

Happy New Year!



Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all! We hope you had a wonderful festive break and are settling back into the swing of things.

This newsletter is a look back through all the festive events of December.

Brain Training Champions

Learner AW recently impressed us all with his speedy assembly of a human brain model.

Completing it in just 15 minutes

– the fastest time of any of our
learners!

This activity was part of our learning on memory and concentration last term, where we explored ways to enhance our learning, take care of our brains, and even tried out some fun 'brain training' exercises.



Our learners were fascinated to discover the roles of different parts of the brain and delved into research on neuroplasticity – learning how our brains create new neural connections throughout our lives.

What a brainy bunch they are, wouldn't you agree?

Author Visit at Newton Abbot

In December, Newton Abbot Centre welcomed local author Sam Carrington—who also writes under the pen name Alice Hunter—to speak with our learners about her journey to becoming a published writer. She specialises in psychological thrillers and has already had 12 books published, with more planned for 2025. One of her novels, The Serial Killer's Wife, was even adapted into a TV series that premiered on Paramount+ earlier this year.

If you would like to find out more about Sam Carrington or Alice Hunter, please visit her website at https://samcarringtonauthor.com/about/.

We look forward to following her ongoing success and can't wait to see what she does next!





Learners Crack the Christmas Code!

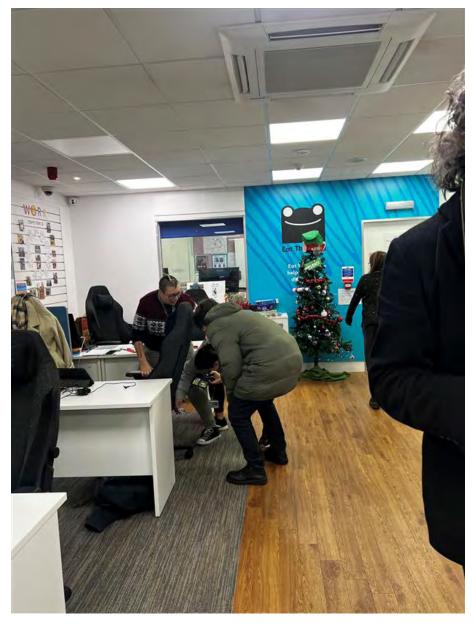
Learners and staff recently embraced their inner detectives by taking part in a festive-themed "escape room" challenge! Working in teams, they had one crucial mission: to uncover the final name of a child so Santa could deliver their gift in time for Christmas.

The room was filled with tricky clues and puzzles, testing their wits, teamwork, and holiday spirit. Everyone threw themselves into the challenge, creating an atmosphere buzzing with excitement and determination.



What a fun and creative way to sharpen problem-solving skills and celebrate the season together!



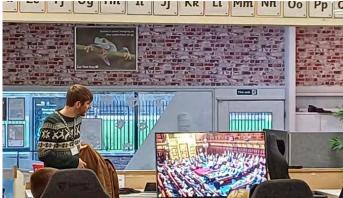












Parliament Outreach Lesson Inspires Learners

We were thrilled to welcome Tim from the UK Parliament Outreach Team to our Paignton centre for an engaging and thought-provoking session.

This special lesson offered a fantastic opportunity for our learners to gain insights into the workings of Parliament and how it influences our everyday lives. Together, we delved into how laws are made, the roles of MPs and Lords, and why voting is such a vital part of democracy.

The session sparked lively and meaningful discussions, with our learners showing great enthusiasm as they asked questions and shared their own perspectives. It was truly inspiring to witness their curiosity and active participation throughout the day.

We're proud to provide opportunities like this that empower our learners with knowledge about the world around them and the ways they can make their voices heard. A big thank you to Tim and the UK Parliament Outreach Team for bringing this important topic to life!

Festive Frolics at Eat That Frog

The Newton Abbot team got into the festive spirit with a delightful Christmas buffet! All the delicious food was lovingly prepared and cooked by Chloe, supported by her tutor Sunshine. Adding to the sweet treats, Thomas, along with his tutor Georgia, created some scrumptious cookie dough balls that were a big hit.

The fun didn't stop at the food – everyone enjoyed playing Pass the Parcel, competing in a lively Kahoot quiz, and testing their knowledge in a Christmas-themed quiz. It was a wonderful way to celebrate together and embrace the holiday cheer.

Thank you to everyone who made the event so special! Also a big thank you to the Newton Abbot Rockettes who treated learners to beautiful festive renditions before the holidays!











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Paignton Centre celebrated the festive season in style by hosting a marvellous Christmas feast for learners and staff. The week leading up to the big day was full of activity, with learners taking the lead in shopping for ingredients, preparing, cooking, and serving a delicious spread.

Meanwhile, other learners and staff were busy with essential festive preparations, from organising decorations, crackers, and name places to arranging games and quizzes.

After the feast, some adventurous staff and learners braved the elements for a refreshing post-Christmas dinner walk.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed their time and effort to make the event such a success!

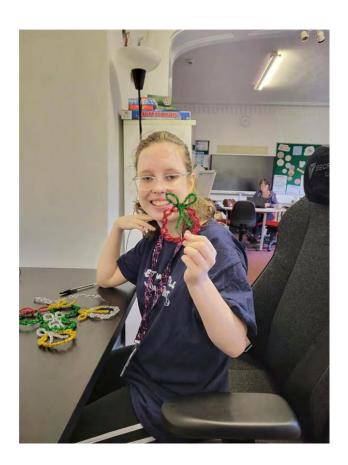


ETF Festive Frolics cont..

