Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust

*Providing an excellent education from age 2 to 19*

# Pathfinder **News**

Summer 2025

**The latest updates from across the Trust**

**Poppleton Road Primary School staff and students at the York Pride parade in June**

We have made it to the end of another hugely successful academic year with lots for our schools to be proud of both individually and collectively. It's almost nine years now since four schools came together to form Pathfinder. Since then, we have welcomed a further 14 schools to the Trust and are currently serving more than 6,600 children and young people across York and North Yorkshire.

We are pleased to say that this year's Key Stage 2 SATs results have again been strong across the Trust, with more children than ever achieving at higher levels. Well done to our Year 6 students for all their hard work and best of luck starting secondary school in September.

We have had a number of successful external inspections over the past year, including Badger Hill which retained its previous Good Ofsted judgement and Clifton with Rawcliffe which was judged Outstanding for its Early Years provision and the behaviour of students. Heworth and St Barnabas have enjoyed positive SIAMS Church School Inspections, and just last week, we received the official report from St Barnabas' recent Ofsted visit. We are delighted to say the school has moved from Requires Improvement to GOOD in all areas, a remarkable and well-deserved achievement for the entire school community - well done!

As we move into our ninth year, we will also be welcoming Applefields School to Pathfinder in September. We are looking forward to the additional SEND expertise that colleagues from the school will bring to the Trust. Thank you for all the support you have given our schools this year and have a safe and restful summer holiday.

**Andrew Daly** | Chief Executive Officer

## Inside this issue...

2 Pathfinder school rebuilding projects get new contractors

2 Education conference promotes inclusion and SEND leadership

12 Pathfinder awarded funding for carbon reduction plans

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust was formed in August 2016, initially between just four schools. Today, we are 18 schools strong, proudly serving more than 6,600 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
Education Partnership

## Education conference promotes inclusion and SEND leadership

Pathfinder Education Partnership was delighted to hold its first conference for middle and senior school leaders focussed on inclusive leadership and belonging.

Proudly sponsored by education recruitment specialist, Castle Education, the conference brought together 110 middle and senior leaders from schools across York, North Yorkshire and beyond for a day of learning, networking, and strategic development.

A wide range of national experts were invited to speak at the conference, held at York Racecourse on 10 June. They focused on how schools can build support for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities into their curriculums; what inclusive training for school staff looks like; and how to narrow the attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students.

A highlight of the conference was guest speaker Chris Lubbe who served as a bodyguard to Nelson Mandela and contributed to the delicate negotiations that paved the way for South Africa's inaugural democratic elections. Chris, now a TEDx and keynote speaker, shared his story of growing up in apartheid South Africa and set a timely reminder of how schools can celebrate and drive the mission of diversity, equity and inclusion.

# Pathfinder school rebuilding projects get new contractors

**Tang Hall's Headteacher, Lorraine Atkinson, with students at the school**

New contractors have been appointed to take over Hempland and Tang Hall rebuilding projects after the previous contractor, ISG Construction, went into administration last September bringing all works to a halt.

The Department for Education, which is managing both rebuild projects, has appointed Morgan Sindall Construction to complete Hempland's new school. The concrete foundations and steel structure of the two-storey building were already finished prior to all works ceasing last September. Morgan Sindall will now complete the building to the original plans and specifications with completion anticipated by winter 2026. Hempland's Headteacher, Abbie Innes, said: "We're so happy that the future of our new school building has now been secured and work can progress as planned. After months of uncertainty we can look forward to having a brand new building in the not too distant future. Thank you to all of our children, staff, families and local residents for your patience and understanding during what has been a challenging time for us."

Tang Hall's new school, which had yet to begin construction when ISG ceased operating, will now be built by Tilbury Douglas. Lorraine Atkinson, Tang Hall's Headteacher, said: "This is great news for our school community. I would like to thank colleagues at the DfE and Pathfinder MAT for all their hard work in keeping the project moving forward and finding a new contractor. We're looking forward to all the learning opportunities and experiences the new school will bring for our community, particularly the new playing field and outdoor areas children will be able to benefit from." Work on site is currently scheduled to begin in January 2026 and is due to be completed by Autumn 2027.

Both schools successfully achieved a place on the government's school rebuilding programme which carries out major rebuilding and refurbishment projects in schools and colleges across England.

