

Wargrave News

Christmas Edition



Celebrating 50 years Learning About Life



Therapy Dog

Jamie's Jokes

Christmas Doors

Class News



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

The Autism Specialists



Healthy School

centre
of excellence
in Financial Education



AUTISM
ACCREDITATION



Eco-Schools



Dear parents and carers,



CEO UPDATE

Robin Bush

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Dear parents and carers,



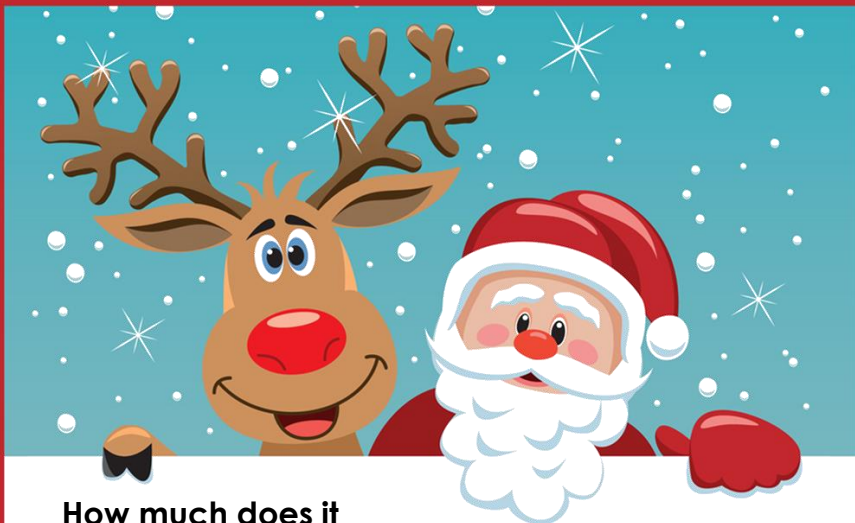
HEADLINES

Stuart Jamieson

Thank you for your cooperation in responding so supportively towards the culmination of the Winter term one day ahead of schedule. In spite of the impact of this decision we have managed to enjoy a remote end of term assembly with the premier of our Nativity film seen by all staff and students. Our sincere thanks goes to Dave Whittaker for his directorial debut in this epic production, keep your eyes peeled for the film's debut on Facebook soon! Although the pandemic has consistently thrown huge barriers to our day-to-day lives I am extremely proud of the significant achievements of all our young people throughout this term. In the New Year you will receive progress review updates following our reflection week in school alongside the review process in college. We look forward to gaining your feedback on how your son/daughter is progressing with us here at Wargrave House. I would like to note a few of the many highlights of this year of which we can all be immensely proud. Firstly our organisation gaining National Autistic Society Advanced Accreditation in respect of all aspects of learning, wellbeing, curriculum and through our dedication to autism specific approaches. Secondly the North West acknowledgement through the Educate Awards in providing the best Community Collaboration through the enterprising curriculum delivery. Finally, last but by no means least, the spirit and active engagement of all our students shown on a daily basis through the skill and commitment of all staff. We look forward to welcoming back all our students next term, wishing you all the best Christmas/New Year break possible. ►Stuart

Jamie's Jokes

Jamie has been entertaining staff with some original jokes. Here's a selection of them.



How much does it cost for Santa to park his sleigh?
Nothing.
Its on the house.

What's a snowman's favourite song?
Freeze a jolly good fellow.

What do you call an unimportant elephant?
An irrelephant.

Did you hear about the frog's broken car?
It was toad.

What do you call a man who pours drinks?
Phil.

I was hit on the head by a load of books.
I've only got my shelf to blame.

Therapy Dog: Nico

Nico has had a busy few weeks – he has now passed his primary and secondary Silver Level therapy dog training with KRRs Training. Students have been helping Nico with his next levels of training and spending more time with him as he learns. Nico has also enjoyed showing off his new Christmas jumper around school.



BASE2

BASE2 enjoyed their Christmas dinner.



Engage



Sonia enjoyed her time outdoors during her walk in the woods. Nethusha showed great focus and attention in music therapy, whilst Will demonstrated his cleaning skills. The boys then collected the lunch trolley from the dining room without help from staff.



