

May 2021

Pyjamarama

2020/2021 - No.12

Wargrave News



...where's Ted?



CEO UPDATE

Robin Bush



Dear parents & carers

I hope this newsletter finds you all safe and well. We are really pleased that the government's roadmap continues to provide us all with a greater sense that life is gradually returning to normal. You will note that this newsletter is a reflection of the purposeful and experiential learning that continues to thrive across school and college. We are delighted that our Post-16 Learning Provision has been recognised in yesterday's Association of National Specialist Colleges (Natspec) Awards as the **Winner of Pathways into Employment**. This follows last year's recognition through Natspec for Outstanding Collaborative/Partnership working. We all share the pride felt by our Head of Post-16 Learning, Juliet Doherty and the team of staff for this wonderful achievement. In providing such purposeful life employment possibilities through Enovert, Veolia, Mercure Hotels alongside local partnerships with Earlestown Cricket Club and Lyme and Wood Country Park our students are developing invaluable habits as they consider career pathways and innovative forms of enterprise such as Cosy Corner Café. Have a great weekend. ► **Robin.**

Dear parents & carers



HEADLINES

Stuart Jamieson

With Parents' evening almost upon us, next week you will receive details outlining the arrangements. We are delighted to have received over two thirds of parental choices of your preferences for either an on-site meeting, remotely over TEAMS or alternatively via a telephone call.

You will have received your child's progress report and we look forward to receiving your feedback on this to support the Parents' evening. My thanks this week go to staff who have facilitated an outstanding range of learning experiences for all our students including Post 16 visits to Collier's Moss and use of public transport within Manchester, supporting their independent travel development. School visits have included Mountain Monkeys, planned swimming sessions and martial arts. We are really enthused by the passion and interest our students are showing in developing their reading skills, each day they undertake independent reading and have today actively participated in Pyjamarama Day. Our thanks go to Miss Lewis and her team for organising this inspirational event. I would like to remind you all that in the final half term of our academic year the school and college will be closed to students on both Thursday 1 and Friday 2 July due to staff training.

Best wishes for a good weekend. ► **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

112

CHALLENGE
TARGET

453

Introducing...

Hi everyone. I just wanted to introduce myself as the new learning disabilities nurse for Wargrave House. I've been here for a week now and have particularly enjoyed spending time with students over at our post-16 provision and supporting some of our younger students with their vaccines. My background as a nurse since qualifying has been working on a general medical ward due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, I am qualified as a learning disabilities nurse and have been very excited to get back into this way of working. I have a lot of experience throughout my training working with individuals with autism and hope to continue to increase my knowledge at Wargrave to best support the children and young people here and their families. Going forward I'm going to be part of some exciting work with the therapy team, where we hope to develop an outreach service, increasing the support we can provide to our students and their families and look forward to getting to know you all personally. Thanks, Sam. LD Nurse.

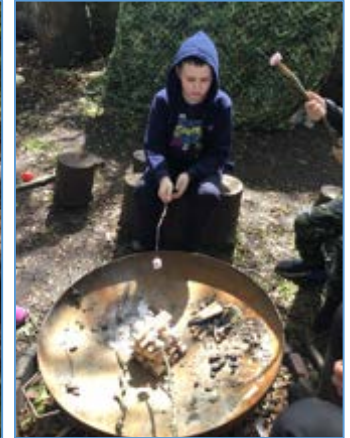




RISE2: Mountain Monkeys

RISE2 visited Mountain Monkeys outdoor learning centre in St Helens. The class had a brilliant time.

We have learned new skills such as archery and axe throwing. We also really enjoyed learning about fire safety and especially toasting marshmallows on the camp fire. We love learning outdoors!



RISE2 have been developing their teamwork skills too. Learners showed great bravery in taking to the water aboard a raft. They worked hard to paddle across the water before returning to shore!



Equine Assisted Occupational Therapy

Last week was our first week trialling EAOT and we are pleased to say the first day was a success! Equine Assisted Therapy involves the use of horses and equine related activities to achieve therapeutic goals which will enhance physical, emotional, social, cognitive, behavioural, communication and educational skills for people with disabilities. The children will follow set tasks during the session to aid sensory regulation.

This includes sensory preparation in which students will carry out heavy work in the yard, such as stable work. When the students are ready they will ride the horses and participate in a range of sensory activities whilst mounted. They will also be involved in grooming the horses with an aim to enjoying the sensory experience and social communication.

Our Engage class introduced themselves to the horses and spent some time grooming the ponies.



Peter was a brilliant help to staff and did some sweeping of hay at the stables. He worked really well in partnership with staff and left the yard spotless!



