



*The past few months have been a busy period for the Trust Directors. We have appointed Mrs Rogan as the Trust CEO until the end of the current school year, when we will hopefully extend this further. We have all been watching the new administration building going up across from WCE, which will allow the central Trust staff to expand in numbers and enjoy a better and more productive location. Briscoe and WCE are expanding for a new growing intake of children in September. Our focus on alternate provision for vulnerable pupils continues with discussions with the Local Authority on how we can continue to develop this important part of our school offering. Waterman and Stambridge have been in the MAT for over a year now and have made significant progress. They are both getting ready for their new 3 year old nursery provision which will be an exciting extension in both schools. We have recognised some excellent staff and leadership in the Trust and it will be very pleasing to see them develop over the next few years. We have been discussing possible new schools to be added to the MAT which will allow us to grow and develop further as we achieve our goal to provide a strong education to over 1000 pupils across the primary school age range. We also want to recognise our Teaching School and the teach meet and lesson study they are developing and providing across the local school community.*

*In summary we feel that we have all the parts of our strategy in place and our strong values are positioning us well for a good summer and productive 2016/17 academic year. We feel our staff are our biggest attribute and our children have a very strong education at Hearts. We want to aim for an outstanding Ofsted rating for all of our schools and we feel that our staffing capacity can play a major role in achieving that ambition.*

*The Directors are committed to building an even stronger base over the next 3-5 years.*

*Thank you for all your hard work and support over the past few months.*



**David Faulkner, Chair of the Board of Directors**

*Highlights and proud moments from our four schools.....*

#### **Stambridge Primary School**

- We had a whole school Sleepover last month. That was fab.
- Stambridge has had its nursery application approved by DFE.
- Stambridge is oversubscribed in reception for next year. For first time in as long as anyone can remember (one staff member has been here 15 years and she said it's never been full in reception).
- Joanne our Super SENCO has rolled out some great interventions and 1:1 tutoring. These are having a massive impact.
- Latin is having a huge impact on SPAG with 60% + making more than expected progress in the area. The children can all now translate basic sentences from Latin to English: English to Latin, using the correct gendering, verb conjugations and noun declensions. 45 minutes a week of Latin is working wonders and is putting the SPAG in class into context. We have SPAG sessions 3x a day, in class.

We have had some fantastic progress in reading data with the highlights being:

- All children who were assessed (year 1 - year 6) made some progress. The average progress for decoding was 12 months progress in 4 months with some children making as much as 26 months in the 4 months since the initial assessment.
- The average progress for comprehension was 14 months progress and again in 4 months, all children are making some progress and a number of children made over 36 months progress in the same period!



Finally, pictures from the Hinduism workshop. As you can see the children had a great afternoon!



## Wickford Church of England School

*Moments of loveliness!*

- A successful second sleepover was enjoyed by all!
- The trip to The Synagogue for year 1 and 2 was an excellent example of the embedding of developing relationships – the school focus. The year 1 trip to St Catherine’s was a wonderful opportunity. Riley in Rhino class has melted Miss Bristow’s heart whilst visiting St Catherine’s. He said that he ‘felt honoured’ to come to a school so close to a church, he wanted a moment to be still and enjoy it. Wow, what a reflective and very lovely thing to say. A positive and respectful visit.

- The African Dance day was a huge success and the children thoroughly enjoyed it!



- Mrs Merrington and Mrs Cook, two of our TAs who lead the teaching of Spanish, try to make learning as fun and creative as possible. Here they are using the parachute in an inventive way to learn the vocabulary for position. This includes words such as up, down, under, over and left and right. The children loved it and made brilliant progress!



## Waterman School



Well done to the KS2 team who entered the Cross Country event on Canvey Island. All the children made a good effort to complete the long race, which was quite hard given the cold, rainy and wintry conditions. However, all of the children kept their spirits up, worked as a team, supported each other and were excellent ambassadors for Waterman School.

Easter Assembly - The children presented a lovely assembly where we enjoyed their singing, listening to their poems and we had some good laughs. The children took away some lovely messages of: Easter is a time, for giving, helping others, thinking about Jesus and the symbol of eating chocolate (Apart from being yummy!!).



Congratulations to the children in Dove and Eagle class whose poems have been selected to be published in a book in the recent Poetry Emotions competition which was ran by Young Writers.

## Briscoe Primary and Nursery School

- What a brilliant but hectic term we have had! Some of our children represented Briscoe by joining five other local schools and performing at the Towngate theatre. They played their violins and cellos so beautifully and we are extremely proud of them all!
- The day the Royal Navy dropped in – it was amazing!



This is what our parents said...

*“Teddy has been telling us all about this and was so happy! He loves all things army.”*

*“Emily loved this today! She said it was windy and blew her hair up!”*

*“Kathryn loved seeing the helicopter today and told us all about it. Another brilliant day at Briscoe. Well done.”*

*“What a fantastic day at Briscoe. I saw this from home and knew Joshua would be thrilled.”*

- Our sponsored pancake flip, organised by Mrs Partridge and supported by a group of parent helpers, raised well over £1000 and that's something very new for Briscoe. The children are going to choose some lovely things to make playtimes more exciting and it will benefit them all.
- Year 2 have been taking part in G&T workshops over at Wickford and the children who attended a PE morning this week, came back and said it was 'wicked'! They were really proud to have taken part in something outside of school and they represented our school really well.
- Our Friday afternoon teas for the most punctual class, are proving to be really popular! There is great competition across the school and quite a bit of cheering as the tea trolley reaches the winning class!



## Wickford Teaching School Alliance - Update

### Head Teacher Triads

We have received funding from Essex County Council to establish Head Teacher Triads, which would be at the forefront of school-to-school support. We have appointed an external Independent Chair to quality assure the work.

### Initial Teacher Training

We have filled all of our 8 primary teacher training places for the next academic year. Four trainees will be on the School Direct Salaried route and four will be PGCE trainees. Our current cohort of trainees has applied for jobs within the Trust and we have appointed 2 of the trainees. Next year's cohort is busily completing degrees and Skills Tests.

### Teach Meet

We had another successful Teach Meet at Wickford Church of England in March, following our successful one at Cray's Hill in January. Staff from Runwell, Wickford Church of England, Castledon, Waterman & Hilltop Infants attended. We covered such diverse topics as Small Worlds, HGBT bullying, Maths Skills, SMSC day & the NPQML project.

Wickford Church of England School is hosting the next Teach Meet on May 11th.

### National Leader in Governance & Specialist Leaders in Education

David Faulkner has become an NLG. We have designated secondary SLEs in Maths, RE, English & History and two Primary Maths SLEs.

Happiness, self-Esteem, Achievement, Respect and Responsibility, Truth,  
Spirituality and Service

