

BLUE KITE BULLETIN



To celebrate the King's Coronation...

Abbey Meads Primary School had a portrait competition, with winners receiving artist prizes and seeing their work celebrated across the school.



Lethbridge looked very festive for the Coronation of King Charles III and the school was decked out in bunting and children in royal or red, white and blue themed attire. All the children received a special coronation mug and we loved coming together over fun activities and special cakes.

The Coronation of King Charles

The children at Ruskin Junior School also came in wearing red, white and blue and enjoyed lots of coronation themed activities throughout the day. They kicked the day off with an assembly and each child was given a bag of souvenirs to mark the occasion.



Brook Field Primary School began their celebrations with a special assembly in which they had a parade of crowns that the children had all been making for homework. They were inspired by the St Edwards crown and clearly a lot of time and creativity was put into these masterpieces. We had also been learning a song titled, To the Sound of Trumpets, which they sang all together, really raising the roof of the hall! Throughout the day each year group continued the celebrations with a wide range of exciting activities, including painting, water colours, just like King Charles III and playing some traditional playground games.



Robert Le Kyng Primary School celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III by having a whole school 'street party' on the playground. The staff & children came to school wearing red, white and blue and had lots of fun activities going on throughout the day. Here they all are having fun.



At William Morris we had a lovely time celebrating the King's Coronation together. All children enjoyed a picnic lunch and dressed up like royalty!

Coronation Celebrations at Badbury Park Primary School



Catherine Wayte Primary School Coronation Celebrations



To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III, the children from Colebrook Infants sang to parents and also planted two Coronation trees (a magnolia and an apple). The children sang beautifully and the rain stayed away. It was a lovely way to start the weekend's celebrations.

An Update from the Chief Executive Officer

As the final term of the year gets into full swing, we have found ourselves not just busy with report writing and SATs and residentials but it also seems that Ofsted are in bloom and are visiting some of our schools. We have had two so far at Abbey Meads and at Lethbridge where the staff and children have been an absolute credit to their schools and the Trust. We couldn't be more proud of the hard work, dedication and passion which has shone from these schools over the past few weeks; let's hope some of that filters through into the reports.

Thank you to everyone who completed our online staff survey. We have had 350 responses which equates to just over half of our overall staff. Although it may not seem like many, often only a third of employees respond to a survey so we seem to be doing well. Over-all the responses were incredibly positive and we have some useful feedback which will help us when planning next year's priorities and activities.

One of the main priorities for next year is expanding and formalising our range of professional development offers across all roles in the Trust. To that end, we welcome Liz Horrobin into the Central Team as leading on professional development alongside Kirsty Baker. Many of you will know her as the previous Headteacher at Ferndale. She has recently returned from maternity leave.

One thing that has been very well received this year and also that we are very proud of, is the focus we have had on developing opportunities for children. So far this year, we have had Year 3 children taking part in sporting activities across our school, we have had a Trust-wide debating competition and an art gallery held at North Swindon Library.

Neil Griffiths, our Trust Reading Champion, has been visiting all schools supporting his and - now our charity work. Our hope was to ensure that our children have the opportunity to understand their place both in the local community but also in the global one. In the future we hope to choose a charity to support much closer to home, but this year we focused on supporting schools in Gambia. So far we have raised over £6000 which will go towards funding teachers, resources and meals for the children in their schools. One of the biggest rewards from this project has been seeing how our children have understood what a direct difference they have made to those less fortunate on the other side of the world. Look at what we can accomplish when we work together.

A nationally recognised issue in schools in recent time is the drop in attendance compared to pre-pandemic levels. With parents now working from home and greater flexibility in working hours, coupled with increasing numbers of elective home education, schools are facing a real challenge. The best way to address this, in our opinion, is through strong and effective relationships with families around attendance which has been traditionally forged via the education welfare service. Unfortunately, it is becoming harder and more expensive to access this quality provision through the Local Authority, so as a Trust we are looking to employ our own EWO, who will hopefully start work with us in September.

