

Transforming Lives

Our Termly Trust Magazine





Welcome from Derek Trimmer

National Education Director

As this term draws to a close, it's again time to look back over the events of a challenging yet rewarding year- particularly this term.

In this edition of Transforming Lives, we have an opportunity to celebrate some amazing achievements from colleagues and learners across our Trust. Liz Barrett, Principal of ATTFE, was awarded an OBE for services to education, recognising her incredible dedication to her learners and community. The hard work of our other academies was demonstrated by other accolades awarded, including the Primary Science Quality Mark, gained by Star Academy, and the Bronze Unicef Rights Respecting Schools Award, awarded to TQEA.

We're also proud to see our academies and learners participating in national competitions, in many cases performing extremely well. This is a fantastic example of the commitment to extracurricular enrichment and opportunities that is highly valued by our Trust. See the details of these achievements inside this issue.

But even more significant is the Ofsted success that our Trust has earned this academic year. This is a tremendous endorsement of the work that all our colleagues have done to keep education at the very forefront of our communities, and to transform the lives of each one of our learners. The best trusts put the quality of education at the core of their mission. They exist for one reason, and one reason alone: to run and improve schools, to advance education for public benefit. Ofsted is one way in which this is measured and reported, and we can be justifiably proud of our Ofsted achievements across this year.

I am sure next year will bring us fresh challenges and fresh successes, but for now, it's time to offer all those across our Trust that have worked so hard this year the applause they deserve. We have had a fantastic year, despite the challenges we have faced, and my thanks go out to all colleagues across our academies, and our central teams, for the relentless passion they have brought to their work. In particular, I thank them for their contributions to transforming the lives of the young people in our care.

Many thanks to all and have a lovely summer break.

Derek Trimmer

Ofsted Success!



| Academy | Date Inspected | Previous Overall Judgement | Latest Judgement |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Bristnall Hall | November 2021 | Good | Good |
| Pool Hayes | April 2022 | Requires Improvement | Good |
| SCA | April 2022 | Inadequate | Good |
| Dukeries | October 2021 | Good | Good |
| Nicholas Hamond | December 2021 | Requires Improvement | Good |
| TQEA | June 2022 | Good | Awaiting Publication |

The 2021-22 academic year has been an outstanding year of improvement for our Trust. Our commitment to progress is reflected in this year's Ofsted outcomes.

Over six inspections this year, we've received five Good judgements! This is fantastic news for each of the visited academies, as it demonstrates the hard work carried out by so many of our colleagues to ensure each of our learners receives the very best educational experiences.

We're especially pleased for Pool Hayes Academy, who, with the support of our Trust, received their first Good judgement in the school's fifty-nine year history!

Special congratulations must also go to Sutton Community Academy. SCA's hard-working colleagues have managed the impressive feat of jumping two Ofsted grades with new leadership in the middle of the pandemic.

We're eagerly awaiting the publication of TQEA's most recent report, but we're confident it will mirror the other successes across our Trust this year.



Amazing Accolades

The incredible hard work of our colleagues and our academies continues to be recognised in the amazing accolades with which they have been presented this term.

In fantastic news from ATT Further Education College, Principal Liz Barrett was awarded an OBE by the Prince of Wales at Windsor Castle on 8 June 2022, for services to education. The honour recognises Liz's ongoing dedication to lifelong learning at all levels, including the establishment and leadership of ATTFE. Under her direction, the college offers educational opportunities to local people whilst offering support through unique charity and community initiatives. The communities that ATTFE College serve benefit significantly from the educational input, leadership, community focus, time, energy, vision and care that Liz devotes to them.

Other accreditations awarded across our Trust this term include the Bronze Unicef Rights Respecting Schools Award, attributed to TQEA in recognition of their advocacy to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. According to Unicef, commitment to these values allows children "the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens".

Another prestigious accolade was awarded to Star Academy, who received the Primary Science Quality Mark. This is awarded to schools who demonstrate expertise in science leadership, teaching, and learning, and is supported by specialised, high-quality training. Well done to all those involved!

