



NEWSLETTER

Friday 15th October 2021

Dear Friends and Families,

It's been another busy week in College with learners undertaking so many different activities. The shop 'Handy and Candy' is open and customers are enjoying the opportunity to buy some goods. Many learners have weekly sessions working in the shop supporting their development in many areas of adulthood, from communication, money handling, stock control and of course customer service.

The Learner Council has been elected and the first meeting of the council is taking place this afternoon. We will update you in the next newsletter about the key points raised by the members on behalf of their peers.

We are pleased that 'George' is back with us after the summer break delivering music on Thursdays and again on Friday mornings, and Anna Drury from Services for Young People has started her Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) sessions. Anna provides impartial advice and guidance and if this is something you thing may be of assistance or you would like more information about this, please contact Bryony Boyles – bryony.boyles@stelizabeths.org.uk / 01279 844478 and she will liaise with Anna who will make contact with you.

It always surprises us that half term comes around so very quickly. So as a gentle reminder, College finishes on Thursday 21st October and resumes on Tuesday 2nd November. We have sent out details of planned meetings for after half term and will use these to provide you with an update as to how your son/daughter is settling into College as well as assessment and progress updates for every learner. If you have misplaced the details of the first planned meeting, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Wishing you a restful weekend,

Best Wishes
Teresa

Groups 1 and 2

In Music & Movement we have been doing chair exercises, yoga, bowling, and singing and signing Makaton along with music. We have specifically focused on songs from musicals and a few that the learners have chosen. In Therapeutic Communication, we have been exploring a range of massages all linked to the theme of cooking, and the learners are encouraged to express whether or not they like them.

In Prevent, we have been reading Elmer. The craft that went along with it last week was to cut squares of coloured paper to make our own patchwork elephants, and this week we read the story with particular focus on Elmer's feelings.

In Mathematics, we have been building things with blocks, matching patterns using a pegboard and working on matching colours, as well as singing along to mathematics-themed songs and exploring foam shapes and puzzles. We also practiced counting to ten.

In Sports we have been playing basketball, jumping on trampettes, riding exercise bikes, rolling a bowling ball down a ramp to knock over stacked objects, and working as a team to make a parachute go up and down. In Sensory Story, we have been hearing and experiencing Alice in Wonderland, especially enjoying the biscuits, carrots and mushrooms that Alice eats in the story. For Outdoor Learning, we have made a bug hotel after investigating the textures used to build it (moss, sticks, and leaves).

In Thursday's Healthy Living sessions, we have explored the equipment and ingredients used to make a vegetable curry, and then made and sampled it. We chopped and mixed the ingredients. In English, we have continued our topic of minibeasts by listening to a story and following instructions to make our own bugs. In PDBA, we have listened to and danced to the song 'Paintbox' and practiced the Makaton signs for 'strawberry,' 'green,' 'day,' and 'cauliflower.' This has been in preparation for this week's session, in which we will make our own scarecrow.

Kind regards,

Adam and Emma O

Group 3

Over the last 2 weeks, in the Christmas Hamper Project session, we have received feedback from our customers about how they would like their boxes decorated. The learners have been recording this information in a table, so that they are ready next week to start finding images for their customers' hampers.

During the All About Me Tutorial sessions the learners evaluated their own strengths and needs and completed tasks to see if their assessment of themselves was correct. The learners have started to share their interests with their peers. This week they watched what their peers enjoy watching and were able to state whether or not they liked it too.

Last week in Current Affairs we looked at the London Marathon, we watched a vlog of someone running the marathon and identified landmarks on the route which the learners then plotted on their own map. They were also able to pick out specific fancy dress costumes that some people ran in. This week we found out about the most played female artists of this decade. The learners listened to the songs and sorted data about the singers.

As part of the 'Harvest' focus in our PDBA sessions, learners made a fruit salad with some of the fruit currently being harvested in the UK. The learners worked together to paint and construct a life size scarecrow.

In work related learning the group took part in cleaning the shop, organising stock and customer service. They also had the opportunity to create Point Of Sales adverts and price labels.

Kind Regards,

Anne and Corrina

Group 4

Group 4 have been pleased with the results of the Learner Council elections, with some of our learners getting elected. As part of our community project we have been exploring our local community and we took a trip to Cammas Hall Farm where we picked pumpkins and went through the scary maze. In English lessons we have been focussing on mini beasts as a topic, we have read the book 'Superworm'. We have continued practising the alphabet and developing our dictionary skills. Some of our learners completed work experience in our shop, Handy and Candy, this is helping them to develop their communication skills.

As part of our Rights and Responsibilities unit we tasted different cereals and looked at the sugar content of each one, we were surprised by the results. As part of this unit we have also been thinking about our responsibilities in the morning and how we can help to tidy away the breakfast things.

Learners have enjoyed their weekly yoga and meditation session where they have the chance to pause, relax and reflect on their week.

Kind regards,

Emma B

Group 5

As the days are becoming more autumnal, the learners in Group 5 have been celebrating the season through a variety of fun tasks.

In English, we have been researching facts about autumn and practiced presenting information in simple sentences. Through this task, learners are able to develop their ICT skills, practice their letter formation and improve their understanding of basic punctuation.

For Effective Communication, the learners continued to gather more evidence for their folders and have focused on the ways people may use inappropriate ways of communicating non-verbally. The learners have recognised certain ways people use body language to express negative emotions.

The Learners have continued to enjoy their other sessions, including Current Affairs, Sports and Personal Development, Behaviour and Attitude. These have been essential for keeping up with the latest new stories, promoting exercise and practicing their creative skills. The learners especially enjoyed building a life-size scarecrow in order to celebrate the topic of harvest.

Other topics we have focused on include Black History Month, in which we have looked at and discussed famous and historical figures. The learners were able to research information on why these people made a difference and how they promoted equality and diversity.

Finally, the learners enjoyed taking part in the Learner Council elections. Together they voted for who they felt worthy to represent the learners in termly meetings. Together they will meet and discuss upcoming events and share ideas to cultivate their learning experience.

Kind Regards,

Paul