

Our School

Welcome to the Bridge's Newsletter

Fortnightly News: 20th December 2019

We would like to thank everyone for your support and ongoing commitment throughout the year 2019. Yes, this year has been a very busy for the Bridge SEN School, in spite of this, we are proud to say the school has made so much achievement and progress. The school will continue to grow and positively impact the lives of the students and the local community.

Thank you to every member of staff that has supported the school in various ways to ensure that the students have a fantastic learning environment and achieve their individual learning outcomes

I wish you all a very peaceful and Merry Christmas and I look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year.



Educational

Christmas is always an exciting time of the year where lots of activities and events are being undertaken as part of the festive celebration. All our students have had fun during the final week of the autumn term as they participated in setting up our Christmas decorations and decorating their classrooms for several events including their Christmas party amongst others. The students had a spice of Christmas-themed activities as part of their learning during the month, such as making snowflakes during sensory play and baking fairy cakes and ginger bread men during cooking sessions.

CHRISTMAS PARTY CELEBRATION

Thank you all so much for those who attended the Christmas party last week Friday. We know this meant getting time off work to join in the celebration. We will be uploading pictures of the party on our website, please feel free to visit and leave feedback. You can also subscribe to our website to get live updates on all school events and activities.

NEW STAFF

We have recently employed an Educational Psychologist and would like you to welcome her to the team. Her name is **Rossella Zapapariello**, and she will be in contact with all our parents to introduce herself formally and to share strategies on how to work in partnership with you.

ASDAN

Most of our learners are currently in the last stage of completing their ASDAN modules. Supporting them through observation, evidencing and improvement in all aspect of their participatory and independent living skills has been a very rewarding experience. Successful learners will be rewarded accordingly once the moderation process is completed in January.

CHRISTMAS STRATEGIES

"Sparkling decorations, shiny Christmas presents and fun family festivities usually make December one of the highlights of the year." For those with Autism Spectrum Disorder, this may be overwhelming. The change of routine, big events, loud noises and large crowds can make it feel stressful instead. To support the transition process for all our students, we have decided to share the following thoughts on how to plan during the festive period.

The National Autistic Society recommend using a calendar or visual timetable to detail what will be happening over Christmas. You can use this to prepare your child/young adult for certain events and special days when things will be happening outside the normal routine.

Talk to them about Christmas in advance and plan a schedule for the day. Try to give them lots of information about the changes they will see, it can also help to prepare for specific events. If there are any moments on Christmas Day or beforehand that you think might be a bit too much, create a Christmas-free zone where they can have a bit of quiet time with a favorite activity –Charlotte Whistlecroft @goodtoknow.co.uk (Read more on:

<https://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/family/autism-at-christmas-98841>



DATES TO REMEMBER

Close of SCHOOL – 19th
December 2019 to 3rd January 2020

BACK To SCHOOL – Monday 6th
January 2020

The Bridge SEN School runs an **ASD Activity Club** on Saturdays, 10am to 4pm. There are lots of activities available for young learners within the ages of 16 to 25 years. These activities range from bowling, snooker, photography club, Art and Crafts, Museum visits, Cooking, Interior Decoration, etc. We receive referrals from members of the public and local authorities; please contact the school on admin@thebridge-school.co.uk or Tel: 02077038587

Our Activities Centre

This week, the learners were engaged in both outdoor / centre-based activities during this Christmas preparation. They have worked together as a team, making lots of Christmas decorations. As well as participating in activities both within the centre and in the community. We have been engaging the students in explorative activities such as cooking, cutting, painting, glittering and many other arty things to help our learners prepare for the Xmas and New Year celebration.

- Robert (Acting Activity Coordinator)

THE BRIDGE ACADEMIC CALENDAR

EDUCATION

SCHOOL CLOSURES – Thursday 19th December 2019

BACK TO SCHOOL – Monday 6th January 2020

(Please visit our website: www.thebridge-school.co.uk for full Academic Year 2019/2020 Calendar)

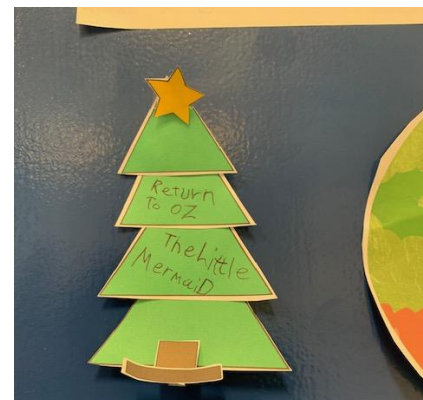
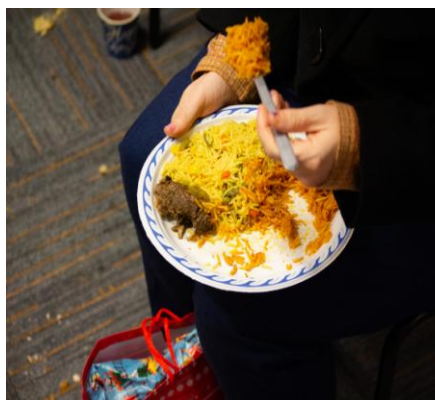
ACTIVITY

Our activity centre is open throughout the year, except on Bank Holidays.

The Bridge 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



Drawings/Pictures of the month



CHRISTMAS/ NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES AT LIRAL VEGET COLLEGE LONDON

Liral Veget College is the parent company for LVC London School of English and The Bridge SEN School. It offers a variety of **English language courses, After School Club and Life in the UK Preparation classes**. During the festive period, we are closed on the 24th, 25th and 26th December and 1st of January. Until the 6th of January our opening hours are from 8.30am to 6.00pm except on the 31st of December where we will close at 2.00pm. **Academic Manager** - (James Nuttall)

We publish our newsletter fortnightly. Copies will be emailed to you and made available on the school's website on (<https://www.thebridge-school.co.uk/our-school>). Thanks for all your feedback. If you would like to make more contributions to our newsletter, please email me on admin@thebridge-school.co.uk - Maryanne Orakah

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"When a family focuses on ability instead of the disability, all things are possible.... love and acceptance is key. We need to interact with those with autism by taking an interest in their interest" - Amanda Rae Ross