Wellbeing

It is always important to look after yourself and the people in your care. We all forget sometimes, to take a moment for ourselves, assess, relax and breathe. Staying hydrated and eating a balanced diet will help keep you more alert and feel better in yourself. Making sure you get enough sleep and talking to people about problems can help you deal with life's issues.



BASE1

In Personal Development we've been making pitta bread pizzas and practising following a recipe and taking turns with our peers! We have also loved decorating our door for Christmas and have worked as a team to paint all the different parts of our lovely tree!



Christmas Doors

Our Christmas Door competition was taken very seriously this year, with classes going all out to take the crown. Here's some pictures of them. Which is your favourite? The results will be in on our final day.

RISE2



BASE2



RISE1



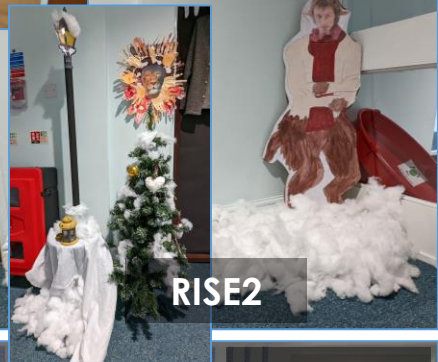
BASE4



RISE2



RISE2



ENGAGE

BASE2



ENGAGE



BASE3



BASE5



RISE1



BASE1



Christmas Dinners

A huge thank you to our kitchen staff who provided us with another delicious Christmas Dinner.



BASE4

BASE4 enjoyed a festive Christmas dinner with **Hayley and Karen from our therapy team**. We wore our Christmas jumpers, pulled our crackers, wore our party hats and told each other some really “corny” jokes.

Alex, Alexis and Patryk followed instructions to design and create beautiful Christmas cards for our school's Christmas card competition.



RISE2: Outdoor Learning

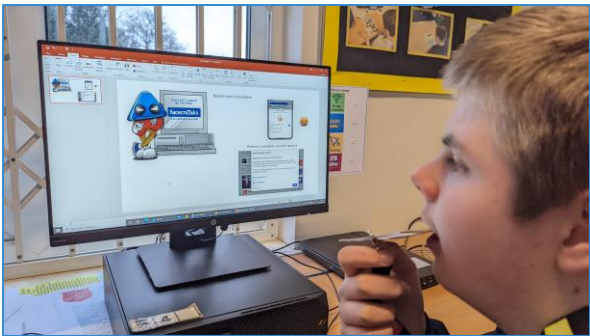
THERE IS NO WIFI IN THE FOREST BUT YOU WILL FIND A BETTER CONNECTION



RISE2 have had a brilliant time during Outdoor Learning. We took part in our own version of 'I'm a Celebrity'. We completed fun trials and earned our stars for snack. Well done RISE 2!

Computing: E-Safety

Learners across school have been focussing on “Ways to Report” during their e-safety session. They thought of online activities that they do, then considered what they would or could do if they saw or heard something that was not nice.



On pretty much all social media or gaming, there should be a way to report the inappropriate behaviour of others. Be aware of what your son/daughter is accessing and consider discussing what they experience online and if they know what to do about things they don't like.

Report and/or Block This Person

- ☐ Block John Smith
Blocking means you won't be able to see or contact John Smith on Facebook
- ☒ Submit a Report
Let us know about abuse on Facebook
 - ☐ Report content shared by John
 - ☐ Report John's account
- ☐ This is my old profile
 - ☐ Recover this account, it's hacked
 - ☐ Close this account

Is this your intellectual property?

RISE1

We are getting very excited for Christmas in RISE1 and have enjoyed all the activities we have been doing in class. We loved wearing our Christmas jumpers and going to the Christmas markets. We had a lovely time at our class Christmas dinner and enjoyed pulling the crackers with staff and wearing our hats.

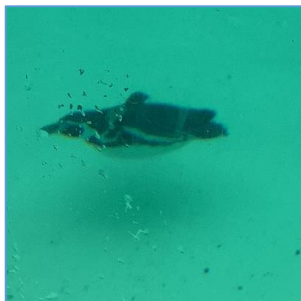


BASE3



Dare2Dream
ENGAGE EMPOWER ENABLE

This half term, we listened to the views of our learners in our last dare2dream survey. Subsequently, we arranged a zoo trip, a trip to a farm and theatre visit. All the learners had fun and thoroughly enjoyed their experiences. We hope to make more dreams come true next half term! So watch this space...



