TCES Group Bulletin 4





TEACHING TALENT



Create Service pupil Jonathan baked some tasty treats for the Barking Therapeutic Hub opening

clinical corner

schools news

create service



CEO welcome



Welcome to the TCES Group Winter Bulletin, which contains news about some of the many activities and achievements from our last term.

This has been a busy term for the Group with some exciting developments at our Create Service, London including the opening of our new Therapeutic Hub in Barking. This builds on our existing Hubs in Romford, Witham and Clacton and is a much needed resource for

this expanding, innovative service. We thank Sir William Atkinson (award-winning ex-Super Head) and the Mayor of Barking and Dagenham Eileen Keller for giving their time to formally open the Hub.

We have also completed the architect's plans for the third phase of the building of our new East London Independent School with exciting new specialist classrooms planned. Work will begin at the end of the spring term.

I am very proud that our Social Enterprise acts as the vehicle through which our skilled and excellent Clinical and Inclusion practitioners can help to support our ASC, SEMH and SLCN pupils. Our clinical teams deliver Drama Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy in our schools, with Clinical Psychology, as well as Art and Music therapies embedded additionally in our

Create Service. Sir William Atkinson described this multidisciplinary model as a "National Model of Excellence which is an exceptional offer for meeting the complex needs of our pupils."

To further demonstrate that we are a learning community for all, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to Lillith Osborn, our Deputy Head Teacher at ELIS Custom House, who has successfully completed her NPQH.

Finally, I would like to thank the two members of our staff team who have achieved the 'Long Service Award' for working with the Group for 10 years this academic year. Congratulations to Claire Elmes (TCES Group HR Advisor) and Wendy Howell (TCES Group and Essex Fresh Start Assessment Manager). Thank you both so much for joining us on our journey and for the countless sacrifices that you have made for a multitude of our pupils over the past decade.

I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2017.

Thomas Keaney,

Chief Executive & Schools' Proprietor

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The TCES Group Bulletin is produced by the TCES Group. We run three independent day schools and one specialist service, Create, providing education for pupils who find it difficult to access learning opportunities within their current setting. As a Social Enterprise we have a clear social purpose, detailed in our governing documents and we reinvest the majority of our profits.

Our schools are:

East London Independent School (Stratford Marsh and Custom House) Essex Fresh Start (Clacton and Witham) North West London Independent School (Acton)

Our Create Service is:

Create Service London (Romford and Barking)
Create Service Essex (Witham, Clacton and Wickford)

TCES Group, Park House, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ

To make a referral, please call: 020 8543 7878 (choose option 3) Email: referrals@tces.org.uk | www.tces.org.uk | @TCESgroup

In the news



Full house at CC Live 2016

TCES Group's workshop at Community Care Live 2016 – the UK's largest social care event – attracted such a huge audience that a number of disappointed individuals had to be turned away at the door.

Thomas Keaney, CEO and Schools'
Proprietor presented 'Transforming
high risk complex students through
therapeutic education' to a captivated
audience, supported by Colette Ferns,
Head of Create Essex and Andreia Santo,
Clinical Psychologist.

Thomas explained how the most complex and challenging pupils can be transformed through the unique solutions developed by the Create Service, based on a 'team around the child' concept. Bringing this theory to life through an incredible case study that described the success achieved using this method with one pupil, Colette brought gasps of admiration from the audience.



Following the workshop, attendees described the presentation as "inspiring" and "great work," with others asking how they could implement our strategy, and whether we provide training for social care workers.

The company also ran a stand at the event, held on 27 and 28 September in Islington, London, where staff representatives were able to discuss the Create Service and what it offers with visitors from the social work community.

TCES Group @TCESgroup Nov 11
Pupils at ELIS Stratford Marsh
executed the most beautifully
observed 2 min silence,
supported by the wonderful staff.
We #rememberthem with pride.



TCES Group @TCESgroup Nov 9 Thanks to @pmnw1 who talked to pupils at our Essex school about life in #prison, including an on-site mock up cell!



