



5 March 2021

2020/2021 - No.8

# Wargrave News

This symbol represents  
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that you can click to  
access more information





**CEO**

**Robin Bush**



**HEADLINES**

**Stuart Jamieson**

## **Dear parents & carers**

Thank you for your good wishes following my return post-surgery. It has been great to see the enthusiasm of all our students on site alongside the commitment of our dedicated staff.

A particular welcome this week to Shauna Donohoe who has joined us as our new Occupational Therapist, going forward I am sure she will be a great addition to the Wargrave team. In addition to this newsletter, you will have received a separate correspondence outlining our strategy for the full/extended opening of school, college and residential care with effect from Monday 8 March. We fully appreciate what a trying time the pandemic has created and hope that you feel some reassurance through this communication. Given that, circumstances may change at any given point we have introduced a dedicated email address, which will enable you to inform us at any time outside of normal office hours, of any COVID related matters that could impact on your child's ability to attend school/college. The email address is:

[covidresponse@wargravehouse.com](mailto:covidresponse@wargravehouse.com)

I look forward to being able to support the excellent work undertaken by staff with the best interests of your young people at heart. ► **Best wishes, Robin.**

## **Dear parents & carers**

We hope this newsletter finds you safe and well. We are all excited for the opportunity for a full return to school, college and residential next week. Your son/daughter can continue to enjoy their learning and interaction with staff/peers in a safe and caring environment through our compliance with our risk assessment and day-to-day effective management of systems. This week typifies our staff's response to providing effective experiential learning for our students through World Book Day. Our students were thoroughly engaged and consistently enthused through the interactive literacy activities provided. Amongst the highlights were BASE1 becoming a re-imagined Willy Wonka Chocolate Factory complete with a gigantic 'Blueberry' whilst RISE2 was transformed into Hogwarts! Throughout this term, it has been wonderful to see a gradual increase in students' engagement with reading for pleasure. Staff are working hard to maximise all strategies for both reading and communication. In the near future, we will be providing you with a workshop to promote strategies that enhance learning and understanding linked to phonics, literacy and emotional processing in conjunction with our education and therapy staff.

► **Regards, Stuart**

## 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](mailto:iandickson@wargravehouse.com)

Well done if you got last week's solutions!

**MAIN  
TARGET**



**CHALLENGE  
TARGET**



## Global Recycling Day

A reminder that Thursday 18th March 2021 is [#GlobalRecyclingDay](#). The theme this year is [#RecyclingHeroes](#). This will recognise the people, places and activities that showcase what an important role recycling plays in contributing to an environmentally stable planet and a greener future which will benefit all. Classes across school and college are taking on the challenge of recycling and upcycling, following our Eco Schools Code *reduce, reuse, repair*. The Eco Team can't wait to see what students have created.



## Staff Update

### Starting



Shauna Donohoe (OT) 1st March 2021

Danielle Cotter (TSA) 8th March 2021

Mark Hartley - Student Teacher  
returning until June 2021

### Leavers

Helen Sim (SALT) 16th March 2021

Elizabeth Mansfield (TSA) 5th March 2021

We are sorry to say Helen will be leaving us after supporting WHS for 22 years. Helen has shared her expertise in helping young people with autism and we thank her for her dedication in working with our families.



Rebecca Switonski working full time from 28th April and will support students previously supported by Helen Sim.



### Music Makers

Our music therapists have recently created a range of online resources called 'Music Makers' which are short videos made specifically for children and young people to engage with at home. The videos include music-making activities, sensory music time, singing and signing, mindful music and also suggestions for making music digitally through other free online resources.

This link will take you straight to the Music Makers resources on our website: <https://www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk/music-makers/>

We hope you find these free resources useful, and please do forward this link to anyone else you think might also find them useful.

I would be very interested to hear your views on these resources, as all feedback will help develop future material. Feedback can be left here <https://www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk/music-makers-feedback-page/> and we'd be very grateful to hear from anyone who engages with the resources.