New CEO

Sir Nick Weller



We're pleased to announce that our Trust has appointed a new CEO to take over from Interim Chief Executive Richard Elms at the start of November 2022.

Nationally recognised education leadership specialist Sir Nick Weller will be joining us from Dixons Academies Trust, a West Yorkshire MAT that has flourished under his leadership over the past 16 years. Sir Nick led Dixons on a journey from a single school in Bradford to a family of fifteen high-performing schools across the North of England.

Pat Beanland, the our Chair of Trustees, said: "Sir Nick comes to us with a national reputation. He has been instrumental in leading Dixons to become one of the most respected multi-academy trusts in the country.

"We look forward to welcoming him and working with him as we continue to focus on transforming the lives of the children and young people we are privileged to serve."

Sir Nick told TES: "It has been a great privilege leading Dixons for the last 16 years. In this time we have grown from one single academy to 15 schools across four cities. I am incredibly proud of everything that we have achieved together in our unwavering commitment to challenging educational and social disadvantage in the North.

"Academy Transformation Trust is a larger, strongly improving trust facing the challenges of a wider geographical spread. I am really looking forward to joining in November, and to working with the academies and the central team to build an even better future for ATT's students and pupils."

As he joins us at a time of great improvement and progress across our Trust, we are sure that Sir Nick's vast experience will help guide our work to transform lives by putting education first.

Jubilee Celebrations



This year marked the Queen's Platinum Jubilee; for academies across our Trust, this was an occasion to celebrate our monarch but also to engage in learning about our country and its history. Pupils in all our academies learn about *British Values*- such as liberty, respect and tolerance- but this was an opportunity for our learners to explore some of our more light-hearted traditions- such as jam and scones!



In partnership with the Swaffham Lions, TNHA welcomed guests from their community to a traditional afternoon tea, served by hospitality students. This was an opportunity to share stories with those who experienced the Queen's Coronation, through to her Platinum Jubilee seventy years later. Along with the TNHA *Right Royal Quiz*, guests were treated to a game of Jubilee Bingo organised by the Lions. The eldest guest was Elsie, who at **102 years** young had some wonderful memories to share!



As Great Heath celebrated in the sun with a Jubilee picnic, they sang the National Anthem and were even treated to a performance by their Year Six brass ensemble. Pupils were also honoured to be asked to sing at the Jubilee Beacon lighting in Mildenhall. They were a credit to the academy as they led the singing of the National Anthem.



Pupils at Caldmore Primary Academy enjoyed another Great British tradition- afternoon tea, complete with sandwiches and cakes! They also tried out some crafts, constructing a miniature Queen's Guard from toilet roll tubes.



ATTFE went above and beyond, joining forces with local businesses and services to deliver a community cream tea event, with fun-filled activities and jam-filled scones!

10,000 local primary school, secondary school, college, stakeholders, partners, day centre and care home residents participated in this community record each receiving a cream scone, jam, cream, flag, crown and activity book. On Thursday 26 May, everyone enjoyed *cream tea for Jubilee with ATTFE*, celebrating being able to share time together after the difficulty of pandemic restrictions.

It was a magnificent occasion with lots of smiles, red, white and blue, and debate over jam or cream first!



Diving Deep

Earlier this year, students at Icení Secondary Academy entered the 'Dive Project Cornwall' competition, a contest to enable students at winning schools to learn to dive and achieve their PADI Open Water Diver certification, learn about the colourful and diverse marine and coastal environments of Cornwall and participate as part of the analysis team for a citizen science project. The competition sought 20 winning schools, one for each region of the UK – and so competition was fierce.

Having progressed to the second round of the competition, Icení Secondary Academy students designed and made a marine creature using single use plastics, created and filmed a two-minute video on why they wanted to win the competition and, finally, collectively wrote an essay exploring the importance of protecting our oceans. 15 students from across Years 7, 8 and 9 participated in these activities, working collaboratively on the entry for Icení Academy.

