



HOME & SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Parents & Carers



CEO Update

Robin Bush

I hope our weekly newsletter finds you safe and well. Following your receipt of an emailed letter yesterday outlining our plans to provide a wider educational service to all our students with effect from Monday 8 June I have produced a short video clip highlighting the key points of our educational offer. [Click here for the video.](#) You will be very aware of the spot light across the national news relating to concerns regarding young people returning to formal education. Given that we have retained a learning provision for both our school and Post 16 students we are confident that we will be able to fully observe the requirements for providing a safe, secure environment which will enable our young people to begin to regain a greater sense of their own independence, routines, wellbeing through relationships with their staff and peers here at Wargrave House School and College. We will be most grateful if you please contact us either by sending an email to suemurphy@wargravehouse.com or alisonroberts@wargravehouse.com or by telephone no later than 12 noon on Monday 18 May 2020 and let us know whether you would like to accept the offer of two days or whether you will be shielding. As you would expect, our educational offer will be led by national guidance from the government. We will continue to keep you fully informed of any changes and/or developments via our website, email and/or text message. ► **Thank you, Robin.**



Headlines

Stuart Jamieson

Thank You Parents & Carers...

...for your continued support and communication through encouraging your child to learn at home. We are delighted to receive your photographs, some of which you can find on the school/college Facebook page. Amongst the highlights received last week include Jacob's fabulous video and Dylan's rainbow window collage. We were proud to mark our own respects on VE day with students and staff wearing red, white and blue and collectively singing the very poignant anthem so apt for these immediate times - 'We'll meet again'. Mr Chris Linaker, our IT Manager produced an authentic video capturing our involvement which can also be seen on Facebook. Our sincere thanks go to Nic Brown and all staff for making the event exceptionally

experiential for all young people on site. We are retaining our original term dates with school & college being closed to all students next Friday 22 May for a full staff training day. School & college will remain closed throughout the scheduled two week half term with effect from Monday 25 May 2020 up to and including Friday 5 June 2020. Due to the ongoing decision for residential care to remain closed, there will be no Saturday/Holiday Clubs. This two week break will also enable us to undertake an intensive deep clean of the whole site. We look forward to potentially welcoming our young people back in June and providing you with assurances that your child will be safe and supported in all their learning and wider wellbeing. Wishing you all continued physical and mental wellness! ► **Best Wishes, Stuart.**



Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online! Over 4,000 shops and sites will contribute, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. These donations really help us, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and FREE! You can get started at [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) – PLUS, if you use uSwitch (within the easyfundraising app), this will trigger a £15 donation to us if you switch energy provider, whilst hopefully getting yourself a better deal too!

► **Karen Tarbuck**



For those of you who are looking for further activities to do whilst staying home and staying safe, there is a large bank of resources appropriate to our students on The Sensory Project's website. We hope that they help.

thesensoryprojects.co.uk/covid19-resources

► **Richard Grimmer**



We wish **Kim** a fond farewell. She has worked in the Residential setting for 5 years. Kim will make a great and positive impact in her new job role. Good luck Kim from all of us and keep in touch.

Dear Parents and carers

I hope you are all keeping well and safe. It has been so lovely to see the many photos and videos that you have sent in of your child and the amazing work they have done. I can appreciate how difficult it can be home schooling your child and, as you know, support is always on hand from our wonderful team of staff.

I would like to signpost you to the link below which may be of some use to you. It is completely free and shouldn't take long to do 😊

schudio.tv/courses/parenting-in-a-pandemic

'Parents, Children & Teachers - PaCT'

Our last PaCT meeting took place in February, which feels like a lifetime ago! Please don't think that we've forgotten about PaCT! Following the last meeting in February, we were looking into how we can enable parents to 'connect' with one another in a supportive way; the question was, how were we going to do this? In order to decide how we best proceed we felt it would be best to ask you, the parents, what you think! In short, I will be emailing out a very short questionnaire to you all to gather your thoughts. If you could please complete this and send it back to me via email, we can then look into the best way forward in supporting you to make that connection. As always, keep safe and if you need anything at all, please do not hesitate to contact me: nataliemolyneux@wargravehouse.com

Night time Advice

The coronavirus pandemic has been reported to be affecting our sleep. Here are some tips on how to get a good night's sleep.

Routine

Wake up and get up at the same time each day.

Light

Get as much natural light as possible during the day.

Get up

Get out of bed instead of lying there unable to sleep, whether at the beginning, middle or end of the night. Lying in bed whilst you are unable to sleep may raise your anxiety. If you can't sleep don't get upset instead try and rest and/or complete a relaxing activity instead then return to bed.

Don't sleep during the day

Try not to sleep during the day if you aren't used to doing it.

Turn off the news

Don't watch the news or talk about stressful issues before bed time.

Make lifestyle changes

Avoid eating late and drinking excess caffeine.

