



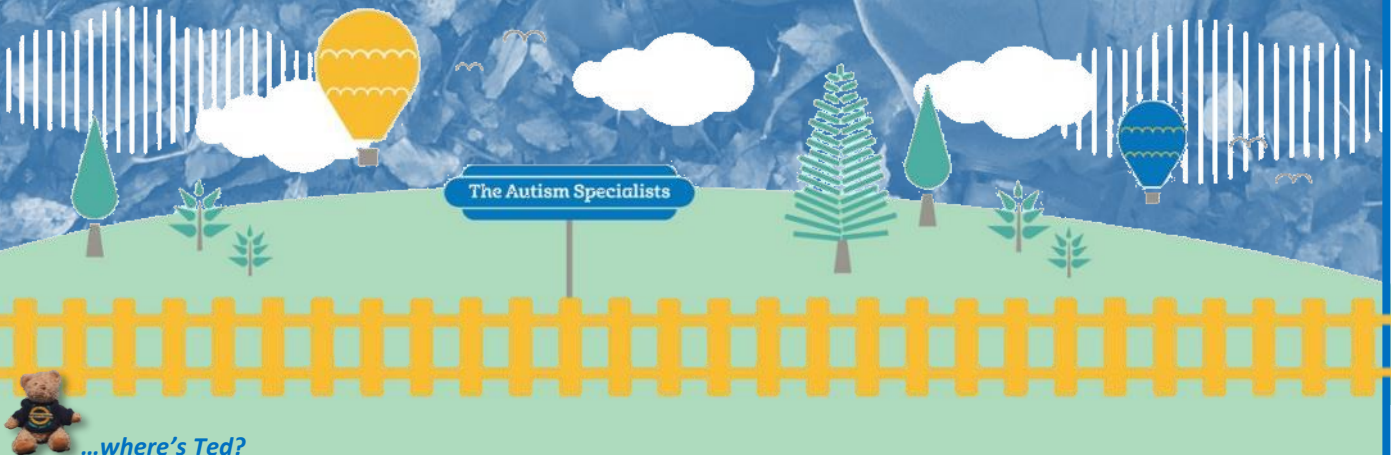
12 February 2021

2020/2021 - No.7

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Wargrave NEWS

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...where's Ted?



Interim CEO

Gary van Oss

Dear parents & carers

I hope this newsletter finds you safe and well. As we approach the half term, you will be pleased to know that our site will undergo a sustained deep clean in preparation for the next half term. We will continue to operate our Lateral Flow Testing centre following all COVID 19 compliance regulations. I would like to express my thanks to all our staff for their ongoing hard work since the start of the new year. Governors and Trustees were delighted to hear of the success of Post-16 staff in being acknowledged as **'The Most Inspirational 16-18 Education Provider'** through the prestigious recent Educate Awards ceremony. This recognition underpins the hard work and commitment of Juliet Doherty and all our staff. Our newsletter is accompanied by a general COVID 19 update, which will help us all to maintain the essential protocols for our ongoing safety.

I hope you are able to enjoy a relaxing family half term week.

► **Gary van Oss**



HEADLINES

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Thank you for your tremendous support throughout this half term.

It was really pleasing to receive the initial responses to our Parent Voice survey from you. Our staff are very grateful for your positive views. One school parent wrote *"I can't fault the way you go above and beyond to teach all your students during all this most trying of times. You are fantastic"*. Similarly, a parent from college noted, *"When I hear my son say he misses college and enjoys going to college that's enough for me to know he is being treated well and that his needs are well cared for. I can't thank all the staff for all their help and support when my son is at college and when he has been shielding ... I am really impressed with how all staff have managed to reduce as much impact of COVID as possible. The staff are irreplaceable"*.

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We fully appreciate how much of a trying time this pandemic presents and we thank you for all your support in home/school learning, your wider liaison and care for your child. Best wishes for your half term holiday. ► **Stuart Jamieson**

Countdown Maths Challenge



Can you make the Main Target, using the numbers in the blue boxes? You can use $+$ $-$ \times and \div and you can use each blue number only once. Even harder: can you make the Challenge Target?



Email your solutions to

iandickson@wargravehouse.com

Well done to Khovan for getting last week's solutions!