Icení Secondary Academy students were thrilled to learn they had won the competition. A group of twenty students will be representing the eastern region in Pothkerris, Cornwall, in May 2023. As part of the project, students will also be able to complete a 'Try dive' at Cristal Seas SCUBA in Norwich.

To find out more about the project, contribute to the project's crowd funding page or see some of the competition entries, visit the competition's website.



Engaging in the future

Phoenix Academy is part of *Engage In Their Future*, a national association for school leaders within the SEMH sector. Phoenix nominated one of their Year 6 pupils, H Jones, in the association's National Awards. This is a scheme that celebrates the amazing progress and achievements of students at the national network of member schools.

H Jones was delighted to be shortlisted for the Special Judges Award. He attended a special celebration ceremony at a posh hotel in Warwickshire with his carer and class teacher, where we are delighted to announce he was crowned the winner! This is a celebration of the fabulous growth and development that H Jones has demonstrated since he started with the school three years ago. All the staff at Phoenix are incredibly proud!

Edit for the Climate

A group of Year Six pupils at Kingsmoor Academy entered a national competition this term- *The Edit*, in collaboration with Adobe and Sky.

The competition brief instructed the children to create a news report, lasting 80-90 seconds, on the topic of climate change.

Kingsmoor Academy is delighted to announce that their entry came first nationally! A massive congratulations to the children who won: Dayo O, Isobel P, Zack C, and Mason S.

Their news report focused on the importance of recycling. The judges at Sky said the report featured "really strong submissions. Great use of graphics, titles, and pictures to support the story. Nice to see pictures from the school edited into the feature and use of stats to help the key facts land."

The children will soon get to experience a day out at the Sky Studios and their news report will be played on a Sky Platform! Everyone at Kingsmoor Academy is very proud of them.



In Sport

SCA's new cricket team were pleased to win their first match this term after months of hard training. Students also represented the academy at the *Go for Gold* run, with all students achieving their bands for completing 3, 5 or 10km!

Dukeries were delighted to hear that Sam H (Y7) and Oli M (Y10) have both been retained by Mansfield Town's Academy for next year after another successful season, with both boys impressing all with their extraordinary skills honed alongside their studies. High-flying Daisie H (Y10) has had quite the sporting year; through competing for Lincoln Imps and representing East Midlands U17s as their current champion, she has earned enough ranking and competition points to qualify for the National Finals! This represents Daisie's grandest Trampolining challenge to date, with the competition taking place at the Olympic Velodrome Arena in the London 2012 Olympic Park. What an achievement!

Uni Life

As part of the Year 10 Scholars Programme supported by *Take Your Place*, some of our Year 10 students visited Cambridge University Library for a Charles Darwin workshop. It was fascinating to see some of the original artefacts and to engage in some work around using contemporary sources to find out about the reaction to Darwin's ideas in the Victorian period. In the afternoon we were lucky enough to have lunch at St Catharine's College and we were given a guided tour around the facilities by some current students. It was great to hear their experiences of Cambridge University and for our students to ask questions about the application process and university life.

Getting Crafty

Year 6 pupils at Caldmore were lucky to work with two artists over the last couple of weeks. The children did a brilliant job of making a 16 foot (5m) long dragonfly, which was used in the Caldmore Carnival in June. The artists were delighted with the creativity and co-operation that the children showed.

Talented artists at Sun Academy enjoyed success in local authority competitions this term. Well done to Polina (Nursery) and Sophie, Tristian and Jessica (Year One) for winning the *Britain in Bloom* competition.

Another competition to design a poster for the Platinum Jubilee yielded two winners. Well done to Ben (Year Five) and Logan (Year Six) for their fabulous entries.



“ We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give ”

-Winston Churchill



Giving Back at Westbourne

Westbourne Academy has shown an incredible spirit of giving over a year of financial hardship for many UK families. Here's a look at what they've been up to:

September- the return of the traditional House cake sale saw £574 raised for MacMillan, and 1000 freshly baked donuts were consumed in 20 minutes (with thanks to Community Champions at the local Morrisons store)

December- £372.76 was raised on Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children. National Number Day on 2 February raised £370 in aid of the NSPCC, thanks to the maths team.