TCES Group @TCESgroup Oct 31
Here is @TCESgroup's
#pumpkincarve with @
jaspercatering free pumpkin.
Hollie at head office carved
the witch and cauldron design
#halloween



TCES Group @TCESgroup Nov 4 "17 yrs and every one a perfect memory. Thanks to our talented and inspirational staff and pupils who joined us on the journey." #birthday



MacMillan Coffee Morning

The 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' is Macmillan's largest fundraising event for people facing cancer. Organisations all over the UK host their own coffee mornings and donations on the day are made to Macmillan Cancer Support. TCES Group is no exception, with our schools and Create Service hosting a spectacular array of fundraising events to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Create London: Pupils from the Therapeutic Hubs at both Barking and Romford got together to bake cakes at the Barking Hub. The cakes were then sold to staff when they arrived for training on the Friday afternoon, raising £26.50.



EFS Witham: At EFS

Witham pupils set up a stand outside the school, decorated with signs they'd made themselves, to sell their homemade cakes and biscuits. Head Teacher Cheryl Rutter had her nails painted green for the occasion by the school beautician, Ineta! The school raised an impressive £170.00 for the charity.

EFS Clacton: EFS Clacton's morning was a great success with a cake and 'bricabrac' sale raising a fabulous £217.78! A number of parents and family members attended to show their support.

NWLIS: A great effort was made by staff and pupils at NWLIS, who raised over £200 selling cakes outside their school.





Spotlight

A day in the life...

TCES Group employs more than 160 people, a diverse and talented staff team whose job roles are wideranging and fascinating. Each role makes a valuable contribution to the effectiveness of our, 'Good' and 'Outstanding' schools.

ewly appointed Group
Business Manager
Debbie Johnston is
based at Central Services.
Debbie is a member of the
Senior Management Team and
contributes to the strategic
and business planning and
development of TCES Group.

A fresh face at TCES Group, Debbie is (at time of writing) in her second week as Group Business Manager. However she is quickly finding her feet, having been inaugurated into the Group at both the staff Christmas party and at several early visits to our schools.

As Group Business Manager
Debbie's role is extensive; spanning
the Finance, Facilities, IT and
Human Resources departments.
Her key responsibilities include
strategic budget and resource
planning, financial reporting,
property acquisition and
management (including contracts)
and IT.

Debbie realises that her first priority is to digest the TCES Group policies whilst gaining a thorough understanding of current practices in the areas that she is responsible for.

Having previously worked as School Business Manager in both grammar

...of Group Business Manager, Debbie Johnston

and primary schools, Debbie's extensive grounding ensures a smooth transition into her role as Group Business Manager and, crucially, enables her to bring a wealth of experience to TCES Group. Past roles have seen Debbie establish new procedures to streamline and improve efficiency and oversee various property re-building and refurbishment projects. Prior to working in the schools, Debbie worked as a lecturer (she holds a Diploma in School Business Management), teaching the CIPFA qualification to higher education students and also in public sector financial management roles for various local authorities.

Says Debbie: "TCES Group stood out as an exceptional service within the education sector and I was enthusiastic to find out more. My Group Business Manager role is key in leading the support services to the teaching and learning of TCES Group's unique pupils. I feel I can make a positive difference to TCES Group by bringing my knowledge and experience that I have gained to date.

I have been made to feel very welcome by enthusiastic and friendly staff at Central Services, the sites I have visited so far and at the Christmas party. TCES Group staff clearly have a passion for their work and the company. I'd like to thank everyone for the wonderful support you have given



"TCES Group
stood out as
an exceptional
service within the
education sector"

me so far and I'm looking forward to working with all of you."

Outside of her busy professional life, Debbie is mum to 13-year-old twin boys, who keep Debbie and her husband very busy. They are often pitch-side at rugby and hockey matches during the winter and at athletic events in the summer.

In the news

Record GCSE successes

NWLIS Art Teacher, Paul Morris had great success with his GCSE Art pupils this year. The six pupils didnt just pass their GCSEs but all achieved B and C grades at GCSE level.

Thomas Keaney, CEO and Schools' Proprietor was thrilled by the results, saying: "These high grades represent a new record for our pupils and, considering the gaps in our pupils' education and their Special Education Needs, are really impressive. They demonstrate that our pupils are able to meet the high expectations we have for them and we are all very proud of these results."

Paul Morris was delighted when Kiaeem, one of his pupils from the Summer GCSE Art & Design group, came back to NWLIS recently to let staff know how happy he is in his new College. It was wonderful to see how confident and assured he had become in such a short time. Kiaeem is taking a Games Design and Programming Course at Uxbridge College, and said: "I would not have got onto the course if I hadn't got the Grade B in GCSE Art."