MAIN
TARGET

157

CHALLENGE
TARGET

105

Safer Internet Day

Coordinated by UK Safer Internet Centre, Safer Internet Day offers a great opportunity to come together to empower young people to create **#AnInternetWeTrust**. You'll find advice and resources below to help young people explore the reliability of their online world and the best ways to spot and speak out against harmful and misleading content online.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/safer-internet-day/>



In RISE1, **Caprice** and **El-Jay** watched a short video about using the Internet safely. Then they made a poster by cutting and sticking Internet safety images. In BASE1, **Reuben** watched an informative video about social media and answered questions really well about what he learnt.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week

Wargrave House School and College are delighted to have signed up to participate in Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2021. We are pledging to join the 970+ other schools around the world in celebrating the strengths of neurodiverse individuals.



We will be celebrating our differences such as autism, ADHD, dyslexia and dyspraxia. This is a wonderful opportunity to recognise and embrace the strengths arising from these differences, and encourage a positive outlook on differences that can so often be stigmatised.

“In order to empower SEN students to flourish, schools need to stop focusing only on what we cannot do and should begin to recognise, nurture and celebrate the many strengths and talents of being neurodiverse.”

This campaign was started in 2019 by Siena Castellon, a nationally recognised neurodiversity advocate who has autism, dyspraxia, dyslexia and ADHD. Watch this space to see how we will celebrate neurodiversity during the week of 15th – 21st March.

COVID Winter Grant Scheme

...was launched by the government in December 2020 to support families particularly affected by the pandemic cover the cost of food and utility bills during winter months (Dec - March). If you've been receiving Edenred vouchers from school these will not be issued over February half term, please contact your local authority directly for details on how to apply to the scheme.

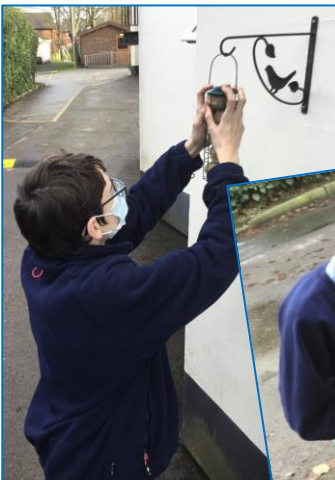


A parent recently told us about a Sensory Pack that is available from Caudwell Children at a reduced rate. Caudwell Children will provide 80% of the cost of each pack (families will be asked to contribute 20% of the cost totalling £20). The pack contains a Liquid Cell Timer, Scented Bubbles, BoBo Massager, Sissle Brush, 4 Ball Massager, Weighted Cushion, Spikey Domes, Space Blanket and Fibre Optic Lamp. Please visit the website for further details, eligibility criteria and application:

www.caudwellchildren.com

BASE3↓

BASE3 students continue to engage in learning in a range of subjects and environments. John and Sean continue to collect litter as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award. John, Sean, Alexis and Byron visited Otterspool Promenade and re-visited Sefton Park to carry out more of our "I spy" activities. John filled and erected three bird feeders outside Base 3 classroom so we could track which birds are visiting our school. Alexis and Sean enjoyed music therapy with Charlie where they played a range of musical instruments. Alexis lead a baking activity where he read instructions to Karen, our STSA, which she had to follow to collect ingredients that Alexis used to bake a banana loaf.



BASE1↓

We have been making our own pizzas in BASE1. Rohan has enjoyed his therapy sessions, using the trampoline and the swing.



BASE2↓ BASE2 have explored how to sculpt using clay.



RISE2↓

RISE 2 have been learning about connections in Outdoor Learning. We have thought about how we are connected to nature and people. We have also been experiencing knot tying and even played tug of war. We had great fun!

We have been learning about the story Jack and the Beanstalk. The students then produced their own versions. The RISE 2 staff were very proud.



BASE4 walked to The Dream as part of their DoF E lessons. They also made their own breakfast as part of the physical health and mental wellbeing curriculum.



Engage keeping active in the community ↓

This week Engage went on a community visit to Taylor Park. Although it was cold we enjoyed the sunshine, a brisk walk and outdoor gym.



