Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust

Pathfinder News

The latest updates from across the Trust

December 2024

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all at Pathfinder

What a term it has been! Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support for our schools and everything they do to deliver the best possible all-round education for their students.

The autumn term is always busy but it has been particularly so this year as we prepared to welcome four new schools to the Trust. Welburn Community Primary School was the first at the beginning of October followed by the White Rose Federation of schools (Barlow Primary School, Burton Salmon Primary School and Chapel Haddlesey Primary School) in November. We are delighted to have these new schools on board and are looking forward to the ongoing opportunities to work together for the benefit of all students and staff across the Trust.

At least one of our schools is within an inspection window at any given time and, as a Trust, we support schools to prepare for these important external measures. It was just before the October half term when Badger Hill had our first Ofsted inspection of the academic year. We are delighted to say that the school maintained its previous Good rating with the report highlighting the breadth of the curriculum, students' personal development, and SEND support as particular strengths of the school.

Clifton with Rawcliffe also had a visit from Ofsted this term. Although a little earlier than we expected, the staff and students were determined to showcase the school at its very best and we are looking forward to sharing the outcome when the inspection report is published in the new year.

A highlight of this term has certainly been our new Pathfinder Primary Sports Offer which has proven to be a big success across the Trust. You can read all about it on page 2 of this newsletter and we can't wait for even more events, activities and competitions taking place throughout the spring term.

In the meantime, I would like to wish all families a peaceful and restful Christmas and Happy New Year.

Andrew Daly, Chief Executive Officer

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Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust was formed in August 2016, initially between just four schools. Today, we are 18 schools strong, proudly serving more than 6,200 students and their families across York and North Yorkshire.

ACOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL · Archbishop Holgate's School · Badger Hill Primary School · Barlow CE Primary School · Burton Salmon CP School · Chapel Haddlesey CE School · Clifton with Rawcliffe · Hempland Primary School · Heworth Church of England Primary School · Huntington Primary Academy · Malton School A Specialist Science School · New Earswick Primary School · Poppleton Road Primary School · Rufforth Primary School · St Barnabas Church of England Primary School · St Lawrence's Church of England Primary School · Tang Hall Primary School · Welburn Community Primary School

Pathfinder sporting champions

The first term of the new Pathfinder Primary Sports Offer has been a huge success with children of all ages taking part in the range of events and competitions. This has enhanced the schools' PE curriculum, increasing opportunities for children to be active whilst enjoying collaboration and competition with other schools.

Football League

In the Football League, different teams from across Key Stage 2 played fixtures against other schools in their zone, with four winning teams from each zone going through to the finals. The Year 3/4 football finals at Archbishop Holgate's School were a fantastic event with over 120 children taking part and plenty of spectators to cheer them on. Sadly, the Year 5/6 finals had to be postponed until next Spring due to bad weather. Congratulations and well done to the Year 3/4 winning teams: Clifton with Rawcliffe, Huntington and Hempland.

Multi-Skills Competitions

Children in Years 3 and 4 demonstrated their skills of speed, agility and accuracy in the Multi-Skills competitions taking part in activities such as step-ups, bounces and target throw. Well done to the Rufforth team for winning the overall event. We are grateful to the amazing team of Student Sports Leaders from Archbishop Holgate's for their help running the competitions.

Football League Table

Year 3/4	Zone Winners	Overall Winners
Mixed A Team	Zone 1: Clifton with Rawcliffe Zone 2: Heworth Zone 3: Huntington Runner up: Acomb	WINNER Clifton with Rawcliffe
Mixed B Team	Zone 1: Poppleton Road Zone 2: Hempland Zone 3: Huntington Runner up: Clifton with Rawcliffe	WINNER Huntington
Mixed C Team	Zone 1: Poppleton Road Zone 2: Hempland Zone 3: New Earswick Runner up: Badger Hill	WINNER Hempland

Virtual Danceathon

Everyone put on their dancing shoes for our Virtual Danceathon in October. After several weeks of learning the routine, schools came together remotely to perform their dance. An incredible 2,500 children and staff took part across the day, performing with great energy and pizzazz. Huge thanks go to Miss Lea and Miss Cook from Badger Hill for choreographing the routine and creating the rehearsal videos.

