

Very Super Kids

Newsletter for Kent Children in Care - Issue 11



Welcome to our Spring edition of our newsletter...

In this Super Spring issue we have some great things to tell you about; we have lots of FUN activity days for you to enjoy throughout the Spring & Summer, so look inside for more info!

We also want to hear about you and what you are up to! So get in touch and tell us your news, send in your stories and art-work.

Email us:

VSK_Participation @kent.gov.uk

or send your pictures, news and info to:

Chloe-Elizabeth Mutton - Virtual School
Kent Brook House Reeves Way
Whitstable CT5 3SS

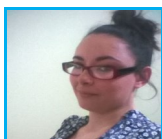
Enjoy the Easter Holidays and
don't eat too many Easter Eggs!!!



VSK PARTICIPATION TEAM



SOPHIA



CHLOE



REECE



Gemma



Jo

Included in this Issue:

- **The Super Council**
Children in Care Council News
- **Staff Update**
Hellos and Goodbyes
- **Kent Pledge**
What's in it for you
- **Activity Days**
Find out what fun days out we have had
- **Writers Section**
Have your say!
- **Bookmark Competition** How to enter and prizes to be won!



**Happy
Easter**



THE SUPER COUNCIL

The Super Council is for Children in Care aged 7 to 11. We meet every school holiday to have FUN and to meet other children in care. Members of the Super Council get to share their good experiences of being a Kent Child in Care and suggest ways to make things better.



We already have some fab members, and would love it if more of you came along.



If you are part of the Super Council you also get free membership to Kent Children's University.

Kent Children's University offers lots of fun and exciting learning opportunities for you to take part in when you aren't at school.

There are lots of different places you can visit where you can get 'credits' added to a very special Children's University Passport you are given.

You also get 'Credits' for attending any Super Council meetings and VSK Activity Days, plus lots of other activities and competitions.

For more information visit:

<http://www.kentchildrensuniversity.co.uk/cukent/home/>



FOR FOSTER CARERS

We need your help to encourage children to join the Super Council.

We want them to help shape the services they receive and also help other Children in Care who may be feeling like 'they are the only ones out there.'

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

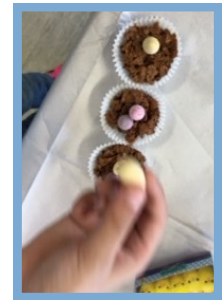


Contact: Sophia Dunstan

Email: Sophia.Dunstan@kent.gov.uk

Telephone: 03000 414214

GOOD WORK OF THE SUPER COUNCIL

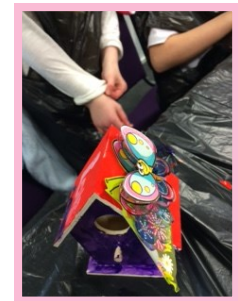


Did you know?

One of our Super Council Members designed our logo



WE ASKED...

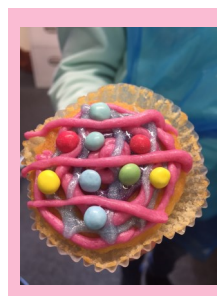


WHAT ARE THE TOP 10 QUALITIES OF A FOSTER CARER

On the 14th February we met up with our Super Council members. This was the first meeting of 2017 and everyone gave their ideas about what their ideal foster carer would be like, and spoke about what their favourite thing about their carer was. Everyone got involved and gave some fab answers, after this we decorated cupcakes – yummy! Some of the qualities that the young people said were:



- Kind
- Loving
- Fun
- Caring
- Good Listener



STAFF UPDATE



NEW APPRENTICES

We have four new apprentices starting work with us shortly, three girls and one boy.

They have all been in care or are in care themselves, so really understand some of things that you go through.

We hope they will be able to start work at the end of April.

In the next issue, they will introduce themselves. So watch this space!!

Bella's Goodbye!

One of our favourite apprentices Annabelle Taylor, has sadly left us to join our amazing NHS Nurse team. Whilst we are sad that Bella has left us, we wish her all the best in her new adventures!!

Here is a few words from Bella...

For most of my life I have been unsettled, uncertain and insecure. I didn't have any hope or goals for my future; and I did not have any idea as to what I was good at.

In my time working with the VSK Participation Team I realised who I wanted to be and what I wanted to do, I wanted to help others and help them do their best in everything they do.

I am sad to be leaving, but I know that now is my time to say "yes" to new chances given to me. I'm so proud of each and every young person I have been lucky to have meet in my time with VSK - you have all been a wonderful inspiration for me and have given me many memories to treasure for a lifetime.

