

# Christmas newsletter 2020



## Dear Parents and Carers

This has been a very challenging term for all at North Ridge. It has been a very challenging year for the whole world!! Hopefully we will come to the end of the year with the positive thought that the COVID vaccine will mean we can return to everyday life and pupils can enjoy all activities in school.

Our Year 7 pupils have settled well into school. I think we were all delighted to have a school filled with pupils when we returned in September. It has been good to meet our families at EHC reviews even though we have been wearing face coverings or talking over the phone or via Teams. We now have 194 pupils on roll. This means school is very packed and we wait with excitement for our new sixth form building which has another delay until February 2021. We are currently at the stage of the building being kitted out internally. The arrangements for the return to school in January have been shared with our sixth form students and their families. There is a schedule for students and families to visit in February prior to their return after half term.

Despite COVID and a number of class bubbles having to shut pupils have enjoyed super learning activities: Harvest assembly, Remembrance Day and Christmas activities.

### Staffing updates

Miss Bowie returned from her maternity leave today. Ms Louth has given birth to a baby daughter. Sadly, we said goodbye to Miss Fitzgerald at half term.

Other staff leaving are Miss Waddington and Mrs Humphreys. and Joanna Mortimer. We wish them all success in their future careers. Congratulations to Miss Berry who is getting married over the Christmas break

Some of you may have heard the sad news that Ann Marshall, school nurse at Camberwell Park School has passed away. I know some of you will have been supported by her when your child attended Camberwell Park School. She supported North Ridge on many occasions and helped to make the transition to high school go smoothly. Our thoughts are with her family, friends and the Camberwell Park School community.

It has been good to maintain contact with families at our virtual parents' evening and annual reviews. Please try your best to attend your child's review. We pay for administration support for these meetings regardless of whether you turn up.

Your child's individual education plan will be updated next term and sent home at the end of January.

We have had lots of fun in the run up to Christmas decorating the school, our COVID friendly Christmas activity fair for pupils and thanks to those of you that have supported 2ndHandmade by purchasing our Christmas hampers, gifts and jumpers.

We have had a great Christmas dinner day and panto all at a safe distance. Every year we compete for the best table decoration. The trophy is a bit bashed about after 15 years!! It was won this year by



On Friday 18th December we will close for Christmas break.

**COLLECTION TIMES**

**PARENT PICK UP 1.15PM - 1.30PM**

**SCHOOL REOPENS TO PUPILS ON TUESDAY 5.1.21**

**MONDAY 4.1.21. IS A TRAINING DAY FOR STAFF**

**Important information about COVID POSITIVE TESTS:**

**If pupils or their families feel unwell with COVID symptoms or test positive for COVID please contact school for the first few days after we finish on Friday 18.12.20- Sunday 20.12.20**

**You can contact school on 01615079700- please be patient we will respond or you can email [ad-min@northridge.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:ad-min@northridge.manchester.sch.uk). We may contact families to inform you that your child needs to isolate.**

**From Monday 21.12.20 Manchester Local Authority will be contactable for you to report COVID POSITIVE TESTS- The details will be put on our website.**

**<http://www.northridge.manchester.sch.uk>**

**Reminders for all parents and carers:**

□ Pupils (except for 6th form) must wear school uniform - black trousers or skirt, black polo shirt, royal blue jumper, plain black sensible shoes. Pupils require a coat for activities outside of school.

□ Toys and games must not be brought into school. Mobile phones must be handed to a member of staff during the day.

□ Dropping off and collecting pupils - please ensure that you social distance, wait in your vehicle until we are ready to receive your child, wear a face mask and social distance from other families.

□ Attendance - holidays will not be authorised during school time. Please take your holidays during school holiday time.

For those pupils entitled to Free School meals we have distributed your supermarket vouchers. We hope this helps and there will be further voucher at February half term.

