



NEW BRIDGE

LEARNING CENTRE

Autumn Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

WELCOME to our Autumn newsletter for families, governors and stakeholders to find out all about what has been happening over the past term here at New Bridge Learning Centre! We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our pupils, staff and families all the very best for Christmas.

CONTENTS

Message from the Head	3
Message from Executive Head	4
Message from the Chair of Governors	5
Christmas Market	6
Football fun at Eccles College	6
Children in Need	7
Remembrance at the LC	8
Employability	8
Holiday Club at the LC	9
David Lloyd	10
Remembering Aysha	11
MacMillan Coffee Morning	12
Community Living	13
Mental Health Awareness	14
DIY	15



INTERACT WITH US!

You can keep up with what we're doing here at New Bridge Learning Centre via our Facebook page and through our weekly blogs. The New Bridge Group Twitter and Facebook pages also provide regular updates from across the New Bridge family. We love to see your feedback and comments and look forward to sharing our activities and adventures with you!



Message from the Head

On behalf of myself, my staff team and our students, can I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

The first term of the academic year often feels like the hardest, with the winter months drawing in and illnesses popping up. This year has been no different, but neither has the determination, resilience and enthusiasm of our Learning Centre community.

It's time for a bit of a rest, but I am absolutely convinced that we will all be back in January, ready and raring to go for another term of learning and life experience.

Whatever you're planning on doing this Christmas period, I hope that you find some time to take care of yourself. It can be such a busy time and we barely seem to stop, but this year, try to do just that, even for five minutes.

With the ongoing 'cost of living' crisis, this Christmas break will prove difficult for many, and I would remind you to seek out the various channels of support that are available. If you are struggling, please let us know, and we will do everything we can to point you in the right direction of support and advice.

I've been delighted to welcome families back in force to the LC for Parents evening, Parents & Carers groups and of course, most recently, our Christmas market which was a huge success. This partnership with families is key to helping our students thrive and reach their full potential and in turn, their chosen destination.

Finally, can I congratulate all of our students on another term of successes and learning, all of which will stand them in good stead for the next part of their learning journeys, not to mention the rest of their lives.

Together, we really are creating meaningful futures.

Merry Christmas
Dawn



MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE HEAD

As the end of the Autumn term arrives and Christmas is almost upon us, I would like to express my gratitude to all our children, young people, parents, carers, staff and governors. In my role I am fortunate enough to have an overview across New Bridge School, New Bridge Learning Centre and New Bridge College. Everywhere I go, I'm inspired by the caring approach we have for each other, the passion we have for learning, and the creativity and innovation that drives our continuing success. I see the vital role that every one of us plays in each individual's learning and development, and I witness the way in which we all work together to ensure every child and young person achieves the best possible outcomes. We couldn't achieve this without the trust we have in each other. I therefore thank you all for your continued commitment and I know that we will continue to collaborate in this way in 2023.

In the meantime, I wish you all a restful holiday, I hope each of you finds time to do the things you love with the people you love, and I look forward to seeing you again in the new year.

Regards
Gavin Lyons
Executive Headteacher

MESSAGE FROM CATHY WILLIAMS, CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I would like to wish everyone a happy Christmas from all the Governors.

This term it has been lovely to see the focus on Student Voice across all three sites. The student councils go from strength to strength. Students are being consulted on issues which matter to them and are learning that their voices are important. Work is now being done on gathering the views of students who have difficulty expressing themselves verbally, using Talking Mats.

These are used to allow young people to make choices using signs and symbols. Some students are being trained to support others in using these.

After such a busy term I hope everyone enjoys a well earned break over the festive period.

Cathy Williams

Chair of Governors
New Bridge Learning Centre



Cathy Williams
Chair of Governors

CHRISTMAS MARKET



The Christmas Market was a great success, raising an amazing £460, with staff and students working hard to make different gifts, products and decorations. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers there! Thank you to everyone who supported in any way.

FOOTBALL FUN AT ECCLES COLLEGE



We've loved the opportunity to sharpen our shooting skills as part of football fun at Eccles College.

We were a little disappointed not to get any late call ups to Gareth's squad for the World Cup!

CHILDREN IN NEED

The Learning Centre staff and students came together to raise money for BBC 'Children in Need' day. There were lots of fundraising activities going on including selling cakes and sweets, dress down/up day, sponsored hand your phone in and sponsored silence, a special mention and well done to Stephan in Mrs Thornhill's group who raised an amazing £47.50 on his own.

The culmination of the day was a disco, and as you can see from the photos, everyone had a great time. It was wonderful for staff and students from different groups to meet up. We're definitely going to do more activities where groups can join together and socialise!

The total raised was – £262.40!



REMEMBRANCE AT THE LC

LC staff and students joined together to mark Remembrance Day.

We held a short assembly which incorporated a 2 minutes silence and a film chosen by Ben from the Nurture group.



EMPLOYABILITY

The Employability Group have worked at a variety of places this term, including the Guinness Trust, the Atrium and more recently at a David Lloyd Club.

They have been introduced to lots of new experiences and have learnt a number of transferable skills that they can use in their personal life and in any future employment.