### COVID: Home Testing

Here is a YouTube clip from the Department of Health, explaining how to do the COVID test at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCqo7MhQT6U>

## School News

### Engage

Our theme all week has been The Very Hungry Caterpillar. Engage enjoyed lots of sensory based activities and learnt to identify and name different fruit from the story.



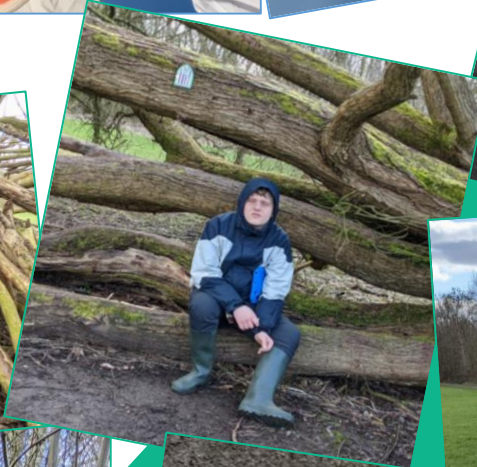


### RISE1↓

The students have been learning about what materials can absorb water. And Kieran had a fun day making a SpongeBob and Patrick ham and cheese sandwich as well as taking part in sensory play.



### BASE1↓

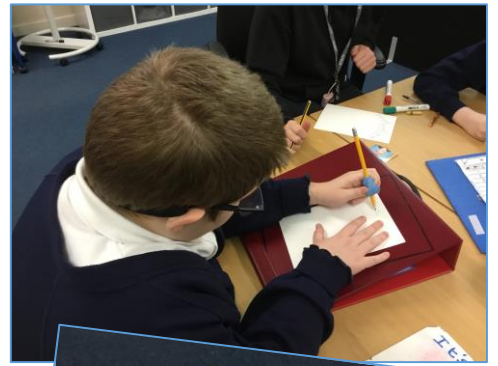


BASE1 went for a walk to find the fairy houses and enjoyed spending time at the park.

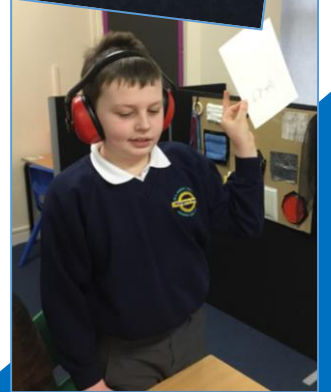
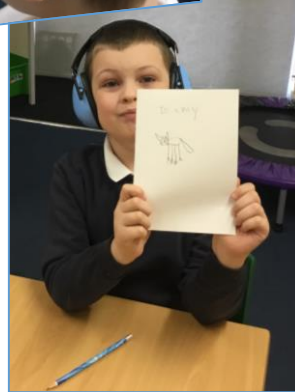


### RISE2↓

RISE2 were very excited when we heard that **Miss Gadsby had had her new baby boy**. We all wanted to congratulate Miss Gadsby so we decided to make cards. Everyone drew their own pictures and wrote their messages. We all worked very hard and took our time to make the cards special.



For **Careers Week**, RISE2 have been thinking about different jobs and the skills you need in the world of work. The class worked as a team during fun activities and experienced the role of 'Park Keeper' in Outdoor Learning.





### RISE1↓

RISE1 found natural shapes in our school environment and read our favourite book, The Gruffalo, in the sunshine. A big thank you to LEAP for our handmade wool love



hearts. Caprice and Kieran impressed staff with their amazing maths work this week.

## Stories of School Days Long Ago

In conjunction with the Therapy Team, RISE2 have had a wonderful time working with the residents at Alexandra Care Home, sharing life stories about their time at school! They have worked together to make a book of memories to look back on and share. In order to make this book, students asked questions to the residents who recorded their answers. This inspired the children to take up some of the old fashioned games, such as hoola-hoop and marbles! The book has been celebrated by residents and students alike and even generated interest from the local paper! Here are some of the pictures. We hope you enjoy looking at them and we look forward to working with the residents again very soon!