East London Independent School pupils also fared well



with one pupil, Darian, gaining entrance onto an Electrical Engineering course as a result of his Maths GCSE D grade and Science GCSE C grade, which reflects the fantastic effort put in by Darian.

TCES Group also enjoyed across the board success with several pupils gaining GCSE's in English, as well as Maths, Science and Art. So much so, that 100% of pupils at Essex Fresh Start school passed their Science GCSE and 78% their Maths.

Well done to all pupils who completed their Functional Skills and GCSE's.

"Pupils are a credit to your school and their tutors"

EFS' Clacton and Witham sites were recently inspected under the CCRAG (Children's Cross Regional Arrangements Group) Form B monitoring procedures. Although this process is not statutory, it is obligatory to meet their required contractual compliance targets. EFS was inspected by Essex County Council, our designated lead authority for this purpose, on 17 November.

Aside from this intensive inspection, the schools were also inspected by Suffolk County Council through their own Quality Assurance framework on 29 November.

Staff worked incredibly hard on what were two long and arduous days. "It is evident that the school makes huge attempts to engage young people to attend and achieve. I witnessed good rapport and trust between pupils and staff, and the young people I spoke to articulated that they felt safe and empowered within the setting," inspectors from Essex County Council said.

The feedback also successfully highlighted the strong leadership that is ever-present at EFS. Said the inspectors: "the dedication and leadership enables me to feel confident that anything that is even remotely suggested is then taken and acted upon; the management structure appears well organised. The confidence and trust that the pupils have in their tutors is wonderful and what every parent/commissioner would want: that their child feels confident to raise things that were bothering them and be able to articulate and know that 'something' would be done and that they felt listened to and heard. The pupils' behaviour was exceptional."

Congratulations to EFS on the tremendous feedback received from Essex County Council. The Suffolk County Council report will be available in the New Year.

Maria triumphs in compliance test

Teaching Talent Senior Recruitment Consultant Maria Takkou has scored a fantastic 100% in the Recruitment & Employment Confederations compliance test. The test, which is completed on-line, was introduced to assess an agency's knowledge of relevant industry legislation and the REC Code of Professional Practice. Well done, Maria!

As TCES Group's in-house recruitment agency, Teaching Talent recruits for leadership roles, teachers and support staff for our schools. To work at a TCES Group school you need a wide range of teaching and curriculum experience and may have worked with pupils with SEND in the past.

info@teachingtalent.co.uk



Promoting...

Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Our pupils are taught to accept and celebrate everyone's differences and to do their best to understand different religions and cultures, never discriminating against anyone who is different, developing critical personal thinking skills and always treating everyone with respect. We aim to promote respect for individuals by discussing differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences in family situations, such as looked-after children or young carers.

Our pupils have been taught that we might not always agree with other people and might have different beliefs, but we should try to show respect for their thoughts and feelings. We give respect to others and we can expect other people to show us respect.

Much of the work carried out over the past term reflects this important British Value. A selection of the activities are highlighted on these pages.

Remembrance Day (11 Nov)

Remembrance Day was commemorated across the Group on Friday 11 November. There wasn't a dry eye in the building at East London Independent School's Stratford Marsh site, where pupils executed the most beautifully observed two-minute silence, which was supported by the wonderful staff.

Meanwhile, at Essex Fresh Start's Clacton site, Y9 pupil Steven produced a Power Point presentation for their special Remembrance Day assembly and the two-minute silence.



Remembrance Day assembly at EFS Clacton



Remembrance Day assembly at ELIS Custom House

Students at ELIS Custom House were keen to reflect on the sacrifices made in wars during their Remembrance Day Assembly. Class groups had been discussing this in their PSHE lessons throughout the week, so a really well informed discussion was possible.

Through the assembly it was recognised that although the concept of Remembrance Day began with the First World War, wars still continue and people are dying and fleeing from their homes in the present day. Class Three presented some of the wonderful poppy posters they had produced through the week and shared a thought provoking poem.

The whole school was able to reflect on war and the consequences of war, and how tolerance and inclusion were so important in bringing peace and harmony.