Gary Evans,
Chief Executive Officer

The Blue Kite
Academy Trust

The logo for The Blue Kite Academy Trust features a stylized blue kite with a long tail, positioned to the right of the text 'The Blue Kite' and above the text 'Academy Trust'.

Pay Update

At Blue Kite we continue to apply both teachers and support staff national pay awards. Here is an update on current pay negotiations.

Teaching staff

On 29 March 2023 the DfE offered a £1000 one-off retrospective payment for September 2022 and a proposed 4.3% overall increase for other teachers for September 2023/24. This was rejected, therefore national pay negotiations for September 2023 are ongoing and teacher pay scales will be updated once agreement has been reached. Additionally, Headteachers will carry out performance management discussions in readiness for the deadline of 31 October. Any pay increase arising from both national pay increases and performance management will be effective from 1 September 2023.

Support Staff

The support staff national pay award is effective from 1 April annually. An offer of £1925 on each pay point has now been rejected and unions are currently balloting for potential industrial action. A decision is unlikely to be made prior to the summer break, therefore there can be no pay decisions until this has been concluded.

As part of last year's negotiations all support staff received an additional day's leave from April 2023. Most staff are term time therefore this has been incorporated within the paid weeks. New annual leave entitlement is:



For any staff who are all year round click [here](#) for an annual leave card.

Additionally, from 1 April 2023 the bottom point of the payscale was removed therefore any staff who were paid on J1 will have been moved to point J2 from this date.

Change to Payroll Processing

BKAT outsources its payroll services to a local company, FS4S who are now part of Juniper Education Group. From July 2023, pay will be run through Junipers new Payroll Bureau. There is no change in pay day and staff should not see any changes to the way in which they are paid, except that your payslip will now be sent from a Juniper email address. If anyone has any queries with their pay then either speak to your school office or email us at hr@bluekitetrust.org.uk.

Exit Interviews

The end of the school year is a key time for recruitment of new staff but also a time when staff leave employment for a wide range of reasons. We would like to give staff an opportunity to provide feedback on their experience of working in schools and the Trust and have developed an exit interview form to be completed. These will be sent to the Trust and data shared with Trustees to enable us to review our recruitment and retention practices.

HR Update continued....

Staff Wellbeing Services

From September 2022 the Trust has provided a wellbeing service for all staff. This allows employees to access a range of confidential, physical and mental health support services at no cost. The services are wide-ranging and illustrated here

Feedback from staff has been very positive therefore it has been agreed to continue with this contract for a further 12 months.

We would encourage staff to download the free wellbeing app to access the services – please click [here](#) for details on how to download the app.

Click [here](#) to see what
Mental and Physical Health
Support Services are
available



Teachers Pensions – My Pension Online

Teachers pensions have alerted us to the fact that some teachers have not yet registered for MPO. This allows you to understand the value of your pension and it also enable Teachers' Pensions to effectively communicate information about the Scheme on your behalf, particularly when you start a new job and when you leave.

Registering with MPO allows you to complete a range of tasks such as:

- Checking your Benefit Statement, which is now updated on a monthly basis.
- Updating personal details
- Completing online forms
- Accessing a range of personalised tools and calculators

Here is the [link](#) to register.

Lighthouse



It has been brilliant coming out to the schools and seeing the fantastic work you are all doing with the children and their families – thank you for welcoming me so warmly!

Just a few things to tell you all about:

- The team will be offering drop-in sessions from September 2023. We will be in touch with you to discuss how this will look and how to tailor it to meet your school's needs.
- We are hoping to run a 'New to School' or 'Welcome to School' session at Ferndale early in September for Reception parents – I know Ruskin and Badbury do something similar so you may already have something in place – if you would like to discuss Lighthouse running a session at your school, please get in touch.
- Our Senior Mental Health Lead, Torz David, will be running a Parent Talk around how to manage anxiety and build resilience – we are thinking of running a couple of sessions to see how they are received – we will send out further information ASAP on dates and venues.
- A revised Lighthouse referral form will be heading out to you over the summer for use from September 23 – once you receive it, please can we ask you just use that one and archive any previous editions!

