



NEWSLETTER

SUMMER EDITION 2024

ENHANCE ACADEMY TRUST: TRUST HANDWRITING COMPETITION

Children across the whole Trust have taken part in a Handwriting Competition to demonstrate their superb writing skills.

A winning entry was selected from each year group within each school. These then went into a pool of other entries, of the same year group, across the Trust. An overall winner was then selected.

It was incredibly difficult to select the winners, as the entries were of such a high quality. However, we have managed to select our winners and they have each received a prize.

Congratulations to all of the children who entered and to our overall winners.

Bed in Summer



In winter I get up at night
and dress by yellow candle-light.
In summer, quite the other way,
I have to go to bed by day.

I have to go to bed and see
the birds still hopping on the tree,
or hear the grown-up people's feet
still going past me in the street.

And does it not seem hard to you,
when all the sky is clear and blue,
and should like so much to play,
to have to go to bed by day?

By Robert Louis Stevenson

ST MICHAEL'S: YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL AT ROBINWOOD

After working hard all year on their SATS, our Year 6 children attended an activity weekend at Robinwood.

They had an amazing time! It was a huge departure from the classroom, as the children enjoyed activities such as rope swings, trapeze, nightline, swing rope and canoeing.

They spent two nights in Dobroyd Castle, in Todmorden - which in itself is an exciting little adventure.

It was lovely to see our children enjoying themselves and spending time together.

It was their last few weeks at primary school before they make that huge transition to secondary education.



ENHANCE ACADEMY TRUST: LAYERS OF GOVERNANCE



As a Trust, we have different layers of governance: Members, Trustees and our Local Academy Boards. We have seen some change in membership to our Members recently so I want to take the opportunity to share their details with you all. We will tell you more about our Trustees next time.

The Members are akin to the shareholders of a company. They have ultimate control over the Trust, with the ability to appoint some of the Trustees and the right to amend the Trust's Articles of Association.

OUR MEMBERS

Canon Peter Townley

(Member and Chair of the Trust Board)

Peter was the Archdeacon of Pontefract from 2008 to 2023. He was also a member of the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education, and formerly the Chair of the Wakefield Diocesan Board of Education. Before that, for 28 years, he was a Parish Priest in Greater Manchester and Suffolk where he worked with a number of Church and state schools.

Simone Bennett

Diocesan Director of Education

Simone has worked in education for over 25 years, including 9 years as a primary Headteacher. She is currently the Diocesan Director of Education for the Diocese of Leeds. Simone has a proven track record of supporting schools through rapid improvement, developing teaching and learning and improving outcomes for pupils. She led her own schools to both Outstanding Ofsted and SIAMS outcomes and was a member of the North Yorkshire Commission for School Improvement exploring system leadership and models of improvement. She is currently a SIAMS inspector and is an ordained member of the Church of England, with permission to officiate across the Diocese.

John Donald

John graduated from Bretton Hall College (University of Leeds) in 2001 with a BA (Hons) QTS specialising in music. John has taught in a number of Catholic primary schools across the North West of England. John has been the Deputy Headteacher of two Catholic primary schools and the Headteacher of a large primary and nursery school. During his time as a Headteacher in the Diocese of Shrewsbury, John trained and served as a S48 inspector of Religious Education. As well as this, he acted as the secretary of the Catholic Headteacher's Association. For the last five years, John served as one of Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) with Ofsted. He is currently the Director of Education in a Catholic Multi-Academy Trust in the North West.

The Revd Canon Dr Philip Hobday

Philip Hobday is Sub-Dean of Wakefield Cathedral overseeing outreach, pastoral care, learning, and events. He has served as a Parish Priest in Reading and East Kent, as well as being Chaplain in two universities. He has a BA in Modern History, a BA, MA, and PhD in Theology, and is an Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. Philip has been a governor of four schools and has taught RE and theology in primary and secondary schools, universities, and to those training for different roles in the church.

ENHANCE ACADEMY TRUST: A MEMORABLE DAY AT THE ENHANCE SUPER CUP!



