



INSPIRING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER







## **Collaboration: Spring Term Highlights**

*Inspiring Excellence Together* is a motto which runs deeply across our Trust and can be demonstrated in abundance and on every level this term.

**Collaboration to develop** has seen many of our staff supporting in other schools within our Trust and beyond to share their expertise and improve practice. This has included a whole raft of work with our newest school Marlfields Primary as they implement Arbor as their new management information system and work together on their journey of improvement.

**Collaboration to offer capacity** has also been evident as schools share staff to cover maternity leaves or to allow for personal development opportunities, this has allowed for schools to remain stable and for our pupils to receive the very best learning offer possible as well as allowing our staff to grow personally and professionally along the way.

Collaboration to innovate has been seen both during our Executive Board meetings as we explore the development of our Estates Strategy and Climate Action Plans and also via the array of subject leader meetings taking place to stimulate thinking, discussion and curriculum development. Our pupils have also collaborated to create their own child-friendly safeguarding policy and also provided feedback on the extracurricular clubs provided in their school which has already improved attendance of our pupils .

It is a huge privilege to observe the natural networking and responsiveness of staff and pupils across our schools and the value these relationships add both to us all individually and as a whole. I am hugely grateful to our team of staff, pupils and governors for their continued hard work and commitment.

Have a wonderful Easter break

## Mrs Abigail Rourke

CEO of the Children First Learning Partnership















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### Knypersey First School celebrates an Outstanding start to 2025!

An inspection took place at the school in December 2024. It was found to be outstanding in all areas including quality of education and behaviour and standards.

Ofsted inspectors praised pupils' enthusiasm for sharing their knowledge, as well as staff support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and those eligible for free school meals at Knypersley First School.

The report said: "Knypersley First School provides an excellent education for all pupils. They have many opportunities to be successful, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds. The school buzzes with aspiration and enthusiasm. It lives and breathes its motto of 'learning together, learning for life'.

The whole staff team are an extremely talented, dedicated team who continually go above and beyond what is expected of them.



Congratulations to Mrs Christie, Oxhey EYFS leader on successfully passing the NPQEYL (National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership). This is a testament to her dedication, expertise and passion for delivering outstanding early years education

## **CFLP Central Office and Learning Hub**

The Hub offers a venue for a wide range of training opportunities such as our leader network meetings, external speakers, cross school moderation and also Exec Team meetings. This term it also has been used to host external First Aid training sessions, Asbestos training and External Network Meetings.

This fully accessible facility offers state of the art heating and lighting, presentation equipment, wi fi and kitchen area.

For more information about hiring this facility or joining our training please contact us: <a href="mailto:centraloffice@cfiptrust.co.uk">centraloffice@cfiptrust.co.uk</a>





This term, our Pupil Forum members came together to discuss and important topic safeguarding. As part of their commitment to keeping our schools safe, they worked collaboratively to design a child-friendly safeguarding poster. This initiative ensures that every pupil understands how to stay safe, who to speak to if they have concerns, and the key safeguarding messages within our schools. Additionally, the forum explored ways to enhance extracurricular clubs, sharing ideas on how to make them more accessible, engaging and inclusive for all pupils. Their voices are shaping opportunities for everyone across the trust. A huge well done to our pupil representatives for their fantastic work.

## Celebrating Success: A Fantastic Clean Audit!

We are delighted to share the news that our central team led by the Chief Finance Officer, Jonathan Howard, has achieved a clean financial audit. This is a testament to the dedication, diligence, and commitment to excellence of the central team. This outstanding result reflects the hard work, meticulous planning, and integrity that define the Children First Learning Partnership's approach to financial management and governance. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to this achievement to ensure the CFLP trust continues to thrive, providing the very best for our schools, staff and pupils.

#### KNYPERSLEY FIRST SCHOOL NEWS



Knypersleys gone baaaa'rmy for Science Week!

Science week brought some very exciting and cheeky visitors to Knypersley First School. The children were lucky enough, with support from the PTFA, to spend the day with the Cheshire Mobile Farm Company. The children were taught how to care for animals and how to handle them safely. They enjoyed seeing the animals up close.

