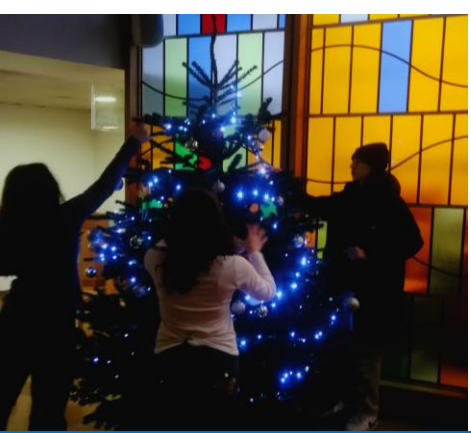




**Any Colour You Like as Long as it's Orange**  
 If you've noticed an abundance of Dutch-looking babies on the Neonatal Ward, fear not – it's a safety initiative to ensure the team can easily identify which babies need most urgent and extra care. This generous donation of orange hats was made by the knitters amongst the school's governing body, so hats off to Miriam Ashwell, a long-serving member, who worked on the project. The hats also have the added benefit of keeping the baby's head warm immediately after birth.

**Plot Ten Continue to Inspire**  
 After 7 weeks in production and an hour on make-up, the 6 plays carefully crafted by our young people at Konstam, were performed, directed and designed by the actors of Plot Ten. The project has grown from a small team of professionals to a much larger production led by Talia Randall under the guidance of John Howley, our Director of the school's Life and Leisure programme. Bravo!

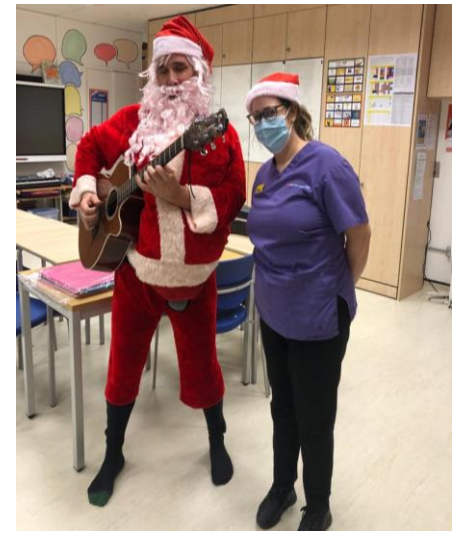


**Decoration of the Tree**  
 The tradition of decorating the hospital Christmas tree is one that our young people observe with great enthusiasm and responsibility. Taking time out from lessons, and for the first time since the end of lockdown, the tree was dressed with great care and attention. This year was no exception as the school gathered around the tree to remind ourselves of the approaching longer and warmer days, and that light symbolises hope in a number of faiths observed over the winter period.

**Message from the Headteacher**  
 As you can imagine we've had a very busy term getting to grips with our fantastic new space at RFHCS Konstam. As well as the formal opening in October, we've introduced a number of new systems and procedures to ensure we use the space to its full capacity and provide the highest quality of support, guidance and education for all our young people and their families. I'd like to thank Sue, all our volunteers and our support staff for the fantastic job they have done in managing such a steep learning curve so effectively. We also would like to express our gratitude to our immediate neighbours at Brookfield Primary School for their unwavering support and warm welcome. Laurel and I have already been exploring opportunities for collaboration, sharing of resources and the exchange of expertise in order to embody our principles of cooperation, collaboration and contribution. We look forward to developing this partnership further and wish the entire school community a well-deserved break.



**Santa's Little Helper** - Matt Smith and Play Specialist, Siobhan, are ready to sing in the festive season and New Year.



**Alex Yates**



**Jack Petchey Leaders and Achievers**  
 Congratulations are in order for Ramone Lewis, Teaching Assistant to the Thomas Group at Konstam, and Gustavo (left) who swept the board to win the Jack Petchey Leadership and Achievement Awards respectively. Ramone used the award to invest in a digital drawing pad to improve our animation and media offer, and will use the rest of the award to fund a group visit to the Van Gough digital experience. Gustavo is planning a celebratory lunch and cinema visit to welcome newcomers to the school.

**In Celebration of Tony Clark**

Tony's memorial bench serves as a wonderful tribute to his life, legacy and time at our school. As a student on the Futures programme, Tony was known for his kind heart and positive attitude. Despite his illness, he remained determined and resilient, inspiring all those around him. The bench will serve as a place of reflection for students and staff to remember Tony and the impact he had on their lives. It will also be a symbol of hope and strength for those facing similar challenges, reminding them to never give up.



**BSPED Manchester 2023**

This year we completely surpassed ourselves with 2 posters accepted for presentation at this year's British Society of Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes (BSPED) Conference in Manchester in November. Steve Green, who is responsible for the teaching and engagement of young people on 6 North, and Paediatric Consultant Dr Victoria Dublon, can be seen trying their very best to persuade Jeremy Allgrove, consultant paediatric endocrinologist at Great Ormond Street, to attend the next Diabetes Camp in Leicester, **Aug 14-18, 2024**. So far, we have raised over £6,000 to help at least 20 families to attend.



**Inspirational Speaker**

Faith stood as a fine beacon of resilience and compassion visiting Northbridge House School. Delivering an assembly, she described her journey overcoming challenges and adversity, whilst maintaining an attitude that sustained her well-being. Her heartfelt account, offered invaluable insights navigating through difficult times. Faith not only touched hearts but also sparked hope, proving that despite struggles, hope can prevail. Her empowering message echoed: seeking help is strength, and we are proud to celebrate Faith's message providing parity to physical and mental health.



**The Going is Good for Equine Therapy**

Mereyem Gurler continues taking groups to Equine Therapy every Friday, and for many it remains the highlight of their week. Equine therapy captivates our young minds for a profound reason beyond the stables, providing a sanctuary of calm and healing through a direct bond with the horses, who strangely teach empathy, trust, and emotional regulation. It provides an invaluable lesson in communication and self-awareness, providing a space that nurtures resilience, patience, and confidence. The positive impact is clear, and will remain an important aspect of our curriculum offer for the foreseeable future.

**Diabetes Family Group Pizza Party on 6 North**

The party was not just about enjoying pizza, but also to provide an opportunity for families to connect and share their stories. Discussions quickly shifted from diabetes management to everyday life topics, such as favourite pizza toppings and afterschool activities. The party was not only a chance to relax and have fun, but it also helped to break down barriers and create a sense of normality for families living with the condition. The Pizza Party was a wonderful event that brought people together and left everyone feeling full, empowered and fully supported. We look forward to the next!



**Arsenal Players visit the Royal Free Hospital**

In a stunning display of generosity, Arsenal Football Club, one of the most successful teams in the English Premier League, put on a stunning away team performance during a surprise visit to the children's ward. They played a blazing first half, storming into the school room to have photos taken and sign autographs, ready to tackle a strong and confident side of young people (and staff!) eagerly waiting on 6 North. They spent time chatting with each patient about their own lives, footballing ambitions and what it is like to be part of one of London's most popular clubs. The atmosphere was electric – even for the Spurs fans!