Base 3 have been busy being super kind whilst completing their acts of random kindness during December. Some of the activities have included complimenting each other; doing jobs for others; reading to each other, making and sharing cakes and biscuits, making Christmas baubles and cleaning our room. They have been inspiring. Great job, Base 3!



Support at Christmas

Christmas can be a difficult time for some.
If you need support this Christmas, please reach out.

SAMARITANS

116 123 (freephone)
jo@samaritans.org
samaritans.org
24/7 for anyone who needs it.

SHOUT

85258 (text SHOUT)
giveusashout.org
Confidential 24/7 text service
offering support in a crisis

CRUSE BEREAVEMENT CARE

0808 808 1677
cruse.org.uk
Information and support after
a bereavement.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

08000856148
Free confidential support
information and guidance, 24
hours, 365 days a year.

NATIONAL DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE

0808 2000 247
nationaldahelpline.org.uk
Free 24 hr helpline for women
who have experienced
domestic abuse.

MENS ADVICE LINE

0808 801 0327
mensadvice.org.uk
Advice & support for men
who have experienced
domestic violence.



FOR MORE HELPLINES, PLEASE VISIT:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/christmas-and-mental-health/useful-contacts/>



Wargrave News



Celebrating 50 years Learning About Life

Christmas Market

Chill Factore

T-Shirt Printing

Class News

Careers



Dear students, parents and carers

Welcome to our final newsletter of 2021. It has been a busy first term and all the students have demonstrated incredible resilience and determination to overcome unexpected timetable changes and flexibly to accept the government directives that we have needed to follow over the past months and most recent days to keep us all safe. Despite the ongoing Covid situation it has been incredible to witness the successes that our students have achieved, from Khovan winning his BJJ Blue belt last weekend, Nicky participating in his Supported Internship so positively and becoming increasingly independent, George designing a t-shirt from the new Print Room, the 'Electric Stars' playing live at the Earlestown Christmas Lights switch-on, Greg actively participating with his trainer at the gym and Alecia & Yanick working at the Liverpool Cathedral for the Educate Awards ceremony. There are so many more and I do hope you enjoy reading about them in the fortnightly newsletter. As you can see, the students' curriculum is very much alive with experiential opportunities and the embedding of functional skills opportunities to support quality of life outcomes in preparation for adulthood. It just leaves me with a last message of 2021, if your son/daughter has been vaccinated or had the booster please do let me know so we can add this to our Risk Assessment for our future planning for offsite activities (a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine is available for everyone aged 18 and over, and some people aged 16 and over, who have had 2 doses of the vaccine at least 3 months ago). The staff at Lakeside and LEAP Colleges would like to wish you all a safe, relaxed and very Merry Christmas 🎄 and a happy, healthy New Year.

Julliet and the Team



Dear parents and carers,



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Christmas Market

It is heart-warming for me to share a very uplifting, happy, festive Christmas Market event at Wargrave House School and College, hosted by Post 16 students and staff. I am always proud of the staff and students, but each event they host just gets better and better, they always cheer me up, surprise me and make me feel so happy to be the Head of two such outstanding colleges.

Through fantastic planning by Tara Thomas (TSA) and the Post 16 staff and student team we hosted a Covid-safe, festive and cheerful Christmas Markets event with a seasonal cafe. This was onsite only, and time slots had been shared with all classes across our 5 - 25 provision, students worked very hard making seasonal gifts, such as, wooden snowmen, personalised letters to Santa, hot chocolate goodie bags, a host more wonderful gifts and a raffle for a luxury Chocolate hamper.



The Cosy Corner Cafe offered Christmas treats and all the students were entertained by the College Band Electric Stars who sang a Christmas song they had written themselves and two other festive carols, this was followed by the school Makaton choir.

A wonderful morning of joy and happiness during another Covid Christmas ensuring every one of our children and young people share some Christmas spirit.