## - Pathfinder Trust Board Vacancy -

We are currently recruiting for a Trustee to sit on the Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust Board. The Trust is at an exciting stage of its development as it expands and is now working with over 6,600 pupils in 18 schools across York and North Yorkshire.

If you're interested in the role, we'd love to hear from you. Feel free to contact us on info@pmat.academy to arrange an informal discussion with John Hattam, our Chair of Trustees. More information is also available on our website.

# News from our schools

## ACOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL

We're delighted to share the exciting improvements that have been made to our Key Stage 2 playground and field this term - enhancements that are already having a positive impact on playtimes for our children.

Thanks to the incredible efforts of the Friends of Acomb Primary, who raised over £4,000 at the summer fair, and the thoughtful input from our school council, we've been able to create a brand-new Quiet Zone. This calm and welcoming area, complete with artificial grass, bench seating, and access to books, Lego and colouring activities, offers a peaceful alternative for children who prefer a quieter, more relaxed playtime experience. It's already proving popular with many pupils and adds real variety to how children can spend their break times.

Alongside this, we've also introduced a new Scramble Stax climbing area on the school field. Installed by Playscheme earlier this term, it's designed to encourage active, physical play through climbing, crawling, balancing, and navigating different routes and levels. The open-ended design of the structure allows for imaginative and cooperative play, as children work together to move across the equipment or set their own challenges. It promotes resilience, coordination and confidence, offering a physical challenge for all abilities.

The response from the children has been fantastic. They've embraced the new structure with enthusiasm and it's wonderful to see them pushing themselves, supporting their friends, and making the most of this brilliant new addition to our outdoor space. These improvements are part of our ongoing commitment to providing a play environment that meets the needs of all our children, whether they want to run, climb and explore or sit quietly and unwind. We are so grateful to our Friends group, our school council and the staff who helped bring these projects to life.

## Archbishop Holgate's School

A Church of England Academy Founded 1546

Archbishop Holgate's hosted the Diocesan Secondary Schools gathering which brought together Headteachers and chaplains from Manor, All Saints, Ingleby, Barwick, Archbishop Sentamu Academy and Archbishop Holgate's to staff from the diocese including the new Diocesan Director of Education and the new Bishop of Whitby, Bishop Barry.

Bishop Barry delivered one of our Friday morning staff reflections in June, inspired by John 10:10. Unfortunately, he had to send a pre-recorded version due to his wife recovering from an operation. However, this gave him the chance to exercise some creativity with the reflection being delivered inside his shower accompanied by a huge glass of very cheap wine!

The Applied Law department were thrilled to host the wonderful Bishop James Jones KBE in June who chaired the Hillsborough Enquiries and has since worked on other disasters such as Grenfell and beyond.

He talked to our students about their role in justice, how service for the victims' families had transformed the impact of how Hillsborough is

remembered and discussed the need for further reform. In his talk, he uncovered how there were multiple negligent failures and cover ups, which led to the deaths of 96 (since 97) football fans. Bishop James Jones has since met with Kier Starmer to discuss the implementation of a Hillsborough Law. One student said: "I found Bishop James Jones' personal account of the events that played out regarding the Hillsborough Disaster and subsequent inquiry incredibly beneficial to my own learning, not only of the law but how the disaster affected British society and those who were grieving loved ones."

# *News from our schools*

## Badger Hill PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have had such a wonderful summer term with lots of curriculum enhancing activities. This has included our choir attending the Choral Festival for the first time and also the Make Music Day at York St John University as part of our collaboration with the Richard Shepherd Foundation. The choir's performance at the festival was amazing and they sang with confidence. Our children were also able to experience a range of musical workshops including Japanese drumming and Gamelan.

Badger Hill has also enjoyed success in our sporting endeavours. This has included a memorable sports day for all classes and a collaboration with Little Badgers pre-school. The girl's football team were riding high as they progressed into the finals of a local tournament. We have also enjoyed all aspects of the Pathfinder sports events this year. Our final session was Danish longball, a game new to us at Badger Hill but one we thoroughly enjoyed. Here's to more fun and competitions next year!

Our Year 6 children had the opportunity to perform at the Theatre Royal as part of the Playhouse Project. They performed 'The Creakers' to an audience which included their parents. They were amazing and there is clearly some budding actors at Badger Hill.

As we come to the end of another fabulous year at Badger Hill we look back on how much we have achieved this year which has included our Good Ofsted report, Rock Steady concerts, winning football teams and so much more.

