

Caring students go extra mile

by Caitlin Duval

STUDENTS at The Heights have been thinking about others by raising money and collecting food.

All students and staff were involved in a bake sale for Children in Need when they not only made cakes they also brought them in to sell.

Deneca Stewart organised the Bake Sale which raised £50.

She said: "As a prefect I have responsibility for charities so I organised the bake sale and also asked Blackburn Food Bank to visit school."

Barbara from Blackburn Food Bank came in and talked to the students in assembly.

Deneca said: "Students were very willing to help



and they listened well in assembly.

"I did a speech about why the food was needed because coming up to Christmas some people don't have food."

Deneca also explained that for every tin students

brought in, they would receive 10 epraise points, which is our school reward system.

All of the tins and packets that were donated were taken by students to the food bank on the last week of term.



'Best thing to happen to my child' – parent

by Caitlin Duval

OUR school continues to be rated 'good' by Ofsted with one parent saying 'This school is the best thing that ever happened to my child'.

In 2014 The Heights Free School was inspected and rated good by inspectors.

They also gave the school actions to implement and when the inspector visited last month, she noted the progress that had been made.

Our head Mr Holding and his leadership team are relatively new to The Heights, but inspector Sue Eastwood said: "It is clear to everyone that you are already having a very

positive influence on improving the school."

Mr Holding said "I am absolutely thrilled with the outcome and all pupils and staff should be proud of themselves."

When asked how we could improve the rating to outstanding, Mr Holding replied: "Many things are already outstanding within the school such as the

nurture provision.

"The key thing now is to review what we do and for staff to challenge themselves to ensure that all our students can have the best outcomes possible."

Students said they were enormously proud of our school.

I was personally asked questions by the inspector. She wanted

to know why I came to this school and what I enjoyed about it.

I was happy and proud that I had been asked to speak up for the school. I told her I was bullied at my mainstream school and I explained what had happened there. I told her that the teachers here at The Heights are all perfect in their own way.



Rabbit Benji is a furry friend who lives in Key Stage 2 students' classroom. Lillyjade Box said: "Benji is cute and I get to hold him sometimes when I'm sad."



Primary pupils learnt all about Diwali and Lillyjade Box said she loved the Rama and Sita dolls that were used as part of the topic. She said: "It was nice having two different characters in our classroom."



Army veterans visited and brought artefacts from the Second World War and their time in service

Remembrance

Skills tests

by Megan Burns

STUDENTS from The Heights learnt all about practical careers at Burnley College.

Fourteen students went to the construction and painting and decorating departments.

Qamar, from Year 11, said: "The teachers are good and I learnt about bricklaying. It was useful because you learnt social and team working skills."

Qamar said he wanted to be lawyer.

The students were accompanied by teaching assistant Miss Brierley.

She said: "The students behaved really well and were mature. Going to college helps the students because it gets them ready for when they leave school."

Trips to Burnley College are arranged every week.



Delicious chocolate Yule logs were created from scratch by Key Stage 2 students





Museum trips

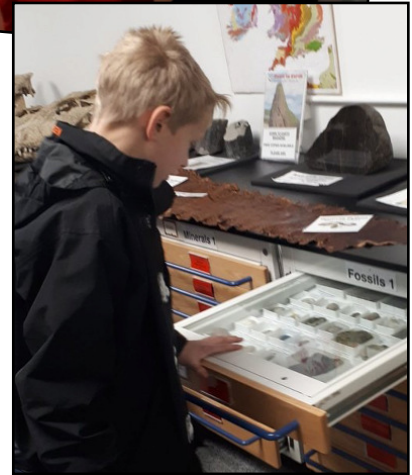
EDUCATIONAL trips to Blackburn Museum and Liverpool World Museum were enjoyed by pupils from Key Stage 2.

Lillyjade Box she said that she is always excited when Thursdays come around because she gets

to go out.

She specifically liked the Liverpool Museum trip because it also had an aquarium and she got to see Nemo.

While visiting Blackburn Museum, Lillyjade said she enjoyed looking at all the historical models.



Haunting Hallowe'en

by Caitlin Duval

EVERYTHING spooky happened in The Heights on Hallowe'en.

Some teachers dressed up while Key Stage 2 and 3 students carved pumpkins.

A Hallowe'en themed mural was also drawn and painted by construction students from Years 9 and 10.

Lillyjade Box said: "We got to dress up and I wore a mask

and vampire teeth. I liked the teachers' outfits.

"We made skeleton biscuits and got to take them home they were good because I had made them. I carved a pumpkin and put a smiley face on it.

"I went out on Hallowe'en dressed as the bearded women of The Greatest Showman and I came back home with two bags full of sweets."



Declan Harrison has been appointed Head Boy with Courtney Simpson as Deputy Head Girl. A team of prefects has also been appointed.





Sports for all

by *Korben Redfearn*

TO MAKE sure pupils leave with a host a different skills, The Heights provides lots of different sports to be played and learned by all students.

PE teacher Mr Bailey said: "Since October students have played a lot of different sports like football, dodgeball, badminton, bench ball, quick cricket, basketball, table tennis and

they have also been in the gym."

By taking part in various sports, it helps the students to gain lots of different skills.

The Heights is also involved in the Premier League Primary School Stars Kit and Equipment Scheme.

This provides our school with equipment to help students participate in football and promotes teamwork, leadership and improved social skills.



Out and about

by *Korben Redfearn*

FISHING, caving and exploring the Pendle Sculpture Trail were just a few of the outdoor trips made by students since October.

We go on outdoor education trips to obtain a host of new life skills and work on our fitness.

Lead Outdoor Education

Instructor Mr Stafford said: "These skills are useful in everyday life because it is all about working in a team and encouraging others to work independently, building confidence and self esteem.

"For me, outdoor education is also about me working on my own fitness and health. I enjoy taking young people out to places



that they have not been to before, to gain new experiences and to try different activities and achieve goals."

