

PYCP EASTER NEWSLETTER

INSIDE:

- Our digital activities during lockdown
- New employees!
- FACENorth updates
- Intensive support updates
- Winter Grant
- April-June Programme



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OUR ONLINE ACTIVITIES DURING LOCKDOWN

With the new rules put in place during lockdown 2021, we decided to move our activities online to still offer support and fun to the children and young people of our community. You can find some examples on the following pages!

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

Ideas for outdoor
and indoor activities

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

Support for parents
and young people.
Friendly chats and
advice with one of
our workers.

WEDNESDAY

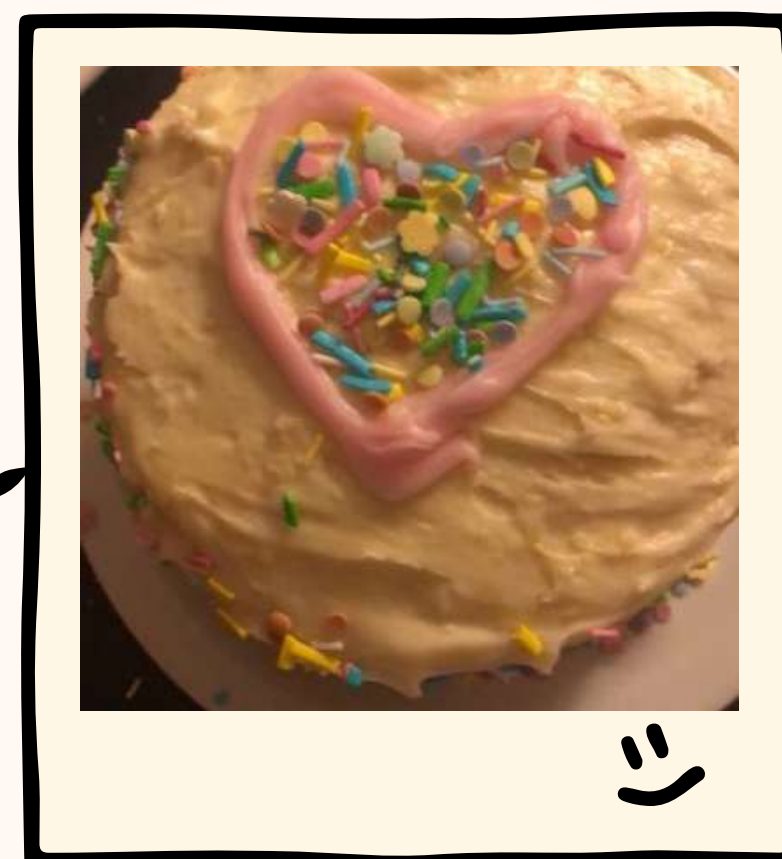
Zoom Drop-in!
Fun, games and chat
for S1+: Bingo,
quizzes, cake
decorating and more...



FRIDAY

Our special video
broadcast session
for P 1-7.

WINNERS, TASTY CONTESTS AND MORE...



CAKE DECORATING

Which one would you like to try?

IDEAS FOR INDOOR AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Every week we post on our social media ideas for one indoor and one outdoor activity to do at home or over the weekend. We encourage kids to have fun using materials they already have at home or things they can easily find on a nice walk in parks or forests around Edinburgh! We also posted some ideas on how to recycle objects and turn them into beautiful artworks!

SPRING SCAVENGER HUNT LIST

- ☐ BEE
- ☐ GREEN SHOOTS ON TREES
- ☐ BIRD'S NEST
- ☐ SEEDLING
- ☐ DAFFODIL
- ☐ FEATHER
- ☐ CROCUS
- ☐ SPIDER'S WEB



Sand Playdough

Fun variation on playdough. Super soft and mouldable, just like sand and very easy to make, too. All you need is flour and veg oil. Mix them together with your fingers to achieve crumbly mouldable texture. Use plastic cups, containers or cutters to create whatever you fancy. Once you finished playing with your sand, keep it in a sealed container, so that it will keep for longer.



