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e-Newsletter

27th Edition
February 2021



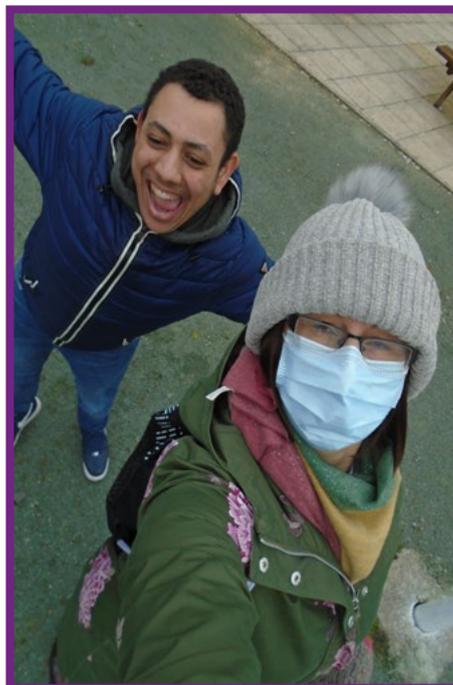
The Grafton Centre

Throughout February Grafton have been very productive. Learners have enjoyed making nature items as part of an enterprise programme, which aims to encourage students to be creative, research information, learn new facts and provide materials to support conservation. Thus far, learners have created beautiful sun catchers, seed bombs and bird cakes for local birdlife to enjoy. Our learners created their own designs for the products, encouraging them to explore and recognise different textures, sizes and shapes. As part of functional skills, they also took responsibility for sorting and counting various items into hampers, which will be given as gifts to others – highlighting the importance of kindness. To enhance social skills, learners have been encouraged to work alongside their peers and support each other in following picture instructions for each task. In addition, learners used their ICT skills to create labels and practice their keyboard competencies and letter recognition.



The Opportunities Programme

Our Day Opportunities Programme have been continuing to enjoy the great outdoors and visit local landmarks, including Haughmond Hill, local parks and Mousecroft. They have also been taking part in lots of art and crafts, including creating a calendar that celebrates diversity, creating Valentine's gifts to take home and adapting a picture of the Iron Bridge. They have continued to include 'What's in the box?' in their sessions, promoting engagement and development of attention and listening skills. In addition, they have also been doing lots of cooking – making pancakes and biscuits, and they chose to explore the colour orange using their sensory systems, with orange objects and food items.



Speech & Language Therapists

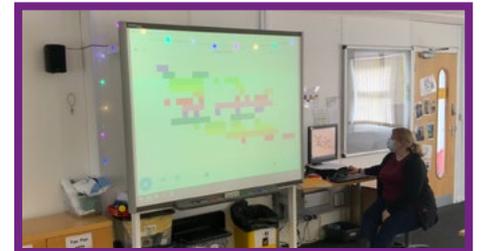
Our SLT team have been busy this month!

Laura has started hosting 'Friday Friends' club with Church View, which has included cooking sessions, practicing Coronavirus related Makaton signs, discussing plans for 'Motivational March' and reading Roald Dahl's book, 'The Twits'. Focusing on their communication skills, they have also been creating activities around an apple, including baking an apple crumble and apple themed arts and crafts. Laura and Church View have all enjoyed their initial Friday Friends sessions and are looking forward to continuing them!



SLT have also been keeping in contact virtually with the learners who are unable to attend CCL at present. Laura particularly enjoyed a video chat with Katie, who usually attends our Day Opportunities Programme. Laura used an approach called Intensive interaction with Katie, which normally requires being with that person, but they gave it a go and it was a great success! They both look very happy in the photo!

Jade has been continuing to see the learners at Grafton. The Green Group enjoyed using an online music making programme, which Lewis has particularly liked accessing with the use of switch and eye pointing.



