



## Newsletter 19 Summer Term 2023

### A Message from Susannah Connell, CEO

Today marks the last week of another exciting, busy and successful year in our Trust and I'm sure you'll all agree that we are all ready for a rest over the coming weeks.

As ever, at this time of year it is time to say goodbye to an incredible group of young people. I know that every member of staff will say that it has been a privilege to see them learning and maturing over the years and see them now ready to leave us. On behalf of the whole Trust community I would like to wish them every success and happiness at their new schools.

I'm sure you'll join me in thanking all the staff for the marvellous opportunities they've given to our children over the past year. Without their dedication our schools would not be able to organise all of the trips, performances, after schools' clubs and so much more.

Finally, my thanks to you-our parents and carers. In order to achieve the very best for our children it is vital that we work together. I very much appreciate the support that you give us.

So, as we look forward to the Summer break, I wish you all a happy holiday, and hope that whether you stay at home or go away, you have the chance to make some wonderful memories with your children. We will see you again on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SConnell'.

Susannah Connell - CEO

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## Braybrook

The summer term has been a very busy, productive and happy one at Braybrook Primary Academy. It has been lovely to welcome parents of our Year 1, 2 and 3 children into school to participate in our reading afternoons as part of the Young Readers Programme. The children loved finding their new books, enjoying a picnic and listening to stories being read aloud.



We started the term with Ruby class having the exciting opportunity to hatch eggs into chicks. The children were thrilled when the eggs hatched into healthy, fluffy chicks and their writing about them was fantastic. Ruby class were then visited by Zoo Lab and had the opportunity to handle some of the animals. The children loved it!



All classes have taken part in Road Safety workshops this term, which are vital to keeping our young people safe. This was followed by a special assembly by our Community PCSOs on Anti-Social Behaviour. The children took part in a special quiz and had lots of questions to ask about knife crime. The PCSOs will return to us in the new school year to work with our KS2 children in their classrooms.



We decided to finish the term with a trip to the beach for all of our children. Our aim was to provide them with an experience that they will remember for many years to come. Year 5 and Year 6 had their trip on the 4<sup>th</sup> July, despite the weather not being quite as warm and sunny as in previous days they had a fantastic day, digging in the sand and splashing in the sea. Year 3 and 4's trip is planned for 11<sup>th</sup> July, with Reception, Year 1 and 2 planning to go on 18<sup>th</sup> July.





## Glebelands

This term seems to have been very busy with trips. At the beginning of June, Year 1 visited Shepreth Wildlife Park. The children had a fabulous day, learning about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. The bat house and the naked mole rats were a big hit with the children!

Year 2 have been to the Skills Escalator day at Steelcraft, where they learned about different careers and having a go at different jobs. The day was supported by the Police, the RAF, the Midwifery service, G's Growers and Metalcraft. The children explored a wide range of tasks including planting lettuce, using the handcuffs and making planes.

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 46 children from Year 5 travelled to Chester for a four-day residential, where they visited the Roman amphitheatre, climbed to the top of Beeston Castle and enjoyed Chester Zoo. The children were fantastically behaved throughout the trip and enjoyed team games of rounders, football and rugby each evening. The long journey home was broken up by a visit to Cadbury World where everyone enjoyed the chocolate tasting and the 3D experience.



On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Year 3 visited the Botanic Gardens in Cambridge. They had a brilliant day learning about plants and the different eco-systems through a variety of self-led activities including an eye spy task. Observational drawing also allowed the children to take some time to reflect of their surroundings and enjoy the tranquillity around them. They even saw a Cacao Tree!

Over the last two weeks, children in Year 1 and Year 5 have visited Steelcraft for a Science Workshop. They learnt about engineering, how to be more sustainable and efficiency in the home.

Sport has also been a highlight of this term. Our sports days went well and were enthusiastically supported by parents. Year 5 and 6 children took part in the St Neots Cross Country competition, the March Netball Tournament and a Cricket Tournament. We have Country Dancing this week and a Swimming Gala for Year 5 and 6 is to take place next week. All of the children who have represented the school in sporting events have done so with pride, passion and commitment.



