



# NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 21

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome to this term's school newsletter. The pupils and staff have done well this term. We have returned into full time education after a long period of disruption. This has placed demands on pupils and staff alike who have all responded magnificently.

It has been a packed term. There has been the return to classes and a full range of trips and visits including to Nottingham Play House, Ancaster Leisure, the Kinema in the Woods and Lincoln Cathedral.

Pupils have welcomed visitors including road safety officers and sexual health visitors. We met the three dad's walking and charity days.

We have worked with the pupils on the psychology of hope. We have introduced them to words such as Kintsugi, Wabi Sabi, Sisu and Meraki.

COVID-19 is still present in our communities. We will be testing the pupils on return and following government guidelines and advice. Thank you for your continued support in this.

Although the news can sometimes be daunting, I am proud of how well the school is doing. I look forward to our return in the New Year and seeing how well the pupils will do next.

Kind regards

Steve Barnes



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## YOUR HISTORY IS NOT YOUR DESTINY...

Transition for last year's leavers was a challenge due to the coronavirus outbreak. However, we are very proud of their achievements and the fact that 86% of pupils are still attending their chosen post 16 placement. Those who were unable to secure successful transition are being supported by health or SEN agencies to source alternative offers. RSOs also offer support if required.

We are pleased to receive regular updates from our past pupils and this term have been made aware of numerous university offers (Cambridge, Lincoln, Leeds) to study a range of subjects. We also have pupils making amazing progress in the world of work via apprenticeships or climbing the career ladder. We are proud to be Pilgrim!

## ONLINE SAFETY AT CHRISTMAS...

Christmas is often a time for new technology so here are some things to consider before gifting:

- Set up and play with the device before wrapping it. Exploring safety settings and reporting tools yourself means that you will know how to help your child if needed.
- Ensure filtering is applied to your home wi-fi. Remember no filter is ever 100% effective so ensure your child knows what to do if they see something worrying.
- Discuss your expectations around daily screentime, where the device is kept at night, approving friend requests and downloading apps.
- Give practical safety tips such as how to block and report on each service they are using.
- Keep talking about life online.
- For more information and advice regarding individual apps and games please visit: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

## HELPLINES ...

We recognise that Christmas can be a difficult time for some of our pupils. The following services are available for support should it be required:

- Papyrus UK (Hopeline): 0800 068 4141 (9am until midnight)
- Childline: 0800 1111 (24 hours a day)
- Here4You Lincolnshire (self-referral to CAMHS and Healthy Minds): 0800 234 6342
- Mental Health Matters: 0800 0014331 (24 hours a day)

## GENERAL REMINDERS...

- Pupils return to school on 5<sup>th</sup> January.
- Please remember to contact the relevant school office as early as possible on any day of absence. If transport is provided by the local authority please also remember to cancel the taxi for that day.
- Whilst we do not have a uniform policy, we do ask that pupils come to school appropriately dressed to be able to engage in all subjects and any practical activities that may be taking place that day.
- Mock exams for year 11s will take place weeks commencing 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January.

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR BASES THIS TERM

# AMBER HILL NEWS....

What a busy term it has been at Amber Hill!

We have been taking part in all sorts of activities including Languages Day, National Biology Week, Paintballing, school trips to Lincoln Cathedral and the Theatre!

We are proud of the support we have given our chosen charities this term. These have been very close to our hearts and have included raising money and awareness for Papyrus through our Halloween Fancy Dress day, a Macmillan Coffee morning and of course our annual support for Children in Need. I felt particularly moved by the Remembrance Day service which we held with the villagers.

Well done everyone, staff and students for your support with these. We hope you enjoy reading more about some of these activities.

What will we achieve next year?

Sharon

### 3 dads walking

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 The D of E group from the Pilgrim School in Amber Hill put their best foot forward to meet up with three bereaved fathers who are hiking 300 miles to raise awareness of suicide prevention.

The D of E group and three staff from the hospital school met the **3 Dads Walking** as they passed by on their trek from Cumbria to Norfolk.

