

The second half of 2023 was a very busy time for Freshsteps. We hosted and attended many events to bring our school community together to gain knowledge about what is going on in the world. We had the opportunity to showcase the amazing work our pupils do and were recognised for our hard work and dedication.

Windrush Day

In June we celebrated Windrush Day with a special assembly. We learnt about what Wind Rush meant for the communities that moved to England in this time and how this influenced the world we live in today. We also celebrated the event and culture by tasting delicious Caribbean food.



Summer Fair

July saw us hosting a summer fete that allowed pupils to enjoy many activities outside of the school day. There was much to enjoy, such as face painting, an animal experience, a bouncy castle and much more. There was food galore with a jerk barbeque and a cocktail bar with tasty drinks to wash it down.

Rudolph Walker ISDA

In July Freshsteps had the opportunity to participate in the Interschool Drama Awards. Founded by Rudolph Walker, this nationwide competition has taken place every year since 2011. Our school was chosen along with 6 other schools to perform in the finals. Freshsteps performed their masterpiece 'Expectations'.

Freshsteps are the first SEN school to win the competition and received an award for best production.



JANUARY 2024 -Spring edition

Black History Month

During Black history month we had assemblies, lessons and discussions about the importance of black history month and what it represents. On Tuesdays we had film afternoons where pupils in Primary, Secondary and 6th form watched films and documentaries about black culture starring many black actors.

We had a wonderful opportunity to showcase the talent of our students with the NEXUS spoken word poetry competition.

Open Evening

In October we had our Open evening where we were able to show what Freshsteps offers. The evening was a testament to our pupils whose work was proudly displayed for their parents and prospective pupils and parents to see. Our visitors were able to watch science experiments and get involved with art therapy sessions. They also visited the 6th form centre where they learnt about courses such as catering, hair and beauty and textiles. Freshsteps pupils assisted with tours and gave heartfelt speeches about what Freshsteps means to them.



Sixth form career fair

On 13th December we had our inaugural Interprofessional Meet and Greet event at the 6th Form Hub for students in Key stage 3, 4 and 5 for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The event saw 8 professionals spanning different industries such as project management, pharmaceuticals, mental health care, motivational speaking, finance and investment and media spending 10- 20 minutes speaking to the students about their professional journeys and offering advice.

Oliver Twist at The Dugdale

In December our Pupils performed their rendition of the classic 'Oliver' at The Dugdale Art Centre, directed by our drama teacher Miss Sian. Freshsteps pupils overcame all stereotypes and put on a sold out show that was nothing short of spectacular!

The scene was set with an elaborately detailed backdrop and props made by the Freshsteps students alongside Mr Pritesh and Ms Fuyuko.

Costumes were also made and altered by our students with support from Ms Matthews.

They received raving reviews from parents, the public, dignitaries and renowned actor Sir Rudolph Walker who has been a mentor to Freshsteps for many years.



Christmas Festivities

To celebrate the festive season we exchanged Christmas cards and had a traditional Christmas dinner-not forgetting the stuffing! We went on many trips such as ice skating, trampolining and bowling which was thoroughly enjoyed.

Achievement Assembly

We ended 2023 on a high with our achievement assembly. Staff and parents were filled with pride as our pupils were given awards for their achievements for their hard work throughout the year. The awards included certificates for maths, English, swimming, sports, drama, DT, catering, hair & beauty and textiles.



Ignite Awards 2023

The Ignite Awards is a youth led event that recognises the achievements of young people who live or go to school in Enfield.

Freshsteps attended the Ignite awards and won Inspiring Young Performers Award 2023 where we were nominated for a Drama award.



Future Ed Awards 2023

Freshsteps were invited to attend the Future ed award. It was a beautiful ceremony where we were honoured to win the 'Mental health and wellbeing school of the year' award 2023.



Interventions at Freshsteps

Guided Reading



Our whole school guided reading initiative that began at the start of the academic year in September, is proving to be a success. We have seen a 63% increase in the reading ages of many pupils across the school. We have had 100% positive behaviour reports in guided reading since the initiative began. In guided reading sessions pupils are working on their reading, spelling, comprehension and grammar skills which supports them in all subjects across the curriculum.

We have found that staff have reported increased understanding and fluency in reading.

At the start of the Spring term, we assessed pupils with Test 2. Results from this showed 50% of pupils had increased in reading age. The range was minimum of 4 months-4 years increase in reading age. 16% of pupils remained the same age as the first test.

Maths Intervention

In this new term, we have introduced Maths Streaming for all children across our school. Children have been grouped based on their ability with an allocated teacher to support them in accessing appropriately differentiated materials. Children have already been very receptive to this, and we believe this will support them in reducing stress, anxiety and excelling progress. We cannot wait to see the progress made and the positive emotional impact on all of our young people.