Please do get in touch on 07753 655260 or lidburyh@bluekitetrust.org.uk for further information on the above or any general queries.

Finance and Operations Update

Blue Kite Networks

For some time now, our School Business Officers and the Trust Team have been meeting termly for training and sharing of ideas and best practice. The meetings cover a range of finance, HR and business topics, but also a great opportunity for our Business Officers to come together and support each other.

We have now extended this to our Site Managers and Andy Campbell, the Trust's Estates Manager, recently hosted the inaugural meeting where 11 Site Managers came together to discuss all things Health & Safety and building management. Lots of lively discussion and Vinny from Badbury Park even made brownies 😊

New starters.....

We are delighted to welcome Annie Mackay, Jayne Dickinson and Nikki White to the Trust's Central Team.

Annie joined the team in February as our Deputy Chief Financial Officer and brings with her a wealth of experience in Public Sector finance. Some of you may already know Annie, as she worked for a number of years at Swindon Borough Council leading the Schools Finance Team.

Jayne joined the Trust's Central Team more recently as PA. Jayne has worked in both Primary and Secondary Schools in Swindon and is already doing a great job in supporting Gary and his education and business teams.

Nikki has joined us as Operations & Projects Officer to support the Trust and our Schools with financial management and covering a range of projects across the Trust. It's been a really busy time with budget setting and forecasting and Nikki joins us from Holy Family Primary School bringing with her lots of experience in school business and finance.

Welcome to you all!



IT changes

The Trust Team are working closely with all our schools on some major IT projects. We are in the process of moving all schools within the Trust to one Microsoft Tenancy which is the central location where we will hold all our Microsoft 365 data (emails, One Drive and SharePoint only). By bringing all our schools together in one Tenancy, we can offer improved security and minimise the risk of cyber-attack. One tenancy will make collaboration and sharing much easier. You will see some changes to email addresses and the introduction of multifactor authentication over the next few months, as well as a new Blue Kite SharePoint site where you will be able to access a whole range of educational and business information all in one place.

Alongside this, our schools are undertaking a cyber security audit to check our resilience against cyber-attacks. By testing our safeguards we can reduce the likelihood and impact of a cyber-attack which can be incredibly disruptive for your school. We know staff have recently undertaken cyber security training and data protection training. Raising awareness is such an important part of keeping our schools safe. Please continue to be vigilant and report anything of concern to your School Office or the Trust Team.

Continued Professional Development Update

Joining Kirsty Baker, Inspire Programme Lead, is Liz Horrobin as Professional Development Lead. Prior to moving into this role, Liz was Headteacher at Ferndale Primary and Nursery School after having taught for over 20 years.

Together, we will be building the CPD offer for The Blue Kite Academy Trust. We will be creating professional development pathways for teachers and teaching assistants at each stage of their career, and developing the range of CPD on offer to all staff members. This CPD offer will be communicated clearly and regularly to all of our Trust schools, in due course.

Thank you to those who completed the recent Blue Kite staff survey. We have collated the information from the CPD sections and here is a snippet of the results:



Q: I am able to access the right learning and development opportunities when I need to.

93% of teaching staff agree
(score of 3 or higher)

72% of teaching staff strongly agree
(score of 4 or higher)



Q: The Trust supports professional development and creates opportunities to develop staff and meet their needs.

93% of teaching staff agree
(score of 3 or higher)

69% of teaching staff strongly agree
(score of 4 or higher)



Q: The Trust has developed strong methods of collaboration and sharing good practice.

