



19 March 2021

2020/2021 - No.9

Wargrave News

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...where's Ted?


NEURODIVERSITY
It takes all kinds of different minds
ADHD | Dyslexia | Autism | Dyspraxia
www.Neurodiversity-Celebration-Week.com



CEO

Robin Bush



HEADLINES

Stuart Jamieson

Dear parents & carers

I hope our latest newsletter finds you all safe and well. We are delighted with the full return to school, college and residential care of all our students. Given that we have remained open throughout the COVID-19 pandemic for a full year since March 2020, we are confident that our ongoing risk assessments and consistent monitoring of our safety procedures are continuing to enable us to provide a secure provision for all. Thank you for encouraging your son/daughter to support our lateral flow testing on-site. You will now all have received a letter outlining the process we would like you to follow for twice weekly testing. Ideally, if you can create a routine on a Sunday and a Wednesday we will be able to efficiently update our records for the start and middle of the week. We fully appreciate that the home testing may present you with additional challenges – please do not hesitate to liaise directly with key staff if you require any further assistance with this matter. As we approach the end of this Spring Term – Thursday 1 April, we are looking forward to welcoming students to our Easter holiday club who will be joining us across a range of dates – 7, 8, 9 April and 14, 15, 16 April. You will receive a newsletter on the last day of term with further updates in advance of our summer term, which begins on Monday 19 April. Wishing you the best weekend possible.

▶ **Robin.**

Dear parents & carers

We've enjoyed a vibrant week spanning across school and college, with a renewed sense of optimism. You will all receive an interim progress for your son/daughter week beginning Monday 19 April as we return for the summer term. This review will provide you with an overview of progress related to your son/daughter's development across individual subject areas. In support of all our students, we hope that you are becoming more aware of our ongoing learning reflection weeks (at the end of each term) enabling all staff to assist in reviewing key progress and next steps through directly gaining the thoughts and feelings of our young people. We would also like to remind you of the rescheduled **Parent's Consultation Evening**, which will take place on Thursday 24 June. Naturally, we will update you on further details as we hope that the current milestone for a full re-opening of society will resume on Monday 21 June. This term will end with a celebration of individual student/class achievement within their own learning bubbles – we are looking forward to sharing with you these successes in our next newsletter. Additionally, Post 16 staff and students will be hosting the re-opening of our take away **Cosy Corner Café** on Thursday 24 March as well as hosting an Easter Fayre on Thursday 1 April. We really appreciate your ongoing support, being mindful of the consistent challenges being placed upon you in terms of wellbeing and multitasking. We would also like to remind you about covidresponse@wargravehouse.com - for reporting lateral flow testing. Your co-operation with this matter helps us all stay safe! ▶ **Best wishes, Stuart**

Countdown Maths Challenge

Information



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 if you got last week's solutions!

MAIN
TARGET

189

CHALLENGE
TARGET

140

Dangerous sweets

The picture to the right shows Edible Cannabis Sweets. The sweets are similar to jelly beans, small bottled drinks and chocolate spreads which are believed to be extremely strong. They are designed to appeal to younger people.



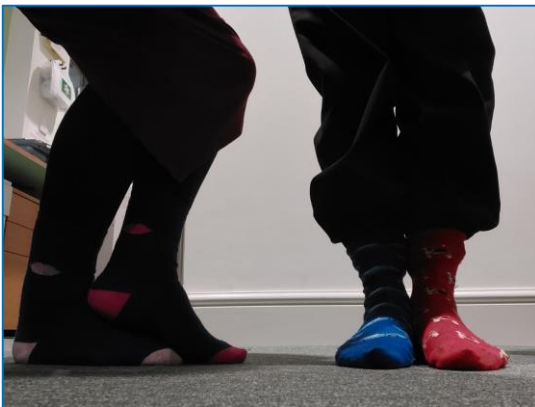
From the Kitchen



We are working on the new summer menu, with lots of student favourites included to tempt, hopefully, everyone! We will be starting this new menu after the Easter holidays. It will include Chicken Fajitas, Tacos, Homemade Sausage Rolls, Homemade Pepperoni or Cheese & Tomato Pizza, and of course, Fish, Chips & Mushy Peas! Some new healthy desserts too, including Chocolate & Pear Loaf, Red Velvet Cupcakes (can you guess what the red comes from?) and of course, Summer Pudding with lots of fresh berries served with lashings of cream... The Kitchen team are always happy for new ideas that students would like to see on the menu just pass on your ideas and we'll see what we can do!

