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REMINDER

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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL

As we near the end of another term at the East SILC, it's important to look back on the many achievements and events that have shaped our school community. This period has seen significant progress and a range of activities that have enriched our learners' educational experiences.

One highlight was the successful launch of our Post 16 program at the Bridge Community Church (BCC). This expansion is aimed at giving our learners more access to work-related and independence-focused learning opportunities. At BCC our learners are part of a thriving community, boosting their social skills and real-world experiences.

The term was filled with memorable events that brought our school community closer and showcased our learners' talents. I had the pleasure of attending three Christmas fairs, each with an amazing range of hand-made gifts, treats and raffles with fantastic prizes that provided opportunities for families to experience our sites and celebrate with us.

There was a carols and coffee morning at our Roger Cannon site, which highlighted our learners' musical skills as well as tasty bakes and a chocolate raffle! The beautiful mix of voices and the friendly atmosphere made it a joyous event for everyone.

I was exceptionally proud to be invited to attend the annual Yamsen Christmas Concert at Pudsey Civic Hall. It was an amazing experience with East SILC learners from our different sites forming most of the choir. The Lord Mayor of Leeds also attended and was blown away by the performances. The final event was our annual service at St. Edmund's Church in Roundhay. This traditional gathering allowed us to reflect, come together and celebrate the term with learners, staff, and families. It's important to recognise that success of these events is due to the dedication and careful planning of our staff, PTFA. The time and effort put into organising these activities are often unseen, but they are crucial to their success and the positive impact on our school community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who donated prizes to our raffles across different sites – the money raised will ensure our learners can access a range of activities and resources which would otherwise not be possible.

Sadly we lost a member of our JJ family this term. Latifa Sanneh passed away on 27th November. Latifa was a wonderful girl who, despite all of her challenges, brought joy to all who spent time with her. She was a sassy little lady who grew and enjoyed her time in school, even if she did fake going to sleep when it was her time to do any work from time to time! Our love goes to her Mum and everyone who had the pleasure of Latifa's company.

As we wrap up this term, I'm proud of our learners' achievements and our staff's commitment. The East SILC continues to grow and adapt, ensuring we provide exceptional education and support to our learners. I'm excited about the challenges and opportunities ahead in the next term, knowing that our school community will keep thriving and excelling.

Wishing our learners, staff, families and whole school community a peaceful Christmas break and best wishes for 2025.

Louise Quinn
Executive Principal

HEAD OF SCHOOLS MESSAGE

As the Christmas season approaches, I hope you're all excited about some well-deserved rest and celebrations with friends and family. Our pupils and staff have worked incredibly hard this term, tackling various challenges with enthusiasm and passion. I am immensely proud of everyone's efforts.

During my regular classroom visits, I am always impressed by the energy and professionalism of our staff, as well as the drive and positive attitudes of our students. Whether they're exploring different chemicals in science, diving into the world of Romeo & Juliet in English, mastering recipes in Food Technology, or developing their Preparation for Adulthood skills through community visits, our pupils are thoroughly enjoying their learning experiences alongside their peers.

The highlight of our festive season was undoubtedly our Christmas Carol and Coffee morning, along with the YAMSEN Christmas concert featuring performances from our talented students. They did an outstanding job, and we are incredibly proud of them. A heartfelt thank you to all the staff, parents, and pupils who made these events possible.

Wishing you a joyful and restful festive period. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



RC1

RC 1 have been very busy over the last few months, working hard on their entry level and arts award qualifications alongside going on lots of exciting PFA trips. We visited River Island in the city centre and spoke to the manager about what kind of skills and qualifications we need to work in the shop.



The class celebrated world kindness day by watching 'Inside out 2' together at the cinema in the White Rose shopping centre. They sat very respectfully in a busy cinema, then



ordered their own lunch and jumped on the service bus back to Roger Cannon! They have enjoyed a trip to the Leeds art gallery for their arts award qualification, enjoying exploring all the different art pieces. They

have also taken part a wonderful music workshop called 'Conductive music' where the pupils used iPad and circuitry to create some amazing soundscapes!

RC5

RC5 have been shown great resilience and positivity this term! We have enjoyed many PFA and reward trips, focusing on road safety and using public transport and pupils have behaved exceptionally during these outings. As this joyous time of year arrives, we would like to wish all our families a merry Christmas and a happy new year, and thank you for your continued support!

RC12

The pupils in RC12 have settled well into the new academic year and we have had so many extra rewards given out across the curriculum for positive attitudes to learning. We are really proud of them. This term in PFA, pupils have been thinking about how to run a "Tidy House". We have visited John Lewis and priced up household items (as well as admiring some items as outrageous prices). Pupils have also been to Aldi and One Below, pricing up household cleaning products.



