



# COLLEGE

## Newsletter

Issue 12

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### Group 1

Group 1 have been very busy accessing their local community where the main learning focus was to purchase items. The learners have been selecting items of interest in the form of souvenirs, considering whether they have enough money to buy the product, then exchanging cash / card payment to the cashier. The learners are encouraged to enhance their communication using Makaton or symbols. With full support the learners are developing confidence in handling money in such transactions.

In independent living skills, the learners have been improving their domestic routines by practicing how to clean their home safely. This includes practical activities such as vaccuming, dusting, and cleaning their kitchen. In addition, the learners have been working to identify household products and using each item purposefully for the right task. In the coming weeks, the learners next steps will be learning where to purchase these items in the supermarket.

In music and movement, the learners have loved the 'Pop' theme. After a class vote - the top 2 songs were 'Toxic' by Britney Spears and 'Beauty and the Beat' by Justin Bieber. Next term we will be exploring the theme of Musical Theatre.

### Monthly LEARNER Award

#### Group 1 – Izu

For settling into your new class and displaying St Elizabeth's values

#### Group 2 – Gabriel

For having a positive approach to learning challenges

#### Group 3 – Matthew

Your attitude to learning is inspiring

#### Employee of the month: Gregory -

for helping to sort the entertainment area in the Ware Charity Shop



## Group 2

Group 2's main focus this half term has been the Operation Christmas Child Project. The learners have gained an understanding that not everyone has gifts at Christmas which they thought was very sad. The group, then worked together to decide who to buy gifts for and decided to buy for a little girl. They then compiled a shopping list of the gifts they thought she would like, before going to Handy and Candy, our onsite shop, to buy the gifts. After working together to pack the shoebox they made Christmas Cards to go with the box. Finally, the group delivered the shoeboxes to the collection point at Bishop Stortford Baptist Church. The project has given the learners the opportunity to make decisions, solve problems (i.e. how to wrap the box and fit all the items in it), work and communicate with their peers and encouraged them to think about others.



## Group 3

Creatures great and small have made an entrance into some of Group 3's lives with their work related learning at Church Farm. Learners have been finding out about guinea pigs, sheep and even the alpacas! The learners have been investigating how the animals live, the food they like to eat and how they are looked after. They then helped to feed and clear them out. The wellies came in very useful.

We have incorporated our Wednesday sporting activities into our charts in mathematics so we can see who has been getting the most points and making lots of calculations from the data we've collected. Everyone's been keen to make sure there's no cheating going on when the scores are recorded, and those tally charts are closely scrutinised at the end of each activity by the learners.

Halloween was our after half term highlight. It was lovely starting our half term with all of us attending the Day Opportunities' disco. We dressed up and strutted our stuff to the music, refreshing our energy with some delicious cakes that were kindly provided at the event.

The food theme continued for Children in Need when the College held its own 'Bake Off' competition. Group 3 made some fantastic 'poptastic' cake pops, which tasted delicious but we were pipped at the post by a giant Pudsey cake made by Bungalow 6. There's always next year...



## Handy & Candy

We had a full restock and purchased all our Christmas decorations, crafts and snacks to sell in the shop. We received some fantastic news of a shop relocation which will give us more space. This will be combined with an onsite charity shop. The learners and staff are currently working hard together to get this up and running before Christmas which is very exciting. This is going to provide our learners to access a fully functioning shop and help them to develop their work related learning skills even further. The aim of this project is to enable our learners to access work experience and feel empowered to have their own job in the future.

## Children in Need

This year we had a yellow dress up theme. This was to represent Pudsey Bear, staff and learners dressed up in yellow to mark the occasion. We even had a banana and Daffodil costume. The learners worked hard on the bungalows and in college sessions to create their cake for our Bake Off competition. This was judged by Pauline, our Catholic Ethos Advocate. She thought our entries were amazing and was impressed with the great effort the learners made. Bungalow 6 won this year and the learners raised £25 for the charity.





## Work Experience

### Ware Shop

Each week we have learners that travel to the charity shop in Ware. Our learners who have taken part in their work experience have been very helpful in assisting the shop floor. They have helped in hanging and displaying clothes; organising the book shelf; and pricing items on the DVD racks.

### Staple Tye Shop

As well as the Ware charity shop we also have The Staple Tye Charity shop located in Harlow. Learners work on the top floor and help the manager in sorting and hanging clothes. This is a big job as so many clothes are kindly donated. This can range from ladies tops, trousers and as well as men's clothing. Learners are encouraged to be as independent as possible by paying good attention to quality of clothes. Learners make the judgement on whether the clothes can be put up for sale. They also check sizes and match them to the correct hangers.



## Ashvale

In Ashvale this term, the learners have been making Christmas decorations. This year they have been making Christmas garlands, they each picked which colour they wanted to paint the pinecones and added glitter to make them look extra festive. They picked out a coloured ribbon to attach the garland together and decorated with bows and more glitter.



## The Drawing Room

It has been another productive half term in the drawing room and we are fully in Christmas mode! The learners have been very creative in designing and making their very own clay Christmas Fairy House, adorned with stars, Christmas trees, candy canes, gingerbread men and lots of other festive decorations! They were given lots of freedom in making them and each one shows off their unique personality and style. The learners used their skills previously learned such as rolling, measuring and sticking the clay to make their masterpieces and they have all made a wonderful piece of art to celebrate the season.



# Upcoming Events

## Thursday 7th December - CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

To raise money for Save the Children please wear a Christmas jumper with us. Donations are £1.

## Friday 8th December - SANTA DASH

This year, St Elizabeth's will be coming together for our annual Santa Dash! Our learners will enjoy time together followed by refreshments.

## Tuesday 12th December - REPTILE/ANIMAL EXPERIENCE

Enrichment Day interactive experience with animals for all college learners

## Monday 18th December - CHRISTMAS CRAFTS & AWARDS

All learners will take part in a Christmas craft day, followed by our annual awards to celebrate the learner's successes of Term 1.

## Tuesday 19th December - CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Coffee morning / Christmas Carols performed by our learners. Families welcome.

## Tuesday 19th December - END OF TERM

College finishes at 3:30pm

## 4th - 5th January - INSET DAY

College curriculum training days, college reopens Monday 8th January at 9:20.

