

Cambian Dilston College

October 2022 Newsletter

This month has been a great success here at Dilston. We've celebrated Black History Month, Anti-Bullying Week, Halloween and we've been busy creating some delicious recipes in our Red Owl Café. This month's newsletter celebrates student creativity and will focus on how well our students are settling into college life.

Here's what happened last month...

The Red Owl Cafe



In September, we opened the doors to our Red Owl Café. The delicious treats that our bakers have been conjuring up have been a hoot with our staff and students throughout the month. However, we'd like to highlight the great success of our Macmillan Coffee Morning on the 27th September as bakers, Kyle and Lorna, raised £42.80 by selling their homemade goods!

Recycling Week Month

Following the news of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's passing, Recycling Week will now take place between the 17th-23rd October. Meaning we have more time to learn how to **recycle, reuse and reduce** our waste in October!



Our Horticulture Team Grew



The horticulture team grew significantly last month. We happily introduced three new staff members who have helped to keep our students and animals safe over the term.

Alongside our new members of staff, we have added hens and ducks to the animal family. We are slowly but surely making use of the fantastic landscape we have here at Dilston College and are helping to build safer environments for our lovely hens, ducks, sheep and goats!

Our students have been very involved with animal care which our tutors facilitate. This involves cleaning, feeding and caring for the animals every day.

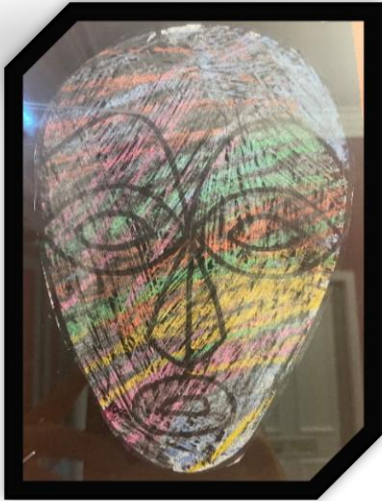


A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

All of our young people participated in our movie night last month. **Muhammad Ahmed** stated: "the pictures do not address the real joy you would have experienced had you of been there". We will continue to make this a tradition at Dilston College, stay tuned for more movie madness in November's newsletter.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In the UK, we have celebrated Black History Month every October since 1987. As tradition stands, we have incorporated **Black History Month** into our curriculum to promote the knowledge of black history, show students and staff their roots and promote equality. Students were eager to join in on the creative activities as they made masks inspired by the influential artist and teacher, **Lois Mailou Jones**.

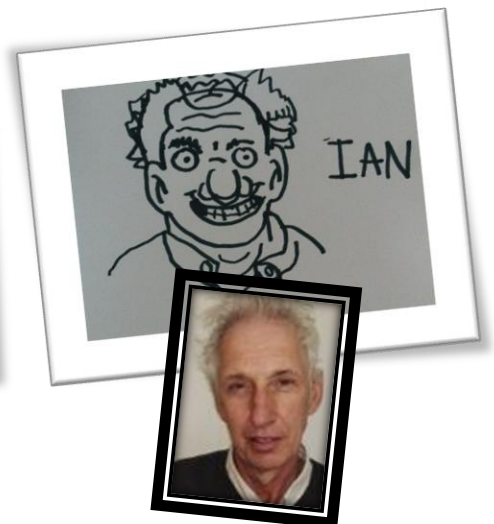
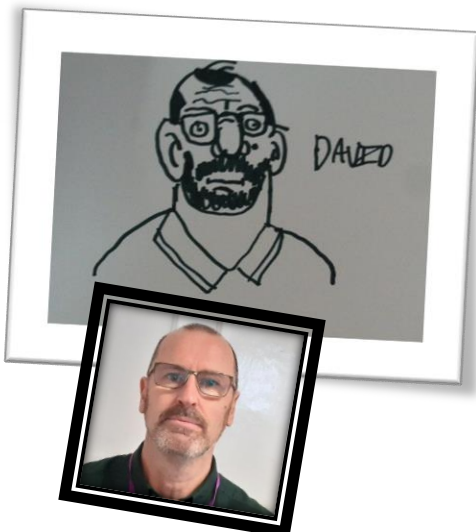


How we are displaying our British Values in October

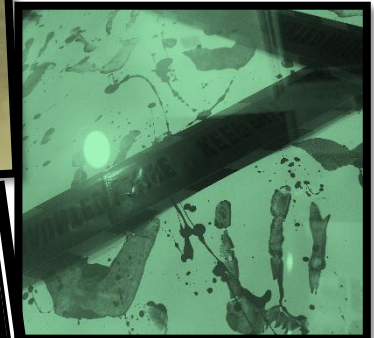
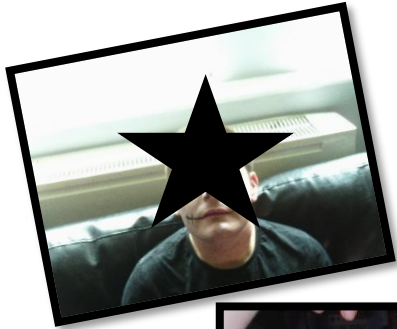
- This month we are showing that we can respect the similarities and differences from person to person.
- We are celebrating cultural differences and making everybody feel welcome
- We are observing diversity and showing respect towards everybody
- Learning that we have the ability to include or exclude each other, therefore each person holds the power to make another happy or unhappy.

"this student will do a portrait sitting for a reasonable price!"

