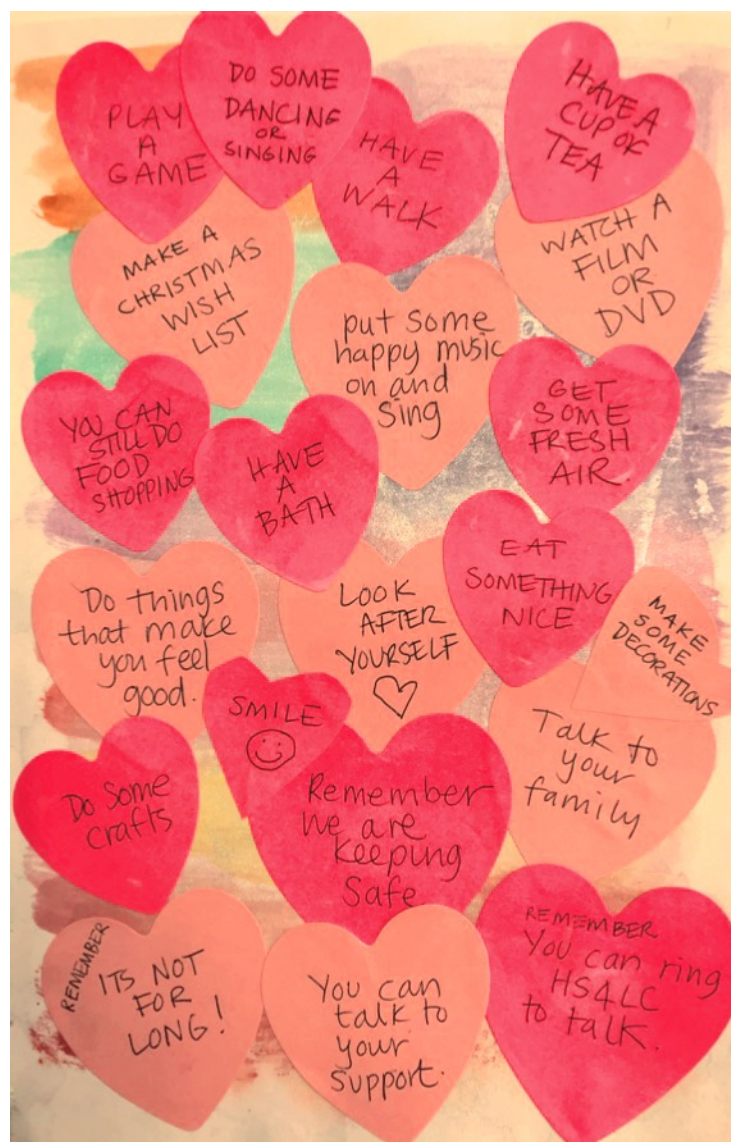




At last we have come out of the second lockdown and we are looking forward to celebrating Christmas the HS4LC way. Bring on the Rudolph jumpers, festive pop songs, cheesy films and Christmas crafts! Meanwhile, we hope you enjoy reading about some of the fabulous things we have been doing since the beginning of the autumn term. Merry Christmas, everyone!



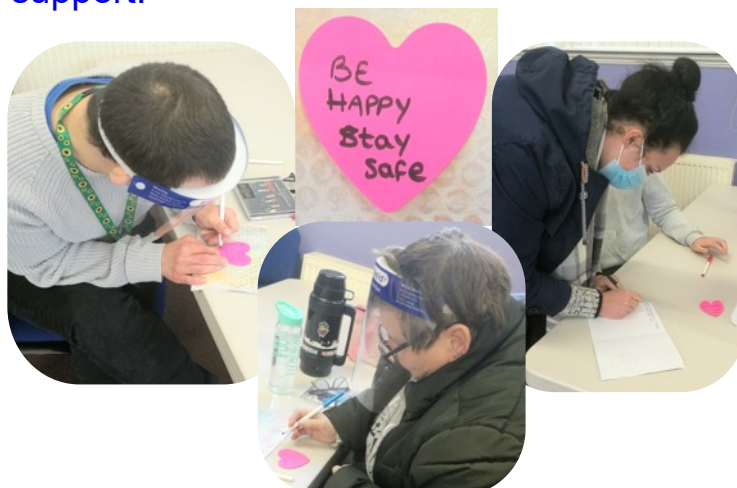
Be Happy: Stay Safe



When the second lockdown was announced how did it make you feel? Our learners shared their worries and frustration in special class sessions.

Some people felt angry or fed up and others worried about queuing for shopping. Some said they would be very bored. We all made suggestions about how to keep positive and happy and Helen made them into this piece of art. Why not try some of these ideas out when you are feeling low?

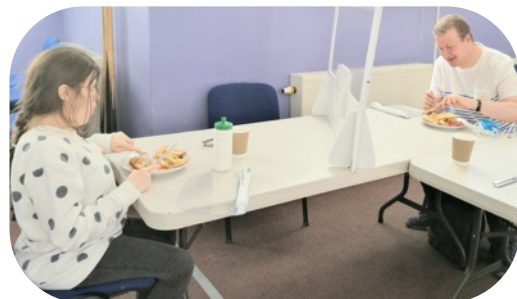
Learners also made cards to take home and teachers added their own messages of support.



