

# WEST LEA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**West Lea**  
  
**Learning for Life**



**Issue 5 / Volume 1**  
May 2022

**INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE**

**Enterprise**  
Cooperative Trust  
Building a changing tomorrow

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# WELCOME FROM THE CEO

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this half-term’s newsletter, which focuses on the important aspects of physical and mental wellbeing. This academic year, we have expanded opportunities for physical education (PE) across all campuses, including new members of staff joining the team, as well as enhancements to the curriculum offer overall. Our ambition is for all our pupils to not only access amazing physical education, but to also have opportunities to experience ‘new’ sports, such as Skiing and Golf.

Physical and mental wellbeing go hand-in-hand. That’s why we have further developed our creative curriculum, and mental wellbeing focus more broadly. We’re looking forward to sharing some of this great work during our Summer Performance Week, which will include drama, music and dance. Please do look out for more details of these events via your Campus Head of School.

As we move further into the summer and those brighter sunny days, please be assured we remain focussed on helping all our pupils recover from the last two years of pandemic, which were for all of us much darker times. Recovery for our pupils is of course about so much more than simply catching up on lost learning. Ensuring pupils build great relationships, are happy and enjoy school, whilst progressing academically, is all part of their holistic wellbeing. We’re committed to helping support your child in every aspect of their experience at West Lea.

With all good wishes to you and your family.



**Paul Quinn**  
CEO, West Lea School





# INNOVATION IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The West Lea team have designed a broad and balanced PE curriculum to promote a love of physical activity. Pupils are encouraged to learn new activities and sports, which develops their physical, social and emotional well-being, and prepares them for life in the wider community.

The PE Team are constantly searching for innovative ways to improve inclusivity and engagement. The past term has seen us use Blaze Pods during some lessons, which are interactive light pods fuelled by an app designed for fitness performance. We have utilised this technology to support our learners' sensory needs which has improved behaviour and engagement during lessons.

We strongly believe in giving our learners once in a lifetime opportunities. This term, our students got to meet a PGA professional golf player, courtesy of the Golf Foundation, who delivered lessons to various classes to help them develop new skills through a sport they wouldn't normally have a chance to do outside of school.

Learners from Sanchez, Omar, Nichols and Brannigan classes were invited to take part in many different golf activities that incorporated life skills such as trust and honesty.

All students really enjoyed the lessons and have progressed so well that we accepted an invitation from the Golf Foundation to take part in their Tri Golf Festival at Bush Hill Golf Club, Enfield!



Where possible we make use of local facilities to give our students as many sporting opportunities as possible. We regularly use Southbury Leisure Centre for Swimming lessons, Broomfield Park for our tennis lessons and Edmonton Pool for our after-school swimming sessions. We also access Waltham Forest Leisure Centre for trampolining sessions and Key Stage 4 students regularly travel to Orchardside School for PE lessons, making use of their wonderful facilities, which include a sports hall and outdoor area.



## West Lea at the Primary Panathlon Challenge!

West Lea School Year three and four students were back in action on the 28<sup>th</sup> April competing in the Primary Panathlon Challenge, which is a fun multi skilled sports event. The pupils tried lots of exciting activities, such as new age kurling, table tennis and boccia.

Our team of 12 travelled to the Lee Valley Athletics Centre to compete against eight other schools from Enfield, and our team came first. Pupils had the opportunity to represent school and work as a team with autonomy and pride.







**WELL DONE  
TO ALL OUR  
SPORTING  
STARS!**

### Sporting Success

We have celebrated lots of sporting success over the past term, including students winning silver medals at the Panathlon swimming gala at the Olympic Park, and gold, silver and bronze medals at the London Youth Games swimming finals.

We also had a lot of success on dry land! Students from Haselbury Campus took part in the under 16s London Panathlon Football finals at Wembley. The boys put in a fantastic effort and ended up winning the tournament without losing a single game!