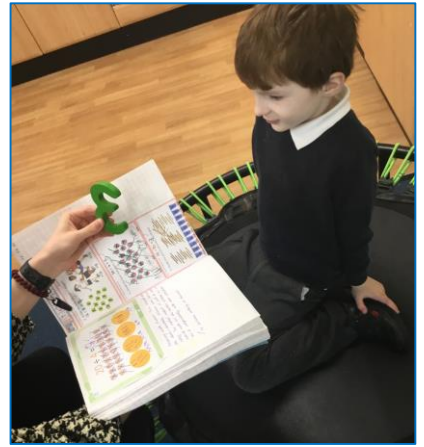
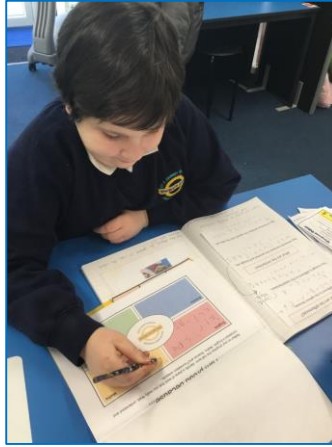
BASE1's Walk ↓

We went for a long walk down the canal to the nine arches. When we got there, we saw some graffiti – “Out of the dark, comes the brightest things”, which we found quite appropriate for these strange times.



RISE1↓

RISE1 have been working very hard during reflection week.



Engage↓

...had a zoo themed day-we couldn't go to the zoo but the zoo came to us! We explored animals in sensory trays, fed the penguins, painted tigers and read one of our favourite books 'Dear Zoo'.





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LEAP Specialist College

LN
LAKE SIDE & LEAP
NEWS



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Dear parents and carers



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Dear parents, carers and students



Post-16

Juliet Doherty

I am very pleased to share with you the outstanding success of the Post 16 Provision at the annual Educate Awards Ceremony on 29th January 2021.

We were up against some very strong competition in our short listed award categories, and I am proud to let you know we were the winners of 'The Most Inspirational 16-18 Educational Provision', and runners up in the 'Community Partnership' awards. This is a reflection of the hard work and commitment that the staff and student's put in together.

Wishing you all a safe half term break. ► **Juliet and the Post 16 Team**

We are proud winners of the Most Inspirational 16-18 Educational Provider award.

Educate

The Magazine for Schools, Parents and Pupils

Andrew Cooper, school and college account manager at Liverpool John Moores University, Educate Awards category sponsor, recognised Lakeside & LEAP for the way that we have adapted to the dynamic changes with a positive attitude at all times. We were pleased to receive comments like “dedicated and always thinking dynamically”, “creative, experiential and interesting curriculum”, “can do, will do approach to life's problems and uncertainties” and “encouraging young adults to feel safe and take managed risks”.

[Click here](#) to read the full article in the Educate Magazine.

“A big congratulations to you, your staff and students on winning the Most Inspirational 16-18 Educational Provider Award. It is a testament to the great work you are doing, especially during these difficult and uncertain times. What a wonderful achievement for you all and very well deserved congratulations once again.
Conor McGinn MP
Labour Member of Parliament for St Helens North”

“This is great news and cheered me up no end! Please pass on my congratulations to your staff team – a great achievement! Thanks & Regards.
Kath O'Dwyer
Chief Executive, St Helens Council”

“Fantastic news about the awards, and a lovely write up in the educate magazine. I follow you on Facebook and it is always nice to see the vast range of purposeful experiences that you are offering to students on a daily basis.
Jonny Knowles, NAS”

“**Local Authorities:**
Knowsley: This is great news – Well done to all...
Bolton: Huge congratulations, it is a fantastic achievement and I will be sure to share your happy news with the rest of the team.
Trafford: That's fab!! – will certainly share!! Well done you lot!!
Warrington: Very well done.”

“**Trustees**
SW: Thats great news, well done to you and all the staff involved.
MM: Congratulations to you and all the Post 16 staff for being presented with the Educate award on 29th January. You must be very proud of the College and the work everyone is doing to develop every young person.”

“**Governors:**
VB: Amazing news. Congratulations to the entire team who work so very hard for all of our post-16 students and with such dedication to their development for the future. I think it is so appropriate the you have been awarded the Most Inspirational Provision, as I know from both my Governor and parent roles, you all do inspire all the young people in so many ways.
PR: Well done!!”

“**Senior Leaders at Wargrave**
CEO: Congratulations to all staff and students. Fabulous.
Head of Education: Proud for all and delighted.
Head of Residential: Well done to you and the team. Fantastic news.”

Dates to remember

Following careful consideration and assessment of risk, it will regretfully not be possible to offer the ESS Holiday Club during February half term. We will continue to monitor government guidelines and advise as to arrangements for the Easter Holiday Club in due course.

Meet the team

ERROR ALERT! In our last Residential newsletter we interviewed Sarah Powell and mistakenly gave her the wrong job title. Sarah is in fact the Deputy Care Manager not a Residential Learning Support Assistant as it said in the newsletter.



