SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2025

LEADING LEARNERS
Guiding children to promising futures



WELCOME FROM THE CEO

As we head into the summer holidays, I feel an enormous sense of pride looking back at what has been a truly remarkable year for our Trust.

Across our 10 schools in the North West and Yorkshire, we have celebrated so many successes - from amazing Ofsted outcomes and award nominations to improved results and much-needed investment in our school buildings. But beyond the data and reports, what really stands out to me is the joy and confidence I've seen in our children.

One of my favourite moments this year was watching pupils perform their own poems on stage, smiling and proud.

Moments like these show exactly what Leading Learners is all about: helping children to flourish, find their voice and feel proud of who they are.

We've also welcomed new schools into our family, strengthened our community ties, and created even more opportunities for our 2,500 pupils to thrive. Every achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, the support of our families, and the resilience and ambition of our children.

Thank you for being part of this journey. I hope you all enjoy a safe, happy and restful summer. I can't wait to see what we achieve together next year!

Yvonne Brown
CEO

TRUST SAYS A FOND FAREWELL TO OUR DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

David Harrison, the Trust's Director of Education, is packing his bags to start an exciting new chapter in his career – as the Head of an all-through international school in Germany.



David has been instrumental in supporting all of our amazing schools in his role – having started in **Woodside Academy** ten years ago.

Yvonne Brown, CEO, said: "David is the epitome of all that is good about this Trust. He is calm, incredibly astute and, above all else, he just wants the very best for our brilliant children.

"Whether it be helping Reevy Hill getting Good for the first time in its history, overseeing some of the best SATs results in recent memory or jumping in a Bluey costume to bring joy to all the pupils at our recent celebration day in the Wirral, he makes a positive impact wherever he goes.

"We will miss him immensely but feel very grateful that his support and guidance have helped to shape the Trust.

"We wish him, and his family, all the very best as they head off to start an exciting new chapter in Europe."

IMPROVEMENT FUND SUCCESS FOR OUR SCHOOLS

We have successfully accessed £1.85 million from the government's Condition Improvement Fund – an annual bidding round for capital funding used to keep our schools' estates in safe and working order.

The funds have been split between four schools within our Trust: **Carrwood Primary School** for water infrastructure updates, **Overchurch Junior School** and **Tyldesley Primary School** to renew defective roofs and **Reevy Hill Primary School** for electrical and fire safety works.

Yvonne Brown, CEO, said: "We're very pleased to have received funding from the Condition Improvement Fund to carry out essential works at our four schools. Safe, well-maintained buildings are vital, but not at the expense of other key areas like teaching, learning resources and enrichment.

"This funding allows our schools to focus their own resources on what matters most, education and creating opportunities for our children."

The Department for Education allocated around £54 million from the Condition Improvement Fund, from a pot of over £460 million, to more than 100 schools in North West on May 30th 2025.

TRUST SATS RESULTS ON A THREE-YEAR POSITIVE TREND

Schools across the Trust were celebrating this year after securing another set of strong SATs results.



In fact, when compared to our results in 2023, our outcomes have significantly improved in every area that is assessed.

Our Trust averages in each of Reading, Writing and Maths have improved, with the overall combined average improving by 14%. Writing alone has improved by 10 percentage points.

Yvonne Brown, CEO said, “It is important to stress that examination results for children in primary schools are not something that should be defining. Our children are brilliant young people, and outcomes are just one part of a much bigger picture.

“That being said, our pupils have collectively achieved something pretty special this year – and it is right that is acknowledged and celebrated.

“What is also really encouraging is that more pupils in Reading and Maths have also been judged to working at Greater Depth, which is where a child is working at a consistently higher level. Every child is flourishing.”



WORTH VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL ON THE ROAD TO OUTSTANDING

Worth Valley Primary School is celebrating a highly positive Ofsted report following a Section 8 inspection in April.

The two-day visit highlighted that the school has significantly improved since its last inspection in 2019, maintaining its 'Good' rating and now making strong progress towards an Outstanding outcome.

Inspectors praised the school's strong values, inclusive environment, and commitment to pupil well-being. Behaviour was described as exemplary, with a consistent approach that ensures every pupil feels valued and safe.

Leadership was recognised for its clear and ambitious vision, inspiring staff and pupils while driving continuous improvement. The Trust and Local Governing Body were also highlighted for their vital role in supporting and challenging the school to keep improving.

Parents echoed the report's findings, with 100% of respondents to Ofsted's ParentView survey agreeing their child is happy at the school.

Ceinwen Lodge, Headteacher at **Worth Valley Primary School**, said: "While Ofsted is not the only measure of success for a school, we are beyond proud to have the hard work and efforts of our pupils, staff and wider community recognised and celebrated.

