

In Brief:

MAT Sports Day

MAT primary school pupils enjoyed a day of athletics in the sunshine at St. Aidan's School.

GYS Veg Box Success

A team from Richard Taylor School were triumphant in the GYS veg box competition

Fun for the Infants

Our youngest pupils enjoyed an exciting visit from the North Yorkshire Police tractor.

Save the Date

In May 2019, St. Aidan's High School celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Sporting Success

Sporting news from around the Trust schools.

School Improvement

Dates of network group meetings and a summary of targets for 2018-19.

Quad Champions

A team of riders from Richard Taylor School take gold!

First Trust Wedding!

Read about our first Trust wedding.

Thanks and Goodbye

Schools bid farewell as three long serving colleagues retire and move on.

Focus on Wellbeing

Recognising the importance of staff and pupil wellbeing in all our schools.

Welcome

As we reach the end of another school year, I would like to offer my thanks to all colleagues in the Trust for the commitment, energy and skill you bring to your role within our schools. This of course applies to those of you who are teaching our pupils, but it also includes all support staff in our school offices, in our kitchens, those in facilities management and the volunteers who contribute in so many ways. We all have an equally important role to play in ensuring that the pupils in our care feel happy and safe in their schools and make good progress.

This has been a busy term, but a successful one. After a particularly long and complex conversion process, All Saints CE Primary School joined the Trust on 1st July. We are delighted to finally welcome the school and all those associated with it to YCST.

In June, we were pleased to welcome seventy Trust school governors to the Annual Conference. As a Trust, we are fortunate to have a group of highly skilled and experienced governors working in partnership with the leadership of our schools and we are grateful to them all for giving up their time so generously.

The Trust network groups have been refreshed and revitalised and all now have clearly defined terms of reference and new group leaders from across the schools. Expect to hear more about how the work of these groups will impact on progress and performance in schools. This is particularly relevant now that the Trust has sponsor academy status. Headteachers have produced the Trust Development Plan for 2018-19 and will be sharing key targets with all staff early in the autumn term.

But now, having reflected on another productive term in our schools, we are able to look forward to the long break which is so richly deserved by all. I wish you and your families a happy and relaxing summer break.

John Wood

Pannal Primary School All Smiles at Trust Sports Day



GYS Veg Box Champions!

The gardening club from Richard Taylor Primary School are celebrating their victory in the schools veg box competition held at this year's Great Yorkshire Show. 27 schools entered the competition and 17 of the boxes reached the final round and were then transported to the showground for judging. As well as filling their box with vegetables, the children had to keep a growing diary and meet with the judges from RHS Harlow Carr to show what they had learned this year as gardeners.

Headteacher Andrew Symonds said, "I am incredibly proud of the hard work that the children have put into their box this year; they have learnt a huge amount from their mentor Mr Groves and they have become green fingered experts!"

This is the second year that YCST has won this competition, with Richard Taylor replacing last year's winners, North Riton Primary School, as champions.



Bobby Proves a Hit with the Youngest Trust Pupils

Oatlands Infant School pupil, Thomas Williams recently won a visit to the school from "Bobby", the police tractor. Bobby is a unique police tractor decked out with 'blues and twos' and authentic police livery. Thomas and his class all got a chance to sit in the tractor watched by Stray FM's Nick Hancock. The tractor has been loaned to North Yorkshire Police by Ripon Farm Services, in a bid to help increase police engagement with rural communities.



The foundation stone for the new St. Aidan's Church of England High School was laid on a green field site in Oatlands Drive by the Right Reverend John Moorman, Lord Bishop of Ripon in June 1966.

Until 1967 church school education in Harrogate was in the hands of Christ Church Secondary School for boys and St. Peter's Secondary School for girls. Both were secondary modern schools. As the population of Harrogate increased during the early '60s and the demand for better facilities gathered pace it was clear that the provision for Church of England education in Harrogate was becoming inadequate. The vision of a new Church of England school came into being largely through the vision of the late Canon Roger Baines, a long serving Vicar of St. Peter's.



St. Aidan's High School 50th Anniversary

St. Aidan's High School is beginning preparations for a weekend of celebrations to mark the school's 50th anniversary. On the 4th and 5th May 2019, a number of events including a reunion in school for alumni and a concert at the Harrogate International Centre will take place to mark the occasion. The weekend will culminate with a service of thanksgiving at Ripon Cathedral, attended by the Rt Revd Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds and Bishop Mark Sowerby, an ex-pupil of St. Aidan's School, who is now the Bishop of Horsham. Please save the date!

Trust School Sports Round Up

Schools across the Trust have enjoyed a variety of sporting successes during the summer term. The highlight of the term for the primary aged children was the inaugural Trust Sports Day. The children competed in different age groups and enjoyed a number of events including relay, high jump, long jump, javelin and hurdles. The children also ran 70, 100, 200 and 300 metre races according to their age group. It was a blisteringly hot day but the pupils coped with the heat brilliantly and enjoyed a post lunch ice lolly courtesy of the St. Aidan's School kitchen.