Julliet Doherty

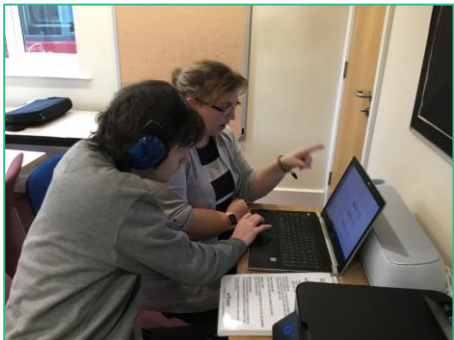
Chill Factore

Recently, LEAP1 and 2 students kicked off their run up to Christmas with a visit to the Chill Factore, where they experienced activities in the snow. All students demonstrated how they can use strategies, to enable themselves, to find enjoyment outside their comfort zone. They even invited the staff to join in the fun.



Personalised Printing

George is our first student to use LEAP's new printing equipment. Working alongside Karen, our OT assistant, George followed verbal and visual instructions to print a design on a mug, and progressed to putting his own choice of design on a t-shirt which he proudly wore the following day.



Making Plushies

During a Functional Skills session with Shauna and Karen, Owen and George worked hard to make Plushies. They had both been inspired by Lara who has started making them. They started with a fluffy sock, then using back stitch and running stitch they turned the fluffy sock into these wonderful Plushies. Both showed amazing resilience and determinations and fantastic hand and eye co ordination.



Art Exhibition

LEAP visited Warrington to get into the festive spirit in the golden square. We visited a local art exhibition, which captured the magic of Christmas. It included a living room packed with presents, festive treats, a Christmas tree, and a family dining table prepared for Christmas Day, with crackers, decorations and even crocheted and knitted food. The students enjoyed the experience.



Khovan's First Victory

Khovan competed in a small competition recently. It was his first BJJ blue belt competition. His fight was a TEN MINUTE round and he **WON!** About ten minutes later, he then stepped in to cover another fight, which went to extra time. Khovan did amazingly well, especially as it wasn't even a scheduled fight for him and he only had a short rest between his scheduled fight and the second fight. Well done Khovan!



Landfill Sites, Recycling, Waste & Contamination

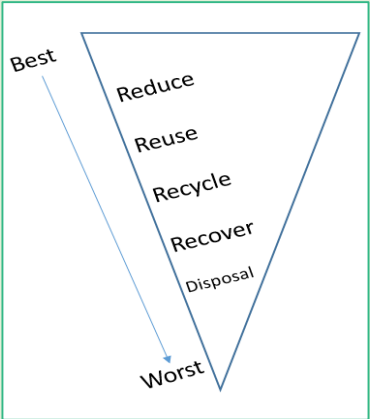
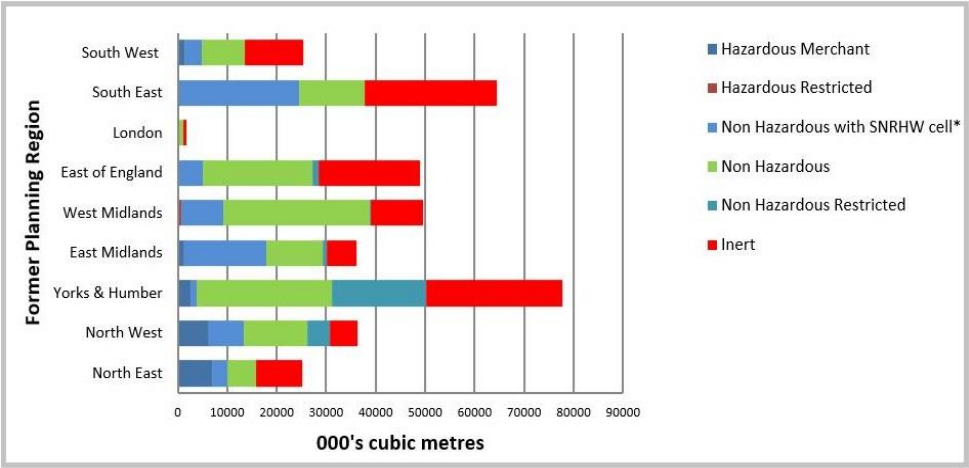


A landfill site is an area of land that is used to dump rubbish, either directly on the ground or in a hole. There are an estimated 500 landfills in the UK. In the UK in 2018 we generated 44 million tonnes of waste. England alone was responsible for a significant 84% of that. In 2019 the total rose to 45.8 million tonnes. Recycling is a good way to reduce how much waste goes to landfill and then means that used materials can be re-used or repurposed.