"As the report notes, the well-being and safety of our children is our utmost priority. Getting this right means that our pupils have a solid foundation on which they can learn, grow as individuals and ultimately thrive."

Yvonne Brown, CEO, added: "We are incredibly proud to have Worth Valley as part of the Leading Learners family and can't wait to see what they do next. Well done to everyone at **Worth Valley Primary School** on this fantastic achievement."



OUR CORE VALUES

PRIDE | COMMUNITY | AMBITION | RESILIENCE | INTEGRITY

Our values lie at the core of everything we do within our Trust. They inspire us and direct our actions when it comes to helping each and every one of our children be the very best they can be.

This edition of the newsletter, we are showcasing how our schools bring our values of **Community** and **Pride** to life.

PRIDE | **COMMUNITY** | AMBITION | RESILIENCE | INTEGRITY

We recognise how important it is to help our children experience the world around them and become active, helpful members of their communities.

COME DINE WITH ME

Children at Brookdale Primary School welcomed special guests during a three-day Come Dine with Me event.

Each day, pupils invited a grown-up to join them for lunch, giving families a taste of school meals and a glimpse into lunchtime routines. From collecting trays to chatting with friends in the dining hall, children proudly showed off this part of their school day.







JU:MP DAY

Carrwood Primary School hosted its own JU:MP (Join Us: Move Play) Day, part of a Sport England initiative to explore how communities can be more active together. Led by the fantastic Year 6 Sport Leaders, pupils and families from Years 1 to 6 took part in seven fun, active challenges designed to get everyone moving. The event was a huge success, with over 240 children and 100+ parents/carers joining.

To celebrate their efforts, children received a JU:MP keyring and either a beach ball or a foam tennis ball, encouraging them to stay active at home. A brilliant day for all and everyone is already looking forward to the next one!

WOODSIDE'S SUMMER FAIR





Woodside Academy's Summer Fair brought the whole community together with exciting stalls run by classes and Woodside friends.

Pupils helped lead games and handle change, learning and having fun along the way. The class that raised the most money won a non-uniform day. It was wonderful to welcome families and even past pupils back to join the festivities.



CUPCAKES, CRAFTS AND OWLS

Sandbrook Primary School's summer fair was a huge success, featuring face painting, drawing and hair stations, a cupcake van and plenty of stalls.

Pupils were thrilled by a special owl visit and exciting raffle prizes. Thanks to the local community's support, the school raised a great amount of money while enjoying a fantastic day together.

MENDELL TAKES OFF AT MANCHESTER AIRPORT

As part of the 'My Big Future' project with The Johnson Foundation, Year 5 pupils at Mendell Primary School enjoyed an inspiring visit to Manchester Airport. From exploring behind the scenes at security to meeting real pilots and cabin crew, the day was packed with eye-opening experiences.

At the AeroZone, pupils took part in interactive activities, learning about the many careers that keep an airport running, from air traffic control to passenger services. They ended the day watching planes take off – a perfect moment to reflect on their own aspirations for the future.

Well done to all the pupils for their excellent behaviour, they were praised for their attentiveness and curiosity. Thank you to the staff for making the day such a success.



PRIDE | COMMUNITY | AMBITION | RESILIENCE | INTEGRITY

We take pride in our achievements and growth, both as a Trust and as individuals.



BREAKFAST CLUB

Overchurch Junior School is proud to be one of just eight schools on the Wirral, and one of 750 nationwide, offering free breakfast to its pupils as part of a government pilot.

Opening at 8:15 am, the club is run by Mrs Brown and Mrs Elwill, with chef Kim preparing delicious meals.

After breakfast, children enjoy activities like tennis, football or the Sensory Garden. The school believes a healthy start and free childcare boost learning. Recently, a special Mama Mia Breakfast featured singing, dancing and a feast of melon, blueberries, yoghurt and honey!

MANOR'S MIGHTY 3K

Key Stage 2 pupils at Manor Primary School took on a 3K walk around the school grounds to raise money for Claire House, a local children's hospice.

Excitement was high as Claire Bear, the hospice mascot, greeted everyone at the start. Pupils showed incredible determination and community spirit, completing six laps of the field in just 40 minutes. Thanks to generous donations, the event raised an amazing £643.67!



FROM PAGE TO STAGE

Year 5 and 6 pupils at Reevy Hill Primary School took to the stage at The Beacon, a unique touring venue, for an out-of-school hours Poetry Slam as part of the Bradford 2025 celebrations.

With props in hand and confidence on show, they performed their original poems to a packed audience. A brilliant showcase of creativity, courage and voice!





YOUNG AUTHORS HEAD FOR PUBLICATION

Six Year 5a superstars from Tyldesley Primary School are set to become published authors.