ENGAGE: Sensory Play

In ENGAGE we use sensory play to help build language skills, promote social interaction, develop motor skills and encourage engagement. It's also FUN! ENGAGE have loved exploring our new rainbow chickpeas. You could follow this work system and make some at home!



Sonia enjoys the sound the chickpeas make when you drop them onto the tray.

123

TO DO

Buy some dried chickpeas.

Pour into sandwich bags

Add a squeeze of paint in each bag

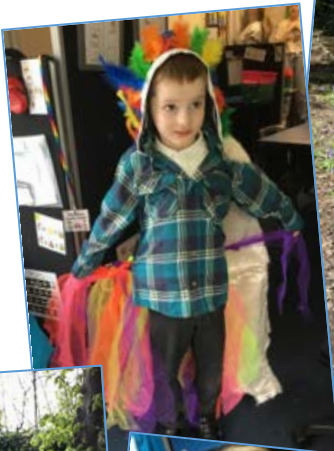
Shut the bag and shake, shake, shake!

Leave to dry.

RISE1's week

This week, RISE1 learned about equal halves in maths and practised their handwriting using foam.

Our wonderful Therapy team kindly made Kieran a peacock outfit (The national bird of India) which he has absolutely loved wearing! He also completed amazing Phonics work. RISE1 have created beautiful 'seasons of the year' paintings, practised riding scooters and worked as a team.



Sporting Activities

There has been a flurry of sporting activity and achievement on and off site this week. At swimming an Engage learner accessed the water for the first time in eighteen months, everyone was immensely proud. Martial arts learners are on track to be graded in the final week before half term. Martial arts coach, Shireen has commended our learners on their sheer determination and resilience. At Mountain Monkeys, RISE2 sailed Carr Mill Dam on a rafted canoe, whilst Peter in BASE4 has made great progress by paddling around the dam in a single canoe. Engage burned off some energy at Formby Point, walking in the woodlands and running on the beach. The natural communication skills demonstrated, as well as social interactions between peers and members of the public were a joy to see. WHS learners you are a privilege to teach.



Computing

Students across school and college have returned to Computing sessions for 2 hours per week. Over lockdown, many classes missed out on their Computing time and have completed Computing tasks in class, and some at home.

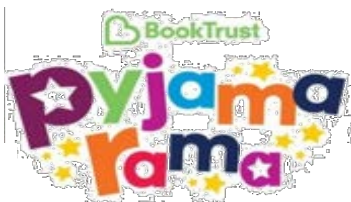


BASE2: Team-building

In Personal Development, BASE2 has been working on Team Building Challenges. The challenge for this week was building the tallest tower from marshmallows and spaghetti.



The next challenge was to make a domino run or a bridge.



BASE2 have enjoyed sharing an outdoor theme for Pyjamarama Day. They enjoyed listening to Beast Quest stories in our tent classroom. They watched Fantastic Beasts and compared the beasts in both stories. They then enjoyed using the adventure story cannon to tell their own class story in a round. They even enjoyed homemade pizzas and chocolate s'mores at lunchtime. We have had an amazing day!



Pyjamarama



RISE2 wish you all a 'Happy Pyjama Rama Day'! Today we have looked at our favourite books and shared them with our friends in class. We then worked together to write our own stories and found them all very funny. We have had lots of fun wearing our pyjamas – we were all very comfy. We hope you all had a good day!



Jamie



RISE2



BASE1



RISE2



BASE1



BASE3

In English this week Daisy and Christopher have been learning about non-verbal communication. In our local supermarket Daisy and John met up and gave each other a 'high five'. In Employability Skills Daisy, John and Christopher worked together to create a fantastic Wargrave House School "Monopoly" game which our learners enjoyed playing. Alexis and Byron played "Labyrinth" in Personal Development where they worked on their turn-taking, waiting and listening skills. Luke Halliwell continued to tend to our sunflower and runner bean plants by making sure they were watered as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme while Byron produced lovely wall art for our playground. BASE3 learners have enjoyed being taught by our student teacher Mr Hartley this term, and this week we celebrated his birthday with a party in class. He is with Luke and John.



LN

LAKE SIDE & LEAP

NEWS

The Autism Specialists

May 2021

2020/21 - No.12



This symbol represents areas of the newsletter that you can click to access more information

 **2021**
Category: Pathways into employment
Winner of the Natspec 2021 Award
LEAP College

Dear parents, carers and students



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Words can't convey how very proud I am of all the staff and students for having won the Natspec Pathways into Employment Award 2021. This award is due to the commitment and dedication of the Post 16 staff and students who have demonstrated their flexibility to adapt to a range of work placements with outstanding results. The aim of empowering everyone and supporting aspirational future goals is at the heart of all they do.
► **Julliet and the staff team in Post 16**



Natspec Pathways to Employment 2021



We are extremely pleased and proud that Post-16 have successfully won the Natspec Pathways into Employment Award 2021.

