

10/24/2024

# **NEWSLETTER**

September 2024/2025 Academic Year





# The Bridge SEN School News

### **Our School**

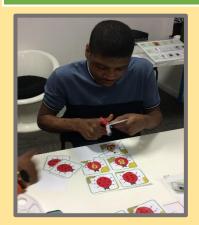
### **Welcome to The Bridge SEN School Newsletter**

As we close this half term, I want to thank our dedicated staff for their hard work, especially in supporting our learners. To our parents, your trust and involvement have been invaluable, and we appreciate your partnership. To our learners, your courage and perseverance inspire us all. To our esteemed governors, thank you for your leadership and support.

As we head into the break, I encourage everyone to rest and recharge. Let's reflect on our achievements and come back ready for the next chapter. Thank you all, and enjoy the half-term!

-Edith Eneanya-Bonito - Principal

Fortnightly News: 24<sup>TH</sup> Oct. 2024



## **Educational**

The learners have been engaged with educational and outdoor activities that includes art and craft, music, swimming, cooking, excursions to farm, museum and lot more. As we gear up for Halloween, the school is buzzing, our classrooms are being decorated with festive touches! Staff and students alike are excited to participate in themed activities that will allow students to celebrate the season in a creative way.

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH UK'S THEME: (RECLAIMING NARRATIVES).

This theme is about taking ownership of our stories, ensuring they are told with authenticity and pride. It invites the Black community to become storytellers and custodians of their history, celebrating untold stories and unsung heroes.

Importantly, *Reclaiming Narratives* also emphasizes the experiences of Black individuals with autism. By sharing their stories, we can raise awareness and foster understanding of the unique challenges they face while highlighting their achievements and contributions. This theme empowers the next generation by offering a richer, more accurate understanding of Black excellence, including in the realm of neurodiversity.

As Black History Month is celebrated, let us use the opportunity to make a lasting impact by participating in reshaping how our history is told.

To also celebrate the richness of our heritage and the diverse experiences within our communities.

### **NEW SENCO (KAREN POWELL)**

We are excited to introduce our new staff member, Karen Powell, who has joined us as the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO). Karen will be with us three days a week, bringing her expertise and passion for supporting our students.

Karen has already come across as warm, approachable, and highly competent. We believe she will be a valuable asset to our school community, helping to ensure that all of our learners receive the support they need to thrive.

Please join us in welcoming Karen to our team! We're thrilled to have her on board and look forward to the positive impact she will undoubtedly make.





## **Activities & Advice**

# PHOTO SPEAK ON HALLOWEEN CRAFT DISPLAY

Halloween, celebrated on October 31st, is originated from the Celtic festival of Samhain which marks the end of the harvest. The Celts believed spirits could roam the Earth on this night, prompting customs like lighting bonfires and wearing costumes. Over time, it evolved into All Hallows' Eve, leading to the modern celebration known for trick-ortreating and festive decorations, fostering community engagement and creativity while exploring themes of fear and the supernatural.









Our regular feature, where we examine fictional representations of autistic people.



### The Signal

Dr. Kai, an autistic astrophysicist, joins a team of six astronauts on a mission to explore an unpredictable, intelligent planet. While initially viewed as aloof and disconnected, Kai's unique ability to recognize mathematical patterns proves vital when the crew becomes trapped in the planet's shifting, maze-like terrain. By decoding the planet's signals and guiding the team through complex dangers, Kai saves them from disaster. His contributions reveal the importance of seeing the world through different perspectives, especially in life-or-death situations.

# "Autistic Children Get the Chance to Try Before They Fly"

For many, flying means holiday time, but for families with autistic children, airports can be overwhelming due to sensory challenges and crowds. On Saturday, 17 autistic youngsters and their parents participated in Belfast City Airport's *Autism in the Air* scheme, designed to familiarize them with air travel stressors.

The program, developed over 10 years in collaboration with Queen's University Belfast and Aer Lingus Regional, helps families navigate the airport experience. For participants like Abbie McKinley, the event opened new travel possibilities, with plans for a family trip to Ibiza. Others, like 19-year-old Thomas McClinton, also enjoyed their first flight, bringing them closer to dreams of visiting places like Peppa Pig World.

Dr. Nicola Booth emphasized the program's importance in reducing stress for families, allowing children to experience airports and flights in a controlled, relaxed environment. With successful flights and joyful faces, the initiative proved effective in building confidence for both children and their families, paving the way for future holidays.

To read more: Here

Source: BBC News.

### **Our Activities Centre**

The have been engaged with lot of activities both indoors and outdoors. Activities like Art & craft, puzzles, cooking, baking, board games, cycling, yoga, visiting the museum and bus rides. The learners seem to be catching lots of fun.

-Activity Co-ordinator-

The Bridge SEN School admits students all through the academic year between the ages of 14-25. If you are interested in placing a student at the school or obtaining more information, please contact admin@thebridge\_school.co.uk or Tel:02077038587

#### THE BRIDGE ACADEMIC CALENDAR

#### **EDUCATION**

- Half Term Break: 28<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> Nov.2024
- Half Term Resumes: 4<sup>th</sup> Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> Dec.2024

Please visit our website: <a href="www.thebridge-school.co.uk">www.thebridge-school.co.uk</a> for full Academic Year 2024/2025 Calendar)

#### **ACTIVITY CENTRE**

Our activity centre in Foulsham Road is open throughout the year, Except on Bank Holidays.

## Drawings/Pictures of the month







# OPENING TIMES AT LIRAL VEGET COLLEGE LONDON

Liral Veget College Limited is the sister company of Right Support Management, under which The Bridge SEN School operates. We offer a variety of English language courses, After School Club and Life in the UK Preparation classes. Our current opening times are 8.30am – 18.00pm Monday to Friday and 10.00am - 14.00pm on Saturdays.

Academic Manager - James Nuttall.

#### **QUOTE OF THE FORTNIGHT**

"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today."

— Franklin D. Roosevelt