I would like to thank the staff team for their hard work supporting the pupils of North Ridge. On behalf of the staff I wish all parents, carers and pupils a very happy Christmas and healthy peaceful New Year. School reopens to pupils on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Bernice Kostick  
Head Teacher



# CLASS CROSS FELL



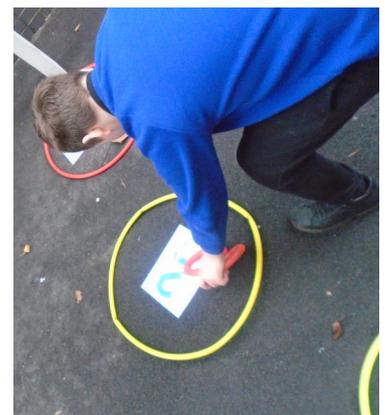
## Theme

This term Class Cross Fell have been exploring the topic 'Myths and Legends' within our theme lessons. We used our creative skills to make and use coloured rice/powder, to create Rangoli patterns to celebrate Diwali.



## English & Maths

In English this term Class Cross Fell have been reading the story 'Gobbin Hood', we have been changing parts of the story and had fun rereading our new versions. In Maths this term we have been working hard at matching numbers to quantities. We have particularly enjoyed learning outside when the weather has been good!



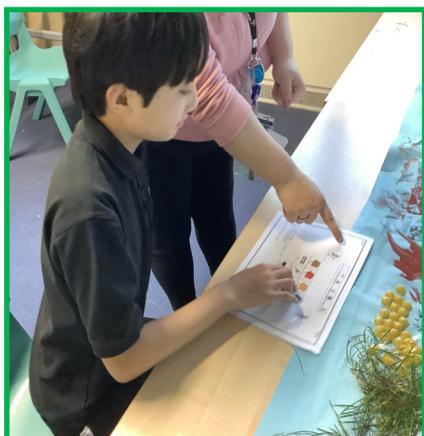
# Class Denali



This term Class Denali have been working hard on their reading skills. We especially enjoyed reading our sensory stories, 'The Haircut' and 'Anna's Allotment Bakes'.



Our theme for this term has been Myths and Legends. We have had a great time learning about the Ancient Greeks, Romans, The Loch Ness Monster and The Legend of Finn McCool and the Giants Causeway.



We have been developing our communication and social interaction skills a lot this term through the use of communication boards and working alongside our friends.



Class Denali wishes everyone a safe and happy Christmas



# Class Etna

Class Etna have really enjoyed getting to know each other during the Autumn term. As a brand new class we have had lots of fun playing games, exploring materials, and working together to get to know our new friends! We have started some lovely friendships!



Our Theme for Autumn has been Myths and Legends. We have read the stories of Robin Hood, and Medusa and Perseus in English, and have been learning all about the Romans and the Vikings in Theme, including making shields, salads, and clay plates!



We have been working really hard in life skills to understand how to stay safe in school. We have followed this with some enterprise work to make a Christmas activity for our Christmas fair. We've worked really hard together to finish the group project!



Class Etna would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

# Class Everest



Class Everest have been having lots of fun in Dance! We have learnt about the South American carnival and even choreographed our very own Samba dance which we have worked really hard on.



This term, in Maths we have been developing our money skills. We have been learning about how to make the same amount using different denominations.



In Citizenship we have been learning about our environment and how to make it better. We have been out and about in the local community to identify good and bad things and how it could be improved. We have also learnt about recycling and made our very own recycled robots!



**Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year**





# Class Grasmoor



This term in Class Grasmoor we have been completing our exercise advent calendar. We have had a new exercise each morning to complete to help wake us up in the morning ready for a busy day of learning.

In Maths we have been completing lots of work in Number. We have been able to use a wide range of resources including numicon, counters and number squares to help us complete our sums.



In Science we have been learning about separating materials. This has meant we have been able to participate in lots of fun experiments which is one of our favourite ways to learn.

Class Grasmoor would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

# Class Helvellyn



## Maths

In Maths we have been looking at improving our money handling skills. We have worked on recognising coins and their value, creating equivalent amounts, paying for items and knowing when to wait for change.

## Art

This term Class Helvellyn have been learning about Human Form. Students have studied the work of Julian Opie and Giacometti and have even attempted to rcreate our own sculptures of the human form. We have also worked in many other different styles including sketching, painting and felt tip.



## DT- Christmas Enterprise

In DT this half term we have been completing a Christmas Enterprise project. The class conducted market research designed a new product, created it and packaged it. Although we are unable to share them with you this year we can assure you they were delicious.