CEREAL BOX MONSTERS

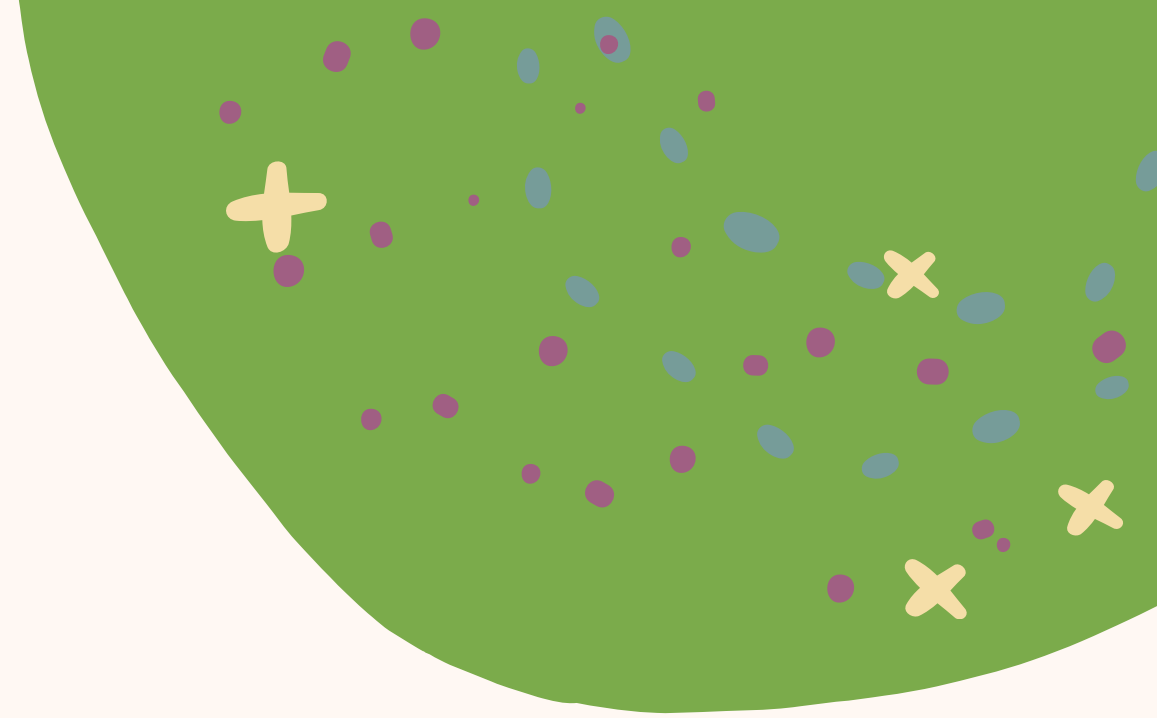
Paint or wrap your empty cereal boxes in coloured or plain paper. Cut out your monster's mouth and glue on the eyes, either use sticky eyes or cut them out from paper. Add as many details as you wish. Head outside and pick up some natural objects e.g. sticks, leaves or berries and use them to add a bit of 3rd dimension to your spooky monster.



Outside Kim's Play

Follow the rules and have fun!

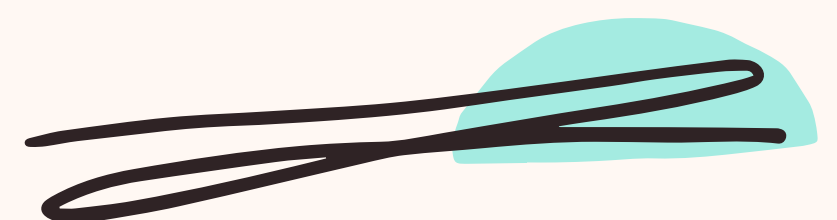




Tricky Ricky, Kahoot quizzes and video broadcast sessions!



In order to entertain kids and young people of our community online, we decided to organize quizzes on different topics and video broadcast sessions. These included a nice magic show offered by Tricky Ricky, relaxing yoga sessions to address mental health issues and help during this lockdown, storytelling sessions and a wonderful video kindly offered by Edinburgh Zoo. We also played Bingo!



WELCOME TO OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS!



Chloe Thomson

I was born and raised in North Edinburgh and attended school within this community. Many of you might already know me from PY as I am currently employed as part of the youth work team. I have been fortunate enough to work with the amazing team at PY and meet so many children and young people from the community.

