# NEWSLETTER

Northern Star

Lighting the Way Forward in Education

# Lighting the way forward in education

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter showcasing all the wonderful learning activities going on across our Trust Partnership week to week.

Our Trust staff conference this term focused on **Environmental Sustainability** and our **Green Curriculum Promise.** We were extremely proud as a Trust to be asked by the National Governance Association (NGA) to lead the way for their Greener Governance campaign.

In 2020, we launched a compelling Trust strategy that placed environmental sustainability as one of three core priorities. As a future- focused organisation, we develop knowledgeable, curious, and active citizens. From the precious 2-year-olds that are experiencing pre-school education at Eastwood Community Primary School to the 18-year-olds that walk out the door of Skipton Girls' High School as confident, young adults ready to take on the world – our role, as the adult educators is to shape their futures – to guide them, to steer them and to inspire them in their own self- development and understanding of the fragile world we inhabit.

We have coined the academic year 2021-2022 as our 'Year of Growth', casting the deficit terminology of recovery, catch up and dealing with disruption to one side. This is the year for emerging strong, building new ventures, rising up. Our NSAT vision is clear – we nurture learning in a sustainable environment so that our community can thrive, aspire, and succeed.

Jenn Plews Trust Leader







### **EdTech Demonstrator School**



Skipton Girls' High School was chosen by the Department for Education to be designated as an EdTech Demonstrator School under the second phase of this initiative which began at Easter. The scheme aims to help schools with their EdTech needs via three different routes:

- Assisting schools looking to further enhance their remote education needs due to continuing disruption caused by Corona Virus
- **b)** Identifying and assisting schools in developing their use of EdTech in a specific area for example formative assessment or modelling
- c) Helping schools plan and effectively implement 1:1 device schemes in a school.

James Hoyle, Assistant Headteacher at SGHS has been leading the scheme ably assisted by other colleagues with specialist skills across the school.

Schools both locally and regionally have benefitted from being able to tap into the experiences and expertise we have grown over the past decade as an early adopter of a 1:1 device scheme; something more and more schools are beginning to look at.

Examples of some of the work undertaken include:

- ► Training colleagues at a school in Kent in how to best make use of Microsoft's products for teaching and learning as they transitioned from using Google's tools
- ► Helping a school in Yorkshire develop a more automated and streamlined digital appraisal system to help enhance the school's continuing professional development
- Supporting many schools with designing and implementing effective plans for the roll out of 1:1 device schemes
- Assisting schools with ways they can automate standard procedures to increase efficiencies with administrative tasks
- Creative opportunities to enhance the teaching of the Computing curriculum in primary schools
- Running a course on how primary science teaching can be enhanced through the use of technology
- Raising awareness and training staff on how technology can support learners with specific educational needs
- Implementing strategies for extending teaching beyond the school day to assist pupils with missed learning due to Coronavirus.



James was recently invited to speak at the Education Technology Summit at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham to a national audience about how technology can help students develop a growth mind set through effective use of formative assessment and can be seen speaking passionately in the photo above!

The current phase of the EdTech Demonstrator Programme lasts until Easter so if you think you know a school that would benefit from joining the programme do get in touch. Support ranges from a reassuring hour with a senior leader wanting to know their EdTech plans are well thought through to much more in depth support with ideas that are only just getting off the ground.

# **Eastwood Community School**

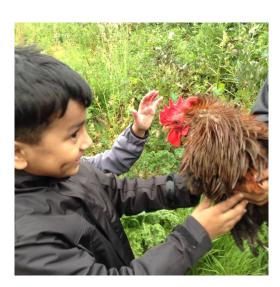


# Learning Outside the Classroom

Another great session at the allotment for our Reception children this afternoon, where we met our resident hens and cockerel. We also found that rhubarb leaves make great umbrellas!

#featheredfriends #noeggstoday





# Climate Action Box

A big thankyou to <u>The Country Trust</u> for our **#climateactioninabox** package which arrived today. We are very much looking forward to using these resources in our lessons and with our EcoTeam soon!





#### **Jeans for Genes**

Thank you Team Eastwood for your support of <u>@JeansforGenes</u> day today. With over £150 raised so far, your support will help children and families living with genetic conditions and will be much appreciated by many.

#charity #community #helpingothers #doyourbit #thankyou



### **Litter Picking**

As part of their environmental and community work this half term, 3MI have been litter picking in the grounds of Cliffe Castle.

#NSATyearofwastechallenge #Keepingourcommunityclean #Teamwork





### **Lunar Cycle**

Year 5 have been learning about the different Moon phases. We recreated the lunar cycle using Oreo biscuits. We are very proud of our learning. It was so tasty!