# Class Hunter

Class Hunter have worked extremely hard this term to develop our knowledge and skills. In our Theme lessons we have looked at different Myths and Legends. We looked at the Romans and their impact on Britain. We enjoyed creating Roman shields and exploring different materials to build our own Roman road.



In Maths we have developed our knowledge of shapes and explored different ways to help support us in learning. We especially enjoyed using the laptops to show our understanding of shape properties.



Class Hunter would like to wish everyone a very  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

# Class K2



In English our reading topic has been linked to the zoo. We have been learning about all the different animals and facilities at the zoo by reading different types of visual information such as leaflets and maps.



In RE we have been exploring art and religion. We first explored the religion of Hinduism and have had lots of fun creating Diwali lamps, tie-dye t-shirts and learning traditional Holi dances. We then learnt about the birth of Jesus and have been making our own nativity scenes and nativity tree decorations.



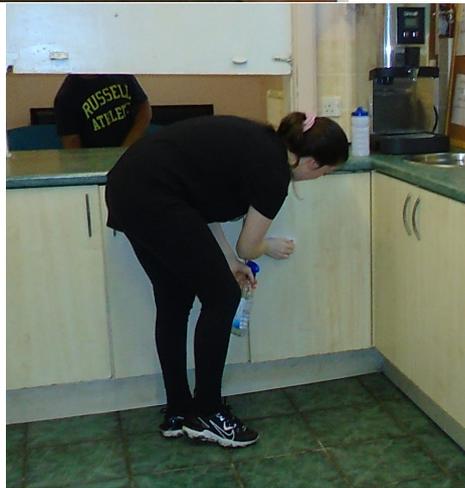
In cooking this term we have been learning how to safely prepare vegetables to go into our jacket potato and pasta dishes. We have also learnt how to use the hob safely to cook the ingredients. We enjoy eating what we have made for our lunch every week.



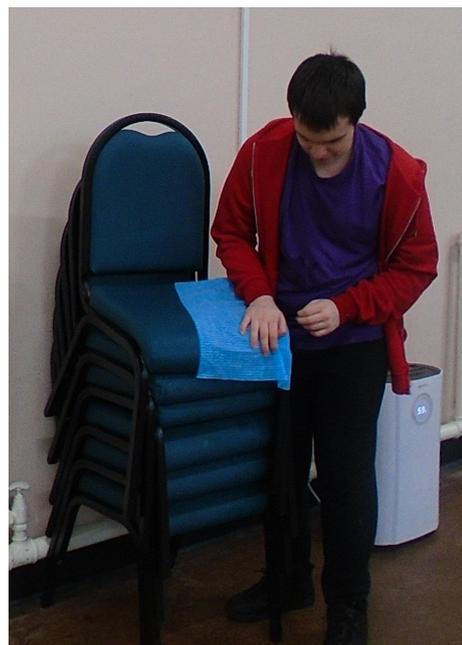
# Class Kilimanjaro & Teide



This term in class Kilimanjaro & Teide we have had some amazing times at work experience. We were really happy to be at St Paul's church. We have helped out doing lots of jobs including sweeping, litter picking, cleaning the kitchen and mopping.



We have been working on our communication skills making sure we make eye contact and speak in an appropriate, professional voice when speaking to our team mates and staff.





# Class Matterhorn

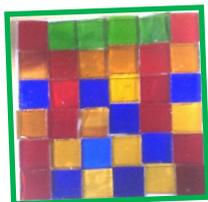


Our theme this term has been Myths and Legends. We have learnt about The Romans, The Vikings and stories from different religions. We explored how Vikings travelled to and from different countries. We made Viking longboats to help us learn the names of the different parts of the boat.



Our maths topics this term have been Number, Shape, Statistics, Position and Direction. As part of our Number topic, we used dienes to help us represent, partition, add and subtract different numbers.

In art lessons we learnt about mosaics. We discovered that the Romans used mosaics to decorate their different buildings with because they are bright and colourful. We evaluated, designed and made our own mosaics using glass tiles.