Active Days

As well as the collaborative events and competitions, our PE specialist has led bespoke 'Active Days' in individual schools with activities such as boxercise and fitness. Over 200 children across the schools have been trained as 'Playleaders', giving them the skills to organise and lead activities for younger children at playtimes and creating safe, fun and inclusive playgrounds.

It has certainly been a busy and energetic term and we are looking forward to events including Dodgeball, Cross Country and Basketball next term.

News from our schools

ACOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have a strong culture of reading at Acomb Primary School and have two particular elements that are integral to this.

Reading Challenge
Each year we take part in the Explore Libraries Summer Reading Challenge. We were thrilled to be awarded the winner's trophy once again this year, with our school having the highest percentage of completed challenges of all schools in York. We are really pleased that children read for pleasure out of school and continue to work on these important skills over the summer holidays. All of the children who completed the challenge received a mini trophy and sticker in a special assembly earlier this term.

Reading Spine
We have developed a Reading Spine at Acomb. A reading spine is a core of books: a mix of classics and essential reads that help children to engage at a deeper level and enter the world of the story. The intention is to foster a love of reading in children, from Reception right up to Year 6, for them to take into their future. Every book within our Reading Spine has been selected, reviewed and chosen carefully by all staff in school. We have multiple copies in school for children to listen to, read and enjoy.

Archbishop Holgate's School

A Church of England Academy Founded 1546

AHS MERIT MART

At Archbishop Holgate's School we have worked hard to develop a positive behaviour system which recognises and rewards students' achievements weekly, half termly, termly and annually. We also strive to embed a real sense of community amongst our students by having celebratory acts of collective worship at the end of each half term.

As part of our rewards system, we successfully launched the AHS Merit Mart during the last academic year. The Merit Mart is our students' happy place, where they can enquire about their hard-earned merits and spend them on various items in the shop. Items include: stationery, key rings, board games, books, water bottles, vouchers and the opportunity to enter termly raffles.

So far this academic year, we have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming students from Years 7, 8 and 9 to the Headteachers Breakfast. Each half term a student is nominated from each Form Group in the year to join the Headteacher, Mrs Pond, around the breakfast table. The award recognises the hard work that students are putting in both in and out of lessons.

We have really enjoyed bringing the school's house system to life since September and it's wonderful to see the students actively participating in a range of activities, including volunteering for roles as House Captains, Vice House Captains, Sports Representatives and Form Captains.

News from our schools

Badger Hill PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have had an extremely busy term at Badger Hill. This has included a fantastic residential for our Year 6 children. They spent a week at Peat Rigg Outdoor Centre and took part in lots of exhilarating activities such as high zip wires, caving and bush craft activities. We were extremely proud of how the whole class was able to show how much they believe in themselves! Children at Badger Hill have loved taking part in all the sports activities through Pathfinder. Our Year 5 and 6 boys were amazing in the football tournament and won all of their matches! More recently our Year 3 and 4 children took part in a multi skills event at Archbishop Holgate's School where they showed off their jumping and running skills along with plenty of stamina!

Miss Cook, our RE lead, organised a day to celebrate interfaith week. Across school we had lots of visitors to share information about their religions. This included parents talking to the children about Buddhism, YOYO holding workshops around Christianity and children leading craft sessions based around Islam, Christianity and Hinduism. It was a lovely and informative way to celebrate all the faiths we have at Badger Hill.

We have also celebrated a wonderful Ofsted report this term. This acknowledged our ambitious curriculum and how it supports all children at Badger Hill. Our personal development offer was seen as a strength of the school and we continue to grow as a school.

Barlow CE Primary School

Part of the White Rose Federation - One family, branching out together

Throughout this Autumn, we welcomed Mr Kotwal to our school, who came in to deliver an interesting workshop giving a valuable insight into what it truly means to be a Muslim in Britain today.

The children had the opportunity of trying on traditional Muslim attire, showcasing the diversity of clothing styles across different cultures. Mr Kotwal also brought a selection of artefacts with him and explained their value and meaning within the Muslim faith.

