



Message from the CEO

Spring is here!

As I write this message the school grounds that I am visiting are looking good with daffodils popping up and the children are enjoying the warmer weather at playtimes. It has been a really busy term and Year 6 pupils are working hard for SATs.

We were really pleased to welcome Ickworth Primary to the Trust in January and we are hoping to welcome Honington Primary in the Autumn Term. Our Estate's Manager Mr Golson is doing a great job in keeping the school sites running well. Look out for new school signs which will be starting to appear- Laxfield Primary is the first to have theirs. The Easter holidays will soon be here- we hope you have an enjoyable break with your families.



Best wishes, **Mrs Melanie Barrow- CEO**

All Saints, Laxfield

All Saints, Laxfield held a music concert which included solo pianists, singers and a cellist. Choir sang beautifully and all the children joined together for some rousing and difficult three part songs. A fabulous evening!



Benhall St Mary

Following the success of Pigs Gone Wild, Elmer's Big Parade Suffolk and the Big Hoot Ipswich, St Elizabeth Hospice will be hosting a fourth art trail – called Hop to it! Hospice staff, like hares, swiftly travel across the local area, through towns, villages and the rural countryside, to deliver compassionate care, when it is needed most. Benhall's hare, inspired by *Hops and Dreams*, showcases our pupils' aspirations for the future. Each design reflects their hopes, from careers to adventures, creating a vibrant tribute to their dreams.



Charsfield

Earlier this month Mrs Reeve and Mrs Smith took Year 5 and 6 pupils to BT at Adastral Park for Science Week. The children had a great time programming Edison robots and micro:bits. They were also lucky to have a tour behind the scenes to see technology of the future!

KS2 pupils have been learning all about courageous advocacy and having their own voice to speak about things that matter to them. In preparation for the Big Spring Sing at Bury St Edmund's Cathedral, we entertained people from the local community at a coffee morning held at the village hall. The pupils sang songs about working together to change our planet and read poems they had written about the environment. We were delighted that over £300 was raised towards Christian Aid.





Cockfield

Children at Cockfield Primary School celebrated World Book Day in their bright and welcoming new library, proudly dressed as characters from their new library. Children dressed as characters from classic tales like Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Paddington Bear to modern favourites such as The Dinky Donkey and Billionaire Boy. It was a day to remember.

Dennington

Wrens class stepped back in time to Ancient Egypt! We heard that the Pharaoh Tutankhamen had died, so we built pyramids, designed a royal seal to seal his tomb, wrote a "Book of the Dead" on papyrus paper, and finally mummified him. It was a very busy day!



Fressingfield

Netball Success at Brandeston!

Last week, two Year 5/6 netball teams took part in an exciting competition at Brandeston School, showing great skill, determination, and teamwork throughout the afternoon. Our Develop Team, consisting of Arthur, Emily, Stanley, Harriet, James, Jayden, Jasmine, Scarlett and Luke, played brilliantly, demonstrating fantastic team spirit and resilience. They had mixed results—winning one game, drawing two, and narrowly losing two—but their positive attitudes and teamwork shone through

in every match. Meanwhile, our Compete Team - Isaac, Sophia, Archie, Eden, Ella, Edward and Imogen - had an impressive tournament. Their excellent communication and strong team play saw them battle through to the third-place playoff, where they put on a fantastic performance to secure the win and take home bronze medals! A huge well done to all our players for their effort and sportsmanship—what a great achievement!



Great Whelnetham

Pupils had the incredible privilege of welcoming Paralympian Sean Rose to Great Whelnetham Primary! Sean, a world-class sportsman and adventurer, led training circuits for each class before sharing his truly inspirational journey. After a ski accident in 2000 left him paralysed, Sean refused to let it define him. Instead, he went on to become a double Winter Paralympian, winning Britain's first Ski World Cup Downhill Gold, and later a World Water Ski Champion.

Inspired by Sean's message of perseverance and a positive mindset, pupils took on physical challenges throughout the day, putting his key lessons into practice. It was an unforgettable experience, and we are so grateful to Sean for sharing his passion, determination, and incredible achievements with us. We have raised over £1000 towards new sports equipment for school!



Hardwick

To celebrate World Book Day, Hardwick Primary School hosted an exciting live draw-along session with renowned illustrator Nick Sharratt. For an hour, Nick guided our children through drawing some of his most beloved characters, including Shark in the Park and Tracey Beaker. The children thoroughly enjoyed following along with Nick's step-by-step instructions, and their creativity soared as they

brought these characters to life. It was a wonderful and engaging experience for all!

Ickworth Park

Children at Ickworth Park enjoyed 'smashing stereotypes' during STEM Week while welcoming families into school to share their passions for STEM. A highlight of the week was programming IndiBots during computing workshops and inviting members of West Suffolk College to school who arrived with a race car! The Sublime Science team inspired many of us as the children learnt about change while making slime.

