



SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

Celebrating the end of an academic year is usually such a wonderful feeling, as the children and staff look back on everything they had achieved individually and collectively. The emotion involved in seeing the Year 6 children, many of whom have been with us for seven years, move onto their next school and phase of life is intensely rewarding.

So too is knowing that the children who are staying with us will be moving on to their new classes and that we will also be able to welcome them along with the children new to Nursery and Reception back to the academy in September too.

Whilst the end of this school year has been different to any other I've known, I want to also celebrate the amazing communities that our children, their academics, and all of you have been. Whilst there have been and will continue to be some difficult times, the range of amazing learning happening both at home and in the academies will let you all see the care, courage, commitment and curiosity shown by all of you.

Enjoy the Newsletter, stay safe, enjoy your summer and we are really looking forward to seeing you in September.



MISS K MORLEY
CEO
TEES VALLEY EDUCATION



BRAMBLES PRIMARY ACADEMY

Olympics Week

The children have been captivated by the spectacle of the Olympics. We have been especially amazed by the opening ceremonies of Sydney 2000 and the London 2012 shows. We learned about the significance of the lighting of the flame and designed and made our own Olympic torches.

We looked at the origin of the games back in ancient Greece and found out how archaeologists pieced together the history from vases and other artefacts found from that era. To recognise these historical events we designed, made and decorated our own vases depicting some of the original games.

In writing, we wrote instructions on how to train and participate in an Olympic sport of our choice. We researched a gold medal winning Olympian and wrote a fact file outlining their journey to stardom. We also researched the country they represented and found the country on a map of the world.

As a challenge, we changed the lyrics of 'This is Me' from The Greatest Showman, to a sporting hero's song - 'We Are Awesome'. We then chose a song of our own and changed the lyrics to 'Stay Home and Safe' to express how we have been feeling during the lockdown.

In mathematics, we completed reasoning problems to keep our maths skills sharp. We solved a puzzle which led us to a Swedish snowboarding athlete and solved a code breaking challenge.



Twice a week, we completed work alongside the book 'You are Awesome'. Children from home were able to join in the discussions about the book via a web-link which focused on having a growth set in preparation for transition from Primary to Secondary School.

Lots to think about and do!



DORMANSTOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY

Activities in the academy...

Each week in the academy, the children have followed a theme or a book and engaged in exciting learning opportunities linked to these:

Pirate Week

Using lots of Design & Technology skills to make some very imaginative ships which these boys were very proud of.



Hansel and Gretel

Using the story of Hansel and Gretel, the children followed the trail to the witch's cubes, where they mixed them together to see what secondary colours they could make. They then used the colours to paint images on stones.



Outdoor Colour Run

Lots of fun and exercise was had by all with the outdoor colour run.



Where's Wally?

After looking at the Where's Wally book, the children created their own catapults and competed to see who could send their pompom the furthest and eventually, who could hit their targets.



VE Day

The children used their art skills to make banners to decorate the front of school for the VE Day celebrations, and they found out more about this special commemoration.



DORMANSTOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY



The Snail and the Whale

One of our bubbles enjoyed reading and watching the story of The Snail and the Whale. They created lots of lovely art work around the story and used water colours to paint pictures, fingers to create snails and clay to make characters from the story. They also wrote postcards and letters and labelled a snail.



Amazing Home Learning...

So many children have been enjoying their home learning and have sent us these wonderful examples of work.



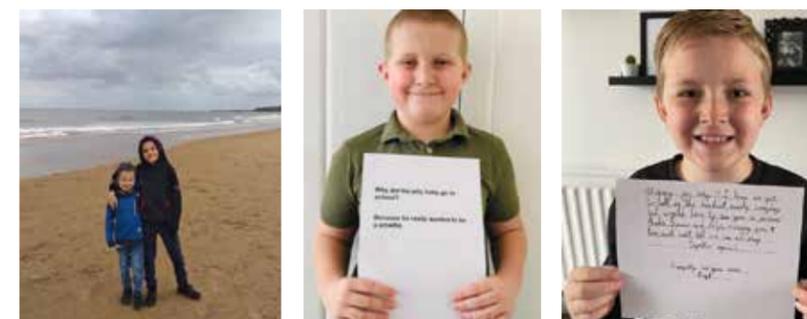
Activities to promote life skills....

As well as the home learning, many children have also learnt new skills that they will always have for the future:



Academy Challenges

Our weekly academy challenges have had some great responses. From sharing what they see when they are out and about to kind messages to their friends, telling jokes to make everyone smile. One of our favourites though was making us guess who it is from a baby photo.





