

Wargrave News

issue 14



The Autism Specialists



Main School

29 April 2022

STEM

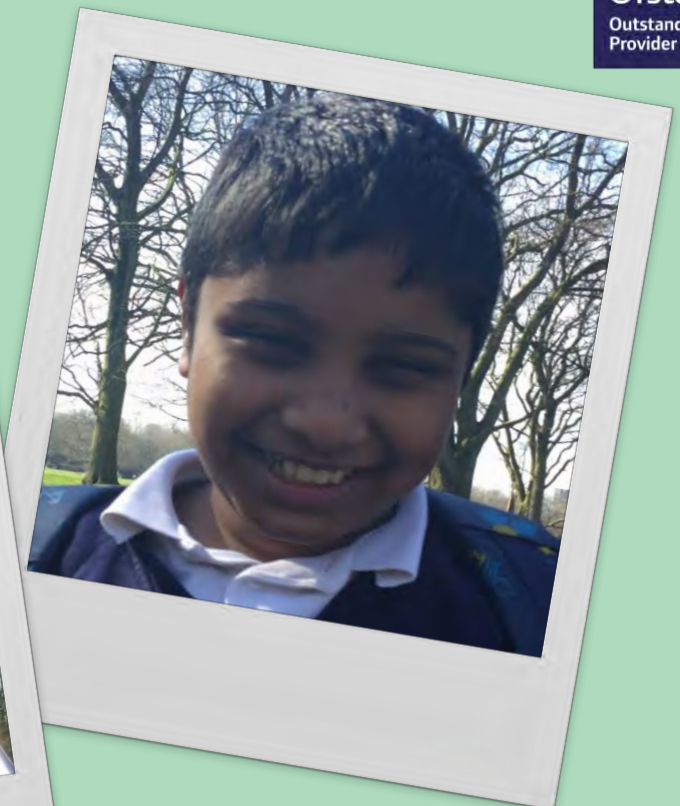


Duke of Edinburgh Award

Outdoor Learning

Class Pages

Rock climbing



National
Autistic
Society

Autism Specialist
Award Advanced
2022



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Dear parents and carers

CEO UPDATE
ROBIN BUSH



I hope our newsletter finds you all safe and well.

This week, we are pleased to welcome two new members of staff to Wargrave House. **Tom Wilkinson** joins our Education Team from the Wirral as our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and **Kelly Redfern** joins our Clinical Services and Therapy Team from Manchester as an Occupational Therapist.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you to our forthcoming Parents Evening on Tuesday 10th May between 3:45pm – 6:00 pm. This occasion will provide an excellent opportunity to share the progress of all our learners and students across both school and college. We appreciate some of you will take your appointments remotely, whilst others will seize the opportunity of joining us here on site and look forward to the event.

There are a number of exciting activities throughout this summer term which will provide a wealth of learning experiences for our young people. These include Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, Platinum Jubilee celebrations as well as the further development of our student council and learner voice. We look forward to providing you with further details in due course,

Wishing you all a wonderful bank holiday weekend,

Robin

Dear Parent & Carers,

HEADLINES
STUART JAMIESON



This week school learners have relished the opportunity of taking part in a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths workshop (STEAM). The innovative sessions were provided by a former stress engineer from Rolls Royce. The sessions fully engaged our learners as they created bridges and constructed turbo – powered tools. We are particularly pleased that the learning is transferable across a range of subjects, whilst also helping our young people learn directly from skilled colleagues from specific employability sectors.

It has been great to see so many learners enjoying their wider participation in learning off site. Over the last few weeks BASE 1, 2 and 3 have developed their independence and confidence through rock climbing at North West Face. Further independence skills have been enhanced through planned curricular visits to the Community Centre. We have seen increased confidence through learners purposefully ordering and paying for items aligned to their maths programmes of study.

We were delighted last Friday to welcome so many parents / carers to our Makaton signing workshop led by our speech and language specialists within the Therapy Team. Particular thanks to Glenda Marshall and Haley Johnson. Any further requests for support here will be provided. As we approach Parents Evening on May 10th we will be sharing with you the outcomes from reflection week through our assessment lead Caroline Gorman.

Wishing you all the best Bank Holiday weekend possible,

Stuart



Assembly & Values

We are now celebrating learners who demonstrate our values, on our “Value of the Week” board in school. Last week’s value was **Creativity**, when we looked at the importance of creativity in Assembly and watched a short video of some young people being creative. **Alex Sullivan** won the Value Award for his excellent participation in Expressive Arts.



