



# VISION

Academy Learning Trust

## TRUST NEWSLETTER TERMLY EDITION



CHANDLERS RIDGE  
ACADEMY



EGGLESCLIFFE SCHOOL  
AND SIXTH FORM



HUNTCLIFFE  
SCHOOL



JUNCTION FARM  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



LAURENCE JACKSON  
SCHOOL



SALTBURN PRIMARY  
SCHOOL



THE LINKS  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



WHINSTONE  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Chandlers Ridge Academy

## **Sports Partnership:**

During May, we have benefited from many In house sports events with Cleveland School Sport Partnership.

The children in Key Stage 1 took part in a superhero athletics event dressed as superheroes. The children spent the morning learning how to become a superhero at the superhero academy. They had lots of fun racing on space hoppers, completing obstacle courses, practicing their superhero flying poses on the trampoline and even feeding the aliens!

Y3/4 took part in Tennis competitions at school. They had great fun learning new skills and taking part in various tennis-based challenges and games.

Y5 and Y6 children enjoyed an afternoon of athletics with Cleveland Schools Partnership. Events included, long distance running, sprints and standing long jump. We had many certificates awarded for the best performers and the most resilient participants.



## **Y5/6 First Aid Training**

This month our children in Upper Key Stage Two have had the opportunity to take part in Virtual First Aid training.

In Y6 two-hour sessions were delivered by The British Red Cross via Teams. Although the trainer was based in Belfast, we learned how to deal with burns, cuts, head injuries and broken limbs. Our trainers praised us for our enthusiasm and knowledge and the children demonstrated their learning with impressive scores on the quiz a few days later.

As part of our PSCHE lessons, Year 5 have been learning first aid. The children have been fastidiously learning about what to do in an emergency in a variety of situations, ranging from how to help a friend having an asthma attack to how to help an adult who is found unresponsive.



## **Mini-beast Madness**

In Reception, the children have been exploring all about mini-beasts including mini beast hunts, discussing habitats and making clay models. In addition, we have been using a range of vocabulary associated with parts of mini-beasts.



## **Enhancing our curriculum with technology**

This term we were lucky to receive a class set of brand-new iPads. Thanks to the Friends of Chandlers Ridge who organized parents and business to donate towards this cause. Children across school have been utilizing this new technology in a range of ways.

Including: Programming Beebots in KS1, Creating Adobe Spark videos in Y3/4 and producing digital art work in Y5/6.

# Eggescliffe School



## Engineering Club:

The Eggescliffe School Young Engineers have restarted and are back in full swing!

Two of the Young Engineers projects have been funded in part by the United States Embassy in London. The first being the F1 in Schools competition, this is running with two year groups, year 7 and year 9. Students here are required to engineer a miniature F1 car, CNC machine it or produce using a 3d printer and test it. The aim is to propel the car down a 20 meter track via of small gas canister in the rear of the car.

Currently the record is sub one second which was set recently in the finals in Singapore, our Young Engineers have to find a way of making their car go as fast as it possibly can. The competition is split in entry class for the year 7s, and development class for the year 9s.

## SING!

In the Music Dept. we were particularly keen to ensure that students in the lower school were prioritised this term for ensembles and activities outside of the classroom. 5 weeks into term we still have a group of 60 fantastic students who are reminding us all just how amazing Eggescliffe Musicians are, with their superb singing and really positive and passionate approach to rehearsals.

We are very hopeful that we can present a concert at the end of term, and our new group 'SING!' will definitely be on the programme! We have also recently started up a lower school jazz big band to ensure our instrumental students have an ensemble to rehearse with every week.

## U-Music Studio Funding

Such was the success of, and demand for our last U-Music funded project - a project recording studio mainly for GCSE and A level music students - that we applied to create an identical project studio to allow twice as many students to access the recording facilities. U-Music have agreed and we hope the new studio will be up and running by half term.

## Sport is back in action at Eggescliffe:

Extracurricular clubs and competitive sport is back up and running at Eggescliffe! Whilst before- and after-school practices have continued in some form since September, thankfully the recent easing of covid-restrictions has seen a return to competitive team sports.

Y7, Y8 and Y9 boys have participated in inter-mural football, whilst the girls have participated in inter-mural hockey, with a good number of students representing their teams and striving towards achieving their 'team colours'.



