



## News Update (16th December 2021)

Dear families

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter, the final one for 2021. There are updates from several activities in school, but I want to start with some information about activities over the Christmas break. I would like to thank families and also the staff in the school for the support, guidance and teaching they have provided to students during this term, whatever challenges they may have faced and success they have experienced.

### Camden Holiday Activities and Food Programme

Camden Council's Winter 2021 booklet / magazine, which has been delivered to homes and businesses across the borough, is available online [here](#). It has lots of information and advice about where to find support and activities – this winter, including the [Camden Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) Programme](#), which is taking place at various venues in December.

[Places](#) for the Winter HAF 2021 Programme are free for children and young people aged five to 16 who are registered for free school meals. If you have any questions, please email: [info@youngcamdenfoundation.org.uk](mailto:info@youngcamdenfoundation.org.uk).

Camden Council's fortnightly COVID-19 update from the Camden New Journal is [here](#). Following Wednesday's announcement from the Government, there's updated information about the latest guidance and support available, including support for children and young people through the Winter HAF Programme, and those who are privately renting and may be struggling, as well as signposting to the Winter 2021 booklet.

On Tuesday this week we were due to host our **Winter Entertainment Event** but decided that performances would be best shown online. Thank you to the students and staff who made this happen at such short notice. You can see the full concert and performances [here](#).

### Start of term in January

A reminder to all families that year 9-13 students will return on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January for lateral flow testing only, with students in years 7 and 8 being tested on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January. Please see last week's newsletter and attachments for more detail about times for testing.

Finally, William Ellis raised a brilliant total of £535.96p for the 2021 Poppy Appeal! Thank you to all students who donated. The Poppy tin collection raised £145.78p, while our October Non-Uniform Day in support of the appeal raised £390.18p.

I hope you all have a restful, healthy and happy break over the Christmas and New Year period.

Yours faithfully,

Izzy Jones, Headteacher

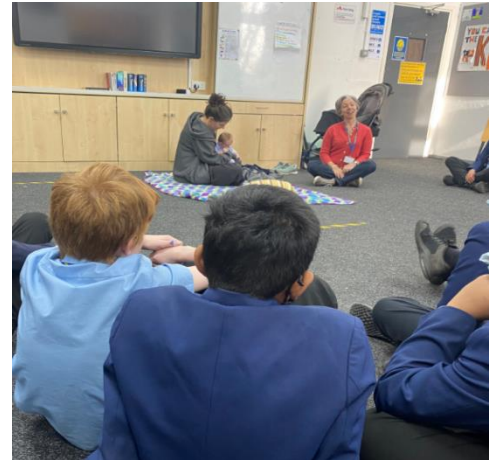


## Anna Hughes, 8K Form Tutor

8K have been lucky enough to be involved with the Babywatching project this term. The project aims to improve empathy and reduce anxiety and aggression by offering students the opportunity to watch the interactions between a parent and young baby. Elinor and baby Jack have been coming to our tutorial periods for the last half term, with sessions led by Ms White.

8K have really enjoyed the opportunity. They have asked insightful questions, learnt a lot about how babies communicate with the parents and linked what they've seen to their own experiences.

We look forward to seeing more of Elinor and Jack next term!



## House Poetry Competition

Students have been working on entries for the House Poetry competition over the last few weeks and the winners were chosen from a strong field on Monday. There was a fantastic array of poems submitted this year, ranging from themes like climate change, poverty, the impact of COVID and plenty of art inspired poetry done in Year 7 English lessons. All the winning poems clearly had lots of thought and time put into them, but it was a close call - this is the first year that there were no clear stand out winners for each house and the votes were tight. This is reflected in the fact that even an overall winner couldn't be chosen. The first prize is shared between two students this year.

Congratulations to:

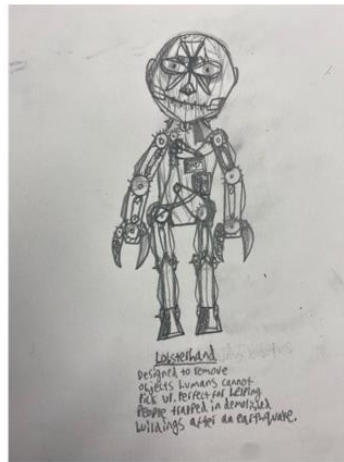
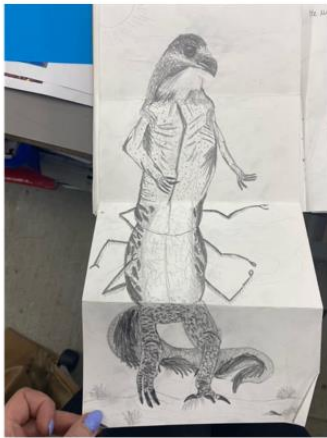
- Rico 9W – winner for Willow House and joint first place overall
- Kurosh 7L – winner for Lauderdale House and joint first place overall
- Burhan 7K – winner for Keats House and 3rd place overall
- Sonny 7F – winner for Fenton House and 4th place overall
- Reamann 7B – winner for Burgh House and 5th place overall





**Laura Madsen, Head of Art, Craft and Design**

We've seen some excellent artwork from Year 9 students from their Ordinary / Extraordinary project. Students study Surrealism, Leonardo da Vinci's inventions and a range of other artworks then create their own work inspired by dreams:



**Christine Mercier Peart, Head of Year 11**

Well done to all Year 11 students who have completed their Mock Exams over the last three weeks. This week we have rounded off the mock exam season with Food Tech and MFL speaking exams; the last push before a well-deserved break!

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2022! Stay safe and look after each other.