Corrin Hornsby-Shawe from St. Peter's School commented, "The gifted and talented sports day held at St Aidan's was absolutely brilliant! The children loved using the equipment and facilities such as the high jump and the long jump pits. We all had a fantastic day!" The team from Pannal Primary were declared winners and were presented with the YCST Sports Shield which they will keep for one year. Congratulations to all the children who took part and thanks to the St. Aidan's School pupils who helped PE staff organise and run the event.



St. Aidan's School were delighted to receive the news that Jacob Fordham has been selected to play cricket for North Yorkshire and Yorkshire this season. This is a fantastic achievement and we wish him well for his forthcoming matches.

Jess Thompson (Year 8) threw her personal best (42.44m) to win a silver medal in the javelin at the English Schools' Championships recently. Congratulations Jess!

The U16 football team has retained the County Cup for a third consecutive year. The team beat Stokesley 4-2 away recently with goals scored by Tom Simmons, Adam Sharpe, Jack Holliday and Joseph O' Dwyer.

Back with the primary schools, the Year 4 tri-golf team from Pannal Primary won the first round of the Harrogate competition, followed by the Harrogate final, which earned them a place at the North Yorkshire finals. They competed against schools from Selby, York, Craven, Richmond and Hambleton. Competing for the first time, the team were proud to finish in the top three and receive their bronze medals.

Pupils at St. Peter's Primary have had a successful few weeks too. Young sports leaders from St Aidan's School helped run a wide range of activities at the annual sports day recently, which the whole school enjoyed. The school commented, "They were brilliant at helping the children achieve their very best and we are looking forward to working with more Aidan's leaders at future sporting events."

The St. Peter's Year 3/4 football team competed in the Harrogate football finals at Harrogate Town stadium on Wednesday 11th July and just missed out on first place to Pannal Primary. At least the trophy stayed in the Trust!

Meanwhile, the Year 3/4 hockey team also represented Harrogate at the Level 3 North Yorkshire Games on Sunday 8th July, where they played well in incredibly hot conditions, but just missed out on getting to the finals.



YCST Development Plan 2018-19

The YCST Development Plan for 2018-19 will focus on the following key areas which will be embedded into the work of all Trust schools during the year:

1: To ensure that governance at local governing body level is well informed, well trained and highly effective at providing support and challenge at individual school level.

- To ensure that governance of all MAT schools is robust and effective.
- To ensure that governing bodies are provided with the resources and support needed to fulfill delegated responsibilities.
- To develop a Trust-wide appraisal policy which will ensure that all Trust staff are appraised against a consistent set of standards.
- To ensure that schemes of delegation are reviewed and adapted as required to reflect the Trust's status as a Sponsor Academy.

2: To ensure that the central services provided by the MAT are appropriate and efficient to meet the needs of a growing and evolving organization.

- To ensure that MAT schools comply with statutory requirements in all matters relating to the management of the Trust.
- To induct and give support to the newly appointed Chief Operating Officer in order to ensure that impact on operational Trust business is maximised as quickly as possible.
- To carry out a MAT-wide review of HR policies and procedures in order to standardise recruitment and appraisal processes across the Trust.
- To develop a comprehensive Trust Estates Management Plan which will inform future capital expenditure and SCA funding applications.
- To equip trustees with the skills and data required in order to respond effectively in the event of an external inspection of an individual school or the MAT.

3: To ensure that the Trust has a robust and effective structure for supporting school improvement and monitoring the impact of actions taken on pupil progress and achievement.

- The creation of a school improvement model, which identifies the structures in place for raising standards across the trust.
- The creation of a series of identified network groups to lead on specific areas of improvement and to monitor impact.
- To ensure that the trust has the structure and capacity to be effective when bringing a sponsor school into the trust.
- To ensure that external validation is robust in monitoring standards of teaching and learning across the trust.
- To ensure that systems for collecting data are secure and provide accurate information for the trust Data, Progress and Performance committee

4. To ensure the MAT is meeting the needs of vulnerable learners with a particular focus on the progress and attainment of disadvantaged children with directed pupil premium funding.

- To ensure that the schools within the MAT are sharing examples of effective practice in meeting the needs of disadvantaged pupils with pupil premium (PP) funding.
- To ensure that all MAT schools are fulfilling statutory duties in their reporting on the progress and attainment of disadvantaged pupils with PP funding.

5. To raise the profile of staff and pupil wellbeing across the MAT and ensure that strategies are in place to provide appropriate and effective support.

