

Wargrave News



Celebrating 50 years Learning About Life

Bowling

Duke of Edinburgh

Equine Therapy

Outdoor Learning


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



Find out which of our values have been met this week

The Autism Specialists



Dear parents and carers,



CEO UPDATE

Robin Bush

I appreciate your support in continuing to co-operate with our requests for twice weekly LFT testing in our efforts to provide as safe an environment as possible for all students and staff. In spite of

the Government's relaxation of key Covid measures we are continuing to restrict any access to outside visitors unless absolutely essential, whilst also maintaining rigorous hand washing, ventilation and social distancing as far as possible. You will be pleased to note that we are in the process of updating a broad cross section of our provision including a suite of learning for BASE 5 our 14-16 year learners, as well as adapting learning provision for both Lakeside and LEAP students within their respective settings. Additionally our therapy and clinical services team will be benefiting from a new suite of rooms to enable them to work purposefully across occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, music therapy and general baselining assessments. **Best wishes, Robin.**

Dear parents and carers,



HEADLINES

Stuart Jamieson

I hope this newsletter finds you safe and well. Learners and students from both school and college will today be sharing with you their progress reports. This provides an overview of their learning for last term. We hope that this is informative and will be pleased to arrange any calls to provide you with further clarity. We are very proud of

how our young people have adapted to the new term and are building upon their targets following reflection week in school and ongoing monitoring of learning pathways within college.

Last Friday 21 January we were delighted to host a remote Duke of Edinburgh Award ceremony. It was great to welcome Councillor Jeanie Bell, Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities' Newton Ward. We were really grateful for Jeanie for her time. It was wonderful to hear Jeanie reference a particular specific achievement in relation to each individual student's success. Our thanks go to all the staff who have supported our young people in gaining their awards and in particular Hannah Richards our DofE lead. We look forward to our students demonstrating their resilience in progressing to the next level of challenge.

Next Friday 4 February learners in school are taking part in the NSPCC Number Day. This event will provide an exciting opportunity for learners to take part in a 'step challenge'. Their use of pedometers will enable them to count their steps throughout the day and make various calculations around specific tasks. The class with the highest amount of steps will be rewarded to spend time and utilise a voucher for use within the local community.

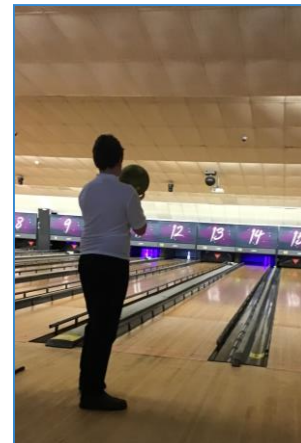
By way of reminder this half-term ends on Friday 11 February. The first Monday (21 February) back is a full staff INSET day as per timetable.

Wishing you the best weekend possible. Stuart.

BASE2

BASE5 are focusing on making healthy meals and choices this term. We have been linking our skills through all our sessions. During our independent living skills making healthy sandwiches. We have also been visiting less familiar places in our Community Skills days and trying less familiar (though still lovely) foods.

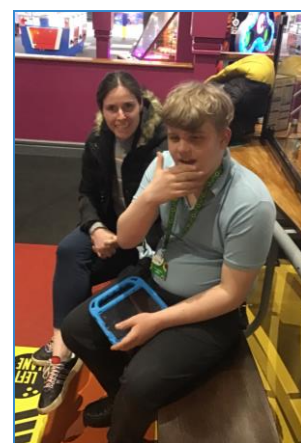
During our Community day one of our students also used their time to work on their photography skills which further links into our Duke of Edinburgh and their chosen interests. We have had an introduction to Green Influencers who we will be working with during our Employment Skills. We are all looking forward to different aspects of the course starting next week.



Therapy Workshop

Last week Becky (SaLT) and Sam (LD nurse) ran our first therapy workshop for parents of 2022 to discuss feeding difficulties and dietary support. Thank you to the parents who attended on TEAMS! Please let us know if you missed this workshop and are interested in attending at a later point this year by emailing Claire Byrne.

clairebyrne@wargravehouse.com



sundial
developing independent autistic lives

Feeding difficulties and dietary support

Sam Holmes
LD nurse

Becky Switonski
Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

RISE1

RISE1 enjoyed a walk at **Beacons country Park**. They loved playing on the playground and splashing in the puddles.



RISE1 have been enjoying equine therapy. The learners helped to clean up the hay and Cayden even rode a horse for the first time!



Outdoor Learning

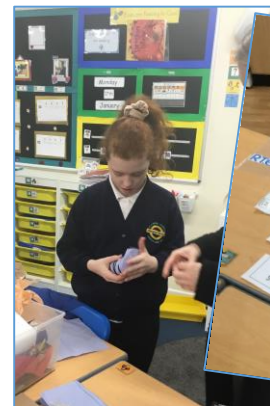


The new outdoor classroom is continuing to be used lots of times throughout each day.