90% of teaching staff agree
(score of 3 or higher)

76% of teaching staff strongly agree
(score of 4 or higher)

We have also reflected upon your comments from the following questions:

- How useful do you find being part of a network group? Has it helped your practice or supported work in your school? Could you see the benefit of working in any other network groups across schools?
- Please leave some feedback if you have worked with Inspire (Initial Teacher Training, Early Career Framework, National Professional Qualifications).
- Do you feel that the Trust's support/training for curriculum is appropriate and effective?
- Do you feel that the Trust's support/training for SEND pupils is appropriate and effective?
- Do you feel that the Trust's support/training for disadvantaged pupils is appropriate and effective?

Analysing this information has given us the opportunity to begin formulating a detailed action plan. The first stage of this will be for us to gather in more detail, your specific CPD needs to align with your School Development Plan (SDP).

Initial Teacher Training

In September, Inspire Professional Development will be entering its fifth year of delivering Initial Teacher Training (ITT) across Swindon and its surrounding areas.

2023

We are very proud to share that all 12 of our 2022-2023 cohort of trainee teachers have successfully completed their Initial Teacher Training year with us, and were recommended for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) on 22nd June 2023. Their graduation ceremony will be taking place on Wednesday 26th July 2023.

We have secured 9 new trainee teachers who will commence their teaching careers with us, from September 2023. We have 1 trainee enrolled on the 3-7 years route, with 8 on the 5-11 years route. We will be welcoming them to The Blue Kite Academy Trust, at their induction day on Friday 7th July. We are very excited to get started with them!

Early Career Teachers



We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our first cohort of ECTs on successfully completing their two-year induction period, running from September 2021 – July 2023. A huge well done to you all!

"A great teacher takes a hand, opens a mind and touches a heart."

Our current Year 1 ECTs are now approaching the end of their first year of the Early Career Framework. Over the year, they have continued to develop their teaching practice, have engaged positively with their online self-study materials and have attended specific training events. A big thank you must go out to the Mentors who have provided ongoing support and coaching to our ECTs. We are proud to share that our engagement levels with the ECF are one of the highest across the different clusters working in partnership with The Swindon and Wiltshire Teaching School Hub! Keep up the good work!

New ECTs and Mentors from September 2023

We are very excited to welcome a new cohort of ECTs, from September 2023! We will be continuing to work with Ambition and The Swindon and Wiltshire Teaching School Hub.

Headteachers – don't forget to register your new ECTs!

If you are taking on the role of becoming an ECT Mentor from September 2023, please be sure to sign up to the **ECM Induction Conference**, being held on Thursday 6th July 2023. Sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/PCfuMFZ2n1> See the flyer for details...



National Professional Qualifications



In September 2022, we launched the delivery of two NPQ programmes:

- National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership
- National Professional Qualification in Leading Literacy

We are currently working with cohorts of over 35 participants on both programmes. Our Leading Literacy NPQ will be completed at the end of October 2023, with Early Years Leadership finishing in April 2024.



Coming soon...

From September 2023, we wish to expand our NPQ offer to teaching members of staff across the Trust and local area. In the next couple of weeks, we will be sending out a survey to Headteachers to inform them of the available NPQ programmes and to ascertain levels of interest. In the meantime, if you are interested in studying for an NPQ, please initially speak to your Headteacher, followed by emailing us at inspire@bluekitetrust.org.uk

****Please note: we will only be able to run an NPQ programme if we have a substantial amount of interest.***

For more information about the NPQs, please visit Ambition's website:

https://www.ambition.org.uk/programmes/?topic_tags=npq

Our School Achievements

Ruskin Junior School



The Gambia

This year, our children have been busy fundraising to help children access education in The Gambia. It has been wonderful to witness this first-hand and to see our pupils' wonderful and thoughtful artwork which they will be selling over the coming weeks. We recently participated in a Gambia themed assembly alongside all the other schools in the Blue Kite Academy Trust. Modern technology enabled us to participate so all the other schools could be seen on-screen together. The first assembly of its kind and I am sure it won't be the last!