### Glenda and the RISE2 Team

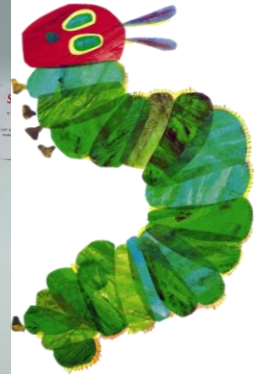




# IT'S WORLD BOOK DAY!

## World Book Day 2021

A Book Day Trip to Warrington for **Engage**. We ate our snack with the Alice in Wonderland Characters.



**RISE1:** World Book Day was lots of fun! We had an Alice in Wonderland themed tea party and made The Three Little Pigs houses in science, recognising which material was best.

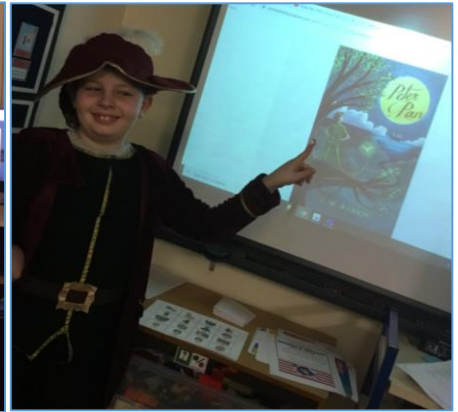




# World Book Day 2021



**RISE2** had great fun during World Book Day! We had lots of characters in class such as Gandalf, Captain Hook, The Flash, a zombie, Leafy and the genie from Aladdin. We had a brilliant time writing stories and going on a Where's Wally hunt.



**BASE1** students dressed as Harry Potter, Mary Poppins, Where's Wally, Captain Hook, Shakespeare, Greatest Showman & Woody. Staff were all characters from Charlie & The Chocolate Factory. We did lots of themed activities.

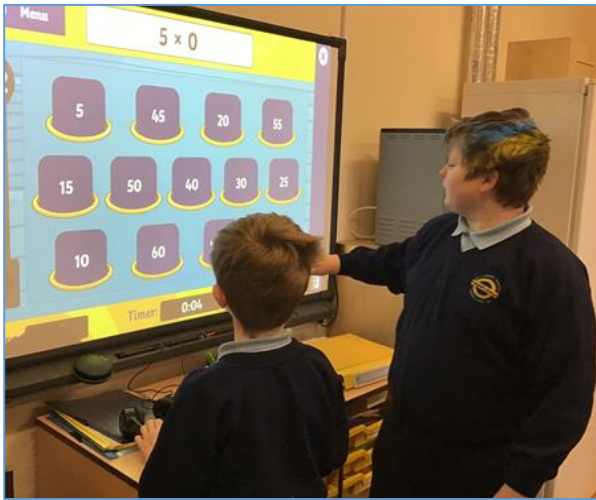




# World Book Day 2021



**BASE2** have taken part in lots of fun activities. We began the day by discussing our costumes and favourite books. We then took part in an EmployAbility session discussing how we have grown through lockdown and the positives we can take from this experience. We've had fun with interactive maths tasks, challenging each other and encouraging each other to learn in different ways. BASE2 reviewed movie trailers to choose together the best book to movie then spent the afternoon watching the best movie. We ended our day with reflection of all the many skills we have used throughout our day and discussed books, anime, comics and games.



**BASE3** enjoyed different World Book Day activities, including a quiz, scavenger hunt, 'Where's Wally' search and Award Ceremony for best costume.



The winner for best costume in BASE3 was John! Well Done!



### BASE 3

John and Sean demonstrated excellent teamwork skills as they continued to collect litter as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.



Daisy enjoyed reading a chapter from her novel and telling staff what had just happened.



Alexis continued to develop his leadership and organisation skills as he directed Karen, our senior TSA to complete instructions to make delicious chocolate cornflake cakes. Sean demonstrated his great listening skills as he copied shapes demonstrated to him in Rebound Therapy with Nikki Breslin. Well done everyone!

