

HOME & SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Parents & Carers

I hope this newsletter finds you all safe and well. From the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, as a student and staff body, we haven't had any confirmed cases to date. In spite of the understandable concerns reported on a daily basis in popular press and mainstream media we have continued to provide a safe education for all those students able to access our provision on site. The due diligence of our site and facilities team in preparing effective risk assessments has ensured that key strategies such as implementing prominent signage, zonal markings on corridors, increased hand sanitisation stations and one-way movement systems have all contributed to providing safe working areas for all.

Thank you to all those parents/carers who took time out to complete the questionnaire sent by Natalie Molyneux regarding the Parents, Children & Teachers group (PaCT). We look forward to considering all your suggestions for future social events and use of



CEO Update

Robin Bush

social media. Over the course of next week our Residential Care Manager, Chris Powell, will be liaising with those parents and carers regarding the potential partial reopening of our residential care setting. Once again, you can be fully assured that thorough risk assessments and effective planning, we will enable our young people to regain key aspects of their independent living and life skills. ► **Best wishes, Robin**



Headlines

Stuart Jamieson

Thank You Parents & Carers...

Throughout the two week Whit break it was brilliant to see a very dedicated body of our wider site and facilities team undertaking an essential and ongoing deep clean of all our site. This hard work has ensured that we made as safe a return as possible for our final half term of the academic year. We have been delighted to welcome back this week an increased number of our student body across RISE, BASE, Lakeside and LEAP College. This newsletter is a great testimony to the enjoyment and achievements of all our young people, both on and off site, this week. Our young people in RISE have thrived through project learning "All about Me!" meanwhile Post 16 students are undertaking various gardening projects as well as enhancing Life Skills in Preparing and

Presenting a variety of cuisines. We are proud of the success we have seen in the flexibility of all our students in adapting superbly well to the new 'bubble' learning environments which provide us all with the assurances that our young people can achieve. Our Family Liaison Team have been enjoying visiting students at home albeit at a socially distant safe proximity, this dedicated outreach is contributing towards the essential wider wellbeing of our young people and their families. A particular thanks to Robert Richardson for preparing and distributing individual hygiene packs for all our students. Additionally the arrival of personalised gift bags to those students who received a home visit were met with joyful responses from our young people. I hope that you all enjoyed the beautiful weather we had during the two week half term break - we can only hope it will return soon! ► **Best wishes, Stuart**

Hopefully you have received your hygiene kit, showing young people some different methods of maintaining cleanliness.

Older child: Bar of soap, nailbrush, disposable hankies, facecloth, water fresh wipes and a hand washing information sheet.

Younger child: Bar of soap, nailbrush, disposable hankies, kids strawberry hand and face wipes, colouring pencils/crayons, colouring sheet and hand washing visual.



The DfE announced £37million for equipment and resources for children with 'complex needs', to be distributed to low-income families through the Family Fund. You can find out more here: www.familyfund.org.uk/faqs/how-do-we-apply

There is a one-hour, online, interactive course for parents/carers about 'Managing Sensory Processing at Home'. £5 offer for a limited time. Click the image to find out more...

▼ **Khovan** has enjoyed spending time outdoors in the recent nice weather. He has also done lots of great work, including working on his handwriting for this Enid Blyton poem.

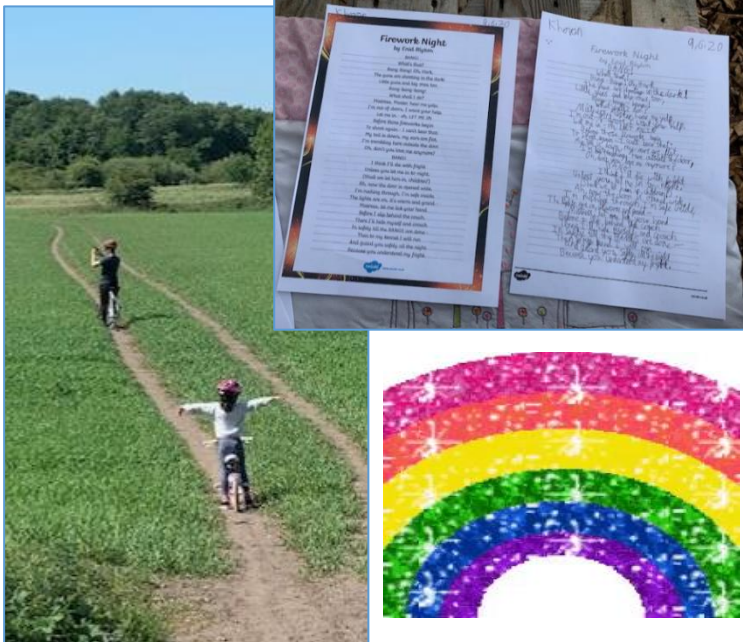
Managing Sensory Processing at Home

sensory integration education

Online, Interactive 1-Hour Course for:
Parents & Carers
Adoptive Parents
Adoption Agency Staff

ONLY £5

sensory integration education



▼ In BASE 3, **Liam** identified clothes for different seasons, **Rhys** and **Greg** were busy baking, and **Alicia** and **Yanick** had fun using their maths skills whilst playing a game of Monopoly.