This term we have continued to review our curriculum offer with a view to our new curriculum in September. As part of that change, staff have started to use and explore the CUSP Art resources and have seen some lovely pieces of work across the school.

Year 4 have been working with other Fenland schools on the Fenland Sings project. As part of the project they have

worked with a poet Tom Kitching to write the lyrics for a song about the history of Glebelands. The research for the wording was supported by Historic England Heritage Schools and provided a wide range of information about Chatteris' past. The children then worked with the folk group 'The Young Uns' to create a song using their words. This has now been recorded and will be shared in a virtual concert across the cluster. We also plan to use the song as part of our 30 Year Anniversary celebrations next year.



We are sadly saying goodbye to two long-standing members of staff at the end of this school year. Miss Cattini will be moving on to a new teaching position in another school and Mrs Oakey is leaving us to focus on other projects. Both will be dearly missed and I am sure you will join us in wishing them well on their new adventures.



## Gorefield and Murrow



This term has been crammed with lots of events, fun and, of course, learning!



At the beginning of the term we joined the nation in marking the coronation of King Charles III by having a royal disco and a coronation celebration party day which included a picnic lunch attended by all our families. In true British style, the weather was not on our side but we kept calm and carried on and picnicked inside! A wonderful time



was had by all and the children enjoyed learning all about the coronation of the King and comparing this to the coronation of the Queen in 1953.

Throughout the second half of the Summer term we have been fortunate in being able to use the on-site swimming pools daily. It is so important that the children develop skills in water safety and confidence especially living in Fenland. We have also hosted our annual Sports Day events at which we saw great sportsmanship, determination and teamwork. We were particularly proud of how the children supported each other in opposing teams!



We have taken part in several inter-school challenges this term including athletics at Wisbech Grammar School, a Science and Mathematics day at Neale Wade and a Maths Mastery Challenge at Thomas Clarkson Academy. These events are fantastic opportunities for our children to meet other children from local schools and to also visit neighbouring secondary schools as well. We welcomed a visit from the Emergency Services this term at both schools. The children really enjoyed hearing about the roles of the Ambulance, Fire and Police services and exploring the vehicles- especially the sirens! To say the villages were a little noisy was an understatement!

Our Year 5 and 6 children have taken part in our bi-annual residential trip to Grafham Water. Whilst at Grafham, the children developed their teamwork skills, physical fitness and stamina as well as challenging themselves personally.

We were proud to hold a 'Dance Showcase' at the end of this term where the children were able to perform a series of dances which they have worked hard on perfecting throughout the term. It was an amazing event and it was so rewarding for the children to show their hard work off to all.

It is a bittersweet ending to this term as we say goodbye not only to our Year 6's, but also to a number of staff. Some staff are going to take on a new challenge other schools and two long-serving staff members from Gorefield are retiring. We would like to thank all of those staff members for their dedication, care and commitment to Murrow and Gorefield Primary Academies and wish them the very best moving forward. With this sad news comes an exciting opportunity for our small, village schools as we are joining with a third school, Leverington, to create a mini-hub network. We are really looking forward to the developments this will bring.



## Great Staughton

We have had a fantastic summer term at Great Staughton!

As part of the term's topic of looking at animal species and habitats from around the globe, our Reception to Year 6 children visited Shuttleworth Zoological Centre. The visit gave the children a wonderful opportunity to immerse themselves in various zones enabling them to experience and appreciate the variety of environments and animal species housed there. It was a jam-packed day with the children loving every minute of it.



Our Year 5 and 6 children visited Elstow Abbey for a Lifepath Bunyan day. Throughout the day the children had the opportunity to explore the Christian faith through learning about the life story of John Bunyan. The children also really enjoyed learning about the elements that are featured in his most famous story, "Pilgrims Progress".

Our Year 4 children attended a 3-day residential trip to Grafham Water, where they had an amazing time with the centres trained staff leading activities such as raft building, motor launch, crate stacking, power kiting, climbing, archery, canoeing, team building activities and the Grafham Challenge. We are so proud of all of the children who attended, there was lots of team working and pushing themselves outside of their comfort zones. It is safe to say that they were all absolutely exhausted on their return.



