

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 2025

## CONTENT

New staff and recognition	1
What we've been up to	2

Phoenix School (Sheffield), and Forestwood (Bury) are DfE registered special schools, providing education for young people admitted to their co-located hospital services.

Our schools are regulated by OFSTED you can read their last inspection via the websites.

[Forestwood School](#)

[Phoenix School](#)

### New staff

This month we welcomed Aaron Bergin-Moody, who has joined us at Forestwood School as an Education Officer and Teaching Assistant.

We hope you settle in and enjoy your new role.

## What we've been up to



The **Christmas spirit is being spread at Phoenix with the introduction this year of the School's Christmas tree.**

As the Christmas tree was looking a little bit bare, pupils set to work producing a wide range of handmade Christmas baubles and paper chains to make the Christmas tree have the Christmas magic!



Pupils and hospital staff also completed a 'handmade' Christmas tree, made completely out of cut out green hand prints which were glued together in the shape of a life size Christmas tree which has been displayed in the hospital and is receiving many compliments!

Finally.....pupils have been hard at work decorating the school with Christmas decorations and completing Christmas cards which have been placed in reception for visitors to take away and gift to others.

At Forestwood, students enjoyed a session of learning about **the art of flower arranging** from our resident Community Artist, Charlotte, during this half term.

Charlotte also works as a wedding florist and shared the secret of the 3 F formula - first foliage, then focal flowers, then filler flowers to construct an aesthetically pleasing dried flower bouquet.



3 principals of design (colour, texture and shape) were discussed to allow students a deeper understanding of how the professional arranger approaches a commission. The flower stems were then used to create silhouette "landscapes" using Cyanotype paper, a photographic process that reacts to light.



As part of the **annual Christmas Jumper day** on 11<sup>th</sup> December, Phoenix School staff wore their Christmas jumpers to school for the day.

Many staff were complimented on their particular choice of jumper, and fair play to Claire, our new teaching assistant, who has been wearing a Christmas jumper every day since 1<sup>st</sup> December!



Forestwood ended the term with a **festive celebration day** before the Christmas break. All four wards came together to showcase their skills and talents and to compete for a range of prizes. Students performed their own songs as well as joining in group singing, creating a warm and lively atmosphere.

Creative activities filled the day, including Christmas wreath-making and card design, while an exhibition of artwork from across the term highlighted the students' achievements. A lively quiz challenged both general knowledge and seasonal trivia, adding a fun competitive edge.

Throughout the week, students had earned raffle tickets for good attendance and engagement, and a variety of prizes were awarded during the event. With drinks, snacks, and plenty of festive cheer, both students and staff enjoyed a joyful and memorable end to the term.