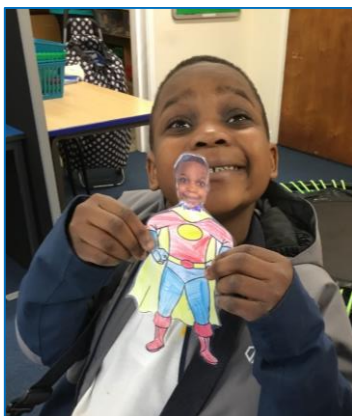
Safeguarding

Safeguarding is at heart of everything we do at Wargrave House School and College. We have a talented team of safeguarding leads who ensure safeguarding underpins all we do. We work with local authorities and organisations to keep ourselves updated on key safeguarding issues and legislation. So far this year, staff have developed their skills and knowledge on a range of issues such as adult safeguarding, data protection, managing allegations and reporting concerns. Alongside this training, we also have weekly staff safeguarding bulletins shared across our provision. This shares key messages, forthcoming training, and useful resources. The Bulletin also includes a weekly safeguarding scenario in which staff are asked what they would do in that situation. This has proven a popular way for staff to test their own safeguarding knowledge. We also hold regular meetings with our safeguarding lead (Governor - Kelley Garth), who provides challenge and support to the safeguarding team in a purposeful way. If you would like more information about Safeguarding, please do not hesitate to contact us.



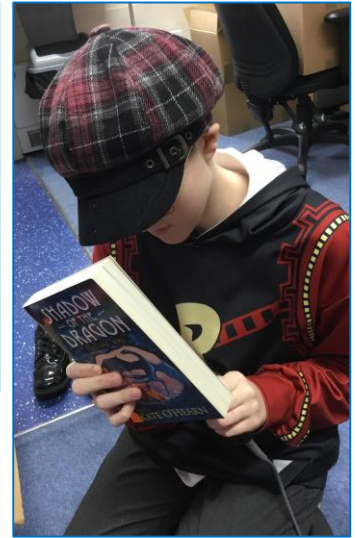
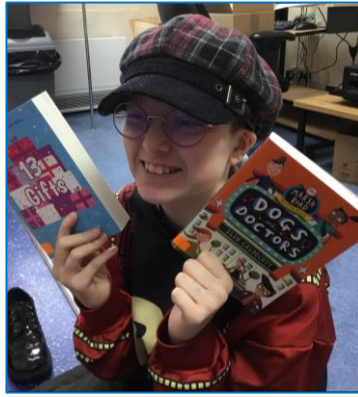
Neurodiversity

Its Neurodiversity Celebration Week and we have joined over 1100 other schools, colleges and universities across the world to celebrate differences such as autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia and Tourette's syndrome. Reception staff and students got involved in a variety of activities.



Library books

Wargrave House have received a consignment of over 300 new library books. We have some new authors, such as Nick Lake and Patrick Ness and of course some familiar authors, Roald Dahl and Jacqueline Wilson. For our younger students we have books by Jay Dale and Jill Atkins. We also have new non-fiction books on Romans, Egyptians and Animals. Jess has been helping Joan to scan each book into our Accelerated Reader Database.



School News

BASE3: EmployAbility

This week BASE3 have had the opportunity to further develop their Employability skills. Christopher worked as part of a group to make a banana cake. Sean and Byron took turns while problem solving when playing the board game Labyrinth. In a Geography lesson Sean located human and physical environments while using a map of our local area and Alexis got to touch the ancient footprint on one of the Calder stones in Calderstones Park. We have also celebrated Neurodiversity week where Daisy created herself as a superhero called "Dazzling Daisy" and Luke took part in Global Recycling Day where he sorted materials to identify which ones he could re-use. Look at our Red Nose Day photo.



BASE2: Jamie

Mr Whittaker forgot to include Jamie in the last edition of the newsletter, in case you're wondering why its snowing at J's house. He made the Lego Harry Potter castle at home, dressed up and played out in the snow.



