



Chadsgrove Educational Trust Specialist College

Newsletter Summer 1 2024



Welcome to the our Summer Term 1 Newsletter! This season, we've been thrilled to make the most of our newly established garden, which has become a vibrant hub for relaxation, study, and communal activities. Whether it's taking a break between classes to soak up the sun, participating in gardening projects, or enjoying social gatherings, the garden has quickly become a cherished part of our college life. We look forward to many more sunny days filled with growth, learning, and friendship.

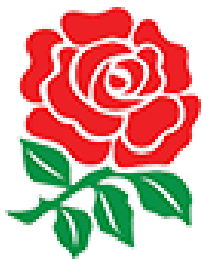
Explorers Pathway

Alongside our visits to local Social Care Providers, Explorers students have also been visiting local Garden Centres to support the development of our college garden.

Students have chosen bright coloured flowers, wonderfully smelling herbs and lovely decorations for the garden.



Webbs

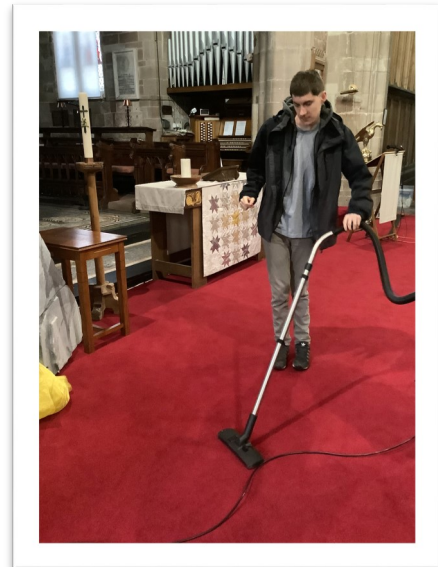


ROWBERRYS



Seekers Pathway

Students on the Seekers Pathway have been engaging in activities with 'Friends of St John's' who run the Christmas Market where we have a stall each year. As part of a Heritage Project supported by the National Lottery, students have been learning about the history of the church building and items based in the church. Students were keen to offer their support so, utilising their independent living skills, they helped with cleaning the building.



Friends of St Johns, Jo Slade spoke the students about the Church Spire appeal. This information was shared with College Ambassadors who led a vote for all students who unanimously agreed to donate to this appeal. Students are thrilled to support and help another local charity. Students had the opportunity to see specialist digital imagery equipment in action, courtesy of a team from the University of Wolverhampton. The drone robots that have been used to scan the building fascinated all of them!

Sign of the Half Term

Students have chosen 'Independent' as their sign of the term.

They have chosen this as they have been working hard in their independent living skills session, being more independent making their own lunch and making their own decisions.



Students have also been working towards their Signalong qualification and are learning new signs on a weekly basis.

Using our Senses

This half term, Explorers students have been developing their communication skills through sessions with Speech and Language Therapists, Claire and Chloe.

During these sessions, students have communicated their preferences for exploring sensory stimuli.



Students have also been taking part in a Sensory Story called 'The Hair Salon'. The story gave students an experience of what it might be like to work in a Hair Salon.

They practiced appropriate greetings, used their senses to smell different products, combed hair and made choices of how to style their own hair.



Health

This half term the students have used our lovely new garden to support both their physical and mental health.



Seekers students have been spending time outside in nature, planting, watering and keeping the garden clean and tidy.

Explorers students have enjoyed listening to the sounds of nature, gentle yoga and dancing round the Maypole.



Independent Living Skills

Cooking



Students have been busy cooking and making balanced food choices during Independent Living Skills lessons. These lessons have been very successful and have incorporated Maths and Thinking skills, Communication and Hand Function skills.

Students worked together to prepare a meal that they can all enjoy, they chose a lunch that they all were happy with, shopped for the ingredients then prepared the lunch on a Tuesday morning.



Explorers Maths & Thinking Skills

During Maths and Thinking Skills sessions, students have been further practicing the use of switches to control their environments and entertainment.



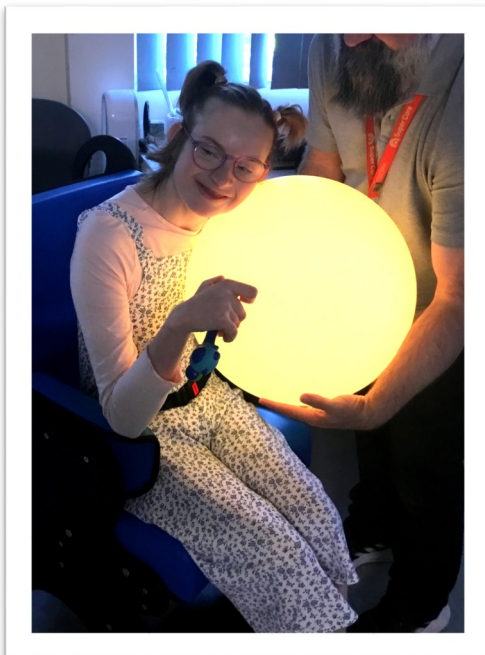
Chadsgrove College Productions



As our end of term play will be the 'Wizard of Oz', they have been watching the original movie and using a switch to advance to the next scene.

