

## In Brief:

### Happy Easter from YCST

A joint Easter service which took place at St. Aidan's High School was enjoyed by all.

### Richard Taylor Maths Champions

A team from Richard Taylor School were triumphant in the Harrogate Maths Competition.

### Leadership Changes

We say goodbye to Louise Newport and welcome Zoe Anderson to the Trust.

### Para-Sports Fun

MAT primary school pupils enjoyed a day of Olympic fun playing para-sports.

### £12,400 for Charity

A MAT school raised £12,400 for the Sir Robert Ogden Macmillan Cancer Centre.

### Trust Network Groups

News from the network groups operating across the Trust schools.

### Governance News

GDPR update and annual conference date reminder.

### Fairtrade Fortnight

Read about the Fairtrade 90kg rice challenge undertaken by MAT pupils.

### SIAMS Recognition

St. Aidan's High School was recently judged to be outstanding in all 4 categories.

## Welcome

As at Christmas, we have to say farewell to a headteacher who, although her school is not yet part of our Trust, has played a significant part in our organisation almost since its inception. Louise Newport leaves Kirkby Overblow after six years of service to take up a post at Carnagill Primary School at Catterick Garrison. We wish Louise every blessing at her new school and hope that we maintain contact with her in the future.

Thanks also go to Mark Colbourn, Deputy Headteacher at Pannal Primary School, who has been supporting Oatlands Infant School as they wait for the formal arrival of Zoe Anderson as their new headteacher after the Easter holiday.

We also welcome back Andrew Phoenix, Headteacher of Hampsthwaite Primary School after his leave of absence and thank all headteachers of the Trust who supported the school and staff during this period.

Much work is continuing to be undertaken by trustees in relation to the development of the Trust both in terms of growth strategy and accountability. A new Data, Progress and Performance sub-committee has been set up to provide trustees with the information they require on the performance of each school within the Trust and visits have taken place to look at proposals for capital funded building developments in the coming year.

Finally, I am pleased to inform you that Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, the new Bishop of Ripon, has been appointed by the Bishop of Leeds to fulfill his role as a Member of YCST. We look forward to meeting with her in the near future.

Every good wish for the Easter holiday.

John Wood  
Executive Principal, YCST



## Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight 2018 has finished recently with the children at Richard Taylor School enjoying a huge range of activities. As well as decorating their classroom doors to mark the fortnight, every class took part in a 'Great Fairtrade Bake Off' using five Fairtrade ingredients.

The school also took on the 90kg Fairtrade Rice Challenge. Pupils managed to sell all the rice they had purchased and were therefore able to fund the education of a girl from Malawi, whose family grows the Fairtrade rice the children had purchased. Congratulations!

## Harrogate Maths Champions

On Friday 23rd February, a team of year five and six children from Richard Taylor School entered and won the annual Harrogate Maths Competition hosted and organised by Harrogate Grammar School.

Sixteen schools entered teams and the competition was fierce with all of the schools demonstrating excellent numeracy skills. The team from Richard Taylor came out on top after a full day of competition, and carried the trophy away for the second time in three years. Mrs Crisell, Deputy Headteacher at Richard Taylor School, said, "The team were a real credit to the school and showed great teamwork as well as fantastic numeracy skills to come out on top."



## Para-Sports Fun for MAT Schools

On Thursday 25th January, many of the schools from within the MAT attended a para-sports event organised by Debbie Speed from the Harrogate School Sports Partnership and hosted by Harrogate High School.

It is great credit to the inclusive nature of the Trust that we were the only Trust to enter teams with St, Peter's, Pannal, North Rigton and Richard Taylor schools all participating.

The event was a great success with the children learning how to play Boccia, a Paralympic sport which is a cross between darts and bowls, and indoor curling, a sport which has recently been in the news thanks to the winter Olympic Games in South Korea.

There was a great combination of competition and teamwork with all of the children having a wonderful time.

There are plans to hold another para-sports event outdoors during the summer term.

## Farewell to Mrs Newport

At the end of the Spring term the Trust says farewell to Louise Newport, Headteacher at All Saints Primary School in Kirkby Overblow. The school is in the process of converting to academy status and it is hoped that All Saints will formally join the Trust later this year.

John Wood, Executive Principal of the Trust said, "Louise has worked tirelessly to guide All Saints Primary towards academy status and has been a key member of the Trust team of headteachers over the past three years. We wish her every success in her new role and hope that our paths cross again".

On Thursday 29th March a special church service will be held to celebrate Louise's time leading All Saints Primary. We understand that there will also be an Easter egg hunt with a difference!



## Pre-Loved Prom Event Raises Massive £12,400 for Charity

On Friday 9th February, St. Aidan's High School held a sale of pre-loved prom and partywear which raised a massive £12,400 for the Sir Robert Ogden Macmillan Cancer Centre at Harrogate District Hospital.