Meet Sandra, Waking Night Staff...

1. How long have you worked at Wargrave House School and College?

For nearly 22 years

2. What do you like about working here?

The support from my colleagues, I know I can rely on them.

3. What is your best memory of working here?

The friends I've made and the many social events that I've been to.

4. What did you do before you came to Wargrave?

I worked as a catering assistant for many years, a cleaner and a dinner lady.



5. If you were trapped on a desert island, what 3 things would you take with you and why?

My grandchildren, my dog and unlimited supply of food/drink.

6. Who is your hero and why?

My best friend Linda, she is always there for me and supported me. She has changed my life for the better!

Thanks Sandra!!

What have we been up to?

We have been for wintery walks, made cookies to go with hot chocolate, created door hangers in art & craft, played dominoes and watched the sunrise. We have spoken with Calum every night who is very chatty and can't wait for things to be back to normal!



Wellbeing

First and foremost our focus is the wellbeing of all the students and staff especially during these unprecedented times.

Sarah Powell is the residential Mental Health First Aider and checks in regularly with students and staff alike.

We want to share some important contact numbers with you. Click the logos to open their website.



St Helens MIND – mental health and wellbeing support to people aged 18+ and offers services including befriending, social groups and activities, volunteering opportunities and signposting – 01744 647089.



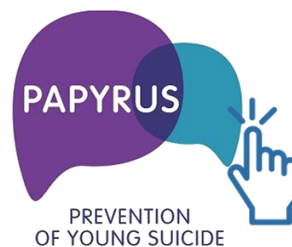
MINDSMATTER – Provide support to people in St Helens aged 16+ who are experiencing stress, anxiety or depression. They can offer self-help, one to one and group therapy – 01744 647100.



BEAT – You are never alone with your eating disorder. We are here to support people who are worried they have an eating disorder, as well as others affected, such as friends and family members. **Helpline** – 0800 801 0677. **Student line** – 0808 801 0811. **Youthline** – 0808 801 0711.

Student voice

Greg said that he likes the view from his bedroom and dining room, Greg likes to see the sunrise.



Papyrus – Hopeline - 0800 068 4141



No Panic – No panic is a registered charity which helps people who suffer from panic attacks, phobias, obsessive compulsive disorder and other anxiety related disorders. No panic also provides support for the carers of people who suffer from anxiety disorders - **Youth Helpline** – 0330 606 1174. **Helpline** – 0300 7729844. **Office** – 01925 680460

Nordoff Robbins Choir

Many of our students have been pro-active in keeping busy whilst learning from home. A great example is Ethan who has been enjoying singing in the Nordoff Robbins virtual choir. One of the songs Ethan has learnt and been singing with over 100 people is 'I would walk 500 miles' by The Proclaimers.

Music Makers are brand new, fun, interactive music making videos with Nordoff Robbins music therapists. They are all fully accessible and made specifically for children and young people to engage with at home.

Each day we will be releasing five different activities and videos on our website, YouTube and Facebook. You can find out more about the different activities by clicking the Nordoff Robbins logo →



LS1 have found a way to beat the Covid lockdown blues by coming together on Teams with Charlie (Nordoff-Robbins) to write their own song from scratch about surviving Covid. With such a wealth of musical talent working together the final version is bound to be a hit.

Happy 18th Birthday!

We would like to wish Brandon a Happy Birthday and best wishes from all post-16 students and staff.

LS1 students and staff are looking forward to celebrate Brandon's birthday on a social teams quiz!!

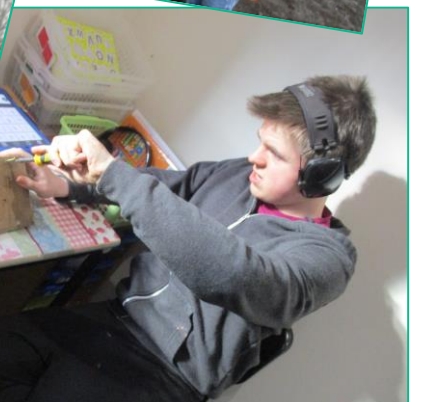


Supported intern→

Will, our supported intern, has been busy the last two weeks making sure that the school and college are organised and safe. Will has helped our maintenance man, Andy, check all the fire doors were working correctly and re-laid some paving slabs that were sticking up causing a trip hazard. He has distributed the delivery of grit across the whole school so it is ready to use and he has helped move a shed across the school so it is in a better position to be used for storage, no easy task as a fence panel had to be taken down and it took 4 people to carry it across the grass. Will was invaluable in being one of those 4 people.

