

WEST LEA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



CONTENTS

Welcome from the CEO	3
PSHE Curriculum Update	4
Building Cultural Capital	6
Online Safety	8
Update from Enterprise Cooperative Trust	10
Update from Learning for Life Charity	12
West Lea in the News	15
Key Term Dates 2022	17
Our Campuses	18

WELCOME FROM THE CEO

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this half-term’s newsletter, which includes insights and updates regarding important aspects of our curriculum, including Personal Development, PSHE and how we build cultural capital for our pupils. Additionally, you will find exciting updates from the Enterprise Cooperative Trust and Learning for Life Charity.

The 24th February 2022 turned out to be a very important day in history! It is the day we finally said goodbye to most of the Covid-19 restrictions, here in the UK. Sadly, it was also the day Russian troops set foot on Ukrainian soil, marking the beginning of the conflict that has occupied our minds and hearts ever since. All of this is a key reminder of the ‘real world’ that our pupils, and indeed all of us, have to navigate our way through.

This is why personal development and wider enrichment opportunities are so important for our pupils, and form part of daily life at West Lea. We provide a range of opportunities that support our pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes needed to prepare them for adulthood, as well as the inevitable challenges and responsibilities they will face as they grow up. We also recognise pupils need to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, as this allows them to make sense of the world around them - and find their place within it.

As we all face challenges ahead, it’s important to continuously support our pupils to develop an informed and balanced view on world events and their beliefs and the values of others.

With every good wish to you and your family.



Paul Quinn
CEO, West Lea School

PSHE CURRICULUM UPDATE

We believe personal development and enrichment opportunities should be weaved into many areas of teaching and learning. This includes Personal, Social, Health and Economics Education (PSHE), as well as our Life and Work curriculum (our two key strands).

This term, to help prepare students for adulthood, Phelps' class, for example, discovered how challenging parenting can be, when they were tasked with looking after babies – battery operated babies that is! There were a few moans and groans, when they learned they would be 'parents' for the day, but when the babies came there was a real buzz of excitement!



Each baby came with a set of keys with different actions such as: feed, change nappy, burp and attention. Pupils had to respond to the cries of their baby until they selected the correct action. There were more than a few disruptive lessons when babies seemed to be competing with each other to be the loudest, and students were able to see how difficult it can be to conduct their lives when a new-born needs attention.



Despite these baby challenges, pupils in Phelps class were very supportive of each other. Some even offered to 'babysit' while their 'parent' played football in the playground! Others chose to have a baby for more than one day, proving they did enjoy the experience after all!

We believe the toy baby exercise, while a lot of fun, really helps young people understand the gravity of having a small baby and the responsibilities of being a parent. Everyone in Phelps class agreed it was something they wouldn't be doing again until they were ready (and much older)!



Maxine Regan, PSHE lead

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES SHOULD BE WEAVED INTO MANY AREAS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING.



Above: Another great example of our personal development curriculum in action, with pupils at Haselbury Campus learning about First Aid

BUILDING CULTURAL CAPITAL



WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL OUR PUPILS!

At West Lea we aim to ensure every pupil is ready for life beyond school. To achieve this, we have launched our personal development and enrichment programmes, designed to prepare students for adulthood and help them manage the challenges and responsibilities they may face as they grow up. These programmes are filled with a range of exciting opportunities which support pupils to develop knowledge and skills, which we roll out across all our campuses through trips, Duke of Edinburgh, British values workshops, extra curricular activities, and more!

For example, this year at Meridian campus, pupils have taken part in weekly ‘wake and shake’ activities and have enjoyed numerous trips ranging from swimming to exploring local parks. Similarly, pupils at Haselbury campus were coached by professional sporting instructors, covering a wide range of activities including golf, football and even indoor skiing! Learning for Life pupils explored Paradise Wildlife Park, enjoyed canoeing and experienced numerous theatre shows. Horizon pupils visited the London Eye, explored the River Thames and discovered how to travel around London independently. Finally, our young adult learners on the Supported Internship programme planned their own visit to central London with some visiting art galleries and others going to the IMAX theatre in Leicester Square to watch a film on the big screen. We are so proud of all our pupils!