- Bridget Ladyman



IT'S SPOOKY SEASON



IT'S THE SEASON TO BE SPOOKY!

It was decided that we'd get into the spirit of Halloween at Dilston a little earlier this year.

On the 21st October we held a Halloween disco in our main hall, for all staff and students to celebrate together before their week off. Students were encouraged to create Halloween decorations in their art sessions throughout the week and these were hung around the main hall for everybody to see.

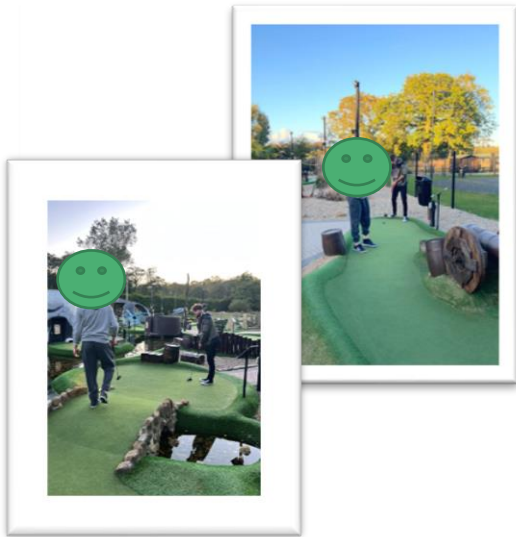
We'd like to thank all of the Dilston staff and students for their participation in the Halloween activities that have been occurring this week. It's been a great term, and we look forward to seeing you all when you return on the 01st November.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN, STAY SAFE!

Autumn Days at Dilston

Staff and Student Stories

This term, we've been trying to engage our young-people in more social activities outside of Dilston's grounds. Staff and students are being encouraged to explore new environments and overcome challenges every time they leave Dilston. With each successful trip, it is becoming clear that our young people can explore their boundaries and overcome barriers every single day. Here are a couple of our success stories this month.



"Pirate Golfing and Chips by the Sea"

"Myself and another member of staff decided to take this student for a trip out yesterday. The student behaved really well and followed instructions such as handing back the golf ball and stick after each use, and not hitting the displays. They had a fabulous time regardless of potting the ball in the water numerous times! They'd love to engage in more activities such as arcades and bowling which we will make our end goal for 2023. The student ended the day at Blyth beach, eating fish and chips whilst looking out at the sea. Overall, we had a fantastic evening and we're super impressed by the student.

- Naomi Arkle and Carl Clark

"They were very happy, giggling and all smiles"

"Myself and another member of staff assisted a student with their shopping today in a local supermarket. The student was very happy, giggling and all smiles from the time they got into Tesco. They were very happy to push the trolley and mad the loudest happy vocalisations throughout the entire trip. They remained very patient until the last item of shopping was collected, they were superb all through the entire shopping process with no issues. If anybody needs their shopping done I'm sure Mr (...) would be happy to do it for you!"

- Justice Adindu and Josephine Uruakpa

· MENU ·

Apple and Cinnamon Scones

Chocolate Cake

Butternut Squash Cake

Pumpkin Cheesecake

Courgette and Lime Cake

Sausage Sandwiches



Our **Red Owl** volunteers have been cooking up a storm this month, making freshly made goods every day to sell at our on-site café. They've even been growing their own vegetables to include in their courgette and lime cake (pictured to the right). Our coffee machine is also up and running which has been a huge hit with our staff members after a long day of activities.

In the other bakery sessions this month, we have seen our young-people make strawberry cheese-cake and chocolate chip cookies.

Health and Safety

Health and Safety has always been a major priority here at Dilston. However, this term we have decided to gather representatives from each area of the college, including our students, to help us make Dilston a safer and happier place to learn and grow.

Our student representative has reported several issues which he had observed around campus which included broken path lights which could be a hazard as the darker nights approach. Actions have been taken immediately as Kyle instructed that the path lights should be removed and replaced. A job well done to Kyle on his excellent comments in the meeting and his willingness to keep the college safe for students and staff!



Recycling Week

Recycling sessions enable students to develop independence skills within a safe environment. Students are required to follow routine organisational instructions to prepare for the session and are expected to complete the process of visiting various recycling points around the college to collect the recyclable items. Students are then encouraged to recycle the rubbish in the correct bins. Together we have created this recycling awareness display which is made up of items which we have collected in our recycling sessions. Our aim is to make our students more aware of the positive effects recycling has on our planet and continue to fight for change!



Staff Training

This month our staff have participated in **Makaton Level 1, and Level 2** training with support of a Makaton Tutor. Our staff have been provided with information about what Makaton is and have been taught signs and symbols from the core vocabulary which is needed for everyday communication. Additional training has been provided to our staff regarding our online system, **Databridge**. Training focused on how we can manage student and staff records alongside ILR (Individual Learning Credit) student submissions. Lastly, safeguarding training has been issued to staff which breaks down the appropriate courses of action to take and the knowledge needed to appropriately report abuse and neglect.

Education Update

“The students have been engaging in a range of learning activities linked to the key Quality of Life themes. This includes ‘my community’, ‘my safety’ and ‘my self-care’, amongst others. The new students have been learning the routines of Forest School and making progress in problem solving and communication by completing tasks in preparing the Forest School furniture. Students have started to explore the world of work in the local community and now take part in a weekly session at the community café, as well as working in the local Cycle Hub where they have started working as part of the team, repairing and servicing bikes”.

- Karen Bell, Vice Principal and Head of Education

Dilston Event Calendar 2022-2023

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