

TLC TIMES



Talking Heads

We can't believe we are at the end of this term already, the time has absolutely flown by in the blink of an eye. There have been some brilliant things happening across the Treetops Learning Community over the past few months. We have had the pleasure to share a number of fantastic events with parents and families, including 'Autumn Feel Good Music Festival' and most recently the Primary Nativity and Carols by Candlelight. In November we once again celebrated multi-cultural week, and the learners took part in a variety of activities both in and out of school, and each day our catering staff provided a themed meal giving the learners the chance to try foods from across the globe.

The Friends of Treetops Schools have also been busy fundraising again this term, the recent Christmas Fayre was a roaring success, but for us the highlight was the 'silent' firework display in November, it was a truly inclusive event, and they ended their fundraising year with their Elfridges store where our learners had the chance to purchase Christmas gifts for their families.

There have been numerous trips and educational visits over this term which provides our learners with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and practice the skills learnt in class, which is fantastic to see. Finally, we would like to say a huge thank you to all of our learners and the staff that support them for their hard work this term, they have all been absolutely amazing.



Have a wonderful break and we look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year.

Care Home Visitors

On the 24th November Year 11, 12 and 13 attended a work place visit to a care home in Mountfitchet. They met the home manager and were taken on an extensive tour. They were introduced to numerous jobs available in the care home which included chefs, laundry assistants, entertainment life style coaches, hairdressers, manicurist and health care workers.

Students even got the opportunity to meet a resident who had just celebrated her 100th birthday. This visit was a great success and many of our students could see themselves working in such a rewarding sector.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mr Hattam and Mr Brewer

Duke of Edinburgh Sponsored Walk

On Tuesday 17th October Thaila, Eddie, Corey, Sophia, Olivia, Mason, Luke and Teddy, who are undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award at Treetops Learning Community, took part in a ninety minute sponsored walk and managed to raise an amazing £585.

Well done to all of them!





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Lower Thames Crossing



As part of our work encounter day VITU visited Balfour Beatty who have been awarded a £1.2 billion contract by National Highways to deliver the 'Roads North of the Thames' package of works for the proposed Lower Thames Crossing.

Balfour Beatty will be responsible for the design and delivery of over 10 miles of new highways, connecting the M25 at Junction 29 and the A13 with the Lower Thames Crossing tunnel at Tilbury, Essex.



We were greeted by Lauren Edmunds; she spoke to us about the site and how to keep safe whilst on site. She gave a presentation about the proposed Thames crossing and about the employment opportunities for the community and the intensive range of job roles.

We completed some fun activities, one of them being that we had to work as a team to make a stable tower from spaghetti and string. Lauren then showed us around the site, she had designed a treasure hunt for us where we discovered different jobs. We also had some fun playing with cones and hula hoops. The site was well equipped with a café and a bus stop where it dropped off the workers, we also found out that they could bring their dog to work with them.

The Harvest Feel Good Festival

Our Harvest Festival was a major success! A massive thank you to you all, for your generous donations collected for the Harvest 'Feel Good' festival.

An amazing 168.2kg of food was donated and delivered to Thurrock foodbank.

'This generous donation will go directly towards replenishing the stocks and supporting the people of Thurrock who are struggling to feed their families at this difficult time. As a charity we get no support from Governmental bodies so are totally reliant on donations and support from individuals, groups, churches, businesses and organisations like yours, for donations and support. So, on behalf of everyone at Thurrock Foodbank a big "Thank you", to you all at Treetops School for your wonderful support, it is so very much appreciated.'

On Wednesday the 4th and 11th of October Beluga Class visited our local Thurrock Food Bank in Corringham. Here's what they had to say;

On our visits we met Mr Newell who runs the food bank, he explained how everything works at the hub. We were put into 3 different groups; each group rotated from making food parcels, checking dates on items and weighing the parcels ready to be loaded onto the Food Bank Truck! We learnt how Thurrock Food Bank is a life line for many families who are experiencing difficult times due to the cost of living crisis. With learning about families in need we advertised all around school and sent letters home asking for everyone's help in collecting items we could donate to the food bank.

Upcoming Events

12th January—VB Parent Coffee Morning

14th February—Friends Of Treetops Valentines Day Disco

7th March—World Book Day

8th March—Mothers Day Sale and Assembly

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VITU In The Kitchen

Ashley Marsh from The Royal Academy of Culinary Arts, a chef and lecturer from Adopt a school, came in to teach VITU some cooking skills, he taught us about the senses and about taste and why we like certain foods, he also taught us about where on the tongue we taste things.

We made mince pies with a twist, gingerbread men and Apple and mincemeat roses. We had a lovely time making different things and enjoyed eating them more. Ashley said that he would come back to teach us how to cut a chicken up and make tasty food from it.



Whoops a Daisy Angel

Treetops learning community were proud to present 'Whoops a Daisy Angel' that was performed by the students in key stage 1. All of the children performed and sang beautifully with pride and enthusiasm. We are so proud of you all and put us in the Christmas spirit!



VB Department Roundup

The Autumn term has been fantastic in the VB department. Our new students have settled well into their classes and our older students transitioned well from Free school back to Treetops. The students have had the opportunity to attend school visits over this term, which include the Sea life centre, Barleylands and Wat Tyler park.

We have had our VB coffee mornings and these will continue in 2024.

December has been very busy preparing for Christmas performances; Whoops a Daisy Angel for VB1, VB1FS, VB2 and VB2FS. All other VB classes participated in Songs for Christmas. All the students enjoyed meeting Father Christmas in our Post 19 provision.

- Jane Flatt, VB Manager.



Carols at Christmas

During December we have been participating in lots of singing events. Our staff choir and song club entertained shoppers and sang and signed Christmas songs at Lakeside shopping centre and Morrisons throughout the week. This was all in preparation for one of our highlights of the year, our Carols by Candlelight performance on Thursday evening. Our FOTS committee created the most magical atmosphere in Treetops School Hall, and pupils from the Treetops Learning Community Song Club, stood on stage and put on a festive performance for family and friends to enjoy.

These events have raised over £1000 towards replacing the sound equipment in the hall. Many thanks to the staff who have volunteered and gave up their own time to help prepare and support the pupils at these events.

- Sara Peaford Smith