



# News

Edition: 6

13 January 2020



## CEO Update



Dear Parents/Carers,

**Wishing you a very Happy New Year.** We were delighted on Tuesday of last week to be awarded the Leading Parent Partnership Award. This award is a very credible acknowledgement of the importance we place upon working with you all on a day to day basis, to provide the best possible education for your child. The recognition this kite mark provides us will be in place for the next three years. During this time we can fully assure you that we will continue to further enrich both the learning your child receives and the quality of relationships we have with you all. I would like to personally thank the work of all Trustees and Governors as well as the preparation undertaken by our Family Liaison Officers Claire Byrne and Natalie Molyneux. I am particularly pleased a cross-section of all staff, students, parents, governors were able to contribute towards the recognition through meeting the outreach validator in person. We look forward to receiving the report in the next two weeks which we will share with you all. Best wishes. ► **Robin Bush**

I hope you have a very productive and purposeful 2020 following your

## Headlines



Christmas break. It has been great to see all our young people return very refreshed last week. Once again I echo the message of HOPE that I shared on Thursday 19th December at St John the Baptist Church. Through our wider school and community being one that is able to show **Hospitality** through our wider acts of supporting one another and any associated visitors and/or stakeholders; **Opportunity** embodied by a very purposeful and diverse learning offer both inside and outside the classroom; **People** leading by example with sincerity and a high quality of relationships amongst staff, students and all associated learning providers and **Excellence** in all we do acting as a barometer to sustain the best learning environment possible. Thank you to all those parents who completed the Ofsted questionnaire in our last week of 2019. It is always very pleasing to receive positive feedback. We look forward to sharing with you the Ofsted report upon it's completion. Best wishes. ► **Stuart Jamieson**

Email us | T: 01925 224899 [www.wargravehouse.com](http://www.wargravehouse.com) FUNDRAISING

**Wargrave House**  
ON A JOURNEY TOGETHER LEARNING ABOUT LIFE

Home About us Parents Commissioners Education Residential Therapy Courts

**Wargrave House School**  
An autism-specific learning environment for ages 5-25

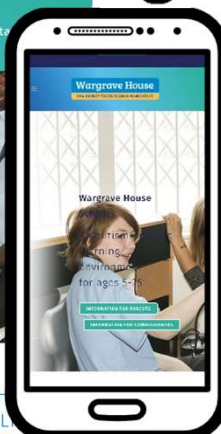
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS INFORMATION FOR COMMISSIONERS

In focus | Speech and Language Therapy team | Occupational Therapy Team

ON A JOURNEY TOGETHER LEARNING ABOUT LIFE



## New Website ▼



Having been at Wargrave now for just over 6 years in the main as a PA supporting the senior leadership, I am excited to have started this week in the new role of Office & Communications Manager – taking on lead responsibility

for the communication, admin, marketing and fundraising for the school and college. The first bit of news I would like to let you know is that our new website is now live! Please take a look and let me know if you have any specific thoughts [karentar buck@wargravehouse.com](mailto:karentar buck@wargravehouse.com). There are still some changes for us to make, but I think you'll agree it's a great improvement and a good start which we will continue to improve over the coming months. As everyone else is who works here at Wargrave, I am very passionate about what we do, and I am looking forward to taking on this role with a hope that I can really make a difference. I will keep you posted on developments as I settle into the role so watch this space! ► **Karen Tarbuck**

## Inspirational Sporting Students

Once again our super students have made us proud in PE. Students have come back to school embracing their new PE activities with enthusiasm and motivation. At WHS we aim to provide a broad and balanced PE curriculum, yet understand that our students often find change and new experiences difficult to embrace. However, this week the manner in which all students have approached their new areas of learning has been nothing less than inspirational. Golden nuggets include RISE 2 horse riding, RISE 3 Martial Arts, BASE football and rock climbing. I think it is fair to say in PE students have, 'hit the ground running' ... if you will excuse the pun. ► **Carol Woodward**



## Medication & Transport

A reminder to all Parent(s)/Carer(s) to ensure that if you send medication in to school or college please do not put the medication in your son/daughter's bag. All medication should be handed directly to the escort from the parent/carer to a member of staff in school or college. ► **Robert Richardson, School Nurse**



Please remember we are a **NUT-FREE** school. Please do not send any nuts or nut-based products into school. Thank you.

## Baby Basics Project

A big thank you to everyone who donated money, baby or mother items for the Baby Basics Project. We managed to fill, to overflowing, 4 donated Moses Baskets and oodles of stuff besides! At church we collected £109.73 so once again, we have all excelled! For such a small school we have once again proved we have huge hearts! Babies are born all year round, not just Christmas so, if anyone has anything further they wish to donate please get in touch. ► **Sue Murphy**



## Therapy News



Well done to RISE 1 for their lovely attention, listening and turn-taking skills in group therapy sessions this half term. Here is a photo from a recent joint music therapy and Speech and Language session. RISE 1 have also completed a block of our new 'SPRING!' sessions - joint SaLT and rebound based sessions targeting both communication and trampoline skills.



