



Raleigh Learning Trust Roundup during COVID 19 period

WB: 13.04.20

Our Academies (Ambleside, Denewood, Westbury, Woodlands, and Unity) have remained open when required during the Easter Holiday period - to pupils who have needed or requested a place. Pupils and staff who have attended have been glad of the contact and opportunity to be together for a few hours at a time when social interaction is so absent from our lives.

Our site teams continue to do a great job to keep the academies clean and safe. We are really grateful for their hard work – without cleaners, caretakers and site managers, none of our academies would be able to open.

At Denewood and Unity Academies, staff, pupils, and parents took part in Cake Bake for Autism Awareness week.



As illustrated, we have some very skilled bakers in our midst – any thickening of the waistline during this period will have been well worth it for the reward of such excellent cakes!



Continuing with the theme of eating, one pupil worked in the academy garden, and dug up some potatoes. She was then kind enough to serve all staff who were on site, a jacket potato to have with their beans and chips. It was a treat for them all to be able to eat such deliciously fresh produce.

And during a home visit to drop off work packs, staff found one particular parent who was extremely grateful for the extra activities and home work (even at the start of the holidays). She has been teaching all of her 13 children at home, on the sofa. The academy and alternative provision tutors have noticed that some of her children are doing more work at home than they do at school! We hope that this parent is passing on her 'top tips for home educating' to her friends – most of us are finding that it's not very easy...

At Ambleside, the individual pupils who attended have received some very intensive phonics catch-up teaching. Even if the Year 1 phonics test does not go ahead this year, staff are using every opportunity to make sure that every 6 year old can read! The gardener has been bringing on some plants in the greenhouse and these will be ready to be delivered to the children after the holidays, for them to continue growing at home. The cucumbers, beans, tomatoes, cosmos, statice and sunflowers coming along nicely:





Pupils who have attended Westbury during this period have created some amazing artwork. They have worked together to produce this wonderful message – now proudly displayed on their gate. If you pass along Chingford Road, do look out, as seeing this will make you smile:



Individual academies are currently working on their voucher payment schemes in time for the new term. The offices are manned during the mornings, so if you want to enquire about this scheme, or simply to talk with a member of staff, do call us on our usual numbers.

It certainly hasn't felt like a school holiday in the way we are all used to, but we hope that you have been able to do something different over the Easter period, and found ways to enjoy time together to make the Bank Holiday weekend feel special.