#### #superscientists #NASA #discoveringspace





### **Wonderful Live Music**

Thank you <u>@BradfordMusic1</u> for topping up our **#culturalcapital** with a wonderful live music concert! Our pupils really enjoyed your performance and many have been inspired to learn an instrument themselves.

@musicmarkuk #thankyou #performingarts #welovemusic

Here's a little flavour of what we enjoyed!







# **Starbeck Primary Academy**



# **Year 6 Bikeability**

Some of our Year 6 children have taken part in The National Standard for Cycle Training (Bikeability) course over the last couple of days in the lovely sunshine. Level 1 of the course took place on the school playground, where the children learnt basic cycling control skills; manoeuvring at different speeds and signalling without wobbling. The children all successfully passed Level 1 and moved onto Level 2, which took place on local roads and included road positioning; passing parked cars; road and traffic awareness and decision making and hazard perception. The group all had a fantastic time and learned a great deal of highly important skills about how to keep themselves safe when out and about on their bicycles.





# **Food Foraging**

Just a week after school returned, and Year 3 ticked off the first of their 6 Curriculum Stars - to go food foraging

They discovered plums, apples and pears and searched for blackberries, within our outdoor learning spaces, and thoroughly enjoyed eating them immediately!





# School Trip to the Jorvik Museum and The Dig

Year 5 made the school proud with their impeccable behaviour and manners whilst on their school trip to Jorvik and The Dig. Everyone had a fabulous day, going back in time to the streets of Viking York and becoming archaeologists, revealing treasures from the past.

It was a pleasure to be with you all.





# **Green Site Community Project Stone Age Day**

Our Year 5 class were honoured to be the first school children invited on to the beautiful green site of Long Lands Common community project, planting spring bulbs and learning more about this fantastic space. Thank you to the organisers. We continue to develop our green curriculum vision for outdoor learning and our support of Northern **Star Academies Green Trust & Sustainability** Agenda.





An exciting end to the half term for Year 3. They rounded off their learning with a special Stone Age Day, building teepees and campfires and making Stone Age jewellery. They also ventured to Stump Cross Caverns to find out how the famous limestone caves were formed and rounded everything off with a quarry adventure and hike up on Coldstone Cut.



# **Greatwood Community Primary & Nursery School**



#### **Climate Action**

### Here our call @NSATgreen!

We recently had a phenomenal morning being completely inspired by our superb Year 6 pupils. Lovely to see these children join the Skipton climate emergency demonstration.

The government's plan is that they will be in the their forties before we stop making things worse. **2050 is too slow.** 







#### **EYFS Art Exhibition**

As Picasso said;

'Every child is an artist.'

Our EYFS exhibition has been a hive of activity, with parents, family members and a CEO making time to stop, slow down and take in the wonder that our 77 artists have created.

Many thanks to the parents and families who came to share this event with us.



#### **Outdoor Education**

# Foraging in the Allotment

Our newest children in school have been foraging in our allotment.
They collected apples, cucumbers, green beans, courgettes and pears.
The children enjoyed chopping them up and eating them!
#plantitgrowiteatit

<u>@NSATgreen</u> <u>@EcoSchools</u> <u>@RHSSchools</u> <u>@FoodGrowSchools</u>







#### Geocaching

A superb afternoon geocaching in our local area as part of our Outdoor Ed programme **#outdoored #GEOCASH #geocaching #adventure** 



# Warriors of the Rainbow

We've been honoured to perform with Skipton Camerata at Skipton Town Hall alongside Water Street Primary School for a moving performance of Warriors of the Rainbow. Our environmental message is clear 'We are not for sale. We are a new tribe, the Warriors of the Rainbow.'







# **Skipton Girls' High School**



### Yorkshire Sculpture Park Visit

We recently took the Year 12 A Level Art and Gold Arts Award students to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. It was so wonderful to be able to go out on trips again; and it was even better that the sun joined us, (for most of the day!). As usual our students' behaviour was impeccable, and I believe they had a fun time and importantly gathered vital resources for their respective Art courses. Mrs Pitt won on the steps front topping 18,000!









# Bletchley Park and Alton Towers Trip





30 of our Year 10 and 11 Computer Science students visited the amazing Bletchley Park and the National Museum of Computing.

Bletchley Park was home to the code breakers of World War II and was a fascinating insight into the secret hub of servicemen and women who used the Engima, Bombe and Collossus machines to crack coded messages.

They then moved onto an very enjoyable (and educational) trip to Alton Towers where they learned about the engineering of different rollercoasters and the digital effects and programming involved in creating these experiences.



# **Hookstone Chase Primary School**



### Class Planters

We're sure that you will agree that our class planters are coming along very nicely!





# **Green Fingers**

Here's one of our young green fingered Hookstone Chasers getting to grips with plant care in his outdoor classroom provision #yearofgrowth





# **Funky Halloween Pumpkins**

Our disco night had some truly awesome pumpkins on display Wow! They're amazing this year!!