- To raise the profile of wellbeing in all MAT schools
- To ensure that there is a clear impact on wellbeing provision and outcomes across the MAT
- To ensure that schools know where key strengths are identified in individual schools and draw on that expertise
- To ensure that MAT schools have evidence of the impact of wellbeing strategies on both pupils and staff
- To ensure that MAT schools have the necessary information to signpost staff and pupils to appropriate wellbeing resources and support

Curriculum Network Group Meetings

Curriculum network groups have been refreshed and revitalised and will play a key role in driving standards and performance across Trust schools during 2018-19.

In addition to being a forum for sharing best practice, at the autumn term meetings, members of the newly constituted network groups will agree the key priorities for action during 2018-19 and will identify the lead for each action within the group.

The network leader will ensure that meetings include a focus on priorities identified within the Trust development plan. Specific networks may be asked to take the lead on aspects of the development plan, for example wellbeing, disadvantaged pupils, school improvement.

Following each network meeting, a feedback report will be completed. The report will focus on agreed priorities and actions and will include a review of the impact of any actions taken. Feedback reports will be circulated to all network group leaders, in order that they can share key items of information with all school staff via staff meetings, noticeboards, email etc.

It is expected that all schools will send at least one representative to network group meetings.

Curriculum network groups will meet on the following dates during the autumn term:

Group	Date and Time	Venue	Network Leader
Maths	Tues 11th September, 3.45pm	North Riton Primary	Emma Crisell
KS1	Thurs 27th September, 4.00pm	Oatlands Infant	Abby Shaw
Literacy	Wed 17th October, 4.00pm	Pannal Primary	Sarah Bullivant
Assessment	Thurs 25th October, 4.00pm	All Saints Primary	Andrew Symonds
Science	Tues 27th November, 4.00pm	Pannal Primary	Amanda Rhodes
Pupil Premium	Thurs 18th October, 4.00pm	St. Peter's Primary	Amber Andrews
Wellbeing	Thurs 4th October, 4.00pm	Pannal Primary	Stef Hill
SENCOs	Thurs 18th October, 1.30pm	St. Peter's Primary	Karen Ellis
EYFS	Thurs 25th October, 4.00pm	St. Peter's Primary	Kate Starkey
KS2	Thurs 11th October, 4.00pm	St. Peter's Primary	Helena Fishburn
Year 3/4	Tues 2nd October, 4.00pm	All Saints Primary	Becci Allan
ICT	Thurs 20th September, 4.00pm	Hampsthwaite Primary	Andrew Phoenix

Communication Group Meetings

In addition to the curriculum network groups, other groups of Trust staff, governors and clerks meet regularly in order to ensure that communication between the Trust, schools and governing bodies is effective. These meetings are in addition to regular meetings of the Trust board, governing bodies and headteachers.

Group	Date and Time	Venue	Leader
Chairs of LGBs	Tues 23rd October, 7.30pm	St. Aidan's High	Alison Glover
Clerks of LGBs	Thurs 11th October, 9.15am	St. Aidan's High	Helen Boulton
SBMs	Thurs 25th October, 10.30am	Pannal Primary	Clare Dowson
Administrators	Mon 26th November, 2.00pm	St. Aidan's High	Helen Boulton

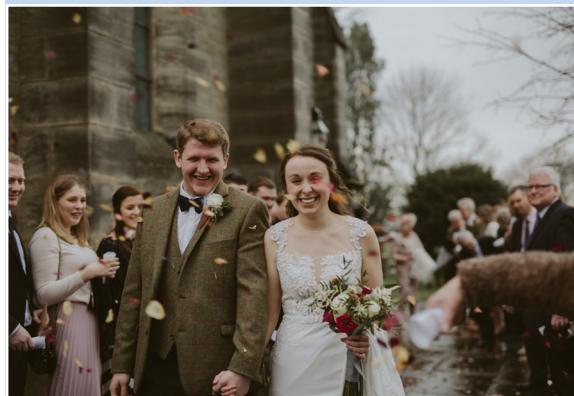
Yorkshire Schools Quad-Kids Champions 2018

The children from Years 3 and 4 at Richard Taylor School have become the Quad-Kids champions at the North Yorkshire Schools Sports Games held this year at the University of York Athletics Stadium. The team were representing the Harrogate District against schools from all over North Yorkshire. In Quad-Kids, the children complete four events including throwing and jumping competitions, as well as individual and relay races. Mr Starkey, Year 3 teacher from RTS said, "The children were outstanding as a team; they supported each other wonderfully and showed great sportsmanship and sporting skill against some very strong competition."



Our First MAT Wedding!

Many congratulations to Mr and Mrs Starkey who have provided us with our first Trust wedding! Kris Starkey teaches at Richard Taylor School and Kate Starkey is a teacher at St. Peter's Primary. To help them celebrate their marriage in April, children from both schools formed a choir and surprised the couple by singing for them at their wedding. We think this is an example of collaboration between schools at its finest!



