

Dear parents and carers,

It is wonderful to be able to reflect on the achievements of BeyondAutism Schools across this academic year.

All pupils at both the schools have made progress across the year and we have seen fantastic outcomes across all areas of our curriculum. There have been some notable external achievements for both schools, with Park House achieving the Wellbeing Award and Healthy Schools Award (Bronze) and Tram House applying for certification for the TfL Stars Award. There have also been successful collaborations with new and existing partner organisations, most notably at Tram House with Rosslyn Park Rugby Club.

Since January, the Sixth Formers have been settling in well to their new site and are making exceptional progress. The new site has offered new facilities, greater space for lessons and the opportunity to create an age-appropriate environment. The building has been set up in a way that is befitting to our pupils and their Preparing for Adulthood curriculum. It is wonderful to see them running their own café, taking themselves to group lessons and using life skills to make their own meals.

It is with a heavy heart that we share some sad news about one of our pupils at Park House School. Ibrahim (Red Class) passed away unexpectedly during half term. This unexpected loss has left us in a state of shock, and we extend our deepest condolences to Ibrahim's family. We would also like to thank you all for being understanding and supportive during this difficult time as we navigate best ways to support pupils and staff.

At Park House we are happy to announce the recent outstanding Ofsted inspection. We recognise the collective efforts of our entire school community in striving for excellence in education. We are very proud of this achievement, as it reflects both the academic rigour and the inclusive learning environment, we aim to provide for all our students.

This summer we are saying goodbye to one of our longest serving members of staff, Sarah Dominic. Sarah started working at BeyondAutism as a Teaching and Learning Practitioner in 2014. Sarah has been one of the biggest driving forces behind Park House's success. Over the years she has made a huge impact as a TLP, Designated Safeguarding Person, Teacher and now Assistant Head. Sarah will greatly be missed but there is comfort in knowing that she will continue working in SEND and will continue empowering and providing the best education possible for learners in her new School.

Throughout the school year, we have also welcomed new staff to BeyondAutism, including the successful introduction of a graduate scheme. We are so thrilled with the way in which new staff have embraced our services and along with all of our staff have worked tirelessly in the best interest of our pupils. We would also, like to take this opportunity to thank our families for their continued collaborative working and support and we look forward to continuing this work with you next year.

We wish you all a wonderful summer break and look forward to seeing you all in the new academic year.

Take care,

**Emma and Matt**

# Summer newsletter

## 2023

### Term Dates

#### Autumn 2023

*INSET days: Friday 1st – Tuesday 5th September*

**Term starts: Wednesday 6th September**

**Half-term: Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October**

**Term ends: Thursday 21st December (12.30pm)**

#### Spring 2024

*INSET Day: Friday 5th January*

**Term starts: Monday 8th January**

**Half-term: Monday 12th – Friday 16th February**

**Term ends: Thursday 28th March (12.30pm)**

### Admissions

It's been a successful year for the admissions team, we have successfully run a final open day for our sites and have had numerous new placements confirmed for September 2023. I hope everyone has a fabulous summer break, I look forward to seeing everyone again in September!

**Nada Omar**

Admissions Officer and Administrator

### New starters

We've had a number of staff join the organisation this term! A big welcome to the following Teaching and Learning Practitioners...

Muna Ahmed, Karina Caetano, Dennis Sciarra, Ana Beatriz, Hayfa Mohamed Ali, Fatou Savanet, Siham Abdullahi, Lily-Joy Campbell Gritton, Agnieszka Zdrada, Vanessa Addai-Kwateny, Fatmata Allie, Hamiyet Ceyda Kara, Olakunle Akinola, Khan Muhammad, Lucia Metzger, and Pamela Metko.

We've also welcomed Devan McNeill (EA to CEO), Tanjila Mehbuba (Tram House Receptionist), Abbie Shorthouse (Behaviour Analyst), and Anna-Khuen Wong (SaLT).

Angus Johnston has been appointed as Chair of Trustees by the Board.

### Leavers

We're saying goodbye to the following Teaching and Learning Practitioners...

Pallavi Dantas, Gaia Paggiosi, Jayababu Alagarsamy, Temitope Olayiwola, Rania Enriquez,

Maria Belen Suarez Lucero, Saruul Bazarsad, Siuzanna Kovalova, Afroditi Theodorou, Tryphena Amfo-Brobby, Roshni Vayda, Sybil Ghann, Monica Ramey, Federica Degano, Genevieve Tan (Zi Ying), and Rgieba Khan.

