Helping Others

This week I have been delighted to watch both the Cherry Oak School production of “Matilda” and the Victoria School Christmas play “Christmas Around the World”. Each story has reinforced the inherent value of family and friends and the importance of giving and helping others. Victoria College students too have been entering into the spirit of Christmas giving through their enterprise activities at Birmingham City Council’s Woodcock Street offices. Our young people approach their lives with a zest and enthusiasm for living, despite the considerable challenges they face each day. Not only this, but they and their families, together with our staff also have a very generous giving spirit.

In just the past few months, we have raised money for the Children’s Hospital, the Children’s Medical Research Institute, MacMillan Cancer and Children in Need. This newsletter celebrates that generosity and the celebration of family and friends. Whatever your beliefs, I wish you peace and joy in this festive season and wish each and every child, young person, their families and our staff, a refreshing, relaxing and safe holiday. See you all in the New Year.

Julie Fardell - Executive Head Teacher
Pupils at Cherry Oak have been working alongside practitioners from The Royal Shakespeare Company and Birmingham Hippodrome to produce a special version of ‘Matilda the Musical’ for our Christmas production. The children have been learning lines, acting out scenes, performing dances, singing and signing.
Victoria School News reporters and a cast from Key Stage 2 took us on a journey around the world to see how people in other countries celebrate at Christmas time. We were also treated to a performance of Beauty and the Beast by students in our 14 to 19 department. We are lucky to have enjoyed two shows and the talents of many young actors!
Students at Victoria College held a coffee morning giving them an opportunity to socialise with staff from the college, select and purchase cakes and support two charities. The coffee morning raised £119 which was split between MacMillan and Children in Need.

Victoria School pupils had lots of fun raising £298 for Children in Need. £173 was also raised for Birmingham Children’s Hospital on Christmas jumper day. As part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award Harry at Victoria School decided to get his hair shaved off and raised nearly £300 for Acorns - an organisation that has done lots to support many of the students at Victoria School. Well done Harry - you might want to invest in a hat!