

Charleton C of E Academy CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

2020



Dear Parents,

This week at Charleton has been so fantastically festive from Christmas dinner to the Nativity play, Christmas crafts, parties, Christingle service and even a special visit from Father Christmas. Our Christingle service was made extra special this year as we joined together with West Alvington Academy, Rev. Jackie and Rev. Matt from All Saints West Alvington and Ken from St Marys. We are also very grateful to our PTA for the lovely party treats which made our last day in school so special. A huge thank you to all of our amazing staff for their hard work this week and all term long! A final thank you to all of our parents for your kind words and gifts

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year,
Miss Coombe

Diary Dates 2021

JANUARY

Monday 4th January—Back to School

Wednesday 6th January—Forest School—Beesands & Start Point

Please remember to book your child's school lunches for the first week back via www.eduspot.co.uk

The weeks are on the system right up to half term. Many thanks



Dear Parents and Carers,

As the Chief Executive of the Trust I would like to welcome you to this month's Academy newsletter to thank you for the tremendous support that we have received from parents and our communities during these challenging times.

Since the beginning of the first lockdown in March our schools have been operating in the most extraordinary and challenging of circumstances to provide a safe learning environment and continuity of provision for our children. The safety and welfare of our children, staff and families remain our key priority.



Throughout this time staff have worked selflessly to keep our schools as safe as possible and at all times 'putting our children first'. I am immensely proud of our leaders, teachers and staff who have demonstrated such professionalism and dedication, above and beyond the call of duty. It is testament to the leadership of our Heads and the hard work of all our staff, with your support, that despite the current restrictions, our schools are beaming with happy children and staff where love and care is tangible and where the exciting buzz of learning exudes. I and my team across our family of schools have worked closely together throughout the pandemic to ensure that everyone is well supported. I am particularly thrilled with the feedback from staff in our recent staff wellbeing survey. There are 258 members of staff employed by and working across the Trust and 96% reported that they are proud to be a member of our Trust. As a result, 95% of staff would recommend the Trust as a place to work.

I want to also thank our Board of Trustees and Local Governance Committees for their continued work and support. The Trust values: '**Collectively Empowering Excellence**' have been abundantly evident during the course of this past year with all of our school communities pulling together to ensure we are able to deliver the best possible care and education for our pupils, while also delivering on ambitious projects to support those in the community who have faced challenges the past year.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share some of the excellent work happening across the Trust. Across all our schools, there has been excellent fund-raising efforts for charities who are doing great work to support those in need at such a challenging time. We have seen some truly outstanding efforts from parents and pupils across our schools. Thank you!

As many of you will know, our Trust works extensively across the South West schools region to: support school improvement; deliver teacher training and provide staff excellent professional development opportunities, all with the aim of improving pupil outcomes. The Learning Academy Partnership is the Number 1 Trust in the country for the outcomes of disadvantaged children and in the Top 10 Trusts nationally for the progress that all our children make. This is an amazing achievement and testament to the excellent quality of leadership, teaching and learning across all our schools.



It was 10 years ago, in 2010, that we were designated as a National Support School, then recognised as a nationally designated Teaching School (2014) and then as a National English Hub (2019). This recognition and the resulting activity has contributed to improved opportunities and achievement for all our children, and also drives additional income generation that is reinvested into our Trust schools for the benefit of our children and staff. As always, our pupils are at the heart of everything we do.

I am pleased to share with you that very recently we were awarded almost half a million pounds' worth of extra Government funding to extend the reach of our flagship **English Hub**. The money means that the Trust will be able to grow the Centre of Excellence, based at Ilsham C of E Academy but involving all our Trust Schools, to share our expertise in teaching English both across the Trust as well as the South West more broadly. This is a flagship achievement that we are immensely proud of.

New School for Paignton.

As some of you may know, the Department for Education previously asked the Trust to open a new school in Paignton, to support the overwhelming need for primary school places in the area. We are making good progress with our plans to open St Michael's Church of England Academy in Paignton in September 2021, with building work for the new site in Fisher Street making good progress, and the admission process in full swing. This new academy will be the tenth school in the Trust and another exceptional school within our Trust family. It will begin by offering Nursery and Reception places to families in and around Paignton. If you know of any families who would be interested, please put them in touch with our admissions team (admissions@lapsw.org).

