

Wargrave News



Celebrating 50 years Learning About Life

Assembly

Class Information

Therapy Dog: Nico

Online Safety

Reflection Week

RISE1 at the Races

Pumpkin Picking

Duke of Edinburgh

Halloween



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Healthy School

centre
of excellence
in Financial Education





CEO UPDATE

Robin Bush

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you all for your continuous support throughout this first Autumn half term. We were delighted to welcome so many of you at our Cosy Corner Café morning last Friday 15th October.

All our post 16 students thoroughly enjoyed hosting the event utilising their creative entrepreneurial skills. We look forward to welcoming you next half term where we will also provide a discussion focus by way of mutual support for both learning and social needs. My thanks go to our Family Liaison Officer, Claire Byrne and Post 16 Team member Tara Thomas.

You will be fully aware of the ongoing national government monitoring of the COVID 19 Pandemic. In spite of us having some confirmed cases we have been able to securely activate our risk assessment policy, maximising safety for all students/learners and staff and continue learning as far as possible, both on and off site. Naturally, we will continue to fully monitor any development whilst considering advice and guidance and keep you fully informed. Throughout the holiday period we will conduct our regular cycle of deep cleaning of all areas. I would request that you, as far as possible, encourage your son/daughter to continue the Wednesday/Sunday LFT testing. Should you have any concerns of potential Covid symptoms and/or changes of circumstance please ensure that you email covidresponse@wargravehouse.com. If you have any concerns I would urge you to take the action of completing a PCR test.

I am a firm believer that success breeds success and would like to convey my gratitude to all staff and students in gaining our Advance National Autistic Society Accreditation as shared within the newsletter. Wishing you all a restful half term break.

Robin





Dear parents and carers,

I hope our newsletter finds you all safe and well. As we close today for October half – term, we are delighted to see our learners and students enjoying the fancy dress marking Halloween.

Such a tremendous effort has gone in to producing authentically ghoulish displays alongside costumes. We are now looking forward to welcoming a number of students / learners to our October half term holiday club next Thursday & Friday 28 & 29th October. Holiday club lead Monica Pennycook is running alongside a team of skilled staff. We will be writing to all in the next half term to consider your views regarding plans for our next holiday club in February 2023.

Last week we were delighted to hear the news that we had been awarded Advanced Accreditation by the National Autistic Society following a three-day inspection. The lead accreditation advisor Jonny Knowles (North West & North Wales) worked alongside a second inspector confirming this wonderful achievement acknowledging the professionalism, consistency and learning outcomes through both our staff and students.

Amongst the main findings and highlights of the comprehensive report are a series of quotes shared below.

Purposeful Learning

"Within all observations, learners were engaged in meaningful activities in which staff facilitated opportunities for learners to demonstrate their knowledge. Staff provided positive feedback as well as developments which helped learners to make progress and develop resilience. In some observed lessons staff supported learners in extension tasks and to think about what their next steps in learning might be, creating personal challenge and motivation to learn."

Educational Planning

"All lessons observed were planned to incorporate opportunities for learners to express their opinions and make decisions, with opportunity to work independently or with support. Staff talked to learners about their individual learning objectives and visual aids were used to support learners in the self-evaluation of lessons".

Sincere thanks to those parents and carers who were able to respond to the survey, some of the quotes below highlight your views.

Two parents spoke with the assessment team via phone during the assessment. Parents both spoke positively about the school and the support they have received.

Parents stated that communication with the school is always good and "someone is always available to get in touch with to offer support or advice".

Parents also highlighted the positivity of staff which is reinforced through "celebration events" and "lots of positive feedback"

Parents discussed the academic progress that their family member had made since joining the school as well as developing more "confidence", "communication" and more "motivation to be sociable".

One parent stated that the key strength of the school is the "therapeutic approach around the needs of the child" and a "gradual approach to support the development of important skills".

Wishing you all a restful half term break, we look forward to seeing your son/daughter on Monday 1 November. **Stuart.**

Home Liaison

It was lovely to welcome parent/carers on site to enjoy Cosy Corner Café treats last week.

The feedback from parents was glowing with requests to come again, so that's what we will do! Watch this space for future dates.

