12 parents from Mulberry joined women from across London in a project with the English National Opera celebrating the power of the female voice.

The group watched the ENO’s performance of Handel’s opera Parthenope, and then worked to create and perform an original piece called Siren Song which featured extracts from the opera. The all-female company worked for six weeks and the 50 strong cast then performed the final opera on Saturday 20th May at the Mulberry Bigland Green Centre. We will be working more with the ENO this year, so contact Sabina if you would like to be involved.
Hampton Court Palace

On 19th May our learners celebrated the successful conclusion of their courses with a trip to Hampton Court Palace. The visitors enjoyed exploring the beautiful 16th century building, which was once the home of King Henry VIII, and walking round its majestic gardens. They even managed to navigate the maze! The trip was great fun, and an opportunity to learn more about the history of England and its historic buildings.

Woburn Safari

Our term concluded with a fantastic trip for 25 people to Woburn Safari in Milton Keynes. The visitors marvelled at the remarkable wildlife, which includes lions, tigers, giraffes, and an adorable newly born sea lion pup. We also got the chance to learn about the important conservation work that Woburn Safari does, and to explore the beautiful grounds of the park. This was a very enjoyable trip, with one parent commenting that it was “the experience of a lifetime.”

London Eye

On 29th June, 20 of our parents enjoyed a bird's eye view of London with a trip to the London Eye on the South Bank. The parents enjoyed travelling up to a height of 245m and taking in the spectacular views across the city. After their trip on the eye parents stopped off at the 4D cinema experience for yet more aerial views of London, before making their way home on public transport.

Childcare

We continued with our very successful childcare courses this term, which had a 100% success rate. 13 learners attended the level course, and 16 attended the level course, with all 29 qualifying. The courses are brilliant if you are thinking about working as a childminder, or if you simply want to improve your childcare skills. Please contact Sabina if you would like to know more.
10 people attended our emotional first aid course which teaches parents how to manage stress in their own lives. Participants learnt how their emotions and stress can affect family life and parenting, and discussed strategies to manage and support their mental health. They also looked at factors that can make children anxious or distressed, and talked about how to support them both at home and at school. There will be another emotional first aid course running next term, so do let Sabina know if you are interested.

In June 2017, we held a workshop on dealing with teenage emotions. Learners explored how to support their children through those sometimes tricky teenage years, and looked at strategies for helping teenagers to manage their emotions and responses to stress. Everyone agreed that the workshop was very useful, and gave lots of insight into the highs and lows of teenagers’ emotional lives.
Mosaic

We have run two exciting mosaic projects this term, with a group of learners working together to create a collaborative piece of art, as well as making pieces for themselves to take home. Please come and see the fruits of their labour decorating the foyer of the Mulberry Bigland Green Centre and admire their beautiful work!

Maynard’s Farm

An entirely new trip for our calendar this year, as on 7th July 26 of our learners travelled to Maynard’s Farm in Kent. Parents picked strawberries, raspberries, as well as some more exotic fruits, with loganberries, tayberries, and tummelberries also making an appearance.

Coffee mornings

Our monthly coffee mornings concluded with an Eid celebration in June. Nearly 30 people attended and enjoyed the cakes and company. Parents met with representatives from Open Space to discuss how the area surrounding Watney market could be made into a more family friendly space for the community to enjoy.

New Courses:

We have a number of new courses taking place this term, please see the enrolment form for more details. Later on in the year we will also be running level 3 (GCSE) courses for the first time, so keep an eye out for those if they are something that might interest you.

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