



NEW SCHOOL BUILDING

Hello and welcome

to the latest issue of our newsletter. We have had such a busy term with lots of new children and staff, lots of exciting activities and trips and a whole lot of learning going on as well!

While we've been getting on with things in our current building we have been watching the building next door at the old Crosshill site slowly be demolished, in preparation for our new Autism

EXCITING OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

area of school. It's been a bit sad to see it go, but we are excited about having more space before too long and we really need it as we are very full and want to keep being able to take new children who want to come and to be able to support families across the borough. So, building updates will be a newsletter feature for a while.

The Autumn has flown by, starting with Harvest and Eid, moving to a whole host of fundraising and

GO NEWFIELD!

special curriculum events and then on to trips, performances and finally hurtling towards Christmas - we've certainly had another action packed, fun-filled Newfield term.

Read on to learn more about what we've been doing and meet some of the newest family members.

We wish you all a very happy festive season and looking forward to seeing you in school in the New Year.



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We have had quite a few new children join us at the start of the Autumn term and they are settling in well, making new friends. We have also welcomed new staff during this Autumn term - so there are lots of new faces around - here are all our new children.

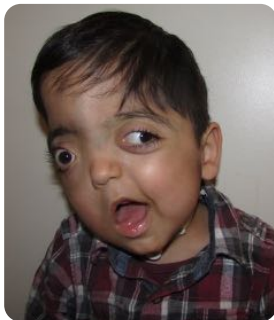
WOW! LOOK AT
ALL OUR NEW
PUPILS



Yousaf



Michael



Hasnain



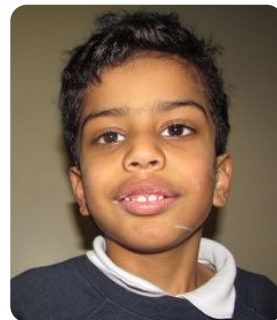
Arsalaan



Fahd



Marcus



Zakariyya



Khatija



Husnain



Rayyan



Suha



Shajiena



Hannah



Niall



Matthew



Aatika



Helena



Yasin



Rourke

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

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On the 25th September, instead of a coffee morning like everyone else, post 16 held an afternoon coffee event to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support selling drinks, cakes and potted plants! It was a real Friday treat for all the classes to visit and relax, enjoy the food and chat about the weekend ahead whilst being served by the older students. The transport passenger assistants and drivers were able to buy a cake as they collected the children and by the end of the day they had sold everything and raised lots of money.



HARVEST FESTIVAL



At the start of October we held our annual Harvest assembly. The school was regaled by the Primary and Secondary choirs and presentations were given by Paul Bye from Christchurch and Chris Walker from Blackburn food-bank to whom we are donating our harvest gifts. They later confirmed that we had donated enough food for 103 meals for people in need - Many thanks to our guests and all who contributed and attended.

BENDRIGG RESIDENTIAL

In October, some students from the 16 - 19 department went on a residential outdoor and adventurous holiday to Bendrigg Lodge near Kendal. They had a fantastic week rock climbing, canoeing, caving, zip wiring, trying archery, using a big tube slide and indoor swing, showing off their moves at a disco and visiting Windermere. The weather was great with the sun shining all week. Every student benefitted from this holiday in some way, whether this was achieving personal goals, experiencing new things or developing in confidence. What a fantastic, worthwhile week!



REMEMBRANCE

On the 11th November we held a remembrance assembly. It gave us the opportunity to come together as a school and reflect on what the day represents. We had all done some poppy artwork and we talked about why we wear poppies, why we have a two minutes silence and who we are remembering and why. Both staff and students were involved with the day, some of our older students sold poppies to raise money for the Royal British Legion, there was an excellent performance from the choir and a reading from two of our newest students in school. We even heard the Last Post played by Anna, a teacher in school.



CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 13th November we joined the nation to fund raise for Children in Need, by paying to dress up as heroes, having a special lunch and selling cakes! Stonyhurst students came and did a dance demonstration to kick-start our Pudsey disco, and the big yellow hero himself, Pudsey, joined us in school for all the fun.

We had a really great day and raised £390 for the charity - thanks and well done to everyone - we are all heroes!



