



ENHANCE ACADEMY TRUST

Newsletter



Welcome to the first edition of our Trust Newsletter. I am delighted to be able share with you some of the recent activities that have been taking place in schools across the Trust. Thank you all for your continued dedication and commitment – you make a real difference!

Mark Randall – CEO

St Giles – Chinese New Year

EYFS children have been celebrating Chinese New Year. We learned about how it is celebrated around the world and compared it with other celebrations. We have made Chinese lanterns and dragons and written on Chinese calligraphy paper! We did a dragon dance around school to hand out red envelopes, wishing good luck to our friends in school. This was followed by a delicious Chinese banquet where we tasted lots of different foods.



All Saints – Al Sylvester, Antarctic Explorer

Last week the children enjoyed a visit from Antarctic explorer Al Sylvester. He told them all about his journey to the South Pole as well as his expeditions to the base camp of Mount Everest. He was very impressed with all the children's learning behaviours and the questions they asked him. In Al's words, 'Once I was a small child, sitting in an assembly like you are today. I was a small child with big dreams. I am proof that you should never give up and always aim for your dreams.'

Diamond Wood – NSPCC Number Day

At Diamond Wood, we celebrated NSPCC Number Day on Friday 4th February. The children raised £260 for the NSPCC charity. The children developed a tuck shop and sold snacks at playtime. The children loved creating their own number t-shirts and designed these themselves! There was a Maths challenge across school and the children enjoyed tackling this.

"I love Maths everyday," Child R Class 12.



St Giles – New Kit Sponsor

St Giles got a new Football Kit, sponsored by a local business 'Bradleys real Estate'.





St Helen's – SIAMS Review

We were delighted to invite Rupert Madeley and Jen Sloan from Leeds Diocesan Education Team to complete a SIAMS review at St Helen's to ascertain how far we are in the journey of implementing our unique vision in school and to capture the strengths and areas of development we may have as a Church School.

It was fantastic to showcase the journey we have been on since creating our vision and to embedding it in all areas of school life. Some of the comments from our visitors were:

All stakeholder groups, from leadership to pupils, were able to articulate key elements of this vision and its relevance to them.

One pupil said, 'This school is a rock for me because when my dad works away; if I'm upset school makes me happy.'

High aspiration, using the rock as a secure jumping off point, was also articulated by leaders and staff. This was talked about in terms of 'removing the ceiling' for pupils.

All the pupils with whom advisers interacted with were polite, enthusiastic and engaged, with many expressing their thoughts in an articulate way. Pupils valued the care with which the staff treat them and showed enthusiasm for learning across the curriculum.

Mrs Golding led the whole school worship which encapsulated our Christian value of trust, with the whole school creating a trust bracelet as part of it! Our visitors spoke positively about how worship was designed and led so as to involve and engage all pupils.

Whilst we know we have areas of development, particularly around pupil leadership, the opportunity to pause, reflect and celebrate the hard work completed by everyone, especially last half-term, was welcome and definitely timely! We are so proud of everyone at St Helen's, as we continue to strive and improve!



Christ Church – Ofsted

Christ Church CE Academy continues to be a good school following its inspection on 1st and 2nd December 2021.

Describing Christ Church as a 'caring and inclusive school' the inspector acknowledged the help and support the school provides for families who need it. The report also identifies leaders as 'ambitious for all pupils' when designing curriculum plans so that all pupils can access the work they are given, ensuring pupils with SEND will be successful.

The inspector also commented on how well-trained staff were to teach the curriculum and support children's speaking and listening in the early years, describing pupils as 'helpful role models' who were kind and considerate to each other.

Sandal Magna - Children's Mental Health

We have been celebrating Children's Mental Health Week. Over the week the children have been discussing fixed mindset and growth mindset, what makes a good friend? And how we promote mental health by talking! Well done Year 5!



CAPA College lead triumphant, sold-out run of FAME The Musical

After having to postpone their iconic end of year musical in July due to Covid 19 restrictions, CAPA College were back with a vengeance this Christmas as they took to the stage to create FAME The Musical with two casts performing over four nights in December.



Second year students from across the College's four pathways (Dance, Drama, Musical Theatre and Production Arts) donned their neon leotards and leg warmers and proudly boasted 'I'm gonna live forever' to the delight of the packed in-house auditorium.

Produced by CAPA College's award-winning teaching team, the iconic story, which follows the highs and lows of an illustrious High School for the Performing Arts, was given a new lease of life in this foot-stomping, feel-good production which could easily rival any on the West End stage. The show itself sold out in less than 24 hours.

The show, which blended phenomenal vocals with pristine choreography and featured professional lighting, set and costume – all created by CAPA College students, was a huge hit with audience members who flooded to social media to share their praise: 'So impressed with this amazing performance created by both all those on stage and also the brilliant backstage production team.' 'What an amazing performance last night from all! Such hard work and talent in these young people!'

FAME The Musical was the culmination of a busy first term for students at CAPA College. The perfect opportunity to learn new skills and techniques and experience the vigor of a professional rehearsal schedule, it complements a curriculum which is already jam-packed with classes, workshops, auditions and tutorials.

At CAPA College students have the opportunity to experience everything from performing nationally at events such as Can You Dance? and Yorkshire Schools Dance Festival, forming professional Arts companies during Intensives Week, taking part in masterclasses with internationally-renowned performers and experiencing an energetic mock audition week – and this is all before Christmas!

With a can-do attitude, an unwavering commitment to their Art and unfathomable levels of talent, we are sure the cast of CAPA College's Fame The Musical will be soaring high for years to come.