A highlight of Mr Kotwal's visit was when he provided us with a comprehensive virtual tour of the interior of a mosque, highlighting the significance of various architectural elements and explaining the meticulous preparations Muslims make before engaging in prayer. Mr Kotwal praised how knowledgeable and attentive the children at Barlow were and mentioned what a wonderfully welcoming atmosphere the school had!

News from our schools

Burton Salmon CP School

Part of the White Rose Federation - One family, branching out together

During October, Class 2 took a trip back in time to Ancient Egypt. Children attended school dressed as an Egyptian and took part in a range of Egyptian themed tasks. They mummified their pharaoh, Pharaoh Orange I, as a priest; they became farmers using the knot and rope method to plot their land after the Nile floods and they created music to prepare their Pharaoh for war. Finally, they rounded their day off with family to enjoy some traditional Saboob bread. There were lots of positive comments shared between staff, parents and students: "I was impressed by the children's commitment and was so proud of the 'sticky knowledge' that they could recall by the end of the day" - Mrs Titterington. Thank you to the parents and carers who were troopers for our flour filled Open Afternoon - we hope you enjoyed your own taste of Egypt! "The bread was so messy! Our parents had to keep asking for flour because it was a sticky mess. They were tasty though." - Asa. "Ancient Egypt day was so much fun! We mummified an orange, and they are still mummifying for another 70 days." - Dakota.

Chapel Haddlesey CE School

Part of the White Rose Federation - One family, branching out together

We welcomed the beginning of term with great enthusiasm, our recent Colour Run was a fantastic success. Organised by our diligent PTA, this lively event was not only a sight to behold but also an incredible opportunity to raise funds for our new Forest School provision on the school field.

Children, parents, carers, and teachers came together to run through a vibrant maze, capturing as much colourful paint as possible. It was heart warming to see our school community united in support of such an important initiative.

This provision will provide invaluable opportunities for our children to connect with nature and develop essential skills through hands-on experiences.

News from our schools

Clifton with Rawcliffe

Christmas is a special time at Clifton with Rawcliffe. We marked the start of December by donning our Christmas jumpers and decorating our learning areas. The school came together for the Christmas Fayre and we also welcomed our local residents and families to the community carol service. The choir sang a medley of songs whilst visitors enjoyed a hot drink and mince pies. The children's performance was very uplifting! Congratulations to our Reception and Year 1 children for their amazing Christmas Show and Nativities. We were very impressed at how well they delivered their lines, sang the songs and acted out their parts.

Upper Key Stage 2 enjoyed a trip to Vue Cinema for a special showing of Paddington 3 and students from our Choir took a short walk to Mulberry Court Care home to perform to the residents and spread some Christmas cheer. Mrs Wright has (for the 35th year!) worked with the children to create Christingles - a tradition that helps children understand the true meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Craft Day provided an opportunity for children to work together across the school. It was heartening to see the care shown by older children towards the younger children. We also took full advantage of our amazing outdoor spaces with a 'Winter Wonderland' experience. The children began in the Main Polytunnel decorating a plant pot and filling it with compost and a spring bulb. This was followed with a trip to our new Foundation Stage Polytunnel where children created wooden Christmas tree decorations. The session was topped off in the Outdoor Science Area with a visit to the Hot Chocolate Station. We will finish off the term with Carols Around the Tree in celebration and reflection of the year. It is wonderful when our whole school can come together as a community.

Hempland Primary School

Hempland have been out and about in the community over the festive period spreading a little Christmas cheer!

We are once again participating in the York Minster Christmas Tree Festival for the fourth year running. The theme of our tree for this year is 'A Nativity Scene of Christmas Carols' with each year group focusing on a different carol and bringing it to life through tree decorations. Two of our Year 3 School Council members, visited York Minster to help decorate our tree with the end result looking just fantastic!

All of our Year 3 children headed out to Mossdale Residence Care Home to perform a selection of Christmas tunes which entertained all of the residents. They sang, danced and signed and provided great entertainment and lots of fun in their Santa hats! The Year 3 children also performed for our local residents who we invited into school to enjoy a drink, mince pie and a festive performance. This was once again a lovely event and was enjoyed by all involved.