We had great fun learning how to take care of laundry and make a bed. Would you believe that one of our pupils can make a bed in 47 seconds! We also focused on careers this half term in PFA. This has been a really valuable topic. We have looked at creating CV's, exploring career choices and also visited a supermarket, looking at the different jobs in the retail sector. The class have joined the library and they enjoy a weekly trip to Compton Library, where there is access to a wide selection of books, audio books and E-books for them to borrow. We are also the proud owners of the largest Christmas tree in class this year. The pupils enjoyed putting on the baubles and making the classroom look festive. It's been a lovely end to 2024.

RC2

It has been a super busy first term in RC 2. From learning all about the kitchen and how to use different appliances independently to Christmas singing practice and



trip to the cinema as well as learning about the pH scale. The students within RC 2 have been great scientists carrying out several experiments to see if the liquids we were testing were either acids or alkalis by using the pH scale to



help us. Not forgetting the students' favourite, the coke and mentos experiment. Our PFA topic this term has been the kitchen; we have looked at some of the appliances you would find in a kitchen and how to use them and then the students used them independently to make hot chocolates, noddle's, beans and

scrambled egg on toast as well as waffles. After we then looked at how to keep a kitchen clean and the importance of this, the students all got a turn at mopping the floor and using a spray bottle to clean the surfaces.

A Festive Success at Our Christmas Carol Coffee Morning

We are delighted to share the success of our Christmas Carol Coffee Morning! The event was well attended, and our learners singing was truly amazing. A huge thank you to the enterprise coffee shop team for the delicious hot drinks and to our learners for showcasing their preparation for adulthood skills. Parent/carer support made this event truly special.



Every day is a chance to succeed

Enterprise



Some of our pupils have been learning barista and baking skills in their weekly Enterprise sessions. Pupils run a 'pop up' coffee shop serving staff a selection of coffees and hot drinks with cakes and pastries as a midweek treat.

This is a great opportunity for our pupils to learn a range of employability skills from handling money to health and safety.



RC3

RC3 have had a great first term. We have focused on "The Kitchen" as part of our PFA lessons and have learnt how to use equipment such as: toaster, kettle, microwave, washing machine and dryer. We have made and tried foods such as cous cous, soups, microwave popcorn and noodles. We have also visited Costa Coffee and identified the equipment they use in a kitchen. In English we have focused on two books "War Game" and "War horse" we have enjoyed learning about WW1 and describing the living conditions. In Maths KS4 have been working hard on their

Entry Level coursework and exam, KS3 have worked hard looking at number and shape. As part of our Science curriculum, we have experimented with acids and alkalis and looked at the effects of pollution and how to reduce this.

Food Technology

The Autumn term food technology lessons have been all about being safe in the kitchen and all of our pupils received a class certificate in assembly for being able to follow food hygiene and safety rules. Groups all learnt about culinary chopping skills and how to chop food safely, everyone was



able to practice their cutting skills through preparing winter soups, stews and curries

which were all delicious and much needed in this cold weather. Towards the end of November and into December we have been busy

preparing and cooking treats for Winter. All pupils have been involved in creating gingerbread people for our Leeds Market Enterprise



stall. We had some very creative ideas for what the gingerbread people should look like.

RC4

RC4 have had a great run up to Christmas. All pupils have really tried their best with new exciting topics. In science we have been looking at how our planet works and what we can do to change global warming. This topic has engaged pupils in wanting to make a difference around school asking teachers to turn off lights. In English we have explored two amazing books, War Horse and War Game. Both books have had RC4 enthralled, imagining what the characters would be feeling in a war as huge as WW1. In Maths we have completed 2 entry level exams with all pupils passing these.

They will be using this momentum to complete one more before the christmas break. Maths has seen us explore statistics, geometry and time, using practical lessons where possible. Purple independent tasks have multiplied and RC4 are very confident in 'giving something a go' and learning from mistakes.

RC 10

Class 10 have had a busy term. They have participated in a number of local visits as part of their Preparation for Adulthood curriculum, and have demonstrated improved awareness of road safety and how to use money. They have also continued to build on team work and resilience skills during Imagination Gaming sessions. Class 10 were very lucky to participate in a 'Conductive Music' workshop which combined both Science and Music skills.



SEND Creative Careers Fair

RC 11 attended the SEND creative arts career fair . Pupils



also had a walk around the playhouse theatre and decided to recreate the Abbey Road album cover by the Beatles! All pupils were consistently demonstrating RRS and were engaged in some

great conversations. Well done RC11!