The sale, which was the brainchild of Caroline Rosser, Head of Media Studies at St. Aidan's School, was initially intended to be a small event, selling second hand prom dresses to students. The event quickly grew in size as it attracted attention both locally and nationally, as Caroline explains. "A prom dress can be an expensive item to buy for just one night out. I found that many students were feeling that they needed to spend £200 or more on a dress and that went against the idea that a prom should be all inclusive. The idea of turning preloved into reloved came after I received a few second hand dresses and shared them on Facebook – within a fairly short space of time we had over 300. On the night, there were over 500 items for sale, donated from as far away as Cornwall."

At the event, attended by over 450 people, St. Aidan's Sixth Form students helped to model the outfits on sale and staff were on hand to ensure the event ran smoothly. Support from many local businesses together with match funding of £5,000 from Barclays Bank, helped to generate the fabulous total, all of which was donated to the Sir Robert Ogden centre.



## YCST Welcomes Zoe Anderson

Following the retirement of Elizabeth Robson at Christmas, the pupils, staff and governors of Oatlands Infant School are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Zoe Anderson as the new headteacher at Oatlands Infant School.

Zoe is an experienced headteacher, particularly in relation to Early Years and KS1, and comes to the school from John T Rice Infant and Nursery School in Mansfield, where she has been the head for the last six years and deputy for four years prior to that.

Zoe has been spending one or two days a week at Oatlands School since Christmas and joins full time at the beginning of the Summer term.

John Wood said of Zoe's appointment, "We are delighted to welcome Zoe to Oatlands Infant School. She has already begun to make her mark in school and I have no doubt that the Infant School will continue to develop and thrive under her experienced leadership."



## News for Governors

The Trust has been working hard to ensure that all schools in the MAT will be compliant with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) by the May 2018 deadline.

A Data Protection Officer (DPO) has been appointed who will be responsible for compliance across all MAT schools. All governors are now using Trust email addresses and schools are working to ensure that every LGB has access to a secure storage area for information and data. Schools have carried out a data audit and new permission documents are being developed for use by all schools. Headteachers and senior leaders have attended GDPR training and will ensure that all staff and governors are aware of their responsibilities.

**\*\*Annual Conference for Governors 25.06.2018, 6.00pm\*\***

## St. Aidan's High School Judged Outstanding

Following a recent SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools), St. Aidan's CE High School was judged to be outstanding in all areas.

In her report, the inspector commented, "Relationships are a palpable strength of this inclusive school. They are respectful at all levels and, as a result, behaviour is exemplary in this large and vibrant community. Those who might be vulnerable are nurtured so that they can both contribute and achieve to their full potential. Students speak of 'very welcoming teachers' who 'offer great support both for your work and for things you want to try'.

A sixth form student described the school as offering 'unconditional love'. Students across the board are proud that theirs is a school where you can speak to anyone irrespective of year group."

## News from Trust Network Groups

**KEY STAGE 1 AND EYFS** This term the Key Stage 1 and EYFS teachers within the Trust met at Pannal Primary School to moderate writing. We had lots of discussion on the systems we use to assess children against the new 2017 writing criteria (end of Key Stage 1). This included how work was marked and how evidence was gathered. We are looking forward to meeting again next term to scrutinise work and discuss the difference between 'working at the expected standard' and 'working at greater depth' for writing.

**PE** St Aidan's are currently exploring ways to provide further support to the physical education programmes at our MAT schools and beyond. Currently we offer regular support to staff and pupils in the form of formal teaching for the full ability range. Staff are currently supplementing the REAL PE programme and also helping to prepare primary aged children for competitive experience. This year, funding for PE in primary schools has doubled. This will allow us to extend our work to offer tailored sessions for gifted and talented students.

**MUSIC** The MAT music network has been working together to plan and prepare for a joint Easter Service which will take place at St. Aidan's on Tuesday 27th March at 6pm. The service will be a retelling of the Easter Service through readings, music and reflections with pupils from all of the participating schools leading the service. Parents, governors and staff from the MAT are all welcome to come and share what will be a wonderful experience. The MAT would like to thank Mrs Carmel Wake from Richard Taylor School and Mr Mark Pallant from St Aidan's School for their hard work in leading this exciting project.

**ASSESSMENT COORDINATORS** The focus for the February meeting of the Assessment Network was the creation of a data spreadsheet, which will be used to collate data for the newly established Board Data, Progress and Performance Committee. The network also discussed effective approaches to raising standards in phonics and preparations for the expected Y4 multiplication tests. The school assessment coordinators also agreed to investigate the options available with a view to introducing a standardised Y4 test for the summer term 2018. The test would be used by all schools within the MAT and would provide a consistent mid KS2 profile. The Assessment network is establishing itself as a valuable platform for sharing best practise and discussing key issues being faced by all schools. The next meeting will take place on the 7th June at St Peter's School starting at 4pm.

