

# WargraveNews

Issue 2



The Autism Specialists

Main School

07 October 2022



Creativity



Confidence



Resilience



Respect



Kindness

Outdoor Learning

Community Visits

Duke of Edinburgh

Staff Introduction



National  
Autistic  
Society

Autism Specialist  
Award Advanced  
2022

Y2 centre  
of excellence



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## Dear parents and carers,

CEO UPDATE  
ROBIN BUSH



I hope our newsletter finds you all safe and well. I was delighted to see so many of you attending our MacMillan Coffee morning last Friday 30th September.

This is an immensely worthy cause and thanks to your generosity we were really pleased to have raised the fabulous sum of £241.45.

My sincere thanks go to both Lakeside and LEAP students who acted as great role models in providing such a wonderful welcome for us all.

Cosy Corner Café returned today in its usual format for all our staff and students, which provides a great opportunity to enjoy the wider company of peer relationships across our campus.

In the final edition of our newsletter for this half term on Friday 21 October, we will be wearing pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness. More details will follow in advance of this event. I wish you all a very happy and restful weekend.

**Kind regards  
Robin.**

## Dear parents and carers,

HEADLINES

STUART JAMIESON



I hope you are by now seeing good habits and routines emerge, as all our learners and students have completed their first five weeks of the new term. In the last edition of our newsletter we were observing 'Jeans for Genes Day' and are pleased to announce that the sum of £111 was raised. My thanks go to Joan Beddows, who once again organised the day ensuring everyone took part.

I've been pleased to see all our students getting the most out of their learning as well as enjoying the wider scope of extracurricular activities such as the Computer Club. We will be adding a music club to the wider offer over the next week.

This week a number of our staff attended the National Association of Special Schools (NASS) Conference in Brighton. This opportunity enabled us to network with some of the best special schools in the country. We are looking forward to sharing any new ideas our staff bring back from other experts who attended the conference. Most significantly we were nominated for all three competitive award categories: 'Breaking Barriers Award', 'Impact Award' and the 'Innovation Award.' This acknowledgement is a great testimony to all our education and therapy teams who ensure we are at the forefront of national developments in providing the best possible learning experiences for our young people.

As we go to press, I can announce that we have won the 'Impact Award!' Please read the full details in our next newsletter.

Wishing you all the best weekend possible.

**Stuart**



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## Welcome back,

I hope you all had a restful summer holiday. It's been lovely to welcome all the students and learners back for the new academic year.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to an online platform called SENDcast. (<https://www.thesendcast.com/sendcast-episodes/>) SENDcast is a weekly podcast focusing on Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). It has various podcast topics focusing on ASD, ADHD, anxiety, multi-sensory, emotions, SEMH (Social Emotional and Mental Health), and parents/families of children with SEN, to name a few. It is a new way to keep you up to date with policy changes and best practice and improve your knowledge of SEN.

Tom Wilkinson  
SENCo

**SENDcast**  
SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY

HOME SENDCAST EPISODES LISTEN NOW CONTACT US

Search...

**RECENT POSTS**

- 15 Sep Choosing a School with Sarah Billingham
- 08 Sep Trauma with Alison Knowles
- 01 Sep Lets Use Technology with Students with Arran Smith
- 21 Jul Eating and the Senses with Joanna Grace
- 14 Jul Making Mindfulness Fun with Katie White
- 07 Jul Helping Children to Listen with Sarah Billingham
- 30 Jun We are ending the school year with Joanna Grace who joins Dale to discuss Eating [...]
- 23 Jun Anxiety levels have increased and learning practical solutions for decreasing anxiety results in happier, healthier [...]
- 16 Jun Listening is a fundamental skill to be able to develop language and to access learning [...]

**TAGS**

AAC (2) ADHD (5) anxiety (14) autism (11) Communication (16) COVID (6) CPD (2) curriculum (4) diagnosis (2) dyslexia (8) Early Years (2) emotions (6) gender (2) Inclusion (7) Interaction (6) Language (5) listening (2) Literacy (3) mental health (6) mindfulness (2) multi-sensory (4) music (2) neurodiversity (6) parents (2) parents/families of children with SEN (16) planning (2) resilience (5) self-harm (2) SEMH (8) SEND (3)

<https://www.thesendcast.com/sendcast-episodes/>





# Wargrave House School & College raised £111.00 for Jeans for Genes Week



This year Wargrave House School & College raised £111.00 for Jeans for Genes Day. The funds will be donated to children and families affected by genetic diseases.