Millie Norman, Sin Man Cheng, Ameena Salik, and Hannah Famutimi are leaving their roles as Lead Practitioners. Alicia Robson is leaving her role as Therapy Assistant. Anna Czoch and Jodie Whitley are leaving their roles as SaLT.

We're also saying goodbye to Isabel McKertich, Occupational Therapist, Sarah Dominic, Assistant Head at Park House School, Amelia Rose Agar, PA to Heads of Schools. Allyn Zulver is leaving her role as Finance Director and Andrew Swatfigure is leaving his role as Director of Research & New Business.

Good luck to Donatella Di Pietrantonio and Rebecca Meyer who have completed their internship.

We wish everyone the best in their future endeavours!

### Park House School retain Outstanding rating

In May, Park House School were visited by Ofsted for a routine inspection. We have received their final report and are delighted to announce that Park House School has retained its 'Outstanding' rating after it was judged to be outstanding in all areas.

*"The proprietor, leaders and staff have extremely high expectations and value all pupils as individuals. They work well together as a team to prepare pupils for the future and their growing independence."*

We are incredibly proud of the report which captures the many strengths of our hard-working staff team and the whole school community. Our ambition for and with our pupils shines through, and it is fantastic that this has been recognised by Ofsted.

Park House Head of School, Matthew Le Blanc said: *"As a headteacher I am extremely grateful for the recognition that our school has received. However, I also believe we can and will continue to grow and challenge ourselves to ensure we are providing the best education possible for our learners."*

Read the full report on our website.



### Rugby Lessons

This term, Tram House pupils have been practising their rugby skills with Rosslyn Park, who run weekly sessions for our pupils at the local park.

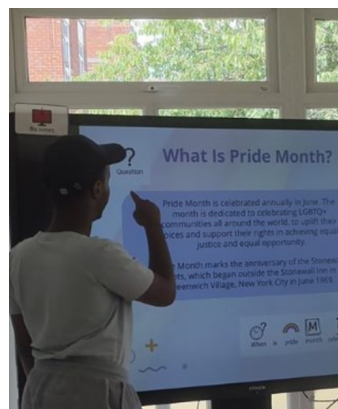
The lessons are a great opportunity for pupils to spend some quality time outdoors working on various skills as well as being an important boost for their health and wellbeing.



### Pride month

For this year's Pride Month, pupils reflected on the importance of celebrating diversity and promoting inclusivity.

At Tram House School and Sixth Form, pupils took part in several activities, actively learning about Pride Month and its significance.





### Sports Day

What an amazing time at the recent Sports Days of Park House School and Tram House School!

Pupils from both schools and Sixth Form enjoyed a sunny day of games, activities, and friendly competition. It was a celebration of teamwork and spirit, with beautiful posters and cheers all around. Congratulations to all the participants on their fantastic performances!



### Healthy Schools Award

Recently, two of our pupils represented Park House School at Wandsworth Town Hall, where we proudly received the Healthy Schools London Bronze Award!

The award recognises Park House's efforts in promoting health and wellbeing for both staff and students, creating a positive environment for all.



### Graduation

Congratulations to the 2023 graduates of Park House School, Tram House School, and Sixth Form!

We recently held graduation ceremonies to celebrate their achievements, marking the end of an amazing chapter. Each pupil received well-deserved recognition and certificates. As they move forward, we're excited to witness their continued success. Well done, Class of 2023!



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### A word from the charity

#### Tracie Linehan, CEO

I'm sure I state this at the end of every academic year - wow! What a year! And what a summer term!

I've had the honour of reading all the Karen Sorab Award nominations. All of our learners are truly amazing and the nominations in recognition of stand-out progress across the year is an absolute delight.

We are leading autism education, working hard to be at the forefront of outstanding practice, with outstanding staff, ensuring that each and every pupil is accessing an education that drives towards their aspirations and goals. This has been demonstrated time and again this year:

- Early Years delivering sessions to over 50 families, piloting nursery provision, encouraging families to join some amazing trips and holding a 5-year celebration with families past and present.
- Park House cementing the Ofsted Outstanding judgement
- Tram House School ensuring that pupils have destination maps underpinning community access, work experience, development of communication and independence skills
- Tram House Sixth Form establishing a calm and dynamic learning environment at their new premises in Roehampton
- Post-19 increasing community access for learners, culminating in an exciting sports day last week.
- Research and Learning delivering outreach, training and resources to over 5000 people and winning a national award for our Employability Toolkit.