If you are a year 11 parent/ carer and couldn't make Lakeside College information morning please contact us to arrange an alternate date. Please remember, Year 11 students need to submit an expression of interest form if they

wish to be considered. If you would like to discuss your child's transition plans please don't hesitate to contact us. ► **Claire Byrne**



Assembly

Last week, we re-visited 'kindness' and watched a short animated video about what it means to be kind. Many students also offered their

thoughts on what people do to be kind to others. We celebrated a student in RISE1 who overcame his fear of water by joining in with swimming, and we also celebrated Daisy's confidence as she read a story to the younger learners in RISE1. Well done! If your son/daughter demonstrates a value at home, we'd love to hear about it and celebrate this too! Let me know! davewhittaker@wargravehouse.com



Therapy Dog

I have now passed my primary and secondary Bronze Level therapy dog training with KRRs Training. I passed with 100% and earned two rosettes for doing so well.

I have now started my Silver Level therapy dog training.

► Nico 



Music Therapy

Hi! I'm Joe and I'm looking forward to working with you all this term as a student music therapist alongside Charlotte!


I've been a musician and music facilitator for the past 16 years and spent much of the last decade as a music specialist in special needs schools so it's great to have the opportunity to come and work with and learn from you all here! Please say hello and come and have a chat! ► **Joe**



New Menus


Week 1

Monday




Minced Beef Bolognese


or




tuna




boiled egg




salad




cucumber sticks



gingerbread man




yogurt

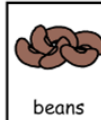


jelly

Tuesday




baked potato




beans


or




ham




salad




carrot sticks



jam sponge




custard




dairylea dunkers


Wednesday




hot dog




cheese




salad




turkey



ice cream




doughnut




jelly


Thursday



chicken




roast potatoes




corn


or




salmon



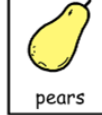
corned beef




salad




carrot sticks



pears



yogurt



dairylea dunkers

Friday



fish cakes



chips



mushy peas

or



ham



boiled egg



salad



cucumber sticks



cookies




yogurt




jelly

Week 2

Monday

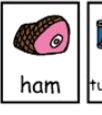


chicken/veg curry




rice


or




ham




tuna mayo




salad




cucumber sticks



ice cream

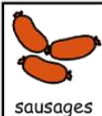


yogurt




jelly

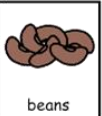
Tuesday



sausages




mash




beans


or




cheese




boiled egg




salad




carrot sticks



syrup sponge




custard

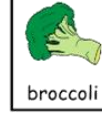


dairylea dunkers

Wednesday




macaroni cheese




broccoli

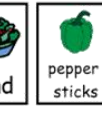
or




turkey




salmon




salad



pepper sticks




peach slices

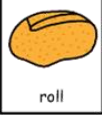


jelly

Thursday

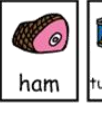


beef hotpot




roll


or




ham




tuna mayo




salad



carrot sticks




gingerbread man




dairylea dunkers

Friday




fish & chips




mushy peas


or




cheese




boiled egg




salad




cucumber sticks



crispy cake



yogurt



jelly

Online Safety – Social Media Apps

13+

What risks are there of my child using these apps?

Whilst there are benefits of social media, there are risks too, regardless of age. Inappropriate content, sharing personal information, cyberbullying and grooming are all issues on the rise.



Reporting

If your son/daughter is using social media, make sure you are aware, and show them how to report inappropriate content and explain that they should tell you. Why not spend some time together, exploring the various security and reporting options within social media apps?

Further information

If your child wants to access social media, but is too young, you may like to look at some age-appropriate apps designed for children aged 6-10, or 11-13. [Click here](#) to see the list on 'Internet Matters'.



You may also like to take a look at Net Aware's [information](#) on the most popular social media apps, games and sites.



Food Bank

BASE5 students make up hampers to take to the Community Centre food bank -

to help families in the local community as part of harvest celebrations.



Learning Through Reflection

This term, our learners have settled in to their learning really well. They have adapted well to new routines and have been engaged in their learning. In a recent book-look, it is apparent that learners have enjoyed participating in a wide variety of activities this half term, including sensory activities, baking, visits & crafts. They have recently reflected on their accomplishments this half term and celebrated their successes. This information will be shared with you at the upcoming parents' evening in November. ► Mrs Gorman



Engage

Engage took a seasonal trip to Pendle Hill in unseasonal weather. The sun shone, we had a picnic and walk by the stream.



Engage are super proud of Sonia who has worked hard to pass her blue and white MMA belt.



