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Gill Weston, Learn-AT Chair of Trustees

As we come to the end of this academic year, it's a good time to pause and reflect on the successes and challenges of our work together. It is also, most importantly, an opportunity to say thank you to all our staff who work so hard to ensure that children are getting the best possible education during their time in primary school. On behalf of trustees, thank you!

We are delighted to welcome, most warmly, three schools to the trust this year: Church Langton C of E Primary School joined us in November 2017, Blaby Stokes Primary School in February 2018 and Red Hill Field Primary School have just joined in July. We know that all our schools will thrive as we work and grow together. We have also been successful in applying to become a teaching school with Church

Langton as the lead school. This is going to be such an opportunity for us to offer high quality professional learning for staff at all stages of their career, from initial teacher training, through to executive leadership and everything in between: exciting times for everyone.

The recent local governor briefings have provided a forum for governors to share ideas and challenges. Again, the opportunity to work together for the benefit of our schools and acknowledge the important role played by all of those who volunteer to serve the trust in this way, including trustees, is invaluable. The governance framework, with all its related documents will be used from September onwards and will help all of us to have a clearer understanding of how governance works across

the trust.

I know that as we head off for the summer break, a number of colleagues are planning the conference in August with a focus on individuality and inclusion. Once again, we are blessed with the opportunity to share our collective talent and expertise and I look forward to attending on the day and meeting more of our Learn-AT family.

Finally, on behalf of trustees, I wish you a good summer break. I hope that the good weather continues so that we can all make the most of these few weeks away from school, spend time with our loved ones, and be ready to start the next academic year with the enthusiasm and energy that makes such a difference to the way we approach our roles and the way children learn.



Stef Edwards, Learn-AT Chief Executive

It's the end of the year – all the work of the school year reaches a deafening crescendo with productions, trips and visits, end of year governor meetings, final assessments and reports. Then there are the visits to school for new Reception pupils, visits to secondary school for our Year 6 pupils and visits to new classrooms for everyone moving up in September. It's all go!

As a Trust, among many projects, we have been working together all year to develop the Learn-AT Curriculum Framework. A group of teachers and senior school leaders from every Learn-AT school has met regularly throughout the year to explore the latest research and thinking about the primary curriculum. Our aim has been to develop a set of shared curriculum principles we all agree on, which will provide a secure foundation for our schools to develop a rich, rounded and rigorous curriculum that will ensure that all of our children have an excellent education and continue to flourish.

The curriculum is everything our children learn in school. It covers the way we treat each other, to what we learn in lessons and subjects and how we learn it. It includes the skills we develop and practise - like being able to read, write, build, code, sing, dance and recognise a fair test in science. From understanding the water cycle in geography, through ethics, moral dilemmas and justice in RE and PSHE, learning empathy, sharing and generosity of spirit or marvelling at the wonders of nature in Forest School – the curriculum is 'all the stuff we learn in school' (Mick Waters).

As part of this project, a small working group has taken part in the Whole Education 'Leading and Managing Curriculum Change' project. This has given us access to specialist support and helped the group to plan each step of the process.

During the year we have investigated:

- recent research from Psychology and Cognitive Science about how children learn and remember;
- research about the role of language, vocabulary and knowledge in developing children's understanding and reading comprehension
- mastery approaches to learning in mathematics and other subjects in the primary curriculum
- the connections between knowledge and skills
- the role of assessment in children's learning
- the Cambridge Primary Curriculum Review
- how we can make learning irresistible to every child

We will be continuing to work on our curriculum framework throughout next year, thinking carefully about curriculum design, subject knowledge content and progression. School curriculum leaders will work together to review the design and content of their school's curriculum, making sure it reflects both high expectations and irresistibility in all subjects!

