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WELCOME TO NEW LEAF TRIANGLE'S 2021/22 NEWSLETTER!

## Update from Lorraine & Troy

## Hello everyone!

We have had another great year at New Leaf Triangle. In September we will have been operating for 8 years! Where did that time go!

One of the most significant developments over the last year is that we have become an Open Awards Centre, being able to run our own qualifications. We have had our first students take Functional English and Maths exams with 100% pass rate! Exams were taken on site, in a log cabin with the support from Fred, the labrador, so a very therapeutic environment! Students have successfully completed level 1 & 2 and qualifications in Employability and Working in Land based industries which include modules in horse care and animal care.

We have also had students sucessfully complete City and Guilds courses in Horse care and Riding, Animal care and Vehicle maintenance.

However many of the great successes this year have been through students engaging back in learning or gaining the confidence to leave their home, build self esteem, regulate their own emotions and behaviour, over come anxiety and mental health conditions, learn to work with others, build relationships, build trust, problem solve and learn that they can succeed in life and can see a good future for themselves.

This year our students have wowed us in what they have achieved are we are very proud of them. Feedback from parents, schools, auditors and local authorities has been exceptional! Our staff team has been phenomenal, so dedicated, enthusiastic and hard working, and our animal team has been been amazing, together making New Leaf such a great success!

We are looking forward to a summer of fun with our family activities, playschemes a respite, so if you want to join us please get in touch by contacting Kath-(kath.newleaftriangle@gmail.com)

Have a great summer!

Lorraine and Troy

## Cur Recent Inspection Results

At the start of the summer term the time came for our annual animal licensing inspection from the council. Our staff worked hard in the run up to the inspection to ensure we put our best foot (or hoof!) forwards and showcased the wonderful care our amazing animals receive at New Leaf. The inspection prep was also a good opportunity for our students on vocational animal and horse care courses to gain some valuable workplace experience as they understand what is involved working in the animal and horse care industry. We are pleased to announce that thanks to our hard work we passed the inspection with flying colours, 5 stars for our riding licence, and look forward to another successful year at NLT!











At the end of the autumn term, it was decided that it was time for Tyler to hang up his hoof boots after 7 years serving New Leaf as our first, and much loved, riding horse. Over the 7 years. Tyler has taught many children, young people and even parents and carers to ride as well as providing great therapeutic sessions and being a valuable asset to our students on horse care and riding courses. Tyler now enjoys a much steadier pace of life chilling out with other NLT retired horse Harley. We would like to thank Tyler's owner Amanda for allowing so many of our students to have the opportunity to know, work with and ride Tyler.



April 2022 saw the return of Beauty and Finley to New Leaf just in time for the busy Easter holidays after their long break at Winter grazing. After a good groom and some TLC by our staff and students to lose their wild winter coats and muddy manes, they were once again ready to turn their hooves to work. They have been busy providing our students and families with much fun and learning since their return. Finley has enjoyed making friends with new horse Sox, and Beauty, dependable as ever, has helped many new students this term start to learn to ride and improve their confidence. Carly welcomed little baby Willow to her family in March this year and Finley enjoyed giving her first ride pony ride! We are all delighted about Carly's and her family's very cute new arrival!



## GREEN WOOD WORKING COURSES

During February half term and the Easter holidays, several of our staff took a day off site to pay a visit to Ian of Rustic Carpentry to further our green woodworking skills. They spent the day learning how to use the different tools and techniques, making mallets and stools for our forest school tipi. 4 more staff are now fully trained to teach students green woodworking in their sessions and we look forward to seeing what they will create!





Even Finley has done his first aid training!

## FIRST AID, SAFEGUARDING AND HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING

Staff have also been working hard behind the scenes to keep up to date with safeguarding, first aid and health & safety training. Almost all of our staff are now trained in Emergency first aid at work with pediatric element. They have also completed an online Level 2 health & safety at work course to ensure that our onsite safety is as safe as can be!

## CREATIVE SESSION LEADING

Our staff have also recently undertaken training on creative session leading to improve further their delivery of the curriculum in our beautiful outdoor setting. On a Monday morning in May half term we gathered at NLT site 1 and were tasked by Troy to plan and run a session for our colleagues that taught them a usually boring subject in a dynamic and fun way. A lesson on photosynthesis saw Lauren being watered like a plant and a session about how the human ear works involved Troy acting as a sound wave climbing through a tunnel and banging the 'ear drum.' Unfortunately no photo evidence of that has made it to the newsletter!

# Men amals

Lottie is B's puppy who comes and takes part in sessions with the students. Students love teaching her tricks and doing man hunt with her in the woods!



