

Cece Brings Additional Success To Green Time - Multiply Awards

We are delighted to present the 'Green Time Multiply Award' to a truly outstanding winner, Cece Shaw.

The Isle of Wight Council Adult and Community Learning Team recently celebrated the Skills For Life Multiply three year 'Maths' funded programme by holding a special Multiply Awards Evening to celebrate the final phase and closure of the programme.

MCEnhancement and Equals IW joined a number of other partner delivery organisations with their nominees and guest, along with distinguished guest, tutors and trainers for a buffet held at the Westridge Adult Learning and Community Centre, viewing of organisational displays including Green Time and networking.

Each partner organisation gave a presentation of their programme during the special awards ceremony. Mark presented the following:

“Cece was one of 10 learners who joined the first Green Time – Multiply creative crafts with a splash of fun maths workshops in December 2022. The workshop enabled Cece to learn about percentages and create her own wooden Christmas/seasonal festive plate decorated with her own personal design.

Green Time – Multiply joined up with the Utilita Energy Company and Cece took part in a special small group workshop that enabled learners to plug into managing their energy wellbeing and to develop their maths skills in a fun informal way. By completing a workbook, Cece identified energy savings from information in a number of tables to successfully complete addition and subtraction calculations, and work out percentages, with and without the use of a calculator.

In a fun craft session, Cece developed her maths skills by learning how to successfully complete a range of measuring tasks. Cece developed her creative skills by making a wooden planter out of recycled wood and used various themed templates to create, draw and paint her own decorative design.

Cece joined a second Christmas Crafts Workshop with a Splash of Fun Maths where she used new skills to learn how to recognise and add simple fractions using amounts and quantities, read, write and compare halves and quarters of quantities and understand how to read and write common fractions.

Each group member was given a packet of M&Ms and followed a worksheet to count how many they had in their packet in total and then recount each individual colour M&Ms. They then created a fraction for each colour and then added together the fractions created across the different coloured M&Ms.

The counting brought about a lot of laughter, fun and chaos. This resulted in many of the group members including Cece having to recount their M&Ms on a number of occasions and even found her rescuing M&Ms from the floor before Peanuts the dog found the M&Ms. The session culminated in making Christmas Cards, a Christmas stocking and Christmas bag.

Cece has taken part in this year's Spring Crafts Workshop where the maths focused on making cakes for a charity event, whereby Cece had to work out the cost of ingredients by reading and extracting information from a table, selecting the ingredients and working out the change.

Cece then had to add an amount to sell the cakes at retail price in order to make a profit, work out the retail price of each slice of cake, the time to bake the cakes and calculate the profit made from the sale of cakes and other activities associated with running of the charity event. Cece relaxed with other learners by painting porcelain Easter Bunny and Egg Cup.

Cece took part in the first Green Time – Multiply – Walk with a Splash of Fun Maths exploring Brading Down Nature Reserve and Kelly's Copse. Cece developed her maths skills in a fun informal way by learning to make Damper Bread, flavoured to the individual's taste using the wild garlic, cheese, raisins, sultanas and currants, or chocolate buttons. Topped with red peppers or cheese, melted butter, chocolate spread, jam or peanut butter ensured they were all delicious.

Working in pairs, group members followed the recipe instructions to use the kitchen scales in order to weigh out the ingredients and used a measuring jug to measure out the correct amount of water needed. All group members successfully cooked their Damper Bread on a camping stove.

Cece joined Rachel from Gift to Nature, and Mark at Merstone Railway Station, to explore and learn all about the Community Orchard and heritage of the old railway station. The Community Orchard is home to a range of wildflowers, fruit trees and the blossom also provides a great source of early nectar. You may find the apples in season and be able to pick a delicious selection to take home and enjoy.

As Cece explored the orchard she was able to develop her maths skills through some fun measuring tasks focused on 'Perimeters' with Mark, before joining Rachel and Mark on a beautiful 4.3 miles, 7 kilometres summers' evening walk to Rookley Village Green and back to Merstone Station.

