

Monthly Newsletter

February 2024



The Kevin Jenkins OBE Easter Egg Appeal

This month we launched our Kevin Jenkins OBE Easter Egg Appeal, now in its eighth year. Launched this year by our wonderful Patron Ricky Grover, we are aiming to raise donations of 2000 Easter Eggs to distribute to disadvantaged and at risk young people living in Newham this Easter.

Appeal Coordinator Paula Blake said "every donation of an Easter Egg will be passed onto a child living in a family experiencing the daily challenges of poverty. Without the help of the Appeal, children benefiting could not enjoy an Easter egg, which others might take for granted."

Early support for the Appeal has been confirmed by our wonderful supporters Triumph East London Bikers club who will be riding their motorcycles to our hub in Canning Town, to deliver much needed donated eggs this year.

If you are in the position to help this year, you can donate to our dedicated Just Giving page - www.justgiving.com/campaign/easter2024 or purchase an egg through our Amazon Wishlist - https://amzn.eu/40i0UhW

Any help you are able to give will make a huge difference this Easter to young people living in Newham.

Annual Brick Lane Benefit Night

Join Us For Our 7th Annual Benefit Evening. Our highly-awaited annual benefit night is once again gracing the stage of Brick Lane Music Hall! Brace yourself for an enthralling night brimming with mesmerizing tunes, dynamic dances, and infectious laughter. This is bound to be an absolutely thrilling experience!

Prepare for an unforgettable evening! Every ticket you purchase helps further our work in 2024 and beyond. Savour a delicious meal, witness a performance like no other, with the chance to win remarkable prizes during our raffle and auction. This is an experience too good to miss!

Tickets are £70 per person, with tables available for up to 12 people. If you would like to join us for an unmissable evening, contact Jonny - jonny@theaaazone.com.



To Book contact Jonny Boux: ionny@theaaazone.com | 0207 511 4253



Monthly Newsletter

February 2024



Hub Updates - Terence Brown Arc

It has been another busy few months at our Terence Brown Arc, with a number of projects and activities restarting following the Winter Break.

Our Cycling Club has been growing from strength to strength and with the support of the Newham Cyclists group our young people have had the opportunity to join many 'ride outs' from our hub to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in Stratford, practicing their road cycling skills along the way.

Our Short Breaks scheme during February Half Term for young people with Special Educational Needs was a great success, the young people took part in a variety of sensory based activities, music workshops and sports which helped build on their communication and fine motor skills as well as building friendships with other young people.

We also have a a number of corporate volunteer days coming up in the Spring, which will provide much needed maintenance for the site, helping to improve the facilities for all our young people.

Project Spotlight - Wellbeing Group

The Ambition Aspire Achieve Wellbeing Group have been very busy over the last few months. Our young people have had the chance to explore the great outdoors, with outdoor learning opportunities with West Ham Park and the Creekside Discovery Centre at Deptford Creek, the chance to learn all about farm life on a residential to Gloucestershire with Farms for City Children and the physical challenge and teamwork of sailing at the London Regatta Centre, Docklands.

The group have also had the opportunity to take part in several art workshops, sparking their creativity and cultural appreciation with visits to different museums including the Natural History Museum rounding out the program.

Our Wellbeing programme aims to provide activities and experiences that enhance physical health and mental well-being and a lifelong love of learning, ensuring participants gain a broadened perspective and memorable experiences whilst growing in self confidence and esteem, enabling them to overcome their own personal barriers.

We run age-specific groups for ages 8-11 and 12-16 which allows for tailored activities and discussions that cater to the unique needs and interests of each group. The group provides a supportive environment for both age groups to socialise, learn, and contribute to their mental and emotional well-being.

The Wellbeing Group runs on the following days and times during term time: Juniors (ages 8 to 11) Tuesdays 4pm to 6pm, Seniors (ages 12 to 16) Tuesdays 6pm to 8pm, Mixed (ages 8 to 16) Fridays 4pm to 6pm

For further information on the group, please feel free to get in touch with Ann ann<u>@theaaazone.com</u>/0207 511 4253





Monthly Newsletter

February 2024



Kevin Jenkins OBE Outdoor Learning Centre

Our brand new outdoor learning space, adjacent to our Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub in Stratford is well under way, with lots of new developments happening weekly.

We are currently running outdoor learning packages available for both primary and secondary schools and community groups. The packages offer a variety of options for young people to learn more about our environment, bushcraft, biodiversity and much more with all sessions being able to be tailored to the groups particular needs and tie in with the national curriculum if needed.