Swinpup

This year, Ruskin signed up for their Swinpup as part of Swindon's Big Art Trail. The Swinpup arrived as a blank canvas and children and staff looked to The Gambia for inspiration. The pup - now named Saidou (named after Swindon Town's Gambian midfielder) has been painted in images and colours to reflect the Gambian landscape and artwork. It also serves as a reminder that all children, all over the world, have the basic right to access a fair education.

Year 6 SATS

Our Year 6 students have just completed their SATs tests and we are so proud of their hard work and dedication. We know they have given it their best efforts and we look forward to seeing how they do in the results. This year, they will be heading off to Harry Potter World and after that preparing for what is always a special and emotional end to the school year and their time here at Ruskin.



Ruskovision

Recently, we have been running Ruskovision - a school version of Eurovision! Each year group has been allocated a song and will be performing for the rest of the school. We're sure they will do us proud and can't wait to see the end results!

Sporting Update

As ever, it has been a great year for sport at Ruskin. Lots of children have had the opportunity to participate in sporting activities in and out of school. As we enter the summer months, the children are turning their attention to track and field in preparation for Sports Day.

Lethbridge Primary School



At Lethbridge the children have been fully immersed in the arts recently with not only our SwinPup all ready to join the Big Dog Art Trail but our giant Ocean of the Future collage is also ready to be rolled out at the Brunel pillar wrap event in the town centre. Following a stonking performance of 'What's the Crime Mr Wolf?' in Year 4 we are very much looking forward to drama, laughs and possibly some tears as Year 6 perform 'I'm an Eleven Year Old Get Me Out of Here' this term. They loved celebrating the end of SATs with a fun day out at Chessington and will be chilling with led Mindfulness sessions over the coming weeks. Our KS1 choir have tuned up their harmonies ready for Infant Voices and are looking forward to getting immersed in nature at Wild Place, Bristol. Year 5 have been challenged through both science and 'Frankenstein' workshops at The Commonweal School and Year 4 have a very exciting Viking themed residential at Ufton Court this term. Our sports teams have been busy too with successes at Quad Kids, and our footballers are pleased to have reached the semi-final of the Swindon PSFA league. We are hoping the sun will shine on our sports days! 'Young Interpreters' is now off the ground, with children from across the school enjoying training sessions ready to support their peers. With the summer fete and discos still to come too, it looks like an energetic end of year is on the cards!



Robert Le Kyng Primary School



This year Robert Le Kyng have been working hard on ensuring that all children love reading and have lots of great books to enjoy. We have shared books (including acting out Jack and the Beanstalk on World Book Day), developed our library, swapped books and been given 400 lovely new ones. Two of our librarians got to meet authors Mallory Blackman, Cressida Cowell and even Queen Camilla on her first public engagement after the Coronation!



At Robert Le Kyng, every child in the school gets to represent the school in sport before they leave us – we aim for every child to do this at least three times. Alongside this, all the children have the opportunity to get involved with some outside learning. As you can imagine, this means we have had a busy few terms!

In the Swindon Hockey Tournament RLK had two teams. They were winners and runners-up with the B team beating the A team in the final. Our rugby team got to the semi-finals of the Swindon Rugby tournament and we entered three teams in the Girls Cricket Tournament with one team coming third. The boy's teams also did well with the A team winning and now progressing to the Wiltshire Games.

In the Swindon Athletics Competition, RLK saw off 27 other schools and won and now go to the Wiltshire Finals to try to retain the title.

In the West Football League, there was a close finish for the title between RLK, Lydiard Tregoze and Brookfield. In a three way play off, RLK won in a penalty shootout with Brookfield. There was nothing between the two teams and Brookfield were very unfortunate to not win. RLK then went through to the Swindon Champions League and lost in the final to Tadpole Farm. We have our SNUG children competing in the Wiltshire Curling Finals soon and wish them luck. We also have had golf festivals with Lethbridge and Brookfield and have some athletics with Ferndale soon. Finally, we hope to see our fellow Blue Kite Academy schools at the Golf Festival in June.