We would like to thank the 3 dads for the stopping to talk to us on their journey and to say well done for all the money they have raised for PAPYRUS.



Since our meet up with the 3 dad's walking Vicki has been in contact and their response is below; it is a very nice response indeed:

*Dear Vicky*

*So many thanks for your fundraising efforts and apologies for the delayed response.*

*It was so lovely to meet the staff and pupils on the walk. As we approached we could see a minibus and then a group of young people with a banner, suddenly realising that they were there to welcome us and wish us well. They were all great young people and brilliant ambassadors for The Pilgrim School. It was absolutely our privilege to meet them all and their support really encouraged us on.*

*We hope that as well as raising lots of money for PAPYRUS, the staff and pupils had a fun fancy dress day. Did any of them dress up as the characters from SpongeBob SquarePants, as we loved their drawing of them on the banner?*

*Thank you all once again for your amazing support. You are all brilliant*

*Mike, Tim and Andy*

*'3 Dads Walking'*

## Amber Hill Children in Need 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021



Students and Staff brought in cookies, cakes and candy cakes for a break and lunch sweet tooth fest! We also wore bright colours for the day and finished with a Pudsey Quiz. Together we raised £63.50! Well done to everyone and thank you to all parents, staff and students who went the extra mile to bring in yummy treats for everyone to enjoy.

## Remembrance Day

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the pupils at the Amber Hill base met with some of the local people in the village by the War Memorial to remember those who had fallen. We had two Pupils lay the wreath, another pupil read out a poem and another to read out the names of those who had fallen and who are commemorated on the Amber Hill War Memorial. Thank you to all those who were involved and thank you to the local villagers too who came along and helped organise the service.



## Pilgrim Plus

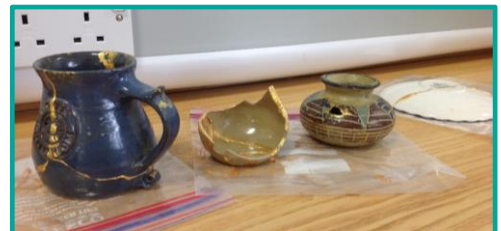


At the beginning of the term in Pilgrim Plus, we looked at the Hope Words, we discussed what the words meant and did an activity based on the word and its meaning.

The one I think we enjoyed the most was KINTSUGI where broken pots are mended with gold and made to look more beautiful having had their broken parts mended. We related this to the brokenness that we ourselves sometimes feel. It gave us hope to know that we can grow more beautiful through having been broken and mended.

In KS4 we broke some real pots and mended their cracks with gold and in KS3 we made do with paper plates, but the gold still made them look very beautiful!

Jane Flynn



# BAUMBER NEWS...

At the Baumber base we have had an interesting start to the school year.

We joined the rest of the school on a couple of trips. The first was paintballing at Ancaster, which everyone enjoyed despite the mud and bruises. We also met up with our friends for a visit to Lincoln Cathedral, with a great tour and activities in the classic Gothic building.

Halloween saw us taking an afternoon out to Waddingworth to pick pumpkins and giggle at the weird vegetable shapes, and decorating them before the half term break.

Children In Need came around again, with opportunities for dressing up in spotty clothes or bright colours, baking, a quiz won by one of our Year 11 girls and the final good news, a record amount of money raised for the Baumber base.



The Pilgrim Plus activities lessons have led to some great quality Lego stop motion scenes.

The money is now in place for work to start on the Baumber Garden Project, thanks to our share of the Tesco Community Grant.

Two of our students visited the YMCA recording studio in Lincoln as part of the Evolve project. One, an aspiring poet, wrote a HOPE song for school and the other recorded a duet with a student from the Amber Hill base. Recordings are going to be played on Siren FM soon, date to be confirmed.



## LINCOLN NEWS...

This term at Lincoln, the students have been involved in many different trips and events, which have provided them with a range of different experiences and opportunities.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

The term started off with the Macmillan coffee morning, where the students were able to buy cakes and raise money for the charity. A few of the students decided to make their own cakes with some of the staff for the other students to try. The students decided to make a chocolate cake as this was something that they had baked a lot at home. This was something that the students really enjoyed getting involved in as they were able to have creative freedom when baking the cake.

