



SPRING NEWSLETTER ISSUE #5



Welcome from the CEO

There is something so magical about spring-time, as daffodils and snowdrops brighten up our surroundings and signs of new life are emerging, there is a collective sense of excitement as we look towards the summer months.

Across our schools, the children have been very busy this term. There have been school-wide celebrations of reading, maths and science, as well as a range of adventurous and educational trips and activities that have been enjoyed.

Of course, our Trust also couldn't fail to be affected by what is going on in the

wider world at the moment. While we have been limited in our discussions of current events, we have seen so much generosity and kindness across our school communities as we continue to try to do our bit to help Ukrainian refugees in whatever small ways we can. We have also been spending time discussing the importance of showing compassion and

love for each other, every day and throughout our lives – these qualities have never been more important and will make our children the kind and caring citizens that our world needs.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Yvonne Brown
CEO

Children celebrate World Book Day in style

Pupils across Leading Learners MAT marked the 25th World Book Day with a host of events and activities.

At Reevy Hill Primary School the children were delighted to welcome children's author, Mark Power, to lead a special assembly about his book 'Space Detectives,' before delivering creative writing workshops for Key Stage 2 pupils.

Pupils at Worth Valley Primary School came to school dressed as book characters, with Year 1 pupils paired up with Nursery children to read books, drink hot chocolate and eat biscuits together.

Children at Tyldesley Primary School were invited to wear their pyjamas for a day of storytelling together.

While pupils at Woodside Academy marked the occasion by taking part in a "Bringing Books to Life Dance Workshop" with West End Schools. The sessions, which were run by a professional West End dancer and choreographer, saw pupils across the school taking part in dance and movement workshops based on the story of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl.

Yvonne Brown, CEO of Leading Learners, said:

"World Book Day is always a particular highlight of the spring term as we celebrate the joy of reading together, at school and at home."

"We have seen some fabulous activities taking place, that have truly inspired the children to explore the wonderful world of books."





Science Week inspires

Children at Reevy Hill Primary School were left in awe as they took part in science workshops and assemblies to mark British Science Week.

With sessions delivered by a visiting scientist, pupils across every year group had the chance to experiment and explore.

At Tyldesley Primary School, every class took part in fun, practical science experiments

throughout the week. Key Stage 1 pupils also had the chance to take part in science storytime sessions, where they could listen to stories from an engineer, an architect, a scientist and an illustrator and even had the opportunity to ask questions.

Mick McKenna, Headteacher at Tyldesley Primary School, said:

"It was fantastic to see the children's faces light up as they spent the week learning about science."

Opening up opportunities at Worth Valley

We are delighted to announce that Worth Valley Primary has now become an accredited Forest School, which means that pupils will benefit from even more opportunities to learn through the outdoors.

Also this term, Worth Valley has achieved Communication Friendly Schools status, in recognition of a whole school approach to improving speech, language and communication skills.

Ceinwen Lodge, Headteacher at Worth Valley Primary, said:

"My thanks go to Caroline Oram, our Early Years lead and Sarah Richardson, our Nursery teacher, who completed the Forest School and Communication Friendly Schools training respectively."

"Caroline and Sarah have worked so hard to gain these accreditations and will lead on these important areas for our school."



Rock Star Maths

Pupils at Woodside Academy have been channelling their inner rock stars while learning all about times tables this term.

During a dedicated 'Times Tables Rockstar Maths Day' pupils and staff dressed as their favourite rockstars to take part in a range of engaging activities to celebrate maths.

Kirsty Porter, Headteacher at Woodside Academy, said:

"The children looked brilliant and thoroughly enjoyed their day.

"Going forwards, we will now be running a Times Tables Rock Stars programme every day, in order to practise times tables in a fun way."



Pupils settle in at new Resourced Provision

After the opening of Worth Valley's Resourced Provision last term, five children now attend the setting.

The fantastic new area of the school provides a nurturing environment and specialist staffing to help support children from the community with additional needs, particularly those with autism.

With a range of additional facilities including a sensory

room, the Resourced Provision offers a specially tailored environment and curriculum to meet the individual needs of each pupil, providing access to a mainstream curriculum and other school activities through additional support.