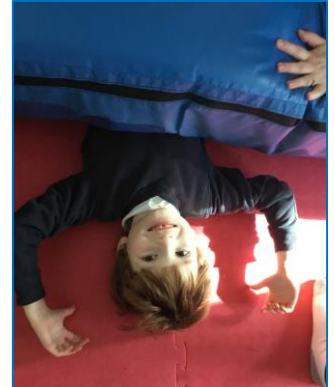
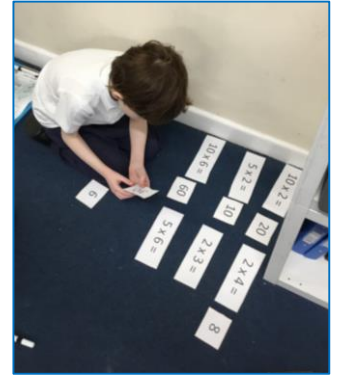
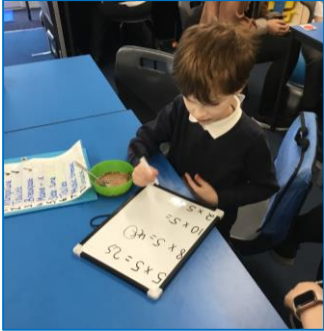
RISE2: we are all unique

RISE2 have been thinking about what makes us all different and unique. We have been using our regulation station regularly and thinking about how everyone needs different things to help them feel good! In class, we have designed ourselves as superheroes and thought about our own skills.



RISE1: Maths & O.T.

RISE1 have been working hard in maths, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Kieran has been multiplying by 2, 5 and 10. El-Jay recognised the correct describing words when looking at balls made from different materials. For Neurodiversity week, RISE1 discussed why each one of us are amazing and made our own superhero! We also enjoyed a group Occupational Therapy session.



RISE2: Random Acts of Wildness

RISE2 have been enjoying Random Acts of Wildness. But what is a Random Act of Wildness? Well, it's anything that you can do in an average day to bring a little nature into your life. It can take a few seconds or minutes or you could spend a few hours immersed in a natural environment. Taking even five minutes in nature can improve your mood, increase vitamin D levels, reduce cortisol levels (stress hormone) and help you to relax. Therefore, this week RISE2 have enjoyed the natural light outdoors by having their snack outside in the sunshine. To find out more information about Random Acts of Wildness please follow the link.



ENGAGE: "More"

This term Engage haven't been practising for a performance of Oliver but we have been learning about the concept 'more'. We have worked on this throughout the curriculum and this photo shows William demonstrating it brilliantly!



Engage always have lots of fun whilst we learn!



BASE1: Messy Play & Keeping Safe

BASE1 enjoyed some messy play with shaving foam and food colouring! They practiced sharing and taking turns choosing their colours! Reuben, Max, James, Oliver and Archie made a 'Keeping Safe on the Internet' rules poster in computing, where they took it in turns choosing different rules and pictures that they think they should follow to be able to use the internet safely. Well done boys!





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LEAP Specialist College

LLN

LAKESIDE & LEAP
NEWS



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CEO UPDATE
Robin Bush

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HEADLINES
Stuart Jamieson

I hope this latest edition of the newsletter finds you all well. The Post 16 team would like to thank you for your support with the Covid-19 home testing kits which is supporting our Covid mitigation measures so we can all work together in a safe manner. In this newsletter we have an article written by Courtney, who is studying a bespoke Access to HE pathway with an Education theme. Courtney has produced some outstanding pieces of work and is a fabulous role model to her peers, her resilience and aspiration is a joy to behold, well done Courtney. We hope you enjoy reading about the wonderful work being completed by the Post 16 students both on and off site, if you are aware of any opportunities for students to participate in work experience in your own or other workplaces, please do get in touch with me to follow up: julietdoherty@wargravehouse.com As Walt Disney said ' the way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing', we have a 'can do' attitude in post-16 and look forward to fully embracing our work experience opportunities again soon. Best wishes



Post-16
Juliet Doherty

► **Juliet and the Post 16 Team.**

Easter Fayre



We are holding our Easter Fayre on Thursday 1st April from 10am over at the college with a gazebo set up for Easter cakes, treats and drinks. LEAP1 & 2 will have tables set up with various Easter items to buy including bird feeders, dog treats, sweet cones and lavender pots. **Please see the full list of items at the end of this newsletter.** We have a couple of games where the students can "guess the bunny's

name" and "guess how many eggs are in the jar". Please could all pre orders be returned to Jayne Bates by Monday 29th March no later than 4pm. There will be an Easter Raffle with tickets available from Jan Hale £1 a strip with various prizes to be won.

