

❄️ Snowflake School News ❄️

Safe, Understanding, Patient, Enthusiastic, Respectful



Matthew enjoying the trampoline with Nasteya during playtime at Primary.

A message from Kerry, Headteacher

Looking through these notes and messages, reminds me just how much our pupils and staff have achieved this term.

It has been the start of our first year on two sites and I have now become used to running between both sites and greeting you all once a week at the door or the gate. This would not have been possible without the significant support from my team; Jody has quickly established himself as Deputy Head and now I wonder how we ever managed without him. Catherine and Andrea have also confidently managed each site, whilst Leah has put in place a more formalised curriculum at the primary school. Molly has successfully completed her first term as a trainee teacher and we wish her on-going success in her placement next term. The supervisors and all the tutors as well as the administration and support staff have all continued to

1

BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 3rd January
2022

2

INSET DAY

Tuesday 4th January
2022

3

FIRST DAY OF TERM

Weds 5th January 2022



Reports, Classes and Homework

Primary end of term report envelopes will contain homework challenges which we would like children to complete over the break.

Shout outs

Congratulations to Stefana (tutor) who achieved 100% in her recent competency at Secondary.



Spare Clothes

A reminder to please send in spare clothes for your child and to please return the school spare clothes that were sent home where applicable.

support the pupils tirelessly and enabled them to make the wonderful progress we see all the time . I hope you have all seen the exciting tweets and Instagram posts which are now posted daily, so do follow us to see what the pupils are doing (@schoolsnowflake on Instagram and Twitter).

It was with a great deal of sadness that I cancelled our end of term shows and I really hope you will be able to see these performances in the new term. I never imagined we would be starting this all over again.

Please keep yourselves and your families safe and well during the next few weeks.

Kerry Sternstein - Head Teacher

A MESSAGE FROM PRIMARY

It's been a wonderful start to this new academic year, being able to continue with swimming, organise community trips like Transport museum and top all of it with a Winter show, which we hope to be able to share with you in the New Year!

We had four new pupils join us in September, whom we would like to say an official welcome to! They have all settled in amazingly and already have made great progress.

Reports and key worker changes

We will be sending End of Term reports home for each of our pupils, please keep an eye out for these in the bags.

As you know in order to facilitate generalisation across people and settings we usually change key workers for each of our children at the end of each term. We do this very carefully and systematically, with plenty of time for handovers and training across key workers. A change of key worker letter will be sent out towards the end of this term to all parents. Upon receiving this, please let us know if you have any questions.

Staffing Updates

We would like to congratulate Corey and Vivien for their promotion as Lead ABA/VB Tutors: well done and keep up the amazing work!

Sadly this is the time of the year when staff decide to move on. We have sadly said goodbye to: Aisha and Alba. We wish them all the best and hope to see them again soon.

And Finally...

I am sure you will join me in thanking both students and staff for an excellent half term's work and once again I would like to thank you for your continued help and support throughout this incredibly challenging time. I wish your family an enjoyable, restful and safe break.

Yours faithfully,

Andrea Moldovan-Grunfeld, BCBA - Assistant Head of Primary Site

A hello from our new SLT at Primary:

My name is Athina Vasileiadou, and I am delighted to be a member of Snowflake's Primary multidisciplinary team as the new Speech and Language Therapy Assistant since September 2021. I graduated from the Technological Educational Institute (TEI) of Patras - Speech and Language Therapy (BSc) in 2012 and I completed my undergraduate studies on International Experimental and Clinical Linguistics (MSc) at Potsdam University this year. I am a highly trained paediatric Speech and Language Therapist (SLT), with over six years of clinical expertise, practicing in two different countries (Greece & Germany). I have participated in a variety of trainings, such as



Attention Autism, Zones of Regulation, Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS)- Levels 1 & 2, Makaton Levels 1-4, TEACCH, and 'Touch and Say', to name a few.

I have certainly received a warm welcome from both pupils and staff members, and it is a pleasure to work with all these wonderful people! I am I am looking forward to working with you



Diamond Class News

We have had a fantastic term since September! We welcomed two new pupils who have both settled well into their new school.

All pupils in Diamond class pupils have been working extremely hard on their communication skills as well as making amazing progress in their independent living skills.

This term we have been enthusiastically taking part in group sessions - a particular favourite is one of our trainee teachers, Rinad, who delivers an amazing Attention Autism group. We also love our music lessons, and being active in PE; the ribbon dance is enjoyed by all!

Some of Diamond class have been swimming this term, as well as increasing our community access via daily lunch at Nevern Gardens where we love the swings and climbing frame. *(Jessica, Diamond Class Supervisor)*

Sapphire Class News

It's been lovely to welcome the return of pupils old and new since September.