As a whole school we celebrated the Kings coronation by having a mini street (playground) party. Well until in true British fashion we were greeted by rain, though we finished eating our cake despite the rain! A big thank you also to the PTA for the lovely bookmarks to commemorate the coronation.

Well done to our Year 3's and 4's for taking part in their Bikeability training, learning to get confident with cycling. All children were awarded a Level 1 certificate which gave them the practical skills and understanding of how to ride their bikes with excellent control.

Our children in KS2 have all worked hard over the last few weeks, learning lines, songs and dance moves, preparing for our musical performance of Aladdin Trouble. The children are all really excelling themselves, with so much enthusiasm being put into each and every performance.



A big thank you to our GS families and PTA, who continue to work hard to raise funds for our school. Our most recent events have been a bake-off competition, personalised Father's Day keyrings, rainbow raffle, freeze pop Friday and break the rules day. These events were so well organised with everyone enjoying being part of them. This is the time of year where we have to say a fond farewell to our Year 6 children. We are extremely proud of every single one of them and would like to wish them well in the next stage of their education.

We also would like to say goodbye to our assistant Head teacher, Mr Nelson. He has been promoted within the Trust and will take up a position as Deputy Headteacher at Winhills Primary Academy in September. Mr Nelson has been a much-valued member of the team here for many years and has contributed so much to the improvement and evolution of our school and community; we will miss him terribly. We would like to wish him the very best in his new role at Winhills Primary Academy, our loss is their gain.



## Kimbolton

We have had a very busy summer term at KPA and even as we all look forward to the summer holidays we are still very busy with lots of events still taking place: a visit to the zoo, a summer concert, sports day, leavers party and celebrations to mark and goodbyes to be said. Our very lovely Miss Bleakley is commencing her maternity leave with baby Bleakley due in August. Our best wishes to her and her partner for this eagerly anticipated arrival. On this note, we welcome Miss Chloe Gibson to KPA and wish her the very best for her time with us.

At the end of March our year 5 & 6 pupils were treated to a wonderful trip to London to watch Cinderella performed by the Royal Ballet. It was an absolutely magical and mesmerising performance that captured the imagination of our pupils and will remain in their memories for a long time.



As part of our RE curriculum our very talented pupils have created some very attractively decorated umbrellas depicting their interpretations of religious beliefs. These umbrellas are currently on display in the Art café in St Neots if you're able to visit them.



Years 5 & 6 were lucky to visit Elstow Abbey for the Lifepath celebration of John Bunyan. This visit gave us all an opportunity to learn about his life and the experiences he had which altered his life. We visited a fayre, practised calligraphy, became preachers and some of us even got to ring the church bells. A fun day was had by all and some valuable lessons learned.



Our sports teams have joined in with lots of the Trust events, which they've enjoyed taking part in, we are so lucky to be included at the Winhills events, but have also had the pleasure of hosting our own rounders event here at KPA. Thank you to all of the schools who took part in this our first rounders tournament of many, we hope!



KPA have been very continental recently! Miss Chhibber and her French club have organised and run a French café serving croissant, brioche and other French delicacies to parents and pupils. Any profits made from this wonderful social occasion will be used to purchase more French Dictionaries for school.



KPA have put on their own production of Cinderella Rockerfella and the cast have been practising their singing and brushing up on the acting skills for their "Star is Born" moment.





## King James Academy Royston

What a time for our Year 5 / 6 Boys to put in their performance of the season as they won the WixFootball Hertfordshire County Cup final 7-0. A superb effort from the team as they retain the historic trophy for King James Academy.



### **KJAR students make it to top 15% of the country in UK Biology Challenge**



This year enrolled KJAR students into the UK Biology Challenge. The Biology Challenge is all about stimulating curiosity for the natural world and encouraging students to take an interest in biology outside of school.

The results are in for the Year 9 and 10 Biology Challenge. Over 43,685 students from 621 schools worldwide took part in this year's competition. Our KJAR students have made us extremely proud, achieving 20 awards, including 8 Bronze awards and 3 Highly Commended awards. Our Top scorers were Laura, James, Holly, Orla, Dean, Rosie, Kieran and Grace. Each received a Bronze award, placing each of them in the top 15% of 43,685 pupils who participated from 621 schools worldwide!