NWLIS Assemblies

As part of the British Values work, and to help pupils gain a better understanding of others' needs, weekly assemblies have been introduced at NWLIS based on individuals' diagnoses. These kicked off with a focus on the autism spectrum and, by popular request, the next assembly concentrated on ADHD. Each assembly provides an opportunity for pupils to talk about their diagnoses and for their classmates to ask questions specifically about the condition and the effect it might have on their lives. Films and presentations are used to complement the discussions.

Assistant Head Teacher, Mr Blake, said: "These assemblies are proving really popular among the pupils and are clearly assisting them in gaining a deeper understanding of the behaviour of their fellow pupils. The next one we have planned will look at an oppositional defiant disorder (ODD) diagnosis."

...British Values



Anti-Bullying week activities (14-18 Nov)

On pages 8 and 9 you can see the winning entries for the Anti-Bullying Week poster competition. ELIS Stratford Marsh pupils also created some amazing raps. Some of these are on this page and others can be found by clicking on the blog button on our website at www.tces.org.uk

EFS Witham's group work on bullying was very productive and sparked a lot of conversation. Pupils initially seemed confused about what bullying is and were surprised to see the different types and how it affected people. An article about the suicide of bullied 11-year-old Asad Khan was shared to highlight how families are affected when their child commits suicide due to being bullied.

Staff reported that it was clear at the end of the process that pupils were reflective on their own behaviour towards others and how their words and behaviour could be seen as bullying.

Black History Month activities (October)

Pupils from Essex Fresh Start visited the Hackney Museum during Black History Month. The exhibition brought to life curriculum work on aspects of Black British arts and activism developed in Hackney since the 1960s. Pupils found the exhibition very thought provoking. Here are some of

their comments:

It's sad that people have to live like that. Aeron I enjoyed spending time with my friends and learning about a different culture.

I can't imagine
how it must feel to not
be able to sit where you
want to on a bus.
lamie

Why are some people treated so badly because of the colour of their skin?

Some of the boys at EFS Witham studied the history and meaning of apartheid as well as the story of the MOBO (Music of Black Origin) awards, writing: "It is important to remember that the MOBO Awards are not to celebrate music made by black people but instead the actual type of music - Black Music."

Bullying isn't cool, picking on people isn't cool, pretending to hurt friends isn't cool, snitching isn't cool, so be yourself! People like you if you be yourself



MY RAP

Bully bully go away don't ever come back again! Bully bully you're so sad you can't even add in maths you're so flipping bad.

All you do is chill with your cat I swear you look like a rat and that's a fact.

How does it feel getting bullied you bully? My name is Leroy and I hate bullies.

So let's show love.

Listen all brothers and sisters. It's not nice. Let's stay away from all name calling and bad words. Bullying is not nice. Let's stay away from all hate!



Anti-Bullying Week...

The poster competition for Anti-Bullying Week (14-18 November) attracted an amazing 41 entries from across the Group. It was clear that pupils had put a lot of effort into producing their posters as they were all of an extremely high standard. This meant that the judges had a very difficult job. They spent many hours deliberating over which should be awarded the top prizes. Even after short-listing they were left with 20 posters to decide from! They finally awarded:

First: Millie from Create London **Second:** Myles and Tariq from NWLIS

Third: Callum from EFS
Fourth: Antony from ELIS

As there were far too many stunning entries to only have four winners, the judges also chose some special recognition awards.

All winning posters have been professionally printed and are being displayed around the sites. Many congratulations to everyone who entered the competition.

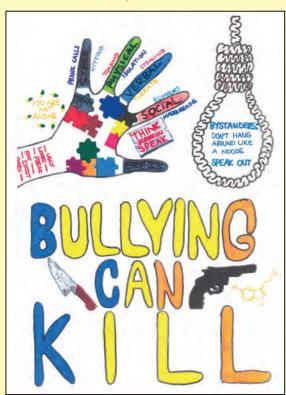
2nd: Myles and Tariq, NWLIS



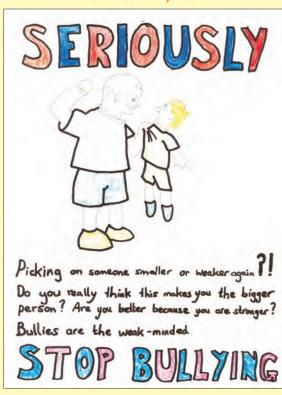
4th: Antony, ELIS



1st: Millie, Create London



3rd: Callum, EFS

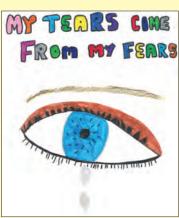


...poster competition

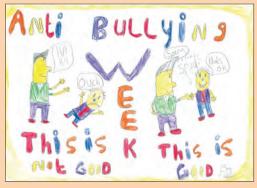
Special recognition awards:



