



LAKESIDE & LEAP NEWS



National Careers Week

LEAP Specialist College

National Careers Week ran from 2-6 March and we managed to pack a lot in throughout the organisation. Staff entered into the spirit of the week by completing a personalised door sign to show what jobs they had done in the past and the skills

that they had developed as a result. It was interesting to discover that Richard Grimmer had managed a Bingo Hall before he became a teacher! Students in main school and college have started devising inventions for the Regional Primary Engineer and Secondary Engineer Leaders Award 2019-20 Merseyside and Cheshire. Some interesting designs include road safety features for motorways, internet safety devices to keep personal information secure and even 'teleportation' devices. We will discover if we have any winners in a few weeks' time. Year 10 and 11 students met Ann Kerry (Careers Connect) who has now started the impartial tutorials for BASE and Lakeside students which will provide an opportunity for them to discuss their future pathways.

We are grateful for the fantastic support from our community partners including Earlestown Cricket Club, Friends of Lyme and Wood/Enovert, Newton Boys and Girls Club and the Mercure Hotel who all continue to provide excellent support, guidance and training during our student placements across the organisation. Finally, three teachers have applied to complete a Careers Leader qualification to support the employability programme. Overall, it's been a very busy week on the employability front and we haven't even discussed the special coffee morning that staff and students organised! ▶ Steve Hogarth



Strawberry Fields

This half term we visited Strawberry Fields in Liverpool. LEAP took part in a steps into work presentation and discussion to help us look at other provisions for our college to work with. I had a great time at Strawberry Field.



▶ Will Owen-Harrison



MD Productions

LEAP had a visit from Miguel Doforo from MD Creative's Blank Canvas in St. Helens for our post 16 to collaborate together which is exciting news for the future.

Thank You

A big thank-you to Newton Community Centre for allowing me to independently work alongside staff for my work experience. I also enjoy walking and collecting class lunches from Newton Deli. ▶ Nicky C



Swan Rescue



Recently, we had an unexpected visitor in Lakeside. A swan, from the nearby lake, had gotten itself stuck beside the greenhouse. We decided to call the RSPCA, who would help us to relocate it to its natural habitat. When they arrived, they managed to quickly remove it and it was taken back to where it belonged. We gave it plenty of space, as a frightened swan can be quite aggressive! The swan was uninjured, but very confused and tired when they took it away. We'd like to thank the RSPCA who managed to rescue our visitor and we wish the swan many more happy swims on the lake!"

▶ Emily Newell | LEAP JD

Hot off the Press

Today, the college students held the 'Lakeside Tea Party' in LEAP 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 for Wilkinson's
- a voucher for the Odeon cinema.

Amongst the guests were the Mayor of St Helens, community partners as well as parents/carers and friends of Wargrave House. **The tea party raised £375.24 and we would like to sincerely thank everyone who joined us.**

The college end of year celebration event will take place at the Mercure Hotel in Haydock on Wednesday 22nd July 2020 and is part of the students learning as they work towards Open Award level one in event planning and hospitality. The college continues to look for more employers to work with us and engage with our students to further support inclusion and neuro diversity within the workforce, so please let us know if you know of any employers who would be interested in working with us.



LEAP Update



This half term we have been to Manchester and we used the tram.

We bought our Mother's Day presents such as cards, mugs and chocolates. We have also been to Chester using the Park and Ride. We visited the Roman museum and had a guided tour looking at artefacts.

VR Experience

LS2 came to try out the Virtual Reality headsets which were brought in on Tuesday morning.



Benji was engaged by the different experiences that he saw, from educational models, to sensory environments – all in 3D!

First World War Battlefields Tour



Julliet Doherty, Steve Hogarth, Alfie, Alicia, Yanick and Courtney (student leader) recently spent four days (28 Feb to 2 March) learning about the First World War on an action packed trip across Ypres in Belgium and the Somme in France.



We visited the main battlefields and associated museums and cemeteries as part of a 100 strong party of students and staff that were selected from schools/colleges across the North West. Although it was the worst weather that the tour guides had encountered during the past 15 years, the driving wind and rain were no match for our resilient Wargrave House students who kept their focus and humour throughout the extended work outdoors. It was a rigorous schedule but we all benefited greatly from appreciating just how appalling the living conditions were for the soldiers, the scale of the conflict and the vast number of lives lost. We were fortunate to have serving soldiers from the Rifles Regiment who were on hand to compare and contrast today's equipment and fieldcraft with that of the British Army during the First World War. Highlights of the visit included attending the remembrance service led by our accompanying soldiers, exploring reconstructed trenches and of course a visit to a French chocolate shop to stock up on some very tasty gifts.

► Julliet, Steve, Alfie, Alicia, Yanick and Courtney