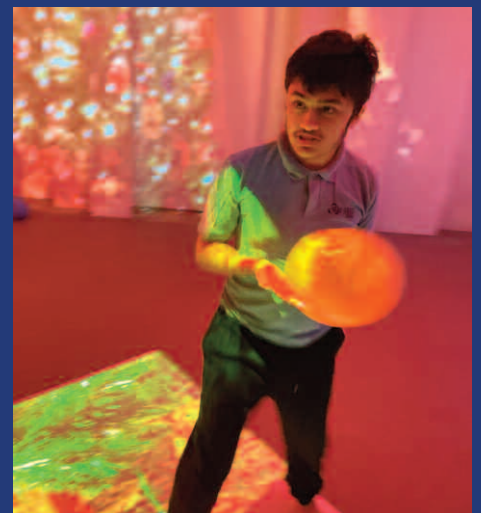
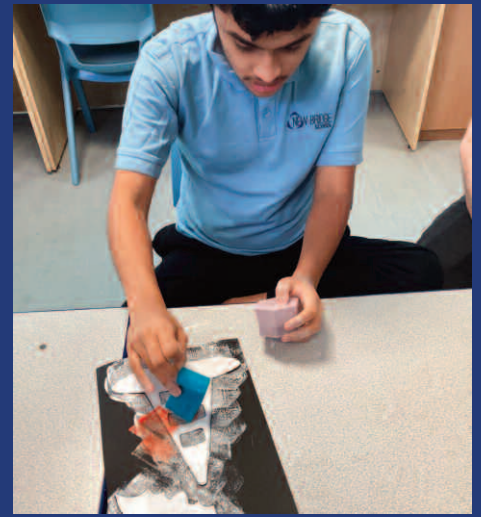
Each of the students have discovered an area of particular interest to them and have then shared what they are able to do with others and in so doing they are then passing on their skills on to others.

One area that all attendees have learnt is to meet and greet everyone with a smile. This has been a great success and is becoming a regular occurrence within other areas, especially in the Learning Centre.



HOLIDAY CLUB AT THE LC

We had a fun filled few days of various activities, from a short walk, interactive fun in the ILS, to Halloween arts, crafts and baking.



DAVID LLOYD

Some of our students have really been putting in the graft at David Lloyd, as you can see from these photos!



REMEMBERING AYSHA

Working with our students is an honour and a privilege.

Our children create the 'colour' in many aspects of our school. They bring us joy and light.

When we have to say goodbye to these children, it breaks our heart.

This term, after a short illness, Aysha Bibi passed away.

We have fabulous memories of Aysha, her beautiful smile, her ability to 'light up' a room and the effect she had on everyone she met. She has left a hole in our hearts, but fabulous memories, including our trip to Cornwall this year.

This is our message to the family from the staff team

"We have so many lovely memories, but Kalsoom (Mum) was extremely proud that she got to bring both girls to the prom and they all looked so beautiful."



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We raised a whopping £214 from our MacMillan Coffee Morning. Well done to all involved.



COMMUNITY LIVING

Community Pathway students were visited by PC Fahmida the school's engagement officer from GMP along with her colleague Andy. They led a discussion around stranger danger and how students can keep themselves safe.

They also invited questions from the groups and students certainly asked loads of pertinent questions. Students were really interested in many areas of police work, and they also showed a good understanding of what to do if they ever need help.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

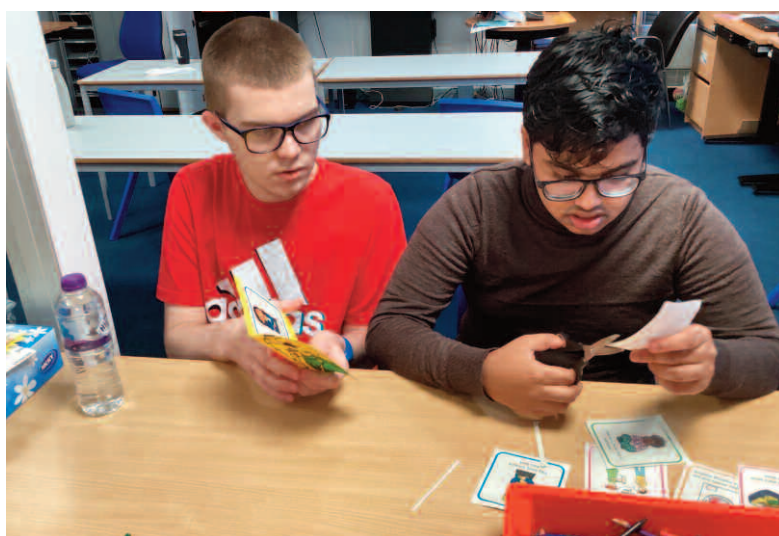
At the Learning Centre we have been raising our awareness of Mental Health.

Here is what some of groups got up to...

Mr Blackmans group supported mental health week by making kindness cards for all the staff in the Learning Centre. The students made and decorated cards and then put a good deed message inside each card. The student's handed these out to each class and asked the class to carry out each good deed.

Miss Kindon's group found the conversation starter cards very interesting. Some of the cards were light-hearted and some were more serious topics. The staff agreed that the group had some good discussions.

Mrs Keane's group talked about positive affirmations, they then wrote their own and put them up on the walls around the Learning Centre. Positive affirmations help people to replace negative self-talk with positive self-talk.





DIY



A group of students from the Learning Centre have been carrying out general repairs and maintenance of the benches from around the LC site.

This consists of sanding down the benches and the replacement of any damaged or broken wood, and an application of wood stain ready for another year of our British weather!





Creating Meaningful Futures



NEW BRIDGE LEARNING CENTRE
St Martins Road
Oldham
OL8 2PZ

HEAD OF COLLEGE

Dawn Allison

CEO

Graham Quinn M.Ed



*Learning Together
Learning for All
Learning for Life*



T 0161 883 2402

E info@newbridgegroup.org

W www.newbridgeschool.net