It was an absolute pleasure to witness such great performances at the inaugural Enhance Super Cup, which took place on 15th July at the Wakefield Football Centre! This event truly showcased the incredible talent and enthusiasm of our pupils.

Girls' Match: A Nail-Biting Finish

The girls' match was nothing short of a nail-biter, ending in a thrilling 4-4 draw between Christ Church and St Giles. Even extra time couldn't separate these equally matched teams. It took a nerve-wracking penalty shootout for St Giles to clinch the victory. The determination and skill on display had us all on the edge of our seats. I'm sure Sarina Wiegman will have taken note of these future stars!

Boys' Cup: Horbury Bridge Academy Triumphs

The boys' cup was equally thrilling, with Horbury Bridge Academy emerging as the champions. What started as a tense and cautious game eventually saw HBA pull away to secure the win. The sportsmanship and team spirit shown by all the pupils were fantastic. It was heartening to see such camaraderie and dedication on the pitch. I think we can all agree that the future of football is in safe hands!

A Day of Unity and Celebration

This was the first event we've held as a trust, and it was fantastic to see everyone come together. The support from parents, teachers, and the community was overwhelming and greatly appreciated. It was a day filled with excitement, unity, and a shared love for the beautiful game.

A big thank you to all the organisers, volunteers, and participants who made this event possible.



FEATHERSTONE ALL SAINTS: MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER

At All Saints, we have been fundraising to create a memorial area for Abi Fisher, who tragically died two years ago. The whole school, with support from Featherstone Rovers, created a wonderful sponsored obstacle course.

The children raised a staggering £4,065.37. Our plan is to create an outdoor classroom area with bug houses and planters to share Mrs. Fisher's passion for the outdoors.



ST BOTOLPH'S: SCHOOL VISION

Over May half term, we have had this wonderful mural painted on our outside school wall, depicting our vision "find your fantastic".

This was painted by a local artist and funded by our bake sale.



SANDAL MAGNA: AMAZON DONATION



Earlier in the half term, Amazon kindly donated some books to our library.

Sarah from Amazon read 'When the dinosaurs walked the Earth' to Reception and Year 1.

Our children loved the book and spent some time practising their best roars in time for the occasion.



CHRIST CHURCH: FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



Huge congratulations to the Christ Church girls football team who won the first Enhance Football Tournament.



ST HELEN'S: PURPLE PIG FARM VISIT

Purple Pig Farm paid a visit to the Nursery class at St Helen's. The children learned about different farm animals and got to hold and stroke some of the wonderful and very friendly animals.

The animals included Beryl the calf, Twinkle, Batman and Bobby the pigs as well as some ducklings, goats, rabbits and a sheep.

They had an amazing time.



ST GILES: TENNIS COACHING



Class 2 have loved their tennis coaching lessons from the coaches at Ackworth School.

They've learnt a volley, forehand and backhand shots.



BATLEY PARISH: MY HAPPY MIND

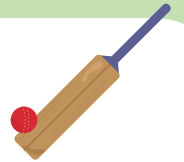
A significant development during the past term at Batley Parish has been the implementation of 'My Happy Mind' which has helped to improve our support to children's mental health.

Like many classes Year 2 and Year 4, during their weekly sessions, have been developing the children's understanding of the brain and breathing techniques which can support emotional regulation.

Mental Health Awareness week provided further opportunities for the children to learn about techniques and strategies to improve their mental health.



HIGHBURTON: YEAR 3 AND 4 GIRLS CRICKET TOURNAMENT



What a fantastic day, all the girls worked so hard, played some lovely cricket and displayed great team spirit.

The semi final against Lepton was a close game, they won and have now qualified to the next round.

Every single one of the girls gave 100% and this showed in their batting, bowling and fielding throughout the afternoon.

They comfortably won the 3rd place play off but unfortunately they lost in the semi final to the eventual winners who we beat in the final.



OVERTHORPE: OUTDOOR LEARNING CLUB

Our after-school Outdoor Learning club has been very popular this half term. The children have been learning a variety of knots and lashings and using this knowledge to build shelters in our woodland.