Some of our Year 6 children attended the Archbishop Holgate's Minster Carol Service to perform along with other Pathfinder schools and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Finally, our Singstars School Choir made the short walk to our local community centre to perform for the Heworth Retired Men's Forum and showcased their singing. The choir performed brilliantly and the audience were amazed by their talents! Merry Christmas!

News from our schools

Heworth
Church of England Primary School

This autumn, we've been committed to providing a diverse range of experiences that inspire, educate, and enrich our students' lives. Whether exploring new subjects, participating in sports events, delving into creative pursuits, or meeting former students of the school - there was something for everyone. As the autumn term began, we were honoured to welcome Harry Hall, one of our oldest former students, to share his experiences and inspire our students. Our children embraced Mr Hall's visit with open arms and were thrilled to meet him. Additionally, we had the privilege of hosting the UK Parliament Education team, who provided valuable insights into the democratic process. This really helped us to get ready for our school council and collective worship team elections. These empowered students to take on leadership roles and shape our school community.

Students were able to connect with nature on our trip to Lotherton Hall Wildlife World, while the heritage trail led by YoYo and the visit to the air museum provided valuable historical insights. Our partnership with York University, including a visit from an archaeologist, enriched our curriculum and sparked students' curiosity about the past. Students also had the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports activities as part of the Pathfinder Sports Offer, this included a Danceathon which got all schools in the Trust together virtually.

To round off the term, we were delighted to welcome Mud Pie Arts to explore the story of The Tiger Who Came to Tea and Riding Lights Theatre Company to perform A Christmas Cracker. These performances sparked the imaginations of our students and brought festive cheer to our school. As we reflect on the past few months, we're proud of the achievements of our students and the dedication of our staff.

Huntington
PRIMARY ACADEMY

The start of the autumn term saw the children of Huntington Primary Academy embrace responsibility through a topic linked to our local area, pollution and human impact. To finish the topic and put into action what the children had learnt, the whole school took part in a litter picking day. Some year groups tackled litter within the school grounds, whilst others went on to the streets in the local community. It was a great success in terms of working together and taking responsibility for our environment but unfortunately there was a lot of litter!

We have also been pleased to be part of some other community events. Our Year 5 children met residents and representatives from All Saints Church at the war memorial on Remembrance Day to take part in the act of remembrance and making real links to their World War II topic. Our Early Years children walked to the Methodist church to take part in their Christmas Tree Festival. The children decorated a tree, saw all the other beautiful trees and learnt about the Christmas story.

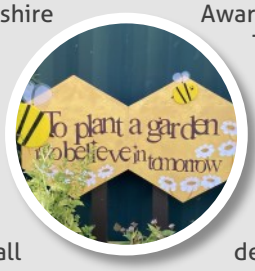
As part of our commitment to our status as an Eco School, we are very pleased to have begun a new recycling initiative in partnership with York City Football Club Foundation. We are now a collecting hub for The Changing Room Project for children's unwanted sports kit. Being near to the stadium and having so many children involved in sport activities within our school, we know that we will be receiving lots of donations of kit that has been grown out of or is no longer needed. The kit will be redistributed to local children who need it.

News from our schools

Malton School
A Specialist Science School

Students and staff from Malton School's Gardening Club PDA team were thrilled when it was announced they had been awarded Gold in the Yorkshire in Bloom Young Peoples Category 2024.

The school entered Yorkshire in Bloom for the first time in its own right in 2023 and was delighted to be awarded a Silver. Encouraged by this initial success, students and staff were determined to improve and pulled out all the stops this year.



It has meant a lot of hard work, developing new areas, forging further links with local organisations, and putting together plans for future development. None of this escaped the judges' notice. They commented on the school's commitment to increasing biodiversity within the grounds, including success with the Wildlife Gardening Award from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, as well as initiative and creativity in recycling and reusing old materials from school.