Year 3 children spent the afternoon at James Bateman Junior High where they accessed the school's science labs and fantastic resources. They spent their time embedding knowledge they had linked to fossils and how they are formed. The children returned to school full of enthusiasm and with their very own fossil!

Children within Year 4 were paid a visit from scientists from Woodhouse Academy, the children were shown many very impressive chemical reactions. They were also given the chance to create crystals, which they are enjoying seeing form in their classrooms.

Mrs Jones, the school's science leader arranged many Science challenges throughout the week for the children to spark excitement and wonder across the school. Nursery children were sent home with a 'secert seed' to care for. Some children are still awaiting results from the investigations they were set, so the awe and wonder is still very much continuing past Science Week!



Just Keep Swimming...

During the Spring Term many children have shown determination and passion for swimming and water safety within their weekly swimming lesson.

Many children have achieved swimming awards this term by demonstrating new skills. Mrs Thwaits, our swimming instructor, has proudly awarded over half of our children new level awards and super swimmer certificates and she reports many more children over the Summer term are on track to achieve more!

Knypersley First School, Newpool Road, Knypersley, Stoke-on-Trent ST8 6NN knypersley.staffs.sch.uk



#### KINGSFIELD FIRST SCHOOL NEWS





#### Creating Memories to Last a Lifetime on Educational Visits

At Kingsfield, we value the importance of educational visits and the endless benefits of providing our children with real-world learning opportunities. So far this term, children from Reception through to Year 4 visited The New Vic Theatre to watch The Three Musketeers, which was a fantastic opportunity for our children to experience live theatre in the round. We also were very fortunate to be awarded free tickets for every child in our school to go to Chester Zoo, which was an amazing experience, albeit very cold! Alongside this, we have had our annual Year 4 residential to Standon Bowers which saw our children learn life skills such as independence, team work, resilience and problem solving. We also took 43 of our Young Voices Choir to raise the roof with their fabulous singing alongside 8000 other children at The Coop Live Arena and we *salute* our fabulous Inspire Dance performers for their Little Mix performance at Biddulph High School.





Kingsfield First School, Gunn Street, Biddulph, Stoke-on-Trent ST8 6AY kingsfield.staffs.sch.uk



#### OXHEY FIRST SCHOOL NEWS

## We have been showcasing our learning through our SHINE parental engagement sessions at Oxhey.

Together with our families, we have taken part in some fantastic activities which will help to promote our 'Eco Friendly School' status and develop our school grounds.

#### **Early Years**

The EYFS pupils have made bird feeders and they enjoyed sharing their learning about animals and their habitats with their grown-ups.

#### **Key Stage 1**

In teams, the Y1 & Y2 children worked hard with their relatives to build hedgehog houses. They then dug them around the school grounds to encourage the hedgehogs to nest there.

#### **Key Stage 2**

Our older pupils scattered wildflower seeds and planted bulbs in to the tyres and plant pots. The trees from Woodland Trust were planted to create a hedgerow as part of a wildlife area. This will continue to be developed throughout the year.

HUGE thanks go to all our parents, carers and grandparents for taking part and for their donations. We hope you enjoyed it as much as the children and staff did. We are looking forward to all the flowers blooming in the summer and seeing the birds and hedgehogs visit us at Oxhey!











Oxhey First School, Pennine Way. Biddulph, Stoke-on-Trent ST8 7FB oxhey.staffs.sch.uk



#### THE REGINALD MITCHELL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS Adding value to our curriculum:







## **Enriching our exciting curriculum**

Pupils have spent this term working hard and making excellent progress in their learning.

This term Reginald Mitchell have had a wonderful time during our Faith in Focus week. Each class had an allocated faith to explore and deepen their learning and understanding. As part of the week organised by Miss Rasool, children have been on visits to the local church, the local synangogue and the local Gurduara. Children also engaged in Buddhisim, Islam and Hinduism workshops, food tasting and a wonderful week of enrichment was had by all!