RISE1 at the Races

<https://www.racingtogether.co.uk/autism-in-racing/>

Last Friday, RISE1 went to Haydock Park racecourse as part of a new initiative for Autism in Racing. The children really enjoyed meeting Dougie the pony and getting the chance to brush him. They got to walk on the racetrack and enter the winner's circle. They were also able to explore an interactive sensory room. They got to watch one of the races, and then watch Mrs Dickson get a picture with the winning jockey.



BASE5

BASE5 prepared for Halloween by going pumpkin picking.



Duke of Edinburgh

After a bit of a setback in the summer due to Covid, the Duke of Edinburgh students hit the ground walking! To complete the Duke of Edinburgh, our students have worked throughout the year on four sections, Physical (their own fitness) Volunteering (helping our community) and Skill (learning something new, or improving in an area they choose).

For the expedition section, our students complete a set of training which focuses on walking skills, recognising locations, mapping and safety (first aid, nutrition, road and animal safety). This is a year of hard work from students and staff and though it may not always look it, the final expedition is a whole lot of fun for all involved!

Over our three groups we have completed 96km's as a school through all types of weather and terrain. While out on expedition all students complete an aim so we look forward to sharing with you our students own presentation, nature surveys and maps! Well Done to all of our students! We look forward to our first Gold groups in 2022!



BASE2: MMA

This week Lucas, Oliver, Timothy, Reuben, Thomas & Archie have completed their next stage in Mixed Martial Arts and received a certificate and belt after their grading. BASE2 learners have worked incredibly hard this half term and have progressed well. Well done!



BASE4

BASE4 visited Kenyon Hall farm this week to search through the hundreds of pumpkins in the fields to find three that we could take back to school to add to our autumn/Halloween themed decoration in class. Here we can see Christopher, Alexis and Patryk who were trying to see who could find the biggest pumpkin. Daisy, meanwhile, used her fine motor and cutting skills to design and create a really effective and quite scary pumpkin face.



BASE3

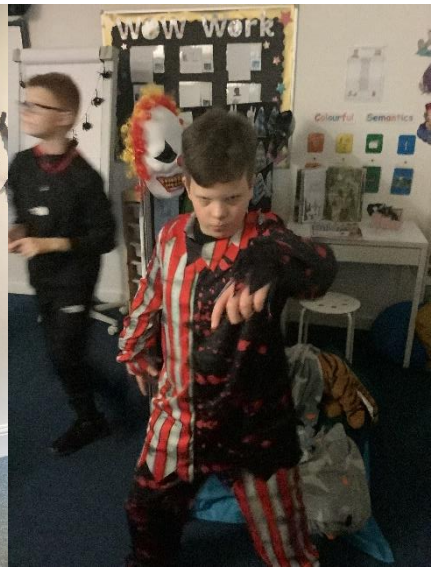
BASE3 have enjoyed being creative this term. We have been making chocolate apples and s'mores...



We have been trying to use chopsticks, carving pumpkins and making bread!

Halloween Pictures





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Dear students, parents and carers

Welcome to our last newsletter for this half term. How very quickly has the past 7 weeks gone and how much has been achieved.

I am delighted to share that the students in LEAP3 were graded this week and have been awarded their MMA belts, so please join me in huge congratulations as: Chris, Joe, Joseph & Ruby are now blue belts; Leon & Benji are yellow belts; and our very own Lakeside1 sporting role model Khovan has passed his Level 3 coaching. The LEAP3 coach, Shireen, told me that the students performed 6 specific strikes individually on request and as a whole combination on request, well done to them all. Lakeside students have completed their Silver DofE and demonstrated incredible resilience and determination; LEAP students are starting their Gold DofE so watch this space for more successes across the year. We would like to wish our LEAP2 teacher Lauren Molyneux congratulations and best wishes as she gets married (at last after Covid put a stop to it so many times over the past 18 months) over half term and very special birthday wishes to our LEAP3 teacher Phil Adams who I believe is 21 again! As always please do contact me or the staff in Post-16 if you have any questions at all. Have a safe, restful, and peaceful half term. ► **Best wishes from Julliet and the Post-16 team.**



Cosy Corner Café

The café was very busy last Friday, 15th October, as café students were pleased to welcome some parents and carers who attended with our family liaison officer Claire Byrne. Well done to all the Cafe team!