We are also starting a brand new group for young people aged 8 to 14 called Bugs and Shrubs, giving them the chance to learn about our environment, biodiversity, take part in environmental projects and learn new bushcraft skills.

For further information on our outdoor learning packages and clubs available, please feel free to get in touch with Candy candy@theaaazone.com/ 0207 511 4253

Project Spotlight - Our Minds & Us

Ambition Aspire Achieves Our Minds & Us group gives young people the space and opportunity to explore their mental health and wellbeing, what impacts mental health generally and the impact the Covid-19 pandemic had on their lives, providing them with a space for their voice to be heard.

The group have participated in different workshops and activities including learning how to cook healthy meals, sports and exercise sessions, mental health workshops, talks from professionals, taking part in a Youth charter project which allowed them to plan and deliver a sports session to a primary school as well as taking part in karate workshops, a trip to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park for a community event put on by the London Metropolitan Police and they have had the chance to join Newham's Youth Forum, sharing their views.

These workshops and activities have empowered our young people, giving them the tools and skills for them to help themselves and their mental health, build their confidence and esteem, build new lasting friendships, creating a safe space where the young people feel confident and respected and able to talk about their own experiences and problems, whether they are big or small.

The young people are always willing to try new things each time they attend, creating an open mind set where they can learn new skills whilst also learning from each other.

For further information on the group, please feel free to get in touch with Marie marie@theaaazone.com/0208 555 8333





Monthly Newsletter

February 2024



Brand New LEGO Workshops For Schools

This month we launched new free LEGO Workshops available for schools to bring along some of their pupils with Special Educational Needs who they feel would benefit from these sessions, based in our LEGO room at our hub in Canning Town.

The workshops aim to develop young people's creativity, collaboration, imaginative play, communication, problem solving and fine motor skills using the medium of LEGO, through a mixture of focused activities and free play.

If you are a school and are interested in bringing a group along to our free LEGO Workshops, please get in touch with Paula (paula@theaaazone.com) for more information and to book your place.

Young Peoples Corner

We love showcasing the wonderful work produced by our young people and this month we have this wonderful bag made by Humaira who attends our SEND Positive Transition group.

Humaira has wanted to try our sewing for some time and had the opportunity last week during the groups creative sessions, where she learnt how to use a sewing machine for the first time and produced this wonderful bag which she cannot wait to use!





Young Person of the Month

At Ambition Aspire Achieve, we like to celebrate the achievements of our young people, and this year we are continuing our Young Person of the Month Award!

Each of our clubs have been assigned a month where they get to pick a young person from their club to win! The winners are chosen for a variety of achievements and all of the winners receive a certificate of their achievement and a £20 Amazon gift card to spend!

The winner for February is Biyan who attends our LEGO Group at our Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub, he has won the award for 'always being a positive role model to other young people, gaining self confidence and improving his social skills allowing him to build lasting friendships with his peers. And always using his imagination to its fullest potential.' Congratulations Biyan!



Monthly Newsletter

February 2024



Get Involved

Our work relies on the generosity of companies and individuals kindly giving their time and support and we cannot thank enough those who have contributed to our work so far, helping to make a difference. We need your help to ensure we can reach and support as many vulnerable children and young people this year and beyond.

Any support makes a great difference, and you can help is so many ways - donating essential items included on our wish list to support the delivery of our programmes, becoming a regular donor and supporter, helping to fundraise for specific causes and a whole range of individual and team volunteering opportunities.

We also have lots of places up for grabs for exciting fundraising events throughout 2024. You can take part in various events this year, by joining and supporting one of our planned fundraising events or taking part in your own sponsored activities.

For more information on how to support our work, check out our 'Get Involved' page on our website - wwww.theaaazone.com

Coming Up....

Our Youth Multisports Club is back for young people aged 10 to 14 is back, running every Saturday from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. The club offers a wide variety of sports from boxing, football, basketball, tennis and much more for young people to try. For more information, contact Tracy - tracy@theaaazone.com

Our iAchieve group supported by the National Citizen Service is also back, and running every Thursday evening (5:30pm-8:30pm) for young people aged 16 to 17 who are looking towards the next steps but need some support and guidance in the next stages of life. For more information contact Tracy - tracy@theaaazone.com

Bugs and Shrubs is our brand new outdoor learning club based at our Kevin Jenkins OBE Outdoor Learning Centre in Stratford. The group is for young people aged 8 to 14, giving them the chance to learn about our environment, biodiversity, take part in environmental projects and learn new bushcraft skills. For more information about the club and start date, contact Candy - candy@theaaazone.com