Students have also done some work on the Soundbeam around the very famous "Somewhere over the Rainbow" song, with the hopes of recording their very own version of it.

We also set up the green screen and started filming some scenes for the big production.



Work Related Learning

Enterprise

We're looking for any new or good quality donations to go towards our tombola and hamper which will be taking place at this years' Summer Fete on Friday 5th July. The Summer Fete promises to be our best yet with students already working hard on their fantastic craft items which will be available to buy on the day.

Should you have any new and unopened alcoholic / non-alcoholic beverages, toys, gift sets, toiletries, books, soft toys that you would like to donate to our tombola and raffle, please let us know by Friday 7th June - we'd greatly appreciate any items you would like to donate, thank you.

Parent Carers, Advocates and families are very welcome to join us during either 11.00am to 12.15pm or 1.45pm to 3.00pm. We look forward to seeing you!

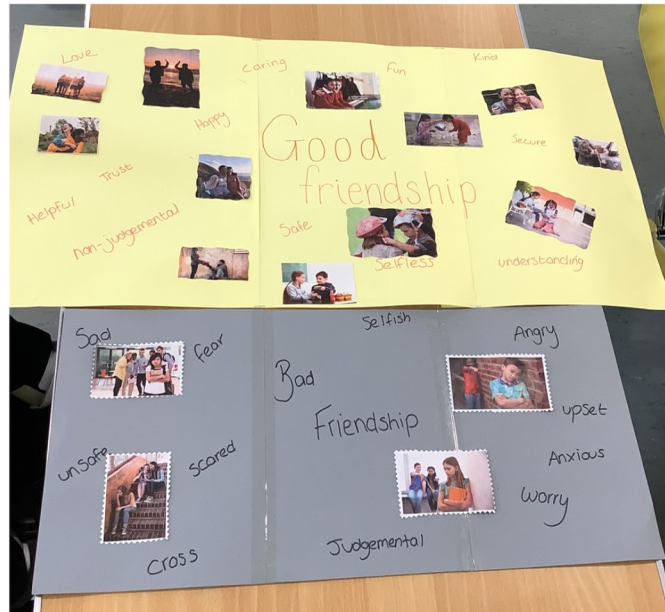


Enrichment Day

Enrichment Days: Friday 17th & Tuesday 21st May

During this terms' Enrichment Days we explored friendships via a number of different activities including videos, question and answer worksheets and role-plays about 'good' and 'bad' friendships.

There were also creative activities including friendship themed dances and making friendship bracelets for each other.



We're using a great website called 'easyfundraising' to help raise money for Chadsgrove Educational Trust Specialist College Bromsgrove.



easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity shopping site and will turn your everyday online shopping into FREE donations for us.

All you need to do is sign up and shop via the easyfundraising website or App when you're shopping with over 7,500 brands including eBay, Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Just Eat and more!

Your online shopping won't cost you any extra and we'll be really grateful for your donations!

If you're interested in finding out more or would like to sign up, please visit: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chadsgrove-educational-trust-specialist-college/?utm_medium=Email-share&utm_source=Newsletter

Ambitious About Autism

We have supported the charity 'Ambitious About Autism' this half term by buying the Little Sid rose for our recently developed college garden.



We are all looking forward to seeing our 'Little Sid' bloom into beautiful raspberry red roses soon.



Useful Information

Important College Dates for your Diary

- 27th May to 31st May - College Closed for Half Term
- Monday 3rd June - College re-opens to students
- Friday 7th June - Deadline for tombola / raffle donations
- Monday 17th June to Friday 21st June:
Inclusive Careers Week and Disability Awareness Week
- Tuesday 18th June - Student Ambassador meeting
- Friday 28th June - INSET day College closed to students
- Thursday 4th July - Chads Grove Life Beyond Event:
(3.45pm - 6.30pm in the School Hall)
- Friday 5th July - Summer Fete (11.00am - 12.15pm / 1.45pm - 3.00pm)
- Monday 8th July to Friday 12th July: Health, Safety and Democracy Week
- Monday 15th July - Enrichment Day
- Tuesday 16th July - Achievement and Leavers Celebration:
(6.30pm at Catshill Social Club - all invited)
- Wednesday 17th July - Last day of Summer Term
- Thursday 18th July - INSET day, College closed to students
- Friday 19th July - INSET day, College closed to students

Useful Information

Dates have been sent out for Year 1 and Year 2 students' Annual Reviews which are scheduled to take place in June and July - paperwork to follow.