Dave and Yvette are now officially our school 'Careers Champions' and will be raising the profile of employability and taking the lead on school events and initiatives. Julie Jones is now working with Wargrave as an Enterprise Coordinator (Liverpool City Regional Hub) and is providing advice and guidance on various aspects of employability and careers for our learners in school.



Our first 'Business Breakfast' took place last week with Tony Costello from Galliford Try. Over breakfast, the Post 16 student social media group discussed how they would undertake their health and safety induction so that they can access Galliford's building sites safely to interview workers about their various roles, responsibilities. They will then produce a professional newsletter on behalf of Wargrave for Galliford Try. Tony has made himself available one day per week so that our team can utilise the Go Pro that he kindly donated to kick start this initiative. Tony also donated hard hats, Hi Vis jackets and a range of other goodies to keep us going!

Jaerad from Speedy Tool Hire delivered a health and safety demonstration to Post 16 students on the correct use of the cement mixer, jack hammer, compactor plate, portable generator and personal lift. Post 16 are becoming more focussed on developing skills that employers are looking for in the workplace and we intend to use all of the above equipment (with the appropriate training) in our future placements.



LS1 and LS2 also visited Momos Café in St Helens and sampled the numerous activities available whilst enjoying a drink and snack. Yanick provided the background music with the piano whilst students enjoyed a game of chess or a chat in one of the wide selection of rooms. Hopefully, one of our students will secure a placement here after Christmas. ► Steve



Garden Project

Thank you to Monastery Garden Supplies for our soil delivery last week and kindly waiving the delivery fee. Staff and students worked hard filling our raised beds, we are looking forward to early spring when we can start planting out our herbs and vegetables.



LEAP

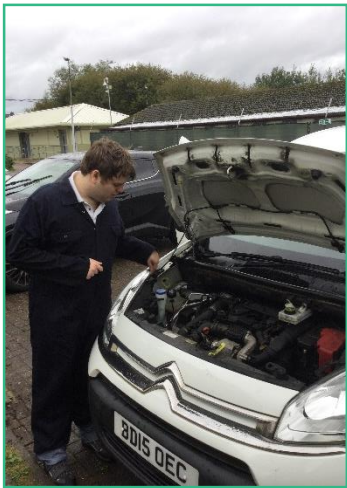
Each Week Ben and Courtney work together to make different meals for their lunch. Sharing the equipment and the kitchen space, last week they made burgers. On Friday LEAP



Visited Industrial clothing to order safety wear and equipment for our students to use when out at work.

RSPCA

Nicky's hard work continues with his Supported Internship at the RSPCA. He has been learning new skills this week by completing the van checks and helping Mark by painting in the new reception area of the bungalow on site.



LEAP2

LEAP2 students have been busy working on their Halloween enterprise this week. They have made hot chocolate cones, sweet cones, and scary masks.



LS3

Rhys and Greg have been out bowling. They have done great turn-taking and were very encouraging to a friend. Greg has enjoyed going to the gym and having some 1:1 training with a PT. Rhys got some household chores done in ILS and Dylan tried his hand at sorting and lacing.



Duke of Edinburgh

LS1 and LS2 completed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition.

They walked 42km (26.8 miles) that's over 610,000 steps! Walking in all weathers but they kept their spirits up. A fantastic achievement for everyone including the staff who walked and supported them every inch of the way. To celebrate the completion of the Duke of Edinburgh expedition, Lakeside chose to visit Liverpool where they played a game of junkyard golf. They tested their skills to navigate the tricky terrain and had great fun together. LS1 and LS2 worked together this week to create a Mexican feast. They planned what food they would like to buy, made a list, and budgeted for each item. They shopped for all of the ingredients and then each contributed to preparing and cooking the food. It was lovely to come together as a group to share the delicious meal to celebrate what they have achieved over this half term.



Good Luck, Lauren

LEAP staff and students celebrated with LEAP2 teacher Lauren as she prepares to get married in South Africa next week. Good Luck Lauren from all of us at Wargrave.



Pumpkin Picking & MMA

LEAP3 went pumpkin picking at Roby Mill Farm. Each student picked a pumpkin and we carved them back at college. The students received their grading belts and certificates in their MMA lesson. MMA has been great for the students to gain skills in balance, jumping and punching. The students also gained great experience in listening to instructions.



Fitness Training

LEAP enjoying their last session this half term at the Gym with Tony. They have enjoyed taking part in a number of fitness circuits and creating their own as a group @TRY Fitness Training.



Brandon & Tarran in their impressive Halloween attire!

Halloween