We sympathise with the cause of Jeans for Genes because we know that many children and families need our help. We empathise because we can support people who need us. By participating in Jeans for Genes Week, we can make a difference in the lives of children and families.

One in ten families in the UK has a genetic disorder. Usually, these conditions can be noticeable at birth, but symptoms can sometimes appear at different life stages. Typically, such conditions have a deep and lasting impact on individuals and their families. By partaking in Jeans for Genes event, we can bring happiness to their homes by giving them the sense that they are not alone.

Wargrave House School & College take part in this charity event every year. We have been involved for over 20 years.

**"The Jeans for Genes campaign raises awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with a genetic condition and raises money to fund projects that make a tangible difference to the lives of those affected."**

**Most importantly the campaign:**

- brings together the genetic condition community in order to make a loud noise about the issues that matter to them,
- shines a light on the organisations that work tirelessly to improve the lives of affected individuals; and
- celebrates the achievements of those living with a genetic condition."

<https://www.jeansforgenes.org/who-we-are>



# Proud Winners of the Outstanding Impact Award at the Prestigious NASS Awards 2022



We are thrilled and proud to announce that we won the Outstanding Impact Award at the prestigious NASS Awards 2022.

The awards showcase the work of the schools in this sector, which are delivering exceptional education and helping students achieve their full potential.

We were nominated in three categories, Breaking Barriers Award, Outstanding Impact Award and the Innovation Award.



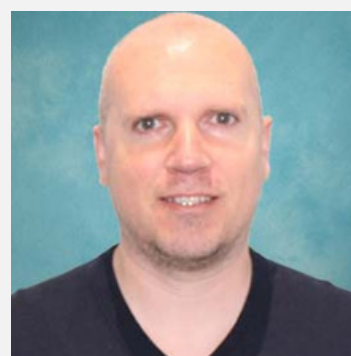
Full details will be published in the next edition of our Newsletter.

## Meet Our New Speech and Language Therapist

Hello, my name is Kevin, and I am a Speech and Language Therapist at Wargrave House School. I have previously worked as a language instructor in a Japanese high school. While living in Japan, I completed a master's degree in applied linguistics, leading me to speech and language therapy.

My first role as a Speech and Language Therapist was in a community NHS team supporting adults with a learning disabilities. During this time, I worked as part of a multi-disciplinary team to support the communication needs of my clients and ensure they could access their civil rights and communities.

When applying to study Speech and Language Therapy, I aimed to work with children and young people who have communication needs, so I am looking forward to supporting the students at Wargrave House to achieve their potential.



**Kevin Collier**  
Speech and  
Language Therapist



# Engage



Engage activities have included sensory and reading time for the past two weeks. They also had classes where they learned about feelings and worked hard on their independence skills.



Engage were lucky to enjoy the sunshine in Autumn while practising their road safety skills.







# Learn from RISE 1 How to Make Pancakes Easy-Peasy



We have also focussed on turn-taking and communication during PSHEE. As part of Science, we had an animal experience at LEAP college with their pets and have also enjoyed making pancakes.

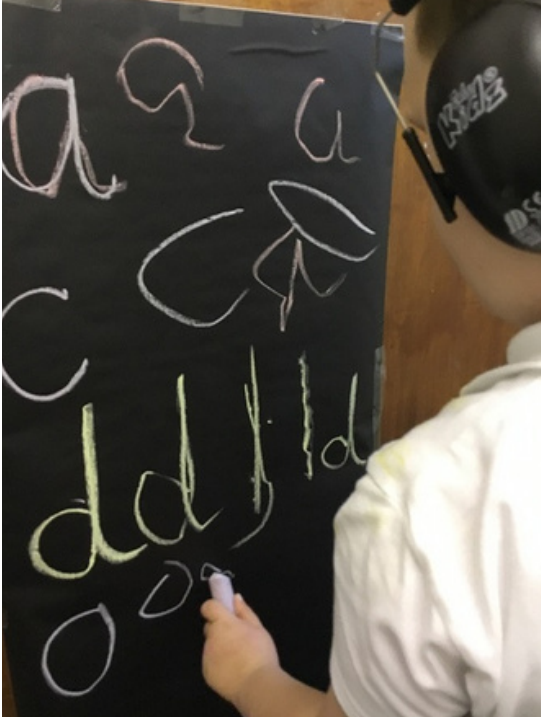


RISE 1 have been very busy in the past few weeks. We have been learning about shapes in the classroom and community.