Nicky has enjoyed more learner voice meetings with our Learner Voice Reps. They have discussed new ideas and really enjoyed seeing each other. They are continuing to collect recipes for the 'Learner Voice Cookbook' and they also voted to make a 'Motivational March' calendar which you can see below.

Click on the calendar to be directed to a downloadable PDF

<h2>Motivational March</h2> <p>Created by Condover College's Learner Voice Reps</p> <p>2021</p>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Look at some old photos. (Tom Cope)	2 Take part in a fun exercise. (Church View)	3 Have a baking afternoon (Torrin)	4 Have a dance to your favorite music. (Hall Bank Mews)	5 Pray for COVID to go away and we can have a better day. (High Ridges)	6 Have a lazy morning and lie in. (Church View)
7 Call or FaceTime your friends and family for a chat. (Torrin)	8 The world is a better place with cake. Get baking! (High Ridges)	9 Watch a 'Big Top Musical Adventure' on YouTube. (Opps)	10 If someone hasn't got a smile give them yours. (The Crescent)	11 Have a foot spa and massage. (Welwyn)	12 Plant seeds save the bees.... (The Crescent)	13 Have a Disney day, pick your favorite film and have a cinema day. (Walford Lodge)
14 Take time to enjoy the spring sunshine. (Walford Lodge)	15 Listen to an audio book. (Orchard)	16 Watch some old favorite films. (Wheatlands)	17 Be who we want to be...have an adventure day... (Harley Road)	18 Enjoy a bubbly bath. (Church view)	19 Make up a box of treats of chocolate and biscuits to share. (Kynaston)	20 Go out for a drive... (Kynaston)
21 Where's there is water there is fun... enjoy some water play... (Harley Road)	22 Play board games with your friends. (Torrin)	23 Enjoy some silly science, make rainbow clouds and lava lamps. (Opps)	24 Make some bird feeders and spend time watching the birds. (Orchard)	25 We love to party...have a disco night! (High Ridges)	26 Choose a taster meal to have with your friends. (Walford Lodge)	27 Make a bug house in your garden. (Opps)
28 Go exploring your local village. (Mayfield)	29 Dance like there is no tomorrow...disco time! (Harley Road)	30 Pick and watch a film that makes you laugh. (Welwyn)	31 Enjoy a head massage. (Hall Bank Mews)			

CCL Schemes

This month at **Walford Lodge** we have been enjoying getting involved in arts and craft's activities, including making valentine's day cards for our loved ones. We enjoyed pancake day, making savoury and sweet pancakes. With the nicer weather arriving, we have been lucky to spend time in our garden, relaxing in the sunshine and collecting flowers. Bethan, Candice and Libby have enjoyed sensory time on the floor and Carl created a Makaton video for his Dad's birthday. Amy also helped take some rubbish to the tip and enjoyed watching the workmen!



CLICK
ON
CARL
TO
SEE
HIS
VIDEO



Mayfield have been doing lots of baking for various events throughout the month, including Pancake Day, Valentine's Day, St David's Day and Chinese New Year, and we have even enjoyed a homecooked 3 course meal together! The guys have been very helpful with completing housework this month, offering to Hoover and sort the recycling, which Aaran especially loved! We particularly enjoyed Pancake Day and consumed a lot for breakfast that day! With the weather brightening up, we have benefited from going for walks around the village and seeing lots of nature along the way. We were also pleased to receive our first COVID vaccinations and received positive feedback from the doctor who vaccinated us. Mayfield are also planning to raise money for Comic Relief - keep posted on our Facebook page!



Church View have had a busy month indeed! We ended January and started the month off with three birthdays, which, of course, we celebrated in style! We joined in with storytelling week with arts and crafts - making cats from 'Cat in the Hat'. The Church View ladies also enjoyed another pamper night with rose clay masks. For Valentine's Day, we made cards to send to our loved ones and got dressed up and enjoyed a 3-course meal. We have also been busy in the kitchen baking, making pizzas and even an apple crumble with Laura (SLT) - virtually of course! We are continuing to get our steps in for Soundabout Moveabout using our Wii to virtually play sports and taking walks around our village (don't forget, it's not too late to donate: <https://soundabout.enthusie.com/pf/condover-college>)! With the weather brightening up, we have planted apple seeds and hope they will start growing. On Friday night, we hosted a 'Pub' night and make classic pub food, including burgers and scampi - it was great!