### Duke of Edinburgh Award

Gold and Phelps classes have been preparing for their Duke of Edinburgh Award by going on a camping expedition, where students mastered the art of maps, tents, cooking, and much more!



### Goodbye Mali, we will miss you!

We are all sad to see Mali Oram, our PE teaching assistant, leave West Lea School, but we are so proud of him for securing his dream job teaching PE at a School for the deaf.

Mali made a huge and lasting impression on our school and was an inspiring role model for our pupils. He used British Sign Language/ Makaton to help learners sign and it wasn't long before he started to lead his own lessons with the support of his interpreter Rachel.

Mali is very much missed by all staff and pupils although we are so pleased to see him flourish in a new education setting.



# CHAMPIONING CREATIVITY



My name is Kyle Hepworth and I am the Creative Curriculum Lead at West Lea School.

I have had the privilege of overseeing the development of the Creative Curriculum offer at West Lea School this year.

Creativity is a powerful tool, accessible to all of our students, that can be used to promote and develop critical and analytical thinking, self-esteem, while promoting mindfulness and self-expression. The curriculum we designed connects many subjects, as well as school life with the wider world.

Our young people have worked hard this year to develop their creative skills. They have studied a range of artists, from abstract artwork of Jackson Pollock to symbolist work of Gustav Klimt, and have made their own artistic creations, from lollipop stick towers to salt dough pots.

To celebrate the abundance of creativity at our school, we will be holding a creative end of year performance, showcasing our students' skills in drama, music and dance. We will also hold exhibitions of student art work completed throughout the year, details of which will be shared later in the term. For the time being, here is a little sneak peek of what to expect...



Each key stage is working on their own theme for the summer performance, including 'we're all going on a summer holiday!', for which our primary students will interpret famous paintings depicting summer through the art of drama, roleplay, music and dance. Secondary students will cast their focus on festivals and celebrations by presenting their very own dance routines, music ensembles and drama sequences. Key stage 4 students will be 'walking down the runway in style' by modeling costumes inspired by artists and cultures from around the world. All these performances will be held from **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July.**

This is sure to be a creative summer that our students will never forget! Expect high levels of energy, creativity and fun. As always, we are on the lookout for new ideas and opportunities for our young learners. We welcome input from you and our local community to help us further develop creativity across the school.



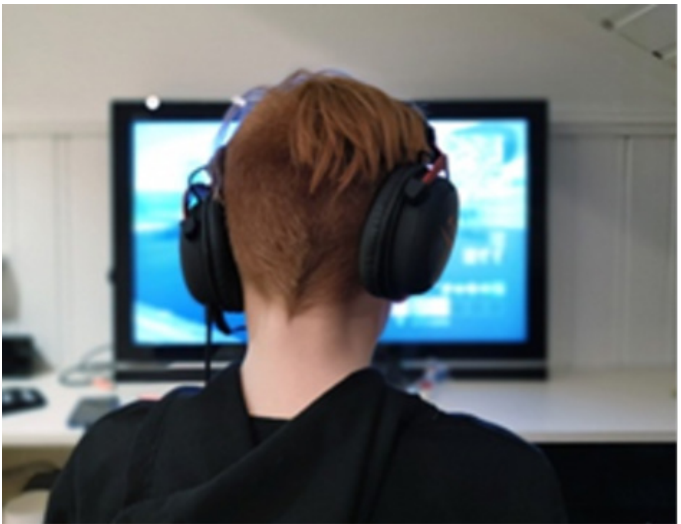


# ONLINE SAFETY

Children communicate online through lots of different apps, social media sites and games (including Snapchat, WhatsApp, Instagram, FIFA and Fortnite). At West Lea, we teach students about the dangers of the internet, and we need your support at home to emphasise these messages of caution.

It is important to talk to your child about what they are doing online and who they communicate with, so we can limit the risks together.

Some games children play online include communication between players, facilitated through the in-game text chat, direct messages or talking through headphones. Some games offer the ability to switch communication off or restrict bad language, so make sure settings appropriate to your child are set up for each of the games they play.