Class Matterhorn would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



# Class Mont Blanc



This term in maths we have been learning about time. We have looked at daily routines and when things happen each day. We have also used clocks to look at what time each event happens and practiced setting the time on Analogue clocks and reading the time on digital clocks.

In cooking class Mont Blanc have made pasta dishes and looked at different varieties of pasta and where they come from.

We have been working on our chopping skills, reading recipes as well as using the kitchen and equipment safely.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from class  
Mont Blanc.



# Class Nightingale

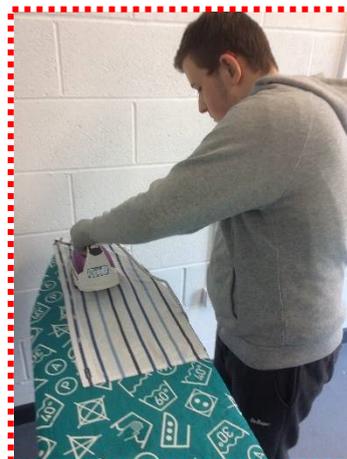


Class Nightingale are enjoying their work experience at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Handmade Unit. The students have been working incredibly hard to create beautiful gift baskets, Christmas packs, organising donations and preparing items to sell at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Handmade shop.



The students have worked really hard to create these beautiful Christmas Eve baskets which contain a variety of items. Some of which the students have made themselves, such as the sweet treats, reindeer dust, elf Gates, Santa key and hot chocolate and marshmallow cones.

As well as creating the Christmas Eve baskets, the students have been working on sorting donations. They have identified which items can be sold in the shop, sorting clothing into the correct categories, identifying faults and using the Unit facilities such as the washing machine, dryer and the iron.





The students have been working on Health and Safety this term. They have developed a good understanding of how to follow health and safety instructions in the workplace. The students are able to check wires for faults, read the labels on the cleaning products and have taken part in training such as Basic Life Saving. The students have also been working on developing their understanding of safety signs in the workplace.



**Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

**From**

**Class Nightingale**



## Class Olympus Grow It

This term we have been working really hard in Grow It. During our Grow It lessons we have been visiting Mirfield Community Gardens and Crumpsall Allotment. We have been identifying general maintenance jobs that need completing and learning about how to keep ourselves safe when completing tasks and using equipment. So far, we have planted garlic, spring bulbs, onions. We have been making sure the paths are clear by raking up the leaves. We also created a leaf mould cage to keep all the leaves in!



# Online Safety



Young people are spending even more time online and this includes watching videos and playing games. We have put together some tips for you to help your child have a safer online experience.



## Talk

It is important to have regular conversations with your child about what they do online and to monitor what they do. Let them know that anything they upload, email or message could stay around forever.

## Age Ratings

The age ratings for games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. For example, the age limit is 13 for most social networking sites including Facebook and Instagram.

## Friends or Followers

If your child has social media accounts it is very likely that they will have friends or followers who can see what they do on it. It is important to ensure that your child only has people that they know and not strangers as their friends or followers.

## Privacy settings

If your child does have a social networking account (eg. Instagram, snapchat, Facebook, TikTok etc), teach them how to block people and how to set strict privacy settings. Request that you or someone you both trust becomes their 'friend' or 'follower' to check that conversations and posts are appropriate

## Parental Controls

Activate parental controls on your home broadband, all devices including mobile phones and games consoles. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google (and other search engines), YouTube and on entertainment sites like iTunes and iPlayer.

\*If reading this online right click and open hyperlink on the underlined words for more info.

## Parent/ Carers online safety website links:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/lets-talk-about-life-online>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/supporting-young-people-with-send-online>

# @ North Ridge Gift Company



This term in Manufacturing we have been learning how to be independent and safe at work. We have been learning how to follow a range of visual and written instructions independently, completing tasks safely, following Health & Safety procedures and risk assessing, then thinking about how we can apply these skills to our for future vocational work. We have also been working to deadlines to ensure all of our [www.Etsy.com](http://www.Etsy.com) customers get there many orders on time!

Thank you again to all those who have supported us. This has been our most successful Christmas yet!

All staff @ NRGCo.

