



NEWSLETTER

Friday 26th November 2021

Dear Friends and Families,

Sharing some brilliant photos with you of staff dressed up for Children in Need and some of our learners who purchased cakes and sold them to raise money.



We all celebrated St. Elizabeth's day on the 17th November. So that we could maintain social distancing and the size of groups, learners accessed the event via zoom which was streamed live. As with normal tradition a doughnut was provided to everybody and very much enjoyed by all.

We are preparing now for the festive season with Santa Dash planned on the 10th December and our Enrichment day of music, the Laughter Specialists and everyone will be making Christmas wreaths.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us, details can be found on the final page.

Best Wishes

Teresa

Groups 1 and 2

In our Healthy Living sessions, we have made microwave spaghetti Bolognese and a vegetable biryani with peppers and carrots. We've been collecting the ingredients from our onsite shop, Handy & Candy and returning to class to prepare and make the food. In our Prevent lessons, we have named the animals in the Elmer story book, and started working towards sequencing the story. Those learners who attend the Sensory Circuit session on Monday afternoons have been doing especially well the past two weeks, taking part in all 10 activities!

On Wednesdays, those learners who attend Communication Group have been doing well using their communication folders to choose which activity to do. In Work-Related Learning we have examined the role of a vet and what kind of animals they can care for, as well as the role of a fashion designer. In our Mathematics sessions we have worked through a variety of activities, including stacking blocks, looking at coins and playing a sock matching game.

We have tried table tennis and carried on with basketball, trampettes and bowling in Sports. In our Creative Art session last week, we made a Pudsey Bear mask out of a paper plate to prepare for our Children in Need celebration on Friday, and this week we participated in an art station circuit set up in the sports hall. In our Outdoor Learning sessions we have made a hedgehog out of salt dough and an autumn-inspired picture made out of found natural items from outside.

Music sessions with George continue in their format, with listening to songs, copying a rhythm on a drum, listening to relaxing music, exploring a range of musical instruments and choosing songs for the class to listen to. During the Therapeutic Communication sessions learners are continuing to take it in turns to choose which cooking-themed massage the group will receive and then stating how much (or little) they enjoyed it after each variation. In English we have continued our theme of light by exploring the festivals of Diwali and Hanukkah. We have followed instructions to do art and craft related to them.

Our Sensory Story session has been Alice in Wonderland up to this point, but this week sees the last time we will hear it for a while. Next week we will start a shorter story, since some of the group attends a Physio Skills group for the first part of the lesson. In PDDBA we have been focusing on Children in Need, with the learners being encouraged to wear their pyjamas to class for £1 and donate 50p for a baked item. This week we're observing Road Safety Week by learning how to safely cross the road outside our college building by looking and listening for traffic and using a zebra crossing.

Kind regards,

Adam and Emma

Group 3

In English, the group have turned their attention to winter, where they have been focusing on vocabulary and word recognition and formation of simple sentences.

The Sports sessions have seen our learners working to improve their motor skills. Using basketballs, bean bags and bowling. In addition the group has been focusing on throwing beanbags and looking at the varying distances that have been reached.

During the Healthy Living sessions we start with exercises to develop learners' fine and gross motor skills. We have then looked at the different food groups and followed recipes including ingredients from these groups so that the learners have the opportunity to handle and taste different foods. Last week we made potato salad and this week we made potato soup. Learners were able to follow instructions and work safely to prepare the ingredients. They all tried what they had made, and all communicated their opinion of the food (not always positive!)

The Christmas Hamper Project continues to be going well and learners have been working hard on preparing the hampers ready for their customers. So far they have made and painted the boxes the presents will be going in. This week learners went shopping to buy items to go inside the hampers.

Over the last two weeks in Current Affairs, we have been looking at the Pride of Britain Awards. Learners found out about the winners and have been able to link pictures to show who the winner was, what they did and who gave them their award.

In PDBA the learners looked at Road Safety as part of the National Road Safety Week. We practiced using the crossings outside our college building safely, building on their previous knowledge.

The group continue to work together to make hedgehogs as part of their Hedgehog Trail. We have used the site map to find locations for the trail whilst walking the site.

Kind Regards,

Anne and Corrina

Group 4

Group 4 have worked well over the last couple of weeks. They have spent some time adding work to their City and Guilds portfolios and it has been interesting to reflect on all of the work they have produced so far this year.

We created a beautiful window display for Christmas, a bit early but we know the weeks will fly by leading up to Christmas. We created a chimney, Father Christmas and presents and the learners decorated large parcels with glitter and paint.

In English lessons we have been focusing on answering comprehension questions from texts we have listened to. Last week in English the learners looked at Hanukah and Diwali and created sentences to share information.

As part of outdoor learning we explored lots of areas around the site including the Chapel and Orchard. We completed another litter pick around the site and discussed our responsibility to keep our environment clean and tidy.

Learners are enjoying their weekly music sessions with George. This week there was a focus on drumming and rhythm. The learners also enjoy playing different percussion instruments.

Everyone enjoyed Children in Need last Friday. We visited the supermarket to buy cakes and held our own cake sale in reception. Staff and learners came to College in their pyjamas for the day which we all really enjoyed.

Learners have continued to enjoy their weekly yoga and meditation sessions; I think some of the learners might have even nodded off as they were so relaxed!

Kind regards,

Emma Baldock

Group 5

As the days get colder and darker, Group 5 have continued to engage in fun and exciting tasks to develop our skills and gather evidence towards their City and Guilds qualification.

In English, we have continued to focus on the topics of Festival of Light and have read stories relating to Diwali and Hanukah. The learners have practiced their speaking and listening skills to share their thoughts on the subject and practiced producing sentences to provide information.

For Effective Communication, we have almost completed our unit! The learners continued to look at examples of passive behaviour and also looked at how being assertive can be positive.

Group 5 have continued to work hard, and have enjoyed other timetabled sessions such as Shop, Cook and Eat in which we have made cereal bars and smoothies; Art, where the learners have been preparing for Christmas by designing stockings; and Personal Development, Behaviour and Attitude in which we have discussed the important issues of bullying and what to do if they feel like a victim to bullying.

The learners have also practiced their creative skills in 'The World Around Us' in which we have been looking at the country of India and the celebration of Thanksgiving. The learners enjoy learning about these topics and producing crafts relating to the subject.

Finally, the learners thoroughly enjoyed our Children in Need day in which both learners and staff came to college dressed in pyjamas. We also held a cake sale and together we raised money towards the charity.

Kind Regards,

Paul

Useful contacts

Teresa Glynn – Head of College
Teresa.Glynn@stelizabeths.org.uk

Emma O’Riordan – Deputy Head of College
Emma.O’Riordan@stelizabeths.org.uk / 01279 844491

Bryony Boyles – Office Manager
Bryony.Boyles@stelizabeths.org.uk / 01279 844478

Please visit our website for further information:

<https://www.stelizabeths.org.uk/services-for-children-and-young-people/further-education-college/>