Learners now have a Values Book, which they will use to record Value Stars that they earn by demonstrating values. These can then be exchanged for a reward from the Values Shop. If your son/daughter demonstrates any of the Wargrave Values at home, we’d love to hear about it and celebrate in Assembly too!

Staff Farewell

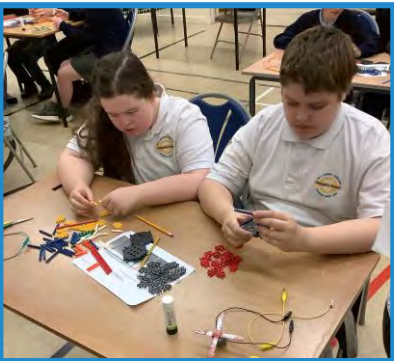
We are also sadly saying goodbye to one of our lovely teachers, **Claire Thompson**. After **13 years** at Wargrave House, Claire will be greatly missed by all staff and learners. Good luck and all the best in your next adventure Claire – they’re lucky to have you!



STEM Day



BASE 1, 2 3 & 4 enjoyed our **STEM activities** in the gym with our special guest Vidura, who showed us how to build bridges and make them stronger, use a fan to create an electric circuit windmill powered light as well as a water tornado made with magnets!

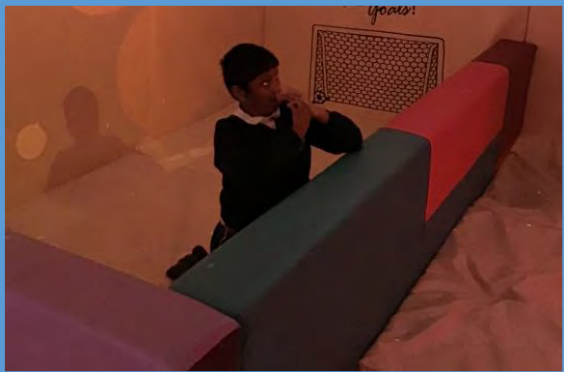




Engage have started the new half term with a **positive attitude**, the learners have settled back in to the school routine and have been doing lots of exploring in the community.



Our recent trip to **'Twinkle House'** was a real success! Here's Will and Nethusha enjoying our visit!



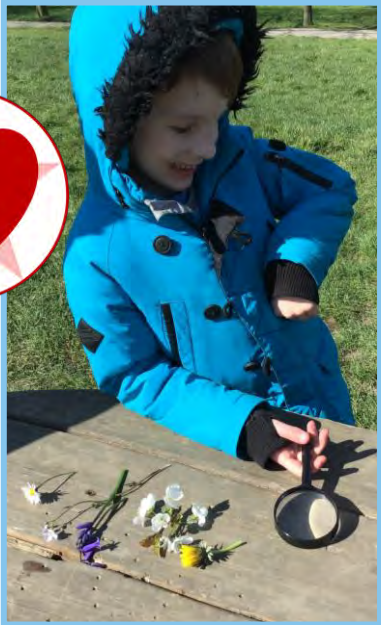
In our independent living sessions, we have been focusing on preparing a **healthy fruit salad**. Everyone has enjoyed, shopping for ingredients, preparing the salad—and eating it too!





RISE 1 enjoyed a trip to Beacon Park last week. We enjoyed running down hills and playing on the playground. There were lots of other children there and we were very kind, sharing the equipment.

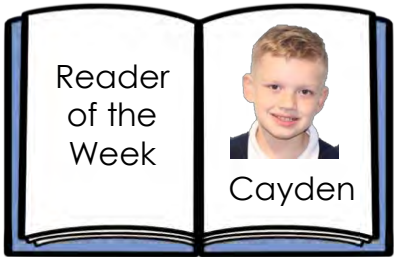
Kieran enjoyed collecting different flowers he found and showing them to staff. He was very proud of his collection!



This week we visited Newton Library and enjoyed looking at different books. Henry enjoyed looking at the 'Three Little Pigs' display on the wall.



Here's Kieran & Lucas browsing some book shelves and Cayden showing off his super reading skills – skills that earned him RISE 1's reader of the week!





The class really enjoyed going on a colour **scavenger hunt**. We were amazed at how many different colours of natural resources we found.

In **Outdoor Learning** this half term RISE 2 are thinking about the 'magic' of nature.



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

Kai even found a **black leaf**! Excellent work RISE 2!

Reader
of the
Week



Alfie




BASE 1 loved their first visit to the North West Face for rock climbing, even though some of us hadn't been before or hadn't been for years!



