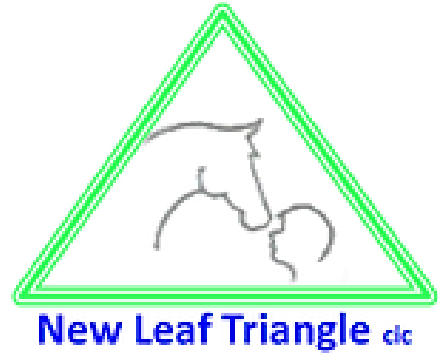


New Leaf's News



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

- Update from Lorraine and Troy
- New arrivals
- What have our staff been up to?
- Student showcase
- Student trips
- Qualification update
- BHS Christmas Cracker Dressage Competition
- BHS Horse Health Checks
- Halloween at New Leaf
- Marengo's training
- Jasmine's first full term at New Leaf
- Plant a tree for 23
- New Leaf Allotment
- Retired horses update
- New Leaf Christmas tree
- Snow day
- Feedback
- Fundraising
- Holiday sessions



**WELCOME TO
NEW LEAF TRIANGLE'S
CHRISTMAS
NEWSLETTER**



Update from Lorraine & Troy



Hello everyone!

2023 has been another very successful year for New Leaf! We have welcomed many new students and families this year. We have also said goodbye to a lot of students that have successfully moved on to their next challenge. Our team both human and animals have worked really hard to support all of our students to achieve the objectives they were set and in most cases they have all achieved so much more!

We have welcomed new staff members to the team and expanded our leadership team to help us develop further and build for the future continued success of New Leaf. Joining the session leaders, we have Jack, Mica and Crystal. Lydia joins the team as Operations Manager and Colin has taken up the role as voluntary director. In addition to the new faces joining us we have seen some in house talent development with many of the team taking on new positions, which is really setting New Leaf up and ensuring that we continue to grow and provide a unique learning opportunity for our students and a outcomes-based service for our customers.

New Leaf has a big anniversary in 2024 as we celebrate 10 years! Time really has flown and we hope to mark this occasion with as many of you as possible. Our current plan is to hold an event on the August bank holiday weekend so watch this space for more details.

Lorraine and Troy

New Staff



Lydia
Operations Manager



Jack
Session Leader



Crystal
Session Leader

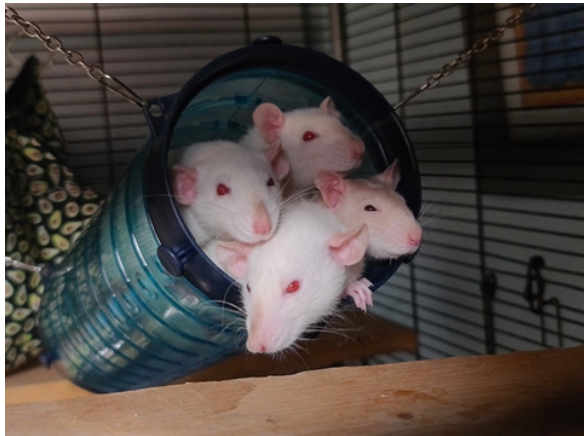


Mica
Session Leader

New Animals

Guinea Pigs

In August, we were joined by two baby girl guinea pigs, Marmite and Toast. The students love how Marmite has a very funky hairdo and how silky soft Toast is. They are growing into very inquisitive little guinea pigs and love to be cuddled and cared for. In October, New Leaf became home for our newest addition, Mr Kipling aka Chewbacca/Chewie. He is a very big boy with luscious long hair. He loves to be cuddled and have his hair brushed. Mr Kipling, Marmite and Toast get to go in their 'playroom' during the day and play with lots of toys, hidey holes and tunnels that the students have all made for them. They now have their very own picnic bench, bridge and tunnel!



Rat Girls

After the very sad loss of our rescue rat boys, Jack Jack, Gus, Remi and Sven, 4 rat baby girls have now joined the team in September: Almond, Cashew, Peanut and Pecan. They have had big paws to fill but have made excellent additions to the New Leaf team. They have been very entertaining so far, especially as they are babies so are very small, athletic and wriggly! The students have been handling them with great care to make sure they have the best start in life. The girls have also been treated to lots of DIY toys, games and treats made by the students.



New Operations Manager



We are very pleased to announce that we have recruited an Operations Manager, Lydia. Lydia has a background in working with young people with additional needs in various different capacities, including education and work. She has a Level 5 leadership qualification and a qualification in nursing and social work and is currently undertaking a human resources qualification. She has worked at New Leaf in the past, as a session leader, when we first started, and has helped us with her fundraising expertise. She has always been very passionate about New Leaf and the work we do.