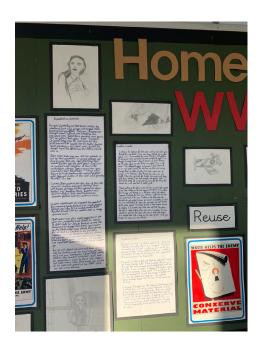


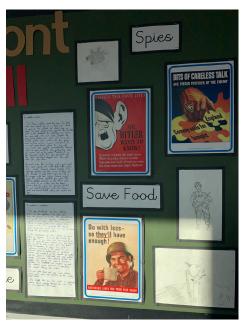
# **Talented Artists**

We have such talented artists at Hookstone!

# **War Experiences**

Year 5/6 have been focusing on a topic close to the hearts of so many. We can't wait hear about brave Arthur, one of our own great grandads' war experiences in Burma.







# **New Park Primary Academy**



#### **Diwali**

Nursery and Reception have had a brilliant time making and decorating salt-dough Diwa lamps for Diwali, they look great!





# **Irish Dancing Superstar**

What a star! So excited for her competition this weekend - thank you for sharing your Irish Dancing with us and explaining how dancing makes you feel happy and confident! Being active and learning new things are two of the five ways to well-being!



Watch the amazing Irish dancing!



# **Fire Engine Visit**

Has there ever been a more exciting visit to school?! Thanks so much <u>@FireHarrogate</u> for bringing your engine to show our children. We loved learning about fire safety and seeing all the equipment you use to help people.



Listen to the fire engine - they cranked the volume up to 11!



### **Flute Lessons**

Year 3/4 have been loving their flute lessons with Mrs Constable!



#### **Science Week**

It's been a brilliant first Science week at New Park and I loved giving out certificates to our budding scientists across the school! Here's Y3/4 experimenting with different surfaces to see how reflective they are - look at those colours!







# **Spelling Shed Games**

Y3/4 have been enjoying some very competitive Spelling Shed games, it was brilliant to see how much the children have improved in just a few weeks!



### **Wonderful Watercolours**

KS1 have had an amazing time exploring watercolours in their art skills lessons. They have learnt how to bleed and blend colours together. They look fantastic.









# **Holycroft Primary School** and Nursery



#### **Litter Blitz**

We helped collect 30 bagfuls of rubbish during a community litter blitz in Keighley town centre. A number of other primary schools, groups and other organisations were involved in the hour-long initiative. The session was spearheaded by the ROC Keighley community project.

It had asked Keighley primary school pupils what they loved about the town and what they'd like to improve – and the issue of litter was raised. More than 150 children, young people and adults took part in the litter-pick.



#### **Halloween Fun**

Our lovely and (slightly loopy) Early Years Team dressed up for some fun today in Nursery and Reception!





### **Human Skeleton Investigations**

3AH have been exploring what a human skeleton looks like, what it's purpose is and how it works. We excavated some bones from our sand pit and identified what part of the body they belonged to.







# 'Linking Communities' Cycling Event

Year 5 had great fun during the 'Linking Communities' cycling event, where they raced around the track and played games with other schools at University Academy Keighley **#collaboration #community** 

The wet weather didn't dampen our children's spirits or enjoyment - well done to everyone who took part **#bikeability** 







# **Harrogate High School**



#### **Art Attack**

Art Attack session with Mrs Ainsley...

Students had a fun filled hour creating autumn themed watercolour and oil pastel experiments.



### **Climate Change Podcast**

Well done to these five students for taking part in a podcast about Climate Change and the forthcoming COP26 conference. It was great to hear them talk so passionately about our planet! Thank you for inviting HHS to be involved.

@ZeroCHarrogate and @your harrogate



# Restart a Heart Day

On Friday 15th October, Harrogate High School welcomed a fantastic team of volunteers from Yorkshire Ambulance Service including First Responders, members of Resus Team and Resus Council to deliver 'Restart a Heart' training to our year 7 pupils. Thanks to the team for giving up their time.



# **Royal Albert Hall Performance**

The Music department had a wonderful but full on 24 hours in London...an afternoon rehearsal then evening performance at The Royal Albert Hall. We're returning with some happy but very tired students.









# **Walk to School Day**

Thank you for supporting our Walk to School Day today and helping to highlight the importance of reducing our individual carbon footprints <u>@AJonesMP</u> and the Mayor and Mayoress <u>@Chapman3Trevor</u>



# **Sports Kit Donations**

We are very grateful to <u>@HarrogateTown</u> for donating lots of sports kit to school today through the **#KitOutTheNation** Campaign. It was great to be interviewed by Julia Lewis from <u>@BBCYork</u>