## New Staff





Lauren



Cara



Heidi



Kelly



Sharday



Sox

Sox is such a character. He is funny, loving and kind. Sox unfortunately had a trip to the vets recently due to colic but thankfully he pulled through like the trooper we know him to be. Sox is great with our students and has taken to his new job amazingly! He is a great addition to the team.



Velvet

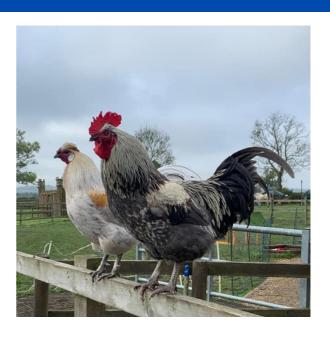
Velvet is a real sweetheart and already a favourite amongst many of our students. Velvet started working in her new role for a short time before we realised she was eating for two! She has taken motherhood in her stride. We are looking forward to reuniting her with the students after a well earned rest!



Marengo

We adore Marengo. He is the best 2 for 1 bargain we have ever received and he has everyone wrapped around his little hoof! Marengo is bold, brave and by far the biggest character we have at New Leaf Triangle. The students love watching him learn and grow and we cannot wait to see what kind of horse he grows up to be!

# From the nesting box...poultry update!





We recently rehomed one of our cockerels, Draco with thanks to Fresh Start For Hens. He is now living with his very own flock of hens and is thoroughly enjoying life.

Our geese, Victoria and Elizabeth are pleased that the bird flu lockdown has ended and they are able to enjoy roaming free around the site again. Jade has developed a good relationship with the girls and they love the treats she brings them, especially watermelon!







Albus, one of our other cockerels, is still looking for his forever home. Whilst he is waiting, we have got him his very own girl friends Bubbles, Blossom and Buttercup to keep him company. If you would be interested or know anyone who would be interested in offering these four chickens a home, please feel free to get in touch!

## What Howe Our Students Been Up Jo!





One of our students on the BHS Pony Stars scheme enjoys a lesson on new horse Sox!



Students have been busy re-designing the herb garden to create a new vegetable patch & sunflower garden! The rabbits can't wait to try some of the carrots and lettuce we are growing!





Students recently took part in a forest school campfire session, learning how to light a fire safely and cook Troy's special woodland stew!

QUALIFICATION APPATE!





Since the last Newsletter, New Leaf Triangle has worked hard to become an approved Open Awards centre, meaning we can deliver a greater variety of Ofqual approved qualifications. Becoming an approved Open Awards Centre greatly expands the qualifications on offer to students at New Leaf and has also enabled the staff to develop their own skills through Forest School qualifications, in turn improving the quality of sessions offered to students and families at New Leaf. Since April 2021, we have delivered training and assessments for Level 1 Forest School, Level 1 Employability skills (including topics such as CV writing, completing job applications and understanding professional relationships), Level 1 & 2 horse care, Level 2 animal care and Entry Level functional Maths & English exams. This is in addition to delivering Level 1 and 2 horse care via City & Guilds which we already offered.

"Back in the spring myself and some of the students of New Leaf Triangle had the opportunity to go and visit and help feed some lambs at a local farm. Sadly the lambs had been rejected by their mums and were being hand reared by the owner of the farm. We assisted with some bottle feeding and lovely cuddles to help the lambs feel better. Also

visiting some older ones which were getting ready to be introduced back into the herd.

I am pleased to report that all the lambs are now very healthy and living their best life out with the herd. All in a day's work at New Leaf Triangle caring for our animals and the animals around us."





"At New Leaf Triangle, we run regular archery sessions for our families and students. With 2 fully qualified instructors, we are able to provide a dedicated archery experience that can help improve dexterity, hand-eye coordination, maths and turn taking/team work. Our instructors tailor the experience so everyone can benefit, no matter what age or ability. Most importantly, everyone has fun!"

Mike - Session Leader

## MLTChallenge Awards

Our students have been busy completing a variety of challenges in their sessions to work towards their New Leaf Triangle Challenge Awards at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. After introducing these awards in 2019, we have had a number of students complete their Bronze awards, Silver awards and are on track for Gold! The challenge awards allow our students to develop their skills in a number of areas in their sessions such as Relationship Building & Teamwork, Practical Skills, Functional Maths & English, Developing Confidence, Safety and many more.