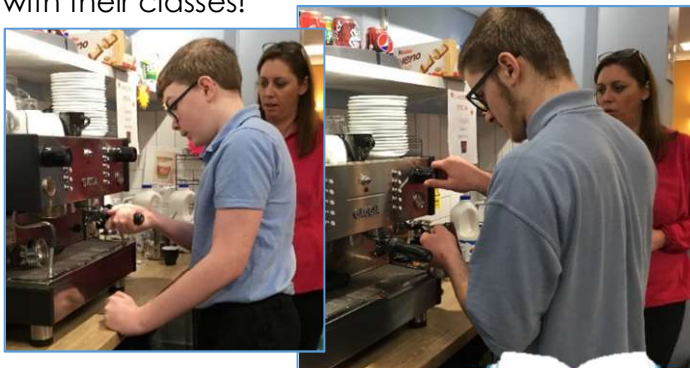
Daisy working hard during her wellbeing session. She expressed her likes and dislikes of different relaxation activities using a talking mat.





## Developing Social Skills

The end of December 2019 saw BASE 3's skill level develop further at Newton Boys & Girls Club as a number of students learnt how to use the coffee machine. Students were supported by Victoria to learn how to grind coffee beans and steam water and milk to make the perfect latte, cappuccino or hot chocolate. Wargrave staff were particularly pleased about this fantastic development which meant they could all have a hot drink when they visited the centre with their classes!



## Accelerated Reader

Students across main school have been challenged to read every day to improve literacy. ▶ **Caroline Gorman**

### Most Words Read Most Quizzes Taken

<b>RISE 1</b>	<b>Jacob Bates</b>	<b>Thomas Kenyon-Fleming</b>
	RISE 1 read 34,593 words	
<b>RISE 2</b>	<b>Alex Burkey</b>	<b>Ianis Chiriac</b>
	RISE 2 read 1,252 words	
<b>RISE 3</b>	<b>Ritchie Maseko</b>	<b>Reuben Walsh</b>
	RISE 3 read 40,880 words	
<b>BASE 1</b>	<b>Jessica Garth</b>	<b>Alexis Chiriac</b>
	BASE 1 read 5,356 words	
<b>BASE 2</b>	<b>Harriet Willis</b>	<b>Sean Bourne</b>
	BASE 2 read 12,317 words	
<b>BASE 3</b>	<b>Alicia Roberts</b>	<b>Yanick Maseko</b>
	BASE 3 read 258,818 words	

## Family Liaison

### Leading Parent Partnership Award

Thank you to the parents who attended and supported the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA) verification on Tuesday 7th January. I am very pleased to announce that we have been successful in achieving the award. The students who also participated in this process and contributed have made us all so proud! I would like to make a special mention to these amazing young people; Brandon S, Alicia R, Marcus P, Thomas KF, Khovan H and Ritchie M thank you so much, you are a credit to the school!



### Parent Partnership Group

Our first 'Parent Partnership Group' meeting is taking place this month! This will be held on Monday 20th January 2020 at 10am. There will be refreshments available and the meeting will be facilitated by Kelley Garth (parent governor) with support from myself. Please do come along, we would love to have you attend! The more the merrier!

▶ **Natalie Molyneux**



### Dates to remember

- **Parent Partnership Group (1st meeting)**  
Monday 20th January, 10am-11am
- **Tooth Brushing Programme coffee morning**  
Friday 20th March, 10am-11.30am
- **Forest Schools Workshop**  
Friday 3rd July 2020, 10am-12noon

## Attendance

▶ **Michelle Heneghan**

**We are off to a great start with our attendance in 2020.** On Monday 6th, students arrived as usual, full of energy to start their new term. It was great to see this enthusiasm towards their learning and good to see the friendships reformed. Let's hope that the seasonal coughs and sneezes stay at bay and that attendance stays on the up. During our church service celebrating Christmas 2019, we were able to award a fantastic number of Gold and Silver attendance certificates. Congratulations to all who have achieved in this area. We look forward to repeating the opportunity to hand out special certificates and adding more names to the roll call as we will soon celebrate an attendance celebration again... watch this space...



