

WargraveNews

Issue 4



The Autism Specialists

Main School

11 November 2022



Creativity



Confidence



Resilience



Respect



Kindness

Outdoor Learning

Community Visits

Duke of Edinburgh

Staff Introduction



Dear parents and carers,

**CEO UPDATE
ROBIN BUSH**



In marking 'Armistice Day' this morning, I was really pleased to be part of a reflective ceremony, held near our courtyard at the rear of the main building.

Representatives from all classes supported a tree-planting event, as a symbol of both 'respect' and 'hope' for those who have lost their lives in conflict. Our liquid Amber Tree will serve as a permanent reminder on an annual basis, of the significance of this core British value - 'Remembrance'. There was a great sense of understanding and poignancy as we witnessed Richie reading so sensitively, the poem 'Think like a Tree'. Lewis then laid a solid oak bespoke plaque made by a very talented staff member. We look forward to sharing further photographic images which capture the occasion wonderfully well. We are very much looking forward to our 'Parents Evening' next Thursday 17th November between 3:45 pm and 6:00 pm when staff from both school and college will provide very focussed updates relating to progress, since the start of this term. Although remote appointments are available, it will be good to see a number of you in person.

I wish all an enjoyable weekend.



**Kind Regards,
Robin**

Dear parents and carers,

HEADLINES

STUART JAMIESON



I hope you all enjoyed a good half-term break. We were delighted to welcome our 5-18 learners and students back from their holiday to actively participate in an engaging pumpkin patch activity, led by Mrs Dickson. It was great seeing all our young people having fun and creating their pumpkin carvings. It was particularly pleasing as many of our young people have selected the pumpkins from local farms.

Last Tuesday we welcomed to school and college an important guest Jonny Knowles from the National Autistic Society (NAS). The purpose of the visit was the quality assurance of our whole provision, since gaining 'Advanced' Autism Accreditation in September 2021. We are now working very hard in sustaining this acknowledgement and further advancement of our outstanding recognition, through applying for 'Beacon' autism status. We will let you know our progress on this matter.

Alongside our Remembrance Assembly this afternoon, all school learners have been actively participating in a themed 1940's History day. This has included making recipes from the period, playing traditional games and exploring many of the challenges of the era, such as survival and rationing.

My particular thanks go to Maggie Gadsby who has led all learning aspects as Humanities lead, Dave Whittaker for producing a stunning assembly with a student voice creative film and Jess Fairhurst for designing so many fabulous displays through the building, helping inspire all our learners and students 'Lest We Forget.'

Wishing you all the best weekend possible.

Stuart



Dear Parents/Carers,

WOOHOO... MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER IS ODD SOCKS DAY!

WHAT IS ODD SOCKS DAY?

Odd Socks Day is part of Anti-Bullying Week! To celebrate that we are all unique, we ask that children wear odd socks to school on Monday 14th November. Last year over 13,000 schools took part in Odd Socks Day. Andy Day (CBeebies/CBBC) and his band Andy and the Odd Socks are supporting the Anti-Bullying Alliance to help bring Odd Socks Day to life again this year. Have a listen to the brilliant song they have recorded especially for Anti-Bullying Week, Calling Out.

WHY IS ODD SOCKS DAY IMPORTANT?

The day sends an important message to pupils that they should be allowed to be themselves free from bullying and helps us celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a fun and positive way.



WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

It's so easy 😊 Here's what you do:

- 1.** Make sure your child wears odd socks to school
- 2.** **Donate £1** to help the Anti-Bullying Alliance carry on important work
- 3.** If you want to, you can share a photo online using **#OddSocksDay** **#AntiBullyingWeek** and tag **@abaonline** and **@AndyOddSock** on Twitter. Or **@antibullyingalliance** and **@andyandtheoddssocks** on Instagram.

Monday
14TH
November

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Every penny goes to the Anti-Bullying Alliance to help continue all their work. We can't wait to see all the Odd Socks on Monday 14th November ...

If you have any questions please ask:



ORGANISER



#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK



PARTNER

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Inspirational SEND Story



SEND Update November 2022

It's with great pleasure to announce that an ex-student of mine Cal Ruddy, who I met, taught and supported while working at a specialist setting in the mid 2000's on the Wirral. Cal is a young man who shares the same values and qualities (kindness, confidence, resilience, caring and respect) that staff strive towards at Wargrave House School & College whilst working with our students and learners.

Cal is a very talented singer/songwriter and has performed across the globe. Cal will be working across the organisation as a Music mentor supporting our learners and students to develop their interest in all things performing arts. I would like to wish Cal a warm welcome to Wargrave House School and College.

Tom Wilkinson
SENCo

YOU ARE INVITED

Year 11 students and their parents/carers are warmly invited to visit Cosy Corner Café on Friday, 25th November, at 10 am, followed by a tour of Lakeside College, where you can learn more about the current student experience. RSVP to clairebyrne@wargravehouse.com

Where: Lakeside College, Cosy Corner Cafe

When: on Friday 25th November at 10am



Students produce great handmade products for their community shop

Preloved Project in Lyme & Wood Hub will be our community shop and café run by LEAP students. The project is funded by Merseyside Recycling and Waste Management's Community Fund 22/23.



It will include a series of free interactive workshops and resources to educate people in the local and broader communities about reducing household waste.

The community store will sell pre-loved items such as clothing, shoes and accessories, and more unique, personalised items such as upcycled furniture and other home goods. Our students will rework or repaint the products that allow reworking according to the wishes and requests of the customers.

In addition, the store will offer at very affordable prices handmade products that our students will construct in Lyme & Wood Hub's workshop.

Through the Preloved Project, we aim to enable LEAP students to acquire and develop professional skills in hospitality, customer service, retail and management. Running this kind of facility will allow our students to gain skills and experience that will help them in the future when they begin an independent life.