Catherine Wayte Primary School



The Summer Term has been a busy one so far. Y2 found an unusual object in our Wildlife Area which turned out to be linked to their Explorer Topic. Y3 have had fun cutting, sawing and making photo frames. The whole school have practised a range of art skills ready to create artwork for Our Art Gallery in July based around the theme 'Journey'.

Children are looking forward to their school trips to Westonbirt Arboretum, an amphitheatre in Caerleon or the local Sikh Temple. However, Year 5 pupils travelled back in time to the Victorian age. Everyone became a Victorian when they dressed as a Victorian, were given a Victorian name and attended Sevington Victorian School. They experienced what it was like to be a poor Victorian child by attending lessons such as the 3 R's (reading, writing and arithmetic). They were surprised by the fact that they had to be separated (girls from boys) and that they even did different lessons: the boys learnt about science, plants, oil lamps and candles; the girls learnt domestic skills such as how to cook and clean. They all enjoyed their authentic Victorian packed lunches and recreation when they could play with the Victorian toys. Finally, they learnt about the Articles of Correction and the punishments used in Victorian schools. A fun day was had by everyone but they were all mightily glad to return to the 21st Century!



William Morris Primary School



The Y1 classes loved meeting Rex, some baby dinosaurs and real-life animals from the Dinosaur, Wildlife and Education Centre. The children had the opportunity to hold the animals, which meant some of the children faced their fears. We were so proud of them!



Greenmeadow Primary School



In our English, maths and other areas of curriculum we have continued to really focus and develop our next steps of learning. In addition to this though, we have loved having a range of people come and work with us over the recent weeks.

Wiltshire Air Ambulance

Across the school we have learnt a range of first aid information and skills which we can use if we need to in an emergency. We learnt about who can help us, how to make an emergency call, the recovery position and CPR. One Mum has already told us that their child went home and showed their family how to use the recovery position which is fantastic as we want our learning to grow.



PCSOs and The Police

The children in Foundation Stage had a visit from the local PCSOs as part of their learning about people who can help us. Some children in Year 5 continued their work with the Mini Police Scheme where they have been investigating potential crimes so they can understand the importance of the work that the police do.

Julia's House Hospice with Commonweal School

All the children worked together to decorate our new school dog with our handprints. We had a great day working with staff and students from Commonweal School to bring our design together. To raise money, we did cake stalls and a family fun quiz evening which was great fun. Pat (as he is now called) now joins the SwinPup project over the summer where you can find all the dogs around Swindon. We have just heard Pat will be in North Swindon Library so when you are going to do the summer reading challenge please see him there!



Safer Travel

It is great that so many of our children walk, bike or scoot to school. To help us develop our skills we have had bikeability lessons for Years 4 and 6 and whole school scooting or skating lessons for Y1 to Y6. The bike shelters are filling up well now with bikes and scooters and this is fantastic.

Ferndale Primary and Nursery School



What an exciting term it has been at Ferndale! We had the Premier League cup come to our school! Our school was selected by Swindon Town Football Club for this great opportunity, the last time the cup came to a Swindon school was in 2017! Every year group was given the opportunity to have their photo taken with the cup but no one was allowed to touch it! Not even Mrs Nolan! The only people who ever get to hold it are the winners of the Premier League and this years' winners were Manchester city. In addition to lots of photos, the children enjoyed a special assembly which educated them about the history of the cup and the values that footballers must uphold. During the assembly, we viewed a film clip of key moments from this years' premier league yet unseen by the general public. It was a real honour and privilege and a great opportunity for the children to ask lots of questions and learn more about this trophy and sport.



At Ferndale we are very committed to providing children with enriching experiences throughout their learning journey and had a wonderful time learning safety around scooter use. Everyone had a go at scooting safely across a 'road' marked on the playground and developed a good sense of each other when scooting in a congested group.

The sessions were peppered with determined looks and smiles. Some of the children even taught the instructor some new stunts.

Well done to all involved and thank you to Miss Moxham our intrepid PE lead for organising this.