We have also been working hard in our careers lessons, each choosing different jobs to complete around school and helping out other classes and staff!



Reader of the Week


Alex

BASE 1 also want to thank Helen Slavin for her donation of our lovey new train set! All the learners have been enjoying it during star time. James and El-Jay are pictured here designing a new track together and taking turns pushing around the trains!



BASE 2 have also been rock climbing, and we all took turns climbing the wall.



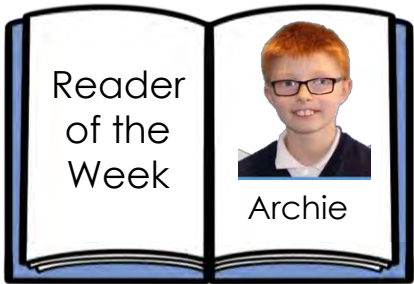
Well done BASE 2! Staff were very impressed with their skills and confidence in climbing!

Some of BASE 2 have also been to the stables. We did a walk around as it was their first visit, and met the staff and horses.



Here's Timothy, Reuben and Oliver feeding the horses Henry, Crystal and Murphy!

Readers of the week – collect your sticker prize from Miss Lewis!





BASE 3 were our third class to go rock climbing! They all listened well to the instructors explaining how to put on their harnesses, and tried their best to get to the very top of the wall!



Here's **Richie** showing off his skills and **Thomas** all kitted out looking raring to go!

Reader of the Week

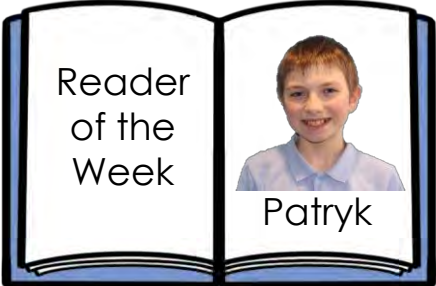
Charlotte



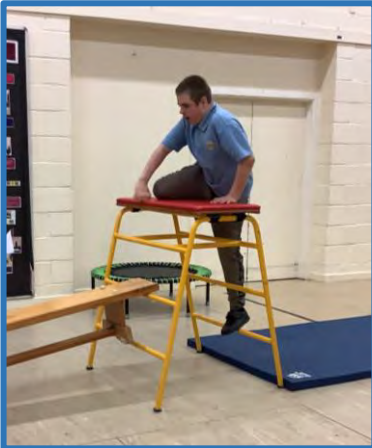
DE | THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

BASE 4 have been working in their expedition skills while building up their fitness. They are 2 sessions in to their expedition skills, with week one seeing them walk an amazing **2.6 miles**, and week two a **2.1 miles** at a consistent pace, just **50 minutes!**

With just 8 weeks to go till the expedition we know they will breeze through this next challenge to complete their award. Huge Well Done to BASE 4 and the class team.



We have also been working hard in PE, completing an obstacle course across the whole gym. We used all the different pieces of equipment in order to complete the course, and had lots of fun doing so!



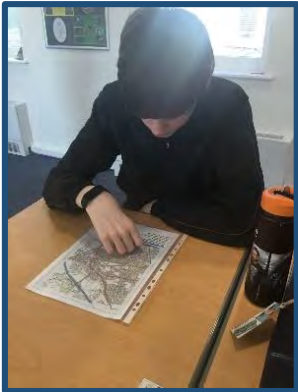
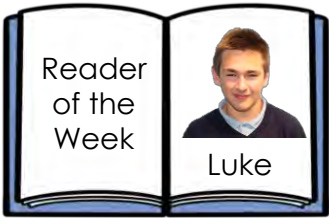


BASE 5 students are currently working on travelling to a variety of different places and developing their personal awareness in the community. This week students visited Lancaster castle and had a tour of the castle.



The tour included a visit to a **working courtroom, prison cells and the drop room** where we learnt that even those from Newton-Le-Willows waited trial here in the 1800's, sometimes for up to 6 months!

DofE Wargrave House are very pleased to announce that we are now a Directly Licenced Centre for Duke of Edinburgh. This is great news for the school and our students allowing us to continue with our DofE journey.



As part of his RARPA assessments, Jamie has been travelling for the first time on a train.



This half term BASE 5 continue to build on their expedition skills. Here they are preparing for a walk, checking their maps, packing items and checking money needed for snacks.



He used timetables, learned about personal safety, worked out the number of stops to his destination of Liverpool Lime Street, experienced using ticket machines and reading information boards.