In their summing up, the judges said, "This truly was an inspirational visit, demonstrating how the school environment can be transformed by adopting an approach which allows so many pupils to be involved, with the benefits being so much greater than just improving the surroundings. That this was in a secondary school makes it even more impressive and a model that could potentially be adopted by others." Speaking on behalf of the Gardening Group, Assistant Headteacher Helen Wilson said, "We could not be happier with the result - it is a testament to the hours of work put in by the Gardening team and other members of staff, students and even parents to help ensure the gardens looked their best throughout summer. We are incredibly grateful to all of them and could not have achieved this high standard without their support and encouragement."

New Earswick Primary School

Autumn is always a busy term especially with new classes, new topics and new opportunities! We started by embedding our new school rules and values: being respectful, responsible and kind along with introducing a daily Goldentime session so we can reward being good. It has been encouraging to see the children showing their best selves and being the best they can be. It has been great to get our sporting feet back in action with the Key Stage 2 Football Tournament. Having this at our local sports club was a real benefit and we were proud of the sportsmanship of all those who attended. We can't wait to see what the calendar has in store for us next!

The autumn term also saw our Year 6 children visit Kingswood for their residential, and they did not disappoint! New skills were acquired, fears were conquered and it was a pleasure to see them thriving outside of school. Year 6 were not the only ones out and about as many of our classes have also enhanced their learning through trips, workshops and theme days. Reception visited the theatre to see Aladdin (oh yes they did!), Year 1 took part in an art workshop and produced amazing replica planets to fit their topic and Year 2 showed off their DT skills by making Stone Age stew. The corridor smelt delicious! Key Stage 2 has also been a hive of activity with Year 6 taking part in a fantastic Titanic workshop with costumes and characters to match, Year 5 had a soggy visit to York's Food Festival but the rain didn't dampen their palates and creativity and Year 4 have spent the term honing their swimming skills at the local pool. Year 3 celebrated their Egyptian topic recently with a theme day and it felt like school had gone back in time as the costumes were so realistic. The day ended with parents being the students and being taught how to make a canopic jar by the children - we had some very proud parents! We cannot round off the term without mentioning the phenomenal Christmas performances, I don't think anyone could come away without a smile on their face and a sprinkle of Christmas spirit.

News from our schools

Poppleton Road Primary School

It has been another fantastic term at Poppleton Road and as always the children make us proud every day with their hard work, engagement to their learning and their kind and respectful attitude to school. We have been focusing on our value of success and it has been wonderful to see all of the examples of success our children have had in and out of school. We hear every week in our WOW assembly stories of success in swimming, gymnastics, bike riding, martial arts and many more. We also hear of what an amazing difference some of our children are making in their local community and it was great to receive a phone call from a member of the public congratulating Daniel in Year 6 who regularly litter picks near where he lives – a very successful community hero.

Well done to all of our children who have taken on a Young Leader role in school. We now have a group of children who are working hard every day to keep people safe on the stairs and corridors and reducing the amount of lost property that we have – A brilliant job. The term has been full of trips and visitors – Year 1 visited the local windmill in Holgate, whilst Year 5 saw The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe at Leeds Playhouse. The Reverend Simon has visited for assemblies and a fantastic 'Toy Workshop' was a big hit.

Christmas is of course an exciting time and by the end of the term every single child will have been part of a Christmas production. The choir have been very busy and were the stars of Holy Redeemer Christmas Fair where they entertained everyone with their fabulous singing. We also sponsored a Christmas Tree and the choir were there at the big light turn on. The term will finish with an exciting Christmas Fair Day and the wonderful carol service in the Minster. Another very special and busy term!

Rufforth Primary School

· Inspire · Care · Grow ·

We have had some wonderful sporting achievements this term! As one of the smallest schools in the Trust, it has been fantastic to be part of Pathfinder's Sports Offer and to train, compete and have fun with other schools. Our newly appointed playleaders are doing a fabulous job of leading activities for all children at lunchtimes following their training from Mr Wood.