Dartington C of E Primary School

Since June 2019, we have been working very closely with Dartington C of E Primary in a management partnership with a view to Dartington joining the Trust more formally. This relationship has been very successful. Formal consultations have been postponed due to COVID but I am now pleased to share with you that the consultation process will begin early in the Spring term with a view to Dartington converting to academy status and joining the Trust formally from April 2021.

Finally, I wanted to share with you the 'Thank a Teacher Card' campaign, run by the Teaching Awards Trust. Any pupil, parent or member of the public can show their appreciation for those education staff working in schools and colleges by sending them a free card and personal message. In the lead up to Christmas, we want to make sure as many teachers and education staff receive thank you messages from students, parents and other teachers as possible after an incredibly challenging year. You can send a free thank you e-card to teachers and education staff in the next couple of weeks by visiting the website [here](#).

I would like to introduce our new Chair of Trustees, Richard Vaughton and end by wishing you all a very peaceful, safe and enjoyable Christmas break.

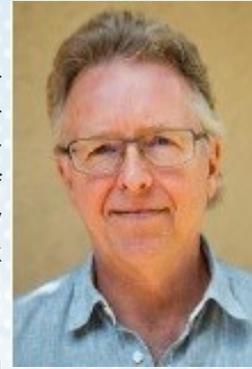
Very Best wishes


Mrs L Atkinson , Chief Executive



Chair Of Trustees

I was delighted to be appointed Chair of Trustees in September this year after serving on the Board since 2016. I would like to begin by thanking everyone for my warm welcome to this role. I have immensely enjoyed my first term as Chair of Trustees for this outstanding Trust. I feel very privileged to lead the Board of Trustees in a Trust that I believe passionately about. The Learning Academy Partnership provides a first-class education to its pupils, thanks to the hard work and commitment shown by the dedication of our Leaders, teachers, support staff, our parents and Local Governance Committees across the Trust.



I wrote to you in July regarding a report by the ESFA that related to historical matters between 2016-2018. The Trust is committed to self-improvement and I am pleased to now be in a position to provide an update to you and to share the excellent outcome of a number of recent independent audit reports that demonstrate the excellent position of the Trust and the high standards of Governance and Financial Management.

It is testament to the work of leaders within the Trust and particularly the Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer, Finance Team and the Governance teams that the Trust is recognised as so strong with all levels of Financial Management judged as **High Standard**. These independent reports described as '**flawless**' can be found on the Trust website under Governance. (<https://www.lapsw.co.uk/governance/>)

Furthermore, a 'forensic' Governance Review has been undertaken and I am delighted to also share that Leadership and Governance has been recognised as a strength. The final report will be available on 4th December. These reports build upon the many previous good reports the Trust has received since 2011 when the Learning Academy Partnership was established.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Local Governance I would like to thank everyone for your continued support to your school community and to the Trust overall. I look forward to our joint work to continue empowering excellence for all our young people.

Your sincerely,

Richard Vaughton

RCVaughton

Chair of Trustees, Learning Academy Partnership



Beesands Nursery



Here in Beesands this term we have enjoyed welly walks, playing in the adventure, improvising, playing and learning with our toys and resources. Our abundance of books have been well used and we have just started to improvise present wrapping making our own wrapping paper. The children made a sleigh out of our benches and rocking horse and decorated our felt tree.



We are concentrating on number with number balls and Santas around the room to recognise and find. We have made reindeer paper chains to decorate our Nursery and have made Christmas story puppets to play with.

We have welcomed Roo to our setting and have more lovely children joining us in January.

Mrs Sanders and Miss Walker wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Christmas Lunch

We had a lovely Christmas lunch on Tuesday which was served by Caroline and Mrs Keiler (Trust Kitchen Manager) We had two sittings for our bubbles and the children were joined by staff as well. The homemade Christmas crackers were a big hit and went off with a bang!



