

# Russell House Newsletter

## Spring 2023

[Wyre Forest Special School - Russell House \(wfs.worcs.sch.uk\)](https://wfs.worcs.sch.uk)

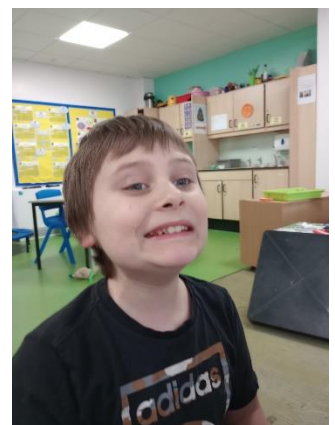


We've had a very busy term here in Russell House and we've done lots of different and exciting activities!

## Welcome!



First off, we have had two new students join us here, Michael and Jaiden, who have both settled into Russell House well and have made some great friends. Welcome Michael and Jaiden!



## **Birthdays!**

This term we've celebrated Finn's birthday! He bought in some cakes for all of us to enjoy and he wore some cool birthday glasses so we wouldn't forget it was his special day. We also said happy birthday to Care Officers Nick and Lucie and Care Assistant Dene!



## **Pool** **Table!**

The students had a lovely surprise when they came back to school after Christmas; Mr Davies had donated a pool table to Russell House! Thank you,

Mr Davies! The students have had so much fun playing against each other and the staff, some games have become quite competitive! It's also been great for their fine motor skills – having to learn how to hold the cue properly so they have the best chance at making a good shot. Some students have even found just playing with the balls has been a great sensory activity.





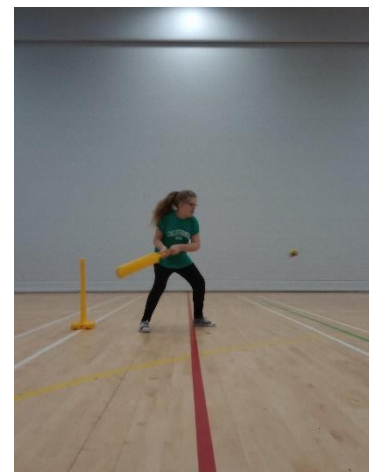
## **Soft Play!**

We're very lucky to have such an amazing soft play facility in school, which we do like to take advantage of! The students love going there to relax and use their imagination to come up with some great games to play with the equipment.



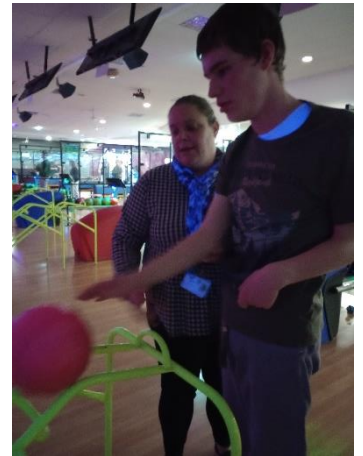
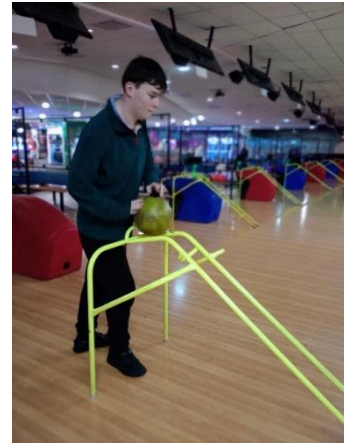
## **Cricket!**

Every Wednesday from 5pm-6pm the students go to Wyre Forest Leisure Centre on the bus to play Cricket for an hour. It's a great way for the students to exercise, have fun and bond with each other.



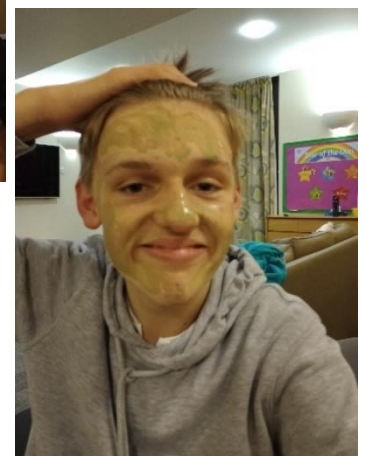
## **Bowling!**

Every so often we take the students bowling in Perdiswell and they absolutely love it, it's an activity that they all enjoy and have a great time bonding and showing their competitive sides! Also, we occasionally have a bowling night with students from the Vale of Evesham school, which is a great opportunity for the students to meet new people and build on new relationships.



