

Home &

School News

Edition: 16
26 June 2020



Dear Parents & Carers



CEO Update

Robin Bush

I hope our newsletter finds you safe and well. Having extended our opening for three weeks since last summer half term we are really pleased with those students who have been able to attend. The week of the 8 June, 69% of our students joined us with 72% the following week. This week we were really pleased to welcome 78% of our students. Additionally it has been great to see our residential care team welcome back some students; next week our residential service will be further extended. My thanks go to all Wargrave House staff for going the extra mile in spite of the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19.

► Best wishes, Robin.



Headlines

Stuart Jamieson

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In spite of the extreme heat and wider weather conditions this week Wargrave House has felt like a very happy place to be for all of our students - we can all be proud of the efforts that our parents/carers have made to ensure that each day our young people join us with such a positive spirit of attitude and will to engage so purposefully in their learning. We are delighted to see a number of families connecting with Microsoft Teams to accompany their ongoing learning with both their teachers and therapy lead staff. Please take particular note of the

opportunity to connect remotely with our family liaison team, Claire Byrne and Natalie Molyneux, on Tuesday 7 July at 10 am and/or Monday 13 July at 1 pm. This will provide a great opportunity to learn from one another and answer any of your questions relating to the end of term and start of the next academic year. Next week we will be writing to you all (via email) about an opportunity for your child to enjoy a day of summer camp during the week beginning Monday 17 August (10am – 2.30pm). Some of you will be aware that our residential team are providing their extended school service offer during the first two weeks of the holiday (weeks beginning 27 July and 3 August). Sincere thanks to you all for continuing to work so hard in home learning off site we are always very pleased to receive your feedback and photographs. I hope you have an enjoyable weekend. ► Best wishes, Stuart.

Family Liaison



Hello! In an attempt to stay connected, Natalie and I have arranged two 45 minute virtual coffee mornings on Tuesday 7th July 10am and Monday 13th July 1pm. We plan to give an update on how Family Liaison can support you whilst also giving parents/carers the opportunity to connect and be introduced to one another. If either slot appeals to you please email clairebyrne@wargravehouse.com and an invite will be arranged via Teams. We look forward to seeing you!

Hi Everyone - This week saw a welcome back to some of our students who have been learning at home until now. Their experience has been a positive one and I am sure they are looking forward to returning in the following weeks. As we all will have noticed, the days are getting hotter so it would be beneficial to send in sun cream that can be applied as independently as possible and sun hats. Robert our resident school and college nurse will advise on this. In the interests of Health and Safety all students and staff within the main school building took part in a fire drill. This can naturally create anxiety through alarm sounds or by having a routine disrupted. However, all students followed the instructions to exit and arrive at their assembly point keeping in mind social distancing. Students were supported by visual aids and this helped to move everyone on in a safe and calm manner. I have seen over the week many examples of our Character Values: Kindness, Creativity, Confidence and Resilience. Some of our students have thought about the feelings of others and supported through friendship or positive comments. We thank in particular Jess, who showed an act of Kindness by donating items that she felt individual peers would like to use in class, helping them to enjoy their day. I am certain that within the coming weeks we will have much more to celebrate and have successes to share as we head towards summer. Take care everyone. ► Michelle Heneghan.

RISE 2

Alex, James and El-Jay made Father's Day cards and gifts. They worked hard before taking them home and giving them to their dads. Well done RISE 2! ► Nic Brown

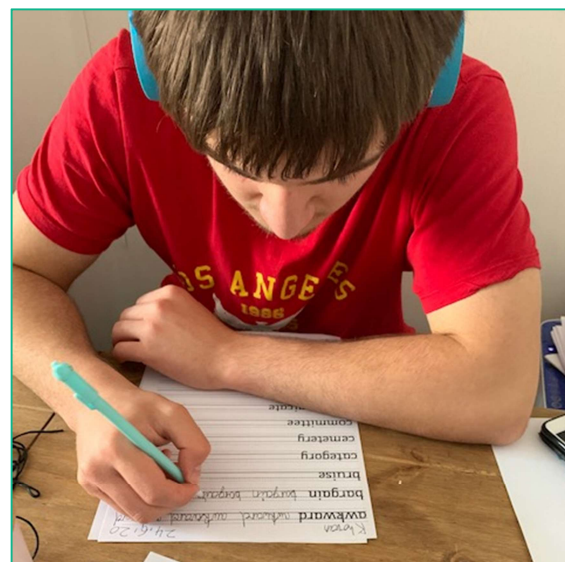


They have also been making new personalised Zones of Regulation tool kits this week.



