

# Stockton Autism Day Service Newsletter

Issue 3

March 2019

*Dear Parent and Carers,*

*Hello and welcome to our third Newsletter.*

*Christmas seems a distant memory and we hope that a good time was had by all.*

Firstly you must all be wondering about the development of our Ware Street Building. All interior building work has now been completed and we are waiting for soft furnishings and white goods to be delivered and put in place

**WE WOULD NOW LIKE YOU TO GET YOUR THINKING CAPS ON AND LET US KNOW YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEW NAME FOR THE RE-DEVELOPED WARE STREET.**



## **TRAINING**

Debra has enrolled on the Positive Behavioural Support (PBS) Level 5 at the Northumbria University.

This programme aims to develop the knowledge and understanding about positive behavioural support and develop competence in supporting functional behaviour assessment and using a behaviour support plan.

A further five members of the Team will then be assessed by through their level two qualification. This will be a great benefit for the service.

## **EXCELLENT NEWS .....**

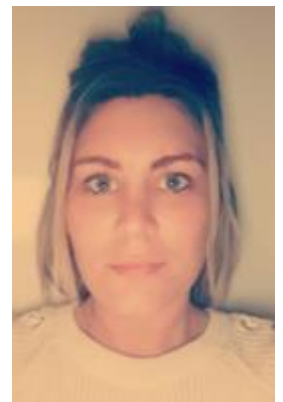
ESPA have been successful in becoming part of the PBS Framework and even better we were awarded top marks so ranked No. 1 on the framework.

## **STAFFING**

After three years with ESPA Glenn Robinson has left to take up the position of Classroom Assistant at Kilton Thorpe Specialist Academy in Saltburn. We all wish him the very best.

We would like to welcome Sheena Coleman as our latest member of the Team. Sheena will be dividing her time with us at the Day Centre and supporting another Service User on a 1:1 basis.

Some of you may know Pauline Shannon Development Manager and may have met her at the set up of Ware Street. After over 20 years with ESPA, Pauline will be leaving at the end of March 2019 and we would like to send her our very best wishes.



In November there was a Pumpkin Carving Competition.  
We all had fun carving out pumpkins - there was a competition and a bit of a party too!



1<sup>st</sup> Prize went to Matthew Walsh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Price to Jonathan Todd and 3<sup>rd</sup> to Matthew Wilson

Leading up to the festive period Jonathan, Alicia and Matthew visited Cherry Hill Garden Centre and even saw some reindeers!





They say nothing beats a holiday and between 8<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup> of October Matthew Walsh got chance to enjoy some time on the North East coast with Dave Moore and James Senior.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October finally arrived and Dave and James were as excited as Matthew was to fill up Yvonne's car and head over to Blue Dolphin Caravan Park in Filey. Staff at Tithebarn had been asking Matthew for weeks "Where are you going?" he would reply "caravan... with Dave and James" so as the car pulled off Matthew was grinning from ear to ear and didn't stop all week. Not long after arrival and the Pizzas were in the oven and the lads were getting settled in for an exciting week of exploring, swimming, eating, lots of cups of tea and coffee and Planet Rock Radio.

Day 1 began with a bacon sandwich, nice cuppa and a swim in the pool on the caravan site this became the staple for every morning. After a spot of lunch the group headed over to Cayton Bay (pictured above) they explored both coves and found some interesting remains of a former World War 2 gun battery (as well as Dave's future holiday home). The trio got back to the caravan a little after 5 o'clock and began what was to be their daily evening walk to feed the ducks and have a look out to sea from the vantage point on the campsite. Day 1 had set the bench mark... Great weather! Tired Legs! and a lovely chicken curry cooked by Dave. Matthew turned in around 10 pm and he was heard to be laughing himself to sleep possibly with all the excitement of the day.

Day 2 was a visit to the seaside town of Filey and a walk along the beach. With the Martian-like backdrop of the cliffs, Matthew had a rummage around in some of the rock pools in the hope of finding "winkles" and other crustaceans. Once done on the beach it was time for an ice cream. Matthew sat and enjoyed the sea view whilst eating his vanilla flavoured ice cream. We then drove up to Filey Brigg and had a walk along the cliff before going for some well earned fish and chips. It was then back to the caravan and time for a good night's sleep.

Day 3. SCARBADOS! Matthew began his day in the seaside town with a walk through Peasholm Park and had fun feeding the geese and seeing all the fish in the little pools. It was then off to the North Bay and a walk up to the castle. A short time was spent in a play area on the way down where Matthew (and his staff) indulged in the swings, slides and roundabouts. We headed back to the caravan and tucked into some lovely Spag Boll.

Day 4: Friday began as usual with a bacon sandwich and a swim but unfortunately luck in the weather department was not on side. The afternoon saw the only rain fall of the entire holiday...no matter as Matthew had unfinished business with his 200 piece jigsaw which was completed just as the weather improved and Matthew began his evening stroll to find some hungry ducks and perfect views of the North East coast.

All good things must come to end and Saturday saw the trio pack there bags and leave the Blue Dolphin for home. In the back of the car Matthew smiled all the way home and began to smile even more when he arrived home to see his Mum on the doorstep for a big hug. It was a fantastic week away and Matthew had an absolute blast. He came into Tithebarn the following Monday full of beans and in a great mood.

The staff at Tithebarn would like to thank all who played a part in this fantastic week and hope in the not to distant future it may happen again.



## AND THE POSITIVE STEPS CONTINUE .....

**Jamie** and his family have moved to a new bungalow in Billingham and Jamie coped very well with the change in his home environment.



Jamie continues with his local walks and he has recently been as far as Newham Grange Park near to Tithebarn and has been taken for walks near Ware Street in preparation for the move back.

**Meg** had a successful trip to Hollywood Bowl and enjoyed a game of bowling; she sat down at rides in the arcades and then had a drink and biscuit.



**James** has had a couple of trips out on a bus into Stockton Town Centre to purchase craft supplies. He has also enjoyed a visit to Pendragon a sensory unit near Northallerton.



***We're spoilt for choice with all the photos showing you the fun we have been having.....***



Jonathan had a smart new haircut



Jamie loved the fresh air on Saltburn Pier



Alicia and Matthew enjoyed dressing up at Dorman Museum



James was lucky enough to get the Riverside Stadium all to himself



Jonathan and Matthew couldn't miss the opportunity of some sunshine at Seaton Carew



John had a chance to enjoy his passion for trains at Ormesby Hall ....



.... while James and Jonathan had a fun day at York Railway Museum looking at much bigger trains



Adam deciding which bird to feed next at the Kirkleatham Owl Centre



Ben deep in concentration on the chain bridge at Summerhill Park, Hartlepool

## **REMINDER**

**THE DAY SERVICE  
WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019  
FOR STAFF TRAINING**

**Should any parents/carers like to have a copy of any of our photographs, please do not hesitate to ask**

**Again we will keep you informed of any new on the return to Ware Street**

**Thank you all for your continued support**

**Debra and the Team**