All of the above has been supported and enhanced by excellent teams in Finance, HR, Marketing & Comms, Facilities and Fundraising.

I look forward to seeing you in September and hope that you will get actively involved in the consultation process for the 2025-2030 strategy.

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### Recent funding successes and updates

As ever, it's been a busy and interesting term raising money for our services. Here are a few recent highlights from the fundraising team:

- **Fundraising Committee**

In what has been a difficult couple of years for fundraising, as we approach the final quarter of our current financial year, we are planning to form a Fundraising Committee in support of BeyondAutism's vision and objectives. The fundraising department has completed many successful initiatives over recent years, and we are excited to now seek out a select group of members who can continue to bring good ideas to the table and help roll these out. Trustee, Roz Bristowe, will be spearheading the initiative.

- **Early Years' Summer Fete**

On the 17th June 2023 we held our first Early Years' Summer Fete. We wanted to celebrate 5 years of Early Years by inviting past and present families to celebration held at our Bromley centre. The fete kicked off to a great start with all the children making a beeline for the bouncy castle.

Once they were all jumped out, there was a lot more to enjoy, and the kids had fun dancing to music, playing with bubbles, drawing with chalk on the concrete, decorating biscuits and getting a little wet in the sand and water play, not to forget playtime with a select few favourite toys to remind them of their best days at Early Years.

It was fantastic to see so many familiar faces and see how our not-so-little-now alumni have grown since leaving us. Thank you to all the staff who volunteered their Saturday to make this event the success it was. We were overjoyed by the interest in the event and are already planning the next, stay tuned for summer 2024!



### • **Climate Change project**

Mike Calver (Director of Fundraising and Development) and James Smith (Head of Facilities) met with the preferred providers SustainQuality from City Bridge Trust eco audits to discuss our needs across the services. They have provided a report to City Bridge Trust who will get back to us hopefully with an agreement to carry out and pay for the eco audits across our services.

### • **Remembering Eval**

We are deeply grateful for the generous contributions made in memory of Eval Thompson. Eval was an autistic IT Support Technician at HFH Healthcare and was known for his dedication, talent, and commitment to making a difference. Having sadly passed away, Eval's colleagues, friends and family initiated a fundraising campaign that raised over £5k in his memory, and we are delighted they have chosen BeyondAutism as the organisation to receive these funds.

This donation will support our ongoing efforts to improve employment prospects for autistic learners with the launch of our new programme, the Employability Curriculum, following the success of the Employability Toolkit. Thank you for honouring Eval's life in such a meaningful way.



### **Upcoming events:**

#### • **Royal Parks Half Marathon**

With all 15 places filled for the run, we have secured a further 5 places which we are confident we can fill. This would be the highest number of runners we've had competing in this regular event taking place in October. If you would be interested in taking part, don't hesitate to get in touch!

#### • **Carol Concert**

After the incredible success of the first event in 2022, the Carol Concert will be back for another year. We are planning on holding it in November/December 2023.



# Summer newsletter

## 2023

- **Annual Quiz**

Our Annual Quiz is returning to its usual place in the calendar and is planned to be held next April/May 2024 giving you plenty of time to brush up on your obscure facts and quiz knowledge!

As always, if you would like to get involved with supporting BeyondAutism, please get in touch with us at [fundraising@beyondautism.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@beyondautism.org.uk).

Wishing everyone a lovely summer break!

**The Fundraising Team**

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## BeyondAutism Professional Conference

This year we held our professional conference in person for the first time, on 20th and 21st June, at the University of Suffolk.

Our theme, around the realities of inclusion of autistic and disabled individuals in society, brought together a unique mix of researchers, practitioners and those with lived experience. This resulted in an event that delved deep into the theme across multiple sections of society with a focus on what changes we can make to improve the situation.

With over 50% of our speakers bringing their own lived experiences, it led to some great discussions: how real is the picture we have of inclusion, why is the system set up that to get support you need an assessment or diagnosis, how can we make the huge cultural and mindset shift so that we see difference as a positive, and have environments that are set up to enable all to succeed.

You can read more about the event, and register your interest in attending 2024 on our conference website:

[beyondautism.org.uk/professionals/events/professional-conference/conference-2023/](https://beyondautism.org.uk/professionals/events/professional-conference/conference-2023/)



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**Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you in September!**  
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