**SENCOs** In our YCST SEN network group we are jointly writing YCST provision maps for each area of need from the Code of Practice. This outlines the provision that is available in all YCST schools and also specific provision that is offered by certain schools. The SENCOs are then using these provision maps to update their own whole school provision maps. So far we have looked at 'Autism' and 'Specific and Moderate Learning Difficulties'. In our Summer meetings we shall be looking at ADHD and Speech and Language.

**MATHS** At the spring term MAT maths network we discussed what colleagues had learned from the recent visiting teachers from Shanghai, particularly focusing on fluency. We looked at their lessons encouraging calculating rather than counting and shared approaches and resources to support learning of times tables with understanding from our schools. Sessions from the subject leader training were cascaded including a bar modelling session and Oatlands Infant shared some homework resources for parents that encourage a practical approach to mathematics homework. All the primary schools at the network have been or are part of a teacher research group so, as a trust, we are moving on together with our understanding of mastery. Congratulations to Emily Crankshaw, from St Peter's, who has nearly completed her training to be a mastery specialist.

**PUPIL PREMIUM** At our recent Pupil Premium and Disadvantaged Children Network Meeting we discussed the purpose of the group and its place within the trust development plan. We looked at a 'Pupil Premium Collaborative Review' that a local school alliance has produced and how we might adapt it and use it for the benefit of the schools in YCST.

**ICT** The ICT Network has been looking at two key uses of ICT, communication and collaboration amongst YCST staff and ICT in the curriculum. Technology brings great opportunity but also common problems and obstacles too. In each MAT school we would like to develop staff confidence and increase knowledge of the uses of ICT to streamline and innovate in the ways we do things. For Curriculum ICT, we have shared ideas and looked at common software and applications across the schools. We are aiming to have a MAT-wide project in the summer term, possibly involving Scratch coding in upper KS2 and lower KS3. This would be an exciting way to share ideas, as well as identifying areas to develop and support one-another within the coming months.

**ENGLISH** At the last meeting in the Autumn term, we were reminded of the importance of knowing our school data, and of the exemplification material that would be published for Y2 and Y6 later in the year. Discussion included the importance of vocabulary and how we need to ensure we are addressing this within lessons. This led to further training on vocabulary organised by Richard Taylor School. There has also been a shift in the teaching of reading with more classes incorporating a whole class reading approach, especially at KS2. A session on Spelling and Phonics was included on the MAT training day in January to reflect the need to focus on this area.

## STEM Careers Event at St. Aidan's

52 exhibitors attended a recent careers event at St. Aidan's School, offering students invaluable careers advice and information on diverse and exciting opportunities in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

Major employers who attended included Harrogate Spring Water, Lloyds Banking Group, Brentwood Consulting Engineers, Vets4Pets, Richard Eves Architects, FSS, WSP Global and Financial Force. Universities came from as far afield as St Andrews, Edinburgh, Bath, Imperial College London and Queen's Belfast plus those nearer to home such as Leeds, York, Sheffield and Huddersfield. Leeds College of Building plus Harrogate and Askham Bryan Colleges were also present to provide information on courses and apprenticeships.



## An Easter Service of Witness

Four Trust schools joined together this week for an Easter Service of Witness, enjoyed by pupils, parents, staff and governors. "I Was There" featured readings, hymns and music performed by pupils from all the schools present. The service followed the Holy Week journey up to Easter Sunday and was a reflective and enjoyable way to come together as a Trust to mark Easter. Congratulations to all the staff and pupils involved who put in many hours of work and rehearsals ensuring that the event was such a success.

## YCST Payroll

Following the end of the 17/18 tax year, your P60 will be sent to the home address on our payroll system. The P60s will be issued by 31st May 2018. If you need to amend your home address, please let your school administrator know as soon as possible. The P60 is an End of Year Tax certificate, detailing your pay, income tax and NI contributions for the last financial year ending 5th April 2018.

**\*\*\*Please keep the certificate in a safe place as the payroll system cannot generate a copy. You will need it if you have to fill in a tax return, apply for a mortgage, renew a claim for tax creditors, or apply to student finance\*\*\***

If you have any queries and need to contact HMRC, details of the Trust's Tax Office are as follows:

Customer Operations Office, BP4009, Chillingham House, Benton Park View Newcastle upon Tyne, NE98 1ZZ.  
Tel: 0300 200 3500 Employer: Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust Employer's PAYE ref no: 120/BA63739

Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR

T: 01423 885814 • F: 01423 884327 • E: [admin@yorkshirecauseway.co.uk](mailto:admin@yorkshirecauseway.co.uk) • W: [www.yorkshirecauseway.co.uk](http://www.yorkshirecauseway.co.uk)