Sandal Magna – Understanding Christianity

Year 5 and Year 4 have been on a local walk to St Catherine's church to help their understanding on Christianity. The children had the opportunity to ask questions, walk around the church and look at many religious items. Thank you for having us!



Trust – Chairs Forum

Andy Hoole held the first of our termly Chairs' Forums. The event was created to give our Local Governing Board Chairs the opportunity to discuss any good practice or shared concerns. It also allowed Andy to answer any burning questions and share upcoming agenda items and any Trust information to our team of Chairs as a whole. The first meeting proved very successful and allowed us to have a group discussion on what future forums could look like as well as addressing any concerns for models of governance moving forward following changes in Covid-19 guidance.

Sandal Magna - Reading Corner

We have been focusing on The Three Billy Goats Gruff this week in our Reading Corner. The children had great fun 'trip trapping' over the bridge. They were trying so hard to be quiet so as not to wake the angry troll underneath! Fantastic creative play in EYFS



Enhance Academy Trust spread festive cheer with their original, new Christmas song

In December all of the Enhance Academy Trust schools and colleges came together for the first time to collaborate on a unique and uplifting festive project: to write, record and produce their own original, new Christmas song.

Written entirely by the incredibly talented Dance, Drama, Musical Theatre and Production Arts students at CAPA College, the new song, entitled "Leave Your Light On", was arranged by Shane Durrant and Alice Higgins and filmed by John Slemensek for Studio Bokehgo.

Recorded in situ at each of the Enhance Academy Trust institutions, students from across the 11 academies took part, completing singing workshops with CAPA College's award-winning staff team as well as recording solos and ensemble arrangements.

The effect was breath taking. Released on Christmas Eve on CAPA College's social media channels and streamed through the College's YouTube channel (which have a combined audience of over 11,500 followers), the video gained glowing feedback. One Facebook video declared 'what a fabulous and very emotional video!! Well done to each and every one of you'.

St Helen's CE Primary School were quick to share their praise: 'Wow! What a morning! What an amazing opportunity as Oak, Sycamore and Willow became recording artists! Thank you CAPA College for your expertise and help as we recorded the Enhance Academy Trust Christmas song. Our children had an awesome time!'.

"Leave Your Light On" is part of a wider string of song writing successes for CAPA College. In the past year, students at the College have performed on BBC Radio and won prestigious prizes with British Youth Music Theatre.

With second year CAPA College students having already successfully gained places to study at such establishments as Urdang Academy, Bird College, Rose Bruford College and Royal Central School of Speech and Drama next year, this is clearly just the beginning of these talented young creatives. Watch this space!



St Botolph's – SIAMS Inspection

All of the hard work and dedication of the staff and the community has been recognised in what is a really positive report. In many ways it is a fantastic Christmas present for us all. The following phrases really do sum out what an amazing school we have and how proud we are of the SIAMS inspection report.

- *The vision that every pupil should flourish and fulfil their potential is deeply embedded in St Botolph's culture. The result is a very welcoming and inclusive school community where pupils' individual needs are carefully considered. Parents appreciate the way that staff 'go out of their way to help' and communicate promptly in addressing concerns.*
- *Loving pastoral care, rooted in the school's vision, contributes to a very powerful sense of community in which all are valued. An experienced and skilled learning mentor works effectively to improve the wellbeing of pupils. The school is pro-active in identifying needs and tailoring support to individuals. Children and families have confidence that they will be listened to and supported appropriately.*
- *Pupils respect each other and accept difference without question.*
- *Pupils enjoy learning and experience a broad and balanced curriculum. In many subjects, this has been planned around key overarching questions, known as 'big questions', which stimulate thought and differing opinions.*
- *The teaching of RE is exemplary in its use of big questions*
- *The high quality of pupils' oral and written responses reflects their creativity and individuality in this subject. The highly effective leader has developed a team of committed and competent class teachers who enjoy teaching RE.*

SIAMS recently updated their inspection framework and as such we are amongst the first schools in the country to be inspected.

SOCIAL MEDIA ACROSS THE TRUST



CAPA College @CAPACOLLEGE · 19h

What an AMAZING three days of filming with Studio Bokego at @SaltsMill. We are so proud of the hard work that has gone into this incredibly important project surrounding race and inequality and can't wait to see the final film! #PLEDGE



Diamond Wood Academy @dwca_tweets · Mar 2

We are very excited to hear that Gareth Jackson will be visiting school again tomorrow. He is a new author and has kindly been running a competition for our pupils to illustrate one of his new books. Tomorrow is the day he will get to see all of our entries. How exciting!



St. Michael's @st_michaels_ce · 16h

Fantastic writers from Reception! They make us feel so very proud 😊



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Overthorpe CofE @Overthorpe_Acad · Feb 4

★ Well done to our Learning Champions & Dojo achievers this week! We are so proud of you all for working incredibly hard & representing the school values ★ #champions #schoolvalues #achievers @O_Early_Years @O_Year_1_2 @O_Year_3_4 @O_Year_5_6



St Giles Academy Pontefract @stgilesacademy · 2h
Class 2 in their amazing outfits championing the use of exciting vocabulary!



Sandal Magna Community Academy Retweeted

Y5SandalMagnaCA @Y5SandalMagnaCA · Feb 11

This week we have been celebrating Children's Mental Health Week. Over this week the children have been discussing fixed mindset and growth mindset, what makes a good friend? And how we promote mental health by talking! Well done year 5! #shareyourdaySMCA #ChildrensMentalHealth



St Helen's CE Primary School @StHelCEPrimary · Feb 16

Our reading pets are finally ready to come home tonight! It's really simple....read to your pet for ten minutes, three times a week. #Lookingforwardinfaith #reading #readingforpleasure