A collage of images. On the left is a grid of 16 Etsy product listings. Each listing includes a product photo, a title, stock status, price, and expiration date. The products include: 'Handmade Perfume... Angel' (£10.00), 'Small Amber Jar Ca...' (£10.00), 'Wax Melts' (£6.00), 'Handmade Perfume... Black Opium' (£10.00), 'Pink &amp; Cream Vase' (£14.50), 'Handmade Perfume... j'adore' (£10.00), 'Gold Mug' (£12.00), 'Black a...' (£10.00), 'Dark blue embossed...' (£10.00), 'Trinket and Ring Dis...' (£9.50), 'Smokey, two tone, t...' (£12.00), and 'Set of 2 Ceramic Ch...' (£10.00). On the right are three photos of staff working: a woman pouring liquid into a bucket, a man in a blue apron pouring liquid into a mold, and a man in a blue apron working on a wooden board.

# Scaffell

In class Scaffell we have been exploring our theme Myths and Legends in lots of different ways. We have explored the story of Medusa in English and had our sensory story of Rama and Sita during our Theme lessons. We have enjoyed getting messy and creative in a variety of ways. We hand painted our own shields just like Perseus'. For Diwali we made Diya lamps using clay and playdoh and painted Rangoli patterns using different coloured rice. During our theme lessons we have been using various sensory resources to work on our individual reaching, holding and tracking skills.



# Scaffell

During our PE lessons we have been having lots of fun using various balls and curling stones to practise our throwing and pushing skills to knock over towers and skittles.



In our life skills lessons we have been mixing a recipe for salt dough to create Christmas decorations. We then used different materials to give them colour and sparkle.



All of the staff and pupils in Class Scaffell would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday!

# Class Vesuvius

In art, Class Vesuvius have been learning about The Romans. Pupils have worked really hard to design and make Roman Mosaics and Roman Pottery. We are all really proud of their hard work and the fantastic pieces they have made.



Our theme this term has been Myths and Legends. We have learned about The Romans, The Vikings, and stories from different religions. We explored Viking food and how this was different to the food we eat today. We learned that the Vikings didn't have food shops, they had to grow or hunt everything they ate. We followed some traditional Viking recipes to make biscuits flavoured with honey. We all thought they were delicious!



On behalf of all the students and staff in Class Vesuvius, we wish you a safe, fun and relaxing break and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.



# Class Ben Nevis



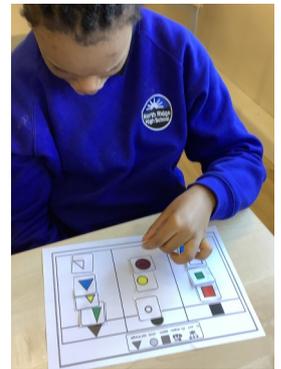
Ben Nevis have been so happy to be back in school and see their friends this term!



This term, we have had extra lessons on personal hygiene to keep ourselves and others safe at school.

We have practiced thorough handwashing; ensuring we clean each part of our hands.

In maths, we have been practicing our shape recognition of 2D and 3D shapes. We really enjoyed playing 'hide and seek' using our shapes.



In science, we have been separating mixtures using sieves or filter paper. We had to make predictions and carry out our experiments as independently as possible!

**Have a great break!**



# Merry Christmas!



from the Cup & Cake Team



## SOCIAL MEDIA

This half term we have been learning how to use social media to promote the business. We used persuasive language to advertise our products and services. We have been exploring different social media platforms and how they can be used safely.



@CUPANDCAKECAFE

## BAKING CAKES

We have used our functional maths skills to bake a range of delicious cakes. We have been learning how to measure the weight and volume of ingredients accurately using weighing scales and measuring jugs.



## USING PPE

We have been learning about how we can help protect ourselves and others in the workplace by wearing appropriate PPE. Everyone has worked very hard to follow safety guidelines and done a great job of keeping the cafe clean and COVID secure, well done!



**A BIG THANK YOU TO BOTH THE CAFE STUDENTS AND CUSTOMERS FOR ADAPTING TO THE CHANGES AND SUPPORTING US OVER THE LAST TERM!**



### North Ridge Parent and Carer Group

Thank you to all of those who attended the virtual meeting led by Kim our school nurse.