We have had lots of fun and lots of learning too. We had some new tutors join us who have fitted in amazingly to our Snowflake family. We started off this term by focusing on our theme of "I am special because..." We learnt and celebrated all the cool things that make us special: Matthew is amazing at maths, Yasna is a beautiful singer and Mahamood is super adventurous!

Highlights from this term include a range of trips, Mahamood and Wali independently playing in the playground together, Joaquin working super hard across all his targets & making us all laugh with his sense of humour. *(Samantha, Sapphire Class Supervisor)*

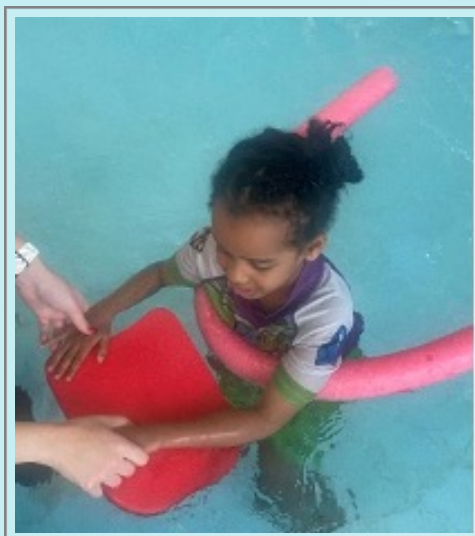
A note from our Emerald class...

This term we have welcomed a new pupil in our class, Hamdaan, who has settled in well. Our tutors have continued to make sure that each pupil's individual educational plan targets have been run at a table and in fun natural environment teaching sessions! We have had pyjama day this term raising money for Children in Need Thank you for supporting us with this dressing up day! This term emerald class have been very busy going swimming and creating arts & crafts. At swimming pupils learn to follow instructions from swimming instructor which is great for generalising skills. Towards the end of



the term, we enjoyed preparing for our winter show listening to festive songs and feeling celebratory. All children in emerald class have participated in groups and really enjoyed learning together! I am very proud of all our pupils progress this term which would not be possible without our wonderful team of tutors. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely break and a Happy New Year. *(Paulina, Emerald Supervisor)*

SOME DIAMOND CLASS PICTURES



A MESSAGE FROM SECONDARY

It has been another wonderful term at Snowflake School, with the newer site finally full to its four class capacity.

Snowflake Secondary is now full, which is very exciting! New pupils have settled in really well. We also had new staff join and it has been great to see established staff move into new roles within the school.

We have finally been able to begin swimming again which the students have thoroughly enjoyed so far and each class will get the opportunity throughout the year. In the new year Molly, our student teacher, will be going on her 8 week placement, and Vasilis and Michal are sadly leaving us. Whilst we are sad to see them go we are excited to have Andrew Beveridge begin with us in January taking over lessons in Shooting Stars. Thank you again to all the families and carers for supporting us again (including some very generous gifts, which are so appreciated) and I wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Catherine Stephenson

Assistant Head of Secondary



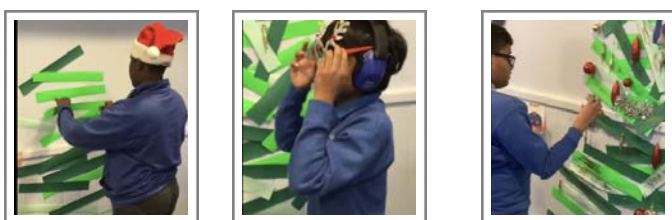
SHOOTING STARS CLASS NEWS

Shooting Stars classroom has been doing an amazing job this term. We have introduced a social skills curriculum and students have been collecting stars and rewards for practising their newly acquired skills. Everyone has been working hard to collect evidence for their ASDAN modules. At the same time, we are so excited to have trainee teachers as part of our team. We have done fun activities with Aoife during design and technology lessons, from building our own clock, to assembling a tent in the classroom. Furthermore, we have enjoyed working with Chris during drama lessons; using our imagination to travel to magical worlds and pretend we are pirates! On Thursdays we were going to Acton Everyone Active pool for swimming. Everyone looked forward to this each week and it was one of our **favourite** sessions. We have also made so many different foods during food prep with Genevieve, which the students take home to share with their family. Apologies for any weight gain Shooting Stars may have caused! Finally, we really enjoyed making an ASMR video for our winter show performance: our students worked so hard to collaboratively create their own story. Then, with help from tutors, they created unique illustrations and recorded themselves narrating their story. We wish everyone a safe holiday and we are looking forward to all the amazing things that we will be up to next term! (*Vasilis, Shooting Stars Supervisor*)

Milky Way News

HO HO HO!