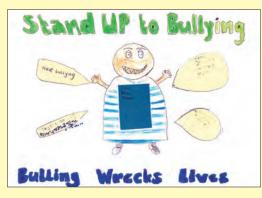
Hussein, NWLIS



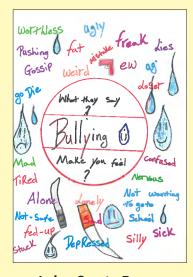
Elysha, Create Essex



Harry, ELIS
This will be the special poster we use
every year to launch Anti-Bullying Week



Kenzie, EFS



Luke, Create Essex



McKenzie, EFS



Harry, Kiran, Anthony and Tim, EFS



Josh, Create Essex



Tia, NWLIS



Chereese, Jordan & James, Create Essex

North West London Independent School (NWLIS)



Silver Arts Award Screening at Lyric Theatre

One of our North-West London Independent School pupils has achieved considerable success with his screenplay 'The Vampire.'

Myles completed Unit 1 (Arts Practice and Pathways) of his Silver Arts Award in July and will be completing Unit 2 (Arts Leadership) in December, culminating in a performance of his screenplay for a television series pilot called 'The Vampire' at The Lyric Theatre Hammersmith's Cinema on 6 December 2016 at 6pm.

In November, a cast of young actors from the Lyric read through his screenplay for the first time and gave him excellent feedback. Myles was extremely excited to see his work brought to life in this way!

Myles will be premiering a trailer for his horror film 'Hellbeloved' at the event and has asked another Y11 student to premiere the animations he has been working on for his Art GCSE. These will also be shown as part of the event.

Myles has worked exceptionally hard this year, achieving his Preliminary and Standard boxing awards and 13 AQA Unit Awards in music for which he has designed the CD cover as a rap artist – plus becoming the Anti-Bullying Ambassador on the Student Council. All at NWLIS and across the TCES Group are incredibly proud of his academic and personal achievements. Well done Myles!



Parent Group

NWLIS has welcomed the formation of its first parent group. Led by Katrina Medley, the group has met twice this term. Over this academic year the group has four key objectives:

- Parent evenings, events, workshops and meetings
- Parents and pupils to have enrichment activities together
- Parent workshops: therapeutic, homework and behaviour



 Support from parents/carers for the Inclusion Quality Mark.
 One of the first requests made by the group was for a specific NWLIS parent newsletter, which

was duly created and will be sent

to parents termly.

Paralympic champion visits NWLIS

On 1 December New Zealand 800m Paralympic gold medallist Tim Prendergast visited NWLIS where he spoke to pupils about his inspirational life story.

During the visit, Tim worked with the Student Council on a presentation about leadership qualities. The Student Council was really engaged and has committed to presenting this to all other pupils in a special assembly.

They were all tremendously inspired by Tim, recognising achievements they could aim for in their own lives. Tim has brought so much to the school and to individual pupils. Thank you Tim!

Ealing Foodbank

As a school, NWLIS encourages its pupils to recognise that there are people who are worse off than themselves and need extra support. So staff and pupils have pledged to each donate one food item per week to Ealing Foodbank. Visitors are also encouraged to bring along items each time they visit.





Find out more: kevin.parker@tces.org.uk and katrina.medley@tces.org.uk





East London Independent School (ELIS)

West-End theatre trip

ELIS pupils from Stratford Marsh took a trip to London's Ambassador Theatre to watch the National Youth Theatre's production of 'Pigeon English,' an adaptation of the Man Booker shortlisted novel by Stephen Kelman.

The play is inspired by 'powerful events' in modern history, examining the harsh reality of the transition to adulthood in today's world.

Afterwards, pupils who watched the play wrote up accounts of their experiences.



Rohan: Watching Pigeon English "Today, I went to watch a theatre show called Pigeon English. The play was about the loss of innocence. A 12-year old boy called Harry from Ghana came to London with his family to get a better life.