CCL Schemes

The Wheatlands have had a very busy February! We celebrated Chinese New Year by making lanterns and tasting Chinese food. On Valentine's Day, we made mocktails. Eddie turned 33 this month and he was lucky enough to be able to have his party in the sunshine! In fact, with the sun making multiple appearances, we have been in the garden regularly over the last few weeks and even had our first BBQ of the year! We have also been on frequent walks around the village and walked to All Saints Church. On the weekend just gone, we held an Australian themed day, where we watched Crocodile Dundee, enjoyed messy sand play and tasted crocodile, kangaroo and other exotic meats!!



This month, at **High Ridges**, we have been improving our cooking and baking skills, which we are very proud of. Nabeel made his favourite dish, Lasagne, and Chloe made millionaire's shortbread. We enjoyed Chinese New Year with a homemade Chinese buffet, decorated our windows and made coloured dragon masks and origami animals. On Shrove Tuesday, we made pancakes and chose our own toppings – they were delicious! We played 'Play Your Cards Right' against Church View on Zoom. It was lovely to see our friends and we were pleased to win! With the Six Nations Rugby returning to our screens, we have enjoyed watching it and have decorated the lounge with flags to support our favourite teams. We are very much looking forward to venturing out and finding new picnic spots now the weather is improving!

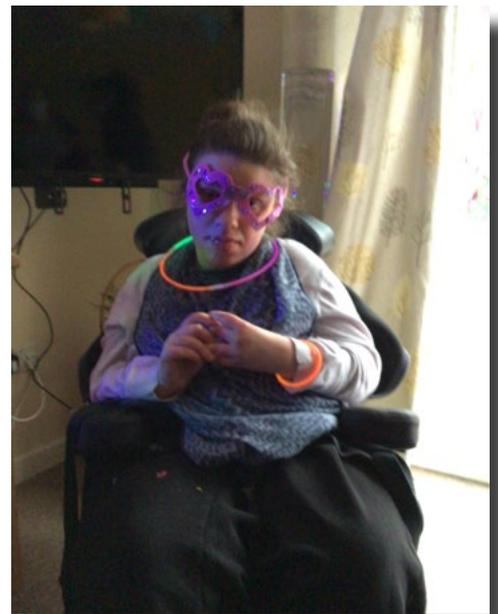


Welywn have had a busy month! We have hosted an Angelman's party and had Kelly's birthday! We have also turned into hairdressers and had a much-needed hairdressing day. With the weather picking up, we have enjoyed garden visits, spending time in the garden and taking walks in the sunshine. We can't wait to get out for some picnics too! We have also loved story time and doing lots of colouring and arts and crafts.



CCL Schemes

The Orchard have had a really busy month. Firstly, we enjoyed taking part in the RSPB garden watch, recording the birds we saw and sending the recordings off to RSPB! We also made some bird feeders, which the birds loved! For Valentine's Day, we made a week of activities – making cards with wax melts in for our loved ones and baking red cupcakes. In addition, we held a Valentine's disco and made glasses and hats for it. Our dancing at the disco also helped towards our Soundabout Moveabout steps! After a busy Valentine's Day, we had Pancake Day, which we made the most of by partaking in a pamper session, followed by eating some pancakes! We tossed the pancakes, and they didn't up on the ceiling, so that was a bonus! We are looking forward to warmer days and were relieved to have received our first dose of the COVID vaccine.



