



SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Spring Term Trust newsletter, albeit a little later than usual.

Just as we were going to print in March, all schools were closed except to the children of key workers or those who were vulnerable.

To date, the academy staff and I then spent our time working with all of you and other agencies to ensure that we gave all of our children work packs, had hot meals for all of the children attending any of our academies, had packed lunches for those in receipt of free school meals (including over Easter) and that we could support families who suddenly found themselves out of work, or in different situations.

To date, our academies have given out thousands of lunches in total, shared breakfast club grants, helped parents access the free school meal vouchers, given food bank referrals and supported many families in applying for universal credit or accessing other help. I'd like to remind all parents and carers that all of our academies are open between 9.00am – 3.00pm, so please telephone if you think we can help.

Day to day, the children attending the academies have been enjoying lots of different activities. I know each academy is sharing photos or videos with our children and all of you at home. I think it is truly heartening to see photographs of the many paintings, rainbows, art work and the different family learning. Whilst I recognise that it is, and will be, a difficult time for us all, by continuing to care about each other and share the nice moments, we will get through this and have lots to look back on when this pandemic ends.

We still wanted to share all of the photos in the newsletter from before the shut down – so I hope you enjoy seeing what we all did from January to March...



MISS K MORLEY
CEO
TEES VALLEY EDUCATION



BRAMBLES PRIMARY ACADEMY

The morning Nursery children have been listening to a story about a little girl who visits a library, so we decided to take a trip to our own school library! The children all had their own library card and enjoyed looking at the books. The children really enjoy changing their books and sharing them across the week with the adults in Nursery.



Year One went on an exciting trip to explore the local area and see all of the landmarks, including the Transporter Bridge over the River Tees.



Year Two children have been learning about printing and we focused our work on Joseph Banks, a botanist who was on James Cook's ship. The children also drew a flower print onto a polystyrene sheet and used a roller and printing paint to create 'old books' as a part of their learning.



Throughout the term, other children have been enjoying a range of activities including Judo taster sessions, learning how to play the ukele and using ipads to compare daily temperatures in Italy and the UK. A busy term - but as ever lots of fun!





DISCOVERY SPECIAL ACADEMY

Chinese New Year

Children enjoyed a day of celebration to mark the Chinese New Year. They experienced a dragon dance, created dragon masks and had fun learning to dance with umbrellas.



Inclusive Sport Festival

Children from across the academy also went to take part in a sport festival at the Durham University Campus, in Stockton.

They had the chance to try different sporting activities and had a fabulous day. They worked with children from other schools in the area developing their sports ability, confidence and communication skills.



Art Stay and Share

To showcase the work, we have been doing with our local artist, Bub, we invited parents to a stay and share morning. They experienced a range of art and craft activities. Children and parents enjoyed the opportunity to work together alongside teachers and develop their creative skills.





DORMANSTOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY

At Dormanstown, we have been working hard to increase our reading for enjoyment and reading fluency. The library area has now been transformed into a paradise for the children to enjoy books that inspire and awe! A brand new reading spine has been created for the children to enjoy in our new Library tent.

Each child can take a range of books home through our lending library and gain golden tickets for their home-reading efforts. Weekly draws of these tickets allow winners to keep their favourite books from the library forever!

Reading fluency is a hot-topic at Dormanstown. Research has shown the positive impact fluent

readers can have across all areas of their learning, as it aides comprehension and understanding, as well as reading stamina. Using the Trust-wide 'Book of the Year' (see later in the newsletter) and carefully chosen texts, children are also engaging in a variety of activities that help improve their understanding and comprehension of texts, as well as improve their oracy.



Key Stage 2 SEND

We launched into Spring term with a bang as 2A and 5S focussed on the same curriculum with an Earth and Space theme! Designing and making rockets that could be launched using compressed air was our challenge...we enjoyed an exciting afternoon as the rockets took off from their launch pad.



Moving into the Spring term, we also celebrated a number of children from 2A joining 5S for Maths. This has been a triumph for them and everyone is very proud of their achievements. We have been delighted that some have achieved 100% in their Times Tables Rock star tests. Keep up the hard work.

We have also worked with our artist Sue. We were all inspired by Peter Thorpe and his paintings centred on a Space theme. Some incredible art work has been produced, which you can see in the photographs.