A Merry Christmas greeting from all the staff and pupils of Milky Way class. Pupil's had a very festive time as Santa's helpers, making a Christmas tree of their own! Ghani enjoyed making Christmas decorations and Adya, Hodan and Cheran had a wonderful time pinning them



onto our wall tree. Ravson impressed the whole class with his Christmas moves for our Water Show music video. If you notice your child requesting 'I am a dancing Christmas tree' song over the break, I take full responsibility! *(Poonam, Milky Way Supervisor).*

Lunar Class News

Lunar Class has had an exciting start to Autumn Term welcoming 3 new students and 2 students from Primary!

Our class has had fun getting to know each other and discovering everyone's love for baking.

This term we have worked on learning to sit together in a group, following directions from the teacher and waiting our turn.

Lunar Class have also been active in their P.E. lessons, learning how to throw and taking part in relay racing. As well as some of our pupils learning how to relax in yoga sessions.



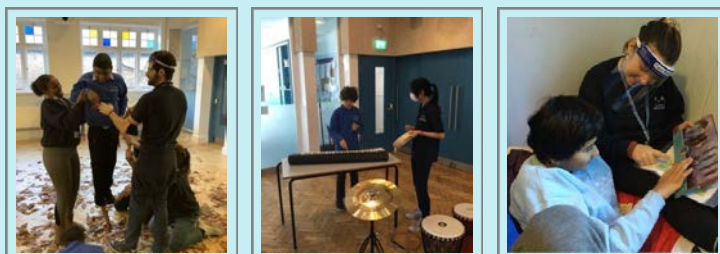
A Note From Supernova Class...

After a very different school year last year, the first term has gone amazingly for Supernova.

There have been two new additions to the class, Husayn, who joined from our primary site, and Jatin. Both boys have settled in alongside their peers amazingly. This term has been very busy for Supernova class, as they have had the chance to engage in lots of group classes. Continuing from last term they engaged in Music lessons and PE lessons, with the addition of three new group lessons this term: Drama, Design and Technology, and PSHE.

As well as all the group lessons, pupils have also been working hard at their individual lessons. The class continued to work hard on their ITT & NET targets. A big focus for Supernova this term has been working on daily living and independent skills, with students working on folding, brushing teeth, drying hands, applying deodorant, mopping, administering their own medication and much more!

Supernova pupils continue to work on their individual Asdan programs. All pupils have been working on a range of targets from their program, from sensory stories to reading with their tutors.



It has been a busy start to the year and Lunar Class have enjoyed this term. Well done to everyone, looking forward to seeing everyone in the new year! *(Polita, Lunar Class Supervisor).*

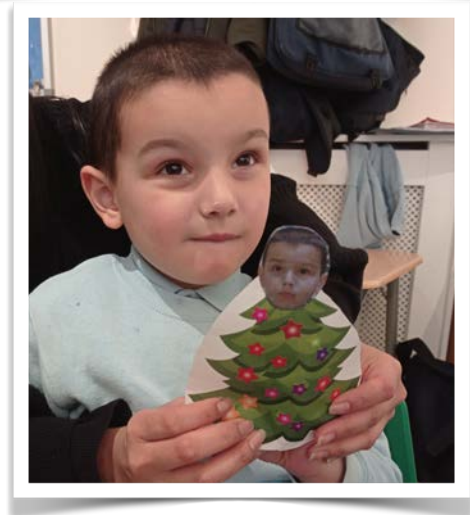
“Well, what a wonderful nearly 15 weeks I've had as Deputy Head here at Snowflake.”

It's been a genuine pleasure to get to know our dedicated, hard-working team of staff, and I've really enjoyed getting to know some of you at pick up and drop off. I've seen first-hand the fantastic progress your children are making and I've become far more familiar with ABA from the fantastic training all Snowflake staff are offered.

Most of all, I've had the pleasure of getting to know your children: spending time with Hamdan as he meticulously strips every Oreo of its cream filling, playing '3, 2, 1 Go' with Jatin, hearing Jaden's delighted squeals after he requests a tickle and tasting some of Shooting Star's wonderful baking! Even though I've been here a relatively short time, I'm already starting to feel like part of the family. I'm looking forward to meeting those of you I've not met.

Wishing you a wonderful break, however you spend it, and all the best for 2022,

Jody Tranter, Deputy Headteacher



**HAPPY HOLIDAY
SEASON FROM
SNOWFLAKE SCHOOL!**