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to everyone who is moving on to new pastures at the end of this year. To colleagues, immense gratitude for your service and contribution to children's learning. Good luck and happiness in whatever you are going to be doing. To families who might be moving away to new adventures, warm wishes and happiness to you. And to our Y6 pupils as they move onto the second lap of their education track. We will all miss them and wish them a fantastic secondary school experience and a happy, healthy and fulfilling future. They are the adults we are all waiting for. Safe journey. Have a wonderful summer everyone.



Blaby Stokes Primary School

Year 5 were lucky enough to have a visit from the company Zoolab to start off their fantastic Beast Creator topic! The children were really engaged and had a fantastic time getting up close to some real life minibeasts, as well as learning some fantastic, interesting facts about them.

The Zoolab visitor told us some amazing facts about a range of minibeasts and the children even got to hold and stroke some! Amongst the animals, were a snake, a millipede, a cockroach, a rat, a stick insect, a tarantula and a giant African snail! They had a brilliant time and it was the perfect way to start off our topic – they remembered all of the information and used this all of the way through their topic work.



Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies

During the last few weeks of the Summer Term Year 6 have been rehearsing for their end of Year production of 'Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies'. In only a matter of weeks this amazing bunch of children pulled together a fantastic performance; which left the audience in stitches and wowed by the children's incredible singing and acting skills. The Year 6 teachers were so proud of all the performances.

As part of the topic, 'I Am Warrior', Year 4 have looked at the Romans. This was a fun packed topic and the children learnt all about Roman soldiers, Roman Gods and how the Romans used to live.

The children researched lots of different facts using the computers. This was presented in a variety of ways creating posters, fact files and a power point presentation.

The children also researched Roman mosaics and made their own tiles after designing their patterns. They also designed their own God, drawing and describing their powers!

Also during this topic, the children visited Lunt Roman Fort. This allowed the children to see what it would have been like to live in a Fort in Roman times. They had the opportunity to live life as a Roman soldier and carry out some battle drills, dressing up and working as a team to fight back the Celtic tribes!



Global Debate

We were very proud of the pupils from our school who took part in global debate held in the council chambers at Leicestershire County Hall. The children from Years 4 and 5 enjoyed debating against teams from four other schools, with this year's topic being focused on eradicating the plastic pollution crisis in our oceans. The children presented beautifully and had some difficult counter arguments to contend with, but they did so with maturity and enthusiasm. Each child should be very proud of their efforts and, who knows, this could be the start of a new career path for some.



**Church Langton
CofE Primary
School**

Arts Mark

We have been delighted to discover this term that our school has been gained the Silver Arts Mark Award, one of a small number of schools in the region to have achieved the new award. During this accreditation process staff at school have been able to identify the many opportunities within the arts that are available to the pupils. It has also been beneficial how these elements of our school can be further enhanced in the future. Thank you to all the staff who were involved in the application, particularly Mrs Pemberton, one of our art technicians.



De Montfort Hall Performance

A highlight of the summer term is the performance of the year four pupils as part of Leicestershire Schools Music Service annual concert. The pupils were part of a choir alongside pupils from other local primary schools as they performed a selection of songs from the silver screen. This was the culmination of many hours of practice both in school and at rehearsals at different locations. There were many proud parents in attendance and all enjoyed the wide range of musical performances in the concert.



Great Bowden Academy

On Thursday 7th June, Year 6 went to Drayton Manor Theme Park for their post-SATs treat! They spent their day plummeting to the ground on Apocalypse (or Cranky's Tower Drop in Thomas Land – for the less brave), flying through the air on Shockwave, Maelstrom and



Pandemonium as well as getting drenched on Stormforce 10 to name a few! Once back at school, the Year 6 parents had kindly put on a BBQ which the children and their families enjoyed late into the evening.



The following Thursday, 'Great Bowden Stars 2018' took place. During the incredible afternoon performance, twenty-four acts performed in front of parents and children. It was wonderful to see children from Year 1 through to Year 6 performing on stage. There was a variety of acts from magic, singing, dancing, playing the piano to gymnastics. The standard of all the performances was amazing. It was a fabulous afternoon and we were all so proud of all the children involved.