## **Pamper Night!**

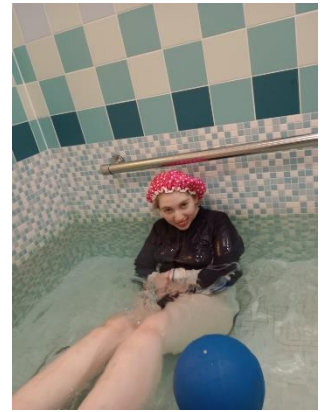
We all need a treat sometimes and it's no different here in Russell House, Lucie bought in a foot spa and a face mask kit and treated the students to a well-deserved pamper night!





## **Swimming!**

Every Tuesday we're very lucky to have access to the hydropool which is a great enrichment activity for the students, they really enjoy themselves whilst in the pool.



## **Youth Club!**

Every Monday we take some students to Kidderminster Youth Club in which the students have the opportunity to make new friends and take part in activities such as baking and playing on games consoles. It's a great way for the students to engage in community activities and improve their social skills and confidence.



## **Our Way!**

Our Way advocacy group come to visit every half term and plan different activities to do with the children such as baking and arts and crafts. Their last visit was to do Easter arts and crafts. Cat and Caroline bought in resources to make a chick card or decorate an egg. The students had lots of fun and really enjoy their visits from Our Way.



## **Disco!**

On the second Thursday of the month PODS (People Out Doing Stuff) hold a disco for individuals with SEND and their families. It's held at St Ambrose Hall in Kidderminster. The students have only been once so far as we were unable to attend the second one due to the snow! The students absolutely loved the disco, and it was great to see them all really enjoying themselves and getting involved with the dancing.





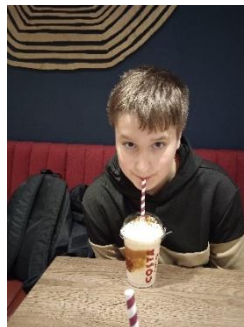
## **Fire Engine Visit!**

We're very lucky here at Russell House because Abby's cousin is a firefighter and she arranged for him to bring one of the engines to Russell House so the students could have a look inside and learn about all the different parts of the engine. Unfortunately, the visit had to be cut short as they had to leave to go on a job, but the children got to watch them speed off with their blue lights on!



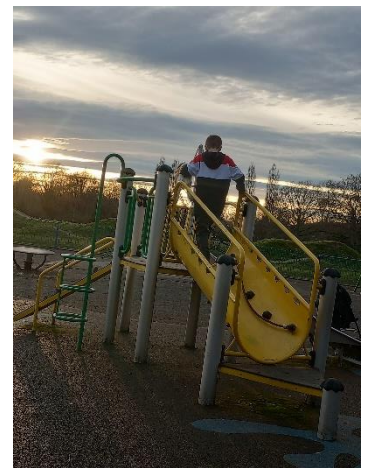
## **Costa!**

The students regularly enjoy a walk down to Costa, it's a great way to get them out into the community and to practise using money. The yummy food and drinks are just a bonus!



## **Trips to the Park!**

We love a trip to the park here at Russell House! It's a great way for the students to have fun and exercise at the same time! It also allows them to get out into the community and gives them the opportunity to make new friends.





# **Samba** **Drumming** **Workshop!**

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March the students had a wonderful activity planned for them! They had a visit from Nick Ledbury from 'Glamba' which specialise in various

drumming workshops for a huge range of people. Nick arrived with enough drums for each student to have their own and spent an hour teaching the students different ways to hit the drum to make different sounds and the ending resulted in a wonderful performance from the students. They all had a wonderful time and have asked for him to come back and do another session!



## Theme Night – Pizza!

This term our theme night was pizza making. We chose to make healthy pizza's this time by using a wrap as the base. The students really enjoyed sitting around the table constructing their pizzas and choosing which toppings they wanted to put on them.



## Easter Party!

The last evening before we broke up for Easter was our Easter Party! The students had an eggscellent time and fun was had by everyone – staff and students alike. We split the students up into four groups and they did a carousel of activities! We had baking, pin the tail on the bunny, an egg and spoon race and the groups all made an Easter bonnet! We then had an Easter bonnet parade in which Jemma modelled all of the bonnets before a panel of judges voted for the winning bonnet! We then had party food for our tea and got to test out the new benches in the garden. To end the party the students had to find some Easter treats that had been hidden in their bedrooms. It was a brilliant evening!





**Happy Easter from everyone at Russell  
House**  
**Have an eggstraordinary two weeks!**