After a quiet January, **Harley Road** certainly made up for it in February! We started off the month making Valentine's Day cards for friends and family. Chris was particularly pleased to receive a special card and cookie from a secret admirer! It was also James Crosland's birthday. He received a lovely visit from his parents and enjoyed a special birthday meal with his friends – a huge roast dinner and apple crumble, his favourite. The guys in 25 had a crafty month, making lots of pictures of animals they saw on their virtual trip to Chester Zoo – Jonnie was especially happy with his giraffe! The guys at 32 have enjoyed exploring the village, enjoying brief moments of sunshine, and their evenings have been taken up by TACPAC. The guys at 34 have started getting out more for drives and have been enjoying seeing the first signs of spring, including snowdrops and daffodils, but no sign of lambs yet! Of course, all Harley Road houses enjoyed Pancake Day with everyone joining in with cooking and choosing their favourite toppings!



Kynaston Farm have had a busy February. We hosted taster evenings and made our own pizzas, which were delicious and very enjoyable! We enjoyed the little bit of snow we had and built a snowman! We have been aiming to keep active by completing walks and learning how to box for Soundabout Moveabout – it's not too late to donate: <https://soundabout.enthuse.com/pf/condover-college>. We have also enjoyed baking – making cheesecake and cookie dough. On Valentine's Day, all of our guys received a red rose! Again, we have been focusing on positivity and have made posters of what we would like to do at the end of lockdown.



CCL Schemes

Hall Bank Mews have had a great month of activities! The guys enjoyed the story 'Cat in the Hat' – they even got to try green eggs and ham! We have also filled the bird feeders, which we made and decorated last month – they are now hung in our garden and we have received visits from various birds. They look great! Love was in the air over Valentine's weekend, the guys made cards to give to their friends and enjoyed an extra special dinner together. During the last week of the month, we enjoyed a Haka taster session, which involved information on the history of the Haka and Māori culture, learning the corresponding Makaton signs for the culture's language, a YouTube session on the Haka, colouring in pictures of Māori people's cultured tattoos and listening to an indigenous band (traditional Māori music). To end the month, the guys cooked their own roast dinner – it was lovely!



The Crescent have had a successful month! All of our guys received their COVID vaccination by our GP in our home, which we are pleased about. Most of our team have also received the vaccine, so we are hoping this summer we will be able to have visitors! Jimmy celebrated his birthday with a takeaway, lots of balloons and a chocolate cake. This month we have also had a Chinese New Year party and a disco with Jimmy's new disco lights and speakers. We have been continuing our walks around the local beauty spots. Kieron has been enjoying going to the Dana at Shrewsbury so he can look down at the railway station and watch the trains. We have also been sprucing the cars up, tidying the garden and have even made our own pizzas!



Torrin Drive have had a lovely month! The guys enjoyed making their pancakes, giving the mix a good ol'shake for a couple of minutes and in Dave's words, 'Bob's your uncle', instant pancake mix! The pancakes were tossed, cooked, served with various toppings and devoured! Sam has been improving his puzzle skills, completing one without any prompts, which is a huge improvement for Sam. Ben and Mark continue to have garden visits, which they both really enjoy! We have all been COVID vaccinated too, which is exciting and hoping it's a next step to some sort of normality again!



Latest News

Swallowing Awareness Calendar March 2021

Swallowing Awareness day is on Wednesday 17th March. To highlight the issues surrounding Dysphagia, everyday throughout March we will be sharing bite-sized pieces of information about the condition. To keep updated daily click here on the icon.



CCL's Day Opportunities Programme Features in the Shropshire Star

We are thrilled to be included in an article by Shropshire Star regarding the efforts our team have made to keep our Day Opportunities Programme open throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Click here to read

Shropshire Star

For more latest news click on the icon
Highlights include:

National Careers Week

'You Can Care' Week

Chinese New Year & Valentine's Day

The first dose of COVID Vaccines Complete!



News

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Condover College Limited
Longbow House, Harlescott Lane,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY1 3GZ
Phone: 01743 872 250
Fax: 01743 874 815
Email: marketing@condovercl.org.uk