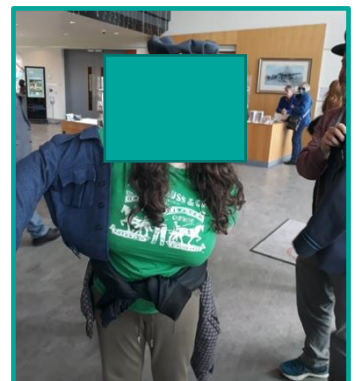


### International Bomber Command Centre



Before half term, in WOW the students went on a trip to the International Bomber Command Centre. Then centre allowed the students to develop an understanding of what happened in Lincoln in World War 2. Inside the centre, the students were able to explore the museum and learn more about the people, that were involved and their lives. An activity that was a huge hit with students, was listening to the stories of the soldiers on phones which were situated around the museum. In turn, as key part of this experience was the memorial, which included a wall of names. This was something which the students loved as they were able to

find people with their last name and see if they were any relation to them. It was clear that the students really enjoyed the experience and liked being able to learn about others' lives during this period and the impact that the war had on them and their families.



### Baking for Pride

This term baking has become something that is loved by many of the children at Lincoln. In celebration of pride, the students were set the task of making a cake, which had to include the pride colours. The students were split into teams of two or three to create their cakes and were given the afternoon to complete the task. The students really enjoyed being making their cakes and competing against the other teams. Once the cakes had been made, they were then judged by SLT to find out the overall winner. Each cake was tasted and judged based on the overall appearance and

the taste. The winners were two students in Year 11, who had decorated their cake in blue icing. The students said that they had really enjoyed taking part in this and really liked being able to do what they wanted to the cake and decorate it in any way they liked.

### Halloween

To celebrate Halloween, the students took part in a Halloween fun day. The day was split up into different activities ranging from baking to decorating pumpkins. The day started out with a group of students making a Halloween themed cake and cupcakes. They decided that their cake would be in the shape of a pumpkin with cobweb cupcakes



surrounding it. The students chose to bake the cake in a circular tin to create the shape of the pumpkin. They then chose to use a cupcake for the stork. The students seemed to really enjoy decorating the cake and were able to use different techniques to create the pumpkin face. In the main classroom, the other students played Kahoot where they competed against each other to see who could answer the questions the quickest. The quizzes were a huge hit with both students and staff, who seemed to really enjoy the competition. In the afternoon they were able to carve their pumpkins that they had picked at Doddington Hall. The students decided to research their design and draw them on to their pumpkin to make it easier for them when it came to carving. The day ended with the students watching 'The Nightmare Before Christmas', which seemed to be a firm favourite amongst the students and was voted as their favourite Halloween film.

### Children in Need

Another event that the Lincoln base has been involved in is Children in Need. The day was split up into different activities for the students to take part in and started off with the students watching videos focused on how the charity has helped specific children. This helped the children understand more about the charity and what they do. In the morning, a group of students led by Hope and Sarah made their own pizzas and decorated biscuits. They started by making the dough, which they left to rise for an hour ready for them to add on their chosen toppings. This was a new experience for many of the students as this was not something they had done before. They all seemed really enjoy it. In the afternoon, the base watched Rickie and Melvin's biscuit build. Each of the students and staff were given a card with a biscuit on it. If the biscuit on their card was the last to be stacked before the tower fell, they would win a prize. The winner of the biscuit build was Sarah who had the Pink Wafer. An additional activity that the students took part in was a memory game, where they were presented with a board with 20 different items on it. They were given one minute to look at the items and remember them. The board was then taken away and the students had to write down what they could remember. Finally, to draw the day to a close all the students took part in a general knowledge quiz, with a prize being given to the winner. It was clear that the day was enjoyed by all the students as it was different what they usually do in school and allowed them to experience different things. A highlight of the day was the RSOs dressing up as each other. They both had a full makeover with Joe wearing makeup, eyelashes, a wig, a pair of heels and a dress. Kat was dressed in Joe's usual work clothes with a wig and beard. The students got involved in this, by helping Joe do his makeup and eyelashes. It was definitely a large part of the day. Overall, the day was a great success, with the school raising a grand total of £151.99 for Children in Need.