**Chatting to strangers:** Your child might be playing games online with people they don't know. Ensure your child knows how to block and report anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable. Also, ensure your child knows they can talk to you or a trusted adult if they have any questions or concerns.

As a parent or carer, it is key to have open conversations with your children to ensure they are safe and happy online.

The Parents' Guide created by Childnet International offers parents and carers practical advice to begin such conversations, how to work together as a family to support your child online, and how to handle difficult discussions or situations. The guide can be found here: <https://www.childnet.com/resources/lets-talk-about-life-online/>

If you would like to talk through any of the above issues, or if you require any other support, advice or information about online safety please get in contact with me:  
[Apoplar@westleaschool.co.uk](mailto:Apoplar@westleaschool.co.uk).  
I am here to help.

**Angela Poplar**  
Head of ICT



# MENTAL HEALTH UPDATE

At West Lea, we like to speak about health and wellbeing under one umbrella. We have moved on from the traditional separation of physical and mental health, and instead we see the two as interconnected. In doing so, we are able to treat and care for young people's wellbeing holistically.

We also choose positive behaviour support (PBS) as the main framework for understanding behaviour that challenges and provides support accordingly. In a nutshell, PBS is a 'framework for providing long-term support to people with a learning disability, and/or other health conditions, who have, or may be at risk of developing, behaviours that challenge (but can also be used for students without challenging behaviour).

PBS personalises treatment and responses to the individual's needs and strengths. The people that know the individual best are included in the two-stage process. Firstly, there is an assessment of the wide range of factors that could affect young people's behaviour, thoughts and feelings such as social, physical and environment to help us the reason for the behaviour and then this information is used to develop a package of support.

If you would like to learn more about positive behaviour support, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me at school and I'd be happy to go into more detail.

**Jose Negrin**  
Head of therapeutic support



**Positive Behaviour**  
**Support personalises**  
**treatment and responses**  
**to the individual's needs**  
**and strengths.**



# REFLECTIONS ON CAREERS WEEK

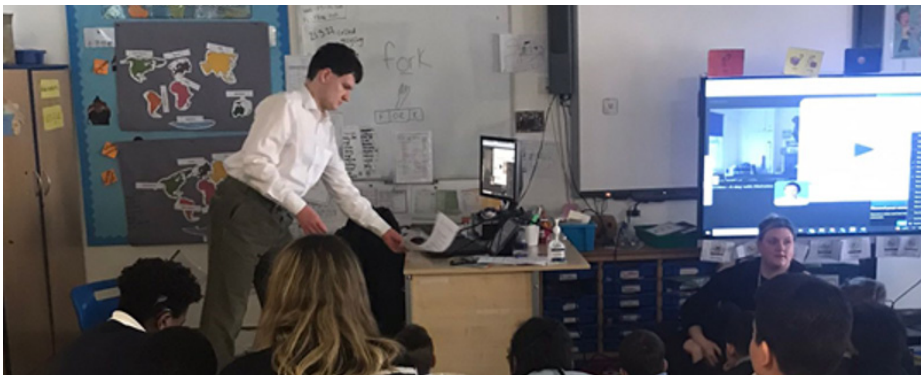
The benefits of supporting young people with SEN into employment are endless, both to the young people themselves and the wider community. These benefits include developing confidence and independence, improving wellbeing and mental health and increasing social integration. It is so important for us to provide our students with opportunities to see what the world of work could look like for them in the future.

Our Key Stage 4 and 5 Students attended a careers event in East London during National Careers Week this year, which helped motivate them to pursue their dreams. The event was attended by Dan Noon from Network Rail, who has special educational needs and is a huge inspiration for our students. Dan proves there are accessible pathways to fulfilling workplaces for everyone. He emphasised the importance of work experience, which helped him secure his role, and reflected on the support he gained at Network Rail.