The play covered a lot of situations that young people can go through in urbanised areas like peer pressure, violence, knife crimes and bullying. For instance, Harry's sister was forced by a gang member to wash clothes which were covered in blood. The language that was used by the actors were all different. Slang, patois, and broken African language played a significant part in making the play more realistic.

Overall, I thought the play was enjoyable to watch and actors and actresses did a good job to put on a show for the audience. The journey to the theatre was quite long but we got to see people busking, which was quite interesting."

Black History Month

Stratford Marsh pupils wrote a collection of poems, musically inspired by October's Black History Month. All poems were read out at

to great acclaim, with the upper school mentors on-hand to effuse

assembly

Funk
Funk makes you pump.
It's not stupid.
It's not bad.
It's not sad.
Funk!!

much-deserved praise for their younger peers.

Jazz
Jazz is funky, weird and crazy.
Makes you happy all day long.
Relaxing, wild exciting.
Makes you want to dance to its
good beat.
Mysterious and frightening.
Makes you want to bounce.

Transforming rooms and transforming skills

A pre-existing space at ELIS Custom House, known as the 'Library' (which felt similar to Harry Potter's room under the stairs) has been transformed into an exciting

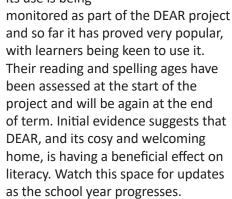


space inspired by Hogwarts' 'Room of Requirement,' made so famous in the books that pupils at Custom House love. Lillith Osborn,

(Custom House Deputy Head Teacher), worked with Marieke Peart, a specialist art teacher on a design for the room, using mirrors. When you close the door after entering, you look into the 'Mirror of Erised' (a mirror in Hogwarts that shows the heart's desire) and there appears

to be a centaur looking over your shoulder!

The room is central to school's 'Drop Everything and Read' (DEAR) initiative and its use is being



Winter preparations on the allotment!

Pupils at Custom House have been getting the allotment ready for the winter. There was a lot of tidying to do, cutting back the growth from the summer and preparing the ground for the plants that will overwinter.



The recent sunny (but cold!) weather has been ideal and the transformation has begun.
Bring on the spring!

Find out more: dorothy.elliott@TCES.org.uk



Essex Fresh Start Independent School (EFS)



Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre

We're pleased to announce that EFS is now a directly licensed centre of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. There are more than 13,200 Duke of Edinburgh centres across the UK, supporting over 1,800 organisations including schools, universities, young offender institutions and youth clubs. The Duke of Edinburgh is the world's leading youth organisation award, giving millions of 14-24 year olds the chance to broaden horizons, skills and friendships – opening doors to education and employment opportunities.



Celebration of success

On Friday 2 September TCES Group staff, pupils, parents and carers, plus Local Authority dignitaries gathered at Anglia Ruskin University in Chelmsford for a ceremony to celebrate the graduation and achievements of 25 Y11 EFS pupils. Nicky Fisk, Out of County Special Needs Officer at Suffolk County Council addressed the pupils: "What



a privilege to be invited to your graduation ceremony and celebrate your hard work and successful achievements. Thinking about how well you have all done makes me feel very proud and puts a huge smile on my face knowing that Essex Fresh Start have prepared you for your next journey."

Parents were undeniably proud of their children's achievements: "A thoroughly enjoyable evening. I'm an extremely proud mum and would like to thank all the staff for all the help and support given to Jordan." Jordan's mum

"What a lovely evening. So proud of Essex Fresh Start and all the teachers with what they have done with the pupils." *Jordan's dad*

"Pleasant evening – nice to see the interaction between teachers and pupils. Thanks." *Grandparents*

Church praises Daniel

EFS Clacton staff were delighted to receive a letter from their local church shortly after half term, praising Y11 pupil, Daniel. He had spent time during the break as a volunteer in the church's café, making drinks, washing up, clearing away and taking money.

In the letter, Daniel was described as having an exemplary attitude and work ethic with a pleasant nature and as being a credit to himself, his family and his school. The church was so impressed that he has been invited to return as part of the team in the Christmas holidays.

Daniel was awarded a 'Citizen of the Week' certificate in a Celebration Assembly for the glowing report and all at EFS Clacton are very proud of his achievement. Well done Daniel!

Vets to the rescue!