BASE 3

Khovan has been practising his handwriting and spellings each day and tying shoe laces each day 10 times to keep up the practise

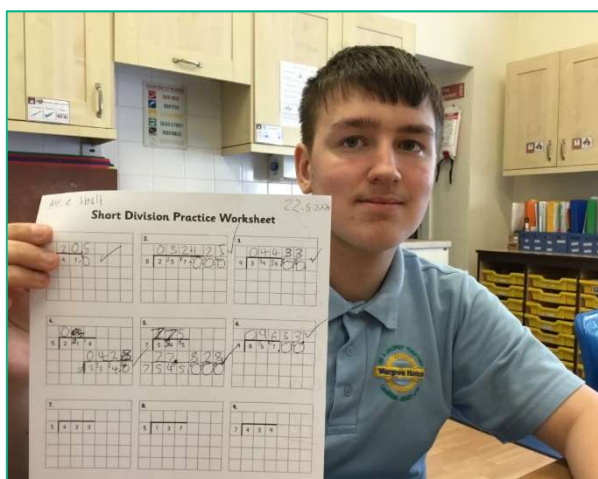


► **Khovan's Diary** – Khovan discussed careers with his mum, talking about going to work when he's older, and finding out which path he wants to take. He was talking about having his own BJJ school and to continue to compete but in an even more professional manner. They're really good career options, but before he gets to the point of owning a school, he will need another job whilst he gains teaching experience, and to help pay his competition expenses. He talked about working in a gym, or as a P.E teacher - in Wargrave House he said! He

acknowledged himself that he would need a job where he is moving around as he doesn't feel comfortable sat down for long periods. Each day he has had the task to look up a profession and read about it - whether it's one he wants to do or something different - he read about postal workers and said that sounded quite good too! ► **Thank you to Shireen for donating her unwanted plant pots for our students to put to good use.**

This week in Numeracy Base 3 students have been working on the topic of division. As you can see **Alfie** "cracked the code" and was able to complete a number of division calculations which all had remainders. He used both his multiplication and division skills to complete six calculations correctly and independently. Well done Alfie!

► Miss Pennycook



RISE 3

▼ This week, we have welcomed back **Archie**, who has had no problem fitting back in to class. He has completed all his classwork and helped out doing some jobs – like taking out the recycling. **Macauley** and **Ritchie** have tried to get to grips with a mini drone, working out all the different controls needed for a steady flight. Macauley also enjoyed making his own vegan pizza. Even though he loved it, he was kind enough to offer a slice to staff and fellow students.



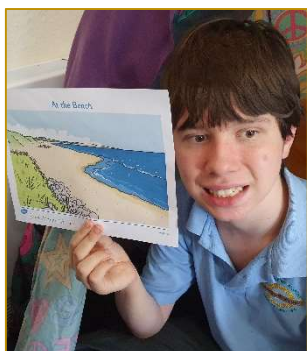
BASE 2

▼ This week, BASE 2 have been learning about division by grouping in Numeracy. They have enjoyed following OT Laura's Ready to Learn fitness video for PE - BASE 2 have got some moves! Our art and design has had a seaside theme this week. We have made sand pictures, explored water play and have designed our own beach from ripped up paper. We have also enjoyed peer interaction using the action figures.



BASE 3

▼ **Rhys** and **Greg** have been talking about the seaside and making a seaside collage.



▲ **Max** and **Sean** getting ready to learn in BASE 2.

▼ **Alicia, Tarran, Alfie and Yanick** took part in a discussion about what is worrying them at the moment. Tarran shared his thoughts about the current "racism pandemic". This led the students into a piece of group research into famous figures in history who have protested peacefully against racism, such as Rosa Parks and Gandhi.

The students also created their own banners and held a peaceful protest within the school grounds. Alfie's banner read "Black Lives Matter", whilst Tarran's read "We Are All Human". In future weeks, BASE 3 students will be carrying out a further investigation into the "Black Lives Matter" movement.





Home & College News

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LEAP Specialist College



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Post-16

Julliet Doherty

Dear Post 16 Students, Parents and Carers

I hope that you have all had enough time to enjoy a little of this glorious weather this week. It really does seem like summer has arrived. Over the past weeks we have heard a lot of talk in the news about the long term impact of the lockdown on student educational outcomes. Therefore I would like to take this opportunity to address the ongoing work that staff and students within Post 16 Provision have been undertaking. I know you have all received regular phone calls and emails about the home learning content shared with you, and continue to receive these, regarding sending in photos of the young people participating in a range of activities, as well as

supporting us by completing our differentiated plan and review sheets. This has been a huge success and has resulted in class staff being able to collate outstanding evidence of our young adults demonstrating their ability to adapt and maintain their skills across maths, English, employability, independence and other key areas of the curriculum. Currently we are working towards Ofqual's Extraordinary Regulatory Framework (ERF) deadlines with our awarding bodies, City and Guild's and Open Awards. I would like to commend the young adults in Post 16 for their tremendous level of commitment to their studies and qualifications whilst working from home and on their return to college. But most of all the Post 16 staff team would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all of you incredible parents/carers for your continuing support with all the home learning activities we have requested your son/daughter to get involved in. We know this has been no mean feat and we commend your patience and persistence. Due to your support all our young adults are in a very strong position to achieve against EHCP outcomes and awarding bodies criteria. ► **Thank you and take care with very best wishes from Julliet and The Post 16 team.**



▲ **Reiss** has been spending time keeping up with his school work. He has particularly enjoyed doing Maths with Mum. **Ruby** has been working on English in class on recognising and ordering the letters in her name. **Sancha** has returned to college. She has been working on her shape recognition and had fun decorating the table using chalks.

