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Positive Living and Learning for People with Epilepsy and other Complex Needs

19th December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we now break up for the Christmas holidays I would like to thank everyone for their hard work this term. As you can see from the class newsletters we have had a very productive term across the school. During the last 3 weeks we have had a lot of festive activities not least of which was the Christmas concert and also the Preidents Sports Party. We finished off with meeting Father Christmas yesterday.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and I look forward to working with you all when the school re-opens on the 6th January 2020

Yours Sincerely



Sam Steinke-Sanderson
Head of School

DECEMBER 2019

**Achievements
this term:**

**Learning more
Makaton signs**

**Learning
about money**

**Developing
our gross mo-
tor skills**

**Learning to
take turns**



Autumn Term

Bramley Newsletter

We have developed our friendships

This term we have seen some amazing changes in behavior. Everyone seemed so keen to come back to school and be with their friends. The class settled in very well and seemed glad to see each other and the staff and get back into the routine of school work.

This means that we have begun to see huge progress in Personal and Social aspects of the curriculum. Learners have begun to consolidate their friendships, showing some real kindness and empathy towards each other and a general awareness of what each other are

doing.

Alongside this aspect of school, the class seem more settled and less anxious.



We enjoy our singing lessons together

The students transition from one activity to another with greater confidence and are willing to trust staff to lead them on to different and

new activities.

This means we have been able to do more extra-curricular activities and more and try new things including preparation for life outside.



We have improved our basic skills

This term we have been working on our speaking and listening skills. For each of us this means doing different things. Some of us have been learning to sign, others have been communicating using a Picture Exchange System or using apps on an I Pad. And some of us are beginning to

use speech to request what we want. We have also been working on learning about money and exchanging money for items and have had the opportunity of visiting the canteen, cafes and the tuck shop to practice our skills.





Independence skills



We have been working on our skills for Independent living and skills for working life. All of us learning different aspects and use of ICT. Learning how to navigate the internet, control a mouse, use a communication app, or use different aspects of the keyboard to control programs and to communicate.

Skills in the kitchen

We have all learned to use a range of skills in the kitchen. From the importance of washing hands before cooking, selecting the correct utensils and learning about ingredients. We have learnt cooking skills from chopping vegetables and fruits both hard and soft, to rolling out dough and pastry. We have learnt how to blend and stir ingredients and how to use an oven, grill and boil and simmer

using a hot plate. We are beginning to learn some safety aspects in the kitchen such as, to understand when food is likely to be hot and to wait until it cools down in order to eat it. Finally, we have learnt how to wash up!



Jubilee Newsletter December 19

HO HO HO ... and a lot has been done!



Dear family and friends ...

We have become more mature and we have learnt to take responsibility for our behaviour. We have had many rewards for making good choices independently. **WELL DONE JUBILEE!**

This term we have started each day with five individually differentiated activities. We have been focusing on improving our reading and writing.

This term we have incorporated working with money by selling toast and juice in the tuck shop. It is a healthy snack option and it was a enjoyable event for staff and learners. We enjoyed serving others and counted all the coins to make a pound. We even enjoyed washing up the dishes! We produced many hand made crafts in our Enterprise lessons and we sold them at the St Elizabeth's stall. We managed to raise £245 on the day. We will be making bespoke wreaths to sell for special occasions such as Birthdays etc. as a ongoing class project.

Thank you for all your support and time you shared with us. We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Fantastic new year!

Warmest wishes
Jubilee



Pippin Class

We have had a great half term, enjoying the weather changing outside- Exploring crunchy leaves, wrapping up warm on icy days, or walking to the café in bright morning sun.

Our first sensory story this term was all about bonfire night. Since then, it has been a simplified version of the classic 'The Snowman.' We have these stories twice a week, which helps us develop curiosity about all kinds of weird and wonderful resources! Our investigation skills have developed as we continue to explore how things work.

Every week we have been cooking a wintery food. These have ranged from a herby vegetable stew, fresh bread, and gingerbread men. Cooking helps us develop our communication skills, as well wake up our senses!