# RISE 2 Makes Rapid Progress in Maths and English



Last week we concentrated on developing our Maths and English skills. Our RISE 2 students are diligent and hard-working. They are making rapid progress with their studies with each passing day.

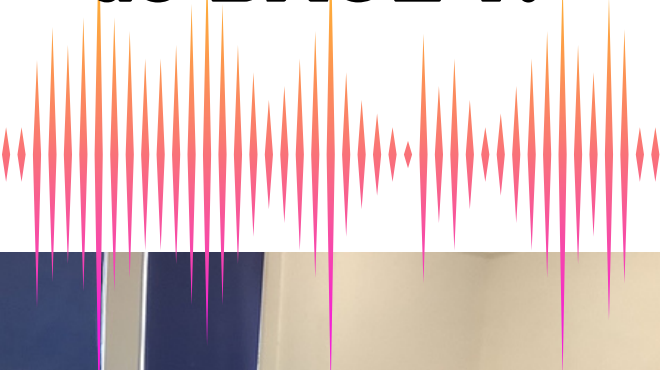
As always, in our English and Maths classes, we did not miss the opportunity to have fun combining games with learning.







# Do You Like Music as Much as BASE 1?



In BASE 1, we worked hard in our music lesson using our voices differently. We were able to be quiet and also very loud!



We were also given a giant cardboard box and decided to make a life-size Baymax. Amy drew the design and Miss Orme and Richelle cut it out. We are very excited about him being our BASE 1 mascot!



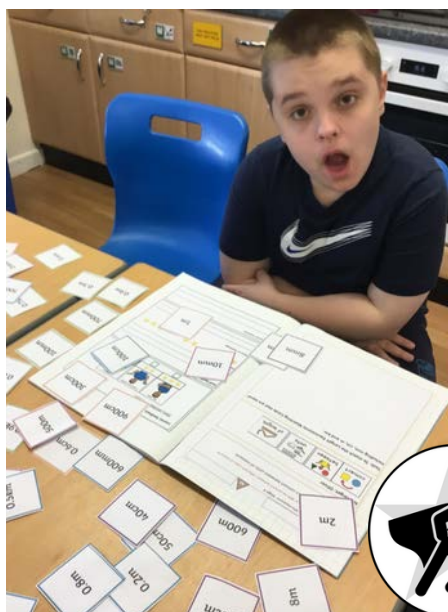




In science, we have learned about omnivores, herbivores, carnivores and different animal groups.



We have been learning how to create pattern sequences, lengths and numbers in maths.







What a great last 2 weeks we have had in BASE 4! We have been lucky enough to welcome new addition to the class. Walnut! is our Guinea Pig, we are learning essential skills such as feeding and caring for our pet



We have also made flapjacks, working well as a team to identify each ingredient's measurement. We also practised our road safety skills whilst out in the community.



# Students Have Photographed the Impact of Global Warming

On Wednesday, 28th September, BASE 5 & 6 went to Ladybower to take pictures to show the impact of global warming and the need for water conservation.

**April 2022**



A member of staff took this picture in April 2022. In this period, you can see that the reservoir was full of water, as it should be.

**September 2022**



This picture shows how we see the reservoir now. As you can see, the water level is much lower. We had one of our hottest summers this year, with little rainfall.

Ladybower Reservoir, located in the Upper Derwent Valley at the heart of the Peak District National Park, has a large Y-shape. The reservoir was constructed between 1935 and 1943 but was officially opened by King George VI on 24th September 1945.

The reservoir was created due to the heavy demand for water from industrial towns surrounding the Peak District. Its long, deep valley, high average rainfall, and low population level make Ladybower an ideal location for water storage.



## Read the articles created by BASE 5 & 6 after the trip to a Ladybower reservoir:



### Where has the water gone?

The water in the dam was not there because this summer it was so warm that the dam was to dry to store water, we also had very low rainfall.

### What it is doing to our planet?

Polar bears will go extinct because the earth is getting too warm, so that they will have no home from ice melts.

Because the reservoir is so empty, the habitats of many animals have been destroyed.

For us, it will mean more hosepipe bans each year and could even lead to water restrictions.



### Water Saving Tips

- ✓ Fill a jug of water and put it in the fridge for when you want a cool drink.
- ✓ Turn off the tap when you clean your teeth. A running tap uses up to nine litres of water a minute.
- ✓ If possible, take a shower instead of a bath. A five-minute shower uses about 40 litres of water. This is about half the volume of a standard bath.

Source: <https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/households/conservingwater/watersavingtips/>