Earlier this term, the Great Bowden choir for Years 1-3 submitted a recording of themselves singing two contrasting songs to the Leicester Schools Choir Competition. This was the first round of the competition and successful choirs were to be shortlisted for the final. It was with great excitement that we received the news that our choir had been selected as one of the five finalists for the Primary School category. We will be performing our songs on stage at the newly reopened Haymarket Theatre on the evening of Wednesday 4th July.



We have had a great term at Husbands Bosworth School.

We visited Rockingham Castle as a whole school. All the classes enjoyed a walk around the grounds and loved smelling the amazing roses in the rose garden. The tour of the castle was



Husbands Bosworth CofE Primary School

exciting as we learnt about life in the past at the castle– we particularly liked the kitchen. The amazing views from the tower were brilliant – even though it was rather windy.



We have enjoyed many sporting activities – including our sports day where we made special rosettes with the parents and each child gave one out as part of our Routes to Resilience project. Each child looked for a character trait that their partner displayed during our competitive sports day and awarded them a rosette for this.

Year 6 took part in a cycle-cross event and did really well – finishing 4th. They had to take part in a timed pursuit and cross country relay.



We have had our first British Sign Language taster sessions. Next year Miss Hudson will be coming into the school on a fortnightly basis to teach all of our children BSL. We are really looking forward to this and we are thankful to Friends of Bosworth School for raising money and funding these sessions. By this time next year we will be able to sign about a whole host of topics – colours, animals, greetings etc.





Lubenham All Saints CofE Primary School

Robin Class have had a very exciting half term learning all about The Seaside, Rock Pools and Pirates. We began our new topic by investigating rock pools. We discussed what rock pools are made of and which animals or creatures lives in them. In literacy we have been working on writing different genres such as postcards, stories, diary entries and instructions. The children enjoyed learning interesting facts about pirates and including them in their writing. In maths we have been using and applying new skills and vocabulary to tasks including place value, multiplication, money and time.

As part of our topic we had a Pirate Day where North Kilworth came to our school for an exciting day of activities. The children had the opportunity to

meet a real pirate, do a treasure hunt, make pirate hats, play pirate games and the highlight of the day, having lunch on the Pirate Ship!

Blackbirds Class have been learning about tremors. We have thoroughly enjoyed this topic and have learned lots about earthquakes, volcanoes, rocks and fossils. We made our own volcanoes out of Mod roc and spent an exciting afternoon making them erupt, using a mixture of baking powder and vinegar.

Bounce Class's focus has been The World Cup and there has been great excitement about following the progress of the England team. We have written match reports, found out about the England Captain Harry Kane and produced our own fact files. We have also been looking at different forces in science and PE and thought about how much force is needed to make the ball hit the target.

Our Year 3 children have been hard at work preparing for our KS2 production of Treasure Island. They have learned lots of new songs and dances and had great fun in the process.

Swallow Class's children have been learning about 'Allotments' and 'Scream Machines' (Theme Park Rides). We took the children to a local allotment which is looked after by a pupil in our class. We took them at the beginning of the topic so they could see the early stages and then again at the end of the topic to see how the allotment changed and developed. This inspired lots of interesting work on planting allotments, literacy work based on 'The Secret Garden', studying how plants grow, researching about where our food comes from and some creative art work.

We also all visited Wicksteed Park for the day along with Year 4/5 children from North Kilworth. This was linked to our topic called "Scream Machine", where we were looking at forces. We took part in lots of experiments, using some of the equipment in the park to reinforce our knowledge and understanding of how forces work. We were treated to a ride on the train and on the carousel as well at the end. The Year 5 and 6 children also had a fantastic residential trip to Kingswood in Norfolk just after SATS week.

Swifts' time at Lubenham is drawing to a close ... we have been reminiscing about this year and earlier years at primary school. We've also been talking about the excitement of moving on.



