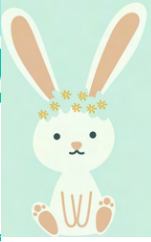




THE BEECHES

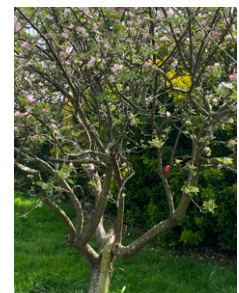
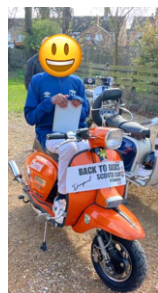
SPRING NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO OUR SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER!

Spring has well and truly sprung at The Beeches! It's been a busy few months with a number of important campaigns and events including LGBT+ History Month and International Women's Day.

Our young people have enjoyed lots of fun activities including trips to the hand cycling club, theme parks, and football stadium to watch England play. They have also enjoyed taking lots of photos for their memory box, as well as collecting different items during their time with us such as certificates of achievement, reward books, and places visited. At Easter our residents enjoyed two easter egg deliveries kindly donated by AM Fresh and Back to Basic Scooter Club. Alongside easter egg hunts, some of our residents enjoyed a caravan trip to the seaside over the Easter period.



We are continuing to grow our team, and are delighted to welcome new joiners across our homes and school. We have received very positive feedback for our recent home renovations, and were lucky enough to have Councillor Irene Walsh officially open our new sensory room at The Maples. The event was a great success and was covered by The Peterborough Telegraph. Our residents are already making good use of the sensory room and are really enjoying the extra space and facilities to explore and develop their senses and skills.

We are excited to for the imminent opening of Magnolia House, our brand new Ofsted registered childrens care home in London which will provide a modern yet homely environment for children and young people with emotional behavioural difficulties. Stay tuned to find out more about the grand opening!

At The Beeches Independent Special School, our pupils are continuing to work hard and celebrated Valentine's Day with a special meal. On World Book Day they got the opportunity to listen to our CEO read "Under the Same Sun" which was enjoyed by all.

We are so proud of everyone and feel privileged to be able to watch our young people and team develop. We hope you enjoy reading about all their achievements and everything they've been up to this Spring!

THE MAPLES

At The Beeches, education is promoted, supported, and encouraged, to enable our young people to understand that they can achieve their goals, dreams, and aspirations through hard work and motivation. All of our residents are progressing well and are working hard towards the transition to semi-independence by learning valuable life skills such as how to assemble furniture, use the bus, cook, and also volunteer at the local Wood Green charity shop. They have also been busy in the kitchen baking delicious cakes!

We were delighted to celebrate the opening of our brand new sensory room which was officially opened by Councillor Irene Walsh (Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Public Health) and covered by the Peterborough Telegraph. We are so pleased with the new sensory room which provides a safe and comfortable environment where our young people can explore and develop their senses and skills.

Our residents have been on a number of exciting day trips including to Cadbury World where they found out how chocolate is made before getting to sample some themselves! Other activities have included trips to Coventry Transport Museum, Laserforce, Flip Out, Inflata Nation, and Hollywood Bowl.

They have been getting plenty of exercise and fresh air in the great outdoors with walks around Sandringham, Hunstanton, Southey Wood, Ferry Meadows, East Carlton Park, and Fineshade Wood. Some of our residents also attended cycling sessions around the athletic track at Vivacity where they tried different types of bikes including a tandem.



In Mini Meadows Farm they got the chance to feed rabbits, goats, and alpacas, as well as meet a variety of other animals including pigs, chickens, geese, donkeys, sheep, horses, turkeys, and cows.

The team also enjoyed a short break in Skegness, where they stayed in a caravan and were supported with a variety of activities including swimming, enjoying time on the beach, visiting the arcades, and also going to Butlins and Fantasy Island.

THE WILLOWS

At The Willows we have recently refurbished our games room and lounge. The young people helped choose the decor and sofa furnishings, and have all enjoyed spending time there together including reading, movie nights, and celebrating birthdays.

Our residents visited local diversity club Culture Community to support their socialising and gain knowledge of different cultures. The team have also started an inspiration and diversity wall within the home for residents to look at and discuss. It is hoped that the experiences and successes of others from all backgrounds and abilities will build their confidence, and support them with reaching their own aspirations. Books have also been purchased for the young people to read and gain further knowledge.