Late in October, EFS Witham pupils playing out on the school field heard a strange crying/screeching noise. On investigation staff and pupils found a fawn (baby deer) stuck in the school fence, while its mother was running around in a distressed state. They managed to help push the baby deer through the fence, but when it did not get up pupils were concerned that it could not walk.

Head Teacher Cheryl Rutter called Spring Lodge Veterinary Hospital, who very kindly attended the school to check the mother and her fawn. On arrival, the vets spoke with the children, reassuring them that the baby was probably in shock. They explored the area and informed the children that they would continue to look around as the deer had disappeared.



The vets waived the call out fee and turned down a donation offered by the school, but said they would appreciate a picture from the children. The above picture was one of several delivered to the Veterinary Hospital a couple of days later.

Find out more: cheryl.rutter@tces.org.uk

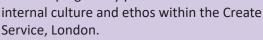


Create Service



Farewell to Sylvia

Create London Head Teacher, Sylvia Kerambrum is sadly leaving TCES Group at the end of December 2016. Over the past 16 months Sylvia has successfully led staff and pupils in developing a very positive



Sylvia has also been instrumental in overseeing the extensive refurbishment and development of both our Romford and Barking Therapeutic Hubs.

She returns to her more traditional Head Teacher role of running an Independent School educating children with SLD and Autism. TCES Group would like to thank Sylvia for all her hard work and we wish her all the best for the future.

Welcome Colette

Our new Head of Create Service London will be Colette Ferns who joins the existing Create London Senior Leadership Team.

Colette has recently transferred over from Create Essex which she built up from its infancy.

Colette has 20 years' experience working with schools in challenging circumstances, including four years as a Head Teacher. Colette is also a qualified Social Worker and has worked as a Behaviour Support Advisor and Education Manager, helping to set up a school for refugees, travellers and young people missing from education.

Her skills, knowledge and experience of youth and community work, conflict resolution, prevention of exclusions and the criminal justice system ensure that Colette will be a huge asset as head of Create Service, London.

We extend a very warm welcome from TCES Group to Colette in her new role.

Raising awareness about prison

A leading national educational charity, 'Prison Me No Way' visited Essex Fresh Start School this term to give pupils a chance to hear first-hand about life in prison. A reformed ex-prisoner who works for the charity recounted pupils about 'life inside,' which included a mock prison cell brought into the school for pupils to experience.

Set up as a project by prison officers in 1993, Prison Me No Way has operated as the No Way Trust since 1995, and has reached more than five million young people through the hard work of its volunteers, staff and trustees.



James creates a winning design

Create Essex pupil James, seen here with his marvellous creation, won the pumpkin carving competition that Create held at Halloween. We think you'll agree that James looks justifiably proud of his winning pumpkin!



Find out more: colette.ferns@tces.org.uk



Create Service London



Barking Therapeutic Hub declared open

We were delighted that Sir William Atkinson officially opened our new Therapeutic Hub in Barking on Friday 9 December 2016. This site is a welcome addition to the Create Service, enabling TCES Group to expand our expertise to a greater number of children and young people who require the specialist education placements that the service offers.



During the official launch event staff and pupils showed visitors, including the Mayor of Barking & Dagenham, Local Authority representatives, plus parents and carers around the new facilities. Pupils also had the opportunity to present to guests or demonstrate their musical and cookery skills.

In operation since September, our second Therapeutic Hub provides access to a normal, stable educational experience in a community-based school setting to some of the most challenging and complex young people. The highly-skilled and focused staff team helps to break down multiple barriers to learning by promoting the educational, social and health needs of its pupils, and supports each pupil's growth towards



independent learning, allowing them to eventually move into group work.

The Create Service Therapy
Team also offers counselling, art
therapy, dramatherapy, speech
and language and occupational
therapy. More specialist assessment
from TCES Group's Consultant
Clinical Psychologist and Consultant
Paediatrician are available to pupils
who are struggling to engage with
learning for reasons that are not clear.

Star performance from Steven

Staff, pupils and guests were privy to an outstanding performance by Create Service pupil Steven, who wrote and performed a rap about his experiences on starting with Create Service after being out of education for so long. His description of having found a school where he fitted in was so moving, holding the audiences' attention throughout. Well done, Steven!



Budding artist

The wonderful artwork used on the invitations to the event was created by Y7 Create Service pupil Jonathan. We all loved his picture and are sure he has a great future as an artist.