WE WANT TO ENABLE OUR PUPILS TO HAVE FUN WHILST EXPLORING THE OUTSIDE WORLD!

We are currently organising a series of residential school trips for next term, which will help further develop the independence skills of our pupils. Such trips will span many different locations, from Liverpool to Southend, and will feed into our wider personal development and enrichment programmes. Planned outdoor adventures include visits to Tolmers and Kingswood as well as exploring Manchester and the Isle of Wight.

These activities will allow our pupils to engage with a rich curriculum, in a learning environment away from the classroom and feel confident about life beyond West Lea. We want to enable them to have fun whilst exploring the outside world!



Kika Charalambous
Head of School
Horizon campus

ONLINE SAFETY

The online world is a huge part of adult life, filled with exciting opportunities and a range of benefits to learning and life, as well as dangers and new challenges. We are committed to ensuring our learners are equipped to understand and deal with these potential risks, so they stay safe throughout their life and beyond their schooling.

At West Lea, we teach Online Safety lessons, which form an integral part of our Personal Development Curriculum, from Key Stage one to Key Stage five. Children will be exposed to a range of topics that cover the four 'C's listed in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. These are Content, Contact, Conduct and Contract risks. Our lessons are all delivered with age and stage related materials and resources. Our mission, vision and values set out how we ensure every child can flourish and understand the key principles ensuring they can use the internet safely and within the law.



We explore various scenarios for children to fully understand things are not always what they seem. Empowering pupils with the tools they need to not be tricked or given false information. At the heart of our message to combat cyberbullying is kindness. Students need to have the confidence to report issues that worry or upset them and to also stand up to bullies online. Understanding that our online actions can leave a digital footprint that is traceable, and follows us into real life is essential for our learners to understand.

With the changes in technologies, we have to equip our learners with transferable skills they can apply in different situations online. Live streaming, gaming, social media, and other technological innovations are some of what our children are using at home. There are ways we can make their experiences safer by setting up privacy settings and parental controls. We want to develop our whole school community approach to online safety with comprehensive training and resources for teachers, children and parents. Together we can make a safer internet for our young people.



Last term we celebrated Safer Internet Day. This year's theme was 'All fun and games? This involved exploring respect and relationships online. The whole school got involved with an array of activities, including assemblies, delivering lessons to their peers, online safety races and a safety hunt!

We have signed up to the National Online Safety Centre which provides staff with a range of age appropriate resources to support our learners. Our subscription also grants our Parents and Carers access to Online Safety training, explainer videos and weekly guides and resources. To access the resources, please create an account by following nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/west-lea-school-haselbury-campus and filling in your details.

We hope all this work helps keep students safe and prepared for their online life beyond West Lea.



Angela Poplar
Head of ICT

Report Remove

Childline has launched 'Report Remove', a service allowing children and young people under 18-years-old to report damaging content they find online, with the intent to see it removed from the internet. Such content may include nude images or videos of themselves or someone they know shared online without their consent, which is of course illegal. The webpage also includes links to services and information offering emotional and safeguarding support.

You can access this helpful and empowering website at www.childline.org.uk.

TOGETHER WE
CAN MAKE A
SAFER INTERNET
FOR OUR
YOUNG PEOPLE.

UPDATE FROM ENTERPRISE COOPERATIVE TRUST



The Enterprise Cooperative Trust (ECT) is an example of our personal development work in action! This non-profit foundation cooperative is made up of schools, colleges and organisations, with a collective vision to improve the life opportunities for children in our community, including West Lea. It was set up to widen career opportunities for all young people in Enfield, and help students thrive as they begin their professional journey.