Our next sessions are as follows.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January - 10.30am until 11am:  
Support and advice around hygiene / growing and changing - Chloe Flannagan**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January - 10.30 until 11am:  
E Safety, supporting your child to be safe online- Paul Rogers**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February - 10.30 until 11am:  
Helping your child read at home - Brian Goodwin**

You will need to:

**Have your name on your account so that we can identify parents and carers attending**

**Mute your microphone during the presentation.**

Use the typed chat facility to ask questions and make comments that will then be answered - we ask that you do this using the chat facility so that connection is not lost and all questions can be read and responded to.

The link for the session will be emailed to you 15 minutes before the start of the session. You can access the session through a computer, tablet, laptop or smartphone. You just need to **download the free Microsoft Teams app** - once you have downloaded this you can click on the link sent via email and it will take you straight into the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you online.

Gill Foord (Deputy Head) & Ruth Jones (Family Support Worker)



# Class Fuji



During our Maths lessons we have been looking at and using Money. We have been using role play to help us learn to buy item. This has meant that we have been able to use lots of practical and fun lessons in Maths. We have also been using numicon to help us understand the value of each coin.

During our Film It sessions we have been creating a short film about Political Parties and the changes we would make to the school and local area if we were voted. We walked to Blakely Recreation Ground to film some of our scenes and edited them using Movie Maker.



For the past term we have been looking at Media Campaigns during our English lessons. This year, the focus has been on healthy lifestyles media campaigns which has linked in very nicely with our PSHE topic of Healthy Lifestyles. We have been looking at different media that is used such as radio adverts, posters, newsletters and Vlogs.

Class Fuji would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# Class Rainier



Class Rainier have been working hard this term in Theme, we have been learning about Myths and Legends. We have created our very own monsters and explored the Loch Ness and found Nessy in their hidden cave! Spooky!



As part of our Maths topic we have been exploring Shapes. We have had lots of fun identifying shapes and creating our own patterns.

In life skills we have been voting on our Christmas table decoration. We have been painting and using cotton wool to create Santa's sleigh. We have especially enjoyed our Christmas song; Makaton Sign Language by Singing Hands UK!



MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM CLASS RAINIER!!





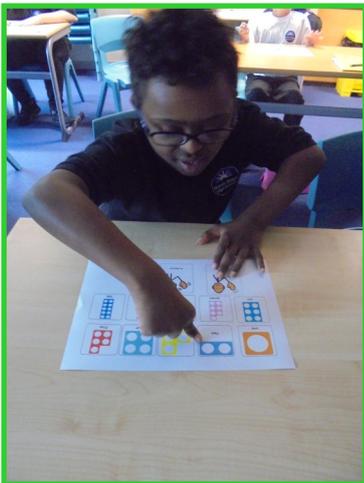
# Class Snowdon



This term class Snowdon have enjoyed going swimming. We all had lots of fun, some of us swam more than we ever have and got certificates for this.



In Science we have been looking at separating materials. We all had lots of fun learning about this. Lots of the lessons were practical activities where we had to predict what was going to happen!



We have been learning how to count to 10 in French. We practice with songs and we enjoy playing number bingo.



We wish you all Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year from class Snowdon



certificate



# Attendance

congratulations



This term, pupils have been working hard to come into school on time every day. Pupils who reach 100% attendance for this term will have a 'cinema afternoon' treat in school where they will be able to watch a film of their choice.

**Here are the pupils who have achieved 100% attendance this term!**

Jeffrey	Tiger Lily	Blake
Afia	Jesse	Joseph
Muram	Huy	Brian
David	Hermione	Bradley
Goodness	Scarlett	Brendon
Ismail	Reanne	Nicco
Radiya	Ciaron	Pamela
Joel	Stephen	Simon
Atig	Huzaif	Martin
Israel	Adam	Daniel
Braeden	Chioma	Francis
Cee-Jay	Abdul-Rehman	Hanzala
Callum	Mikolaj	Annette
Elliot	Willow	Jacob
Chantelle	Campbell	Oris
Matthew	Harvey	Elle
Charlie	Brian	Jake
McKenzie	Giorgia	Natasha
Nathan	McKenzie	Vincent