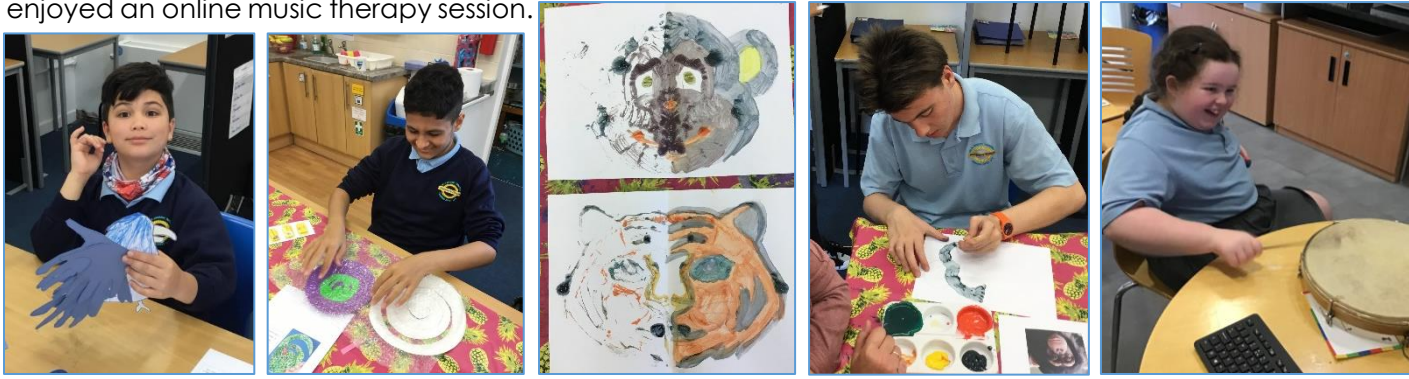
► **Max** and **Reuben** spent Wednesday and Thursday in their class 'bubble' making an owl from cardboard, crepe paper and paint. They gave it a face mask to keep it safe. They also enjoyed the water pinball game where Max got soaked when Reuben scored but Reuben cleverly chose the broken end which didn't get him wet when Max scored.



▼ **RISE 2** have been focusing on looking at the topic 'All About Me'. The group took selfies and explored their features by looking at their photos. Everyone then drew a self portrait and we chatted about how everyone is individual.



▼ This week, BASE 2 have welcomed **Sean & Daisy** back to class. **Peter** painted jungle animals and **Max** made jungle snakes and hand print parrots during art and design sessions. We have also been learning about division in Numeracy where we grouped pictures equally to work out division sentences. Daisy enjoyed an online music therapy session.



▼ In BASE 1, **Patryk** and **Jessica** had fun with bubbles during a sensory session and demonstrated how to wash hands properly. **William** and Patryk celebrated their birthdays and **Alexis** helped to build a sensory circuit in the gym.



▼ RISE 1 have been creating Angel of the North sculptures, playing maths games and doing various activities around the gingerbread man story. They also had a socially distanced walk in the park.



Family Liaison Update

Dear parents / carers

I hope that you are all safe and well! As most of you know, I have been working as Family Liaison Officer for the past 12 months, covering maternity leave. It has been a pleasure supporting you all and the experience has been one that I will never forget! I am also pleased to announce that Claire Byrne will be returning to her post from this Monday 15th June. However, that is not the end of me! I will still be around until summer supporting Claire back into her role as so much has changed in the last year, from new students to the beginnings of the Parent Partnership Group; there will be so much for her to catch up on!

Claire can be contacted on clairebyrne@wargravehouse.com



Wellbeing packs

During this lockdown, there have been many students who we have not seen for quite some time; in short, we've really missed seeing them around school! We decided to surprise those students who haven't returned with 'Wellbeing packs'. This week, myself and some class teachers have been out and about in Warrington delivering these packs as well as the wonderful hygiene packs set up by Robert (school nurse). It was lovely to see the students and their families (socially distanced) and I believe that they really enjoyed their packs! If you were one of those families, please do send us in some pictures of your son/daughter enjoying their packs! We'd love to see them! We have managed to get one of Tarran, below, who seems to approve!

Enjoy your weekend | **Natalie Molyneux**

Wellbeing Packs

▼ Miss P visited **Tarran** at home today with a goodie bag for him containing Lego, space putty, fidget toys, jellies, a magazine, art pad and colours.



