



The Family of Learning Trust Newsletter

Message from Shameem Hussain, CEO

It has been a very busy term across the Trust. Shirley Manor Primary Academy and Heptonstall Junior and Infant School have been part of the Trust for a term now.

I am so proud to be leading such an enthusiastic and dedicated team of professionals, all working towards the same goal, of providing the very best education and care for your children.

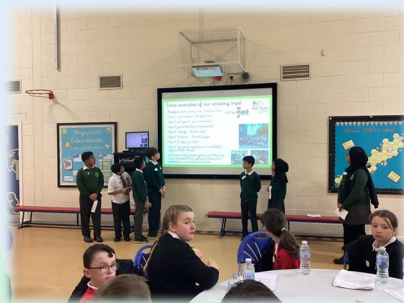
We have had a number of events across the Trust for the children to enjoy. In January, year 2 children from all the different schools came together to work with Tony Bullock (Beech Hill and Deanfield's Artist in residence) to create a magnificent piece of Art.

Below are some images from the afternoon. It was fantastic to see the children from different schools collaborating to produce a striking piece of artwork. The children had an amazing time creating art in the style of Axel Scheffler to take back and display at their schools.



In February, representatives from the school councils, met together at Dean Field primary school building on from their meeting at Heptonstall in the autumn term.

They shared presentations they had created about their schools. The Headteacher at Heptonstall, Mr David Perrin and other senior leaders from the school were really impressed with how the children were delighted to see each other and visit other schools in the Trust.



Forest School at Shirley Manor

Year 4 pupils from the schools came together on 15th March at Shirley Manor to take part in Forest School activities. The children played some team bonding games and then moved into the forest school area to explore and use the equipment. Due to the heavy rain, 'marshmallow roasting' was unfortunately abandoned, however the children changed into dry clothes and then moved into the hall for quiz time! The children had a fantastic time and made lots of new friends.



Trust Developments

Miss Dodd has been appointed as 'Head of School' at Heptonstall and she will replace Mr Perrin when he retires at the end of the academic year. From September, Mrs Pether, Headteacher at Dean Field Primary School will be the Executive Headteacher at Heptonstall supporting Miss Dodd in her new role. Congratulations to both of them!

Welcome Bradshaw



I am also pleased to be welcoming Bradshaw Primary School, who will join our Trust from the 1st April. Bradshaw is a fantastic school and I am sure with them on board the Trust will go from Strength to Strength.

Our aim has always been to drive school improvement through collaborative working with each school being an equal partner. As we grow, we continue to be dedicated to ensuring we are delivering the best possible education for all our pupils. Staff from all the schools regularly meet together to share good practice.

Next term, we are planning to organise some more events for pupils across the Trust including a sports event, at Heptonstall, a Maths 24 competition at Beech Hill and a school council meeting at Bradshaw. I look forward to sharing news and photos with you in my next newsletter. Thank you to all the staff, pupils and families in our schools.

Here are some of the highlights for you to enjoy from our schools!



Beech Hill School

On Monday 8th January, our wonderful upper school choir attended the Young Voices concert at Sheffield Arena.

Young Voices is an annual event that joins schools from all over the country to form one huge choir. Together, the children perform a range of songs that they have been practising in schools since September. There were over 4000 children in the YV choir alongside Beech Hill on the day as we joined as one to sing together in front of an audience in the evening.

As well as the choirs showcasing their talents, we also enjoyed guest performances from rapper MC Grammar, soul singer Natalie Williams, drumming sensation Nandi Bushell and a crowd favourite – the street dance group Urban Strides.

We sang, we danced, we laughed, and we raved! It was a very long and tiring day but well worth all the rehearsing with all involved agreeing they had an amazing time and want to do it all again next year!



Memory Lane Cafe

Well done to our super group of year 6 children from Beech Hill who were part of a 'smashing day' at Memory Lane on Monday. They were kept busy organising raffle tickets, playing games, serving drinks and dancing!

We are incredibly proud of them and there were lots of lovely comments from the café attendees who really enjoyed spending time with them.



Dean Field Primary School

SEND Panathlon

Ten children from KS1 and KS2 took part in the SEND Panathlon competition in February. The children took part in a variety of activities such as boccia blast, basketball and kurling. All the children had a fantastic time, represented Dean Field fantastically and showed outstanding team work. The best part was that we achieved 3rd place out of all of the schools that took part. All of us at Dean Field are extremely proud of them and their achievements! Well done!



Cartwright Hall Art Gallery

In March, year 5 had a fantastic trip to Cartwright Hall art gallery in Bradford. The children got the opportunity to build on their existing knowledge of the early Islamic civilisation by analysing paintings and artefacts from this era. They were absolutely amazed by some of the artwork displayed in the gallery! They completed an activity where they had to sort artefacts into three different categories: artefacts from the modern day, artefacts from Britain 1000 years ago and artefacts from the early Islamic civilisation. They also got the chance to practise creating Arabic calligraphy with real calligraphy tools. They worked as brilliant historians throughout the day and really impressed everyone with their knowledge! Well done year 5!



Heptonstall Junior and Infant School

World Book Day

On the 7th March - World Book Day we had a bedtime story day at Heptonstall school. All the children (and staff!) came dressed in their pyjamas and brought along their favourite bedtime stories which were then shared with the other children in class.



Trip to National Railway Museum

On the 19th March our Acorn Class had a trip to the National Railway Museum in York. To enhance the "train experience" they travelled there and back on the train too - catching it at Hebden Bridge Station. It was a fantastic day enjoyed by everyone (and the trains ran on time too!).



Easter Bonnet Competition

Our 'Termly Times' School Newspaper Club recently ran a 'Design your own Easter Bonnet' competition. The entries were 'Egg-cellent'!!

Well done to all who entered! With their judging hats on the Year 6 Newspaper Team heads were definitely 'scrambled' with some really difficult decisions to make!



Shirley Manor Primary Academy

The children at Shirley Manor put hard work and effort into raising money for Sports For Schools. It was amazing to see so many children taking part in such a big event at school with our Invictus Athlete Sean Gaffney . The final total raised was: **£2,060.57**

From this amount, £1,068.94 will be given to school to develop our sports resources in school, so children are provided with quality equipment for lessons and other activities.

The rest of the money will be going to organisations where children can receive more sporting opportunities, promoting being active and healthy in schools.

Once again, thank you so much for all your efforts and hard work. This would not have been this successful if it wasn't for your participation.



World Book Day Celebrations

As part of our World book day activities, we invited children to enter our awesome 'decorate a vegetable as your favourite book character' competition. Here are some of our entries . Well done to all those who took part!



On the behalf of our Trustees, I would like to wish you all a good Easter break and Eid Mubarak to those who will be celebrating Eid.

Mrs Hussain (CEO Family of Learning Trust)