West Lea students were also able to hear from KPMG’s Thomas Bartra, Medirest’s Melissa Brown and Emily Thompson and Laura Chan from the Gaming industry, each talking about their companies, the different roles in each of their sectors and what skills young people might need to work there. This helped showcase the huge variety of careers our students can choose from. Adams and Watson classes also underwent online mock interviews with KPMG, which they reflected upon and received tips on how they can refine their interview skills.



Nicholas James, a former student and participant of our Supported Internship Programme, visited Meridian Campus to talk about his success in getting a job at the Co-op after his internship placement. Nicholas explained what his role involves and what skills our students might need to follow in his footsteps in gaining meaningful employment. At the end of the session, Nicholas answered questions from students, who reflected on how much he inspires them.



## Introducing our brand new Supported Internship website!

With a 90% employment retention rate, West Lea’s Supported Internship Programme has been hugely successful since it began in 2017. To ensure our programme continues to grow, we are launching our online platform, which showcases the great work we do to help young people with additional needs gain sustainable employment.

We also want to encourage all prospective interns, parents, carers, wider family, local professionals working with young people with SEND and employers to view our website to access useful information about supported internships, including [what they are, how they work and the benefits of getting involved](#). Details of [eligibility](#) and how to [register your interest](#) in the programme is also included.

Please do take a look and visit the new site: [www.westleasip.co.uk](http://www.westleasip.co.uk)





# WORLD AUTISM ACCEPTANCE WEEK

Pioneered by the National Autistic Society (NAS), this week aims to shine a light on the 700,000 people in the UK who have autism, to educate those unaware of autism and help make the world a friendlier and more accepting place.

West Lea marked this important week by hosting a 'Lunch and Learn' session for our partners at Rapport Guest Services. By providing us with a platform to speak directly to their community, the management specialist organisation helped us raise awareness of autism and how we can all be more inclusive. We are proud of our friends at Rapport who work closely with us by providing supported internships for our learners.

Here are just a few of our learners who are forging successful careers with the help of the company.

*Elif Yaman – Clifford Chance*

Elif started her internship at the end of July 2021. Her main role was to sign people in at reception, which was particularly challenging over the pandemic as she had to work around changing restrictions and internal policies. However, she overcame these challenges and quickly got to know many of the clients in her building.

Elif also works up on the 5th floor in the restaurant and said she felt "lucky and honoured" to have become an employee of such a big company. "I love coming to work and being around the team. They have really helped build my confidence and everyday I work, I just want to make them proud." She went on to add how grateful she is to have been a part of West Lea's Supported Internship Programme and that she would encourage anyone to join.

I think it's safe to say this has been one hugely successful intern/employer partnership! Congratulations to Elif!



*Filsan Hasan – Societe Generale*

Filsan has a varied and diverse role, which requires her to carry out a multitude of tasks working across different departments. This includes ensuring meeting rooms are fully equipped, and maintaining and facilitating projects. Filsan has to ensure over 30 meeting rooms and hubs are fully functional, by checking screens, clocks and furniture are in good working order. Another part of Filsan's role is in hospitality, where she works in both the atrium and the kitchen.

*Abdou Lo-Seye – Crown Estate*

Abdou works at the reception of 20 Air street. Under the supportive tutelage of the Rapport team, Abdou undertakes a plethora of tasks including checking in and announcing visitors, creating visitor cards, calling and chaperoning guests to appropriate lifts and greeting people as they arrive. Abdou also assists in the arranging and setting up of meeting rooms and preparing refreshments at number 7 Air street.





# UPDATE FROM ENTERPRISE COOPERATIVE TRUST



My name is Charlotte Bull and I work at Chickenshed, Enfield's local charity theatre company. I am also a representative council member for Enterprise Cooperative Trust. Our collective vision is a society that enables everyone to flourish. Chickenshed provide inclusive education courses, workshops and performances, which aim to empower individuals, change hearts and minds and transform institutions. Every year, Chickenshed supports over 15,000 children, young people and adults within the community to feel confident, valued and empowered. We have our own theatre in Southgate which is a hub of creativity and community connections. We also do outreach work and have several satellite sheds all over the UK and Internationally, including Finland and New York!