Ceinwen Lodge, Headteacher at Worth Valley Primary School, said:

"Our new pupils have settled in extremely well and are able to access mainstream lessons as part of their individual bespoke timetables."

Children's Mental Health Week

Reevy Hill Primary School marked this year's Children's Mental Health Week by presenting Mental Health Champion certificates to representatives across each class.

Parents and carers were also invited into school to attend a coffee morning to discuss all things Mental Health with Reevy Hill's staff Mental Health First Aiders.

Gary Stott, Headteacher at Reevy Hill Primary School, said:

"Children's Mental Health Week is an ideal opportunity for us to come together to discuss how we can support pupils with their mental health and wellbeing each and every day.

"We were pleased to welcome parents and carers into school to talk about this important topic."





Finding out about the Fire Service

Reception pupils at Reevy Hill Primary School and Year 1, 2 and 3 pupils at Tyldesley Primary School were thrilled to meet members of the local fire service this term.

During workshop sessions, the children had the chance to learn about fire safety in the home. They also found out more about the role of fire fighters, the equipment they use and even got to take a seat in a fire engine!

Gary Stott, Headteacher at Reevy Hill Primary School, said:

“What a wonderful time our pupils had!

“Whilst, of course, there was lots of fun to be had, there were many important messages for the children to take away with them about fire safety.”

Exciting adventures

This term, pupils across each year group at Worth Valley Primary School have enjoyed taking part in extra-curricular visits in the local area.

From a trip to Skipton Castle and Ilkley Toy Museum to a day at Cannon Hall Farm and taking in the sights of Saltaire, there has been so much for pupils to explore.

Ceinwen Lodge, Headteacher at Worth Valley Primary School, said:

“It is so important for our pupils to experience the wonders of our local area.

“We are surrounded by so many incredible places for the children to explore. This includes fascinating

heritage sites and other local cultural destinations that help to enrich pupils’ learning.”

A tree for every child

Thanks to the support of Bradford District Council, Woodside Academy is currently planting 'A tree for every child' in order to create a beautiful wooded area on the school field.

In addition to providing a new outdoor space for pupils to explore, the tree planting programme also forms part of the school's commitment to climate action.

Kirsty Porter, Headteacher at Woodside Academy, said:

"I am incredibly proud to confirm that over 300 trees have been planted by our Key Stage 2 children so far. Next year our EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils will also have the opportunity to

plant their very own trees, as our wooded area grows further."



Enjoying a natural play space

Early Years pupils at Tyldesley Primary School have been making the most of their brand new natural climbing frame.

The bespoke structure, which is made using fallen trees and other natural materials was built on-site in order to create a unique place space that celebrates the joy of exploring the natural environment.

Mick McKenna, Headteacher at Tyldesley Primary School, said:

"At Tyldesley Primary School we believe that providing a blend of indoor and outdoor learning opportunities for our Early Years pupils is vital, so this is a valued addition to our provision.

"The children were so excited to try out their new play equipment, which provides the perfect opportunity for pupils to climb, balance, travel, tunnel and develop core strength. It is also a magical space to inspire their imaginations through play."

Standing with the people of Ukraine

Our school communities couldn't fail to be affected by the plight of the people of Ukraine at this sad time.

Over the last few weeks we have seen many of our pupils, staff and members of our wider community doing what they can to help those in need. This has ranged from fundraising activities and the donation of essential items, to other in-school and community-based activities in aid of those affected.

Yvonne Brown, CEO of Leading Learners, said:

"My thanks go to the children, staff and parents and carers across our Trust for all of their kind contributions, which I know will be greatly appreciated."



Year 6 multi sports champions

Congratulations to Year 6 pupils from Woodside Academy who took first place in a local multi sports competition - 'The Panathlon Challenge'.

Competing against 13 other schools from across the Bradford area, the Woodside Academy pupils had the chance to take part in a series of inclusive sports challenges ranging from 'Flight Path' to 'Boccia Blast' and 'New Age Kurling' to 'Harlem Hoops'.

Kirsty Porter, Headteacher at Woodside Academy, said:

"We are incredibly proud of all the pupils who took part in the recent Panathlon Challenge.

"They worked together as a great team and all had a brilliant time taking part in the challenges. Well done everyone!"