With great focus and perseverance, the children have also mastered the art of fire lighting, and thanks to monies raised by our PTA, have all enjoyed toasting marshmallows around our new fire pit.



SANDAL MAGNA: KINGSWOOD RESIDENTIAL



Thirty of our Year 4, 5 and 6 children recently visited Kingswood. They had a brilliant time and took part in a range of activities such as zip lining, rafting, taking part in a camp fire and abseiling.

The children were a credit to the school and their behaviour was impeccable. A huge thank you to Mrs Mullock for organising the residential.

Thank you to Miss Dwyer, Miss Brook and Mrs Pratt for attending and giving up your time for our children.



ST BOTOLPH'S: BAKE OFF COMPETITION



Our annual "Bake Off" competition was a huge success! We raised over £200, which we have put towards a fantastic mural for the playground.

The remaining funds have been spent on playtime equipment for the children.

Here are two of the winning entries for the competition.



ST HELEN'S: RESIDENTIAL TO HIGH ADVENTURE

Year 6 children at St Helen's had an amazing time on their residential visit to High Adventure in June.

They took part in a variety of adventurous and team-based activities, conquering their fears and having lots of fun.

They were a credit to the school.



ST GILES: CAREERS DAY

Class 2 listened attentively and with intrigue during our first Careers Day. We learnt about lots of different careers and what qualifications you need.

A big thanks to Harworth Homes!



CHRIST CHURCH: YEAR 2 TRIP TO THE DEEP



As part of their learning Year 2 went on a class trip to the Deep! We have been learning all about what it is like to live by the coast this half term, and were lucky enough to have an interactive workshop with staff from the Deep all about the coast!

We have also been learning about animals and their habitats, oceans and seas and hot and cold climates as part of Geography and Science this year- all of which we were able to learn more about with the amazing displays that were at The Deep.

Year 2 had a fantastic time!



ST GILES: CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS DAY



Class 2 at St Giles showing their support on Cystic Fibrosis Awareness day by wearing yellow.



HIGHBURTON GET ACTIVE MORNING AT SHELLEY COLLEGE

Year 3 had a fantastic 'Get Active' morning at Shelley College. They took part in a range of activities alongside other Year 3 children from the Shelley Pyramid.

They had a choice of 4 activities, Golf, Hand Ball Archery, Tennis, Tag Rugby and Cricket. Mrs Hinchliffe reported they were all a credit to the school and a real pleasure to take on the trip.

Well done Year 3!



BATLEY PARISH: MEMORIAL PARK

Class 6 took part in the D-day service at Batley Memorial Park.

The children really valued the experience which promoted reflection and remembrance.

Two of the children: Ellis and Joshua, even had the opportunity to contribute to the service by reading a prayer and an account by a soldier.



ST HELEN'S: CONFIRMATION DAY



Two Year 5 children from St Helen's were confirmed by the Bishop of Wakefield on Sunday 23rd June.

Prior to this, they had attended weekly Confirmation Classes in school with Father Robert and Mrs Murihead, a Governor and member of St Helen's Church.



CHRIST CHURCH: MEADOW VIEW FARM

Reception class had a fantastic time at Meadow View Farm, the children represented our school brilliantly and their behaviour was superb! We started by meeting Farmer James who looked after us.

We went to see the cows and their calves. After that we went to look at the different machines used on the farm. We made butter and had it on our crackers! We fed the hens and collected the eggs. We decorated our pots and planted seeds to take home. Farmer James told us all about wool and what is made out of wool.

They had a superb day at Meadow View Farm.

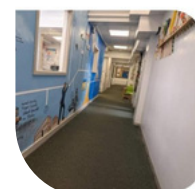


DIAMOND WOOD: HISTORY TIMELINE

We have had our History timeline created in the entrance of Diamond Wood Community Academy.

The children have absolutely loved remembering their History knowledge and talking about the inspiring individuals that we learn about.

This has been a wonderful addition to our school!



CHRIST CHURCH: VISIT TO BAGSHAW MUSEUM



Our Year 3 class visited Bagshaw Museum where they learnt all about life as an Egyptian.