Cosy Corner Café

Great News. Its Back... The Cosy Corner Cafe is going to be back up and running from Thursday 25th March from 10.15am - 10.45am. We will only be opening this up to Admin Staff for the next couple of weeks and then once we return after the Easter break, we will then open it up to the whole school. Orders will be sent over to the main school and collected by a member of staff from the back door. We are really looking forward to starting up the cafe again and we are happy to be running this facility.



Keeping Safe



What3Words is an app for your phone, which will locate your current position to within 3 square meters. This can be given to emergency services, so that they can locate you more accurately than if you use a post code or other method of location. For example, the front door at school is located using [showcases-forces-detect](#), whereas the entrance to LEAP is located as [spreads-encounter-menswear](#). This can give added specific information to emergency services, who can then use the best entrance or access to a location. Try it for yourself!

Courtney: Access to H.E.

In college, I am working on my Access to HE course. This includes three different modules: Education, Sociology and English. I am really enjoying learning about different things throughout the course, one of my favourite subjects that I have learnt is Gothic Literature, because I already like to read, but to be able to look more in depth at the characters and settings of the stories was interesting. Gothic Literature was the first unit I did on this course, so I found it hard at the beginning, but the more work I did, the more I understood. I was able to write a 250-word essay that I never thought I would be able to do a few years ago.

I have just completed one of the Sociology units; Education and Social Inequality. In this, I created a poster on two different ways to view education; Marxism and Functionalism, which was interesting to learn about how different people can view education. Please see the images below, which show the type of work that I have been doing during my time in LEAP.

Functionalist

Functionalist is known as a consensus theory as it indicates the idea that society requires shared values in order for it to function properly. They focus on the positive functions of education creating social solidarity, teaching core values and work skills and role allocation/meritocracy.

Functionalist In Education

Creating Social Solidarity
Emile Durkheim argued that schools make us feel like we are part of something bigger. It is done by learning through subjects such as history and English which give us a shared sense of identity. Durkheim said that schools prepare us for life in society. For example, both in schools and at work we have to work with people who are not our friend or family.

Learning Specialist Skills For Work
Durkheim said that the industrial economy required a massive and complex Division of Labour. At schools, individuals learn the skills necessary for this to take place. For example, we all start off learning the same subjects, but later on we choose our own GCSEs.

Teaching Us Core Values
Schools play the central role in learning the norms and values in society, taking over from primary socialisation which is children learning values, beliefs and attitudes through parents and family. Parsons argued this was necessary because family and the wider society work in different principles and children need to adapt to the wider world.

Role Allocation and Meritocracy
Education allocates people to the most appropriate jobs for their talents using examinations and qualifications. It is to make sure that the most talented are allocated a job that is important for society. This is seen to be fair because there is opportunity for everyone to succeed, this is known as meritocracy.

Marxism

Marxism is a name for political and economic ideas. These theory's came from a German philosopher Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. The main ideas is that the world is divide into two classes, the rich and the poor, also known as the bourgeois who are the rich and the proletarian who are the working class.

Marxism In Education

Reproduction Of Class Inequality
Class inequality is carried from one generation to the next. Middle class families can use their materials and money to ensure their children get into the best schools and top sets. This means that wealthier pupils are able to get the best education. Meanwhile working class children are more likely to get a poorer standard of education and end up in working class jobs. This is how it is reproduced.

Legitimation Of Class Inequality
Schools legitimize class inequality by telling all pupils they have an equal chance to succeed and that our grades depend on our effort and ability. And if we fail, we believe it is our fault. This then justifies the system because we think it is fair when in reality it is not.