All the students are really enjoying using it. We have been using it for lessons, playtimes, snacks and therapy sessions. It's an amazing addition to our school and encourages using the natural environment to learn in and socialise with friends. We are currently following a voting process to name it. Which name will get the most votes? The Den, The Burrow, The Hive or The Lodge? Watch this space!



RISE2 have been very busy. We have been learning about subtraction in Maths and we have been really resilient during lessons. We have also been learning about materials in Science. We loved experimenting with different materials to protect an egg during 'the egg drop challenge'. We displayed great confidence in the lesson as did Alfie during his Rebound Therapy sessions. Well done RISE 2!



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Duke of Edinburgh

Congratulations to all our Bronze students for the successful completion of their award in 2021, we had held off on an awards ceremony in the hopes to see you in person, but we really enjoyed being able to share our success with you over teams. What was especially amazing was being able to link up with a student's parent who works in China, something we obviously would have missed out on in person! Big Thank You to Councillor Jeanie Bell for attending virtually and to Mr Whittaker for his always needed IT support. The students are well on the way to completing their next level at Silver, using the skills they have learned in Bronze and building on them.



This weekend is the Big Garden Birdwatch, we have been busy in school prepping our feeders as well as filling up the feeders at Alexandra Care Home. Students in Base 4 have made their own fat balls in preparation for this. We would love you all to take part so please look online at [Big Garden Birdwatch | The RSPB](#) and let us know what you see.



Wargrave News



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Recycling

Class News

Careers

RSPCA



Dear students, parents and carers

Welcome to our Post 16/19 newsletter. The students have been very busy in their respective work placements over the past few weeks, it has been fabulous to see Joe at the Holiday Inn, supporting the team in housekeeping, Nicky goes from strength to strength at the RSPCA and the Earlestown Cricket Club is looking fabulous with all the team effort to maintain the perimeter grounds and the area in front of the club house. Courtney is working through her Access to HE at Level 3 and staff are awe struck at the progress she has made, and the outstanding standard of work completed, our first Level 3 (equivalent to 3 A' Levels) student and what a role model to others. Well done, Courtney. We are delighted to welcome Jana Smith to our team, Jana is working as a teacher three days a week to support in LEAP as Phil Adams has successfully been appointed as Quality Assurance and Qualifications Lead. All the staff and students in Lakeside and LEAP are very excited about the addition of the offsite classroom at Lyme and Wood Park on the Enover site, this will be an amazing opportunity for students to further develop their horticulture, ecology, and construction skills. A huge thanks to Tony Costello (Galliford Try) for his continued support of the site development to enhance the learning for students. **Our very best wishes to you all from Julliet and the staff in Lakeside and LEAP college(s).**



Post-16

Julliet Doherty

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Welcome to the Post-16 Team - Jana

Ahoj! (Hello in Slovak). My name is Jana and I come from Slovakia.

I've been working in education for over 20 years. Throughout my career, I have worked with students in a wide range of educational settings including working at international schools and across all age groups, from early years to young adults.

I joined Wargrave House school and College in September 2018 where I have worked with many classes throughout the whole organisation. I really enjoy getting to know our students as individuals and building good relationships with them.

I'm delighted to have joined the LEAP team where I can further develop my specialist skills and help our students succeed and achieve their aspirations.



Quality Assurance & Qualifications Lead - Phil



My name is Phil Adams and I have taught at Wargrave House since September 2017, both in the main school, and since January 2019, in LEAP College.

Currently I am the class teacher for LEAP3. I have recently been appointed to the role of Quality Assurance and Qualifications Lead for Post 14 education and upwards. This means that I now share the teaching duties for LEAP3 with my colleague Jana Smith, and for three days a week I work on developing the suite of qualifications that we

offer at Wargrave House School and College. We currently offer accredited learning courses in Mathematics, English, ICT, Personal Progress, Skills for Further Learning and Employment (SfLE), Employment and Professional Development, Independent Travel Training and Access to Higher Education.

For our learners, this means that when they leave Wargrave House, they will leave with the knowledge, experience and qualifications (if appropriate to the needs of the individual) to help them progress and be successful in the next stage of their lives; be it essential independent living skills, working (paid or voluntary) or further education. Having this experience will enhance our learners lives for the better!



Feeding difficulties and dietary support

Sam Holmes
LD nurse

Becky Swifonski
Specialist Speech and
Language Therapist

Therapy Workshop

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clairebyrne@wargravehouse.com

Financial Support

Financial support is available for students who attend either Lakeside or LEAP College and meet eligibility criteria.