Switch it off

Try to avoid looking at your phone screen, laptop or TV before bed as the light emitted can impact your sleep quality.

► **Robert Richardson**

During these testing times, our students, whether at home or here at Wargrave, have continued to uphold our 'Character Values'; Kindness, Confidence, Creativity and Resilience. Within this newsletter are shining examples of our students giving their own unique insight into the each of the values.

During these times, such values take on a meaning that becomes increasingly more important to us all and yet again we can learn so much from those who values come so naturally to them. Enjoy the pics and keep up the Kindness, Confidence, Creativity and Resilience.

Kindness: Learners are encouraged to speak politely and to show tolerance towards the beliefs and values of others; to value friendship and kindness; to show honesty; and to develop the capacity to be empathetic and caring.



Creativity: Learners are encouraged to question and challenge. They will make connections and see relationships, envisaging what might be, exploring ideas and keeping options open, reflecting critically on ideas, actions and outcomes.



Confidence: Learners are encouraged to think for themselves, take risks, show initiative, ask questions, make decisions, solve problems, make connections and communicate their ideas. Learners are also encouraged to be responsible members of the learning community and are supported in their ability to make good choices and decisions.



Resilience: Learners are encouraged to take risks with their learning, knowing that learning new things is not easy and mistakes might happen. Learners are encouraged to try again, demonstrating perseverance.



► **Michelle Heneghan**



RISE & BASE at Home & School



Ebube and Tamara, RISE1 have been making fruit salads and sensory bags in school.

Liam making playdoh on Thursday with Mel. He followed the instructions and chose his colours



Khovan cut out a spiffire and folded along the dotted lines to make a paper aeroplane. Then Khovan used Ration and Non Ration foods you make himself a meal. Back in 1945 it would have cost about 2p per portion. Using the Tesco app Khovan searched how much some ham and rolls would cost, and then I showed him how to work out the cost per portion. It works out in 2020 as 34p per portion. Khovan then used addition and subtraction to help solve a coded message. He will be washing up and folding clothes for some practical life skill learning this afternoon. His least favourite part!

Peter and Maxim have been getting creative based on superheroes. We painted our own superheroes using hand prints, designed a superhero logo each and designed a superhero shield. It has been lots of fun!



Emilie-June would love you to see her textures box that she has been creating (below). 3 sides done so far. Lots of squishy things and noise stuff.



VE Day Celebrations

On Thursday 7th May, the day before the 75th VE Day Anniversary, students in school held a celebration to remember the sacrifices made by many during the war. Staff and students dressed in 1940's clothing and held a tea party in the playground.

This year's early May bank holiday was moved back by four days for the whole of the UK to coincide with the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Victory in Europe Day, marks the day towards the end of World War Two when fighting against Nazi Germany came to an end in Europe. The holiday formed part of a three-day weekend of commemorative events.



RISE & BASE at Home & School



Kindness

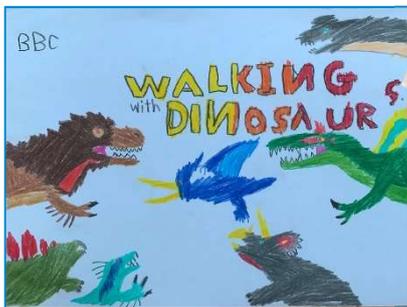
Oliver helped decorate his house with VE Day banners and bunting. He has also been out for walks and enjoying time in the hot tub.



In science this week, **Peter** has been learning about plants with Miss Pennycook. "I've been planting some sunflower seeds with John Lodge. I am going to keep a diary about watching the seeds grow into flowers. Robert our school nurse has been designing a new poster about hygiene skills. We need to keep our hands clean to stay safe in school. I gave out a poster to each class.



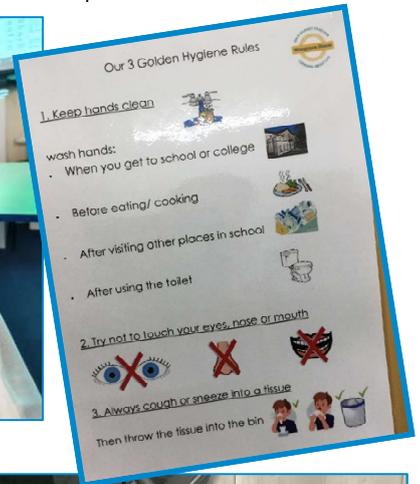
Confidence



Byron has been making dinosaur pictures at home. These two are called "Walking with Dinosaurs" and "The Arctic Circle (including northern lights)".



Creativity



RISE2's **Ianis, Alex** and **El-Jay** have followed a themed week. They created magpies from hand cut-outs, bees from egg cratons, and jellyfish from paper plates.



Max enjoying the hot tub, which has helped him with his sleep, and (right) making Rice Krispie cakes at home.

Daisy has also enjoyed time in her pool and has done some baking with mum (left).



