



SCHOLARS ACADEMY TRUST

c/o Launde Primary School, New Street, Oadby, Leicestershire LE2 4LJ

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Trust Newsletter July 2022

Welcome to the summer term Scholars Trust newsletter. There has been much happening over the last six months and the following is just a small flavour of the wonderful work and activities that have been undertaken by the staff and children within our schools. It has been lovely to get back to a state of normality for our children. It has not always been easy with challenges regularly occurring but the staff and children have worked hard to not let that affect them. I would like to start this letter with thanking everyone for their hard work to ensure we get the best out of our time in school. We would also like to thank the efforts of the parents for supporting their schools to help their child in learning.

Jubilee Celebrations



As part of the Jubilee celebrations Kathryn Priddey as Headteacher of Launde and Kathy Martin as Headteacher of Glenfield were both invited to the Queen's garden parties. They both had a fantastic time enjoying palace gardens and meeting members of the Royal family. They both look very impressive in their hats.



In school the children undertook Jubilee celebrations including having parties and sharing their learning about the Queen and her life. Achieving seven decades on the throne is certainly something to celebrate and the children within the Trust achieved this in style.



The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire visited Launde during the celebrations. During his visit the children shared their findings about the reign of the Queen. The children completed art work of each decade which is now displayed in the school hall.



Residentials

It has been delightful to see that the children are once again undertaking residentials and thoroughly enjoying time away with their peers. At Glenfield children in Year 4 went to Beaumanor and the Year 6 children developed their adventurous side with activities at Condoover.



The Condoover residential was also undertaken by the children at Launde, children in Year 5 have been waiting for almost 2 years to take part in this residential, they found that it was worth waiting for. They were accompanied by the Year 4 children who normally undertake this residential. Our favourite residential to Skern Lodge was once again up and running for the Year 6 children who had a fantastic time.



In addition to the residentials, it has been wonderful to see the children going out on school visits. Beaumanor, Conkers, Gorse Hill Farm, Foxton locks and Twycross Zoo are just a few of the visits that have taken place.



The following are some of the comments that the children have made about their school visits, "Tywcross was amazing, it was my favourite trip", "I want to go again", "I loved it, we had so much fun". Just from the few quotes it is evident that the children absolutely love going on school trips and remember them. As the trips are always organised in line with the learning in the classroom, they provide good memory prompts for children to remember the subject content and use it for future learning.

Assessment

This year the children have been undertaking the external national tests and we are waiting for the Year 6 results. We know that the children have worked extremely hard this academic year and we will be proud of them regardless of what they achieve. Having said that we are expecting the children to achieved their best. The outcomes for our Year 2 children have been very encouraging and parents will see their children's individual results within their reports. Again, we are pleased with how hard the children and staff have worked to achieve good outcomes in what has sometimes been a difficult year with us trying to get back to normal.



The Year 4 children undertook the national multiplication check, this has been the first year of the test and the results are reported out 25. I am sure if you have children in Year 4 they will have given you all the information as they had to spend a lot of time practising at home to maximise their scores.

All the school data will be on the schools' websites for the start of the Autumn term.

Sporting News



The children have been taking part in lots of sporting activities including athletics at Saffron Lane. The children achieved success in a number of areas including football for both girls and boys, tennis, cross country, cricket, hockey and in athletics. We are proud to see our children always trying their best and showing the perseverance and resilience that we try to teach them in class being demonstrated in these sports.



The children at Launde also had Laura Sugar come to talk to them about her sporting achievements as a Para Olympian.



Attendance



At the beginning of the year there was much concern about children's attendance in school due to many families and staff having Covid. We are however pleased to report that this is becoming less of a concern as the year has progressed. This year each school is over 94%, however in the coming year we would like this to be at least 96% which would bring each school back to the average normally achieved within the Trust.

To achieve this, we need the support of all parents to ensure that their child has good attendance as this has a positive impact on their academic outcomes as well as improving their social interaction with other children. This in turn helps children to be settled in school and be more engaged in activities within the classroom and beyond.



Parents Activities

It has been lovely to see parents back in school to watch the children enjoying activities such as assemblies. We are aware that many of the curriculum information meetings have been held via Teams but moving forward these will be held face-to-face so that the workshops can be interactive. There will also be a drive for parents to be in the classrooms to have the

opportunity for you to see elements of the curriculum being taught e.g. phonics, reading so that you can support your child at home.

New School in Castle Donington

We are pleased to update parents on the development of the new school in Castle Donington. It now has the name, Foxbridge Primary School, and the headteacher there is Mrs Bridgwood. Staffing and children are in place ready for its opening in August 2022. A new Governing Body has been set up to support Mrs Bridgwood.



We are hoping that the children and staff from our current schools will be able to visit Foxbridge and undertake activities in the new grounds. I will keep you informed of new developments at Foxbridge within the newsletters and you can also look at the website for the latest information. <https://www.foxbridgeprimaryschool.co.uk/>

Governance

As usual the governors have been in and out of school to check on activities being undertaken at each school. They have been involved undertaking a safeguarding audit to check that procedures are compliant, worked with subject leads to consider the curriculum and with leaders and teachers they have been discussing importance of mental well-being of both children and adults.

The Trustees have also been into schools to undertake routine monitoring.

Since the last newsletter we have had two additional trustees join the Trust Board, they are Sarah Ridley and Marion Garfield. Sarah is an experienced head teacher and now the CEO of the Mead Academy Trust. Marion has a wealth of experience in health and safety. They are both welcome additions to the board and they have already been involved in work at the Trust Board level.

Staff Changes



We are sad to say goodbye to a number of staff at the end of this academic year. They include Mrs Patterson and Mrs Dredge who will be retiring from Glenfield, Mrs Longhurst and Mrs Brown from Launde. We wish them all the best in their retirement. There are other members of staff also leaving for either promotion or pursuing alternative work.



We are pleased to inform parents that all the vacancies have been filled and we are looking forward to working with new staff who are very enthusiastic about working in our schools.



Year 6 Leavers

It is now that time when we say goodbye to our Year 6 children. This is always one that everyone has mixed emotions about as they are sad that these children are leaving but at the same time happy that the children are taking the next steps in their lives. We hope that all our children leave with many positive memories and the learning acquired within our schools supports them in the future. We would like to wish all the children the very best in everything they choose to do and to remember that anything is possible if they always try their best and have the “can-do” attitude when things are difficult. Good luck Year 6 children.

It now leaves me to once again to thank everyone and to wish you all a relaxing summer break in the sunshine. See you all next year.

Inderjit Sandhu OBE
CEO