**Bloom-ing marvellous!** On Friday 16 June, two Year 8 Students: Florence Barnard and Benjy Nash represented the Academy at a local event, organised with the new mayor, Councillor Lisa Adams, to commemorate Bloomsday - a celebration of James Joyce's 1922 Ulysses, named after the book's protagonist, Leopold Bloom.

The students each read excerpts from the text, which had been specifically chosen for them by the chief organiser, Hugh Pollock. Florence and Benjy read beautifully and brought to life the sentiments of Joyce's epic narrative. Ulysses is not a beach-holiday read, in fact, it's not even a leisurely afternoon read, it is rather an endurance test and a labour of love; the accomplishment of reading the novel is no small achievement, and renders you worthy of a place in the literary upper-echelons! If you don't believe me, take a look at a copy and you'll understand. However, it is not just about the size of the text - reading Joyce's work requires a concentration of mind and steady focus, in order to track the stream of consciousness style that Joyce made his own. Talking to Florence and Benjy on the walk back from town, they have clearly been inspired, as one has already got a copy from the local library, and the other has it on order!



The mayor and many other participants at the event were very complimentary about our students, and all agreed that they represented KJAR admirably. Keep your eyes peeled for a full report in the Royston Crow, hopefully with some photographic evidence of the experience. It truly was a Blooming marvellous experience, and an outstanding opportunity for the local community to see how fantastic our students can be.

**Garden House Hospice Enterprise** The two Year 10 groups are working hard running their Enterprise businesses to raise money for The Garden House Hospice.



Well done to "The Three Tiers" who ran a bake sale at the junior site on Wednesday 26 April. Lots of delicious cakes were on sale to the pleasure of the students making a profit of £114. "Chocolicious" have also run a number of events which included Afternoon Tea at Collingwood Court and refreshments at Royston Town FC matches on the AGP. They were also involved in the local May Fair in Royston on Monday selling their edible Cookie Dough and at Royston Town Football Club future charity events.





## Leverington

As we near the end of another busy term here at Leverington Primary we are busy preparing to say a goodbye to our Year 6 pupils but have also had the chance to welcome our new Reception families.

The term started with our Royal celebrations for the King's Coronation. A 'Cake Fit for a King' bake off, a Coronation themed Arts week and an unfortunately soggy Coronation Street Party set us up for the Coronation. The children entered into the 'Bake off' with some mouthwatering offerings of Victoria Sponges, Royal Flapjack, Battenberg cookie rolls and Crown shaped sponge creations. Mary Berry would have been proud!



Later in the term our mixed boys and girls football teams took part in the EFL Kids Cup at the Weston Homes Football Stadium. Both teams played well with our Years 3 and 4 team winning overall and our Years 5 and 6 team coming second. A good time was had by all and all the children were in awe as they were given a tour of the Stadium.

Last week eight of our Year 5 and 6 pupils went to Thomas Clarkson Academy to participate in a maths challenge run by their maths department. The morning was filled with various logic, number and real life problems. Our mixed teams worked brilliantly together and had a fantastic time.

Our Year 5 team are also preparing for the final of the Cambridgeshire Maths Challenge which will be hosted at the Centre of Mathematics and Science in Cambridge.



Hawking Class have had some visitors in class this last week and have caused great excitement. The class took delivery of 5 very small, but very hungry caterpillars! Hawking Class have carefully observed their progress, watching them get bigger and bigger, spinning their chrysalis and finally emerging into a beautiful butterfly. The children have kept a daily diary of the caterpillar's progress and are looking forward to releasing the butterflies into our nature area later in the week.



As we enter the final few weeks of term we are pleased to be able to finally open our gates to welcome in our Leverington parents for our annual Sports days. All the children showed great sportsmanship and were cheered on from the side lines by many parents and grandparents. Luckily the rain held off and children enjoyed a welcome ice cream at the end of the day!