This award is due to the commitment and dedication of the Post-16 staff and students who have demonstrated their flexibility to adapt to a range of work placements with outstanding results. The aim of empowering everyone and supporting aspirational future goals is at the heart of all they do. We are very proud of our students and all their hard work!

Cosy Corner Café

Friday 21st May will be the last chance for students to order from the Cosy Corner Café takeaway.

There will be no service on the 28th May in preparation for the Cosy Corner Café re-launch at LEAP that will run from 4th June! Watch this space for staff and student special offers that will run on a weekly basis.



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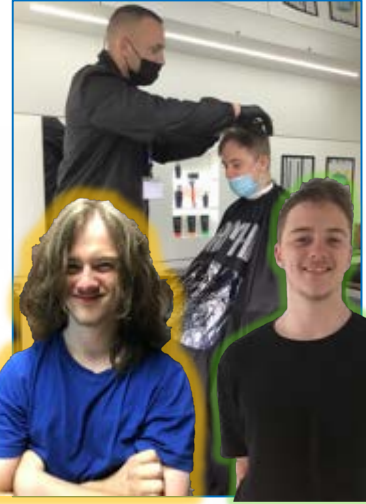
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LS1: Haircuts

Lakeside & LEAP

Being in lockdown has been tough for everyone, but one thing has definitely grown well during this time... hair! The fabulous mobile Trim-It barber paid us a visit this week. Take a look at the amazing results below.



LS1 enjoyed a morning of fun on community day playing a game of FootGolf at Haigh Woodland Park.



LEAP2: Food Preparation



LEAP1: Garden project

Lakeside & LEAP

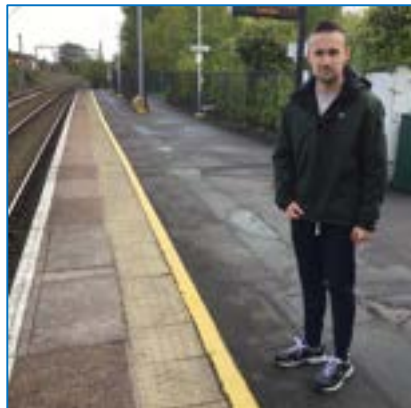
LEAP1 students enjoyed working as a group alongside Andy today using hand tools such as a saw and a hand drill, to make our raised bed. The start to one of our many garden projects!



LEAP1: Chester & Liverpool



LEAP1 have enjoyed getting back to travel training this half term by visiting Chester Park & Ride and using the train to Liverpool. They have enjoyed sightseeing around Chester by boat and we visited China Town and the Superlambananas in Liverpool.



MMA with Khovan

Khovan lead the start of LEAP1's MMA session along with training them for their new belts with absolute confidence. It was a pleasure to watch.

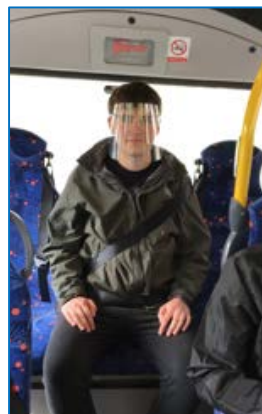
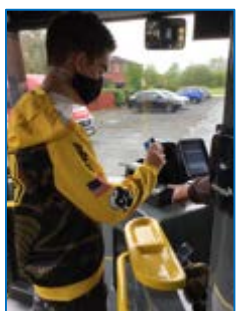


Colliers Moss



LS1 students met Dave who is a Mersey Forest Trustee and is now working with Post 16 to develop students their understanding of forestry, construction and ecology through bespoke jobs on the Moss. Dave took the group on a tour of the Moss and stopped at convenient points along the way to discuss the habitat. We agreed some of the work that we will be doing over the coming months which includes creating dragon fly pools, clearing the heathland of invasive trees, clearing the footpaths, repairing bridges and working with a construction company to improve the drainage. We will also be providing an environmental tidy up and removing the litter on a regular basis. Watch this space for updates.

Travel Training



Travel training is back on the agenda for Post-16 who have been using buses and trains recently under strict Covid protocol. Over the coming weeks LS1 will be planning regular trips by bus using bus timetables and will be paying for their own fares.

Will: Supported Intern

Will, our supported intern has been working hard again, completing all of his usual checks and tasks supporting the school and college. He has begun his training to use the lawnmower ready to start cutting the grass and has now been joined by a student in BASE4, who has expressed an interest in the jobs he has seen Will doing. Together, Will and Peter have moved two raised flower beds for a classroom. They've done such a good job that they have to move two more next week!