Here he is, with Angel and Elfrida, showing us the original picture in his scrapbook.

Jonathan isn't just a talented artist – he's also a dab hand in the kitchen and baked some delicious cakes for the opening event, which he iced before the guests arrived to enjoy them. Jonathan is featured on our front cover with his amazing cakes.





Find out more: colette.ferns@tces.org.uk

Clinical Corner

The TCES Group Clinical and Therapy Team works in our schools to deliver the therapeutic element of our 5 part curriculum

This autumn we've welcomed several new members to our clinical team, all of whom bring a wealth of experience to TCES Group.

Trish Barry-Relph, Head of Clinical Services

Trish brings extensive clinical experience to her role as Head of Clinical Services, as a registered member of BACP (British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy) for 15 years and an Associate Member of GAS (Group Analytic Society, London).



Trish Barry-Relph, Head of Clinical Services

She has worked in private practice for 15 years, been a GP practice counsellor and has 12 years' experience in the NHS as a Senior Specialist CAMHS clinician and Area Practice Manager: at Tier 2 working in mainstream and special schools, Tier 3 in Specialist CAMHS and Tier 4 secure adolescent hospitals. At the Tavistock & Portman NHS Trust Clinic in London Trish worked as a therapist in the Adolescent Department and the Parents Service. She was responsible for initiating and chairing the carers/service users consultative forum and is committed to pupil and parent participation in shaping TCES Group's clinical services.

Trish has an MA in Advanced Social Work and extensive experience in child protection social work. She has been commissioned as an Independent Expert Witness in the Family Courts in Private and Public Law Proceedings.

Trish is the Company Designated Safeguarding Lead with Thomas Keaney, CEO and Schools' Proprietor.

Dr Andreia Santo, Clinical Psychologist and Lead Clinician

Andreia is a chartered and HCPC/BPS registered Clinical Psychologist. After qualifying in Portugal in 2008, she moved to the UK in 2010 where she completed a two year part-time post-graduate diploma in Family and Systemic Therapy at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust



Dr Andreia Santo, Clinical Psychologist and Lead Clinician

in London. Since January 2013, Andreia has worked for

the NHS in the Luton Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in various departments. In August 2013, she joined the Specialist Team where she became part of a multidisciplinary team overseeing children, young people and their families who were experiencing moderate to severe mental health problems. In addition, at Luton CAMHS, Andreia worked in the Luton and Dunstable University Hospital where she offered specialist psychological support to children with diabetes type 1 and their families and consultation to health professionals.

Andreia will be supporting TCES Group pupils at our Create Service London, Romford Hub every Monday to Wednesday.

Sophia Hutchings, Drama Therapist and Lead Clinician

Sophia is Drama Therapist at East London Independent School and North-West London Independent School. Drama therapists are artists and clinicians who train in drama and psychology to offer creative methods for pupils to explore their personal journeys towards social



Sophia Hutchings, Drama Therapist and Lead Clinician

and emotional change. Drama therapists are registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and practice according to their guidelines to ensure safe and ethical practice. Sophia is also a full member of the British Association of Drama therapists (Badth).

Drama therapy is one of the four Creative Arts Therapies (Drama, Art, Music and Play) and is a form of psychological therapy. It offers an opportunity to explore emotions and experiences in a safe and confidential environment allowing greater personal expression and freedom. Drama therapy can help make sense of what is going on in pupils' lives; it might help to explore confusing or upsetting situations and supports pupils to express their emotions and feelings in a safe space. It can help build pupils' confidence and contribute to feeling calmer and more in control of feelings.

TCES Group has also appointed **Tara Millan-Brophy, Speech and Language Therapist**. Tara works at both ELIS Stratford Marsh and ELIS Custom House, treating and reviewing pupils with speech, language and communication disorders. Her therapy is delivered in individual, group or class based sessions.

Occupational Therapist Erin Connolly is based at NWLIS, ELIS and across the Create Service. Erin works with pupils in both an individual and group capacity, exploring and understanding their emotions with a view to developing solutions to tasks and activities that pupils have difficulty doing.



Tara Millan-Brophy, Speech and Language Therapist



Erin Connolly,
Occupational Therapist

Find out more: trish.barry-relph@tces.org.uk



Christmas Card Winners

Our annual Christmas card competition has once again produced some fantastic designs by TCES Group pupils. Here are some of the winning designs.