Our football loving residents went to watch the England vs Switzerland friendly match at Wembley Stadium. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience of visiting the expansive stadium and getting to see England win! They also went to Weston Homes Stadium to watch Peterborough United play matches against Hull and Stoke.

Our young people have been working towards improving their fitness with plenty of walks around Ferry Meadows and Peterborough Central Park, where they enjoyed looking at all the wildlife and using the outdoor gym equipment. In Skegness they enjoyed visiting the beach, exploring the woods, and playing in the arcade. Other activities have included trips to Sacrewell Farm, Flip Out, Glo Golf, VR Happy, hand cycling, go-karting, and bowling.

They also enjoyed a visit to The Imperial War Museum, where they went on a guided tour and enjoyed looking at all the different cars, planes, and boats. They also had a fantastic day at York Museum where they looked at various trains and engines.



At Woburn Safari Park our young people enjoyed watching the sea lion show, and driving through all the different animal enclosures. Their favourite moment was when all the monkeys jumped on the car roof!

We are really proud of our residents who have been working hard to develop their life skills including cooking and practicing good hygiene. They have made a variety of delicious treats including pizza, cheesecake, and trifle which they shared with their peers after dinner. They have also been participating well in arts and crafts activities, including painting angels.

THE CEDARS

Residents at The Cedars had a fantastic Easter bank holiday weekend and made the most of the sunny weather with plenty of outdoor activities and Easter egg hunts. Each young person was given a picture of the house grounds and had to find all of the eggs in their designated colour. Everyone had lots of fun and especially enjoyed eating chocolate!

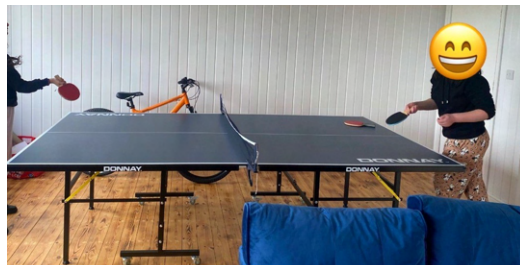
The team have been keeping busy with plenty of sporting activities including basketball, hand cycling, skateboarding, laser tag, snooker, and go karting, where they were very pleased to beat their fastest lap times from previous visits. Other activities have included trips to Hollywood Bowl, Flip Out, Glo Golf, Thorpe Park, and Alton Towers, where they enjoyed going on all the rides and seeing all the amusements.

They have enjoyed walks around Crown Lakes, and beach days at Skegness and Ingoldmells where they visited the arcades and aquarium (in between eating ice cream)! They also visited the circus and funfair where they had a go on the dodgems and orb ball, and won a goldfish who is now officially a member of The Cedars family!

Our residents have been spending time with their peers in the games room, playing plenty of table tennis, twister, and board games, as well taking part in group sing alongs and dancing. Our female residents indulged in a pamper session, helping each other apply face masks whilst painting their nails.

Our football loving residents have been to Weston Homes Stadium to watch Peterborough United play against Stoke and Hull. They enjoyed joining in on the team chants and meeting the mascots.

They have also done some baking in the kitchen by preparing delicious cookies for the home to enjoy.



SUPPORTED LIVING

We encourage all of our young people to engage in positive activities and to follow their passions. One of our residents has been allowing his creativity to flow through writing and recording his own music. We are so proud of how much he has grown in confidence in talent, and look forward to the day we see his name in the top music charts!

Our young people have enjoyed a number of fun days out including trips to the cinema and to Cambridge where they visited the famous Cathedral, and got to meet one of their ultimate superheroes – Batman! They also went on a Harry Potter themed trip to London where they visited the infamous platform 9 ¾, as well as M&M World and Buckingham Palace.

Bowling has also become a particular favourite pastime for our Dogsthorpe residents, who were particularly pleased when they beat their Support Worker (they requested we publish the score evidence)!



Dogsthorpe Grove Bowling Challenge – Sunday 10-Apr-2022

Check out your bowling scorecard below:

| Nickname | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Total |
|-----------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| BE | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 | 17 | 19 | 28 | 37 | 40 | 40 |
| Dean Hart | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 6 | 13 | 19 | 26 | 35 | 41 | 48 | 51 | 58 | 58 |
| JF | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| | 6 | 14 | 20 | 28 | 37 | 45 | 52 | 55 | 60 | 67 | 67 |
| Nickname | | | | | | | | | | | Total |
| BE | | | | | | | | | | | 40 |
| Dean Hart | | | | | | | | | | | 58 |
| JF | | | | | | | | | | | 67 |



We recognise the challenges young people encounter as they prepare to leave local authority care and make the transition into independent adult life, therefore we strive to ensure they acquire practical life skills for the future. One of our residents has just turned 18 and will shortly be moving into his own flat, so our team have been helping him in preparation for this including showing him how to use a laundrette. We are really proud of their progress and know that they will succeed in all of their future endeavours.