Mia has been making wonderful strides in achieving her EHCP goals, particularly in following instructions and building her confidence. Her efforts to feel more secure and manage her anxiety have enabled her to participate in a wider range of activities – and we couldn't be prouder!

Recently, Mia played a key role in decorating our Christmas post box, and what a fabulous job she did! Her careful and thoughtful approach ensured the decorations were completed beautifully – and all in just one session. Mia's attention to detail and dedication truly made the project shine, and her contribution was invaluable.





Not only did her talents shine through on the post box but she also went the extra mile making Christmas tree decorations to sell at the Plymouth Christmas Fair in order to raise funds for a pool table for the learners.

Mia said "I am enjoying doing this and I think I have done a good job"

Well Mia, we can see you have done an excellent job!

Well done, Mia, for helping spread a little extra festive cheer!

Plymouth Fair Raises £441!

Our Christmas Fair Fundraiser on 18th December was a fantastic success, raising £441 (and counting!) for a pool table at the Plymouth centre. Organised by the maths team and learners, the event showcased the importance of maths in everyday life, from creating and pricing crafts to scaling recipes and handling money.

Learners and their families enjoyed games like bobbing for apples, shopping at the craft stall, and indulging in cakes and hot chocolate. A festive piano solo by learner Charlie and the brave wet sponge challenge featuring tutors Dan, James D, and Ollie were crowd favourites! The day ended with a brilliant raffle, thanks to generous prize donations.

A big thank you to everyone who supported, participated, and made this event such a success.



Exeter gets crafty...

Staff and learners at our Exeter centre embraced the festive spirit by getting hands-on with some creative Christmas crafts! The group enjoyed making colourful pompoms, intricate snowflakes, adorable gingerbread men and scrummy gingerbread houses. It was a fantastic opportunity to share laughs, learn new skills, and celebrate the season together.



Plymouth goes Pink for Breast Cancer



At Eat That Frog in Plymouth, students and staff united on 3rd December 2024 for a memorable Pink Day, raising money for Breast Cancer Now. The event combined fun activities with a vital cause, supporting breast cancer research and services.

Fun and Fundraising

The day was packed with raffles, games, and an impressive cake sale featuring baked goods made by students and staff. Laughter and friendly competition created a wonderful atmosphere, bringing the community together to make a difference.

Raising Awareness

Pink Day wasn't just about fundraising; it also spread awareness about breast cancer. Informative posters shared tips on self-exams, the importance of early detection, and available support networks. Breast cancer affects people of all ages and genders, making awareness and understanding essential.

Making an Impact

Events like this not only raise vital funds but also inspire hope, contributing to life-changing research and supporting those affected by breast cancer. Thanks to the efforts of students and staff, the event highlighted the power of community in making a difference.

Together, we can continue to raise awareness and provide support to those who need it most.

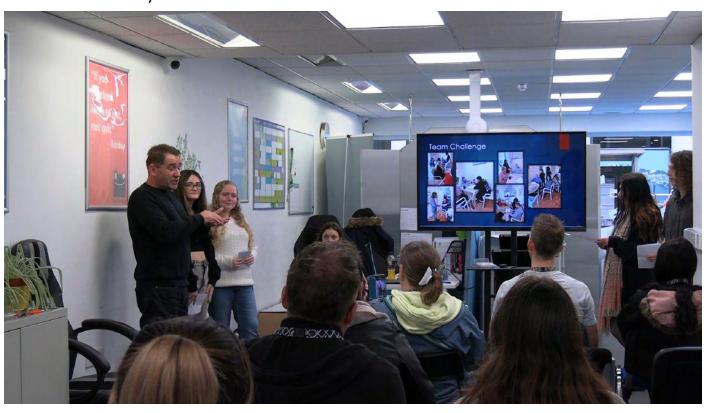






START SOMETHING

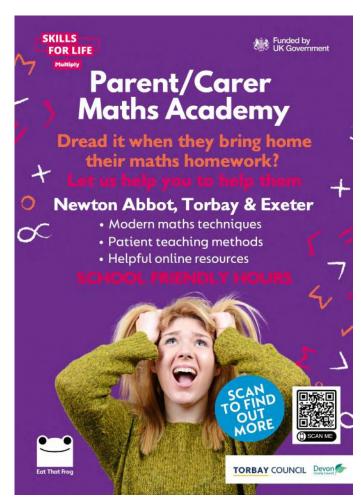
The last King's Trust (formerly Prince's Trust) Team Programme group of 2024 treated family members and Eat That Frog staff to a final presentation to showcase their best bits from over the 12 week course. Each participant was presented with a certificate of participation and each one will also gain the King's Trust Level 1 in Employment, Teamwork and Community Skills.

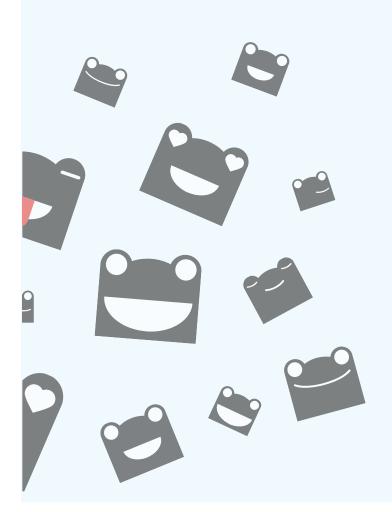












Your Diary

13th Jan - 17th Jan Screen Free Week

17th - 21st February Half Term

6th March World Book Day

10th - 14th March Sustainibility Week

> 7th - 17th April Easter Holidays

18th April
Bank Holiday (Good Friday)

21st April
Bank Holiday (Easter Monday)





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