



Blackfriars Newcastle Reception:  
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# Blackfriars Bulletin

Volume 9 Issue 2



It has been an emotional time for us all at Blackfriars over the last two weeks. I posted a large parcel to His Majesty King Charles with our Book of Remembrance in it and letters of support to the Royal Family. In this newsletter you will be able to read about Alex's account of his visit to the Lying in state of Her Majesty the Queen. We not only had the funeral of the Queen on Monday but many of us also attended the funeral of Mrs Emmens' fiancé, Paul Towle, who died suddenly in the summer holidays. Paul was a great supporter of the school and was particularly generous of his time in the holidays coming in to feed our rabbits. It was always foremost in his mind that our students have the opportunity to get out and about in the community on the mini buses and therefore we have put the very generous donation from his funeral towards the costs of running the mini buses thus helping to secure the visits that he felt were so important.

We have our Preparation for Adulthood meetings on the next two Mondays - these are an opportunity for parents and carers to have an opportunity to share with Form teachers their aspirations for their child. We hope that you find the meetings useful - you have a choice of on-line or face to face - the link to the booking system was send on Thursday 21st Sept by text.

## Safeguarding Contact Information

Staffordshire

First Response:  
0800 1313 126  
Outside office hours:  
0845 6042886

Stoke-on-Trent

Advice and Referral Team:  
01782 235100  
Outside office hours:  
01782 234234

Cheshire East

Referral Team:  
0300 123 5012 Option 2  
Outside office hours:  
0300 123 5022

Shropshire

Referral Team:  
01743 254 259  
Initial Contact Team:  
0345 678 9021  
Outside office hours:  
0345 678 9040

## Adult Safeguarding Referral Numbers:

Staffordshire: First Response -

0845 604 2719

Stoke on Trent: Adult Social Care -

0800 561 0015

The Immersive Pathway got the opportunity to visit Our Space the other week for an afternoon of exploration and fun. There was something for everyone – an amazing, newly refurbished indoor play area and ball pit, exciting outdoor play equipment and a magical woodland walk.

They were blessed with beautiful weather and made the most of all the activities. Students, and staff, enjoyed engaging with all the stuff that was on offer and they cannot wait to visit again soon. Please see some of the photos from the day below:



We are extremely proud of Beth who has been asked to join a Young People's Advisory Group set up by Nasen, a national charity. Beth represents young people with a disability and the group's views get fed into national debates.

# The King and I

Like the whole country I was upset when I heard the news of Queen Elizabeth's death. However, if someone had told me that day that I would be going on a trip to London to see the Queen Lying in state, I would have told you you were crazy. But I hadn't considered my Aunt, Shell, and her wild ideas. Everyone should have an Aunt Shell in their life.

Thursday 15/9/22 I was sat at home, playing on my computer and the phone rang, it was my Aunt Shell phoned me and suggested that we got on the 5:40 train on the Saturday (17/9/22) two hours later we arrived in London after having breakfast on the train. We made our way to Trafalgar Square in a black Cab because we kept getting lost trying to walk there. Reaching Trafalgar Square we joined the queue. Two hours later we entered Westminster Hall. As I am wheelchair user it meant we could join the disabled queue which was not as long!

In the hall the atmosphere was calm and moving. I was mind blown by its impact on me. We moved slowly forwards to pay our respects to the late Queen. Suddenly we see the new king, King Charles walking towards us. I couldn't believe it.

King Charles stopped in front of us and held his hand out to me. Feeling nervous and wondering if it was all a dream. I shook his hand. My heart was pounding so fast I wondered could the king hear it. The firm handshake made me realise this was no dream. He said "thank you for coming" and shook Shell's hand too.

We have no photographs of this as we couldn't use our mobiles in Westminster Hall. However, I will always remember this day and carry the image of my handshake with the King in my mind's eye for the rest of my life.

- Alex's wonderful account of his visit to the Lying in state of Her Majesty the Queen

We are immensely proud of three of our students who represented Staffordshire Sharks in a disability cricket tournament held in North Wales. The team with the help of our three superstars, won the tournament. To say we are PROUD would be an understatement. Congratulations to all three of you from everyone at Blackfriars.

This is a quote from the Staffs disability officer; They represented Staffordshire Sharks in the latest Disability Softball Festival at Gwersyllt CC, Wrexham with 5 other teams, finishing as winners. These groups have come on so much, not just about the cricket, working together, decision-making, encouraging each other, learning to win and lose.



## Diary Dates:

26th September - Parent Consultations -

Preparation for adulthood (Online) 3rd

October - Parent Consultations - Preparation for adulthood (In Person)

24th October to 28th October – October Half Term

25th November - INSET Day, no students in

## Get Social!



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## Scholars of the Week

**Immy** in Gladstone has been nominated Scholar of the week because staff have noticed a big change in her attitude towards work and she has been trying her absolute best in all of her lessons. She's done particularly well in English and also Humanities. Well done and keep it up Immy!

**Josh** from Portmeirion has also been nominated for Scholar of the week for building the courage to lead the game of hangman from the front of the class. Well done Josh!