Christingle

Our Christingle took place with our friends from West Alvington, Rev Jackie Taylor, Rev Matt and Ken Ball. Croft performed a tableau in a news report style. West Alvington led the prayers and we all lit our Christingles.

Ken Ball sent us this message:

Well done to school for the tableau (great reporting!!!) and the spoken carol. West Alvington's prayers were excellent.

Please let parents and teachers know that we have an online Carol Service on Sunday evening at 7pm. Anyone is welcome to join.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7941618992>

Zoom ID 7941618992

Passcode 201220

Happy Christmas to you all. Ken



Forest School



Croft and Goodshelter had their last Forest School session on Wednesday. Although the day was wet and windy they still had fun! After Christmas Beesands and Start Point will be having their turn, starting on Wednesday 6th January 2021!

Croft

We have had a very successful half term in Croft and I have been impressed by their hard work and focus. We have been lucky to enjoy Forest and Beach, but not so lucky with the weather. This did not stop the children, who seized the opportunity to make mud pies, mud slides and all things muddy. We had a lovely day on Monday. It was fabulous for the Children to blow out the cobwebs. We had fun down on the beach searching for crabs and lucky Harry Sagar found an old bottle which once contained OK sauce. The company were to be taken over by Coleman's and stopped production in 1965. Croft were thrilled to read the letter from Anthony Mangal, congratulating the school on it's fund raising efforts for Children in Need. The Children should be very proud of this accomplishment. We have been looking forward to Christmas activities this week as we take a well earned rest. We enjoyed our super Christmas lunch and wait with anticipation for the end of term party.



Start Point

What a fun week we have had in Start Point Class! We have got truly into the Christmas spirit and joined in with lots of fun activities. We started the week by making some salt dough handprints, making the dough together and carefully rolling it out before cutting out around our hand. We then baked them for a very long time before painting them into either a Father Christmas, elf, reindeer or penguin. The children have loved having a project for the week and are very proud of their unique creations! On Tuesday we had a yummy Christmas dinner! We were all dressed in our best party clothes and got to pull the crackers we had made. They contained our fabulous crowns! We also made melted snowman biscuits, using lots of sticky icing to make the melted snow and sticking a marshmallow on for the head.



They were very yummy! We ended the week by making Christmas cards. The children were given the choice to use any materials they wanted to, creating some lovely cards. We hope you enjoyed receiving them as much as we enjoyed making them!



GOODSHELTER

Wow, what a great term! I can't believe that it is already Christmas and nearly 2021! It has been a very strange year for all of us but I am so so proud of how amazing the children have been, they have all got on with school life with a huge smile on their faces and been so supportive of each other.

The new year 2's are now truly part of the Goodshelter family and we love having them in the class. We have had lots of fun in our Forest School sessions this term and will miss them now. There has been lots of mud, den building, swing making and badge making. Our History lessons this term have been



great fun and we now know lots about what life was like after World War 2 including the Windrush, we also know lots about Rivers, where they start and end including the three different parts of the river. We have also been using our map skills to find some different rivers in the world. Our D&T lessons with Mrs Burwell have been so much fun especially making the torches, we all designed the torches and created them with our partners using a full circuit with a bulb. The outcomes were amazing and I am so impressed with how they have turned out. Thank you to Mrs Butterworth for your help with the torches. We can't wait for all of our new topics next half term including the Stone Age, atlases and light!

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, well done to each and every one of you!



Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for all the donations for Christmas Jumper day. We raised

£20.60 which has been sent off to Save the Children



PTFA CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

A huge thank you to everyone who donated prizes for our raffle and bought and sold tickets. The prizes are all amazing and the hampers look stunning!

Our School Council drew the raffle on Thursday morning and the PTFA will be in contact if you have won a prize!

The PTFA raised an incredible £912 which will go towards the Forest School area and a mural for the Start Point playground.

Special thanks goes to: Hannah Sagar, Hannah Carter, Margaret Pullen, Nicola Buswell, Vanessa Putt and Charlotte Mundy.

Amy Johns, Chair