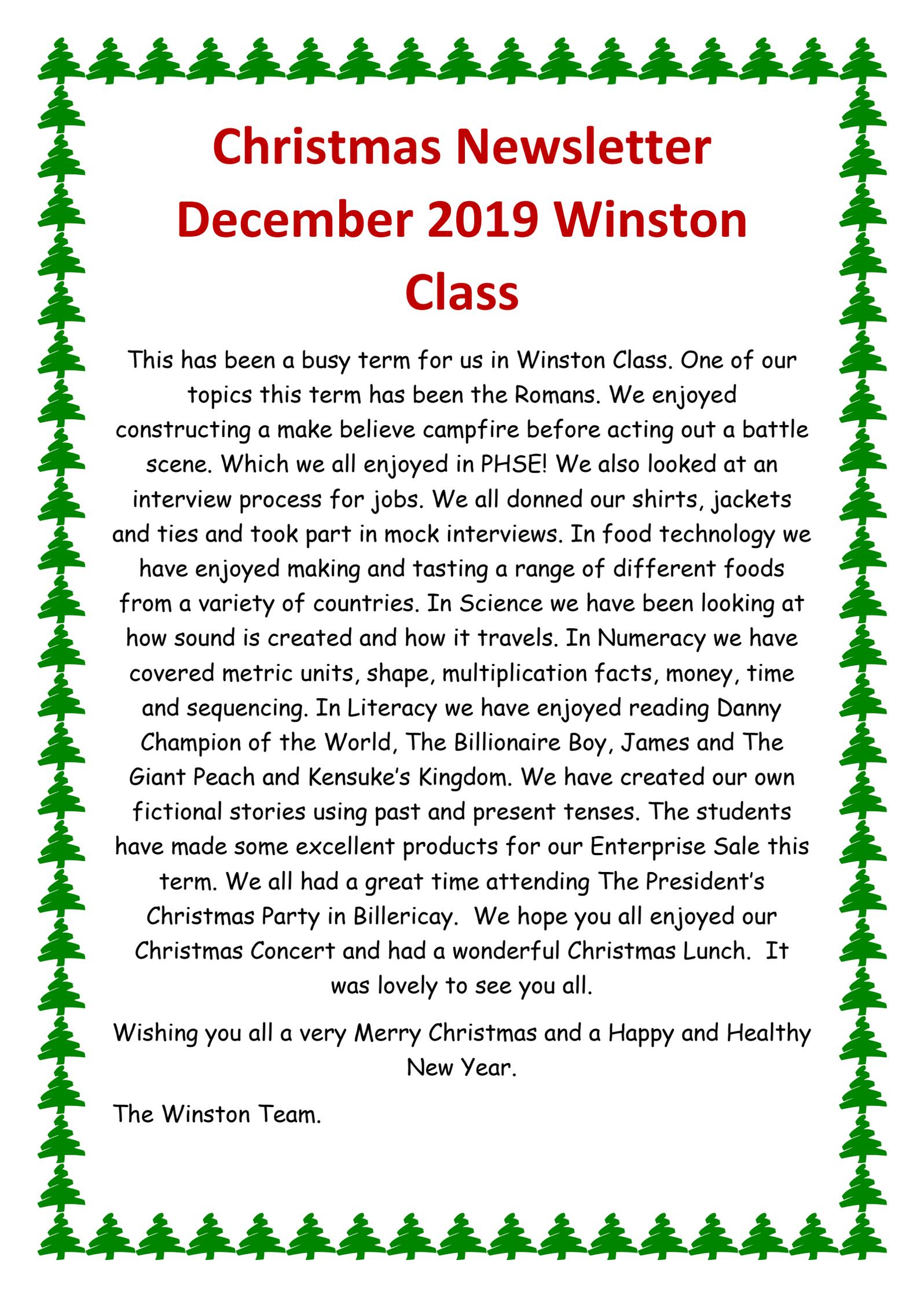
Pippin class love Fridays when George visits us for a music session. He often brings the instruments and gadgets that we like (the microphone was a success) but likes to surprise us with new ones too!

Pippin class love to explore their environments, whilst getting some good exercise! We all work very hard to complete physio targets in a cross-curricula way, which helps make them more fun!

An important part of our weekly timetable is having time with adults and peers in the ball pool, and all of the sensory rooms. But there have also been visits to the chapel, parties and off site trips!