With hugs

Bella XOXO



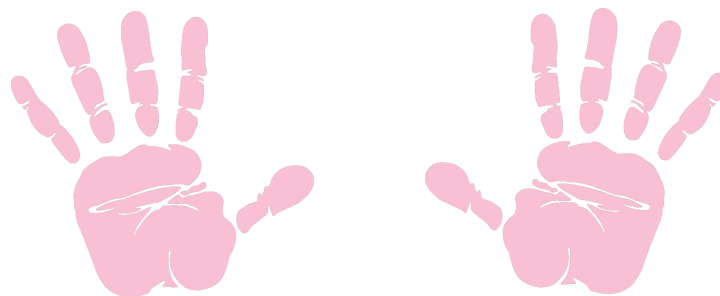
Kent Pledge

Have you received your copy of the Kent Pledge cards?



The Kent Pledge is 6 promises that Kent County Council make to you as a child in the care of Kent. They are:

- **To give you a sense of belonging**
- **Make sure you have an adult who is always there for you**
- **Make sure you have a good education**
- **Help you make good memories for the future**
- **Help you get ready for being an adult**
- **To support your interests and needs**



We have made the 6 promises into a set of cards that are given to you by your Social Worker. They have been designed with the help of young people in care and are clear and easy to understand.

There are 2 versions, one pack for you if you are over 11 and another pack if you are under 11.

If you don't have a pack, just ask your Social Worker.

VSK ACTIVITY DAYS

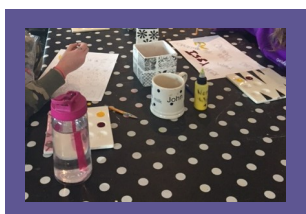
Revolutions

On Monday 13th February, we took a group of young people to Revolutions Skatepark. Each group had a chance to have a go at rock climbing and have a skate with the scooters. Everyone had a brilliant day, and some young people even managed to overcome their fear of heights!!



This Art of Mine

On Friday 17th February we held an activity day at This Art of Mine, an arts and crafts centre. We got to decide whether we wanted to make a T-shirt or a mug. Over the day we had 42 young people attend and everyone had a lot of fun by getting creative and a little bit messy!!!! Overall we had a great day with a lot of smiles and laughter.



Coming Soon! More VSK Activity Days!

We have lots of fun activities and days out coming up this Spring and Summer!



If you would like to come along and join in the fun, just ask your Carer or your Social Worker to get in touch with us and we will book you a place.



WRITER'S SECTION

Welcome to our new section of the newsletter!!

This section is for you to write about what you have been up to. This could include any questions you have for the Participation Team, any short stories, artwork or poems you wish to share with us!!



In this issue the Participation Team answered some questions:

What is your favourite colour?

Sophia: Pink

Chloe: Purple

Jo: Gold

Gemma: Turquoise blue

Reece: Red



Favourite holiday destination?

Sophia: Barbados

Chloe: Ireland

Jo: France

Gemma: Italy

Reece: Portugal



When you were young what was your dream job?

Sophia: To be a Social Worker

Chloe: A famous horse rider!

Jo: An Artist

Gemma: A Vet

Reece: Either a police officer, prison guard or sound engineer

What is the best part of your job?

Sophia: Working with young people

Chloe: Seeing young people smile

Jo: Getting out of the office and meeting lots of children and young people

Gemma: Taking part in fun activities!

Reece: Helping make a difference



If you have something you would like to share with us or would like to show your work in the newsletter please contact Chloe.

We look forward to hearing from you!!

Email us:

VSK_Participation@kent.gov.uk

or send your pictures, news and info to: *Chloe-Elizabeth Mutton - Virtual School Kent Brook House*

Reeves Way, Whitstable

CT5 3SS



BOOKMARK COMPETITION



Calling all you book lovers and artists out there, this is your time to shine!!

We need to create some bookmarks and need your help.

We are looking for 2 fabulous designs, to go on the front of our bookmarks,
which will be sent out to ALL Kent Children in Care!!

The themes are Spring/Summer and Autumn/Winter.

Book Related Prizes will be given for the best entries!! Get designing!!

So step up the game and grab that favourite book and use as inspiration
because we can't wait to see the results.

Watch out for our next newsletter, where the winners will be announced
and your designs will be featured inside!

Entry rules

- Must be designed by YOU!
- Write your name and age on the back

Send your entries to:

**Chloe-Elizabeth Mutton: VSK Brook House Reeves Way
Whitstable Kent CT53SS**

alternately scan and send them to: **chloe-elizabeth.mutton@kent.gov.uk**