Personally, I love all kinds of sport and I am extremely enthusiastic about some in particular. My bucket list is filled with lots of different sporting events I dream of attending along with some destinations I'd love to see. I am a fun, enthusiastic and kind person and see myself as a positive role model for young people to look up to. I am really looking forward to starting my new role as a 1:1 Intensive support worker at PY and becoming part of the wider team to help support the local community.

I've lived in Edinburgh my whole life, spent 4 years studying Criminology at Uni and since 2018 have been popping up all over the city doing youth work. I've also undertaken a Professional Development Award in Youth Work and am hoping to complete that soon. I'm really passionate about providing young people a safe space to grow, learn and have fun – most importantly, I'm always happy to make a fool of myself! If I'm not working at PYCP I'm probably re-watching TV shows I've seen a million times, thinking about the Eurovision Song Contest or working my other job at 6VT Youth Cafe.

Joining PYCP during a global pandemic has been a bit weird but the team and young people have been so lovely and supportive. I can't wait to experience more in person!



Adrianna Marcantonio

I moved to Edinburgh in 2019 to attend a Master in Design and Digital Media at the University of Edinburgh. I instantly fell in love with the beauty of this magical city, which is my favourite in the world. I started to work for PYCP in October 2020 because I wanted to use all the digital skills I learnt during my master's degree and in my previous job experiences for something that could help Edinburgh's community and its wonderful people.

For PYCP I manage the social media accounts and I am responsible for the digital content that is published there and on the website. Due to the lockdown rules, I still haven't got the chance to visit Pilton in person or to meet my coworkers, but I hope to do that very soon. PYCP's team is amazing and is doing an incredible job and I am very grateful to be part of it!



Luisa Colombo

PYCP STORIES:

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE FINDING JOBS



Our Scheme of Work Employability Programme is a skills-based project designed to help young people develop employability skills and also create a sense of achievement and pride in helping others/ their community, further deterring from anti-social behaviour and crime.

Before lockdown, we managed to organize a few outdoor activities at Gypsy Brae where our guys worked hard to update the mountain bike track. We hope to resume the FACENorth project soon and in the meantime, we would like to share with you some happy news!



FACENorth have been engaging with a young person for 5 years and supported him through many challenges. Thanks to the support we received, we are now sponsoring him to complete a course and gain a qualification in residential letting and property management.

Without this sponsorship and support, this young person would not be able to access and complete this course. This is an amazing opportunity and a chance to create a positive future for himself and become a role model for other young people in the same situation.



MORE INFO AT:

propertymarkqualifications.co.uk



NEWS ON OUR INTENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICE DURING LOCKDOWN

Our Intensive Support service has been running since 1997 and is for local children and young people (aged 5 - 18 years). Usually, 1:1 support is offered but we also run group support programmes, helping young people with a range of needs and issues such as feeling confident, mental health and wellbeing, making friends, getting on at school - it all depends on the young person's needs.



HOW DID WE OFFER THIS SERVICE DURING THE SECOND LOCKDOWN?

Our Intensive Support team have continued to support young people throughout the second lockdown, using phone calls, online chat groups and video calls to deliver both 1:1 and group support. Although there have been challenges in this way of working, young people, families and workers have adapted really well. Our team have shown amazing flexibility and creativity in engaging with young people.



Chloe and her colleague Brian Greateorex, have offered online group sessions to young people in our “Roots and Branches” nurture group, where they have enjoyed activities such as quizzes, Wellbeing Bingo, Understanding Emotions and very importantly chatting to and supporting each other. Lockdown and restrictions can be really isolating and so these sessions and a WhatsApp chat group have really helped young people stay connected. Brian has also offered additional 1:1 support to group members where they have needed it through the challenges of the last year.



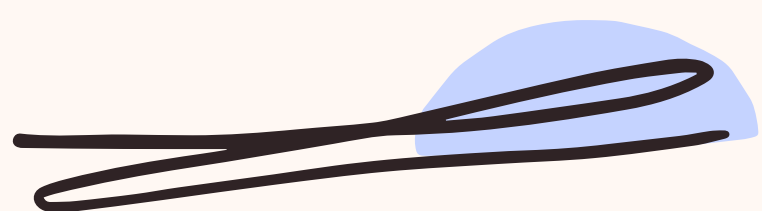
Working remotely has also led to us reviewing how we connect as a team and share resources and we have set up an online resource bank where staff can share ideas for activities and good practice with each other.