## Middlefield

Pupil voice is high on the agenda here at Middlefield! Every child's opinion counts! The school council and Eco Committee meet regularly in our cabin. So far this term the children have already raised money for some benches for our meadow area to listen to the birds. At our Eco club, the children put a proposal forward of having a chicken for each class to look after. Of course, we thought that was a lovely idea— but how could we afford that? Our wonderful PTA came to the rescue and by the end of the week, Miss Jarvis, our Outdoor Learning expert, picked up 7 new hens for us to home! The children had a democratic vote on the names.



What better way to celebrate the King Charles' coronation with a feast fit for a King! In the mud kitchen of course! Imaginative play like this really helps develop language and communication skills and make real world connections. There were plenty of mud pies, mud cakes and mud hot chocolates being created. This area is important for fine motor skills, the children can practice measuring, pouring, and stirring. It also provides plenty of opportunities to explore senses, there are many different textures and scents in the woodland for the children to engage with at the mud kitchen. Our children really value the importance of their outdoor learning and forest school sessions.



We also celebrated the Kings Coronation with a whole school lunch on the field and finished the day with a 'Right Royal Disco' organised by our PTA. This was the first disco our children have ever had but it certainly won't be the last! The children absolutely LOVED it and their behaviour was absolutely amazing. And to top it off we raised a lot of money for the school!



We had a Cyber Safety presentation from Cambridgeshire Constabulary. Parents also attended the meeting. The children listened intently and they were able to discuss the main points of the presentation. The parents found it a real 'eye opener' and it was an excellent way of showing both children and parents the dangers of the internet and of many of the apps.



We pride ourselves on our good attendance at Middlefield. We had 100% of the Year 6 children attend our breakfast clubs during the SATs week. We think the sausage and bacon sandwiches helped! They listened to music; did some quick revision and asked a lot of questions. We are really going to miss them but we wish them the best of luck for their next chapter.



Our Early Reader sessions in the morning with parents for Years 1-4 has been so successful, we decided to do a weekly 'home time readers' session for EYFS. These have been really successful with high attendance from parents. The children love to share a book with their parents at school – this is something we will continue for sure!



## Roman Way

At Roman Way, we have had a busy term with some fantastic trips and many exciting events happening in school as well.

Our Reception classes had a super day out at Herrings Green Farm. The children loved seeing the birds of prey and many children were even brave enough to hold an owl!



On 5<sup>th</sup> May, we had an opening ceremony for our newly updated woodland area, now known as 'The Secret Garden.' Our fabulous PTA worked tirelessly to secure funding to create many new and exciting areas within this area, which includes a pond, raised beds, bug hotels and a covered storytelling area. Many important guests were invited to attend the opening including Royston's newly elected mayor, Lisa Adams, who used to work at our school, and our local MP, Sir Oliver Heald. The opening was featured in our local newspaper, The Royston Crow. The children have really enjoyed using this area for Woodland Club, science lessons, outdoor story-time and many other activities. It is a fabulous new addition to our learning environment.

The last week of May was 'Aspirations Week'. We had a variety of different visitors in school talking about their careers and taking questions from the children. One of our parents is an electrical engineer who worked in Antarctica! It was fascinating to hear about the challenges of working in such extreme temperatures. We also had visits from an award-winning chef, who previously attend Roman Way, a cake shop owner, a hairdresser, an energy analyst, an IT technician and a tube train driver. We were even joined over Zoom by a visual effects film producer in Canada! The whole week was hugely inspiring! The children also enjoyed having a dress up day to show what career they hope to follow in the future.



In June, KS2 has a brilliant trip to Paradise Wildlife Park, where they took part in a rainforest themed workshop. The children came back full of enthusiasm, talking about all the incredible animals they had seen, including anacondas, tigers and jaguars!

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, we had our very first 'International Day' at Roman Way. Each class focused on a particular country and spent the day learning all about the geography, traditions, language and culture of the country. The countries included were Italy,

India, Ukraine, Poland, South Africa, Brazil and Argentina. Some parents came in to speak about their countries of origin, and we invited all parents in during the afternoon to join in with arts and crafts. It was a marvellous day of learning, which we shall certainly be repeating next year!



We have also enjoyed lots of sporting activities this term including a skateboarding and scooting workshop and skipping workshop! Our Sports Days were a big success enjoyed by all the children.