This term the Year 1 children have enjoyed a visit to St. Dionysius church to find out about places of worship. They learnt the names of the features of the church such as: the lectern, stained glass windows, the altar etc. and found out about how they are used. Back at school they designed their own stained-glass windows. The Foundation Stage children also went on a visit to St Dionysius church where they had their very own royal wedding! Two children were chosen to be the bride and groom and were dressed in their wedding outfits. Reverend Jayne conducted the ceremony and all the children had a 'Hula Hoop' crisp ring to practise saying the vows. Back at school they made crowns and enjoyed some royal wedding biscuits.

Our Outdoor Learning Day on 22nd June was a great success. Each class rotated around the grounds for a period where they undertook activities that they wouldn't normally do. Nature hunts, artwork, maths activities, writing inspired by the outdoors, cloud watching, clay faces sculpted onto tree trunks, photography, games, stories, singing and construction were just some of the lessons created by the teachers. After school, families took part in games, some had picnics and the first stage of our Forest School area was open to visitors. The weather couldn't have been better and everybody gave it a BIG thumbs up!

This term, Year 1 and EYFS have been working on performance skills and speaking to an audience as part of the Unlocking Gifts project. This started with a visit from poet, Paul Cookson, who thrilled the school with his hilarious poems and sense of humour. KS1 were lucky enough to have workshops with Paul, following his performance, where he supported the children in writing their own poems to present as part of our Once Upon a Rhyme recital. We even had a book signing after school and ran a poetry competition for all year groups. Year 1 and EYFS have worked tirelessly to learn poems and songs from memory and have received specialist singing lessons from Alex Reffell, where original songs were written around class topics. Each year group also learned and adapted well-known stories and these were filmed in different locations around the school to share with parents. The children have really grown in confidence through these activities and have learned how to use enthusiasm and expression to capture an audience. We are pleased to say the performances were a huge success and the children stunned the audiences with their charisma and stage presence. We are beyond proud of them!



Market Harborough CofE Academy





Meadowdale Primary School

In the last week of June, Meadowdale celebrated Armed Forces Week with a series of special events. We invited parents to join us for a picnic lunch on the school field followed by a ceremony to raise the Armed Forces Day flag. Throughout the week the children took part in bridge building activities and assault courses and had special assemblies led by Army Cadets, Sea Cadets and the Royal British Legion. The week concluded with a Bake for Heroes cake sale which raised nearly £200 for Help for Heroes.

Two of our teachers have recently signed

up with the Royal Shakespeare Company's oracy project, attending two full-day courses working alongside artistic directors and actors from the RSC as well as other teachers in the project. Year 4 pupils have worked on Macbeth in the classroom, using a range of different approaches



and had the opportunity to work with a director in school, looking at how to bring Shakespeare to life. Pupils wrote diaries, letters, poems and created a "Macbeth Rap" and performed their work about Macbeth as a class assembly. The work culminates this year in a celebration event on the 7th July in Asfordby, where pupils from Year 4 will perform their original work and display classwork. During the work on Macbeth, pupils were absorbed, enthused and excited by

the work they did. Parents reported that they had never seen their children so enthusiastic about something they had done in school and that many of them had bought child-friendly Shakespeare books to read at home as a result. Pupils continue to be excited by this project. One previously shy pupil, after working with the RSC artistic director, spoke to him and said that she would very much like to be an actor. Very often, pupils are put off Shakespeare at school; the pupils in Year 4 have been turned on to him greatly.

It has been another fantastic year for sport at Meadowdale, culminating in our Year 4 athletics and Year 6 girls cricket teams representing South Leicestershire at the Leicester-Shire and Rutland School Games at the end of June. Both Meadowdale teams finished as runners up in their events and their results contributed to the Harborough and Blaby team finishing as overall winners.



The Summer Term is a time of celebration, reflection and looking forward to the new school year. The children have completed their end of year assessments and have exemplified our school values of being eager to learn, resilient and challenge seekers.



