

Newsletter

Issue 3: 2017/2018

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The newsletter is back in a revamped format, that's much more polished and easier on the eye.

I hope you like the changes!

"Eggceptional "Ideas has been up to a lot since our last issue back in January and I'm very pleased to keep writing about it for your reading pleasure.

This issue has some baarilliant news and features that kick off a new season ,now the Beast from the East winter snow is far behind us. (let's hope!)



Have a happy Easter and enjoy this mild but beautiful time of year where lambs are reared, daffodils bloom, hot cross buns are munched and Easter eggs resemble the life and rebirth of God's son. (Jesus)



I tried to tell a joke on hot cross buns.

It wasn't bunny!

Upcoming Event



I'm pleased to report that for the third year running, special guest speaker Dean Beadle will be coming to Exceptional Ideas! Any members of the school community and public can come along to the event and stay entertained with stories of Dean's life on the autistic spectrum.

Dean Beadle has toured the UK for ten years, sharing his experiences of life on the autism spectrum. Dean is an experienced journalist and honorary president of 'Autism Puzzles'.

Facebook: Dean Beadle Speaker

Exceptional Ideas Ltd Welcomes Dean Beadle

Date: Tuesday 17th April 2018

Time: 7.30 pm

Great Sailing Village Hall

For further information and ticket price contact: christine@exceptional-ideas.co.uk

Please see the poster to the left for more information, which is shown on our Facebook page at a larger size.

Dean is also a very entertaining and a non-PC follow on social media. Search for @deanbeadleuk on Twitter and Dean Beadle Speaker on Facebook to join in the conversation!

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Half-term Headlines

A major theme this half-term has been a food around the world STEAM project. This resulted in a school-wide trip to Old Spitalfields Market looking at the various types of cuisine on offer. **"Strawberries two pounds a punnet! Munch em, freeze em, blitz em or top em on a cheeky pavlova love"** Sorry about that, I had to tell this shouty fruit and veg seller to pipe down, he was being unraisinable! Fussier students and mentors tried something new, like Nigerian Chicken stew (the rhyming was unintended!). I'm a food lover, so tantalising your taste buds is a great thing!



Other eateries are available...

Before the journey to the UK's culinary capital, (London) our very own student cooks and chefs had created tasty masterpieces from around the world to sample.

They looked and tasted great from what I saw and heard but didn't have the space to include them this time around.



Fish training is not just getting a rod and catching that juicy sea creature for your supper. It's a way to improve relationships and the organisational culture of a work place.

The crew at Primrose Hill were the guinea pigs to this new approach and worked together to make a cooked breakfast in the morning for all to enjoy. Staff also played a version of Mr and Mrs during a debrief, with Nic and Claire the overall winners with five points. This behind the scenes shot shows a less flattering side of some mentors but I thought I'd include it anyway...

Half-Term Headlines



It took a while to launch, but I decided to give our harassed staff and creative students a photo competition to enter. It links well into the Art, Design and Media areas of the curriculum, where students can be required to take pictures as part of a

film sequence, animate, make a collage or use photography to create eye-catching portfolios in both GCSE and further education studies.

This poster (designed by the wonderful me) promoted the competition:

Photo Competition 2018

"Snap your way to success this half-term!"

SPRING

- Easter prize to be won for winning photo
- Up to 3 staff/student entries per school
- Competition closes Wednesday 28th March so you better be snappy..
- Submit to our EISN. Whatsapp or Christine@exceptional-ideas.co.uk

Good Luck and say cheese!

The Newsletter Editor



I've yet to read the Fish Philosophy book explaining the training and having not been trained in it myself.

I'm therefore yet to be convinced, but that "Cod" change in the future

The Recent Beast from The East snow week didn't stop our staff or students working from home.

Four phone calls to students a day kept them in check. Valuable time for admin, training and general odd jobs means snow week remained productive for us a company. We couldn't help admiring the snowy scenes though and members of the



Exceptional Ideas Social Network WhatsApp group (EISNWAg) did more than "alwhite" with photos before my competition had even launched.



A new student on our Outreach team continued with this newsletter's creative theme, he has made his own paper in DT. Looks messy, although writing/drawing on it afterward



must have been very rewarding.

After a careful look at nine of the submitted entries, I'm pleased to reveal that Anni won the competition and will soon receive a prize to go with the promotion on our Facebook page and newsletter!

I felt the photo reflected the spirit of spring well and had a good contrast of colours that allowed our baby sheep to look cute tucked up in their barn.



Letters on study leave for exam-taking students have recently been sent out. My next issue in mid-April will focus on revision techniques and more details about exams.

Parents, students and visitors can then gain knowledge and have an honest, transparent perspective of the exam and revision process in our schools.

Welcomes and Farewells



Kelly and Jess at Brook View, Debbie E from Teaseldown, Tracy at Primrose Hill along with Charlotte from Outreach have joined us since January as new student mentors.

I hope they're feeling settled into their roles and enjoying the rewarding experience of working at Exceptional Ideas.

I'm considering producing a Year in Review newsletter in August for any missed stories; as well as content from previous newsletters that highlight our greatest achievements in 2017/2018.

If this sounds interesting, please leave feedback on our website and Facebook page for any content you'd like to see.



Any Ideas?

For our schools, the website or for this student newsletter. Contact us using our website feedback page, or get in touch through social media, active on: (Students must not contact staff on social media for Child Protection, E-Safety reasons. It's important to maintain professional boundaries too.)



A newer addition for us is a fifth site.

No students or staff, our plants instead.

The allotment in Sudbury has really taken shape and with our allotment manager Cheryl heading up our Ground Force, Exceptional Ideas will be a little more green-fingered in future. Stay tuned for more updates on this in May and beyond!

There's no more room at the inn for staff at present, but keep across all our media platforms as this can change regularly.



We couldn't take on new, unless some of our more established mentors went into different job roles away



from us. How dare they!

A fond farewell to arty Jodie and Music Tech Tom from Brook View, who took their expertise elsewhere to new teaching roles. If you happen to still stalk this newsletter, then good luck for the future!



The Plug

"Sparking up the newsletter with a marketing promotion"

Be sure to follow our Facebook page, which now has more regular content not included in the newsletter. It's a great way for the school community to keep in touch and stay updated with event, student achievements and more. You know you want to!



