addition to this some our younger pupils also took the time to explore different careers linked to the topic, People Who Help Us.

Music Festival:

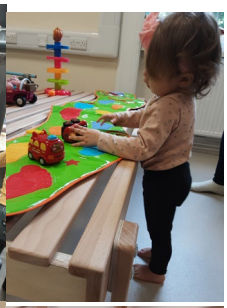
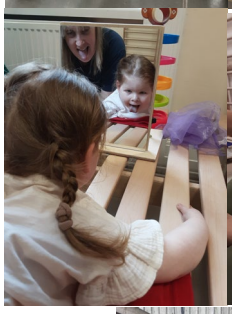
Following the success of last year's Music Festival the pupils chose to hold a beach themed festival this year. Pupils had the opportunity to listen to music from Rosie and her band, explore the beach, eat fish and chips, make their own ice-creams, meet some donkeys and join in a whole school karaoke and disco at the end of the day. A great day to celebrate the end of another busy school year. Thank you to the school council and Jemma for organising a great day.

Outreach:

Our outreach program had an amazing year, working with over 20 children on various developmental milestones. From head lifting to mastering different positions, high kneeling, and standing up, each child's progress has been incredible to witness. It was particularly heart- warming to see some children take their first steps, a moment that filled both our team and their families with immense joy and pride.

In addition to physical milestones, we also focused on enhancing the children's social and cognitive skills through interactive activities and play-based learning. These sessions not only fostered individual growth but also strengthened the sense of community among the families involved.

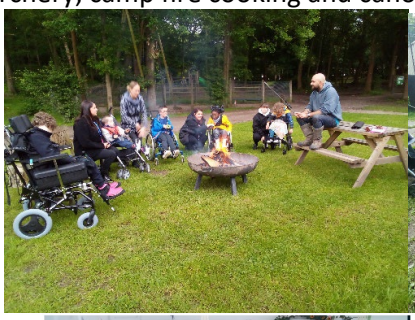
We celebrated these milestones with families at an end-of-year event at Cannon Hall Farm. The event was a delightful culmination of the year's efforts, featuring fun activities for the children, such as animal feeding, tractor rides and animal races. Families had the opportunity to connect, share their experiences, and support each other in a relaxed atmosphere.

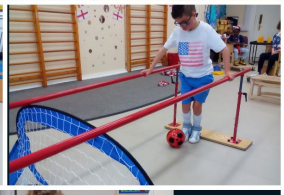



Hardwick Class:

As the summer term ends, we reflect on the wonderful experiences and valuable lessons your children have enjoyed. It has been a term filled with exploration, discovery, and joy.

Throughout the term, children have engaged in a variety of outdoor activities that allowed them to fully immerse themselves in the beauty of summer. They embarked on summer walks, enjoyed picnics in the park, and had an exciting trip to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park. Not to forget our amazing adventures at Helsey Wood! These provided unique opportunities and experiences to learn about nature, wildlife, and experience summer activities such as archery, camp fire cooking and canoeing.





Our exploration didn't stop outdoors. We also delved into the fascinating world of water and ice. The children had a fantastic time making sculptures, filling and emptying buckets, and experimenting with different states of matter. We also celebrated our own indoor sports activities when sports day was cancelled.

As part of our early reading, our sensory story "Where's Lenny?" was brought to life through a series of sensory experiences, allowing the children to fully participate and connect with the narrative. It was wonderful to see their excitement and enthusiasm as they interacted with the story elements.

As we conclude this term, we are grateful for the memories we've made and the progress each child has achieved. The summer term has been an enriching time for everyone, and we look forward to continuing this journey of learning and growth in the upcoming term.

Educational Visits:

It has been another jam packed half term with lots of educational visits to explore a wide variety of different places.