## BHS Pony Stars

We have recently started offering our students the opportunity to enrol onto the British Horse Society's Pony Stars course. This is aimed at our younger students, as an alternative to the BHS Changing Lives course, that can be completed alongside their NLT Challenge Awards. There are four stages in Pony Stars: Shetland Striders, Dartmoor Dazzlers, Welshie Wizzards and Connemara Champs. Pony Stars consist of a range of activities with a main focus on horses but also involve learning about animal welfare, caring for their environment and wildlife. Each level comes with its own activity book for the students to work through, encouraging them to do both maths and English, whether that's learning how to weigh out the correct amount of food an animal needs or doing some research to create a poster for their peers. At the end of each module within each book, they attain a certificate and at the end of all the modules they get awarded a rosette!



## NotWest Volunteering Day!

In June we welcomed a team of 10 volunteers from NatWest Bank who spent a busy and fun-filled day volunteering with us to help make some of our wishes come true!

The team arrived early ready to get stuck in and after a quick coffee break to fuel them for the day they got stuck in with putting up a new tipi and digging us a new pond!

The pond project was expertly headed by Jade while Troy oversaw the construction of the new tipi. Our students also enjoyed getting involved too as we saw the new pond come to life and the tipi take shape. We are so grateful to the NatWest team who gave up their day to come and volunteer with us. The new wildlife pond has transformed our outdoor nature area and students have enjoyed spotting exciting pondlife such as frogs, dragonflies and pond snails! The new tipi will be invaluable over the Summer as we welcome many families on day camps who will enjoy setting up camp for the day in the tipis! Just watch out for George the chihuahua who will be on the look out for picnics left in the tipis again this year!!





## 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!

"I have seen her confidence grow and for the first time since she has started school, I have witnessed her excited and looking forward to going."

"To see my child thriving is beyond what I imagined. Thank you!!"

"The positivity, warmth and consistency from staff provides a great foundation."

"He has re-found a love of learning and ability to engage in learning that he had lost."



## Book now for Summer 2022!



## PLAY DATES!

Enjoy two hours of fun activities around our site! Move around a range of fun activities at your leisure with 3 or 4 other families, each activity supervised by our experienced staff. Activities include horse riding, activities with our animals, time on the play equipment, sports, fun games, treasure hunts, arts and crafts! Bring your picnic rug and snacks! 10-12pm on the following dates: Wednesday 27th July, Monday 1st August, Wednesday 10th August, Monday 15th August. £28 per family. Email Kath Carter kath.newleaftriangle@gmail.com

## DAY CAMPS!

Enjoy an afternoon of fun activities with all the family! Settle into your own log cabin or tipi, bring your picnic and get ready for an afternoon of fun activities with our experienced staff. The day finishes with a BBQ and chance to toast marshmallows on the campfire! Day camps run lpm-5.30pm and are taking place on the following dates this summer: Friday 29th July, Thursday 4th August, Friday 12th August, Thursday 18th August. Cost £68 per family, families are asked to bring their own picnic and BBQ food. Email Kath Carter kath.newleaftriangle@gmail.com

## **TESTIMONIAL:**

I took part in a New Leaf Camp Day last summer with my daughters, one of whom has ASD. From the moment we arrived, I was overwhelmed by how welcome we were made to feel, how safe the space was and how much freedom the girls were given over their choice of activities. I chose the camp day primarily as a bonding activity for the girls and it was lovely to see my younger ASD girl introducing her older sister to the horses, showing her how to groom and giving her important safety tips such as avoiding walking behind them! This role reversal and her being in charge isn't something we see a lot so seeing that confidence drawn out of her in such a short space of time was amazing.

We also loved the range of activities - although one of my girls loves horses, the other is much more diverse. She enjoyed the opportunity to try shooting and proved to be a crack shot! They both enjoyed the mud kitchen, forest area and all the smaller animals to handle. Finn and Pickle also got thoroughly painted. The fact both girls could choose activities independently of each other meant no one got bored and everyone's needs were met at all points of the afternoon so no meltdowns. We've already booked our next camp day and are very much looking forward to visiting all the wonderful staff, volunteers and animals at New Leaf! -Leanne Martin

## Fundraising

We're always on the look-out for creative ideas and practical help for fundraising. The funds we raise over each year enables us to offer family sessions and summer activities at a subsidised rate which all families can then benefit from. Without the subsidies, those that need us the most might not be able to access us. If you can help in any way - whether it's collecting in our name at your local cake sale, or working with us to set up a large-scale fundraising event, please get in touch. The smallest amount still helps and it's all very much appreciated!



THANK YOU SO MUCH TO EVERYONE WHO HAS FUNDRAISED OR DONATED TO US THIS YEAR. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR PEOPLE'S GENEROSITIY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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