

Cre8's September Newsletter

Here's an update of what's gone on at Cre8 in September!

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Celebration Evening



We had our first get together at St Barnabas Church since before the first lockdown which was so long ago! We came together to celebrate both our Volunteers and our Young People. Our wonderful young people received awards for completing the John Muir Award. Two of our Facilities young people received awards for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. It was also brilliant to be able to thank all of our amazing Grocery Volunteers for everything they've done during the last 18 months of the pandemic. We couldn't have done it without them!

Some of our young musicians also contributed to the event by creating a video of what went on at Cre8 over the summer term and holidays. We even had some original music from some budding drummers and guitarists to go along with the slideshow, which everyone enjoyed watching while tucking into their food!

> It was a great night with lots of laughter, good food and cake! Thank you Michelle Reed for our amazing Cre8 cake.





Music Project Update



Since the start of the new term, we have been inundated with young people who want to pick up a musical instrument and get playing again. We have welcomed two new music support workers to the team (Alex and Martha) and have started to get songs together for the Christmas concert which we plan to play out to a live audience this December.

We have had rap battles, Christmas song dance-alongs, lots of porridge?!, sound recording sessions and impromptu Teletubby medleys! There is never a dull moment!

We continue to welcome young people from the Moss who are keen to take part in lessons and group music sessions.

Cre8 Facilities has expanded!





Cre8 Facilities has expanded! Since the beginning of September we've been washing **Peaks and Plains** fleet of commercial vehicles. We are doing this from the back of St.Barnabas Church and we are open two half days per week. It's a great opportunity to do some local enterprise locally and employ a few more young people. We are grateful to Peaks and Plains for the opportunity. So, if you spot any clean looking PPHT vans around Macclesfield – 'Cre8 did that'!

We are also thankful for Peaks and Plains sponsoring the **Innovation Award** presented at our Celebration Event. We have presented this to Oliver Band for his work on The Shed renovation, his building of a bench and unique chicken coup, and his help with installation of the solar panels at church. Oliver shows some real ingenuity when tackling tasks and Jonathan had been very grateful of this.



We continue to work at **Creamline Dairies**. They are extremely supportive and have given us the foundation to be able to expand Cre8 Facilities this year. We are also grateful for their sponsorship of the **Entrepreneur Award** awarded at our event. We have presented this to Zak Bennett for the entrepreneurial initiative he has shown over the last year. This was particularly true when we cleared out the first garage site for PPHT and when we started the Christmas Tree project. Zak was instrumental in setting up shop and selling trees from St.Barnabas. He now has a desire to set up his own gardening business and we wish him ever success.

If you own a fleet of vehicles that might need washing, then please feel free to get in touch.



Clubs

Both of our clubs are up and running with high numbers, 17 in senior club and 28 in junior club who attend weekly. We have a good mix of volunteers who are extremely reliable. Some are ex young people.

The young people have enjoyed playing games inside and out, also doing arts, crafts, jewellery making and playing board games. A big part of club night is all of our young people sit down together with staff and enjoy a home cooked meal, we have enjoyed curry, chilli and pasta bake so far as well as cakes and ice creams for dessert. Our arts and crafts over the next few weeks will be a Halloween theme.

Country of the Month!



Our Learning Plus project is currently running an average of 14 sessions a week, working with approximately 8 young people each week.

Australia is the Country of the month!

We have introduced a 'Country of the month' this term in our Learning Plus sessions! This month we are looking at Australia, Week 1 we researched the national dress, religion, animals, population, what the country is known for, anything the young person is interested in and also the traditional foods. Week 2 we cooked a traditional starter for the country, Week 3 a main meal and Week 4 a dessert. We will choose a different country for October and each young person will have a chance to pick a country and a menu. This is working really well and the young people have taken to researching and cooking different foods.

John Muir Award



We are proud of our **11 young people** who have completed the John Muir Award this year; 5 Juniors and 6 Seniors as well as 4 members of staff and volunteers.

'The John Muir Award encourages people of all backgrounds to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places. The Award is inclusive, accessible and noncompetitive, though should challenge each participant. It encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment through a structured yet adaptable scheme, in a spirit of fun, adventure and exploration.'

Completing the award involved trying new activities including water sports, rock climbing, orienteering, bush craft and conservation. The participants also took part in conservation work involving litter picking and cutting back trees to make space for visitors to Teggs Nose. It has been a great experience for them all and we are grateful for our funding for this thanks to The South West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme, which is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)



Christmas Trees

Don't forget that we'll be selling trees again this year. We'll have the same high quality selection as last year as well as some small potted trees which we intend to sell or hire out. It's a great way to support Cre8 so spread the word and keep us in mind.