Early in the term, organised based on location, all of our Key Stage 2 children took part in a football tournament at Clifton with Rawcliffe Primary School. This was a fantastic day of competition, skills training and supporting one another. We are very proud of all of our children who participated and very pleased to share that our Class 4 boys won their tournament! They will go on to play in the final at Archbishop Holgate's School early next half term. Their victory is testament to the skill and sportsmanship of our Year 5/6 team. This half term, a group of Year 3 and Year 4 children represented Rufforth in a multi-skills competition as part of the sports offer. The team showed great spirit and determination and won their zone's event.

Other winners were our amazing dodgeball team! In November, children participated in a small schools tournament organised by Total Sports and hosted at Rufforth. Our Year 5 and Year 6 team won the event! As always, we are incredibly proud of how our children represent themselves and our school at sporting events. They show resilience, pride, encouragement and wonderful sportsmanship. Winning is great, but we are equally proud of the effort and attitude of our children.

News from our schools

St Barnabas
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has been a busy term at St Barnabas as we had our church school inspection in November. This type of inspection focuses on the impact of the church school's Christian vision on students and adults. This involves looking at the school's Christian vision, the provision the school makes because of this vision and how effective this provision is in enabling all students to flourish. Whilst we await the report, we are very proud to have been able to share all we do to support the personal development and spiritual growth of children at our school.

Also this term, the children at St Barnabas have enjoyed our continued links with York Minster. On Friday 29 November the children from Year 3, 4 and 5 who have been partaking in the National Schools Singing Programme at York Minster, sung at the raising of the Advent Wreath. They sang with other schools who are also part of the programme and many parents and carers came to support us. The event was made even more special as one of our students was chosen to place the main candle in the centre of the advent wreath.

On the same day, we were able to decorate our tree as part of the Minster's festive celebrations. This year, we chose the theme of boats to represent the work of our namesake, St Barnabas, The Encourager. We are now looking forward to a very festive end of term with our whole school nativity and carol concert as well as the usual fun-filled Christmas events!

St Lawrence's
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

The children were really happy to be back in school after the summer break and have been impressing us with their attitudes to their learning! So far, the term has been packed. We have had our Anti-Bullying week with a visit from the PCSO. This supported our theme of Compassion and the children were great at expressing themselves in class discussions about the importance of speaking up and not being a bystander. This was followed up in the same week with a bake sale for Children in Need where we raised over £150. There was even more fundraising during our Harvest Service and a visit from the Food Bank who explained why their donations were so important.

We have also benefitted from free cinema trips for all children in school. Some children went to see Migration while others saw Garfield. Once again, the children behaved brilliantly and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We were even more delighted when some of our Year 6 children went to York University's 'Let's Do Uni', during the half term holiday. They loved it.

Our fabulous Reception and Year 1 children have also been practising their cycling skills on the balance bikes. They showed great courage in giving the bikes a go and who knows, perhaps we will have an Olympic cycling champion in the future!

The Pathfinder football final went down very well with our children who tried their very best in all the matches. Our Year 5s are through to the final and can't wait for these to happen in the spring term. We also took part in the Virtual Danceathon with children, and some of the adults, really showing off some great moves.

We are now getting excited for Christmas and all the Nativities and parties that are planned! Phew...

News from our schools

Tang Hall Primary School

We believe our children at Tang Hall are superstars so for this reason, we have introduced our new STARS values. STRENGTH relates to strength of mind, strength of character and a belief that we are stronger together. TRUST links to the trust we place in our children to make the right choices and the trust our children and families place in us to do the right thing by them to ensure they are safe, happy, healthy and able to achieve their potential academically. ASPIRATION is shown through the targets and outcomes we set for ourselves and our students. RESPECT relates to self-respect: a sense of belonging and pride, as we all as the respect we show to others and our environment. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY teaches our children about what we can give back to our community and the important contribution we can make to our society.

This term we have been busy putting those values into action. We have been showing ASPIRATION and thinking about how we can positively contribute to our local community, from learning about castles in Key Stage 1, the Roman Empire in Lower Key Stage 2 and through completing engineering workshops as part of our careers aspirations.

At Tang Hall, we love to read and one of our highlights this term was meeting Robin Stevens, the author of 'The Murder Most Ladylike' series at St Peter's School. We were all given a new copy of one of her books so we could take it to be signed. Some of us felt inspired to be authors.