PENNYMAN PRIMARY ACADEMY

9th-13th March 2020: 'Our diverse planet'

Pennyman Primary Academy took part in British Science Week 2020 alongside thousands of other schools across the whole of the UK with the aim of celebrating science, engineering, technology and maths (STEM). Throughout the week, each year group studied a famous scientist, researched a STEM career and completed a science investigation. The children were captivated by the works and life of scientists Mae Jemison, Louis Pasteur, Marie Curie, David Attenborough, Margaret Hamilton and Stephen Hawking. They were inspired learning about the roles of: a vet, nurse, dentist, zoologist, engineer and forensic scientist. Our team of Pennyman scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians have produced a wonderful whole academy display, which includes their discoveries about sneezes, rainbows, fingerprints, surviving Antarctica and more.



Little Sprouts

Improving lives through cookery

In February, the Year 3 children were lucky enough to be visited by Neta and Debbie from Little Sprouts. The children were introduced to the different health and safety rules for cooking and also talked about the importance of hygiene when preparing food. They taught the children how to chop, slice, peel, cream, whisk and blitz different food for their very own Pasta Primavera and banana muffins. The children then got to sample their own dishes and some of our parents and grandparents came for the morning too. All of those that participated had an amazing time and enjoyed their very own cooking and dining experience.





WILTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths at Wilton

It has been a busy term at Wilton, with lots of exciting learning and events taking place. We welcomed Inspiron Learning into the academy to bring our STEM day to life where we spent a day, learning all about the impact that plastic is having on our lives and in the oceans.

The children listened to and learned from four different presenters, the first led a construction challenge, using marshmallows and spaghetti to create their own oil rig structures. All children worked incredibly well with their group, which had children from Reception to Y6 in. The structures were then tested to see how strong they were.

After this, we found out about the effect pollution is having on our oceans. The children then had to think carefully about how they could use the 'rubbish' their families generate to create new and useful products.

These practical, real life learning opportunities continue our Silver Guild Science Quality Mark, work too.



Green fingered pupils

Now that Spring is here, our gardening club has stepped up its presence in the academy and village. We now have two groups, KS1 and KS2, who work with Mr Hunter to improve the look of the academy as well as learn about how to grow plants and vegetables and how to keep the garden healthy and plants happy. One of the jobs the group have undertaken was a litter pick around the site and the local area. It is safe to say, the message has since been well and truly shared with the academy and wider community.

We are hopeful that in the coming weeks, our planting will commence with vegetables and plants being planted ready to share with the community.



MP Visit

In January, Jacob Young, the new Conservative MP for Redcar, came to visit the academy to discover what an exciting place Wilton Primary is to learn. We also explored how we can work together to improve things for the academy and the village going forward. Discussions were positive and plans are in place to try and raise the profile of Wilton. A recent publicity drive has taken place, with parents invited in to discuss how we can work collaboratively to move together, and increase the number of children who live in the village and attend the academy.





TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

TRUST READING

9-11 YEAR OLD CHAPTER BOOK CATEGORY

THE SHORTLIST IS:

- **MO, LOTTIE AND THE JUNKERS**
by Jennifer Killick
- **THE MIDNIGHT HOUR**
by Benjamin Read and Laura Trinder
- **THE BOY WHO FLEW**
by Fleur Hitchcock
- **RUMBLE STAR**
by Abi Elphinstone.



7-9 YEAR OLD CHAPTER BOOK CATEGORY (NEW FOR 2020!)

THE SHORTLIST IS:

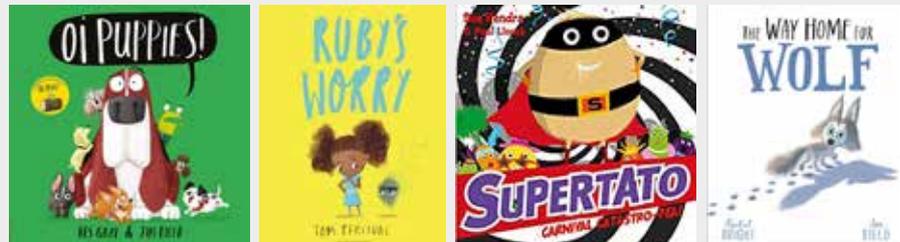
- **ISADORA MOON MAKES WINTER MAGIC**
by Harriet Muncaster
- **HOTEL FLAMINGO**
by Alex Milway
- **THE JOLLY ROGERS AND THE PIRATE PIPER**
by Jonny Duddle
- **THE BOY WHO FLEW WITH DRAGONS**
by Andy Shepherd



PICTURE BOOK CATEGORY (NEW FOR 2020!)