THE BEECHES INDEPENDENT SPECIAL SCHOOL

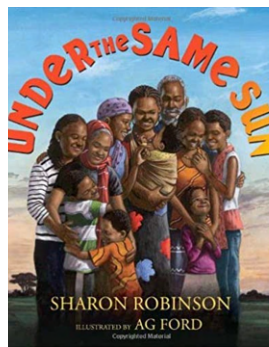
It has been a busy few months at The Beeches Independent Special School, as students have been learning many new topics whilst having plenty of fun! As we embark on the final term of the academic year, we are delighted to welcome our new Head Teacher, Eve Bartlet and Deputy Head, Matthew Cannon to the school. We would also like to congratulate Abigail Brown for her new role as Lead Teacher and Deputy SENCo.

We are committed to keeping everyone safe and healthy, and are pleased to announce that on INSET day all staff completed their First Aid training so are now all fully qualified!

On World Book Day we had some visitors to the school, including Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, students from Hogwarts, Gangsta Granny, and the Mad Hatter to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of World Book Day. There were lots of fun activities throughout the day, including a special rendition of Under the Same Sun by our CEO, Karim, who read our students the inspirational story about the joys and pains of an American family's visit to their relatives in Tanzania. The students had a great time, and enjoyed learning about new countries and cultures.

In English students have been looking at Gallery Rebels. They researched the diverse types of art and chose a piece of artwork to write about. They wrote about what attracted them to the picture in the first instance, explained the message or theme that the artist was trying to portray, and if they were to put their own stamp on it what would they change. It was interesting to hear the different views amongst the students. Our students have also been learning about tunnels, towers, and turrets. They have enjoyed watching clips of The Three Billy Goat Gruff and story sequencing. Lastly, they have been looking at playlists, learning about sound travel and listening for particular instruments. They have also been looking at metaphors and similes.

In Maths students have continued to look at developing mathematical skills in multiplication, fractions, algebra, and area. It was great to see the students getting involved and even challenging the teachers to work out some questions set for them!



In Science students enjoyed making their own musical instruments in the topic of sound. They explored how different pitches and volumes could be achieved as well as sound echoes.

In Physical Education students have been learning the different skills used in football. They practised passing, dribbling, and kicking the ball into a goal. We definitely have a few future professionals within the school! In swimming, it has been lovely watching our students grow in confidence over the past term. We even had some students achieving full lengths without putting their feet on the floor.

In PSHE students have been looking at the different identity we each have and self-concept. It became very apparent as the lessons went on just how accepting and non-judgmental our students are of each other and each individual's needs.

In Art students looked into the influence of music, and made their own instruments and windchimes. They also participated in some junk modelling and created castles with turrets.

Our post 16 students have been very busy and proactive with their time in careers and work experience lessons. Two of our students attended the open evening at Peterborough City College to look into the courses on offer and meet the tutors. Both of them applied for a place and have been successful with an interview. We can't wait to see how they get on! Another student independently phoned around local hair salons and managed to secure a work experience placement where she has been learning about the daily tasks involved in working at a salon, which she has really enjoyed.

Before Easter our students went on a trip to Stamford Arts Centre, travelling there by train to incorporate a life skill. They were taken on a tour of the quaint cinema/theatre, ballroom, and art gallery by the centre Manager. Our students had compiled a list of questions in advance to ask about his job role and those of his colleagues, which they asked whilst on the tour. The students gave a little performance on stage which made us think Britain's Got Talent may have some entries from The Beeches next year! The trip was a hit with everyone, especially when they each went home with an original movie poster.

The school enjoyed two visits from Dan Waters Creative Photography. Dan was so much fun to work with, and really got the students involved and interacting. They learnt what kind of aspects should be considered when taking a photo and what effect you want to achieve as each picture tells a story, and it's not just about snapping a picture but getting to really know your subject too. They practised taking still images and moving images by incorporating a bit of juggling.

Finally, students are continuing their visits to Tiny Steps Farm in Thurlby where they get to experience a variety of animals and learn how to care for them. We are all really excited to see how our students get on this term, and look forward to all of the upcoming adventures during the next few months!