## Library News

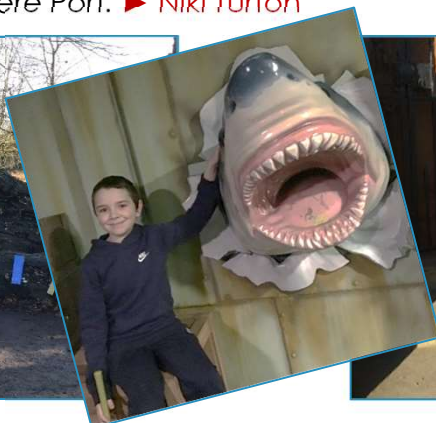
To promote our library we had arranged a visit from Levi Tafari the famous poet but unfortunately he became ill and had to cancel. We will rearrange Levi's visit for the opening of our new library and let you know in due course. Students are using this area of course enjoying sensory stories and a variety of books all of which are helping to improve their reading skills and encourage their enjoyment of literature. ► **Joan Beddows**



## Holiday Club

In the December Holiday Club, we went to a Pantomime (Aladdin) at St Helens Theatre Royal. "Oh No We Didn't!"

Students and staff went head to head at Paradise Island Adventure Golf in Elsmere Port. ► **Niki Turton**



**Newton Boys & Girls Club** provides an extremely enriching opportunity for our students to experience a wide range of real-life learning including, music-making, sports, running, catering and much more. Ben Haining will continue to run the courier service to and from school to NB&GC. Please see below for some brilliant images of our students getting involved in their wider community!





## Christmas 2019 Talent Show Stars

Students and staff from across the whole school, took part in the Christmas celebrations 2019. Some highlights of the show were BASE 3 band Yanick (guitar and vocals), Tarran (drums) and Khovan (keyboard). The band were hugely popular with the audience. Brandon also showed us his talents with his ukulele, whilst RISE 2 pumped it up with a freestyle dance routine and Santa Shark song. Calum pre-recorded an excellent individual dance routine, which you can read a little more about over the page. Well done for everyone who got on stage and got involved!



## Australia Day

We will be holding an Australia Day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January. For this, staff and students will be invited to attend school wearing Australian clothing, or dressed as anything Australian. There will be a Bushtucker Trial and a Snack Bar available. If you would like to donate £1 to dress Australian for the day, we will donate all funds raised to the current Australian bush fire crisis appeal. ► [Dan Bettle, Eco Club Staff Leader](#)



## LEAP & LAKESIDE

### Independent Living Skills: LS2

Students in LS2 are focusing on their Independent Living Skills this term. They will be making choices about what they like to eat, shopping for ingredients, making their lunch and cleaning up afterwards. Parents/carers maybe you would like to support us with this at home by encouraging them to help out.



# Mercure

A big shout-out to the **Mercure Hotel** for their continued support with work experience placements for our young people.





## Can you help...? Post-16 Students & Friends of Lyme & Wood

The Friends of Lyme and Wood have a plot of land on the Enover site in Haydock which they are using to support the local community to access allotments, bee keeping, market gardens etc. Our Post 16 students work alongside the FoLW/Enover and are using the site to build community links, work and life skills whilst supporting their social interaction, communication and flexible thinking skills. The main project at the moment is to put a wooden cabin on the site so our post 16 students, forest schools and community members have an appropriate work place to base themselves in and have a drink, use toilet facilities etc. They have limited funds and resources and so are asking for help with the following:

**LABOUR:**

to install toilet/washing facilities in the cabin

**ELECTRICIAN:**

to fit a supply of electricity from an adjacent power board to the cabin

**KITCHEN FITTER:**

supply and install basic small kitchen (base, sink, taps, work top, hand drier - second hand is great.

**EQUIPMENT:**

any donations of second hand or new Poly Tunnel and Green House would be greatly appreciated.



### Cosy Corner Café

Students from Lakeside collected embroidered Cosy Corner Cafe aprons ordered from Liz at Rocket Embroidery in St. Helens. We look forward to seeing the students wearing their aprons with pride whilst running the very successful café.



### Post-16 Update

Post-16 staff and Shireen Hussein, one of our local employers, took part in a supported internship training day by NATSPEC. This was very purposeful and enjoyable. We are looking forward to redesigning our curriculum to make this a future offer! Any questions you may have regarding supported internships, don't hesitate to contact Juliet Doherty at LEAP College.

This Half term leap JD are focusing on the following topics... Dining out, Looking after a Home, Road Safety, Personal Care and Hygiene and Personal Safety. This alongside English, maths and ICT. Our first week back students were actively engaged with our curriculum.

### Chess King

Calum Bastock has shown remarkable ability to learn this great game of strategy and



was already beating Jim Scott just two days after being taught the game by Jim. An excellent achievement considering Calum had never played before. This clearly demonstrated Calum's willingness to learn a new skill as well as his ability to forward plan and strategise and accept when he had lost a game. Well done to Calum, who was also very proud of his dancing prowess:



I performed a dance routine in front of Lisa from residential and Shaun the IT technician videoed me. I felt very happy performing and I love to dance. The video was then edited with a fancy background and it was shown at the Christmas extravaganza. I felt very proud. **Calum Bastock.**