In July, our KS1 children enjoyed a local walk into Royston town centre to explore the history of our town. They also visited St John the Baptist Church and learnt about the different features of the church building.

KS1 have also been learning how to write letters and postcards. The children sent postcards to local care home residents, who were absolutely thrilled and will be writing back to the children! Another big highlight of our term has been our Summer Fayre, which included traditional games, a raffle, a tombola, bouncy castle, rides and much more! We are so lucky to have a hardworking and dedicated PTA who plan many exciting events and raise valuable funds for our school.

It has been a brilliant term here at Roman Way. We are so proud of our wonderful children and the whole school community.



## The Round House

### Coronation of King Charles III

The whole school celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III. The weather wasn't ideal, but we managed to gather on the playground to make the shape of King Charles' III cipher before the rain started. This was recorded by a drone flying above the school. We then celebrated in classes with cakes and learnt all about the new monarch.



**Senory Garden** Following the sad and sudden death earlier this year of one of our TAs, Miss Whitney, we have created a sensory garden in her memory near the school hall. The garden includes plants that attract wildlife, are good to eat (herbs, vegetables and fruit), that smell wonderful, that rustle in the wind, are colourful and variegated and that have different textures so that they stimulate all the senses. We held a whole school assembly to share our memories of Miss Whitney and all visited the garden. Parents, friends, ex pupils and colleagues all came along to the official opening of the garden after school. It is a fitting tribute to a much loved and missed friend of the whole school community.



### Year 4 Grafham Water Residential Trip

Year 4 had a brilliant residential trip to Grafham Water, taking part in archery, climbing, kayaking, raft building and high ropes. The children challenged themselves to complete activities even if they were unfamiliar with certain tasks. This allowed them to show resilient behaviours and to build their confidence throughout the trip. Participating in challenges as a team, they worked excellently together, building their communication and social skills.



**Year 5/6 Performance of Moana Jnr** Year 5 and 6 worked tirelessly to ensure that their end-of-year production, The Lion King, was an impressive spectacle for their audience, featuring fantastic singing, dancing and acting.



### School Trips

All the children have been on school trips this term to Zoos, London and The Imperial War Museum. They have enjoyed learning new information and having new experiences.





## Thomas Eaton

The Summer term has been busy at Thomas Eaton Primary Academy full of exciting new learning opportunities for the children.



On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June, the children (and adults) were treated to an afternoon production of 'The Secret Garden' which was delivered by M and M productions. We were all thoroughly entertained with an enjoyable performance packed full of fun and singing. After the performance, Years 4, 5 and 6 were then given the opportunity to work with the performers in an acting workshop.

Congratulations to our Year 6 mixed cricket team, who represented the school in a tournament at March Town Cricket Club and won all their games. They represented the school with pride and enthusiasm, and this was commented on by other children and adults present at the competition. To say the children were buzzing after their victory is an understatement. They rightfully earned themselves a place in the county finals at Cambridge on the 19<sup>th</sup> June and displayed exemplary behaviour.



The girls cricket team participated in the finals at March Cricket Club where they came a very respectful third place. A fabulous display of cricket and great sportsmanship. Well done team TEPA!



We have been very fortunate to have Tim Stucker work at the school over the past few weeks to transform the outside of our school by designing and creating a Fenland themed mural. The children were able to visit Tim whilst he was working, and he even shared his sketch book. We have had some wonderful, positive comments about the mural from our community and we are very proud of this statement wall.

And finally, we have waved a sad goodbye to an integral, and much-loved member of the Thomas Eaton community, our school cook, Mrs Cavilla. We treated Mrs Cavilla, who has served the children and adults of this school for over 23 years, to a farewell assembly, sharing some of our best memories with her. Schools are not made by bricks and mortar but by the people that put their time, effort and love into them. Mrs Cavilla epitomises this and is, and always will be, a big part of the foundations of Thomas Eaton.

We wished Mrs Cavilla a future of magical adventures and happiness as she begins her retirement. We thanked her for all she has done for the Thomas Eaton community...she will be sorely missed!