We learnt about the mumification process and the children got to dig for and hold real Egyptian artefacts from thousands of years ago!



CAPA: PUTTING ON A SHOW

Performance is at the heart of CAPA College. Whether we're teching a full-scale musical, designing unique props and costumes, dancing in an international festival or taking part in National Theatre Connections, life at CAPA College revolves around performing. It, quite literally, puts the P in CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) College! And this year has been no exception...

From candlelit carols to a scorching AMPLIFY Arts Festival with new writing, explosive design and jaw-dropping performances at the Adelphi Theatre, York Theatre Royal and Musical Con along the way, this has been an exceptional year of live performance for CAPA College.

Both in front and behind the lens, on stage and in the lighting box, ALL of CAPA College's 500 super-talented students have been involved in this year's exciting programme of shows and live performances.

Some highlights this year have included: showcasing incredible new work by renowned choreographer Josh Wharmby at Move It

2024 at ExCeL London; sharing a stage with CAPA College Patron Shanay Holmes and other West End stars in 'West End Musical Christmas' at the Adelphi Theatre; creating new work alongside acclaimed neon artist Richard Wheater; performing a brand new play written by CAPA College Alum Isabel Hague and funded by Historic England with support from Wakefield Council; and, of course, the epic AMPLIFY Arts Festival which saw 12 shows performed in 4 weeks across CAPA College this summer.

We are SO proud of what our incredible students have achieved this year. The future is bright for these talented young performers!



HORBURY BRIDGE: SUMMER FAIR TRIUMPH

On 5th July, our much-anticipated Summer Fair took place, and it was an absolute blast! The sun shone brightly as families, friends, and the local community gathered for an afternoon filled with fun, games, and delicious treats. From the exciting tombola and raffle to the mouth-watering cake stalls, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

We are thrilled to announce that we raised an astonishing £1500! This fantastic achievement will go a long way in supporting our school's projects and activities. A huge thank you to all the parents, pupils, staff, and volunteers who made this event such a spectacular success. Your generosity and enthusiasm are truly appreciated.



CHRIST CHURCH: VISIT TO MIRFIELD GARDEN CENTRE

The Rainbow group at Christ Church have been learning about Growing and Changing in Science.

We visited Mirfield Garden Centre to buy some seeds to grow in school and we studied the life cycle of a butterfly.

We watched our own baby caterpillars grow and change in to beautiful butterflies and we were so excited to release them into our reflection garden.



ST MICHAEL'S: YEAR 1 BIKEABILITY

One of the loveliest sights of our summer term at St Michael's has been watching our Year 1 children having their Bikability lessons at school.

Not only were the children learning about how to ride a bike, but they were also learning about how to stay safe on roads.

They spent 8 days on their bikeability lessons. They started out looking nervous as they were using bikes with stabilisers and safety guards - but by the eighth day they were literally riding around the playground with the confidence of experts.

Their understanding of staying safe has improved no end.



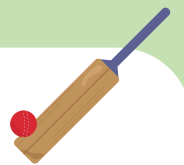
HIGHBURTON: YEAR 4 BOYS CRICKET TOURNAMENT

The Year 4 boys played in the yearly pyramid cricket tournament at Skelmanthorpe Cricket club.

There were sixes and fours flying everywhere and all the boys played so well. They played 4 games in a round robin tournament winning 3 out of the 4 games.

Unfortunately for us we had to play against a very strong Year 5 side from Shepley for the last game. We came 2nd overall which is a fantastic result.

Well done Year 4 boys, you were amazing!



VERTHORPE: BIRDS OF PREY VISIT

Year 5 children at Overthorpe Academy were treated to an extraordinary experience when a variety of birds of prey visited their school. The children were amazed to see such beautiful birds up close, making the day both exciting and educational.

The visit began with a tiny Burrowing Owl, surprising everyone as it nervously ran around the floor. Its small size and endearing behaviour captivated the students, who learned about its unique habitat and lifestyle.

Next, the majestic Barn Owl floated silently across the room on its snowy white wings, causing gasps of amazement. The children were enthralled by its graceful flight and learned about its nocturnal hunting techniques.

