16th December 2021 Volume 2, Issue 2

# Autumn Newsletter

#### A message from our Headteacher Ms Anderson

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I am writing this term's newsletter I can not quite believe that we have reached the end of our Winter Term and firmly into Christmas, the season of giving. With that in mind we have been fundraising for Children In Need, World Aid's Day and Cenotaph—Emergency Services this term.

Well done and thank you to everyone for supporting us with our fundraising for chosen charities. Due to everyone's generosity, we have raised £180.

World Aid's Day we raised an amazing £109.67 and also our fundraising for 999 Cenotaph we raised £98.35.

Thank you too to those children and staff who participated in 'Odd Socks Day' as part of Friendship Week here at FreshSteps, as we all celebrated our individuality.

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November, the whole school came together to commemorate Remembrance Day, honoring those who have lost their lives in combat during world war 1 and 2. All children and staff joined me as I led our 2 minutes silence.

We also had our amazing Drama production, Freshsteps Festive Fiesta were primary and secondary preformed together as a community, a big thank you to Miss Sian our Drama teacher. Also a huge thank you to Ms Fuyuko and Mr. Pritesh for the drama designs, Ms. Shomari for the set design and Ms. Gemma and Ms. Jabbie for their support throughout the production.

Our primary, year 7 and Year 8 enjoyed a reward trip to Hackney Empire to see Jack and the Beanstalk. Year 9, 10 and 11 went on a bowling trip.

As we now have the new variant Omicron, I will need to keep abreast of any changes for school guidance and will keep you updated. Stay safe and well. I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at Freshsteps!



Our School Police Officer PC King

# TERM DATES

#### Last day of term

16th December finish at 3pm

17th—Closed for deep clean

#### **Christmas Holiday**

20th December 2021 to 5th January 2022

Inset Day 5th January 2022

**Pupils return** 

6th January— 9am

Half-Term

14th—18th February





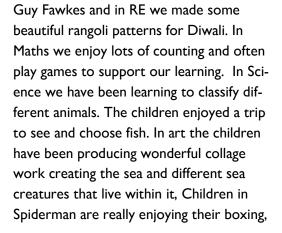
**PUPIL FOCUS-PRIMARY** 

#### Spiderman Class (Mrs Wallman)

The children in Spiderman class have been working hard. We enjoyed celebrating Black History month with a reading afternoon, a cooking event and several celebration assemblies. We learnt about the boxer Anthony Joshua and his achievements. In our topic lessons We are reading " Coming To England" by Floella Benjamin, In History we learnt about



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#### Ironman Class (Ms Nadine)

Iron Man class has been learning about celebrations in different parts of the world with a focus on Diwali.

Diwali is a festival of lights and one of the major festivals celebrated by Hindus, Janis, Sikhs and some Buddhists. The festival usually last 5 days and is celebrated during the Hindu lunisolar month Kartika.

Pupils created a synopsis of the 5 days of Diwali celebration.



Pupils created Diya decorations.













Pupils showing an appreciation for afro hair by creating afro hair models.



Pupils enjoying a session of 'Bake what I eat, eat what I bake'

#### Hulk Class (Ms Janice)

This year Hulk class welcomed one new pupil, and two new adults to complete a family of five. Working together has been going quite well so far though we are still getting to know each other. Each day, our time is spent working on academic and enrichment activities. Since the beginning of this half term, we have been learning a lot about the Countries of the UK - Geography, money and counting in different ways-Mathematics, animals and their diet-Science, and useful strategies to make drama productions more exciting - Drama. In Art / DT measurement has been our focus and it's been very rewarding to each have a go at building our own mega tall structure.

As social and emotional wellbeing is of equal importance, time has been well spent learning about our school values and their importance in our everyday life as well as learning and practicing new strategies to help us cope in difficult situations. School life would be very lonely on our own, so we are taking the time out to learn about our peers, understanding the needs of other and creating healthy new friendship.

When the weather allows, our weekly outings to the park has been a welcomed breath of fresh air. Adult and pupils alike are happy to run around, play on rides and slides, and just enjoy the warm, fresh breeze on our face. Laugher in abundance.

It's all been exciting so far and the rest of the year promises to be nothing short of fantastic. Whoever said school wasn't fun surely had not been to Hulk class at Freshsteps Independent school.













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# **FreshSteps Festive Fiesta**









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## **PUPIL FOCUS - SECONDARY**

#### The English Zone (Mrs Farah)

Creative Writing and Literacy go hand in hand. This term there has been a significant focus on empowering students with Vocabulary to improve reading and writing.