The Y11 boys rugby team also returned to school fixtures, with an impressive 54-10 victory against Park View in rugby league; whilst our under 16 and under 18 hockey teams have started their summer leagues, held at Norton HC in a covid-safe environment. With further fixtures planned for tennis, cricket, rounders and athletics, we are hopefully starting to see a return to offering a range of PE opportunities at Eggescliffe.

# Huntcliff School

Against all the odds, in an academic year still disrupted by the pandemic, students from across Huntcliff have taken part in extra-curricular activities, studied hard and achieved great successes. We are proud of the work our students have done and the resilience they have showed in these unprecedented times.

## Best foot forward for Huntcliff DofE

Huntcliff School has offered Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) as part of its extra-curricular activities for a number of years, and during the most challenging year it has been no different. Thirty-three students have waited patiently to go out on their expeditions, prior to the first national lockdown in March 2020, the students had completed some of their pre-expedition checks in the days leading up to the lockdown. Hoping it would last only a matter of weeks before resuming the expeditions, nobody realised over a year later we would be dusting off the equipment from the DofE store ready to go on expedition.



However finally on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021 six teams of Huntcliff students began the expedition. The route took them initially through woodland and across farmland towards the village of Lythe, before venturing onto the Moorland to reach Scaling Dam on the Sunday, and further extensive stretches of Moorland for those completing their Silver award on Bank Holiday Monday.

Miss Tompkins, Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator for Huntcliff School said: *"It was fantastic to be back out in the countryside and to be supporting our students through this prestigious award. Seeing them work together as a team and supporting one another to reach a united goal was incredibly fulfilling for staff and students alike. It was also a delight to hear upon our return to School this week that we are the first school in Redcar and Cleveland to be back out on expeditions. I can only thank my students, their parents/carers and the school leadership team for their ongoing support to get Duke of Edinburgh back into the school calendar after such a long wait."*

## World Book Day celebrations

Huntcliff Library ran a number of competitions to celebrate World Book Day this year.

Students and staff alike were asked to re-create a book cover or character using any materials they liked. Two Y7 students - Mia and Martha (entry pictured below) - took the top prizes and Mr Young's painting based on Philip Pullman's *Northern Lights* was voted top of the staff entries.



In other library news, two teams of KS3 students recently took place in the inaugural National Reading Champions Quiz. The 8 students competed against 15 other schools in the area and really enjoyed the quiz.

## New newspaper news!

Students from across the school have come together to form a student newspaper. Initially going out termly, the paper will celebrate news from both within Huntcliff and from the local community. The students are excited to develop their journalistic abilities and showcase all the achievements from within school.

## And the good news continues...

Mr Ward spent the run-up to Christmas dressed as an elf, running round delivering over 500 selection boxes to children in various hospitals across the area. He also raised £1116 for food banks!

Y10 student Scarlett H raised £2,000 for Motor Neurone Disease Association! Fantastic effort!

Congratulations to Grace T (Y9) on being selected for the Durham County Cricket Club Elite Development Programme.

# Junction Farm Primary School



## NSPCC National Number Day

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May, we celebrated NSPCC's National Number Day. As well as dressing in digits, we had lots of fun participating in number-based activities across school, including the Times Table Rockstars NSPCC Rocks competition!

## Science Week

This year we adopted a STEM approach for Science Week, focusing on a different component each day and having fun with it! As part of the week, all classes had a daily Science/STEM lesson, based on this year's theme of 'Innovating for the Future'.

Some of the topics covered included: designing and building

Mars Rovers, designing and building a watering system for plants using recycled materials, building and testing bridge designs and designing new inventions for the future, to name but a few. As part of National Science Week, all children also took part in the national poster competition with 6 designs selected to be submitted from Junction Farm.

## Scavenger Hunt Trip

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May, we had our first trip of the year. Year 6 visited Northfield School to complete a Scavenger Hunt, organised by Stockton Schools Partnership. Using a map and iPad, each group were required to complete as many of the Scavenger Hunt tasks as possible across the full school field. Some of the activities involved searching for different items and others involved taking photographs of different things. We had so much fun!!

## Year 6 Kindertransport Visitor

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, Year 6 were extremely fortunate to be visited by Gabriele Keenaghan, BEM, who escaped to Britain in November 1938 on the Kindertransport, following the events of the Kristallnacht, when the Nazis and their collaborators attacked the shops and homes of Jewish citizens. Aged 12, Gabriele fled from Vienna to Britain as a refugee. Now a retired primary school head teacher, Gabriele lives in the North East of England and is a happy mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Gabriele regularly shares her story with school pupils and this was an invaluable opportunity that our pupils were offered as part of their WW2 topic. We are extremely grateful and were incredibly moved and inspired by Gabriele's story – an unforgettable experience.