PENNYMAN PRIMARY ACADEMY

As we have had the pleasure of welcoming back more of our children safely in the academy both children at school and at home have been hard at work. Alongside keeping up with reading, writing and maths skills the children have been gaining lots of lovely new learning and memories.

Historians

Our Pennyman historians have been fascinated learning about the Tudors and the life of Henry VIII and the fate of his six wives. They have completed an historical enquiry about Middlesbrough in the past and found similarities and differences with Middlesbrough today.



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Singing Songs

Songs from Annie have been heard around the academy whilst some of our younger children have enjoyed singing outside in the sunshine with Mr Blackburn and his guitar.



Climate Change

The children have enjoyed learning about seasons and climate change. It feels as though we have had all four seasons this term with the weather we have had! Life cycles of animals and plants have also been keeping our young scientists busy.



Daily Fitness

Daily fitness and yoga sessions have continued to keep mind and bodies healthy and children have even devised their own PE games.



Budding Artists

Our budding artists have had a fabulous week learning and developing lots of new art and design skills exploring the lives and works of famous artists. They have learnt about Kandinsky, Van Gogh, Banksy, Monet and Da Vinci - recreating work using pencil, pen, paint and tin foil.



'Bags of Fun' Activity Packs

We were given 25 "Bags of Fun" to share between Discovery and Pennyman. These were given to us by #You've Got This. They are part of the South Tees Local Delivery Pilot in conjunction with Sport England. These bags are focused at people with disabilities who have limited or no access to digital resources. The packs contain cards with different games and activities to do, with the equipment also in the bag. The equipment included a skipping rope, chalk, bean bags, tennis balls, cones and a tennis racket. These bags have been co-produced with SEN teachers so the games and activities are relevant for their ability.





WILTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

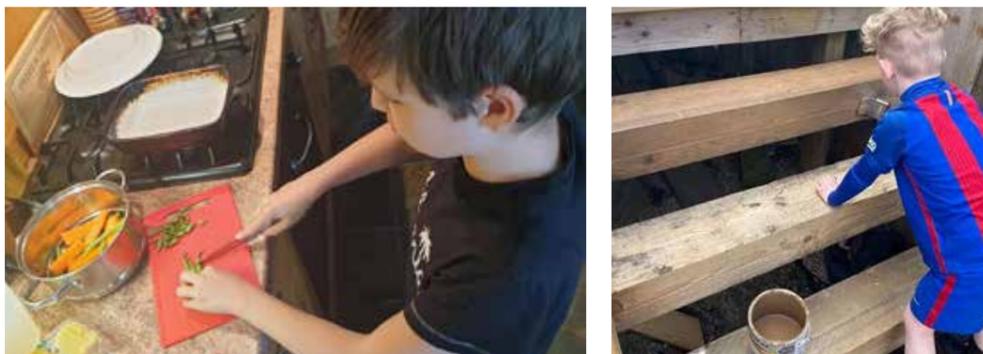
At Wilton, the children have been engaging in their home learning tasks on a weekly basis. We have set the children a range of challenges each week across subject areas. Each week consisted of challenges in maths, reading, English, wider curriculum, the Wilton challenge and the book club.



The Wilton challenge has caused excitement each week, with both the children and their families. Our challenges have included 'alphabet plate', 'dancing', 'virtual sports day' and 'portraits'. It helped bring the children at home and in the academy together, while we had to stay apart.



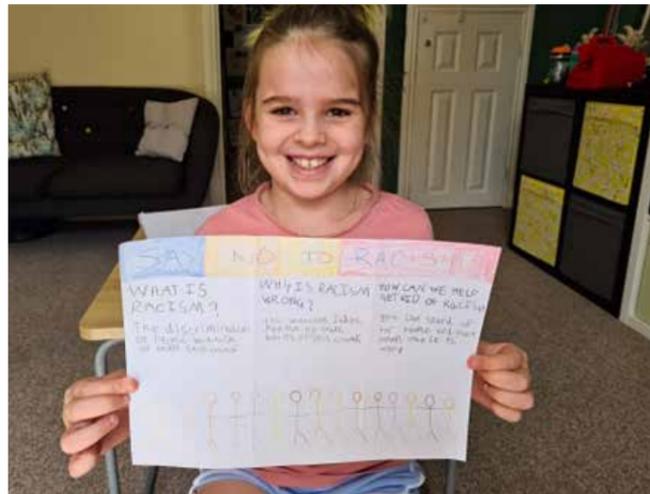
Something we did encourage was for parents to share with us any activities the children were learning to do while they were at home. Children have learned to cook, sew, identify wildlife and complete DIY projects. We cannot wait to be able to put these new skills to the test now the children are returning to Wilton...