Vulnerable Student Bursary (aged 16-19 attending Lakeside College) An award of up to £1,200 per academic year for students who meet at least one of the below eligibility criteria:

- In Care
- Care Leaver
- In receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit because you are financially supporting yourself or financially supporting yourself and some who is dependent on you and living with you (i.e. a child or partner).
- In receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payments (PIP) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit in your own right.

Discretionary Bursary (age 16-25 attending Lakeside or LEAP College) Where household income is less than £25,000 applications for discretionary bursary will be considered. Applicants can apply for specific support related to their course (i.e. buying equipment, paying for trips etc.)

Contact Claire Byrne (Family Liaison Officer) to confidentially discuss your individual circumstances/ request an application: clairebyrne@wargravehouse.com

RSPCA

Nicky has been working hard on his Supported Internship at the RSPCA since returning after Christmas. He has been working independently on outside maintenance work, stocktaking, cleaning, keeping on top of the washing from the dog block, plus sorting and organising donations that's been delivered to the centre by the public. Nicky has also been completing his Health and Safety Awareness in the Working Environment qualification by stating the correct procedures for reporting accidents and potential hazards around the site and the correct response in relation to an emergency situation.



Careers

LS1/LS2 students are well on the way to upcycling items of furniture to sell at a small market stall that we hope to secure later on in the year.



Development of our Lyme and Wood Pits Country Park (Enovert) facility will be gathering pace over the next few months. LEAP 3 recently watched the old weighbridge office being lifted off site to improve access to the site. They then inspected the gated area to see how this can be landscaped and effectively utilised by the students for their horticultural/forestry and construction projects. To support this planning, Post 16 have booked a Galliford Try surveyor who will work with them and create a 3-D plan of some of their development ideas.

Our Post 16 Social Media Team is working on its first media publication on behalf of Galliford Try that will be published on the prestigious North West Construction hub website and used in the Galliford Try newsletter.

Next time we will start to focus on some of our student internships to show what is involved working in hospitality and with the RSPCA.



GallifordTry



Enovert

Careers Education Information Advice & Guidance



Steve Hogarth CEIAG Lead

Lakeside Community Day

Lakeside went to Knutsford for their community day. They completed the Knutsford Treasure Trail. They had to solve clues to explore the heritage of the area. The Students really enjoyed working as a small team to solve the clues. The students then went for a well-deserved rested lunch at a lovely Cafe which is their RARPA target for this half term.



Recycling - What do you need to know?

Recycling is an important way to help protect our world and reduce waste pollution. If people did not recycle at all we would have much more landfills and litter everywhere, and we would also run out of resources as we would not have any materials to use and repurpose.

Did you know?

- In 2019, it is estimated that over 1,400,000 tonnes of plastic packaging were used by UK Households
- More than 285,000 tonnes, (6.28 billion) household plastic bottles are not recycled – which costs councils an estimated £24.3m to dispose of.
- A pair of jeans can contain up to 8 repurposed plastic bottles
- An estimated 13b plastic bottles are not recycled every year
- Every year, an estimated 600m batteries are thrown away, and over 20,000 tonnes go to landfill
- 30 million tonnes of waste is generated in the UK every year, of which 5.9 million is packaging

- The UK Produces over 9 billion drinks cans a year, of which 80% is made out of aluminium
- The energy saved by recycling just one aluminium drinks can is enough to run a TV for up to three hours
- Aluminium is the 2nd most used metal and one of the best to recycle.

Why not do more to recycle your waste?

If you are unsure on what your local authorities accept for recycling, or want more information, check out this website:

<https://recycleright.org.uk/>

or look up your local council's website.

LEAP1 visited Quarry Bank Mill National Trust where we took part in a guided tour of the Apprentice house, the mill and gardens. The students enjoyed learning about the working conditions of mill workers and how the machines operated and made cotton



Owen independently accesses Newton Le Willows Community Centre each week for his work experience. We would like to give a big shout out to Nicola his mentor for giving Owen a variety of opportunities to develop his hospitality skills.

The next phase of our community project at Earlestown Cricket Club. Everyone has worked together today to prepare the ground for the stone delivery on Monday. Students worked together to measure out the space and cut tarpaulin to stop the weeds from growing up through the stones.



LEAP

LEAP1 students worked on their personal targets for eating out. They all ordered and paid for their lunch in Weatherspoon's independently. They all remembered to wait for their change and receipts, keep up the good work!



Lakeside

LS1 and 2 visited New Brighton for a fun day out. They worked as team playing laser tag against each other, they budgeted their money so that they could visit a cafe for a morning coffee and then enjoyed fish and chips for lunch. They then visited some examples of the amazing art work that has appeared around the town centre.