Pupils entered the Young Writers Association's short story competition with tales about a mysterious map, all under 100 words.

Amazingly, all six stories will be published in a book that will also be held in the National Archive! The overall winner is still to be announced, so there might be even more good news to come - we are incredibly proud of their magnificent achievement!



BEACON OF HOPE

As part of Bradford's City of Culture 2025 celebrations, pupils at Worth Valley Primary School proudly represented their community in welcoming the Beacon of Hope.

The baton was presented by the Mayor at the local community centre before continuing its journey across Bradford. Pupils were praised for their excellent behaviour and were delighted to receive goodie bags as a thank you for representing the area so well.



WORKING TOGETHER

Within our Trust, we work together as one partnership to help children find a path where they can explore their talents, grasp opportunities and determine their own futures. Where possible, our schools come together to share experiences and learn from each other. We also work with outside organisations to help everyone learn, grow and ensure every child has the best possible start in life.

LEADING LEARNERS CONQUERS DEARNE VALLEY!

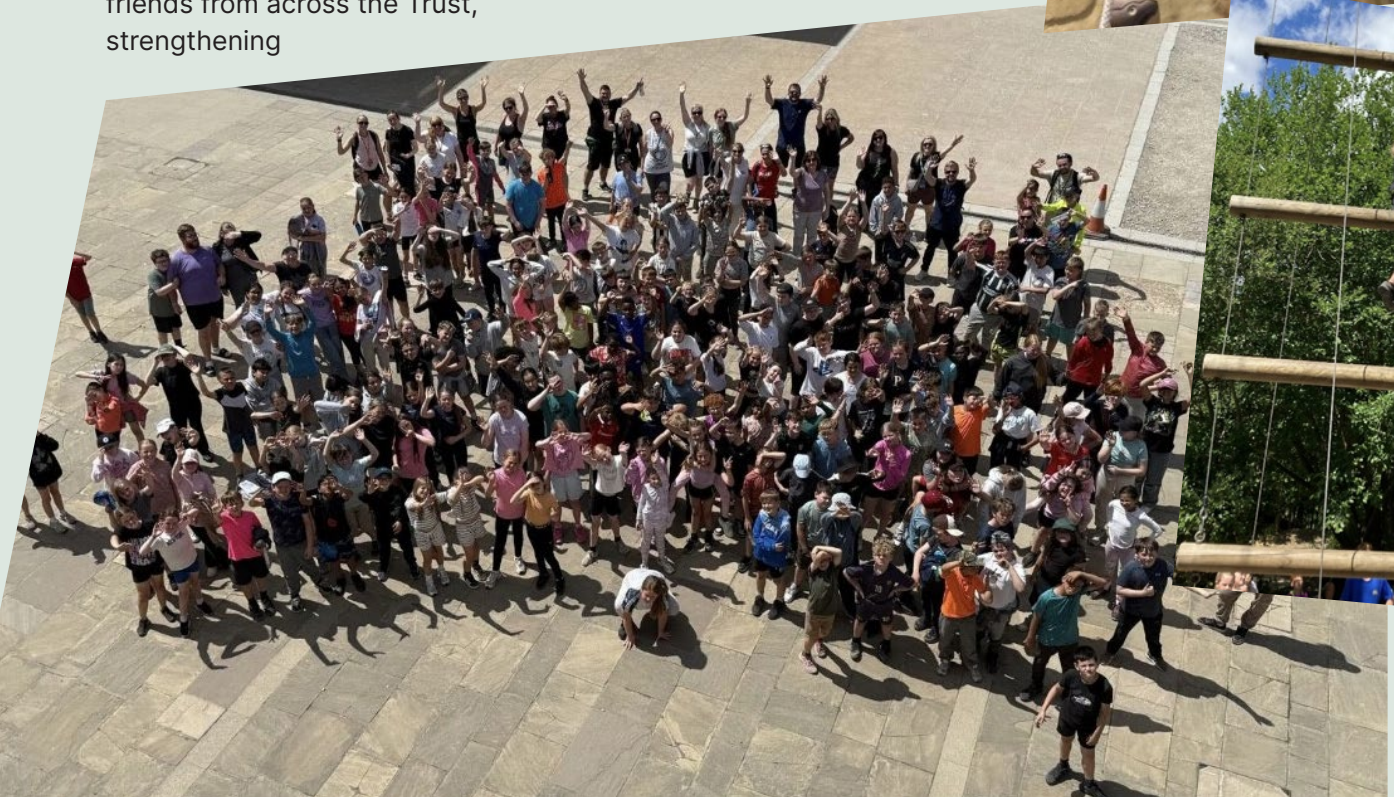


Year 6 pupils from Woodside Academy, Reevy Hill Primary School, Carrwood Primary School, Worth Valley Primary School, Mendell Primary School and Overchurch Junior School embarked on an unforgettable residential trip to Dearne Valley PGL.