We are looking forward to the Christmas and then coming back to school refreshed.

Merry Christmas from all of
Pippin!



Christmas Newsletter

December 2019 Winston Class

This has been a busy term for us in Winston Class. One of our topics this term has been the Romans. We enjoyed constructing a make believe campfire before acting out a battle scene. Which we all enjoyed in PHSE! We also looked at an interview process for jobs. We all donned our shirts, jackets and ties and took part in mock interviews. In food technology we have enjoyed making and tasting a range of different foods from a variety of countries. In Science we have been looking at how sound is created and how it travels. In Numeracy we have covered metric units, shape, multiplication facts, money, time and sequencing. In Literacy we have enjoyed reading Danny Champion of the World, The Billionaire Boy, James and The Giant Peach and Kensuke's Kingdom. We have created our own fictional stories using past and present tenses. The students have made some excellent products for our Enterprise Sale this term. We all had a great time attending The President's Christmas Party in Billericay. We hope you all enjoyed our Christmas Concert and had a wonderful Christmas Lunch. It was lovely to see you all.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

The Winston Team.



Christmas Newsletter December 2019



Stirling Class

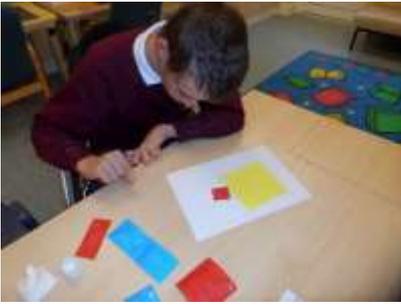


This has been a very busy term for all in the 6th form; we started the year welcoming some new students to our class. This term we have covered a range of topics, including rivers and maps, Remembrance Day, and anti-bullying week. Some of us have started work experience placements in a number of different places, including Thirst café, one of the school classes and the charity shop, we have of course also been to the farm and braved all weathers, but have enjoyed herding sheep, chopping wood and making various craft projects to sell. We have been studying modern artist and have all tried our own pieces of art work in the same style, our classroom art gallery is looking amazing. We have welcomed drama workshops which we were able to take part in as well as watching an outstanding performance. Some have participated in the Christmas concert, made things for our enterprise sale and completed the Santa Dash helping to raise money for the school. We break up for Christmas on the 19th December and return to school on the 6th January 2020.

We wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year, The Stirling class team

Photographs of some of what we have been up to since September.





Merry Christmas

Christmas Newsletter December 2019



Discovery Class



This has been a very busy term for all in Zone 3; we have covered the topics of colours, winter and Christmas. The learners have been on trips to a variety of places each week including shops, a garden centre, and the St Elizabeth's shops; the river and the park. These trips have formed the base for our City and guilds unit for being part of the community. After Christmas we are starting a new topic of being healthy and will be thinking about eating healthy and exercising. Some of us have been to the Essex presidents sporting club Christmas party, which has always been a special event. In cognition this term we focused on Money and fine motor skills. In communication we will continue to focus on individuals targets set by speech and language and have a multi-sensory story of frozen for our winter topic. We have taken part in the Christmas concert and the Santa Dash helping to raise money for the school and centre. We break up for Christmas on the 19th December and return to school on the 6th January 2020. We wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year. Letty, Gill and all the Discovery Class team.

Photographs of some of what we have been up to since September.





Merry Christmas



Christmas Newsletter December 2019 Beacon Class

Dear family and friends,

This has been a fun and exciting term with lots happening in Beacon class. We have had trips out and enjoyed our times on the farm feeding the animals and doing other activities around the farm. We have had lots of fun in the classroom learning about ourselves and each other. We have been very busy with the build up to Christmas, making Christmas decorations, going to the President's sporting award Christmas party and getting ready for our own Christmas concert. We also took part in the St Elizabeth's Santa dash around the centre to help raise money for the school.

In Literacy we have been focusing this term on sentence construction, punctuation and building up our sentences using conjunctions and adjectives. In Numeracy our main focus was on money, getting to know our coins and notes and have enjoyed different games and activities relating to buying and selling things to get to know our money and the value it holds. It was wonderful to see you at the Christmas concert last week. We look forward to learning many more skills in the New year.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Beacon class