Groups of children from Early Years, Year 2 and Year 6 were chosen to represent Junction Farm Primary by designing something to mark The Royal British Legion's 100th anniversary. All entries for the competition will be displayed in the Preston Park Museum, ready for judging. Good luck!

## Children's Mental Health Week – Connecting with Nature

For Children's Mental Health Week, the children considered different ways in which they can connect with nature. Some activities across school included: visits to our wonderful forest school where children had time to explore nature; outdoor yoga sessions; opportunities to create amazing artwork by drawing the nature around us; cloud watching and creating pictures and characters from the clouds; time to read their favourite book sitting under tree; and mindfulness colouring of nature whilst in our beautiful outdoor areas. Our youngest children took part in 'butterfly meditation'!



# Laurence Jackson School

## Hello World – Competition Winners!

Recently 14 female students attended a virtual careers event in school, in association with Teesside University, aimed at inspiring women to get involved in the male dominated space of computer science digital technology. As part of the workshop, students were asked to create an inspirational quote to be judged by colleagues at the University and two of our students won the prize for best quotes. We were inspired by how the girls summed up their learning and the overall experience; Hannah told us; "Stick to your guns. Don't be afraid to voice your opinion, or stand up for yourself. And do not worry about being someone else's definition of enough." Meanwhile Stacy's words of wisdom were "An arrow can only be shot by pulling it backwards. When life is dragging you back with difficulties, it means it's going to launch you into something great. So just focus and keep aiming".

## Festival of School and College Arts



On Friday 28th May, we will be sharing some of the fantastic art work our students have produced recently. This is part of an ASCL initiative called 'Festival of School and College Arts'. The event will take place on Twitter using the hashtag #EduArtFest



## Soaring to Success

LJS students have had the opportunity to be part of the Soaring to Success programme this term. The Air League is a leading aviation and aerospace charity with a vision focussed on changing lives through aviation. Its mission is to inspire young people by awarding scholarships and work opportunities through aviation. The Soaring to Success programme has successfully ran in other areas of the UK and for the first time has been available to Tees Valley students in 2021. 32 students from Years 9 to 11 have had the opportunity to be involved in this amazing opportunity. They all asked excellent questions and enjoyed the experience.



# Saltburn Primary School



## Superhero Day

Year 1 and 2 sports superhero day – the children looked amazing in their superhero costumes and had such fun doing multi sports outdoors. Thank you, Mr Thomas, for organising it!

## National Literacy Accolade

In February, our Key Stage 2 classes entered a writing competition hosted by the National Literacy Trust on the theme of 'Local Heroes'. It was called the 'Connecting Stories: Read North East' competition, and supported by Mr Kirby in school. All children who entered received a certificate, and 7 Saltburn Primary pupils were all shortlisted by the panel of judges to go on for final consideration within the competition. The work of these children will be included in the National Literacy Trust's online exhibition!

Two Saltburn Primary pupils went on to win first and second place! Congratulations Phoebe J (9) for coming first and Alfie S (10) who came second! These children won either a signed copy of Burhana Islam's 'Mayhem Mission' or a signed printed by illustrator Steve Antony.

The judging panel (including Burhana Islam and Sam Copeland) referred to the work as "*Wonderfully written and great imagination! Great description*" and "*Creative take on the theme and very imaginative, building suspense and tension throughout.*"

## Fun Run for Early Years

Early Years children had lots of fun completing their sponsored fun run in memory of Sir Captain Tom Moore. All the children ran a mile around our playground. Luckily, they got in just in time for the rain. They raised over £1000 for Early Years resources. Thank you to parents/carers for their donations, and to Miss Valli for leading the way (quite literally!).

We are very hopeful that we can present a concert at the end of term, and our new group 'SING!' will definitely be on the programme!

We have also recently started up a lower school jazz big band to ensure our instrumental students have an ensemble to rehearse with every week. We will let you know how they are getting on in the next edition.



## Saltburn Primary #WorldBookDay2021

Who were the readers behind the masks?

Staff read an extract from their favourite book whilst in disguise. We had a week-long run of performances on our social media for the children to make their guesses – it was great fun.