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RC6

RC6 have had a fantastic term settling into their new class and have been building friendships. Students have worked hard on their social skills and have enjoyed social cafe each week where students prepare and serve each other drinks as well as ask each other about their weekends and celebrate each others achievements. They have taken part in swimming lessons this term where they have developed their transport skills as well as spent time in the pool learning water safety. On PfA trips, students have looked at budgeting and understanding the cost of things in comparison to how much money they have. We were also fortunate to practice our transport skills in order to catch the bus into town and partake in the into film festival meaning students got to see Garfield which everyone enjoyed lots! Children in need was a great day for RC6 with students getting involved in lots of art and craft activities and learning about the importance of volunteering for others.

RC 7 & 9



Classes 7 and 9 have had lots of fun exploring train and bus travel, house and home and careers this term. Visits included trips to

John Lewis, B and Q, Royal Armouries and Leeds Train Station. Pupils have shown lots of independence and increased confidence with these



topics. Well done classes 7 and 9!



RC8



In music this term class 8 have enjoyed playing with Taiko drums which come from Japan. We learned different rhythms, compose our own, improvised and learned a little bit of Japanese! We also learned about

musical devices used in films and played motifs from movies on the keyboards.



YAMSEN

Pupils from classes 1, 2, 3, 4 at Roger Cannon have taken part in the YAMSEN Christmas choir again this year. We attended rehearsals out of school and did lots of extra practice. It was wonderful to sing alongside pupils from John Jamieson, the Temple Moor Partnership and other special schools in Leeds at the concert. The Lord Mayoress came to see us sing and even Father Christmas himself made an appearance!



RC11

One of the highlights of this term was our fantastic trip to the cinema at The White Rose, where the children had the chance to watch the action-packed *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. It was an enjoyable outing that not only allowed the students to unwind but also sparked lively discussions about the characters and themes in the movie.

In line with our focus on preparing students for adulthood, we have wrapped up our Tidy Home topic. This unit taught the children valuable life skills such as organisation, responsibility, and maintaining a clean environment whilst also practicing how to iron, wash their clothes and mop the floor. They have learned the importance of keeping their spaces neat and tidy and how this can contribute to a positive and productive atmosphere at home and school. The children have embraced these lessons, and we hope they continue to apply these habits in their daily lives! Thank you to all our families for your continued support throughout this term.

Compass House Project

A few members of Class 11 at Roger Cannon have taken part in the compass house project this year. This project where they visited a range of settings meeting up with other students and collaborating with the end goal of setting up stall in Kirkgate market. This was a successful project for students to take part in building those positive communications skills whilst understanding elements of the real world. The stall was a positive experience for all despite the cold weather! Special shoutout to Mr Campbell who helped pull all of the organisation together!



Arts Award

Pupils in class RC1 and RC10 went to Leeds Art Gallery recently to complete a part of their qualification. Pupils needed to investigate an arts organisation, they asked a lot of questions and enjoyed looking at the art work.



Every day is a chance to succeed

Roger Cannon additional dates for your diary



15th January 2025—School Photograph Day

All students will have their photograph taken, please make sure your child is wearing uniform.

5th February 2025 – Children’s Mental Health Week Celebrations:

Learners are invited to wear bright colours to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week.

14th February 2025 – Pastoral Rewards Day:

Learners are welcome to wear non-uniform.

6th March 2025 – World Book Day:

Learners will participate in book-themed activities throughout the day. There will also be opportunities to engage in reading within the local community, such as at the library. Learners should come to school in uniform.

14th March 2025 – World Maths Day:

A day filled with fun maths challenges and activities designed to engage learners and enhance their mathematical skills, with a link to PfA.

20th March 2025 – Parents Evening:

Please save the date for parents evening, 3:30-6:30pm.

21st March 2025 – Odd Socks Day:

Students are invited to wear odd socks to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day.

REMINDER: Parents Compass App

Dear Parents,

We would like to remind you about the importance of downloading the Parents Compass app. If you have not already downloaded the app or have not received your login details, please contact your child's school to ensure that we have your most up-to-date mobile number and email address to facilitate effective communication.

It is essential to have the app as it will be the primary method for all communications from East SILC. Ensuring you have access to this app will help you stay informed about important updates and information regarding your child's education and school activities.

Thank you for your cooperation.

IMPORTANT DATES

Please make sure to check the East SILC website for key dates and upcoming events

www.eastsilc.org



Friday 20th December..... School closes for Christmas

Monday 6th January School reopens

Friday 14th February..... School closes - half term

Monday 24th February..... School reopens

Friday 4th April..... School closes for Easter

Please make sure you make a note of these important dates in

Nursing Contact

We would like to ensure that you have Inclusion Nursing Service contact details, should you need to contact a member of the team during the holiday.

Leeds Community Healthcare



Jacquie Beattie East SILC Lead Nurse, 0113

2492431 or 07951290212

Lizzie Jackson 07522214939

Lisa Grimes 07960391238

If you cannot contact a member of the Inclusion Nursing Service please contact

Susan Carr Team Leader 0113 2728644, or the

Service Coordinator 07939032661