## HOME TAUGHT...

It's been a fabulous term for students who receive their lessons in their homes. It has been a privilege to hear such amazing reports from the home tuition team of how well students in the home are engaging in their learning and taking part in whole school activities. Many of you have taken part and enjoying National Biology Week and Languages Day. One of the most heartening pieces of news is that students in the home have been invited to, and taken part in

the school trip to Lincoln Cathedral, to the Theatre and the Christmas Kinema trip. We recognise this is a big step for some of you and we are proud that you have been able to do this and take part - we have loved seeing you.

The number of students who are receiving their lessons in the home is expanding – we now have around 50 students receiving various ‘packages’ according to their needs, including face to face and virtual learning. This has meant we have recruited some extra specialist teachers and pastoral support to ensure everyone receives the best Pilgrim School experience they can.

Sharon

## EVOLVE RECORDING...

After the success of the ‘Evolve’ project, the wonderful people at LoV gave our students the opportunity to record some of the song writing projects that they have been working on in music lessons. We had Destiny and Roxy from the Baumber base and Eryka and Annalise from Amber Hill. Annalise and Roxy, who met for the first time at the studio, wrote and recorded a duet. Eryka wrote some amazing lyrics and recorded a cover song and Destiny wrote a school ‘Hope’ song. The students shone and made Pilgrim very proud. All songs will be played on Siren FM before Christmas... date to be announced! Lots more to come from this very talented bunch!

## European Day of Languages



At the end of September, we held our first Day of Languages in school!

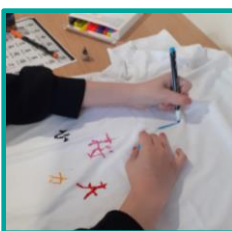


Every September, the Council of Europe holds a ‘Day of Languages’ to celebrate speaking, teaching and learning other languages and raising awareness of cultural differences, so we embraced this at Pilgrim and had a day filled with cultural fun.

Students across all bases and at home took part in a range of activities from designing flags, taking part in capital cities quizzes, enjoying foreign films to craft activities, such as designing a T shirt with Japanese writing and building Lego monuments. They also sampled some traditional French and Spanish breakfast foods, including ‘churros con chocolate’!



At the Pilgrim School, students study French and German at KS3 and then can opt to study one of these languages at KS4. It was brilliant to see everyone getting involved in the activities, even those who do not study a language at present, proving that you do not need to be fluent to enjoy learning about other languages and cultures.



Particularly impressive was the knowledge of flags and capital cities amongst the students! Not to mention the delicious cakes produced in the ‘bake – off’ and the creative T-shirt designs inspired by Japanese culture and language. Wunderbar!



Jen



# TRIPS...

## Ancaster Leisure

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021, pupils and staff from The Pilgrim School visited Ancaster Leisure, near Grantham, to take part in organised paintballing and laser tag. On arrival pupils and staff dressed into overalls and were given a briefing on using the various weapons and safety aspects of the event. All were



given a choice of whether they would rather paintball or laser tag; a majority chose to take part in paintballing. Staff and pupils were broken down into teams and were led out to the battle grounds. Everyone who attended



thoroughly enjoyed the trip and both pupils and staff who took part came on and off the battlefield with smiles on their faces. Although it rained on and off during the day, this did not dampen any enthusiasm and many said they

would like to do the same again next year. I would like to thank the staff members who attended and both supported the event as well as transport pupils in their own cars.

