

# December 2022

## Newsletter



*'Thrive and Achieve Together'*

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, and my first term as CEO, I want to thank everyone who works for and within the Trust for the commitment shown to the work we do. I have been really impressed with the genuine culture of 'Children First' that I have witnessed in every interaction I have had with each school as I have spent time there.

Trustees and Members have supported my first term and enabled me to quickly understand the vision and values of the Trust. The central team have enabled me to get up to speed on the running of an Academy Trust and kept me on the right path!

Leadership teams across the Trust have been open and welcoming of the support and ideas I have offered as I have got to know each school, their strengths and their challenges.

Development of Curriculum and Pedagogy are the two parts of my job that I enjoy the most and it has been great to work with Sarah and David on supporting subject development and middle leadership in a range of curriculum areas this term. The work on the curriculum is, and always will be, an on-going improvement piece of work, as we refine and build on good practice to achieve the exceptional.

Similarly, developing the most effective teaching strategies through the use of the Walkthru materials ensures that practice is evidence informed and always Improving. We know that our children need, and deserve us all to be the very best so that their potential is fulfilled.

### Resources

As I am sure you are all aware, both from your leaders and from the media, school budgets are under increasing pressure. In our Trust these pressures are added to by the falling pupil numbers across Enfield and London. The central finance team are continuing to work hard to support HTs to keep budgets working for the children in the most efficient way possible.

We are all having to find ways of meeting the needs of children with SEND in creative and flexible ways and I thank you for the way that you are all doing this. The moral imperative that all of our schools understand, to meet the needs of the most vulnerable, is obvious despite the difficulties. Support staff, in particular, are being asked to work very flexibly and possibly differently and it is credit to you that I have seen some excellent ways of working.

Don't forget we have a Trust brochure which celebrates what we are all about.

<https://bit.ly/3m0FvEi>



## Standards across our Trust

As you know there were statutory tests last summer, for the first time in 3 years.

Across the Trust we are really pleased with our Early Years and Y1 phonics outcomes in particular, there is real evidence that the youngest children are getting off to a really solid start. At KS1 and KS2 our schools can be affected by pupil mobility but all data shows that for children who go all the way through our schools outcomes are good. Of course, we are never satisfied and I see all of the hard work that is going into ensuring that every child, from any starting point is making the progress they are capable of.

Unsurprisingly, reading remains the big focus and looking at ways to ensure children are reading across the whole curriculum is something we are looking at with subject leaders.

## Collaboration across the Trust

As I have reflected on the first term working in the Trust, and indeed the first term working in any Trust, the collaboration between schools is something I can see is a huge strength of the system. From the HT strategic board, through senior and middle leaders there is such a strength in sharing good practice and solving challenges together. As we go forward I will be working with Headteachers to develop these opportunities even further so that staff at all levels get to meet and work together. If you have an idea of a forum or group of staff who could meet together do let you Headteachers know.

## Out and about in our schools

### Trees for Cities Planting Workshops at Raynham

Raynham Primary School is proud to work in partnership with Trees for Cities who are helping them to improve the outdoor areas. Children have been growing fruit and vegetables over the year and in November planted 4 trees. Trees are so important to help us keep our air clean and our bodies healthy.



A huge congratulations to **Fleecefield's gymnastics team**, who took part in the annual gymnastic festival this year at Southbury Leisure Centre. Fleecefield are so proud of them.



Children at Fleecefield love to read. Here are some children from Indigo class enjoying a visit to Edmonton Green library



What an ending to autumn term 2022, snowball games and sledging in Edmonton!!

**Wishing you all a very well deserved break and I look forward to continuing the good work next term. Jane**



**HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL AND HERE'S TO A FABULOUS 2023!!**