

GREENFIELDS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER – TERM 4

MARCH/APRIL 2019



Comic Relief

The School council would like to thank everyone for their support on Red Nose Day 2019!!

Our school community joined together with such enthusiasm to raise money for Comic Relief. Well done to Anton Pickup for rowing 1500m and to all the pupils who pushed themselves to achieve their targets.

Work Experience

As part of his work experience, Adam Hewardine spent a week helping our canteen staff. Adam assisted in the preparation of the dining hall and washing and drying of plates and cutlery. Well done and thank you Adam for your support.

Swimming

This term Key Stage 2 and 3 have very much enjoyed attending swimming lessons and have made great improvements. Many pupils achieving a range of distance badges - notably Lewis Roper completing his 600m - a fantastic effort!

Harley Beckett and Ashton Fenton have also dedicated themselves during swimming lessons and have both grown in confidence. Keep up the good work!



Physical Education

During this term, we have begun introducing outdoor education to the PE curriculum. This has been completed through Orienteering, using basic map reading and route planning skills to complete set courses on the school site with a course record of 4 minutes by Leo Jackson.

Our Key Stage 4 Duke of Edinburgh group will undertake their assessed Bronze expedition at the end of this term. This will be in Lincolnshire's South Wolds area, with two days of navigation trekking and one-night camping.

In other areas of Physical Education in Key Stages 3 and 4, we have continued the development of Net/Wall games through table tennis and invasion games through handball.

English

In Key Stage 3 English, this term Year 8 have been reading and studying the novel 'Frankenstein' and working on creative writing and letter writing.

Year 9 have been studying Macbeth and developing creative writing, persuasive writing and letter writing.

Key Stage 4 have been working on their controlled tasks for English exams. This involved letter writing, descriptive writing and being recorded in a class discussion for spoken language.

Alongside this, pupils have been continuing with GCSE poetry anthology, persuasive writing and novel studies.

Forest School



As part of outdoor education for Key Stages 2 and 3, we have introduced the pupils to the C.I.T Forest School.

Forest School teaching allows all learners to achieve in natural spaces and promote their personal, social and technical skills.

Learners are able to develop self-esteem and confidence through hands on experiences in a natural, woodland environment.

Key Stage 2 pupils have been learning about different survival techniques and they have particularly enjoyed building shelters and fires.

George Parker has displayed great leadership skills with his group and took on the role and responsibility of keeping the fire alight. Well done George!

Bhakti Vedanta Manor trip

As part of Key Stage 3 continuing social, moral, spiritual and cultural development, we visited ISKCON Bhakti Vedanta Manor- Hare Krishna Temple in Watford – a Hindu temple donated by George Harrison, one of the very famous Beatles.

We received a tour of the grounds, and met some of the Oxen that are cared for there. The pupils fed and petted the Oxen, finding them to be gentle beasts regardless of their huge size. We also had an Oxen drawn cart ride.

We learnt that the dung made by the Oxen has many uses, such as being used to make some interesting art works as you can see here.



We saw a special statue of some of the many Hindu deities and were able to witness some of their special daily ceremonies.



The temple feeds over 500 homeless people a day, and we were lucky enough to sample some of their lovely pannier curry, special flat breads and special crisps.

Needless to say our pupils really enjoyed their traditional Hindu meal, some even having second helpings. The feeling on the day was that the Hindu faith is one of nurturing the world and that every living thing has a soul that should be treated with love and respect, from the insects crawling the ground to us humans who are here to protect them.

We also discovered that the urine from Oxen have many uses too, Hindus believe it has healing properties and use it for medicinal purposes.

We were invited into the temple, where we had to remove our foot wear as a sign of respect, and as the Hindus believe this brings us closer to god too.

Art



Key Stage 3 have been learning about aboriginal art. Closely linked to religious ceremonies or rituals and made by indigenous people of Africa. Aboriginal art is created in many different ways including leaves, woodcarving, sculpting or sand painting. We have learnt about the different symbols used and that they are used to convey stories or messages, which are considered very important to the Aboriginal culture. Here is a fantastic Aboriginal painting created by Kaden Lowe using a range of colours and the use of dot painting.

The Phoenix Children's Trust Foundation

As part of our Key Stage 3 social and moral development, we visited the Phoenix Children's Trust Foundation.

During our visit, pupils were able to pet the horses and groom Shetland ponies. We saw some little lambs and pupils were able to feed them, which they were extremely happy about, especially with the baby lamb "Clover".



Pupils enjoyed taking the reins of "Daisy" and "Miriam" the alpacas on a walk. With a mischievous Daisy, Logan Austin and William Haddow worked well together in keeping control and keeping Daisy calm.

During our tour, we were able to see the education hut, which will be used to provide a holistic environment for children with special educational needs. This will offer therapeutic activities in arts and crafts, agriculture and the environment. We also saw some English and Scandinavian reindeer!

The day was enjoyable for all and the pupils were a huge credit to the school in displaying impeccable behaviour and good manners throughout the trip.

Pink for Joby

On Friday 29th March, School staff and pupils had a non-uniform day in remembrance of one of our Key Stage 3 pupils Joby Scrimshaw.

With Pink being Joby's favourite colour, staff and pupil's went to great efforts wearing pink tutu's, dyeing their hair, wearing pink wigs, painting nails and wearing pink clothing.

Joby will be greatly missed by all of us at Greenfields Academy.



Happy Easter to all pupils, parents and staff and we look forward to seeing you in Term 5!