## Lincoln Cathedral



On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021, pupils and staff from The Pilgrim School went on a visit to Lincoln Cathedral. As pupils arrived from their respective bases they took part in some arts and crafts which included producing a stain glassed window which represented the school. We were then taken on a tour of the cathedral with a member of the cathedral staff and were provided with a really interesting talk about the history of the cathedral. Many of the pupils asked questions and were really interested in the cathedral. A couple of pupils sang in front of the choir stalls and were impressed how their voices reverberated around the building. Following the tour, pupils had

their lunches on site and then spent time in the interactive site which enabled them to learn more about the magnificent building. I would like to thank both Pilgrim School staff for supporting the event and for the Cathedral staff for their patience and time in explaining aspects of the cathedral with pupils.



## 'A Christmas Carol' Theatre Trip

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November I was lucky enough to go on my first Pilgrim School trip. Myself, Steve B, Harriet, John B, Joe and Kat took a group of twelve Year 10 and 11 students to the Nottingham Playhouse to see 'A Christmas Carol'. It was an absolutely superb production which we all thoroughly enjoyed. The sound and lighting effects ensured that there were lots of spooky scares which made us all jump (apart from John who was enjoying a little nap)! As always the Pilgrim students were a credit to the school and themselves ensuring a smooth and successful trip. I can't wait for the next one.

Sarah



### Theatre experience – A Christmas Carol, Nottingham Playhouse – A student's perspective

The trip started with myself, John Blomley and headmaster Steve Barnes travelling to Nottingham from Amber Hill to meet the students and staff from Lincoln and Baumber. The journey was smooth as Steve and John chatted about how Steve wants to move house.

As we entered Nottingham Steve's expert city knowledge came in handy as we easily made it into the centre and found a place to park. We then met up with the students and staff from Lincoln in the car park to find out that English teacher Harriet had put the postcode wrong in her satnav which took her to Grantham! A short 2 minute walk took us to a nice picnic place outside the theatre. We all ate our lunches and about 30 minutes after we all arrived Harriet turned up with 2 students (as a Pilgrim School student I will be avoiding travelling with Harriet)!

Before we entered the theatre we all went to use the loo and when coming back upstairs from the loo typical clumsy John Blomley nearly fell down the stairs as he slipped. Personally I did not know whether to laugh or feel bad. We then all went up the stairs as one of the theatre ticket staff directed us to our seats in the Dress Circle. We sat there just chatting and admiring the set before the show commenced.

The lights dimmed and everyone quietly settled down into their seats. I won't go into too much detail but the show was brilliant. The lights, the effects and acting was top class. In the middle of the show a medical emergency had occurred in the Stalls so I hope that the man who had become ill was ok. Also the ice cream that me and John had during the interval was delightful. One last thing that I cannot forget about is a "John Blomley" nap. He had one in the cinema and had one in the theatre. Knowing John he will have one planned for the Kinema trip in December too.

Overall, I would rate the day 9.9/10, I'm not going to give it a ten because of some of the drivers in Nottingham, the words that I would choose to describe them shall not be featured but I'm sure if you ask Steve, he will tell you won't you Steve?

Thank you for reading about my experience of A Christmas Carol at the Nottingham Playhouse on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November.

Jack Hinchliffe

## PILGRIM SCHOOL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT WINS PRESTIGIOUS ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY EDUCATION PRIZE ...



### Team Prize for Excellence in Secondary and Further Education

Pilgrim School Science Department

#RSCPrizes



The Science Department at The Pilgrim School, Lincoln, Amber Hill and Baumber, have been named the winners of the Royal Society of Chemistry's Team Prize for Excellence in Secondary and Further Education.



Nominated by their peers, the team was chosen by the RSC's prestigious panel of judges as one of the most inspirational, innovative and dedicated groups of people in education.

After receiving the prize, Sharon Smith, assistant headteacher and head of science, said:

"We are delighted to have had the opportunity to be nominated for the prize and ecstatic that we have been awarded the 2021 Team Prize for Excellence in Secondary and Further Education.

"We feel proud to have been recognised for our work in promoting inclusivity in science and the further opportunities this prize will open up to our current and future students."

Cllr Mrs Patricia Bradwell, executive member for children's services at Lincolnshire County Council, added: "I'd like to congratulate the team at The Pilgrim School on such a well-deserved win. They've made a special effort to ensure their students don't miss out on the benefits of practical science, and it's wonderful that they have been recognised with such a prestigious award."