The Kestrel was another highlight, watching the children carefully and giving a thrilling warning screech. The students were fascinated by its keen eyesight and hovering hunting strategy.

The high point of the visit was the chance to hold a Peregrine Falcon. Known for being the fastest animal on the planet, this magnificent bird made a lasting impression on the children, who learned about its incredible speed and hunting prowess.

Overall, the visit from the birds of prey provided a memorable and educational experience for the Year 5 children at Overthorpe Academy, leaving them with a greater appreciation for these extraordinary creatures.



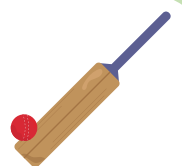
HIGHBURTON YEAR 5 AND 6 BOYS CRICKET TOURNAMENT

The Year 5 boys played a tournament at a very blustery Kirkheaton Cricket Club. This competition was for Year 5 and 6 and they were the only Year 5 team in the competition.

They won all their group matches which meant they were playing in the Semi final against Kirkburton Middle School (4 of which used to come to Highburton).

They played extremely well but unfortunately came off second best. The third place playoff was against a strong Kirkheaton side and they lost narrowly against them to come 4th out of 16 teams.

We were so proud of each and every one of them as they played so well and had a wonderful attitude towards the game. Well done everyone.



HORBURY BRIDGE: PIRATES OF THE CURRY BEAN

Ahoy, me hearties! Our Key Stage 2 pupils set sail on a hilarious and swashbuckling adventure with their production of Pirates of the Curry Bean. Ossett Town Hall was transformed into a tropical paradise, complete with pirate ships, treasure chests, and palm trees.

The pupils delivered a fantastic performance, full of energy, humour, and catchy songs that had the audience clapping and singing along. The story followed young twins Jack and Liza as they embarked on a quest to rescue their pirate-captured mother, encountering a host of quirky characters along the way. From the dastardly Captain Redbeard to the bumbling Governor and his laugh-out-loud antics, every pupil shone in their role.

A special mention must go to our talented backstage crew and the staff who helped bring this colourful production to life. The costumes were fabulous, the set design was creative, and the overall production was a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved.

Thank you to all the parents and community members who attended and supported our young performers. Your encouragement and applause made the evening even more special. Bravo to our budding actors and actresses for a job well done!



BATLEY PARISH: OUR LOVE FOR READING



Some of our central areas have been developed to showcase our love for reading.

This has helped to promote our daily reading for pleasure sessions in which class texts are shared and discussed.



FEATHERSTONE ALL SAINTS: OUR LOVE FOR READING

On Friday, June 28th, All Saints held a Big Lunch as part of the Wakefield Healthy School Initiative. The event coincided with our sports day. The academy received £500 in funding to create an event that included a DJ, a giant conga around the field, and healthy fruit kebabs for the children to make.

Representatives from the Wakefield Health and Wellbeing team were also present, sharing activities to improve the children's fitness.

The event was well attended, with parents and carers enjoying time together with family and friends.



ST MICHAEL'S: PE AND FITNESS WEEK



During this summer term, our children at St Michael's spent a full week focussing on PE and Health/Fitness. The week was filled with activities and visitors to school – discussing things like keeping fit and enjoying yourself.

The children enjoyed doing special activities like a lesson in Yoga from a Yoga Master – who was specially booked for the week. We were visited by a female professional footballer from Sheffield United and rugby players from Wakefield Wildcats.

Over the course of the week, the children engaged in lots of PE activities and competitions – the most popular competition of all was a skipping contest to find out who could do the most skips in a minute.

Each class had their own skipping contest to find out the best skipper and it all culminated with a whole school 'Skip Off' in a special assembly.

There was an ultimate winner for each Key Stage group and the prize was a special visit to Gravity in Castleford.



CAPA: A TOUR DE FORCE

CAPA College are thrilled to announce a new partnership between CAPA College, Red Ladder Theatre Company and Theatre Royal Wakefield which will see CAPA College students touring across the country this autumn in a brand new musical, Sanctuary.