Below are just a few of the handmade products the students have prepared



The project has been possible due to MRWA's community fund funding for 2022-23.

Pumpkin Picking at Wargrave House



The first day back after the half term holidays landed on 31 October – Halloween.

Students arrived at school to discover a field of pumpkins had miraculously grown over the holidays in the playground! The students enjoyed selecting a pumpkin and creating some amazing designs which decorated the school.

Check out the students' comments:

Charlotte - *There were some pretty good pumpkins!*

Lucy - *I really enjoyed it*

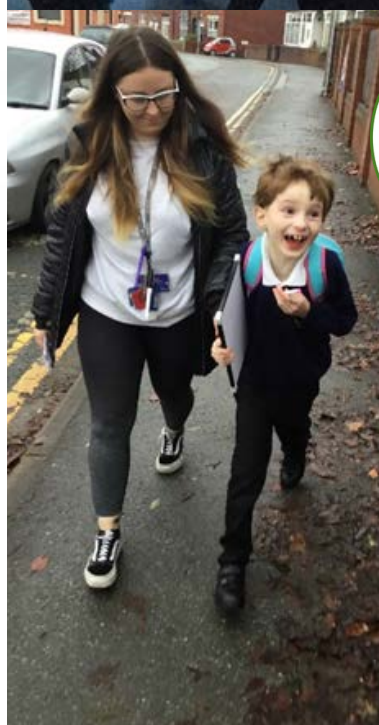
Alex - *I really enjoyed finding my pumpkin and carving it!*

RISE 1



RISE 1 have enjoyed their attention autism sessions with Mrs Dickson using the foam and watching the balloons fly round the classroom !'

RISE 2

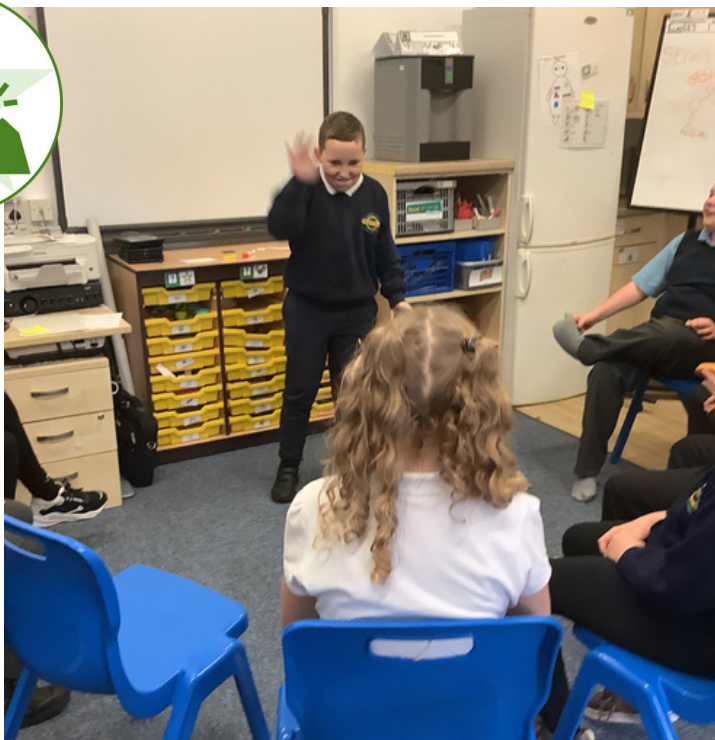


We made cupcakes, jelly slush, decorated biscuits and carved pumpkins. We created Dandiya sticks in RE. We made a shopping list and bought the items at Aldi.





BASE 1 have had a very busy two weeks. We have been practicing our acting skills in drama and in Maths we have been looking at shapes that can roll. We also made autumn leaf bowls for Halloween.





Since we have returned to school after the half term holidays, we have moved on to new topics. In PE, our learners have been getting to grips with badminton, using balloons to develop the techniques needed in a game.

We have been looking at animals in our Science lessons and what it means to be alive. We are enjoying our Lego therapy sessions too!



Mr Barton would like to update you on some exciting news for our maths curriculum! We will soon be rolling out 2 new programmes within school, for all learners to access. These will be 'mathseeds' and 'mathletics', which aim to motivate our learners and provide a technology based approach to mathematics! Watch this space...

BASE 4



We've had a brilliant two weeks back in BASE 4. This half term we've been learning about badminton in PE and have understand how to maintain possession during game scenarios. We've also learnt about the meaning behind Remembrance Day, we made special poppies out of clay for our school assembly, and making a poppy wreath for the Earlestown Cenotaph.



BASE 6



Jamie enjoyed Halloween preparations, from shopping for and carving pumpkins. He has been green-fingered in the greenhouse, repotting some seedlings.





Students learned the phases of recycling



BASE 5 & 6 visited Gillmoss Recycling Discovery Centre in Fazakerley as part of their Duke of Edinburgh and BTEC studies. They were given a factory tour and saw the machinery processing the waste into plastic, cardboard, paper and metal.



Our tour guide, Rachel, explained that around 35 staff help the machines to remove unwanted waste from the sorting conveyors. She explained that the staff communicate using walkie-talkies and will not work in the same area of the factory all day, so they don't get tired or bored with the same job. We used CCTV cameras to zoom in on the delivery wagons, the conveyors and the rubbish whizzing past us.





"This week, BASE 5 & 6 visited the Hope Centre in St Helens to deliver food bank items that have kindly been donated throughout the harvest period.

At the Hope Centre, we got to meet with Mark who told us how the food bank works. We saw how items get weighed in, marked up and redistributed to people in need. We look forward to working more with the Hope Centre in the future as part of a wider project."