Confidence

Confidence



LAKESIDE & LEAP NEWS



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Post-16

Julliet Doherty

Dear Post 16 Students, Parents and Carers

The staff in Post-16 are fully aware that this is, and has been, a challenging time for all of us; we are indeed still in uncharted territory. Over the past few weeks and months to keep us all safe we have

followed the government and public health England advice. As you are all aware we have been updating you on a daily basis with regard to the situation and changes that we've made at Lakeside and Leap Colleges through the weekly newsletter, telephone calls, letters, emails, texts or via the Wargrave House Facebook page. The Post 16 staff team have missed each and every one of you very much, we hope you enjoyed our video demonstrating our continued support.

We all look forward to being able to spend some time with you back in your college environment and we are very happy to confirm that a phased re opening will take place from June 8th, after the Whit holidays. Further details will be sent to you and your families over the next few days to explain how the re-opening will work and what your time table will look like. Please be assured, as always, that the safety and wellbeing of you, the staff and our families is paramount at all times. Take care and stay safe, we are looking forward to seeing you all again very soon.

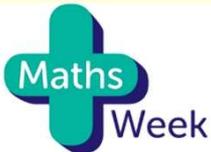
► **Julliet and the Post 16 Team**

Lakeside & LEAP at Home



Thank You NHS

Dylan's family have been saying Thankyou to the NHS by displaying the rainbow colours for all to see. Dylan himself has been supporting the delivery of colourful masks, respecting social distancing, of course! Well done Dylan for helping others and showing such great positivity. We are all so proud of you here at Wargrave.



Post 16 learners have been focussing on helping out at home with activities that build on their functional maths skills as part of Natspec's Maths Week 2020 (11 – 15 May) which was timed to coincide this year with National Numeracy Day (13 May).

Our chefs' confidence is growing by the week and they are now pulling out all the stops with their gourmet meals. **Owen** cooked this mouth watering Teriyaki chicken stir fry for his lucky family.

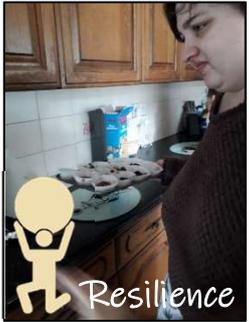
He correctly regulated the temperature of the frying pan and staggered the cooking time for each ingredient to make this delicious dish.

Brandon recently baked a rainbow birthday cake to celebrate his Nana's birthday, which went down a treat. Not many people can create such an edible masterpiece and you need to be precise when weighing out the ingredients and keeping it in the oven for just the right amount of time. Measuring out the food colouring and making the layers the same size are crucial to producing a perfect rainbow effect like this!



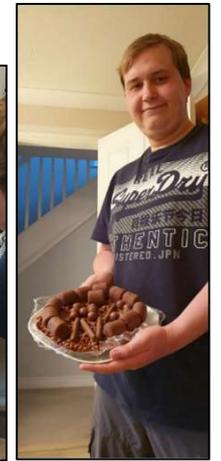
Courtney baking the lemon drizzle cake

Lakeside & LEAP at Home



Emily has been doing a great job with her therapy challenges, choosing not one but two books to share with her mum, and making a rainbow to put up in her porch window. She has also been making a brew and using the microwave. Well done Emily.

Joe, Christian and Will have done a fantastic job of their therapy challenge this week - making a cake to share with their family! Christian made his Rice Krispy cake entirely independently for his mum's birthday. I feel a Great British Bake Off might be needed when we return to LEAP! Well done lads!



Christian has been working on his Covid-19 booklet for English. He has been looking after his dog and dressed him up for a VE day celebration in the garden. He has been enjoying painting and has made a chicken curry!

Chris has been busy at home, getting stuck into some baking, household chores and enjoying a walk. Well done Chris!



Ruby enjoying getting out and about for her daily exercise. Ruby has also enjoyed making bunting for VE Day.



Lakeside & LEAP at Home

Rory has been focusing on developing his life skills, whilst at home. These include: ironing, washing clothes, gardening and cooking. He has also been working on his accredited subjects, completing work on fractions. Well done Rory!



Ruby has been working hard in class this week, working on maths positioning. **Reiss** has also been fantastic at his home schooling, working on maths positioning and numbers in conjunction with celebrating Natspec maths week and national numeracy day.



Ben has been following the work system and video from the share point to make scones.



Calum gives a thumbs up this week to kindness and creativity. One quote from his week is "I have really enjoyed it – it was dead fun. I enjoyed the dancing". Great creativity there Calum – Well Done!



Owen has been completing jobs around his house. He has enjoyed tidying his room by making his bed and hoovering.



Emily N

Here is my coffee bean portrait. We did of someone we admire. I did mine based on Dan Levy, who created one of my favourite shows. I have achieved a Silver "iDEA" Award for Inspiring Digital Enterprise