The Intensive Support team have also used their time in lockdown to enhance their skills and take part in a range of training. This has included:

- Anxiety Management
- LGBT Awareness
- Mental Health Champions
- Child Protection
- Supporting Young People Virtually
- 7 Steps to Happiness



Our team member Jill Hume is leading on a new element of the Intensive Support Service; our Family Support Project for children aged 5 to 8, their parents and siblings. Jill is an experienced practitioner having worked in other organisations across Edinburgh and is also a parent, so she can identify and empathise with the challenges that this can bring. Lockdown and remote working has meant that launching this service was no easy task, but Jill has built excellent relationships with several new families.



FOR MORE INFO AND REFERRALS

jill@pycp.co.uk laura@pycp.co.uk

CASH FOR KIDS AND ITS SUPPORT TO PYCP FAMILIES

Cash for Kids were chosen as a key partner of The Scottish Government to distribute grants for their Winter Fund. This fund has been allocated to support families during the Winter period and offer assistance of £100 per child to support with basic essentials such as food, fuel, warm winter clothing.

Thanks to Cash for Kids for organising the Winter Grant payments for families most in need. PYCP have handed out over £24000 to families who are most at need of help this winter. These vouchers have been spread out over several months so that families could budget for a set amount arriving every 7 to 10 days as Morrisons vouchers to spend on food and clothing and free up money to pay for heating and electricity.



On behalf of all the families we have had some lovely feedback which shows how the Winter grant has helped:

"I received my voucher earlier this morning. This has been a massive help to our family. I was able to buy my son new trainers which he needed and fresh fruit, veg and decent meals which we would not have been able to afford at the moment"

"This is a big help to me with having such a big family it's helping me out a great deal thank u very much "

"Hi the vouchers made a massive difference to us. They've been a life saver in any way."

"Thanks for your help, I have a problem with my housing benefit, it has been stopped for now three months and I have to save money for rent. These vouchers will help me a lot to buy food for my family"

"I can't thank the PYCP enough, our family has been and is struggling during this last year and with my husband still working we qualified for almost no assistance that is available for low income families during this pandemic, we have really struggled to keep on top of the bills and keep our house warm and kids fed, these vouchers are helping us immensely and allowed me to get even the basic necessity of bath products and washing powder and even new underwear and socks for my children things that would otherwise have to be put on the back burner in order to prioritize bus fares for work, food and electric and rent."



MORE INFO AT:

planetradio.co.uk



APRIL - JUNE TERM



TUESDAY

QUIZ TIME

Fun and educational quizzes for P1-7 and S1+. The quizzes will remain active for 3 days. Links on our Facebook

P5 ADVENTURERS 3:30-5PM

Outdoor session for **P5's**
Please come dressed for the weather!

Closed Group

ZOOM DROP IN 6:30-8PM

Fun, games and chat for **S1+**
Must sign up using the link! Numbers are limited, young people will be contacted if they have a space and given the Zoom code. Please use your name when you join the session.

ROOTS & BRANCHES 4-5:30PM

Outdoor session for **S1+**

Closed Group

PY ON THE MOVE 6-8PM

PYCP Youth Workers will be out and about in the local area to chat with young people - if you see them, say hi (from a distance!)

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

P7 ADVENTURERS 3:30-6PM

Outdoor session for **P7**
Please come dressed for the weather!

Closed Group

EXPLORERS 2-3PM

Outdoor session for **P1-2**

Numbers are limited so please fill out the sign up sheet - a worker will contact you if your child has a space

EXPLORERS 3:45-4:45PM

Outdoor session for **P3-4**

Numbers are limited so please fill out the sign up sheet - a worker will contact you if your child has a space

FRIDAY

MONDAY - FRIDAY

FACENORTH

Our FACENorth service will continue to support young people 1:1 or in small groups.

INTENSIVE SUPPORT

Our Intensive Support service will continue to support young people 1:1.



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THANK
you

FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT DURING THESE
DIFFICULT TIMES!

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