### BASE 3's Walk

BASE3 learners took part in a walk to the canal and the nine arches viaduct where we were able to explore different elements of the physical and human environment as part of Geography.



### BASE 4 New Job for Peter

This week Peter has started his new job around school as part of his Voluntary Work for the DofE award. At 9.10am he delivers tea, coffee, sugar and milk to all classes, he also returns at 1.20pm to check if anyone needs printer paper for there daily print outs. Everyone is really happy with how polite Peter is when he knocks at there door. The staff in BASE4 are really proud of how mature he is.



### World Book Day 2021



**BASE4** enjoying World Book Day! Max was the winner of their best costume competition as Draco Malfoy as seen above with Mr Barton as Harry Potter! Alex and Mandy joined in the fun as Where's Wally and a walking Encyclopaedia!







LEAP Specialist College

# LLN

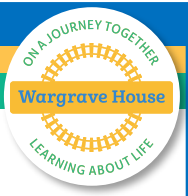
LAKE SIDE & LEAP

# NEWS



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# Dear parents, carers and students



## CEO UPDATE

Robin Bush

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## HEADLINES

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## Post-16

Juliet Doherty

In post-16 we are very much looking forward to welcoming back all our students on the 8.3.21 and we would like to reassure you that, as always, we will be carefully following Covid mitigation measures to ensure a happy, healthy, and safe return for everyone. Please do email or call me if you have any questions or concerns: [julietdoherty@wargravehouse.com](mailto:julietdoherty@wargravehouse.com) It is with great pride that I share with you three young men who have entered a Skills Live event with Derwen College. We have Yanick who has prepared a beautiful cream tea table with an Easter theme ( we can't wait for the coffee mornings to resume in the future to showcase his wonderful talents), Ben who has demonstrated he can purchase a healthy meal of own choice within a budget (managing all the shopping, choosing of fresh items and budgeting with minimal support) and Tarran who has designed a stunning summer pot with plants he chose himself (he is our eco warrior and very knowledgeable about the environment). Please do look at our Facebook page and the newsletter for further information. The winners of the competition will be named today (5.3.21) and we have our fingers crossed for each of our young men. This demonstrates the outstanding resilience and engagement of the post 16 students during a very difficult period, overcoming many obstacles to participate in Natspec cross college events. William our Intern has been very busy working onsite and his videos are being used to promote National Careers Week, please do take a look on our Facebook page, and share with others. William is completing a case study with the College and the DWP about how internships support young adults into work. Once the case study is completed it will be presented to the internal and External Communication department of the DWP/Government as an icon to both Wargrave House and Access to Work support. Very best wishes ► **Juliet and the staff in Post 16 Provision.**



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## Rotary Crocus

The Rotary Crocus is one of the leading international fundraisers for the End Polio Now Campaign. Since 2012 Rotary Crocuses have raised around £1,250,000 and been distributed in 16 countries. Phil Round, our Vice Chair of Governors / Trustees is also an eminent Newton-le-Willows Rotarian and provided us with crocus bulbs to plant last Autumn. Now that the crocuses are growing well in the Spring, we can reach out to our Wargrave family and the wider community to raise awareness for Rotary End Polio Now campaign.

Main school learners have loved seeing the flowers pocking out as they arrive



and depart each day. Post-16 students planted their bulbs in the college garden and despite competition with some hungry squirrels our blooming crocuses have added to the wonderful display of colour. Post 16 students also completed horticultural work placements with Earlestown Cricket Club to help develop their sensory garden, plant more Rotarian crocuses and reinforce this very clear message about ending polio.

### Music Makers

Our music therapists have recently created a range of online resources called 'Music Makers' which are short videos made specifically for children and young people to engage with at home. The videos include music-making activities, sensory music time, singing and signing, mindful music and also suggestions for making music digitally through other free online resources.