HISTORY DAY TELEVISION THROUGH THE AGES

The students and staff all came together to produce some excellent work for our History Day this term. The theme was 'Television Through the Decades' as it was the 90th anniversary of the first working TV set. Classes were allocated a decade to study and produced art work and props from a TV program or film video of their choice.

Some classes even produced short films based on these programs, they were excellent! These included 'Dr Who', 'Morph', the Olympics, 'Ready, Steady, Cook', 'Wheel of Fortune', 'Sesame Street', 'Art Attack' and an amazing version of the 80's film 'Ghost Busters'. Everyone enjoyed the day, they dressed as a character from their favourite program, took part in classroom activities and came together in the afternoon to watch all of the films. It was certainly an event to remember!



In October, our Rights Respecting School Award steering group organised and held a Britain's Best Breakfast event for carers and family members, in support of the BwD Carers Service. It was a national campaign from The Carers Trust, to raise money to help support unpaid carers and give them a break from their caring role, and to encourage people to wake up to the issue of caring.

"Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. It gives us fuel and energy to help us get through the day. We know that many carers skip breakfast because they simply don't have time to prepare or eat it."

We invited parents, carers and other visitors to come along and have breakfast made for them.

Our students all enjoyed serving our visitors and the visitors all enjoyed their breakfast, and learning more about how we work as a Rights Respecting School.



Our oldest students absolutely loved taking part in the Takeover Challenge, which this year we did for an entire week in November. Again they got to spend some time taking over the running of the school - in total 18 takeovers went on - Jordan was the Head teacher, working in the kitchen we had Jessica, Rachel was sorting out the buses on carpark duty, Steven joined the site supervisor, Babar was helping Lynx sort out our IT, several students were supporting younger children in class and in the hydro pool we had Katie and Shajiena. Others took over in the office, as well as supporting pupils doing Sensory Integration - so they really did run the school that week! Well done to everyone involved - it was an enormous success once again.

CHRISTMAS



2-11

11-16

16-19

This year we had three amazing productions for the Christmas festivities. Pupils aged 2-11 gave us a beautiful Nativity, with lots of singing, dancing and some excellent narration from our youngest readers.

The secondary aged pupils did an amazing job, hosting 'Strictly

Newfield' - there were lively group dances, some moving duets, a glitter ball and the star performance came from teacher Greg and pupil Dylan who gave a high energy rave spectacle to the song 'Titanium'. Audience participation was required and secondary had the whole audience

dancing 'The Strictly' following a demonstration!

Our oldest students in the post 16 age phase took to the stage with their own version of 'Mary Poppins'. They sang, danced and acted to deliver a great production.

Well done to all involved for such brilliant shows!



PERFORMANCES



NATIVITY

STRICTLY
NEWFIELD

MARY
POPPINS



CHRISTMAS FAIR

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Hi Everyone!

The Autumn Term always seems to be a term when we pack a lot in! Amongst the highlights have been our fantastic residential trip to Bendrigg in the Lake District, Takeover Day!...and of course Children in Need and all our usual festive shows and events! The children and staff have worked really hard on ensuring this year's Christmas Shows have been amongst the best we have ever staged.

Work continues on the design and build of the new Autism school as the final part of the old Crosshill School is being demolished and the site is cleared ready for building to begin in the spring. I shall be writing to you all after Christmas so that we can show you the proposals in detail once the final plans have been drawn-up

I hope you all have a good holiday and for those who are celebrating the festive season, have a very happy Christmas and New Year!... thank you as always for making the school successful and helping us to help the children...I look forward to seeing you all again after the break ”

Geoff Fitzpatrick



At the start of December we held our annual Christmas Fair - Father Christmas visited, along with lots of parents & families, governors, former staff and pupils from Witton and other link schools. Everyone enjoyed the brass band and the cafe and bought lots of things made by the children - it was a great start to the festive season and we also raised money for school!



Christmas Holiday

School closes:

Friday 18th December 2015

School re-opens for **staff**:

Monday 4th January 2016

School re-opens for **pupils**:

Tuesday 5th January 2016

Spring Half Term Holiday

School closes:

Friday 12th February 2016

School re-opens:

Monday 22nd February 2016

Easter Bank Holiday Weekend:

School closes:

Thursday 24th March 2016

School re-opens:

Tuesday 29th March 2016

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Newfield
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