



Chadsgrove Educational Trust Specialist College

Newsletter Summer 1

Innovation in Student Voice Award



Student and staff dedication to empowering Student Voice has now been recognised nationally. We are delighted to share the news that our expertise has been acknowledged through winning the Natspec Innovation in Student Voice Award. The Students' Project centred around the fundraising and development of our College community garden space, was entitled 'Self-Advocacy, Active Citizenship and Community Inclusion'. This showcased students dedication to using their voice to help others, raise their personal level of self advocacy and promote inclusion in the local community. "Nothing about me without me" has long been the motto amongst the Chadsgrove College family, we are thrilled that this is now recognised within the countrywide SEN provision.

King's Coronation Celebrations 2023



Together with Chadsgrove School students celebrated the King's Coronation. Along with making their own crowns, Students learnt about the meaning of the Coronation and different parts of the service. Students joined school classes on the field for music, dancing and cake! Each class decorated their gazebos. Ms Rattley, supported by Poppy the Therapy Dog, handed out prizes for the best 3, we didn't win but came a close 4th. The sun shone and everyone had a fabulous time.

Dates for your diary

- Friday 26th May** - College closes for half term
- Monday 5th June** - College re-opens
- Monday 26th June** - Inset day College closed
- Wednesday 5th July** - College Summer Fete
- Monday 17th July** - Leavers and Achievers Celebration
- Thursday 20th July** - College closes for the summer

King's Coronation!



After the outside celebrations students had a visit from the King for a special photo opportunity.

Staff News

Our Occupational Therapist Jo, and Physiotherapist Rachel have opened new clinics at The Barns in Tardebigge to support families with OT and Physio needs. Please share this information with anyone who you think might benefit from their support. We have seen first hand in College what a difference these therapies make to our students.

<https://futuregenphysio.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FutureGenPhysio>



HCPC Registered OT20875

Occupational Therapy

Individual assessment sessions available or treatment blocks to work on agreed goals

Get in touch to discuss how I may be able to help. I am a local OT with 31 years experience in assessing and treating children and adults.

Email: Jo@JMcOT.co.uk



New clinic room now open!
The Barns Rural Business Park
Hewell Lane
Tardebigge
Bromsgrove
B60 1LP



Hand function and hand strengthening activities



Kitchen and life skills



Staff News

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Sammy on gaining her Rebound Therapy Level 2 Trainer qualification.

Congratulation also go to our Tutors Leigh Blakeman and Ciara Porter who have successfully completed the Natspec program in SEND Leadership Award.

Lunchtime Therapy Clubs



This half term, Jo our Occupational Therapist has run a weekly hand therapy/function club. Kirsty, our Physiotherapy Technician has held a weekly dance club, with a different song and dance from around the world each week. Students make a choice if they want to take part in the lunch club of the day and both the therapy clubs have been really popular.

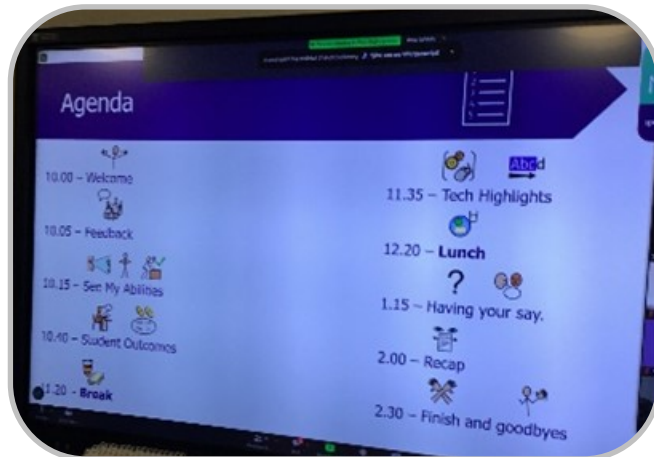
Signalong for Students



Harry and Ali are completing the Pre-Entry Level Signalong for Learners, with our Speech and Language Therapist Sonia Turner. To complete the course, Harry and Ali have to sign 20 signs, recognise 30 signs, and complete a workbook with photos. The themes they have covered so far have been 'coffee shop' (which has helped with their work experience at St Basil's Café), and 'garden' which has fitted in with our garden project. The signs they have covered include; coffee, tea, sandwiches, cake, fruit, vegetables, pots and plants.

Student Parliament

On the 11th May Connor attended the student parliament, a total of 36 colleges attended nationwide.