Chickenshed takes referrals from schools and community groups. Funded places are available for those who for financial reasons may not be able to access our work. Referrals are made via your child's teacher but parents can also apply via the website.

Chickenshed works closely with West Lea School to offer enrichment opportunities to learners by providing a number of free places at our Summer School courses, including five free places for KS1, two learners in the first week of the summer holidays, three free places for KS4 and five learners in the week beginning the 15<sup>th</sup> August.

Our summer schools involve older learners joining Chickenshed's Youth Theatre Directors and our current Youth Theatre members to devise, write,

choreograph and composing their own pieces of theatre throughout the week in a fun and supportive environment. The developed work will then be presented at a Scratch Performance on the final Friday and could potentially be developed further by our Youth Theatre for future performance. Places are still available for students who would like to attend at a cost. You can find out more on our [website](#).

[We organise lots of productions](#), including 'Tales from the Shed', a vibrant and inclusive show perfect for young children, which goes live every Saturday until 16<sup>th</sup> July, from 10.30am. To find out more about the Chickenshed's events, please phone 020 8292 9222 or email [info@chickenshed.org.uk](mailto:info@chickenshed.org.uk).





# UPDATE FROM LEARNING FOR LIFE CHARITY

The Learning for Life Charity team helps students launch into the world of work, including those at West Lea.

To achieve this, the team has focused on several projects over the past few months, including its summer ball, which all West Lea students are invited to!

## Wanna be Friends – Summer Ball

This event is an opportunity for Enfield’s young people aged 16-25 years with SEND to build relationships and wider social networks. Due to COVID restrictions, we have not been able to hold one of our social events since our February Ball in 2020, which was a huge success. Therefore, we are very excited for the Summer Ball! This event will be held on 18th June 2022 from 7pm at Haselbury Campus. It includes a disco with our very own resident DJ, an evening meal, a non-alcoholic bar and lots more surprises!

We only have one rule – NO PARENTS ALLOWED!

If you would like to purchase a ticket, please contact Azad: [aioannou@westleaschool.co.uk](mailto:aioannou@westleaschool.co.uk)



## Volunteering Project – Helping Hands

Volunteers are a vital part of the Enterprise Cooperative Trust (ECT). Our work relies on volunteers, who are involved in all aspects of our work and link to the communities we serve.

We welcome and respect the breadth of experience, skills and knowledge that volunteers bring.

If you would like to volunteer, please do get in contact with Azad: [aioannou@westleaschool.co.uk](mailto:aioannou@westleaschool.co.uk)


The selection process for our volunteers involves an informal interview to ensure the role is right for both parties, and an evaluation of the ability of each applicant to carry out the role, taking into account any effect volunteering may have on the safety of all parties.

**Azad Ioannou**  
Learning for Life Charity manager






# 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





# KEY TERM DATES 2022

## June 2022 – Pride Month

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June

Pupils return from Half Term Holiday

### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

First exam week for KS4 and post 16 students

### Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June

Summer Ball

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June

Second exam week for KS4 and post 16 students

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Summer reports to parents

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> July

Summer Annual Review week KS1-3

## July 2022

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July

Last day for Year 11 pupils, Year 11 Prom

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July – 8<sup>th</sup> July

Summer Annual Review week KS4

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July – 8<sup>th</sup> July

Summer Performance Week

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July

Whole School Transition Day

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

KS4 Creative Performance at Aylward

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

Sports Days – all week

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

End of Summer Term (1:30pm)

## August 2022

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August

10am – 12pm

Exam Results Day (Broomfield Campus)

## Academic Year 2022–2023 | Autumn Term

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

INSET Days, School closed for pupils

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Start of Autumn Term for pupils

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022

INSET Days, School closed for pupils

### Week of Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Half Term

### Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Start of second half of Autumn Term for pupils and staff

### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

End of Autumn Term







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[www.linkedin.com/company/westlea-school](https://www.linkedin.com/company/westlea-school)