

Spring is definitely in the air at Access!

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ACCESS NEWSLETTER

Everywhere I look at the moment I am seeing new life! Growing for Life and Oak group are spending many a happy day in the allotment and around the grounds sewing seeds that they have bought from the local garden centres and watering and maintaining plants that are already starting to spring out of the ground. This is such a wonderful time and it is so lovely when the students start to see the results of all the time and effort they have put in to making the place look so beautiful!





DRUMMING

This is a popular session that takes place once a week in Access. The students are working hard as they are planning to return to Tesco at Highwoods in the Summer to raise money for a chosen charity, there is a possibility that we may also be performing for a local school at some point, and we will definitely report on this if it goes ahead



MOTHER'S DAY

Some of the students had the opportunity to make a selection of different gifts for Mother's day. All of our staff in Access have many different and

wonderful qualities, and staff member Vida seems to excel in the creative and artistic side, patiently spending as much time as is needed with the students to help them create some wonderful things!



GATEWAY AWARDS

Sammy, Lauren and Josh have been recycling as part of what they need to do to achieve their Gateway Award. They have been collecting clothing, tins and plastic bottles, and then they took everything to the recycling centre, and a charity shop. Josh has been collecting plastic bottle tops to take to Lush as part of his recycling project. We have tried to get as many of the students involved as possible to help with collecting the recycling and this is something we will try and continue even when this section of the award has been signed off, as it is good that we all do our bit to save the planet.



Elm Group Outings

We like to visit as many different places as possible with the different groups who attend Access. The Wednesday afternoon group have recently been to visit the Jam Factory at Tiptree, the Museum in Colchester and the railway at Chapel. We try to utilise these sessions to gain as many different skills as possible, these include turn taking, patience, money skills, decision making, whilst also learning about our heritage and history. The other benefit is that we try and get as much

exercise out of each session as possible with the students being aware of roughly how many steps they have added to the pedometer, and what things they can maybe do to increase their step count the following week. The group has a monthly meeting to discuss places they would like to visit and what they would like to achieve from the visit. We are currently looking at hopefully taking a trip to the Natural History Museum in London, but this not likely to take place till October this year, as there are many other places near by that we would still like to visit.



ACTIVITIES COMING UP IN

ACCESS

APRIL

In April some of the students will be going boating on the River Orwell, this will be our first boat trip and will be a gentle introduction to boating on the river. If this trip is successful we have plans to return with the students having more of an opportunity to get involved with the actual sailing themselves.

MAY

In May we are planning to visit Daws Hall Farm to try our hand at orienteering, making a campfire and a bit of bush craft, this should be an interesting day with the students getting the opportunity to learn lots of new skills.

JUNE

In June we are going to Pleasurewood Hills! A lot of the students have been here before, but our last visit was 2015. Students are keen to return and those that enjoy the scary rides will have a wonderful day out.

AUGUST

A group of us have booked to go to Theatre to see Peter Pan one evening in August, we will be eating dinner at Access before going to have a lovely evening with the boy that never grew up.

ACCESS CLOSURES FOR 2017

Closed Friday 14th April 2017

Re-opens Tuesday 18th April 2017

Closed Monday 1st May 2017

Re-opens Tuesday 2nd May 2017

Closed Monday 8th May 2017
Re-opens Monday 15th May 2017

Closed Monday 29th May 2017
Re-opens Tuesday 30th May 2017

Closed Monday 3rd July 2017
Re-opens Tuesday 4th July 2017

Closed Monday 28th August 2017
Re-opens Tuesday 29th August 2017

Closed Monday 4th September 2017
Re-opens Monday 18th September 2017

Closed Monday 25th December 2017
Re-opens Wednesday 3rd January 2018



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