We think she will have all the skills needed to continue taking New Leaf forward!



New Voluntary Director



Colin joins the New Leaf leadership team as a voluntary director. Colin, pictured here on Beauty, first came to New Leaf to continue his passion for horseback archery and soon became a good friend and advocate of New Leaf. Colin is a dynamic and commercially astute senior leader with a proven track record of delivering transformational business results in a variety of sectors. Colin was the Chairman for the Magpie Centre, a branch of the RDA (Riding for the Disabled Association). We are really looking forward to working with Colin and tapping into his vast wealth of business knowledge.



What Have Our Staff Been Up To?



FOREST SCHOOL LEVEL 1 & 2 TRAINING

Some of our New Leaf staff have been working towards their Level 1 and Level 2 Forest School qualifications. Forest School is something that we offer at New Leaf. It enables supported risk-taking, child-centred learning, exploration and play. Forest School promotes self-esteem, creativity, confidence and independence. Our staff have had great fun on their training days, learning how to build shelters, start fires, tie knots and different methods of student-led learning and development.



PHOEBE'S PLACEMENTS

Phoebe has been busy working towards her Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training. As part of her qualification, she has been lucky to spend some time on placement at some of the schools we work with. Phoebe is very grateful to Birchwood School, The Grange Therapeutic School, Millgate School and Waltham Primary school for helping her gain valuable experience and insight into both special and mainstream education. Her time on placement has been hugely rewarding in supporting with her Level 5 Diploma. Phoebe will continue to teach and support our staff with the delivery of Functional Skills Maths & English in the new year, as well as developing her own teaching practice.



CLAIR'S ASSESSING AWARD

Clair has completed her Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment through ELN. This means that she can now assess City and Guilds and Open Awards Level 1 in horse care.



What Have Our Students Been Up To?

Student Showcase




The students are always on the lookout for ways to enrich our animals and improve their living areas. Here, one of our students has come up with a clever design for a shelter to protect the chickens dust baths from getting wet in the rain!

There have been a lot of Forest School sessions. These sessions have included learning different flora and fauna, tree climbing, following trails through the woods, learning how to start fires, starting fires independently and cooking on fires. Students have been able to work on their independent skills as well as had the opportunities to take supported risks within the woodland environment.



Students have been getting creative in green wood-working! Here are a few examples of items students have made recently - an incredible personalised lightsaber, a boat and a battle ship!



One of our students really challenged himself to make a toy box for his dogs to take home. Using the many skills he had learnt in green wood-working over the years, he managed to create this amazing toy box which he then painted and decorated for his dogs!



Student Trips

The students had 2 opportunities to visit Tollerton Airfield. They had a tour of the hanger and got to see lots of different planes and helicopters. They then had a talk from the owner of the Provost Jet and had the chance to ask lots of questions. She talked about aviation and navigation as well as facts about the jet. The students were allowed to sit in the jet and were shown all the controls. The students were then lucky enough to be given a demo of the jet! They all had a great time and enjoyed this unique experience.



Our horse care students had the opportunity to visit Quorn Kennels. They had a super morning learning what it takes to be a groom for the hunt and what an average day looks like for a groom. They also attempted to muck out in industry standard time (10 minutes) and they all did extremely well! The students then spent time meeting the horses and learnt what to look for in a good hunt horse. They had the opportunity to look in their tack room and looked at all the different bits and learning their names and purposes.

The students then had a tour of the kennels where they got to meet all of the hounds and learn all about their history and their role within the hunt. The students then got to go in with the hound puppies which they all absolutely loved!

Thank you to Kelly for organising an amazing work experience morning for the horse care students!



Qualification Update



NLT has a wide variety of qualifications to offer our students. Over the last term our staff have been busy matching students to the most relevant qualifications on offer at NLT, in order for them to make the most out of their time here. We have students working towards level 1 horse care, level 1 animal care, entry level and level 1 Maths and English and for the first time in a few years, level 2 horse care. Students have worked hard towards their qualifications this half term engaging in practical and theoretical sessions to help them learn the skills and knowledge required for their courses. Some are also beginning to complete practical and theoretical assessments towards the qualifications to make sure they make steady progress through the units throughout the year. None of this would be possible without the team of knowledgeable staff and animals helping them through their course.



We have also had a big uptake on the British Horse Society (BHS) Changing Lives Through Horses programme this year with a record 9 students registered. This is a horse care course aimed at young people interested in learning to ride and care for horses. Through learning to care for and ride the horses, they also develop other life skills including confidence, communication, team work, developing relationships, perseverance and developing responsibility.