Colebrook Infant Academy

Our friend and author, Neil Griffiths came into school to deliver a reading workshop to parents on the theme of the importance of reading regularly with your child. It's always lovely to see Neil and our parents loved listening to him. He finished the session by reading one of his own stories to demonstrate how you can read with your child at home.



Our Young Carers meet regularly on a Friday morning and this week their job was to harvest the salad onions from the vegetable patch. You can see by the expressions on their face that they had great fun! We had to pick them carefully so they didn't snap.

Each class has planted vegetables as part of their forest school sessions. Our potatoes are growing really well and we can't wait to taste them when they will be ready next month.



As part of our Community Bricks project, our school made a stained-glass window. We were inspired by the window in Lydiard House.

Year 2 have been learning about the Great Fire of London and how London used to be, long ago. They have been looking at some of the way houses were built and had a go at building their own wattle and daub structures.



Brook Field Primary School



Blue Kite Debating Champions - Brook Field's Year 5 Team

As part of the Blue Kite BRICKS Network for curriculum development and innovation, Year 5 children from the schools across the trust took part in an oracy project of debating. All of the teams participating demonstrated great oracy skills, commitment and passion for their chosen subject of debate. Following success in the heats, Brook Field went on to win in the final, debating their topic of 'Billionaires must do more to share their wealth'.



Year 4 Braeside Residential

Last term, we had a wonderful residential trip to Braeside, where we enjoyed a range of exciting experiences from canoeing along the Kennet and Avon canal to pond dipping at Drew's Pond! The children were a joy to take away, persevering well with the different activities and building on their teamwork skills. Well done Year Four!

Fortius PE Gymnastic Competition

A huge congratulation to all the gymnasts that took part in this year's competition. There were 5 Brook Field teams across KS1 and KS2 that took part and out of those 5 teams, 4 teams were placed in Gold and Silver medal positions. The Brook Field team showed great dedication, commitment and enthusiasm during every practice in school which certainly helped towards the very successful outcome. The children represented the school amazingly and were a real credit to the sport of gymnastics.



Badbury Park Primary School



Outdoor learning

Over recent weeks at Badbury Park Primary School we have been enjoying the sunshine and doing what we do best, learning outside! As part of some cross-curricular English and History, KS1 received a letter from a palaeontologist called Dr Dig and they were asked to help him to discover more fossils. The children discovered egg-like stones in the forest area and carefully excavated them. This hands-on experience was used effectively to inspire a recount and a letter of reply to Dr Dig. When asked weeks later, the children can still retell what happened using fantastic vocabulary!



Playtimes

As part of a TD Day, the team worked together to revolutionise playtimes. With the arrival of large loose parts, a low-level obstacle course, new PE equipment and the introduction of a mud kitchen, our children are now fully engaged in positive play and teamwork. Playtimes are now enjoyed by all!

Reading workshop for parents

We welcomed Neil Griffiths back to Badbury to lead a reading at home workshop for our parents and carers. We had over 30 families attend. Neil thanked our parents and let us know that this was the best attendance he had seen across the country! He explained some of the barriers that we, as educators, face and what parents/carers can do to support at home. He had parents in stitches as he modelled his story session at the end with his own favourite book. Thanks once again, Neil!



Abbey Meads Community Primary School



We have had a busy time at Abbey Meads Community Primary School, with so many different activities, trips, visits and events happening for everyone in our community.

This year we have seen the introduction of our Kindness Café where children are celebrated for their kindness by being invited to the café for Hot Chocolate and Cookies with Mr Buckley and Mrs Cunningham. It isn't hard to get an invite, just be spotted being kind, which is always possible!



We also had the inaugural running of our community event The Abbey Meads Amble, which is a 5K run, walk, crawl for our families to enjoy. The event ran through the pathways of Abbey Meads and Seven Fields and included an amazing 260+ participants from all age groups, ensuring we all stay active.



The Blue Kite
Academy Trust



Greenmeadow



Tel: 01793 332425

Email: admin@bluekitetrust.org.uk