LS2 ↓

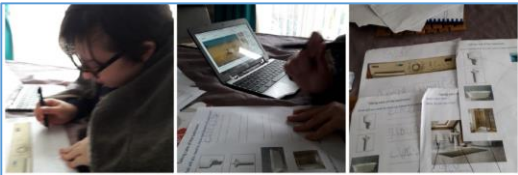
LS2 gathering items to build bug hotels, looking at shapes and playing shape dominoes.



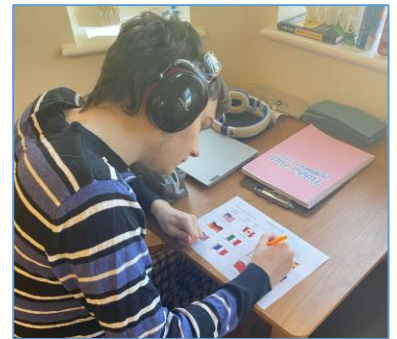
Students working at home



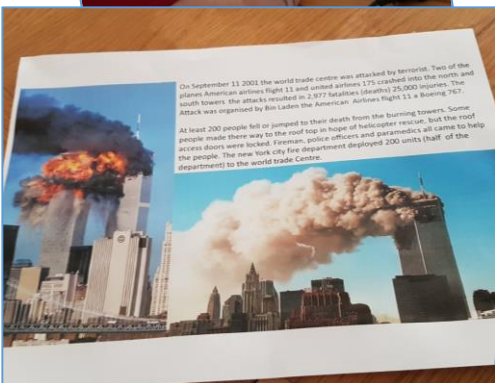
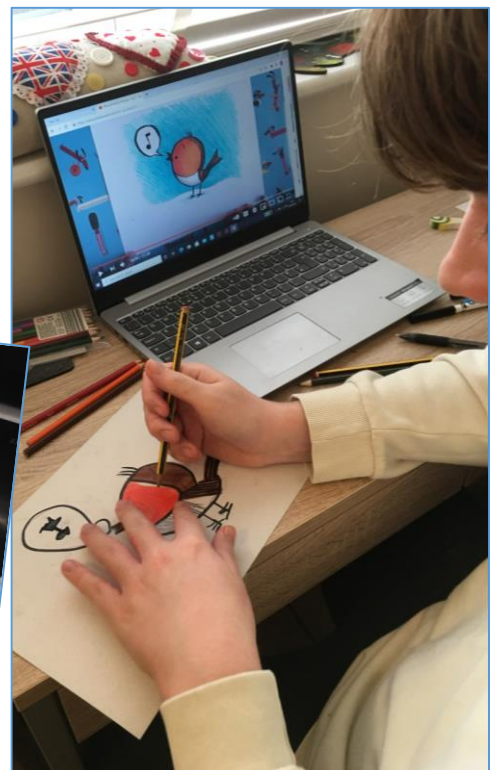
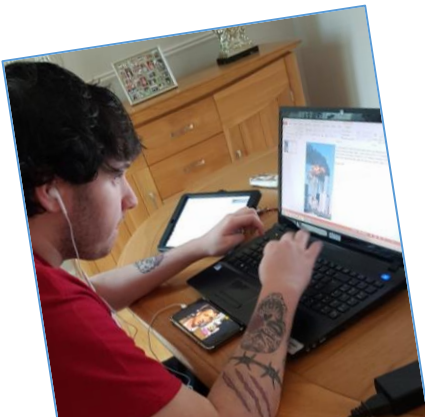
←**Emily** has been busy doing some jobs at home. ↓**George** has been working on measuring temperature, and using different reading strategies to obtain information, as part of his maths and English units, during his time studying at home. George has enjoyed the work on flags and countries as these are subjects that interest him.



↓**Owen** had to extract information about the World Trade Centre Attack, answer questions and create a document.



↓**Ben** taking part in an online art session and completing some ILS preparing lunch for himself and his family.



Students working at home

Nicky engaging in his maths accredited learning, he followed a simple recipe and used weighing scales to weigh out different ingredients to make flap jacks. He has also been helping to peel some carrots for dinner which mum said he was very good at. Keep up the good work Nicky!