BHS Christmas Cracker Dressage Competition



In November several of NLT's horse care students took part in an online dressage competition against other riding schools. This gave the students the experience of preparing a horse for a show or competition and competing against others. NLT's team came 6th with several of the riders also being placed individually, including one young rider who won the under 10's class! The students (and staff) loved getting the horses cleaned up to show standard and everyone was very proud of their achievements.



BHS Horse Health Checks



We had a visit from the BHS who brought along their weigh bridge to perform health checks on all of our horses. The horse care students took an active role in the health checking, looking at the horse's body condition scores as well as leading the horses on and off the weigh bridge. All the horses were in great condition - Finley even won a rosette for being in perfect condition!

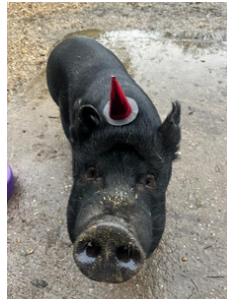


NLT Animals Get In The Halloween Spirit

Some of our students didn't want the animals to miss out on some Halloween fun, so they got creative with some felt and card to make some mini witches hats!



TRICK OR TREAT



Marengo's Training

Marengo, NLT's foal has spent the summer months living with the retired horses. They have taken him under their wing and taught him how to behave appropriately with other horses. He has also practiced wearing fly masks and having his feet handled and trimmed by the farrier, and now, he comes and lines up with the other horses ready to have his pedicure. He has grown quite a bit this year and is now the same size as his mum, Velvet!



Jasmine's First Full Term at New Leaf

Jasmine joined the NLT team in February 2023. She has had a wonderful summer learning about life at New Leaf Triangle and making herself a big part of the team. She has proved a loving and trustworthy mount for a variety of children coming to NLT, from children who have never ridden before, to novice riders learning to have their first canter. She also benefits from being ridden by some of the more experienced riders on horse care courses, who are able to teach her new things. Jasmine is not phased by anything and has loved hacking out on the roads around NLT with her best friends, Beauty and Finley. She is just as happy to stand while children play "hook a duck" or "ball in bucket" from her back whilst having their first ever ride. Jasmine is now looking forwards to a few weeks off with her friends over Christmas before coming back in January to continue her own education and continue helping our students overcome their own struggles and learn how to ride and care for horses.



As part of the 'Grow a Tree in 23' campaign, at New Leaf we reflected this in one of our weekly themes. Staff and students were encouraged to get involved in planting trees by learning about tree identification through looking at bark and leaves in Forest School.

During one of the sessions, a group of students went into the woods and found a variety of seeds. They planted holly, walnut and hazel trees from what they collected in the woods.

Coles Plant Centre very kindly donated 30 trees for the scheme which will be planted down the archery track at site 2, provide more coverage for the site 2 drive and join the younger seedlings that were planted by the Young Farmers at our site in Old Dalby.

Grow a Tree for 23

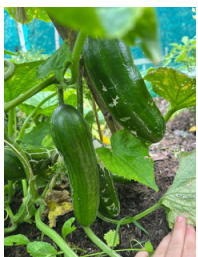
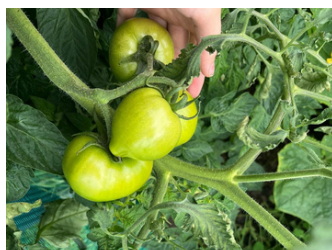
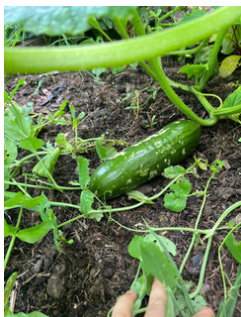


New Leaf Allotment

The students have worked really hard since the summer on our new allotment.

They have all been a part of its development, whether that is planting the fruit, vegetables or herbs, taking their turn to water the allotment, checking on them, picking the fruit and vegetables when they're ripe and then either feeding them to the animals or using them to make a snack or meal for everyone. The students grew beetroot, potatoes, tomatoes, sunflowers, chillies, strawberries, raspberries and cucumbers.

It has been an excellent project that has enabled a lot of the students to learn about where their food comes from as well as helping them to achieve certificates towards their Challenge Awards or Vocational Awards.



Retired Horses Update



Students have had the opportunity to visit our retired horses and ponies over at our site in Old Dalby. They have been able to witness what it is like for a herd to live out naturally and observe how they interact with each other. Some of our retired horses need extra care and attention and so our horse care students have been able to participate in their daily checks as well as helping to care for them, such as changing poultices and field maintenance.



In the pictures, you can see Tyler, Harley, Dazzle, George, Wendy and of course, Marengo who has been living out with the older horses. They have all done an excellent job raising him!