Evelyn in Year 6 won a competition hosted by GMI Construction to design a Christmas banner to display on their hoarding (pictured above) and we wish you a very Merry Christmas from all of us at Tang Hall Primary School!

Welburn Community Primary School

Here at Welburn we are settling in to being part of Pathfinder. We have chosen Community and Culture as one of our three Trust development focuses for this year and we have worked hard this term to further develop this across the term in lots of different ways. Our new window signage shows off our Welburn Way brilliantly. We also use the Rugby Football Union core values, TREDS - teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline, sportsmanship to promote positive values through sport.

All our students belong to a mixed team led by our oldest students. The teams are named after British sports people in the news that year. Our sports people this year include Bryony, Alex and Sarah. We hold one competition per half term and so far this year we have held our cross country races and most recently, a very chilly but exciting, tag bulldog rugby tournament. We have been really pleased to see not only improvement in skill and game play but also lots of very positive value-centred behaviours.

As we approach the end of term, we have several community events planned. Our Christmas Fair is a great opportunity for our students as they work together to run their own stalls. Our oldest students are also visiting a dementia group to lead Christmas craft workshops. On the final day of term we will be visiting our villages for our annual carols around the villages. This is a lovely way to say thank you to our wider community and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Pathfinder Teaching School Hub

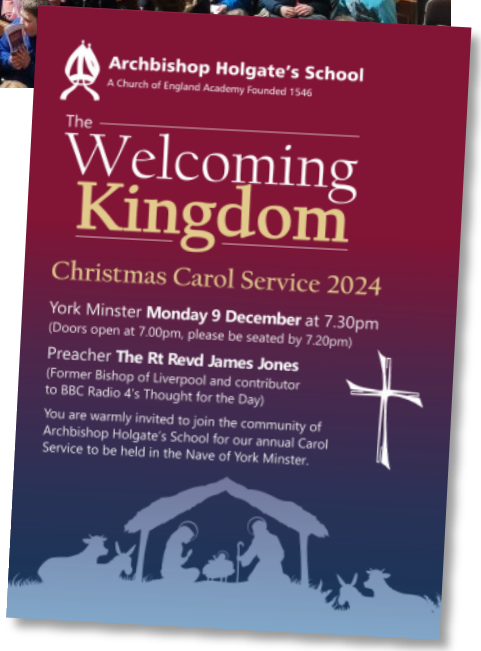
Train to teach at Pathfinder

Are you interested in training to become a teacher? The Pathfinder Teaching School Hub delivers Initial Teacher Education to both primary and secondary trainees. The courses combine in-school training with the latest research-led practice provided by our partner university.

We are open for applications for our teacher training courses starting in September 2025 and are looking for people who have a degree, a passion for teaching and who want to inspire young people to fulfil their potential. If this sounds like you, contact us to find out about the training opportunities we have available. Call 01904 806900 or email info@tsh.pmat.academy. You can also find out more on our website pathfinder-tsh.co.uk.

The Welcoming Kingdom

York Minster plays host to Archbishop Holgate's Christmas Carol service



Archbishop Holgate's School celebrated their annual carol service against the amazing backdrop of York Minster once again this year. This is always a popular community occasion in the school's calendar and this year was no exception, with more than one thousand parents, children, staff, governors and members of the public packing out the nave of the Minster for the festive occasion.

This year's carol service, titled 'The Welcoming Kingdom', was a mixture of traditional and modern elements and included carols, readings, dramatic performances, dance, and sung pieces performed by the schools' many choirs of all ages. There was also a piece sung by a massed choir of over 300 students from local primary schools, many of which are connected to Archbishop Holgate's. All of the drama pieces were especially written for the service and explored the themes within the Christmas story, especially the experiences of the Wise Men or Magi.

The school were delighted to have the Right Rev. James Jones, KBE, former Bishop of Liverpool and author of the Hillsborough Report, preaching at the service and also to have The Lord Mayor, Sheriff and their consorts in attendance.

The carol service is an important occasion in the school year where students, staff and their friends and families can celebrate the Christmas story together as a community. Thank you and well done to everyone involved for making it such an amazing evening!

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust

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