THE SHORTLIST IS:

- **OI PUPPIES**
by Kes Grey and Jim Field
- **RUBY'S WORRY**
by Tom Percival
- **CARNIVAL OF CATASTRO-PEA**
by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet
- **THE WAY HOME FOR WOLF**
by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



The TVED Book of the Year 2020 is well underway and there is a reading buzz within every academy. All schools now have copies of all the books and the children are thoroughly enjoying being able to read them. Their initial reviews and comments are incredibly positive and we look forward to finding out who the winners of each category are going to be. The annual celebration will take place on the 4th and 5th of June 2020. More information to follow...

All academies have been working hard on their library areas to promote the children's love of reading and give them access to an even wider range of texts, too.

World Book Day was enjoyed across the Trust, with a visit from the author Sibeal Pounder. For those children who came in costumes, we loved seeing who their favourite book characters are.

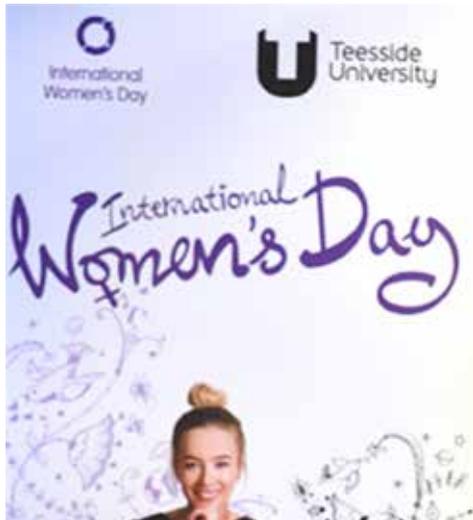




TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

TRUST

TVED had the honour of supporting the annual event, held at Teesside University celebrating International Women’s Day on the 5th and 6th March 2020. A group of sixteen girls from Year 5 and 6 took part in a variety of inspirational workshops alongside female peers from across the Tees Valley. Also, a small selection of our choir did a fantastic job supporting the Singing Workshop with Chris Nixon. As well as this, two of our staff ran a workshop for the young women, called Personal Brand: Finding your Voice, it allowed young women to consider who and what they wanted to be. We were incredibly proud of all of our staff and children, who represented the Trust brilliantly and we are also proud to support the development of the next generation with our partners at the University.



AMBITION INSTITUTE
BESPOKE TEACHER EDUCATOR PROGRAMME

Tees Valley Education are working in partnership with Ambition Institute who have written a bespoke training programme currently being delivered to our Senior Leadership Team. This is a brilliant opportunity to develop our teacher educators and enhance school improvement.



YV YOUNG VOICES

Wow – a day to remember and memories that will last a lifetime!

Our wonderful children had an amazing experience as they danced, sang, and smiled their way through a non-stop, two-hour concert extravaganza!

The atmosphere was electrical, the arena full and the children sounded truly wonderful – even supporting Tony Hadley of Spandau Ballet fame, and Ruti, winner of “The Voice” 2018. Their behaviour, commitment, enthusiasm, enjoyment and confidence were a pure joy to witness, and they were the perfect ambassadors for their academies and Tees Valley Education Trust. We were extremely proud of each and every one of them, and they certainly were a credit to their families. We are already looking forward to next year!



We wanted, on behalf of TVEd to take the time to thank everyone involved with our schools, from teachers, administrators, caretakers and all staff to parents, volunteers all those providing help: all of your hard work and continued commitment during what we know is a very difficult time is really appreciated.

Notwithstanding the unprecedented challenge we are proud of how everyone has pulled together to support our children, parents and staff. This spirit typifies our brilliant communities where we live.

Miss K Morley
CEO of the Trust

Mr J Brine
Chair of the Trust



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