All of our retired horses are doing really well. Star and Pickle have found a new lease of life living out on their track system. Tyler, now aged 28, is doing exceptionally well with his one eye. He and his best friend Harley joined the rest of the herd at Dalby in recent months. Wendy, our ex-cavalry horse, is now an amazing age of 31! She is still thriving and is finding ways to adapt to age related complications.



New Leaf horses Sox, Jazz, Jack, Jasmine, Velvet, Mary and Beauty all spend their Christmas holiday at Dalby - a chance for everyone to relax and recharge ahead of the new year!



New Leaf Christmas Tree

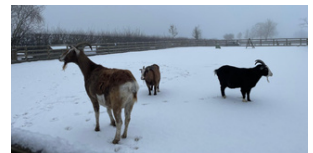


Mike created this amazing foldable Christmas tree in green woodworking with the help of some of the students. All the students then helped to decorate it by painting on wooden baubles! It was displayed in Melton Church as part of a big Christmas tree display. It certainly stood out! Great team effort from team New Leaf!



Snow Day!


The animals at New Leaf all love a snow day!





Feedback




We love hearing what our parents and carers have to say about our provision. It makes our job even more worthwhile. Here are a few of the top quotes we have received this term!




"Just wanted to say huge thank you for your help over the last two years! I don't want this to be the end for him and I think it's so important he sees that we continue to go to NLT just in a different capacity. It's going to be a massive change for him but I'm hopeful it's a step in the right direction. My plan B is back to you guys."



"The transition has gone so much better than we had thought. It's been brilliant for him to have space away from the home to run off some of his huge amount of energy, he enjoys his time in the woods. He likes walking Lottie in the woods the most!"



"I can't explain it properly but the whole report was a completely different report to the ones we have had from the mainstream schools. The positive steps she has made so far makes me see that whatever you are doing there is the first time I have read her engagement and positive progression on goals in a learning environment. I haven't seen anything about awards in so many years. I literally had tears in my eyes because I know she would be so proud of the progress she has made. She has only had a few hours with you but I am certain when she can access her fully allocated sessions with you, she will progress and benefit from everything she has not been able to do since she stopped going to school 3 years ago. I look forward to when she has more time with you to see the next level. This is her first time engaging and wanting to be in a place of education."



Fundraising



5K WOLF RUN

On 24th June, 9 of the NLT staff members took on a 5K Wolf Run to raise money to help fund family sessions during the summer holidays. The team completed the Wolf Run in one piece. They started as a team and finished as a team.

As it stands, the team have raised an amazing £1000 thanks to the incredible support of everyone who has donated. This will make a huge difference to our young people so thank you!

A massive thank you to Clair and Kelly for arranging the sensational fundraising event, as well as to Heidi, Mike, Jade, Emily, Phoebe, Lorraine and Troy for making such an amazing Wolf Run team alongside Clair and Kelly.



Holiday Sessions Coming Soon!



We will have limited spaces for respite during February half term which are weather dependant and not for riding horses as they are away for the winter.



RESPITE SESSIONS

Respite Sessions can be booked for a minimum of three hours (or sometimes we can do two hours on request) and allow your child to attend without parents being present. Your child will have dedicated one to one support at all times (or two to one support on request) and will engage in a range of activities according to their interests. Email Kath Carter kath.newleaftriangle@gmail.com

FAMILY SESSIONS

Family Sessions can be booked for 1 or 2 hours. You will have a dedicated member of staff to take you round different activities. Activities include riding and mounted games, time with the animals, forest school, arts, crafts, games. It's relaxed and fun so discuss with your staff what you'd like to do. Parents can join in with the children as much or as little as they like and there is no restriction on the size of the family - the only thing to bear in mind is that each staff member can only work with one horse or one activity at a time. Bigger families can look to book two members of staff instead of one. There's no minimum age to take part, and babies can be brought along as long as they are supervised at all times. There is some play equipment (basket swing, trampoline, sandpit etc) that children can use if they are waiting between activities, but these must be supervised by parents.



TESTIMONIAL:

"You provide a wonderful service and everyone we interacted with was friendly, knowledgeable and helpful when three children ran in different directions!"

"Great day for our son. It boosted his confidence and encouraged him to listen, follow instructions and be part of a team."

"You have the best staff. So lovely, approachable, willing to help and chat - just brilliant"

Don't forget our site is muddy in the winter and it can be pretty chilly, meaning some of the activities will be limited. Please enquire about what's available before you book to avoid any disappointment on the day!

December 2023

NEW LEAF TRIANGLE'S NEWSLETTER



New Leaf Triangle cic



NEW LEAF TRIANGLE WISHES EVERYONE A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.newleaftrianglecic.co.uk
07825 653170
lorraine.squiresshaw@gmail.com