Cece has successfully taken part in a walk visiting three Gift to Nature sites, Pan Country Park, Shide Chalk Pit and Pan Mill Meadows, to find out about Newport's industrial past and see how the landscape has changed over time.

This walk was a self-guided walk that needed learners to read, follow and share a set of directions, and take part in a quiz that included identifying dates, finding numbers and completing a maths worksheet connected to history learnt on the walk.

Cece developed her maths skills by carrying out calculations with and without the calculator on her mobile phone. Cece also developed her maths skills involving adding; subtracting, multiplying and dividing, reading and comparing distance and extract information from a table.

Cece has returned for the second year of walks first taking part in an Orienteering Multiply Challenge exploring the different trails and pathways of Firestone Copse with lots of laughter. The group developed their maths skills by completing a fun, enjoyable maths task at each of the six orienteering posts.

Cece took part in April 2024 in the last Green Time Multiply Walk, returning to Merstone Station and to walk the Redway Loop. Cece took part in some fun maths learning about 'Areas' before enjoying the beautiful flat circular walk initially taking the country lane and woodland pathway to Redway, then walking across the country fields to Horryngford and return back on the hard-packed cycle track.

Cece has recently taken part in an evening that entailed a Fun Splash of Maths where participants learnt about 'Probability' and enjoyed playing the Easter Bunny Drive. This brought about lots of laughter and during the evening a Cake Raffle was held. £150.00 was raised for local charity Mad-Aid.

The evening was also themed 'Cakes from around the World' which resulted in an amazing delicious selection of homemade cakes and bread, with Cece making Belgian Buns and Cinnamon Buns made with Sourdough and Philippine Pan De Sal (Salt Bread). Homemade baking entailed everyday maths skills of reading and following a recipe, weighing ingredients, reading scales, metric or imperial measurements, amounts and quantities and the time associated with baking.

Earlier this month Cece volunteered to co-deliver the final Multiply workshop with a splash of maths 'Wild Garlic Workshop' where Cece taught the learners how to make wild garlic bread, and wild garlic butter. Maths focused on Metric Units of Weight, Metric Units of Capacity with lots of practical maths when weighing out the ingredients. The final splash of maths focused on maths associated with a swimming pool.

Cece really enjoys the learning aspect of Green Time, being outdoors with friends, exploring new and different places around the island and finds Green Time Multiply is not only good for her physical fitness but also emotional wellbeing, a sense of connection with others and opportunities in a fun way to use individual skills,

knowledge and keep the brain active and has helped her manage her challenges with self-confidence.

Cece also finds each workshop is very suitable to her ADHD traits as they have taken part in different places for the walking, have different craft activities and have different everyday maths skills activities that Cece aims to complete without the use of a calculator.

Green Time - Multiply enables those taking place to relax with others and increase their confidence with numbers developing maths skills in a fun informal way through the use of walks, create crafts and arts activities with a splash of fun maths, focused on enhancing positive emotional wellbeing, self-confidence, self-esteem and mental health.

Good maths skills can help you find more job opportunities and lead to higher wages, or they can help you prepare for further study. They also help in everyday life, such as helping children with homework and budgeting money. From these workshops learners can progress to other Multiply Maths Workshops and brush up their maths skills to support children with their homework or progress to maths skills units, building towards a City and Guilds Functional Maths Level 1 and 2 Qualification.

Cece shares “I love maths, the Green Time - Multiply Workshops are fabulous for refreshing your maths skills. I use many of the maths topics we have covered every day, especially in my cooking. The worksheets have also helped me with teaching my foster children maths. I have enjoyed Green Time – Multiply and see it as First Aid for Maths.”

Cece, over the last three years of the Green Time - Multiply Programme, has only missed one workshop. Cece’s enthusiasm and energy to encourage others to get involved and attend is truly inspirational. In addition, over the last three years, Cece has made a range of different homemade breads which she has brought to share with all the other learners at each of the workshops. It certainly would not have been the same without her during the period 1st September 2022 to 31st May 2024.

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