Keeping safe and having fun at Skills

We had a very busy and successful start to our new September timetable. 48 learners have attended - nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of those who came before lockdown. We are running many of our long-running popular courses as well as a few brand new ones for 2020. Here is a taste of what we have been getting up to in some of our classes.

Cooking and baking



Our Baking, Healthy Soups, Ready Steady Cook and Take Away Cooking courses develop food prep and cooking skills and learners enjoy really delicious meals and snacks. Well done to our cooks for adapting brilliantly to wearing all that PPE!

Our music and drama classes are hugely popular. This term we have been socially distanced dancing.

Music and Drama



We have also been learning Makaton and making up our own signs for song lyrics since we can't sing right now. Here Stephen shows a heart sign for 'love' whilst listening to Stevie Wonder's "I just called to say I love you".



Games

The Games Group rose to the challenge of Covid regulations with games like giant snakes and ladders and our own special invention - socially distanced dominos.



Films and Animation

Well, it's a bit hard to enjoy computer animations on paper, but we had to show you some of the great work done by our Films and Animation Group.



"Baggy Witch" by Richard

"Pumpkin" by Mark



Here we celebrate Halloween using only paper and pen, modelling clay, tablets and our own rather wacky imaginations!

Animal Earth



Our brand new Animal Earth group learns about animals of the world and how they live. We watch nature videos, complete worksheets and do crafts, like making this apple bird feeder using apples from our own allotment.

Allotment Group

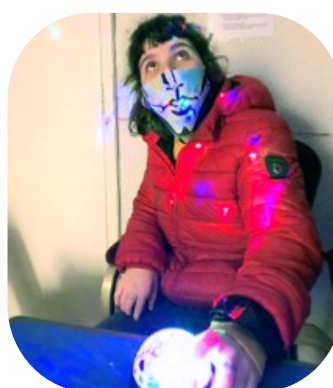
As well as putting the allotment to bed for winter the group has made green tomato mincemeat from left-over tomatoes and apples to use in mince pies for their Christmas party.



Super Sensory Session

"The new Super Sensory Session has been going well" says tutor Helen "and has included making chocolate pictures, printmaking and doing some messy hands on painting. It has been fun sharing lots of ideas together."

We bet the chocolate pictures didn't last long!



Outdoor Gym and Wednesday Wanderers

We were lucky to have lots of warm, dry weather this autumn. 11 of our learners and interns have enjoyed lots of long walks in and around our beautiful town. We have also made good use of the super outdoor gym equipment at Luncheon Way, Camwel Road, Belmont and Coppice Parks. An empty classroom and the Sun Pavilions at Valley Gardens made great indoor alternative gyms in wet weather.



Gym Stars Autumn 2020!

Congratulations to our three Star Walkers and Wheelers of Autumn 2020!



Dianne achieved 1400m in 33 minutes and 15 seconds. rolling her own wheelchair while singing along to ABBA.



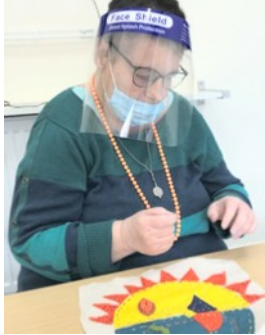
Chrissie achieved a new personal best, walking 2.55km in 38.5 minutes.



Edward achieved 15 km in one day - the furthest anyone has ever walked in the Wednesday Wanderers group.

Arts and Crafts

Craft tutor Helen says "Everyone has been working very hard in arts and crafts since we started a new year in September. It has been challenging getting used to all the new routines but everyone has enjoyed seeing friends again and spending time together."

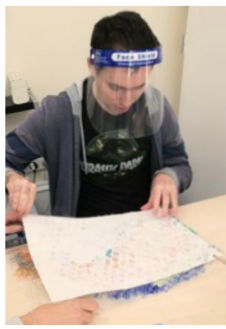
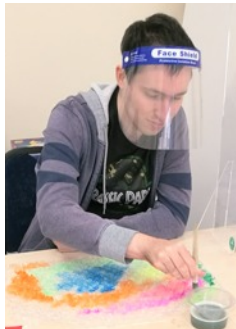


We have worked on an art project based on South American art with suns and moons (left) and 'Mola Collages' (right), based on traditional costumes from Panama.



Our project about the deep sea included bubble wrap printing. Here James shows how this is done. We painted in bright colours on bubble wrap and then pressed paper onto it.

Timothy used his bubble wrap prints to make a giant octopus!



The Stitch Club made stuffed pumpkins for Halloween and some lovely owl pictures.

