



# TEYNHAM NEWSLETTER

## December 2024



## Head Teacher's Update

Well, what a busy two terms we've had. We started the year with 14 new pupils the majority of which were new year 7 pupils, and the rest were spread between all the other year groups.

At the start of every new term, it's always our focus to try and build positive relationships between staff and pupils whilst focusing on creating classroom environments that encourage social maturity and a safe learning environment.

It's fair to say that it's been tricky to get that balance right but mostly due to a deficit in staff at the start of the year. Unfortunately, there is a national crisis in education recruitment combined with a high number of staff illnesses, particularly in Term 1, made the usual start of a new academic year challenges even more difficult.

I am pleased to be able to say that, despite the tricky start, pupils are settled and engaging well this term and some of the examples of this will be highlighted in this newsletter.

If I could just mention a few of the things that need acknowledgement and celebration which are the following.

We applied for the Investing in Children Membership Award after the Awards Manager visited the school and spent the day gathering evidence through speaking with our pupils. I am very proud to say that we have achieved this award.

**“ From the moment I set foot in ISP Teynham, it was evident that pupils play an active role in shaping school life. My discussions with the young people, clearly demonstrates the positive dialogue they have had and the impact this made to them as individuals and within the day to day running of the school. ”**

Eleannor Seed

Other notable events have been, the new polytunnel, trips out, work experiences, enterprise days, and our whole school Christmas meal! This newsletter will give you a fuller example of all the things that we've been up to.

From the staff at ISP and me, please have a happy, safe and healthy holiday.



**Mrs Carole Cox**  
Head Teacher

## Rowan

For our class Christmas trip, we went to Quex Park where we went ice-skating and fed all the animals. We had a fantastic day and treated ourselves to a hot chocolate before returning to school.



## Birch

Birch saved Christmas by resolving the tasks in Santa's office. We decoded the puzzles and codes to decipher Santa's password, we found his emails and discovered he was in BALI! no fear we've asked him to arrange a trip back to the North Pole.

Birch worked extremely well on their group skills and communication working as a group with a timed deadline.



## Willow

Willow class have worked incredibly hard this term especially during their mock exams. All children should be very proud of themselves as this can be a stressful time for some.

On the run up to Christmas Willow class thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Battle Kart, although Myself and Mr Wayne had just as much fun, we woke up with what felt like whip lash the next morning. We are looking forward to seeing all children in the new year.



## Pantomime

We asked the pupils of Cedar Class to describe their trip to the pantomime, Beauty and the Beast. This is what they said:

Fun

Really good

Funny

The best

Fantastic

Colourful

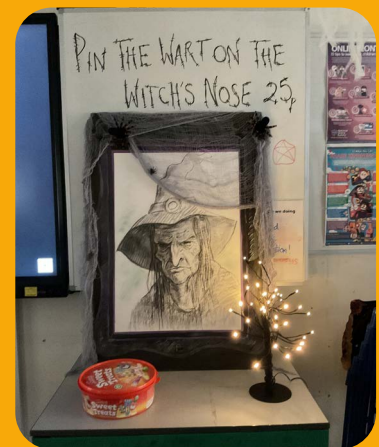
Spectacular

### Business

Our Enterprise group put together a spooktacular fundraising morning at ISP, Teynham as part of their Year 11 project to raise money for the end of the year rewards.

Students at ISP were able to have a Halloween taster. There was "guess what is inside the box", "pin the wart to the witch" and "guess how many sweets in the jar". There were also students dressed up for the occasion.

Enterprise students managed to raise money to go towards the next adventure at Christmas where there will be a big raffle with lots of opportunities for people to win a prize, ginger biscuits and other surprises!



### Creative Media

Creative Media is a new subject for Key Stage 3 students. It offers the pupils the opportunity to build up a portfolio of media work.

Already they have been taking photographs and even working on their own animations. We have had some fun practical lessons, and the pupils have started to learn about the media and how important it has become in society.



## Land Based Studies

We are delighted to finally announce the installation of our brand new polytunnel. This will help the students grow fruit, vegetables and flowers over the winter.



## Practical Projects

For the Key Stage 4 students, we have begun the Practical Projects course, which offers credits towards a BTEC qualification. Like Creative Media, it allows students to engage in both hands-on activities and also learn more about the subject through research.

## Photography

After the success of last year's Photography students, this year's class are again working towards a GCSE qualification. Using the skills they learn and their own creativity, the learners have been making the most of our beautiful surroundings.



## Oak Class

This term Oak class has been working on probability, fraction conversion and speed, distance and time in maths. We have been exploring classic and modern poetry in English and especially liked Simon Armitage's 'Remains.'

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas class trip to Battle Kart, Go-Karting.

We have been learning about India and colonisation in Humanities and it has been eye-opening what Britain did in far off countries.

Everyone has been working hard on various art projects and creative media too.

In music we have been learning to read music and write on a stave as well as play some tunes on the keyboard. We have also been experimenting with rhythm and emotional connection to music, on hand drums.

We are excited for the holidays, but look forward to our return in the New Year!



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