It is important to separate waste properly, because an estimated 20% of recyclable material ends up in landfill due to it being contaminated by non-recyclable waste, which is caused by people using the wrong bins. You can check on your local council's website to see what they accept for recycling as it can differ per area. The most common recycled material is paper, whereas the least common are juice cartons. This is because you usually cannot put them in the recycling bin, therefore making it inconvenient to recycle. ► **By Ryan Gillet (LEAP).**

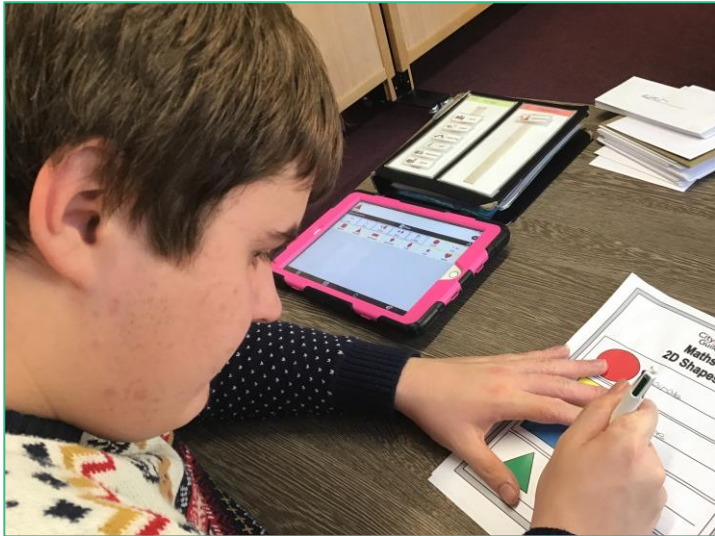


In the next issue: More information on Recycling



LEAP: Maths

Recently, as part of their Maths accredited unit, Owen and Ben have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes. Owen has made a 3D cube and identified how many sides and corners it has. Ben used his communication aid to find different 2D shapes and independently copied each word onto his work sheet. Great work!



Lakeside: ILS

LS1 & 2 having been doing their end of term assessment this week in Independent Living Skills. They brought their skills together that they had been learning this half term and the students and staff had a lovely time and all the food was delicious. Well done to both classes!



LS1/LS2 students have continued buying best value tools and equipment to support their small construction activities. **Brandon** and **Tarran** made good use of this equipment when upcycling old

wooden pallets to make shoe racks. These will hold their dirty boots and keep the classrooms tidy!



◀ **Brandon** uses the upcycled wood from pallets to make shoe racks. Galliford Try has a designated safe area (above) where they store surplus materials for us to use for our community projects.

Tony Costello introduced **Brandon** and **Owen** (members of the Post 16 Social Media Team) to Fraser who is the Galliford Try site manager at the new Penkford School. The Social Media Team has unrivalled access to the construction workers (following strict Covid protocol) to determine their roles and responsibilities during the construction of this new complex. They quizzed Fraser about the various jobs on site, rates of pay, training required, health and safety as well as catching up on the progress of the build- given the recent bad weather.



Brandon completed his health and safety induction with Fraser and he will be interviewed in January for a potential work placement on site. Brandon told Fraser "I've always wanted a job in construction and would like to try all the different trades to see which one I enjoy the most".



▲ **Brandon** quizzes the site manager about career prospects and training.

Owen has also secured a work placement with TecQuipment which is based in Nottingham and manufactures engineering equipment used by Universities and colleges around the world. Owen is researching the company's competitors and compiling a spreadsheet of detailed information on their products and prices. This will enable TecQuipment to remain the global market leader in this aspect of engineering.



▲ **Owen** films the site manager and asks him questions about the progress of the build.

In the next edition, I will give a broader overview of some of the other interesting placements that our students are involved with.

Steve Hogarth
CEIAG Lead



Nicky has got into the festive sprit this month at the RSPCA by helping to decorate the cat house and reception area. He enjoyed taking part in the Christmas Markets and raised an amazing £138. On Monday he took the money to the centre and received a certificate to say thank you for his excellent charity work. Alongside his Christmas activities Nicky helped Mark with maintenance jobs around the site by fixing the fences around the paddock that had been damaged by Storm Arwen.



Greg enjoyed a lovely day at the zoo and running a stall at the Christmas market. Rhys did well at the gym and Dylan made his snack.



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