Friday in BASE 2



▲ Sean & Peter having fun decorating biscuits in BASE 2 today.

20 second hand-washing

1a Apply a palmful of the product in a cupped hand, covering all surfaces;

1b

2 Rub hands palm to palm;

3 Right palm over left dorsum with interlaced fingers and vice versa;

4 Palm to palm with fingers interlaced;

5 Backs of fingers to opposing palms with fingers interlocked;

6 Rotational rubbing of left thumb clasped in right palm and vice versa;

7 Rotational rubbing, backwards and forwards with clasped fingers of right hand in left palm and vice versa;

8 Once dry, your hands are safe.





LAKESIDE & LEAP NEWS

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half term of the academic year. We have been delighted to welcome back this week an increased number of students across RISE, BASE, Lakeside and LEAP. This newsletter is a great testimony to the enjoyment and achievements of all our young people, both on and off site. Post 16 students are undertaking various gardening projects as well as enhancing Life Skills in Preparing and Presenting a variety of cuisines. We are proud of the success we have seen in the flexibility of all our students in adapting superbly well to the new 'bubble' learning environments which provide us all with the assurances that our young people can achieve. Our Family Liaison Team have been enjoying visiting students at home albeit at a socially distant safe proximity, this dedicated outreach is contributing towards the essential wider wellbeing of our young people and their families. A particular thanks to Robert Richardson for preparing and distributing individual hygiene packs for all our students. Additionally the arrival of personalised gift bags to those students who received a home visit were met with joyful responses from our young people. I hope that you all enjoyed the beautiful weather we had during half term. We can only hope it will return soon!

► **Best wishes, Stuart**

Dear Post 16 Students, Parents and Carers



Post-16

Juliet Doherty

We are very pleased to welcome you back after Whit half term and hope you are all well and managed to enjoy the incredible sunshine. We want to reassure students, parents and carers that as Post 16 provision is now extending

its opening offer to students we are closely following government guidance concerning the current Coronavirus situation. We are also regularly monitoring any updates concerning the guidance. Please be aware that staff will continue to make welfare/wellbeing calls and emails to all students/families while working from home to offer any support. Just a reminder that the calls will be from an unknown number if they are not calling from school. The email addresses you can contact are

- Leapjdsupport@wargravehouse.com
- Leappasupport@wargravehouse.com
- LS1support@wargravehouse.com
- LS2support@wargravehouse.com

For those of our students not currently attending college we are continually adding to the online bank of resources for Home Learning. Our newsletter, website and Facebook page will also be updated when we have any further guidance or information to share with you. Please stay safe and keep sending in your wonderful photos of our students demonstrating their incredible skills whilst working from home.

► **Juliet and the Post 16 Team xx**

Wargrave get creative

Support for young adults to develop new skills

Staff at Wargrave House School and College Post 16 department, an autism specialist provision in Newton-le-Willows have been demonstrating their creativity and never before seen 'outstanding presenting' skills to support their young adults to develop new skills and generalise those they have already worked on before this current lockdown.

Using their own homes and equipment, the staff have worked to establish a sequence of tutorial videos alongside TEACCH schedules and visuals to engage with students in their own home environment.

This helps to reduce the pressure on parents/carers and enable the students to

maintain contact with known and trusted staff. These simple, yet effective, video's cover a range of subject specialisms from Independent Living Skills, maths, English, employability and other Preparation for Adulthood themes.

Wargrave have around 20 students working from home currently and as a Post 16 team they are always looking at ways to spend quality 'virtual' time with them as safely as possible whilst engaging them with the curriculum and supporting families to enjoy spending time together.

The school looked at ways in which they can help as a college and creating specialist tutorial videos was identified as one such way.

Another is to use Microsoft Teams to

run virtual teaching sessions and let students interact together whilst working on education led project.

Juliet Doherty, head of post 16 learning at Wargrave House School and College said: "I'm so proud of the Post 16 staff team their commitment is exceptional and their creativity in supporting our young adults is phenomenal. This current climate is difficult for everyone, those attending college and those working from home, it is inspiring to see the staff, students, parents and carers come together to support each other and embrace all opportunities. The beautiful photographs and testimonials of the activities our students engage with and are shared by the families lift our spirits every day".

End of year celebrations

Lakeside Tea Party for Wargrave House

Wargrave House School and College students held the 'Lakeside Tea Party' in the college to help raise funds for their end of year celebration event and what a fantastic morning it was!

The college students set up the event and served refreshments to all the guests and also held a raffle with some fantastic prizes including afternoon tea at the Mercure Hotel, Haydock, a voucher from Wilkinson's and a voucher for the Odeon cinema.

Amongst the guests were the Councillor Janet Johnson, the Mayor of St Helens, community partners as well as parents', carers and friends of Wargrave House.