The Correspondence Principle
The Correspondence Principle is a famous study by Bowels and Gintis which also includes the 'hidden curriculum'. It focuses on how schools are made to be similar to work, by obeying teachers orders as you would with a manager and if not you could be punished. Students work for marks and qualifications rather than the satisfaction of doing their work like when workers are motivated by the wages they earn.

Educate
The Magazine for Schools, Parents and Pupils

SkillsLive
@Derwen 2021

Award Winners

Meet our post-16 winners with their extremely well deserved awards. Most Inspirational College Award thanks to Educate Magazine, and Tarran with his Derwen College #skillslive2021 Winner Award. Ben also received a certificate for getting second place in the Independence section of the competition.



Ben completing some of his horticulture Open Award module.

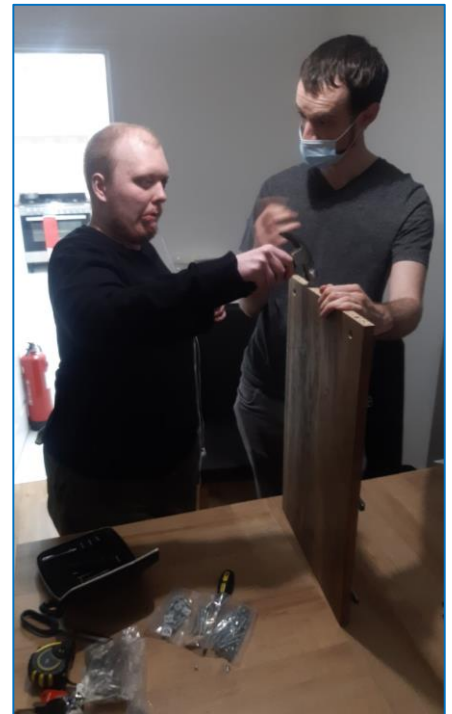
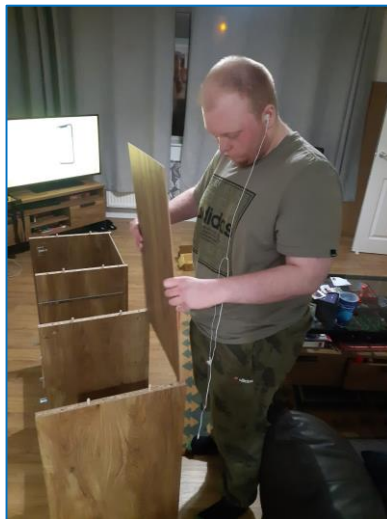
Will: Student Intern

It's been another busy period for Will. As you may have seen in the videos on Facebook and YouTube, Will has a number of jobs he does on a regular basis. But Will still has time to do other jobs around the college. The most notable jobs Will has done recently have been to help put down some new tarmac to make it safe and reduce trip hazards, scraped the outside walls of the gym as the paint has begun to come away and it needs to be prepared for being re-done, and checked all the First Aid kits in the minibuses. Will has gone through each item to check if it is still within its use by date and made sure that every kit has everything it needs. Well done Will for a job well done and supporting our marvellous maintenance man Andy in keeping everyone safe.



Joseph: Handyman

Joseph helped to put together a sideboard at home. He helped screw in a couple of screws, hammer in a few dowels and slide in a couple of panels! Joseph was encouraged to participate Throughout, but was definitely curious and, once involved, seemed to enjoy taking part for a few minutes at a time.



LEAP1: Community Day

LEAP1 enjoyed a community day at Formby National trust. Unfortunately, no squirrels were seen but much fun was had on the beach!



Employability & Careers

Now that all students are back on site, post-16 is starting to support the upkeep of Colliers Moss common in St Helens. Initially, our college and LEAP task force will be widening footpaths with the Mersey Forest Team and learning valuable forestry skills at the same time. Lakeside and LEAP students have visited the site to do an initial survey right.



LEAP students are also actively involved in growing plants from seeds with the Willowbrook Hospice Seed Growing Team. As soon as they are ready for planting out in the Hospice grounds we will work with their Team to make sure that the grounds are colourful, welcoming and offer a tranquil open space for everybody.

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Julliet Doherty has done an excellent job securing the Educate Most inspirational 16 – 18 Provider, SEND award (held by Yanick) and the runners up for the Community Partnerships Award.