Red Hill Field Primary School



Sports Day provided our children with the opportunity to work together to achieve success for their house team – our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 winners were Farah and in Key Stage 2 Ennis-Hill were victorious.



All children enjoyed competing for their house team and they were well supported by their families and team mates cheering them on. Our Sports Day picnic with parents was also a great success!

A further highlight of the Summer Term has been the Year 5 and 6 performance. Our children performed 'Shakespeare Rocks' to great acclaim. We

were so impressed by the confidence they displayed in delivering their well-rehearsed lines and the singing was stunning. Romeo and Juliet deserve a special mention for their wonderful duet.

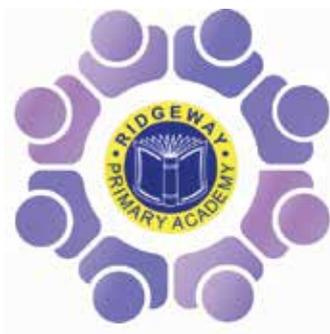
Rachel Watts, Assistant Headteacher at Red Hill Field was delighted to be invited to a reception at 10 Downing Street which recognised the wonderful work of teachers across the country.

Mrs Watts met the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Education and many other ministers and MPs.

The whole of the Red Hill Field school community is proud that Mrs Watts' passion for and dedication to teaching has been recognised at this exciting event.

We are looking forward to the Autumn Term and our continued quest for everyday excellence.





**Ridgeway
Primary
Academy**

Forest School at Ridgeway Primary Academy

Our Story so Far!

We have been busy this year setting up a Forest School for the children to enjoy. Mrs Addison spent months finding out who owned the woodland at the back of Ridgeway. She managed to find the owner and acquire permission to use the woodland. The

woodland had not been touched for about 20 years!! So we set about clearing it. Mrs Gambles and her husband cut down 70 metal poles with an angle grinder and Mrs Addison and her husband cleared bottles, cans and all manner of rubbish from the site.

Finally the site was ready for the children. We have now had six sessions of Forest School and the children have taken part in lots of exciting activities. To start with we walked the boundaries of the site so that we knew how to keep safe and then we explored the woodland.

In session 2, we named trees based on how they felt. One tree was very thin, so we called that the poorly tree. The children decided to make a jumper for it to make it feel warmer.

We have also made a den with a doorbell and two entrances. We have made clay snails and used empty snail shells to decorate them. We also made symmetrical butterflies, woollen spiders webs and sticky weed juice!

It has been amazing to see the children's confidence grow as well as their communication and language skills and ability to problem solve.





St Andrew's Primary School

On Thursday 14th June Acorn class travelled to Lubenham for a Pirate Day, everyone dressed up as Pirates. We had great fun going on a treasure hunt. We even found our own gold coins at the end. We ate our lunch on the pirate ship and learned some sea shanties. In the afternoon we played pirate games and walked the plank!



In Willow we had the most amazing time on our recent trip to the Attenborough Arts Centre. We were able to explore an art exhibition that inspires us to think about how everyone is different in their own special way and that we see things different even though we can be looking at exactly the same thing. The children were given the opportunity to plan a mythical creature together but then draw it individually. It was sensational to see how different each mythical creature was.

Last week, Maple Class went on a trip to Wicksteed Park along with KS2 from Lubenham school. After they'd learnt about the history of the park, the children enjoyed participating in a variety of experiments exploring how rollercoasters move and developing their knowledge of forces. After lunch, the children were lucky enough to experience a couple of the rides for themselves. All children were safely delivered back to school having thoroughly enjoyed their day out



Each class has had the opportunity of partaking in a First Aid workshop this half term. This has allowed them to learn and practise potentially life-saving skills. Oak had the chance to perform CPR on dummies (both an adult and a baby); they practised listening/feeling for the breath and then administering mouth-to-mouth, followed by the chest compressions whilst their hands were in the correct position. The children thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on experience.