We wish you all a safe and happy summer break and we look forward to welcoming our Thomas Eaton pupils back refreshed and recharged on the 4<sup>th</sup> September



## Winhills



Winhills have had a jam packed term. I cannot believe that it is coming up to the Summer holidays already. With the beautiful weather has come lots of trips and events.

Year 1 have welcomed in Hunts SSP who did balanceability. This gives the children the opportunity to practice the key biking skills before the children progress onto biking. The children had a fantastic time.

Year 4 and 5 had the opportunity to go to Grafham Water for a residential. The children took part in canoeing, low ropes, sailing and much more. Their determination, resilience and resolve were fantastic to see. When asked at the end of the trip, which their favourite activity was everyone picked a different one which was lovely to see. My personal favourite was the canoeing.

Year 6 finished their final 3 days at school with a residential trip to Hilltop. The children had an amazing time taking part in a range of activities. Some of the favourites were mountain bikes, tree top trail and the big zipper. The children all showed what a great team they have become during their time at Winhills with lots of encouragement and great team work. They all conquered some of their fears. A highlight was their walk to the coast where they all enjoyed having an ice cream.



Across the term, there have been numerous sporting events that the children have attended. These have ranged from football tournaments to taking part in athletic competitions alongside some DLPT sports events. The children, as always, have represented the school with huge smiles on their faces and loved every minute. A personal highlight from this term was when our NFL team won the Regional competition and then got to take part in the National competition. The children got to go to Tottenham Hotspur's ground where they competed with teams from across the country. They got to meet stars from America that had come over especially for the event. The children (and staff) had an amazing day. A real once in a lifetime opportunity.



Across the school, all year groups have been out on different trips. The Reception children got to go to Paxton Pits where they got hands on with nature. A favourite was the pond dipping. The children's behaviour was fantastic and was commented on by the leaders from Paxton Pits.

Year 1, 2 and 3 went to Paradise Park. They really enjoyed getting to see all of the animals and finding out lots of facts about them.

Year 4 and 5 went to Gulliver's World. The children loved every minute of it. They split into different groups according to how brave they were and went and found rides that matched this bravery. Some of the adults came back looking rather 'pecky' having been forced to go on certain rides numerous times. The children were brilliant throughout the day.



The PTA have been busy this term organising a film night and a Summer games evening. The event was attended by lots of the children. They all had great fun and managed to raise some money for the school at the same time.



Year 6 have had the opportunity to go across to Bosch to complete some STEM activities. The children had a wonderful time doing lots of things around hydraulics. Bosch then came into school to complete a lego project with our Year 2 and 3 children. The children made lots of lego structures powered by mechanisms. The children all loved the opportunity to build.

Year 6 also went to the safety zone. There were lots of external agencies there such as the police, fire and RSPCA and they shared with the children how to be safe. The children loved acting out ringing the fire service and then making sure they got themselves safely out of the room.



Finally, I would like to wish our current Year 6 children well as they move to Secondary School.

They have been a fantastic bunch of children that have been a great asset to the school and really encompass what we love about Winhills. They are all friendly, kind hearted and work so well as a team. It was lovely to finish the term with their last Sports Day, a farewell 'Garden Party' and a trip to Hilltop. Good luck Year 6 we will miss you.



It has been another busy and exciting term here at Wintringham!

The Key Stage 2 children have put on a fantastic performance of 'Moana'. They all worked extremely hard learning their lines, songs and dances and it was a great success. We are very proud of them all.

We have had a very busy term with sports events. Eight children from Zephaniah Class were lucky enough to head down to St Ives Athletics Track to take part in the prestigious Quad Kids event. Some of the other Year 5 & 6 children took part in the Priory Park Cross Country event, the largest sports event in St Neots. They were split into teams of 4, and each had to run a kilometre in their team. Eight girls from Years 3 & 4 travelled to St Ives to take part in a football tournament. There were over 100 girls at the event, with many of them having never played a competitive football match before, but eventually claimed joint 5<sup>th</sup> place which was a fantastic achievement.



As part of the 'Road to Riat' programme that Year 3 & 4 have been taking part in, the children had the opportunity to meet some of the Superstars that work in the R.A.F. including the scientists who deal with the building of jet engines. It gave the children a great insight into what these people do on a day-to-day basis, and they really enjoyed listening to the answers to all of the questions the scientists were asked.