Throughout the day he had many topics to talk about. These included: mental health issues, disability awareness within the community, ID required voting and accessibility in social spaces. Connor shared our ideas and thoughts to all the Colleges.

During our last meeting in November, a competition was launched to re-design the Blue Badge. Many people felt it was not inclusive, especially when some disabilities are not visible. Since then, the competition has concluded and the winning design was revealed. It is currently being trialled across the Cheltenham festivals.

A PowerPoint was presented on Inclusive Technology which included useful aids for the visually impaired. Gamers were shown that switches can be used with Xbox on Fifa and Rocket League - great news for any gamers! Students also learnt about a device that scans and reads text from any book – a CPEN. What a great idea for people who need support with reading!

Students had a brilliant day and Connor represented the College in a professional manner, he came away with lots of new ideas and thoughts to share.

Community and Relationships

PMLD Awareness Day



Our Charities Team organise regular events for students and staff to participate in. On Friday 5th May we held a PMLD Awareness Day. Students and staff dressed in bright colours and celebrated with a sensory story that incorporated story massage with the theme being around colours of the rainbow.

Thank you to everyone who took part and for the kind donations received.

Thank
You!

Community and Relationships

Enrichment Day: Friendship

On Wednesday 24th May, students had a 'Friendship' themed enrichment day. Yellow was worn to represent friendship.



The students made collages of words and pictures that represent a good or bad friendship. Two of the students performed to bring these ideas to life!



Community and Relationships

Enrichment Day: Friendship



Pupils who will be starting at College in September visited us today. We did lots of dances about good friendships and working together. Pupils finished the day with a 'Loving Kindness' meditation story massage in the garden.



Cooking Sessions

Menemem



One of our students requested that we create menemem, a traditional Turkish breakfast dish. We researched and shopped for the ingredients to make it and discovered that we needed eggs, tomatoes, green peppers and spices. It was a new recipe for most of us, Ali was on hand throughout the session giving us a thumbs up and a thumbs down, depending on how accurately we were following instructions.

Mexican Wraps



Mexican wrap week was a hit with most of our students, with lots of cooking and preparation for all to get involved in.

Independent Living Skills

Sushi



Sushi week exposed us to new flavours and textures, some more enjoyable than others! Students were brilliant at participating and some students were willing to taste seaweed sheets and pickled ginger.

As well as encouraging and supporting independence into adulthood, we work with our occupational therapist Jo to incorporate techniques which are personal to each student, these techniques work on improving and maintaining hand function. Tasks included opening tins, using adapted utensils, opening packets, mashing and whisking.

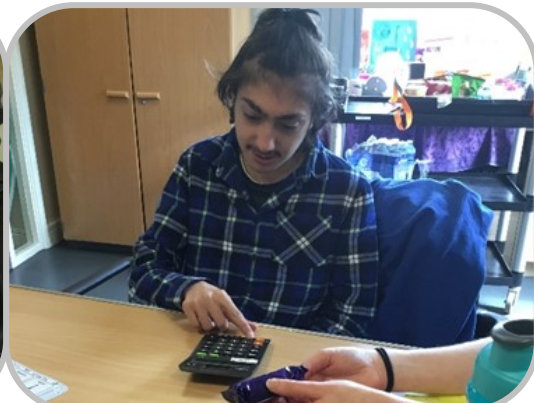
Subway



This week we took on Subway! The subs went down really well with both students and staff, with plenty of choices to pick from.

Maths/Thinking Skills

National Numeracy Day



Maths and Thinking skills are embedded in every lesson at College, but during National Numeracy Day on Wednesday 17th May, students had an extra focus on them.

Students on the Explorers pathway used their Thinking skills to participate in activities and make considered choices during their lessons. They listened to instructions, expressed preferences, processed ideas and practiced skills to remain safe. Students also chose their favourite sensory items and followed a sequence of movement to music.

Ali practiced his addition and subtraction working with money at the tuck shop. With support he used a calculator to add the prices of items for sale and worked out the correct change required.

Following the days theme, during lunch club, Maths skills were used to follow hand therapy programs.

Summer fete

**College summer fete
coming soon!**



We need your help!



**All donations welcome
for our Tombola stall**



Many Thanks



Preparations for the College Summer Fete are underway. The date for this event is Wednesday 5th of July. Students have begun to plan stalls, games and craft ideas. Summer Fete preparation will be a focus next term. Please add the date to your diaries - we look forward to welcoming all of our visitors into College.