Also this term Reginald Mitchell have had a wonderful time complementing the curriculum with educational visits such as Middleport pottery and Ford Green Hall. We have had visits and workshops competed by the PSCO, NSPCC, Canal and river trust and the RNLI. Mrs Evans organised a fantastic science week with the popular science boffin assembly and workshops taking place. A fun, knowledgable time was had by all!



The Reginald Mitchell Primary School, Congleton Road, Stoke-on-Trent ST7 1NA reginaldmitchell.co.uk



#### CASTLECHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

### **Working Together To Achieve Our Best!**

This term there has been a variety of exciting enrichment opportunities on offer across our school with a key focus of developing collaboration through PE.

Nursery and Reception had a fantastic time playing parachute games. They had to listen very carefully and work together as a team to move the balls and each other around the parachute.

Year 1/2 loved their Strictly dance experience. Hazel Class enjoyed learning how to Scottish sword dance, Willow Class jumped around when learning to jive and Maple Class experienced African Gumboot dancing. Not only did they learn some new moves but they also learnt about the origins of the dances.

Year 3/4 had an amazing time learning different circus skills, from plate spinning to balancing the tickle stick! The children were introduced to activities which required them to work as a team, thinking of how they can best interact with others to get the desired outcome.

Y5/6 really enjoyed their team building and resilience activities. Even though the children wanted to be the first to finish each task, their support and encouragement for each other was a joy to see. They also discovered that the completion of each task, no matter what the difficulty level, was much more rewarding to celebrate as a team.







Castlechurch Primary School, Tennyson Road, Stafford, ST17 9SY

castlechurchprimary.co.uk



#### SPRINGHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS





## At Springhead we aim to give children a range of experiences in their learning.

This term there have been a number of opportunities to enrich children's learning. One of the highlights was the whole school visit to The New Vic Theatre where the children enjoyed watching The Three Musketeers and then returning to school to enjoy lots of learning based around the play. We want every child to find their strengths by trying a lot of different sports. In addition to their normal P.E. lessons, the children have enjoyed scooter and golfing days.

A NHS mental health support worker is working with every class providing workshops on resilience and 'bouncebackability' to improve the children's wellbeing.

We have also enjoyed a visit from an author, a music concert, the choir taking part in Young Voices and a range of clubs have been offered to children.

# Children produce wonderful oracy and writing work

The quality of the writing the children at Springhead produce was recognised in a national research project called "Time to Act." This term the children are producing more amazing writing and improving their oracy as a result of their work on The Tempest.

This work includes a performance of the play at Springhead from The Royal Shakespeare Company and workshops from professional actors and directors.

We are looking forward to the children performing their own version of The Tempest next term.

Springhead Primary School Kingsley Road, Talke Pits, Stoke-on-Trent ST7 1RA springhead.staffs.sch.uk



## **Our Newest Member of the CFLP family!**

On the 01/04/25, We are delighted to welcome Marlfields Primary Academy in Congleton as the newest member of the Children First Learning Partnership. This marks an exciting new chapter for both the school and our wider trust community, as we work together to provide exceptional learning opportunities for all our students.

We are excited to collaborate, share best practices, and support one another in our shared vision for success. We look forward to seeing the positive impact this partnership will bring to staff, students, and families alike.



Marlfields is a small school, in the heart of Congleton. Their school moto is 'Where Children Come First' which aligns perfectly with the Children First Learning Partnership community of schools in which our children come first; we are proud of each and every one of them and want them to thrive, flourish and achieve their full potential within a supportive and caring environment.







A message from Mrs Sleath, Headteacher at Marlfields Academy.

We are absolutely delighted to be joining the supportive and forward-thinking CFLP. This move marks a significant step in our journey allowing us to collaborate with like-minded schools, share best practices and enhance opportunites for both our pupils and staff.

The Children First Learning Partnership is known for its strong sense of community, high aspirations, and commitment to putting children at the heart of everything they do. We are excited to be part of a trust that values innovation, inclusion and excellence in education





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