Produced by Red Ladder's Artistic Director Cheryl Martin and written by Boff Whalley and Sarah Woods, Sanctuary charts one man's plea for help and refuge at a time when not all strangers are welcomed. It revolves around the story of Alland, a young Iranian man who begs to be given sanctuary at a church in northern England, sparking a community to react in all the ways each member believes to be right.

This ground-breaking professional show mixes hard-hitting ideas with memorable melodic tunes and harmonies and features a chorus of Performing Arts students from CAPA College who will tour to venues across the UK from September 2024.

Watch this space! This is not to be missed.



ST MICHAEL'S: OUTDOOR EDUCATION



At St Michael's we value opportunities to do some of our learning outdoors. We focus some of our lessons in our Millenium Garden, like science and Art.

Over the year we have grown lots of different vegetables. This summer we harvested some of the things that we grew. Some things grew really well and some did not - which teaches children important lessons about life.

Below you can see some photos of our 'Potato Crop' which was one of our most successful harvests. Also below, you can see some photos of 'Outdoor Art' where our children made our garden look more exciting by painting stones and other natural objects.



HORBURY BRIDGE: FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT TRIUMPH



Our boys' football team has made us incredibly proud by winning the recent Enhance Academy Trust Football Tournament! Their teamwork, skill, and determination were on full display, and they have earned their place in the prestigious Super Cup Final.

We wish them the best of luck and are confident they will bring their A-game to the final match.

Not to be outdone, our girls' football team also put on a brilliant performance. They played with heart and skill, not losing a single match throughout the tournament. However, they narrowly missed out on the title, with Christ Church Academy taking the top spot.

Nevertheless, our girls should hold their heads high for their outstanding effort and sportsmanship.

Well done to all our footballers!



HORBURY BRIDGE: WELLBEING WEEK

Wellbeing Week in June was a true celebration of wellbeing at Horbury Bridge Academy!

Monday: Visit to Midgley Camp

Our week kicked off with a thrilling whole-school visit to Midgley Camp. Pupils teamed up under the banners of Earth, Air, Fire, and Water to embark on team-building challenges. These activities were designed to promote our core values of kindness, courage, and community. Witnessing our pupils work together and support each other was inspiring and set a positive tone for the rest of the week.

Tuesday: Staff-Led Carousel and Mental Health Support

Tuesday brought us back to school where pupils participated in a staff-led carousel of activities. The Mental Health Support Team also visited and led various sessions focused on mental wellbeing. It was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to learn more about how to manage their mental health and support each other.

Wednesday: Green Space Zen at Coxley Woods

On Wednesday, we embraced the great outdoors with a trip to Coxley Woods. The day centred on finding our happy place in nature. Pupils created mini fairy houses filled with things that make them happy, engaged in woodland art, and enjoyed the cool water on their toes while working together to build a dam. The warm weather made it a perfect day to connect with nature and each other.

Thursday: Physical Wellbeing at Slazenger Sports Club

Thursday was all about physical wellbeing. Pupils visited Slazenger Sports Club and experienced a variety of sports, including hockey, golf, football, tennis, and crown green bowling. Additionally, our EYFS pupils had their sports day, which was a fantastic event filled with fun and energy.

Friday: Sports Day for KS1 and KS2

Finally, today we saw our KS1 and KS2 pupils battle it out in their respective sports days. The competitive spirit and camaraderie were fantastic to witness. It was a wonderful way to conclude our Wellbeing Week. Congratulations to the overall winners: TEAM AIR!



FEATHERSTONE ALL SAINTS: ALL SAINTS GOT TALENT



An event loved by the children and families of All Saints took place on Thursday, July 4th. All Saints' Got Talent provides an opportunity for children to showcase talents that are often hidden. This year, the student council narrowed the participants down to seven finalists. The acts included a comedy sketch by a group of Year 5 children and dancing and singing from Year 4.

The winners of the event were Cassian and Joe, Year 2 pupils, who shone with their rendition of "Someone You Loved." It was a wonderful evening that raised funds towards our new stage.



SOCIAL MEDIA ACROSS THE TRUST