Our NDD Celebration Week was a heart-warming success. The children celebrated their differences and worked together to build an inclusive school environment. They explored the difference between equality and equity, and created posters highlighting the importance of embracing diversity.

Our amazing 'stories on spoons' on World Book Day brought our favourite stories to life and brightened our recently revamped library. The children enjoyed a whole day dedicated to books and you might even have seen us reading our stories on ITV News Anglia!



Occold Primary

Children at Occold Primary School recently enjoyed '3 Days of Design & Technology' where they developed their woodwork skills. The children enjoyed designing their own wooden robots and making a prototype using junk modelling materials. Then, they brought their design to life and created it using wood and other materials. They used hammers, drills and saws and learned how to use tools safely.

Sextons Manor

From the 10th to the 14th of March, Sexton's Manor Primary was buzzing with excitement as we celebrated British Science Week! Throughout the week, children across the school became scientists, immersing themselves in hands-on investigations and exploring fascinating topics in chemistry, biology, and physics. Each class, from Nursery to Year 6, created a Science Week display board, showcasing the exciting learning that took place. These fantastic displays were exhibited in the Creative Room, where children enjoyed admiring each other's work. It was a truly inspiring week, filled with curiosity, discovery, and a love for science! A big thank you to all the staff and pupils for making it such a memorable event.



St Peter and St Paul, Eye

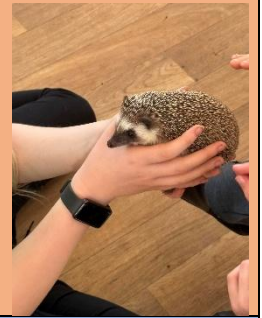
Year 5 at Eye visited The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham last week as part of their RE Pilgrim topic. They spent time looking at the Lonely Arch and lighting candles in the Holy House as they said silent prayers. It was a spiritual experience for us all and Father Guy and Ley Elder joined us.

In Nursery, our youngest pupils learnt how some people in India celebrate the beginning of Spring. They talked about the Hindu festival of 'Holi', also called 'the festival of colour', where powdered paint is used in the celebrations! The children used powdered paint and broomsticks outside to create a beautiful explosion of colour!

They dressed up in traditional Indian dress and danced to Indian music. The children chose from a selection of Indian 'kurti' and used coloured scarves to express themselves.

Stradbroke

For Science Day Stradbroke Primary welcomed 'Our Animal World' into school on Thursday 20th March. They brought along some animal friends to celebrate the theme of 'Change & Adapt' for British Science Week. We loved it! Throughout the day the classes all completed other science activities including creating their own animals from recycled materials, exploring how animals' feet have adapted, creating caterpillar life cycles using natural materials and creating solutions to a real-life problem which we have sent off to be graded by actual engineers!



Thorndon

We held our first Inspire morning at Thorndon last week. We would like to thank Marie and Chloe, from Debenham Veterinary practice with Stanley and Victoria. Jack (Instagram- @mercedesamgf1) from Mercedes F1 team, Mr Harman our Civil Engineer from SKANSKA and Rachel Churcher from Softwood Book Publishers. Their time, insights, and expertise made a significant impact on our children providing them with valuable knowledge and experiences from 'guess the object in the dogs tummy from an X-ray' to 'how to use marshmallows and spaghetti to build a bridge'. Thank you for making this event such a success!



Wortham

Wortham Primary have had a wonderful term and have enjoyed celebrating significant days which have included World Book Day, where the children were each given a wooden spoon to turn into their favourite book character, Number Day in aid of NSPCC, Internet Safer Day and Neurodiversity Week which the children were particularly passionate about. (Along with two other schools in the Trust) Wortham Choir performed at the Young Voices Choir at the O2 in London and are looking forward to putting on a special concert for the community after

Easter. We have also been very lucky to take part in a steel pan workshop where the children were given the opportunity to listen to, play and dance to the steel pans!

Trust News



Goodbye and thank you! We say goodbye to Mrs Knight, Headteacher of Sexton's Manor this Easter. Mrs Knight has been leading at the school for 15 years and served over 37 years in education! We would like to thank Mrs Knight for her service, and I am sure you will join us in wishing Mrs Knight a long and happy retirement.

Baby news! We have lovely news to share- Mrs Watts has had her baby- a little girl named Floralie Louise. Both Mum and baby are doing well. As the baby arrived earlier than expected, Mrs Barrow and Dr Parslow-Williams are looking after Occold and St Peter and St Paul, Eye Primary schools until Easter with Miss Thornton and Mrs Jarvis.



New appointments After Easter we have two Acting appointments starting as Mrs Steele will be Executive Head of Ickworth Park and Sexton's Manor. Mrs Reynolds will be the Head of School at Ickworth Park and Mr Murray Head of School at Sexton's Manor. Mr Varela will be joining Occold Primary and St Peter and St Paul, Eye Primary until Mrs Watts returns from her Maternity Leave.

Have a Happy Easter holidays from everyone at All Saints Schools Trust!