February- news coverage of the war in Ukraine encouraged the academy to show their support. Assistant Principal Andy Smith orchestrated a bake sale, a blue/yellow civvies day and a very popular raffle. Local companies, big and small, were very generous in donating their services and goods for our raffle. In total, £2979.11 was raised, and 44 crates of non-perishable food items and toiletries were donated to the DEC Ukraine Appeal.

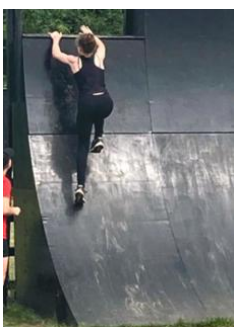
Easter- This year, for the first time, our arts team decided to take part in The Big Hoot project in aid of St Elizabeth Hospice. This raised £1155.90 from an Easter Egg raffle and staff race night. The decorated Environment-owl is now one of 50 on display in the town as part of The Big Hoot Art trail over the summer break.

Getting Outdoors

We all know that physical activity is good for our health, whatever our age. TNHA's PE department led a Physical Activity Week to help promote this important message. Running from 20 to 24 June, the event started with our two-day Sports Day.

On the Wednesday all students and staff engaged in an academy wide *Sit Less and Move More* campaign. All usual lessons incorporated an activity, such as maths escape rooms in Maths, *Play in a Day* and Mad Hatters tea party in English, salsa dancing, marching band practice, and practical science demonstrations.

The final two days saw students involved in a range of activities on and off site, which included outdoor assault courses, walks at Sandringham and Whitlingham, bowling, dodgeball, hugging and watersports.



17 year 10 students from MCA enjoyed the warm weather during bronze their Duke of Edinburgh expedition, walking just under 13 miles across varying terrains from Culford to Thorpe Woodlands.

Students put up their tents and cooked their own dinner the gas stoves, making a bonfire before relaxing for the evening ready for their walk the next day. A little overnight thunder and lightning interrupted the students' sleep, but more complaints were over Mr Waterson's snoring. After an early breakfast, the expedition packed up for another 9 miles walk to Santon Downham. The students showed tremendous determination and resilience throughout the weekend and managed to enjoy themselves despite the challenges they faced.

Going for Gold

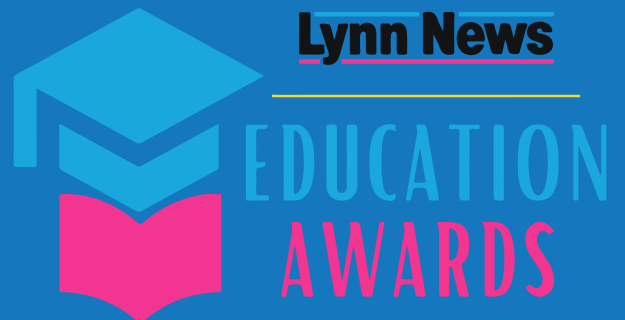
Our academies across the greater Birmingham area have had the opportunity to experience the excitement of this year's Commonwealth Games, which are being held in the city.

The Queen Elizabeth Academy in Atherstone was excited to be featured as a relay point for the Games' baton. Staff and students had the opportunity to meet the mascot of the games, Perry the Bull, and to witness a piece of history in the making!



Bristnall Hall Academy got the Commonwealth Games taster experience at the Mini Games, hosted by the West Midlands Police.

Students had the chance to try out a range of exciting outdoor activities and competitive games, including shooting and tug-of-war.



In fantastic end-of-term news for the Nicholas Hamond Academy, the school has won the *Secondary School of the Year Award* at the Lynn News Education Award. This local award is distributed by Norfolk publisher Lynn News and sponsored by the College of East Anglia.

We're thrilled to have the successes of our academies validated by their local communities. TNHA's win shows us that the impact of the academy's hard work is being felt beyond our Trust, in the wider area.

Well done to all the colleagues and learners whose hard work have help achieve the award- you are all a credit to your community!