We are proud to work with this important charity, the work of which benefits our young people, local employers and the community at large.

The Trust's Representative Group (made up of stakeholders from across Enfield) continues to meet regularly to inform the work of the trust.

During their last meeting, ECT welcomed Charlotte Bull, programme manager from Chickenshed Theatre, which brings together people of all ages and from all backgrounds to produce outstanding theatre that entertains, inspires, challenges and informs both audiences and participants alike. We are delighted to partner with Chickenshed to bring our shared mission and ethos to life in Enfield.



Regarding ECT's work with the Chickenshed, chair Janet Leach MBE said:

"The trust is delighted that Chickenshed is now one of our partners.

Chickenshed has a renowned reputation for inclusivity and for promoting opportunities for all through the medium of drama, music and dance. Together with partners like Chickenshed, ECT is focussing on expanding the horizons of young people, through education and training, enabling them to make informed decisions about their future career opportunities and supporting them to enter the world of work. At the trust, we believe that together we are better and stronger."

In relation to National Careers Week, launched on 7th March, Janet Leach MBE also says:

"The Enterprise Cooperative Trust is delighted to celebrate National Careers Week. We believe focussing on the world of work is essential if young people are to be supported to make informed decisions about their futures. Our trust is therefore fully invested in providing young people with the opportunity to enter the world of work.

We are committed to working with local organisations, schools, colleges and businesses to help them promote and extend education, training and work opportunities to Enfield's young people, as such we are planning to host an engaging and fun 'networking' event to bring these groups together and to further this aim."

UPDATE FROM LEARNING FOR LIFE CHARITY

The Learning for Life Charity team also works to help students thrive in the professional world, including those here at West Lea!

The Learning for Life team have been working on several projects this month to achieve this important objective, including their Life in the Community initiative and barista project, which you can find out more about below.



Life in the Community

We are so pleased to share that we are working to regenerate a former girls' charity school in Enfield, originally constructed in 1793! We are working on this project alongside the London Historic Buildings Trust, which transforms places to strengthen local communities, to ensure the building can once again provide learning, training and employment opportunities for young people in Enfield.

The building will be turned into a bijou café, where young people will gain work experience, as well as a meeting space, cinema, and a place for school activities. The centre will provide opportunities for young people with SEND, or who are unemployed/socially excluded, to access work experience and develop key employability skills.

Charity Shops

The charity has two shops located in Enfield Town (Life in the Town) and Edmonton Green (Life in the Green), which offer young people with learning difficulties the opportunity to gain valuable work experience and training. In addition, the shops provide volunteering opportunities for members of the local community who are seeking to reintegrate into the world of work.

Since reopening our shops, we have seen a higher demand for affordable goods given the financial impact the epidemic has had on the local residents. With your donations and support, we believe we can increase the number of work experience placements offered to young people with learning disabilities, and provide even more affordable goods for the local community.

Our charity shop also promotes re-use, recycling and reduces landfill and feeds into our 'All Works of Life' upcycling project that takes place at BLOQS (you can find more information on this below). All the items upcycled are then transported back to our shops and placed for sale. Please do visit and see the lovely items we have on offer, as well as the designer rail which are all set at affordable prices!





Please do come along on a Tuesday or Thursday (between 10am–2pm) to support this project by sampling the amazing Italian blend coffee made by West Lea students.



Azad Ioannou
Learning for
Life Charity
Manager

Please see a clipping of this article below for more information:



Learning for Life Charity and students from West Lea School benefit from new facility, BLOQS

A revolutionary new facility, known as Building BLOQS, sits at the heart of the Meridian Water development zone in Edmonton, and provides businesses, professional makers, and students with affordable workshop space, access to state-of-the-art equipment and the opportunity to become part of a vibrant community of like-minded people.

Last month, an official opening was attended by deputy mayor of London Jules Pipe and council leader Nesil Caliskan – with the Greater London Authority and Enfield Council between them having invested £4million in the new facility.

