

# Spring Newsletter 2017



Dear parents and carers,

We hope you had a lovely Christmas, it is great to see everyone back after the break and we have all settled back into class and our daily routines. Students have already begun work on this term's topic which is 'Design and Inventions' with a focus on local inventions and the theme of transport. All of our work will culminate in working together to design and make a race car for a soapbox rally. We welcome our new student Orlando to the class.

Within science students will explore 'things that go' making a range of modes of transport and powering them with different forces including balloon rockets, magnet powered race cars and wind powered boats. Students will begin to develop their planning, enquiry and observational skills and demonstrate what they think and feel through a range of responses. In food technology we will be making a range of simple lunch recipes using the theme 'food on the go' encouraging students to make choices about items they would like to make for their own lunch and develop independence skills in using everyday kitchen equipment.

Students will continue to complete modules as part of the ASDAN Towards Independence accreditation which for this term will be 'using transport' and 'everyday living'. As part of the Duke of Edinburgh award students will continue to develop skills through weekly vocational roles and for those students involved in the city and guilds AAC accreditation they will continue to work towards completing their entry level 2 certificates.

We will continue to develop independence and life skills within the community with weekly visits to the local café and supermarket and students will engage in community sports activities either at the inclusive drop in session at Newburn leisure centre where they have access to trampolines, adapted bikes and sensory and interactive rooms or swimming at East end pool in Byker which have both been successful activities for all of our students.

To further develop vocational skills and students ability to engage in purposeful occupations we are beginning a class enterprise project this term aiming to make a selection of greetings cards to sell within a local café. Students will make choices about designs they wish to make, organise resources with increasing independence, as well as packaging and distributing their finished product. We will look forward to showing examples of our work.

Our timetable for this term remains the same with hiking on Tuesday, community sports on Friday and swimming on Thursdays and our therapists, Shauna Garrity (OT) and Carra-Lynn Lyndsay (SaLT) will continue to work with students to support with individualised programmes.

We are all excited about this term and the programmes of work and look forward to seeing the student's achievements and progress.

If you have any further questions or there is anything you would like to discuss please don't hesitate to contact us.

Michelle, Ashleigh and the team