For many, it was their first time away from home, making the adventure more exciting. From high ropes, zip wires and Jacob's Ladder to the Leap of Faith, pupils bravely pushed their limits, building confidence and developing essential leadership skills through a variety of challenging activities.

A huge highlight was the opportunity to make new friends from across the Trust, strengthening connections and building a true sense of community. Pupils even swapped email addresses, looking ahead to secondary school, and the children especially enjoyed cheering on their new friends. A cosy campfire, complete with songs, jokes and hot chocolate, also created lasting memories. This residential trip truly celebrated what it means to be part of our Trust family.





WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT EVERY CHILD

Tyldesley Primary School has achieved two fantastic accreditations this year!

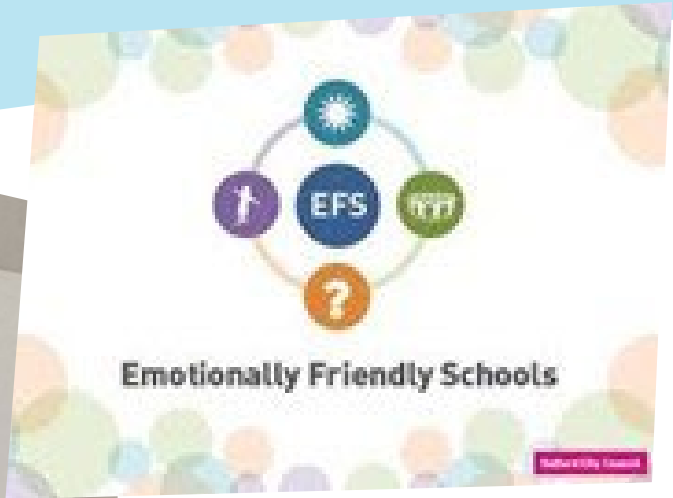
Early in the spring term, they were recognised as an ADHD Friendly School by the ADHD Foundation.

This Award is a program run by the ADHD Foundation to recognise and accredit schools that demonstrate a commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive environment for students with ADHD. Schools earning this award show they understand and address the challenges faced by students with ADHD, helping them thrive academically and emotionally

Building on this success, Tyldesley Primary also secured Bronze status as an Emotionally Friendly School, following two years of dedicated work with the Wigan Educational Psychology Service, the 20th school within the Wigan Local Authority to achieve this level.

Janet Shorrock, Headteacher, said: "These accreditations are a testament to the collective efforts of staff and children in creating a truly special and supportive school culture. Our journey as a school will never be finished; we will always want to do better and be better, but we truly believe that our school is a very special place with the potential to be simply incredible!







ECO-CLUB BUILDS BUG-TASTIC HOTEL

Brookdale Primary School's Eco-Club has been busy creating homes for nature, building a bug hotel, a log pile and soon, a wildflower roof and bird boxes, thanks to the kind community donations.





LEARN, GROW AND FLOURISH AT CHAPELHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sandbrook Primary School has a new look, and a new name - **Chapelhill Primary School!** The change marks a new era for the school as it looks to the future.

Yvonne Brown, CEO, said: "It's more than a logo - every element of life at school from the curriculum to the uniform is being revitalised for the benefit of all. We can't wait for September!"

CHAPELHILL
PRIMARY SCHOOL
LEARN, GROW, FLOURISH

WALLS THAT TALK

Mendell Primary School has brightened up the school with new displays showcasing pupils' work across all subjects. From creative art and science investigations to brilliant writing and maths, the displays celebrate progress and achievement.







CLIMATE CHANGE WITH VR

Pupils at **Overchurch Junior School** took part in an exciting virtual reality (VR) experience to learn about climate change. They were among the first in the country to try the Future Forests Toolkit – a new educational resource that shows how human actions affect the environment.

FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION

During Anti-Social Behaviour Week, Year 5 pupils at **Manor Primary School** engaged in a CELLS project workshop on crime consequences. The next day, they demonstrated community pride by participating in a local litter pick.





SAVING SMART

Pupils at **Sandbrook Primary School** enjoyed a workshop from Wirral Credit Union, learning where money comes from, how to keep it safe and its value. They each took home a piggy bank to start saving and Years 5 and 6 are excited for their upcoming enterprise project.

STORIES, ART AND HERITAGE

Carrwood Primary School celebrated Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month with storytelling, art and family contributions. Highlights included a living wagon and a collaborative identity art project.







Leading Learners Multi-Academy Trust

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