The new space provides 32,000 square feet of workspace with facilities for woodworking, metalworking, fashion and fabrics, engineering and spray finishing, as well as resources and services – including courses, classes and hireable meeting rooms. New amenities open to the public include a café and event space as well as a shop stocking tools and materials.

The shared workspace is used by hundreds of individuals who run their own small businesses but lack the resources to invest in the machinery they need. BLOQS is equipped with a whole range of manufacturing tools and machines, from laser cutters and saws to grinders, drills, 3D printers and the very latest computer-controlled milling machines.

As part of this, BLOQS actively fosters relationships with education providers and charities, including Learning for Life Charity. The charity manages an initiative known as “All Works of Life” which provides work experience placements for students at West Lea School. This includes designing and delivering commercial services for businesses including labeling, packaging, light assembly, quality checking, furniture upcycling and restoration of disability equipment. These projects help students at West Lea to develop skills for the workplace, build community engagement and social integration.



BLOQS co-founder Al Parra said:

“From the very beginning, BLOQS has been about providing professional makers and their businesses the right space and facilities to grow and make a living. We’ve done this by gathering a community that shares resources, and what really distinguishes us from other open-access workspaces is that we’re designed specifically to enable commercial activity. With this new facility, we can give our community the space to make it work, we can create partnerships with education providers, manufacturers, suppliers, and our local communities.”

Sue Tripp, trustee of Learning for Life Charity, said:

“BLOQS is absolutely amazing, what a brilliant concept and Learning for Life Charity is indebted to the team for including our students in its vision. Thank you so much!”

To read more about BLOQS, visit: enfielddispatch.co.uk/building-a-new-home-for-londons-makers

KEY TERM DATES 2022

April 2022

Friday 1st
End of Spring Term (1:30pm)

Tuesday 19th
Start of Summer Term for Pupils and Staff

May 2022

Monday 2nd
Early May Bank Holiday (school closed)

Friday 27th
Additional Bank Holiday/Platinum Jubilee (school closed)

Week 30th
Summer half-term holiday week

June 2022

Monday 6th
Pupils return from Half Term Holiday

Monday 13th–Friday 17th
First exam week for KS4 and post 16 students

Monday 20th–Friday 24th
Second exam week for KS4 and post 16 students

July 2022


Friday 1st
Last day for Year 11 Pupils

Monday 11th–Friday 15th
Transition Week

Friday 22nd
End of Summer Term (1:30pm)

Please note that the school is now not closing to pupils (for ‘Review Days’) on Friday 22nd April and Friday 15th July. School will be open as usual on these dates. Remaining Annual Reviews will take place during the school day in weeks commencing 18th April and 27th June.


OUR CAMPUSES




West Lea
MERIDIAN CAMPUS

Dysons Road (KS2)
174 Dysons Road
Edmonton
N18 2DS


Springfield Road (KS1-2)
Springfield Road
New Southgate
N11 1RR





West Lea
HASELBURY CAMPUS

Haselbury Campus (KS3)
Haselbury Road
Edmonton
N9 9TU





West Lea
LEARNING FOR LIFE CAMPUS

Broomfield School
Wilmer Way
N14 7HY

Ponders End
219 – 221 High Street
EN3 4DZ

St Marys (KS1 & KS2)
Lawrence Road
Edmonton
N18 2HN

Chace ARP (KS3 & KS4)
Churchbury Lane
EN1 3HQ






West Lea
HORIZON

Learning for Life Centre
24 Cyprus Road
Edmonton
N9 9PG

College
College of North
East London





West Lea School

Haselbury Road Edmonton London N9 9TU

T: 020 8807 2656

E: office@westleaschool.co.uk

www.westleaschool.co.uk



[@westlea_school](https://twitter.com/westlea_school)



www.facebook.com/westleaschool



www.linkedin.com/company/westlea-school