Year 11s work included analyzing a GCSE War poem and making a comparison while Year 10s have benefitted from speaking, listening and discussion activities. Topics such as 'Littering in the UK' to 'Road Safety for Mobile Users' have brought out interesting perspectives.

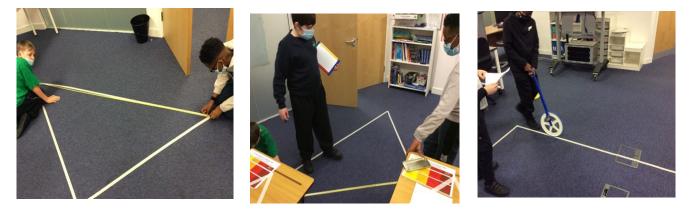
Secondly, Year 9s have been solving mysteries and writing creative sentences to create an understanding of detective stories.

Hence, Year 8s have been learning more about newspaper editions. From creating headlines to attracting readers with funny stories about themselves they have been using their imagination purposefully.

Some of the most popular positive work rewards have been the  $\pm 10$  gift vouchers from Amazon. Also, tutor time Black British History has given students opportunity to study history in specific ways. Knowledge itself is power therefore, the debate competition is rolling on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December. This year's debate is 'IS Covid19 responsible for the decline in mental health in Young People'

Wish our team good luck!

#### Group 4 (Mr Johnson)



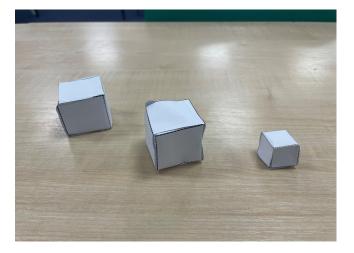
Applying measurement skills learnt in Math to find the perimeter and area. We have some budding land surveyors in our midst doing a fantastic job.





## Mathematics Department (Mr Murray)

Surface area is the measure of the total area that the surface of the object occupies (3D). In general, the surface area is the sum of all the areas of all the shapes that cover the surface of the object. Pupils made a 3D model. They then count the side of the shape and then calculate the total surface area.



#### Science Department (Mr Murray)

Pupils made oobleck using different food colours. They thought it was fun to see how the cornflour interacted with water. Cornflour has a very small, fine texture and when mixed with water, the starch particles suspend rather than dissolve. When oobleck is still or stirred slowly, the water surrounding each starch particle allows the mixture to flow smoothly.







# Group 4 (Mr Jamie)

What a busy month Group 4 have had, the highlight being the weekly trip horse riding. The whole group have met the challenge head on and have absolutely excelled. They have shown great confidence and skill when handling these beautiful animals and the enjoyment on the boy's faces has been fantastic to watch, Caleb, Reid and Dylan in particular look like naturals. As well as this, PE has been a highlight. The group have been working on their dodgeball skills and have made great progress. They have been developing their throwing and catching technique and all have shown great development in this department, especially Ayman. Also, their agility and co-ordination has been tested and the group have improved greatly in this area, most notably Michael who is known as the Dodge Master. On a more academic note, the group have enjoyed the hands-on experience of science, using microscopes to look at microbes and in maths measuring perimeter and area of 2D shapes using various measuring equipment such as trundle wheels.

# PE (Mr Talbot)

PE this month at FreshSteps has continued to consist of a range of sports. Horse riding has been reintroduced to primary and year 7 students who have thoroughly enjoyed it. The students have continued to thrive in their boxing lessons as well as the new sports that have been introduced in their PE lessons. Handball, hockey, and volleyball are some the many activities that have been introduced this month.

Congratulations to Elis, Raheem and Ashton who have been nominated to represent the school as sports ambassadors. Their role will consist of supporting break/lunch clubs, or-







**Primary Horse Riding Pictures** 





# **Meet Our SENCo**

Our new SENCO is Sanjo Jeffrey. She brings 31 years' international experience as an educator at both secondary and tertiary levels to FreshSteps. 17 of those years have been with SEND in Barnet and Enfield.

Ms Jeffrey is a qualified SENCO with an MA in SEN. She is also an assessor and a member of the British Psychological Society. She is a previous HOD for English and the first International Coordinator to help a PRU achieve full International Award Status twice. , Ms Jeffrey believes that all children must obtain the education that meets their needs and broadens their horizons.

# LITTLE REMINDERS

Pupils return to school on the 6th of January at 9am! School will continue to close for pupils at 2.30pm Wednesday's only.



#### <u>Covid</u>

Please ensure a Covid-19 test is completed before coming into school this must be done twice a week (Monday & Friday). If we do not receive these tests before your child comes into school, we will have to send your child home.