Wilson Class have also been enjoying Forest school with Mrs Gregorius this term. They have learnt a variety of skills which has helped them all to improve their teamwork and their communication skills. In addition, Mrs Gregorius has been very impressed with how safely and carefully the children have handled the tools and equipment that they have not used before.

The children in KS1 have been working hard in their Outdoor Learning. Throughout the year, they have been tending to the fruit and vegetable patch and their work is now paying off as we finally have a crop of strawberries and raspberries.

The children enjoyed tasting the raspberries and thought they were delicious. We are all looking forward to see what comes next.



KS1 have also been learning about Africa this term. We visited Whipsnade Zoo to see some of the African animals and had a lovely time. The children got to see some of the 'Big Five' as well as tigers, otters, penguins, bears, chimpanzees, ostriches and giraffes to name a few! They even got the chance to walk around inside the butterfly house to see many different types of butterflies. We were very proud of how all of the children conducted themselves around the Zoo.



Reception had a fantastic trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park, and were especially excited to see the monkeys, the tiger and the red pandas. They also enjoyed watching the Otters play in the water. All of the children were very well behaved and were a credit to Wintringham Primary Academy. The children have also been enjoying the warmer weather and spending more time in the outdoor area. They decided that they would like to paint rocks to look like mini-beasts, and then put them in the bug hotel. They were all very proud of their creations. Pre-school have also enjoyed being outside and have ventured up to the school pond this term. They have enjoyed using bug nets to reach the creatures in the pond, so they can take them out and have a closer look at them.



- ◇ Continuous Professional & Leadership Development
- ◇ Initial Teacher Training
- ◇ School to School Support

All our staff are provided with a wide range of professional development opportunities throughout the year, both enhancing teaching and learning in the classroom and supporting their own career progression.

Our online and face-to-face training courses and networks have continued all year and we have welcomed 439 participants from both the DLPT and other schools in the area. Evaluations are overwhelmingly positive. A huge thank you to everyone involved in researching, writing and facilitating our training events.



Our partnerships with Best Practice Network and the local Teaching School Hub enable us to enhance our offer and deliver nationally recognised professional qualifications and the Early Career Framework. All staff also have access to an online learning package as well as our live courses, so they can learn at a time to suit them. As an additional resource, our exclusive portal 'Discover' contains research, resources and useful information.

Some of our Teaching Assistants (TAs) are training to become Higher Level TAs, while others are studying for a degree so they can train to teach in the future. We have also employed several apprentices.

Our current trainee teachers have all completed their training and gained QTS (Qualified Teacher Status), most of them have also accepted teaching jobs in the DLPT. Thank you to schools for hosting our trainees, especially their mentors, who have coached and supported them so well. A new cohort of trainee teachers will start training with us next academic year.



We will soon be recruiting trainee teachers for September 2024. If you or someone you know would like to find out more, watch [this film](#) or check into our website: [www.diamondepl.org](http://www.diamondepl.org).



Along with professional development, we are providing support to a range of schools to help raise standards and improve outcomes for pupils. In addition, some of our senior leaders have worked on a DfE project with additional schools in the Fenland Area.



### **Governance Trust Newsletter**

**Summer term 2023**

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As another academic year closes the Trustees of the Diamond Learning Trust would like to formally thank our Headteachers, Staff, Parent and Community members of our Local Governing Boards for their time, support and commitment over the last year and beyond.

Our Trust is formed of nine Trustees and seventy-four Staff, Parent and Community Members who actively support the fourteen schools within it.

If you would like to know more about your schools Local Governing Board, please visit the Governor section on the school's website.

This year our LGB members were invited to termly training sessions with Diamond EPL as well as completing online training.

LGB Members are welcome to visit school in a formal capacity to complete monitoring visits, and can also attend fun activities such as School Trips, Open Afternoons and Sports Days

We are always looking for Parent and Community Members to join our Local Governing Boards.

If you are interested in either role please email [dltptclerk@diamondlearningtrust.com](mailto:dltptclerk@diamondlearningtrust.com) for further information.