

# MARCH NEWSLETTER

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## In this newsletter...

New classes starting in April, an ESOL class enrichment trip, a past learner visit, our JAG SWAP programme and a Zero to Landfill Recycling Standard achievement!

**Read on for all our latest news!**

### Tower of London Enrichment Trip

Our tutor Sonya Khan and Admin Kristal Remigio, took her Entry Level ESOL Reading and Speaking & Listening class to the Tower of London, with the support of the Community Access Scheme from Historic Royal Palaces. The learners,



who had lived in London for years, were excited as they had never visited due to costs.

In preparation, the class studied the Tower's history and planned their visit using Google Maps and applying the positional vocabulary they had learnt in previous lessons.

They explored main attractions like the White Tower, where they saw Henry VIII's armour and various torture devices. While reading about the historical events, the learners were able to discuss what life may have been like during those times and engage with the exhibitions.

The learners were truly engrossed when reading about the Bloody Tower, which told the tragic story of the two imprisoned princes. They discussed what life must have been like for the two infant princes and everyone agreed that it was a tragic story. The Ravens were a favourite and learners enjoyed taking photos with them.

The trip concluded with a visit to the Crown Jewels, where a projected map showed the jewels' journey. Many learners were fascinated, especially after discovering some of the jewels originated from their own countries.

The learners found the experience memorable, with one of the learners saying: *"I learnt about Royal history and how the crown jewels were made. I felt happy spending time with my classmates and teacher."*

The class is enthusiastic and planning their next trip: a visit to Kensington Palace in the spring!



## Past learner visit

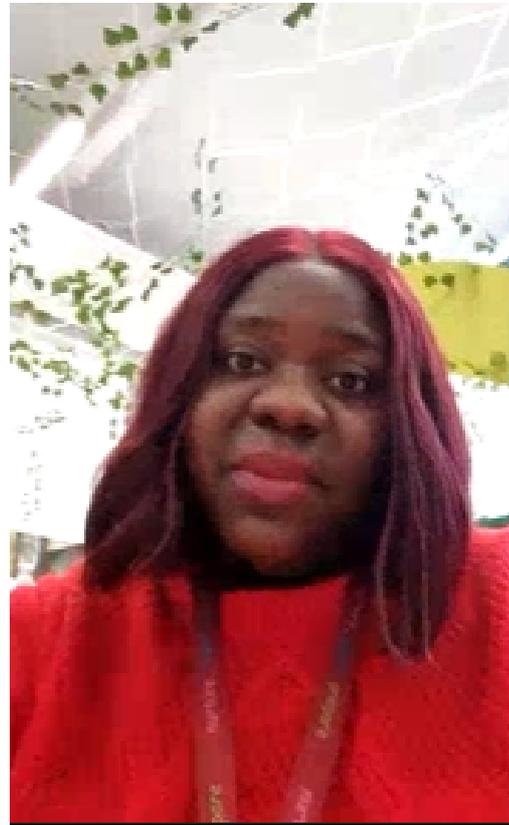
At the beginning of February, one of our past learners, Nina Karikari, joined, via Teams, a blended Teaching Assistant class taught by her former tutor, Blessing Oloruntoba.

In the classroom, learners watched on the big screen, as Nina shared her experience and learning journey at MI Skills Development Centre. Nina began as a foundation learner by studying Functional Skills Maths and English. This then led her to progress onto the vocational Level 2 Award in Support Work in Schools and Colleges course, taught by Blessing.

Another learner also mentioned how she felt more confident in starting a job working with children: *"I never worked in school or college and this is totally new for me. I am not self-confident about it. I always worried that 'can I do this job perfectly?' After her speech I feel a bit confident to work with children."*

During her speech, Nina also spoke about how completing this course helped her secure a job as a Teaching Assistant in a primary school.

Learners valued listening to Nina's experience and advice, with one of the learners saying: *"It was nice to hear from first hand the experiences of starting to work as a Teaching Assistant. To be able to ask questions that concern me when I start working like: how to avoid stepping over your role?"*



*Nina Karikari during her online visit to the classroom.*

## **Our Successful JAG SWAP Programme**

On the 10th of February, we started a new Early Years Swap programme with Junior Adventures Group (JAG) - one of the UK's largest providers of breakfast, after-school and holiday clubs in the UK - where learners underwent training with an interview opportunity at the end of the course.

During this programme, learners were taught about:

1. Pre-employment Training and Personal Development
2. Safeguarding and Working with Children and Young People
3. Child Development and Understanding Play and Leisure

The 3-week Pre-Employment Training had a fantastic outcome, with 15 learners signing up to attend the course, in which 10 of the learners completed the course and secured interviews with the employer, JAG.

The feedback on the employability workshop was very positive, with one of the learners saying *"I've never been taught the foundations of how to improve my interview techniques, understanding mindset and*

*why it's important. The employability workshops gave me the chance to see where I'm going wrong in my answers at interviews and the best way to improve my chances in getting a job."*

*Another learner also claimed "The course was very eye opening for me as I've never worked with young children before but it's always been a dream of mine. MI gave me the opportunity to learn about things I didn't realise was important in Childcare. It also made me realise how much I need to take in consideration when looking after children."*

The employer was also extremely happy with the experience and shared their thoughts: *"I'm happy that I got the chance to meet the wonderful learners and staff at MI. They were very warm towards me and I thoroughly enjoyed the interviews that I undertook."*

Thank you to the MI team and everyone at JAG for the fantastic work on making this programme a huge success and special congratulations to all the learners that completed the course and achieved their goals.

Our next Swap programme will be held in August 2025.



## **#2024RecyclingHero Achievement**

We've achieved First Mile's Zero to Landfill Recycling Standard 2024!

We recycled up to 49% of our waste in 2024 and sent nothing to landfill.

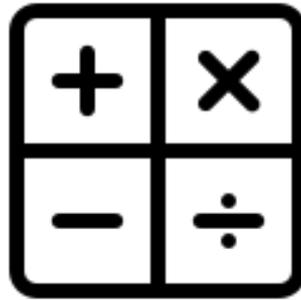
Thank you to our staff and learners who helped us create a greener world for all.

## **Courses starting in April...**



## ESOL

Get more confident in communicating with others in English with our English for Speakers of Other Languages course.



## Maths

Lose the fear of maths and learn how to use it effectively in your daily life



## IT

IT skills are a must in today's world. Do yourself a favour and join one of our IT classes: Digital Skills and ICDL.

**Enrol Now!**

**Transform your life.  
Develop your skills.**

### **MI Skills Development Centre**

The Queen, 47a Bellefields Road,  
London SW9 9UH, London  
United Kingdom

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