Next time we will look at some of the great work that school have been doing and look at the employability and careers programme.

LEAP1: Community Day

An ex-Wargrave student has spent the last few months employed as a full time Teaching Support Assistant with post-16 and has proved to be an excellent addition to the department. Jack is always eager to support staff and students - whether it's supervising lunches and breaks, teaching students road safety and travel training or giving the other students the benefit of his experience in breaking down barriers to employment. Jack told us: "Wargrave is like a family to me and I am really enjoying the challenge of working as a teaching assistant and completing my training at the same time."



Dates to Remember

We are in the process of putting plans in place to deliver a fun packed, exciting and very long awaited Holiday Club in the Easter holidays. We are proposing an additional 3 days to our existing 3, meaning 6 whole days of activities- dependant on Government guidelines and data at that time! We have everything crossed.

Meet the Team

Meet Nic, Residential Learning Support Assistant...



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

8 years on February 25th

What do you like about working here?

My work mates and work being really close to where I live

What is your best memory of working here?

Going to Gateway Club with the young people – I love it!

What did you do before you came to Wargrave?

I was a lunchtime welfare assistant for a girl who is partially sighted & has Autism

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

My grandchildren, my Geoff & a guitar!

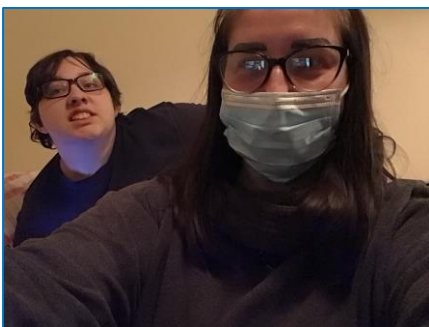
Who is your hero and why?

I am going to say my daughter, Amy. I'm really proud of what she's achieved and overcome!

Thanks Nic!!

Student Voice

Emily said that she's missed residential!



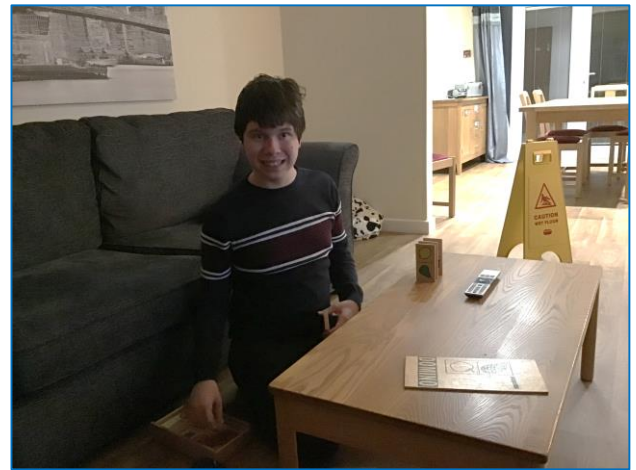
What have we been up to?

We have welcomed back Rhys, Emily and Benji to residential with smiles & laughter, its like they've never been away!



Happy Birthday, Greg

We have a birthday on Tuesday... have the best day Greg, enjoy your takeaway and celebrations with your friends.



Wellbeing

Our focus continues to be the wellbeing of all the students and staff especially during these unprecedented times and on their return. It cannot be underestimated the impact the pandemic has had on us all, but there is support & help out there. Sarah Powell is the residential Mental Health First Aider and checks in regularly with students and staff alike. We want to share some important contacts with you:

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.

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

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.



EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Post 16 will be holding an Easter Market on the 1st April. We will be selling all sorts of EGGCITING things! Please place order early. This will be on a first come first served basis.

Hot Chocolate
Bunny Cones
£1.50



Easter Dog Treats
Pack of 3
£1.00



Hessian Sweet Filled
Easter Pouch
£1.00



Cheesy Carrot
Cones
50p



Easter Sweet
Cone
£1.50



Bug
Hotels
£2.00



Small Flower
Pot
£1.75



Easter Nest
x 1
£50p



Bird & Butterfly
Feeders
£1.00



Lavender
Pot
£1.50



Easter Nest
x 3
£1.00

