



Ambition Aspire Achieve

Charity Registration Number: 1167816

Monthly Newsletter

January 2024



The Kevin Jenkins OBE Newham Christmas Toy Appeal

The Kevin Jenkins OBE Annual Christmas Toy Appeal, the 46th Appeal of its kind, reached record numbers of children and young people this past year, providing over 2,897 with stockings of gifts in time for Christmas day. Supported once again by the Newham Recorder, the high demand for the appeal and growing numbers of requests for help reflected the challenging times and growing pressures local families are facing due to the cost-of-living crisis.

The response to our call out for support was truly incredible, with donations and toy deliveries coming in throughout December. Support was also provided by volunteers from several companies in the toy warehouse, the use of which was made possible by Gallions Reach Shopping Park this year. Along with toy donations, reflecting need, we also distributed over 100 seasonal food hampers to families in time for Christmas.

The appeal Roll of Honour, which can be found [here](#) highlights 60 business supporters making kind donations, along with many more individuals, churches, community groups and schools digging deep.

Thank you to all involved, helping to make a real difference to vulnerable children and young people, at a time when it was most needed. The Kevin Jenkins OBE Newham Christmas Toy Appeal will be running once again in 2024 and we need your support! To find out more, please contact Appeal Co-ordinator Paula Blake paula@theaaazone.com or Chief Executive Jonny Boux jonny@theaaazone.com

Community Christmas Trees

During the last week of November, our team took delivery of over 180 Christmas trees of all sizes, thanks to a large number of orders received from individual supporters, schools and business partners, to support our seasonal enterprise Community Christmas Trees.

The enterprise, which is a regular fixture of the Christmas season at AAA, helps to raise money for our work, with the full profit generated this year, supporting a whole range of exciting 'projects throughout 2024.

We would like to thank all our customers who kindly supported our Community Christmas Trees enterprise this year, helping to raise vital funding for our work with children and young people.



Price Waterhouse Cooper Family Panto Trips

This month over 30 families went on an exciting trip to the Peacock Theatre to see the magical fairytale Beauty and the Beast pantomime put on by staff from Price Waterhouse Cooper, a global accountancy firm.

The families had a great time laughing and singing along to another wonderful show, for some this was their first experience seeing a pantomime and going to the theatre. One parent said "we had a fantastic time, the children loved it. This is the first time they have ever been to the theatre. They loved singing along to all the music and joining in on all the fun."

Thank you to Price Waterhouse Cooper for inviting our families along once again this year and for putting on another wonderful show.



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SEND Discos

Our discos for young people aged 9 to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities have once again started with our first disco of the year happening this month.

The young people have a fantastic time singing and dancing along to classics such as the Macarena and YMCA, as well as socialising and building friendships with the other young people in attendance. The discos are a great place to build independence and improve their social skills, building lasting friendships.

If you're interested in your child attending our SEND discos, check out our [website](#) for the 2024 dates or contact Paula, paula@theaaazone.com/0207 511 4253.

Project Spotlight - Positive Transitions

Our Positive Transitions project for young people aged 16 to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) focuses on supporting SEND individuals with their transition into adulthood.

Young people attending the project have the opportunity to engage in a range of activities which concentrate on building their life skills and creative skills, all of which helps to develop their confidence, self esteem, independence, social and practical skills.

The group currently meet twice a week on Wednesday and Friday mornings, with Wednesday sessions dedicated to creativity and Fridays focused on learning and developing life skills.

For further information on the group, please feel free to get in touch with Liam at liam@theaaazone.com/0207 511 4253



Hub Updates - Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub

The building work at our Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub is slowly coming to an end with our builders, Weathertight Construction currently working on the final stages of our extension. With all external work now complete, the internal work is now taking place, with new toilets and a new kitchen being installed along with landscaping.

As well as the building work, we had a busy winter break with our HAF project running for young people with special educational needs. With the building work being carried out in earnest, the young people spent the winter break going on a variety of trips. They had a great time going to the cinema, singing along to Wonka and even had the chance to go sightseeing up London on a tour bus. They all had a fantastic time, having new experiences and learning new life skills.

If you would like to find out more about our projects and activities at Abbey Hub, please contact Abbey Hub Manager Marie Painsamy marie@theaaazone.com or visit our [website](#).



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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 January is Skye who attends our Wellbeing Group, she has won the award for 'always being a positive role model for the other members of the group and helping new members of the group to settle into the project.' Congratulations Skye!

Young People's Corner

Welcome to our brand new Young People's Corner, here we will be showcasing work created by the young people who attend our groups.

This month we have this wonderful piece of artwork created by Arhaan who attends our Wellbeing Group.



Coming Up....

Our Family Fun Days are back once again this year, running from Sunday 24th March on selected dates up to September.

Join us for a fun family day out with a variety of activities including sports, adventure play, arts and crafts, themed activities, outdoor games and much more!

Booking is required, contact bookings@theaaazone.com to book your family's place.