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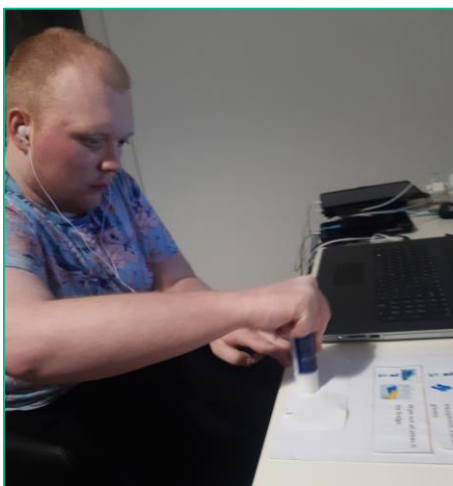
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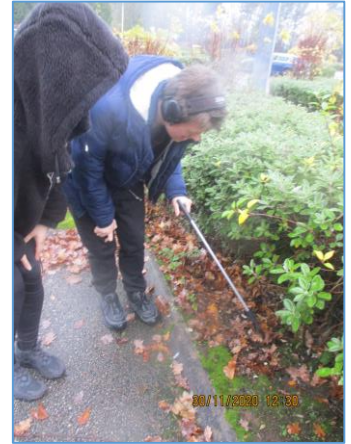


### Joseph working from home





## LS2 in the community – litter picking



LS2 have been lending a hand in the local community by collecting litter.

## Will; student intern

It has been national careers week this week and our supported intern, Will, has been hard at work. He has made a series of videos to show people some of the jobs that he completes on a regular basis, these are all on the Wargrave House [Facebook](#) and YouTube page, please do check them out. Some of his jobs, such as checking safety of the

minibuses every week and some of the other jobs such as cleaning the minibuses or moving furniture are done when they are needed to be done. Will says that he enjoys all these jobs and likes the variety in working in maintenance. He gets to do everything from footing a ladder to helping to move phone switches or checking equipment for safety. We, at Wargrave house, are working hard to support Will in learning all the skills he needs to be able to work independently and move into a role that he will enjoy. Some of the jobs that Will does are essential for the school, such as leaf blowing, setting up equipment or checking other equipment to make sure it is safe to use. Will doing these jobs not only supports the school but it supports the maintenance person as it frees them up to do other jobs around that school."



# Post-16 National Careers Week

It's been a busy week for Post 16 and despite the limitations of Covid, students have still been completing activities as part of National Careers Week (1-5 March). Students admire the work that has been done in conjunction with Earlestown Cricket Club as part of the work experience to maintain and develop the sensory garden. We have also been working with the Rotary Club to publicise the End Polio Now campaign by planting crocuses in the Lakeside garden.

Students were able to get first-hand knowledge about employability and career pathways from Jack who was himself a student at Wargrave House before being offered a job as a TSA. Post 16 students have managed to follow our Covid protocol and mitigation measures to maintain our community links with our work placement providers. Students have provided a much needed environmental tidy up service for our local Park Rangers and Mercure Hotel.

Today we are attending the live awards ceremony for all of our entries for the Derwen Skills Live competition which has allowed us to showcase our talents in horticulture (displaying a winter container) and hospitality (displaying an afternoon tea).





# SkillsLive @Derwen 2021

Post-16 staff and students are very proud and excited to announce that three of our students have entered the #SkillsLive2021 competition held by Derwen College Oswestry. Our 3 entries are: Horticulture (Tarran), Independent Living Skills (Yanick) and How to Make Healthy Food Choices (Ben). The students have worked very hard to produce an end product that demonstrates their knowledge, understanding and skills in a subject area chosen from their curriculum pathways. Please join us in wishing them the very best of luck with the competition. The results will be announced at 2:30pm today. To us they are always winners and the very fact that during such an incredibly difficult period they have once again excelled and delivered with such resilience and engagement is outstanding.



**LEAP1** visited Taylor park for our community day to welcome spring and spot the changes with our nature eye spy.