One pupil in particular took a keen interest in the recent events surrounding Black Lives Matter. Lottie and her mum talked about it and she was eager to find out more. Having researched the topic, Lottie pulled her learning together and created a poster all about racism.

Her mum said, **'Lottie is very proud to have gotten a special mention. Thank you for the recognition you've given her for her work super proud of her attitude towards racism and how she can't even fathom that it exists.'**

As an academy, we are so proud to have someone like Lottie, who has the courage, commitment, curiosity and care to ask about, find out about and then to pull all that together to produce such a wonderfully powerful piece of work.



TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

TEES VALLEY CREATIVE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

The TVCLP has made incredible progress this year with developing creativity in schools through visual art. There have been so many marvellous outcomes from all schools in the trust. The artists have continued to work alongside the teachers, developing confidence and skills in art techniques. These really have increased the engagement of the pupils in their art as they have been producing artwork that they're proud of.

The lockdown didn't deter the partnership members, as they turned their attention to developing digital resources that can be shared. The new website was launched and has been successful not only for our schools but has been shared nationally and internationally.

You can find it here at www.tvclp.org

As we realised these resources are a valuable supporting for arts teaching, we have plans to make the project even more sustainable. A new networking group, for primary teachers, is in development and other cultural education organisations in the Tees Valley have been supportive of this and keen to be involved.

The network will allow us to share best practice, inspire and share new research. One thing we can't wait to show is our new tool for the children to use, so that they know what creative habits they are learning. We're really proud of this as it has been co-constructed with the children themselves at one of our MIMA days.

The 'Creativity Star' is now at the design stage, being animated, and we hope that this will become a tool that can be used by any child, helping them recognise their creativity in all the subject areas, not just art!!

The children have been super creative over lockdown and so have the staff!! The curriculum after COVID will be creative and we are excited about the potential of our new ways of work.





TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

TRUST BUSINESS TEAM

In addition to the teachers, teaching assistants, pastoral teams and other colleagues that work directly with children on a daily basis, our business teams have gone above and beyond in ensuring the smooth running of all of the academies and the Trust since lockdown. This includes liaising with government systems, including the Edenred vouchers for children on free school meals, as well as updating cleaning contracts and ensuring we are all safe in the academies. They are also the kind voices that answer your calls in the academy and they are the welcoming face in the main entrance.

It has been really challenging for them all and I'm incredibly proud of how supportive they have been to the children, colleagues and to all of you our parents and carers during these unprecedented times.



TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

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Diamond Standards Awards

Despite the challenges we have faced in the past few months, our Tees Valley Education Diamonds never cease to amaze us! We are so pleased to have been able to continue or annual recognition of the brilliance across the Trust (albeit in a virtual capacity!) with our TVED Diamond Standard awards. A video, which is available on our website, shows you all of the nominees in every category and shows you who our overall 2019-2020 winners are. As ever, we have some truly inspiring children, adults and families who we are all incredibly proud of. A huge well done to each and every one of them. The overall winners will receive their trophies in September when we return to school.

OVERALL DIAMOND STANDARD WINNERS:

 COMMITMENT: Keri Beever Teacher and SENDCO, Brambles	 CARE: Michelle Oldfield Parent Brambles	 CURIOSITY: The Livesey Family Children Amber, Robert and Jacob and their mum and dad, Dormanstown	 COURAGE: Lottie Latimer Year 3, Wilton
 OVERALL ADULT: Kelly-Ann Jones, level 2 teaching assistant, Discovery	 OVERALL CHILD: Leon Jenkinson, Year 5, Pennyman		

It is with sadness but great pride that we send our Year 6 children onto the next stage of their education. If they continue to follow our diamond standards, show the resilience that this year has required and continue to have the support of our amazing community each child is sure to succeed.

The year has seen challenges we could never have imagined but it is testament to the hard work and commitment of all our staff, volunteers, parents and most importantly children that we can celebrate in this newsletter some of our achievements this Summer term. We have many unsung hero's that are essential to Tees Valley Education and in this newsletter it is great to see the work of our business and administration teams celebrated – thank you all.

Roll on September when we can welcome our new Nursery and Reception pupils and when we can be excited by the start of a new academic year – but first enjoy the summer.

Mr J Brine
Chair of the Trust Board



TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

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