Tara Thomas, teaching support assistant at Wargrave, said: "The tea party raised a magnificent total of £375.24 and we would like to thank everyone who joined us.

"The college end of year celebration event is planned to take place at the Mercure Hotel in Haydock on Wednesday 22 July 2020 and is part of the students learning as they work towards open award level one in event planning and hospitality.



"The Post 16 provision is keen to develop links with the local and wider community and the support from work experience placements has been priceless. In particular for this event, the outstanding commitment from Mercure Hotel has been invaluable as they are offering their hospitality so the students

can enjoy their end of year celebration.

"We are looking for more employers to work with us and engage with our students to further support inclusion and neuro diversity within the workforce, so please contact Karen Tarbuck on 01925 224899 if you can help".

▼ William designed a board game for his maths number unit.

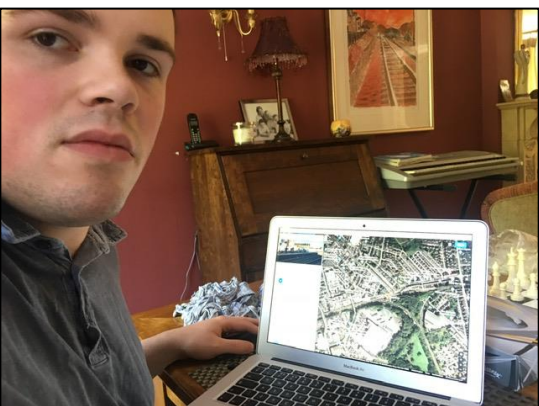
He designed a monopoly game to meet the criteria and used a calculator to check calculations of sums up to 1000.

He enjoyed playing the game with his family.

We entered some students into the Natspec maths week. The theme was meaningful maths and how students were taking part in maths sessions at home directed by their teachers.



▼ Rory out in the community completing his daily exercise and identifying local bus stops on his daily walk.



More Brilliant Home-Working

▼ **Courtney** working from home towards Level 1 Food Prep and cooking; this weeks criteria was to 'prepare, cook and present a simple dish'. How good does that look! Well done Courtney!



Post 16 students all signed up to take part in an online art lesson hosted by Rob Biddulph on Thursday 21st May. This was to help raise money for the coronavirus charities as well as breaking a world record for the largest online art lesson. Post 16 were innovative and all keen to take part in a world record attempt at the same time learn how to draw.

► Post 16 Students are still continuing to work hard on their accredited learning at home. **Christian** completed his Covid-19 Capsule booklet and researched the best route on google maps for different journeys. He also has some exciting news that his tortoise has laid 3 eggs. Watch this space for when they hatch.

Owen has been helping around the house and has made pizza. Yum yum!



▼ **Ethan** has spent time in the garden working tirelessly each day on his 'Grand Designs' garden project. Ethan has used his horticultural skills to create a series of flower beds, hanging baskets and a vegetable garden!



▼ **Harry** has been renovating some of his garden furniture and ensuring that everything looks neat and tidy by strimming the lawn and painting the fence in his garden. Harry regularly repairs the beehives and feeds the bees. It's always a good idea to keep the bees happy when they share your garden.

▼ **Emily** brought an action figure to life, made a crown (and a necklace) out of soda tabs (the jewels are made out of jelly beans), and made a tank hat. Brilliant!



I am happy to be back at college two days a week and I'm looking forward to the weekend and I feel I will appreciate it more.

Why not share your daily routines with us, and Courtney, to give others an idea of how their friends are spending their time during these unfamiliar times. Courtney would love to hear from you!

A Typical Friday

- Wake up and check social media
- Check school emails and student homework area for work that needs doing
- Do computing set by Dave
- Leisure e.g. reading, going on games, watching something or going on my phone
- Then have dinner
- Set up for lessons, getting files and laptop ready with Tara
- 1pm lessons with Tara
- Leisure e.g. sitting in the garden when sunny or reading
- Eat tea
- Watch daily briefing
- Daily walk
- Watch movie with friends...online



Courtney (and the rest of us) would love to hear what everyone has been up to during lockdown. If you would like to share your daily routine, or anything special you've done at home, please email your class staff with a description, list, or photo.

▼ **Harry** has been making the most of the good weather to catch up on those important jobs that need doing; like servicing a light aircraft. Here he is fixing the engine panels and removing any bits of rust from the body before repainting.



► **Rory** has continued to learn from home and has developed his independent living skills by taking part in general household and outdoor tasks such as: painting, cooking and cleaning. He has also been taking part in his daily exercise by going on a bike ride and completing accredited work in Maths, English and Travel Training.

◀ **Ruby** has been enjoying exploring her creative side with different types of painting.

► **Dylan** has enjoyed the sunshine. He went on a walk with family to Hilbre Island (just off West Kirby). Dylan and his sister Sophia enjoying time in the paddling pool.