► **Owen** has used the lockdown to his advantage and become fitter and healthier due to a strict regime of diet and exercise. He returned to college this week and was raring to get his accredited learning completed. He even found time to use a Teams meeting to ask Ann Kerry (our Career Connect Advisor) for support with his coursework, regarding preparation for work and action planning.

We are using Teams in college to keep in touch with some of our students to support their home learning and qualifications. Its been great to see the radiant smiles of **Brandon** and **Ethan** again. When everything is back to normal we will maximise the use of Teams to enable our students to have virtual tours of local work

places and higher education providers as well as a platform for meeting local employers. We are also seeking parents/carers who may be able to contribute to our employability/careers programme by meeting and advising our students through dedicated Teams sessions. If you would like to get involved in this initiative then please contact Steve Hogarth through our school reception. We really value your support.

Black Lives Matter

In the leaflet you will find
information about black lives matter
to make people understand

▲ **Courtney**: One of the things I have been working on this week is producing an information leaflet about Black Lives Matter to give people a better understanding about the Black Lives Matter Movement.



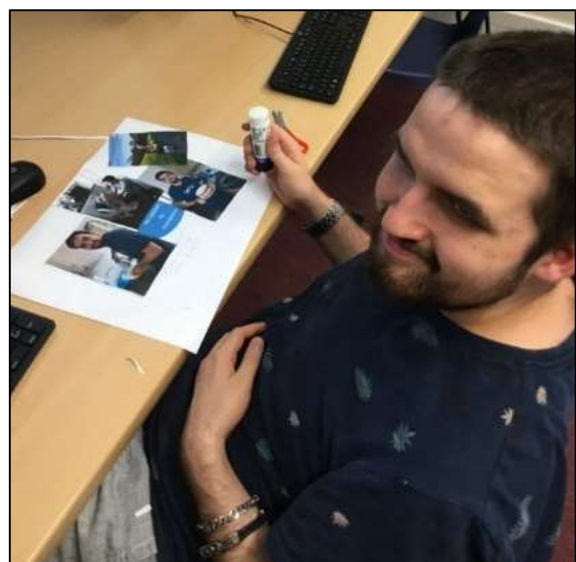
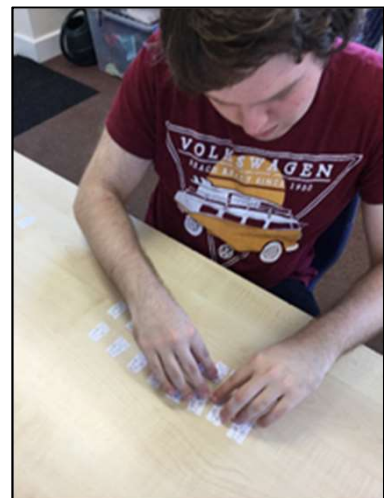
Lakeside & LEAP at Home

LEAP JD successful transitions back into college:

► **Emily** has enjoyed taking part in music therapy with Louise and has been learning the ukulele! **Owen** enjoyed his first day back this week as he has missed his friends! He used TEAMS meeting to catch up with **Will** and **Christian**. Owen has also been working on completing his units for English and SFLE. **Nicky** has also been focused on completing his accredited work for Maths, English and Skills for Further Learning and Education (SFLE) but is looking forward to completing some jobs at Lyme and Wood in the near future. **William** has settled in well and enjoyed going to Lyme and Wood Park for a social distanced walk in the afternoons. Will has also been focused on completing his accredited work for Maths, English and Skills for Further Learning and Education (SFLE). **Christian** has also been focusing on completing his accredited work for Maths, English and Skills for Further Learning and Education (SFLE).

Lock down: Through My Eyes 2020

▼ **Nicky** has produced a poster which represents his life during lock down. Nicky chose images to put on the poster which were differentiated tasks that he has enjoyed doing, whilst spending time at home. These included, sowing seeds, watching DVDs, walking in the community with his family and feeding the swans.



► **Joe** and **Chris** completed a project for Courtney detailing their experience during lockdown... Special mention should go to Joe for the amount of work he completed at home. Pretty much everything that was sent home he attempted. This work helped him to keep on track with his City & Guilds targets.