Farewell and Thanks to Valued Colleagues

It is that time of year when schools often bid fond farewells to valued members of staff. This year we say thank you and goodbye to three staff members who between them have taught in two Trust schools for an incredible combined total of 93 years!

Heather Hall, Assistant Headteacher at Oatlands Infant School, leaves after 25 years of outstanding service and will be greatly missed by all associated with the school. Tim Pocock MBE, English teacher and charity coordinator, retires from St. Aidan's High School after 33 years and finally Bryan Earl, academic author and Head of Chemistry, retires from St. Aidan's School after 35 years of service.

The schools are indebted to all of these skilled and experienced colleagues who have touched the lives of many thousands of pupils during their careers. We send our congratulations and thanks to them all and wish them well as they embark on new pursuits and adventures.



Tim Pocock



Heather Hall



Bryan Earl

Focus on Staff and Pupil Wellbeing for 2018-19

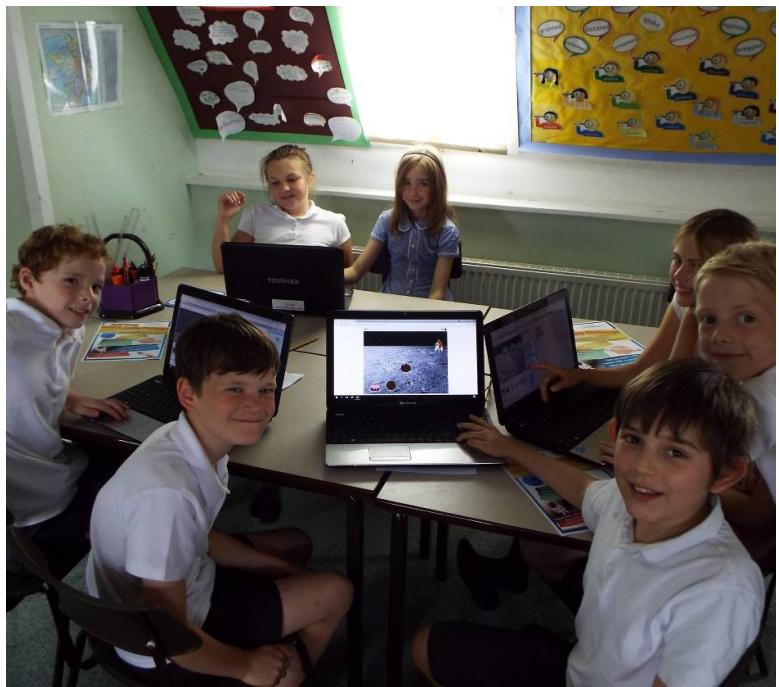
Pannal Primary School held a Wellbeing Day for children in July. All classes took part in a variety of activities including yoga and mindfulness. Pictured is Georgie with her Glitter Emotions Jar. The school also held Wellbeing Workshops for parents, exploring Positive Parenting, Essential Oils for Wellness and Growth Mindset for Success. Look out for a focus on wellbeing for pupils and staff across YCST during 18/19. You can find out more about how the profile of staff and pupil wellbeing will be raised across the Trust, and the strategies that will be put in place to provide support, in the Trust Development Plan.



MAT Pupils Learn Code from 'Scratch'

Children from Year 5 to Year 7 in schools across the Trust have embarked on a coding project this term. Using the 'Scratch' coding tool, they have been creating space-themed interactive projects, animations and games. Children have appreciated the chance to explore, review and comment on each other's shared creations.

As Scratch is an online resource, children have been able to work on projects in school and at home, as well as seeing how others' work changes as it is developed. It was commented that, "These young computing ambassadors have certainly enjoyed this project and they'll be continuing working on it over the summer". There will be further opportunity to share work and evaluate what others have done as the project continues in September.



Whose Poo Is It?!

At Richard Taylor School this year pupils have continued their Wellcome Trust project, "Whose Poo Is it?" With support of STEM ambassadors, Terry Kirk and Andrew Jones, pupils have experienced how archaeologists work scientifically. As the only primary school involved, the school was delighted to be invited to showcase its science project at a science conference in York, celebrating research in schools.

Next year, a project is planned with IRIS (research in schools), to research the possibility of a link between well-being and biodiversity. This year pupils have worked with Mrs Christy and Mrs Azra from St. Aidan's School, exploring the biodiversity in the local environment (the Nidd Gorge and Bilton fields). Pannal Primary also have Forest Schools at the heart of their curriculum and will be working with Richard Taylor on this project. Lizzie Rushton from IRIS is visiting Richard Taylor in September to help pupils prepare their research question and research techniques. Watch this space for more news!



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

T: 01423 885814 • F: 01423 884327 • E: admin@yorkshirecauseway.co.uk • W: www.yorkshirecauseway.co.uk