



# LAKE HAVEN

A SPECIAL PLACE TO LEARN

Welcome to Lake Haven - January 2023 Newsletter

After months of a happy little secret, lots (and lots) of hard work, plenty of tears, mud (so much mud) and diggers, Lake Haven officially opened the doors on the 4th January 2023.

From this...



To this...



For the past ten months, we have been busy creating an amazing school for children on the Autism Spectrum who also may or may not also be struggling with EBSA in a mainstream setting. At Lake

Haven, we are working towards being able to offer children who are not able to attend mainstream school due to their needs and differences, a chance to experience our wonderful setting and receive a fulfilling education in a place where they can thrive and blossom.



We will actively promote a feeling of ease and calm within our surroundings which is secluded away from any hustle or bustle and can offer a wealth of opportunities for children to experience an outside learning space, animal husbandry, forest school, allotments, peace and quiet, a spectacular sensory room and an aspirational education in our fully equipped classrooms. To say we are excited is an understatement!





Within the last month, we have had a few children visit and start their journey with us as an Alternative Provider. This has given us an insight as to how the children will respond to this new environment - so far so good! Not only have we had a few little people, we have also had some new furry friends come and join us. Our two gerbils, Lilo and Stitch had caused mayhem in the Squirrel's Drey classroom. Who knew that two little tinkers could create such a mess each morning! We have also had new neighbours in The Nook (our outside classroom and animal barn), 'Wednesday, Rosie and Trixie' are our three guinea pigs - we all love the guinea pigs, especially Bruno the school dog who thinks their squeaks make the best toys. And fish, we have a brilliant tank with some beautifully coloured fish and snails - we did start with two snails and they are multiplying rather rapidly. Soon, it will be time to welcome our lambs who we will raise and nurture to become part of the school team. Our goat, named 'Mummy Goat' will arrive when her paddock has been completed and then chickens from March. Our Spring term is going to be a busy time.



A couple of weeks ago, we had a quality assurance check from Warwickshire County Council. It was the first time that we had been inspected and we were rather unsure of what to expect. *"On my walkabout the site was immaculate"* and *"The underlying ethos of Lake Haven has been distilled into three school values; nurture, belonging and respect. The goal of Lake Haven is for all children on roll to gain an education in an environment where they feel safe, respected and as if they belong. Messages of positivity are prominent throughout the building, including these key school values."* Just a couple of comments from the inspection made our hearts soar. We can't wait for children to really start to benefit from our beautiful school. It has made all the months of hard work feel worth it.

Within our school, we have also welcomed Mrs Sarah Hill, she has joined Lake Haven as our Family Support Lead and will devote

her time to helping the children settle as well as their families. This role, we see as pivotal to helping our new families adapt to their new environment and re-engage with their love of learning.



So over the past four weeks, we have already developed and grown so much that just excites us but overall makes us feel very blessed on this journey and we welcome all who support and follow our paths as we continue.

Keep an eye on our social media pages as we let you know of further progress and our open day which we will be sharing the date with you soon.

Sending love,

The Team at Lake Haven