Dr Helen Pain, chief executive of the Royal Society of Chemistry, said:

"Educators are some of the most important people in the sciences, nurturing and inspiring the next generation of talent who ultimately will help us further advance understanding of the world around us and solve some of the immense challenges facing the world today and tomorrow.





“Over the past two years, educators have had to deal with circumstances unlike anything we have seen in living memory; with remote teaching and lack of access to equipment due to COVID restrictions making the sciences a particularly tricky subject to teach. What we have seen is resilience and brilliance – and our winners stand high in a particularly inspiring field of nominees.

“The Pilgrim School Science Department have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to chemistry education, and it is our honour to celebrate their considerable contribution.”

The Excellence in Education Prizes celebrate inspirational, innovative, and dedicated people working in primary, secondary, further education and higher education – including teachers, technicians and more. These prizes recognise a wide range of skills – from curriculum design to effective teaching, and from personal development to working culture. This category includes specific prizes for teams and for those in the early stages of their career.

The Royal Society of Chemistry’s prizes have recognised excellence in the chemical sciences for more than 150 years. In 2019, the organisation announced the biggest overhaul of this portfolio in its history, designed to better reflect modern scientific work and culture.

To see a photo gallery of achievement please visit

[www.rsc.org/prizes-funding/prizes/2021-winners/education-prizes](http://www.rsc.org/prizes-funding/prizes/2021-winners/education-prizes)

## STAFFING CHANGES...

### TEACHING STAFF:

#### Home Team:

Our Home Tuition team are constantly looking for qualified teachers to work with our pupils in the home. This term we have recruited the following new staff on relief contracts:

- Rachel Ladley
- Jasmine Talbot
- Joanne Stokes

#### Base Team:

Clare Andrews our SENCO who has been with the school for over 15 years will be leaving us at Christmas to work at a school nearer her home.

### NON-TEACHING STAFF:

#### Home Team:

This term we have recruited the following additional pastoral staff on relief contracts to work with our pupils in the home:

- Jan Hudson
- Deb Sadler

#### Base Team:

##### New Staff

- Erika Mlalazi – Teaching Assistant - Part Time in Amber Hill
- Lynne Armstrong – Learning Support in Baumber.

# YEAR 11 OUTCOMES 2021

Percentage of Students Achieving 5 or more A* - C (including English and Maths) at GCSE and Equivalent				
	2018 - 2019	2019-20	2020-21	3-year average
Cohort Size	55	57	60	57
% figure	12%	30%	35%	26%
Percentage of Students Achieving 5 or more A*-G at GCSE and Equivalent				
	2018-2019	2019-20	2020-21	3-year average
Cohort Size	55	57	60	57
% figure	28%	43%	56%	42.3%
Percentage of Students Achieving 9 - 4 in English and Maths				
	2018-2019	2019-20	2020-21	3-year average
Cohort Size	55	57	60	57
% figure	22%	34%	46%	34%

## All pupils on roll:

GCSE outcomes for year 11			
Year group	English	Maths	Science 2 x 4+
Percentage of Grade 4 or above achieved	55%	53%	33%

## Outcomes for non- core:

Subject	% of pupils achieving L4 and above equivalent	Did not hit target	Met Target	Above target	Well above target
Art	100%		6 (75%)	1 (12.5%)	1 (12.5%)
ICT	100%		2 (40%)	1 (20%)	1 (20%)
Psychology	100%		2 (28%)	3 (42.8%)	2 (28.5%)
Business studies	100%		2 (100%)		
Travel and tourism	100%		1 (100%)		
Childcare	100%		1 (100%)		
Health and Social care	100%			1 (50%)	1 (50%)
Music	100%		3 (75%)	1 (25%)	
BTEC Science L1	N/A	1 (25%)	3 (75%)		
PSHE L1/L2	15%		3 (18%)	13 (82%)	
Sport L1	N/A		2 (100%)		
Vocational studies L1	N/A		2 (100%)		