## Fundraising so far this academic year

Children in need: £264.66

Red nose day: £391.00

Egg guess competition: £275.00

Egg decorating competition: £85.50

Go green day (ECO)- £174.25

Sponsored run – EYFS children 100miles, in memory of Tom Moore raising money for EYFS (resources – games/toys for the children): £1,041



# The Links Primary School



## Gardening at The Links

Children planted their own crab apple tree in the Autumn for Black history week. After looking at how Wangari Maathai started a movement in Africa where more than 30million trees were planted, the children decided to plant their own tree. The children have been closely watching as their tree has changed through the seasons. From losing its leaves in the winter, developing buds in the spring and now the beautiful white blossom flowers it has unveiled. We are looking forward to seeing our crab apples grow and can't wait till we can pick them and make some crab apple jelly to eat on some toast.

## Making the most of the great outdoors

Year 3 have shown great perseverance and resilience during what has been a stop start year.

They have taken everything in their stride, whilst making the most of every learning opportunity. A huge part of learning in Year 3 has involved getting out in the great outdoors. We have wonderful school grounds that we regularly take advantage of. We are very passionate about using our outdoor environment to support our learning in Year 3 and we particularly enjoy the active and competitive approach it brings.

We have really enjoyed taking our learning outside and taking part in many different activities across a wide range of subjects such as; cricket in P.E, I'm a skeleton get me out of here in Science, around the world in mathematics and hunting seasonal fruit and vegetables in our stone age topic.



## Fancy Dress Book Day

Who needs a World Book Day to celebrate books? Stories are celebrated every day at 1 o'clock in Year 5! Children get to listen and join in with actions and drama skills.

As a way to celebrate our favourite class books, Year 5 held fancy dress days! The children loved coming into school dressed as their favourite character from 'Kid Normal'! Outfits were out of this world! One child even impressed one of the authors and received a very special personalised message! The other author, Greg James, even gave a live shout out on Radio 1 to Year 5!

Our contact with authors does not stop there either! After enjoying 'The Parent Agency' by David Baddiel, Year 5 asked Miss Mcloughlin if they could dress up again! Of course, Miss Mcloughlin said yes and so another celebration with amazing outfits occurred!

This time we received two personalised messages from the author himself David Baddiel! One child also got his picture retweeted on David Baddiel's social media!

Storytime remains a special part of the day enjoyed by all children. Children are now bringing in their own copy of our class books so they can read along. It is wonderful to see all children engage and enjoy reading!

Who knows which author will contact us next?





# Whinstone Primary School



## Whinstone EYFS

At Whinstone EYFS we are in the process of improving and investing in our outdoor learning area. This has included carefully costing, securing funding and resourcing the area in order to support the development of our youngest children's early communication, personal and social skills. We have been successful in securing additional funding from Tesco which is also being used to improve our outdoor area. This is work in progress that our children will benefit from for years to come.

## KS1

During the spring term lockdown we planned for our KS1 playground equipment to be redeveloped. The children enjoyed looking at the new possibilities and the wonderful range of play equipment available. After obtaining quotes from a number of suppliers we decided on the scheme from Pentagon Play. Work started in late April and all of the KS1 children, staff and parents have been excitedly anticipating the completion of the new playground equipment. Each day, we have enjoyed seeing the progress and the children have been so excited and can't wait to try it out! The work should be finished by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, hopefully the weather will be dry enough for us all to start using it.



## Mental Health Week 2021

Week commencing 10th May was Mental health Awareness Week, and the theme was 'Nature'. The children had the opportunity to create sculptures out of materials from our wild life area; create pictures with items they collected and sketch outside. Lots of fun was had by all!

## Year 3 and Year 4

Year 3 and Year 4 have been very excited by Whinstone's new purchase of now>press>play.

For those who have not heard about this, now>press>play is where each child is given a set of wireless headphones and, as a group, they are all exposed to a story sent in unison through a transmitter device; all children hear the story at exactly the same time. The child themselves becomes the main character where they are directed to meet people, discover new places and solve problems whilst on their educational adventure.



## Y5 Football is back!

The year 5 children are taking part in football sessions with Miss Stansmore and Mr Robson on a Monday and Wednesday afterschool.

Although the children are still in class bubbles, it is nice that some normality has returned.

## PE Challenge

This term, we are taking part in our first virtual Koboca football skills challenge with 17 local schools.

There are 2 team challenges that the children are doing in school, and an individual challenge for parents and carers to complete with their children at home. Certificates will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.