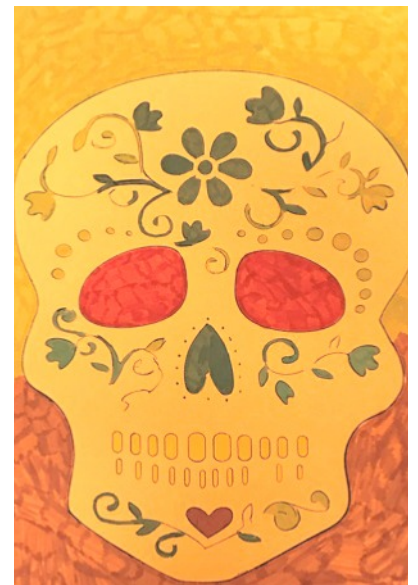
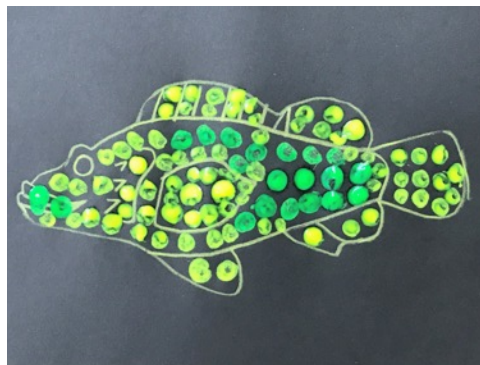


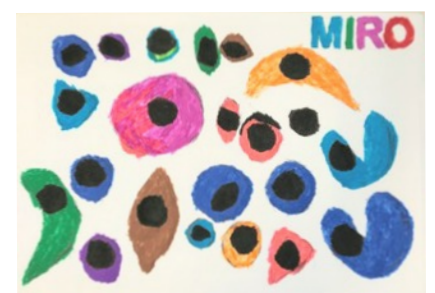
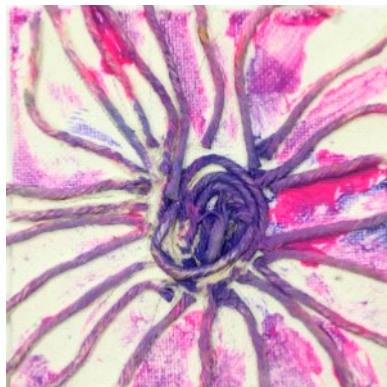
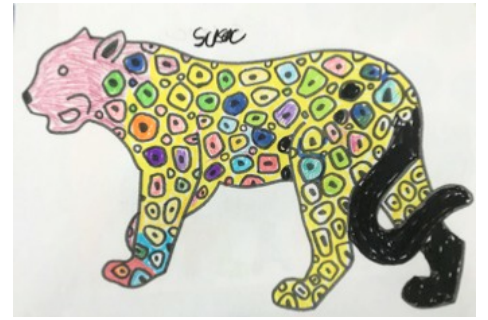
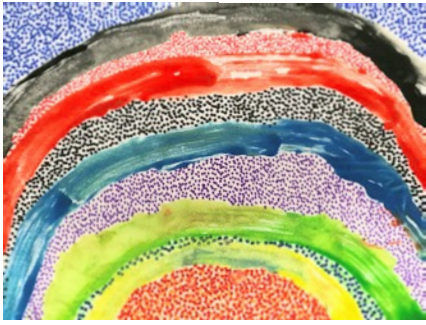
Well done to all our arts and craft learners who have coped with moving between buildings and crafting in masks, foggy visors or behind screens to produce some lovely work!



HS4LC Picture Gallery

We love displaying the fabulous art work created by our learners. The next two pages are our official Autumn 2020 Picture Gallery showcasing some of the pieces our learners have produced so far this year. Older readers may like to hum the “Vision On” Picture Gallery theme tune while they look... ♪ Dumdy-dumdy-dumdy dummm...♪





Skills Bridge News



Fran says "It's been an unusual autumn term for our Skills Bridge programmes but learners have been keeping busy. Most work placements have been on hold, but the interns have been developing their work skills in our Enterprise business, Harrogate Chocolate Factory and our Christmas spin off 'The Craft Tree'. They have designed hampers and gift sets featuring our dark chocolate bars and made a range of unique baubles which have been popular among our supporters. A huge thank you to our partner businesses as well as HS4LC's wider family and friends for supporting this project."

So far, we have made up over 170 hampers, 50 gift sets and have recently had an order for 370 more to be delivered before Christmas!



Preparation for Adulthood programme learner, James, has been working on new pieces of artwork, combining his passion for nature and the environment. James uses waste materials to create beautiful landscapes, portraits and details of nature.

'Over the Rainbow'



'Over the Rainbow' (pictured) was inspired by the dedication of NHS staff and key workers throughout the first lockdown and James has donated the picture to Feastfield Medical Centre in Pateley Bridge.

James has also created a stunning range of nine Christmas cards, which are also on sale at HS4LC.



Above, two of James's designs

More Skills Bridge success stories



Liv, in the Harrogate Chocolate Factory

All staff and students were very proud of Liv, one of our 2019-20 Skills Bridge Interns, who was selected to participate in the Marks and Spencers training programme at Marks and Spencer's in Harrogate. She successfully completed four weeks of work placement and has been offered a temporary contract for the Christmas period.

Intern Frances has restarted her volunteer placement working in the Fairtrade Shop store room. Although the shop hasn't been open during lockdown, stock has still been arriving for online deliveries and Frances is now a master of the checking in system. A big thank you to Vicky at the Fairtrade shop for her continued support.