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December 2021 Issue 22

# Newsletter

Latest news and updates from Success4All



#### **Latest News**

"They've made a big difference in my life."

<u>Learning Bus Hits The</u> <u>Road!</u>

Why Does It Take A

## 'Tis The Season of Gratitude

As 2021 draws to a close, we are excited to share with you a round-up of everything we've been up to this term.

Despite the fact that we were forced to shut down our Learning Hubs due to the pandemic, we still managed to have a bustling year. We welcomed onboard new staff and trustees. Our STEM team continued to lead STEM challenges in schools as well as in community centres, and the support we received from our funders, volunteers and supporters has been tremendous.

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# Meet our Trustee: Rosemary Welch

- · Letter from Chair of Trustees
- Our impact this term
- Reward card winners
- Postcard competition winner
- Volunteer spotlight
- Upcoming events

Success4All Kickstarts a Month of Celebrating Black History Month Over the next two weeks, our team will be taking a much-deserved break to recharge their batteries in preparation for 2022.

We wish you all a happy and peaceful time over the festive holidays and look forward to catching up with you again in January 2022!

#### **Letter From Chair of Trustees**

It's a nippy and frosty December morning here in Newcastle.

The air is as crisp as it can get and the sun is slowly awakening.

A freshly brewed coffee accompanies me on my desk and for a split second, everything seems perfect. In that moment, everything is perfect.



These cold winter mornings can be brutal, in fact, they remind me of just how much hardship and pain our region has endured, but equally, I am also reminded of just how much beauty our region has to offer.

I cannot lie, these past 12 months have been difficult for all of us and even more so for all of our children, young people, their families, volunteers, staff, and trustees.

Despite the hardship though, we have risen together and accomplished so much.

Early in the year, we distributed hundreds of activity kits and reading books to families in the North East. Throughout the year, we successfully continued to

As restrictions were eased, we reopened our Summer School doors to the children and young people of our region, and our STEM team delivered an engaging STEM community outreach programme which drove our Learning Bus out of furlough.

Once the new academic year commenced, we celebrated our 15th anniversary. In October we hosted our first Black History Month event for the charity sector and in November we exhibited at the North East Expo.

All in all, it's been a whirlwind of a year, but with you by our side, it's been a worthwhile adventure.

None of the work we do would have been possible without the support of our funders & volunteers. So, a huge thank you to Garfield Weston Foundation, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, CityFibre, StreetGames, The Watson Family Charitable Trust, UK Youth, Reece Foundation, Postcode Lottery, Muckle LLP, National Lottery Community Fund, All Churches Trust, the Royal Society of Chemistry and to everyone who dedicated their time and energy in supporting us.

I wish you all a peaceful and restful festive break.

Caroline Afolabi-Deleu Chair of Trustees

### **Our Impact**

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### **Reward Card Winners**

Following their successful completion of our 6-week online tutoring, we are thrilled to unveil our reward card winners for our first tutoring block this term. They are:

- Yousra B.
- Mesude A.
- · Candy E.

Each of our three reward card winners will receive a £20 gift card voucher of their choice.

## **Postcard Competition Winner**

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Thank you to all of the children & young people who submitted entries to our postcard competition.

Our entire team was blown away by the quality of the work submitted, and it is fair to say that there was an abundance of talent on display, which made choosing the winner a very difficult task.

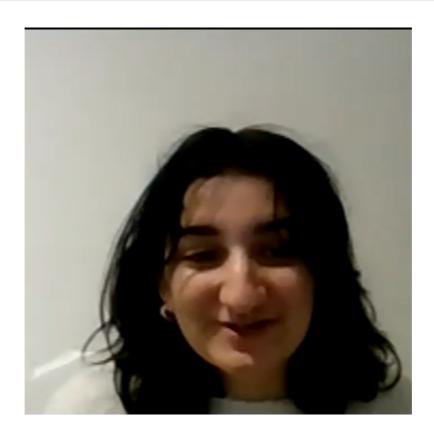
In the end, it came down to a team vote, that crowned Jana Dihoum as the winner of our competition.

On behalf of everyone at Success4All, a huge congratulations Jana!



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## **Volunteer Spotlight**



## "I was left feeling quite fulfilled." ~ Eisha Mohammed

Eisha Mohammed is a year 12 student studying Psychology, Politics, Philosophy & Ethics. Her ultimate goal is to join the Crown Prosecution Service as a barrister once she completes a degree in Law.

When she's not studying, Eisha works as a lifeguard at a local swimming pool centre and volunteers at Success4All as a tutor-befriender. But like many Genzs, Eisha still manages to fit in several hobbies, including drawing, baking, swimming of course and as of most recently, skateboarding.

Thanks to players of the Postcode Lottery, Success4All were provided with the opportunity to train Eisha into the role of a tutor-befriender. A role that she explains left her feeling 'fulfilled'.

This is what she had to say about her volunteering experience.

and myself in general. Normally, I tend to do things very last minute but with the tutoring, I couldn't.

As a predominantly EAL tutor, I was mostly supporting tutees with English. I remember my first tutee, she was really young and she had difficulty with English but I found that we both loved art so at the end of every lesson I would teach her how to draw something, and that really helped her come out her shell.

My second tutee didn't speak English, she couldn't assemble a sentence in English and she would often get her words mixed up, so it was incredibly hard for both of us to interact with one another. We relied heavily on Google translate, and I also made much more of an effort in creating interactive content. By the end of the tutoring, she was able to compose sentences & pronounce words correctly. I was quite shocked at the improvement because I never imagined myself as a tutor and I definitely didn't think I would be very good at it but after seeing her progress, I was left feeling quite fulfilled and speechless.

This experience provided me with the opportunity to pick up new skills as well as develop my existing capabilities. Overall it has been an enjoyable journey particularly as I had never really talked or interacted with kids before. I wasn't a big fan of them but now I've grown to them a lot more and the experience helped me land my job as a lifeguard.

# **Upcoming Events**

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#### **School Visits**

We've got a bunch of school visits scheduled to take place over the next term. Our STEM team have been busy planning exciting projects that will no doubt leave children hungry to learn more about the world of science.



#### Clubs

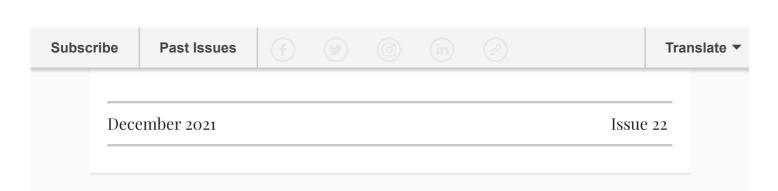
Our Code Club, Creativity Club, STAND4 & all other clubs have broken up for the Christmas holidays. They are due to restart once the school term starts. If you'd like to register your child to any of our clubs, please get in touch with us at info@s4a.org.uk

# **Support Us**



It is only with the support of people like you that we can continue to offer our services. Every donation we receive goes directly towards serving the children and young people in the North East. If you would like to donate to us, please <u>click here</u>.

#### **Connect With Us**



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