## Barlow CE Primary School

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

Barlow CE Primary School has enjoyed a summer of sporting success. First was the Tag Rugby festival at the beginning of June. Pupil, Eva said: "We loved Tag Rugby! It was so much fun and Barlow came in first place. There were four schools taking part including us and we played them each twice. It all came down to the final and we won 2-1 and Sophia made the final try. I would love to do it again."

Next was the High 5s Netball Tournament in which Barlow won all three of its games. Sophia shared: "We went to the Read School to play netball and played three games and won every one! My favourite was the end game because the score was 2-1. The player who scored the last goal was Regan. We made Barlow proud and came first. As a reward we came back to school with a trophy."

Finally came the Swimming Tournament which involved six schools and took place at Tadcaster Swimming Pool. Talking about the day, Sophia reported: "We went to Tadcaster Swimming Pool to attend the Swimming Tournament and it took 1 hour and 20 minutes to get there! This is one of my favourite sporting competitions. There were seven events and it was so much fun. Out of six schools taking part, Barlow came third and only one point away from second place. My favourite event was the front crawl, competing with the boys and I came first." Well done team Barlow!

# Burton Salmon CP School

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

Burton Salmon hosted their third annual Art Showcase in July, and it was our best one yet! Children from all year groups displayed and presented their creative pieces to a plethora of parents on a rather warm afternoon. Class 1's theme was 'Under the Sea' where they made stunning 'rock' crabs, a huge octopus from plastic bottle tops and a piece inspired by renowned artist, Alma Thomas.

Landscapes were the focus of Class 2, and their inspiration this year was Leeds born artist Jacob Lawrence. Their final art piece was a beautiful triptych landscape using different media for each section.

Jean-Michel Basquiat and portraiture was the theme for Class 3. New York artist, Basquiat, was an abstract artist who based his style on street art. The children created several pieces including a geometric shape portrait, an organic shape portrait and a large final piece in the style of Basquiat himself.

The afternoon was awash with parents and children all discussing the finer points of art. We have to say a massive thank you to all those who donated spare paints, rollers and brushes, without which I'm not sure we would have finished.

A successful day and successful topic across the board.

# Chapel Haddlesey CE School

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

May 2025 saw an incredible milestone at Chapel Haddlesey CE Primary School - celebrating the school being 150 years old! The school opened its doors for an afternoon of celebration that brought together past pupils, staff, and current families for a celebration like no other. The turnout was astounding, illustrating the strong bonds that tie the community together. The event was teamed with a Summer Fair, organised by the PTA, with stalls, activities and refreshments on offer.

To open the event in style, the school officially launched the long-awaited installation of the original school bell from the bell tower. Mr Allan Smith, a local resident and husband of staff member Janet, has lovingly restored the bell, complete with a new clapper placed into a custom-built smaller replica of the original bell tower from the school in 1875. This has been built in the Reception garden of the school for all to see and enjoy, using reclaimed materials donated by families and community members.

One of the classrooms was transformed into a Memory Lane, which turned out to be a particularly popular feature of the day. Families and past pupils were able to look at old photos and memorabilia dating back to the 1800's when the school first opened, including some which had been on loan to the school from past pupils.

In keeping with key historical events, the celebration was marked with the burial of a time capsule. This special capsule contained many works of art and writings from the current pupils, capturing their thoughts and feelings about this significant occasion.

# *News from our schools*

## Clifton with Rawcliffe

The summer term has been brimming with a diverse range of activities and successes, enriching our pupils' learning experiences. Pupils enjoyed a variety of unforgettable outings, including our Foundation Stage 2 trip to Scarborough and the Sea Life Centre, complete with a scenic ride on the North Bay Railway and beach playtime. Key Stage 1 pupils had a wonderful and historically rich trip to the Castle Museum in York. Year 3 explored the National Railway Museum, while Year 4 delved into ancient civilizations in their engaging Egyptian Workshop. Year 6 embarked on a captivating York History Walk, and Year 1 visited the Theatre Royal. Additionally, Year 5 and 6 pupils broadened their understanding of the natural world at Countryside Day at The Great Yorkshire Showground. These experiences truly extend learning beyond the classroom.

Our 'Rockstar Day' was a resounding hit, buzzing with music and maths! Pupils arrived dressed as rock stars, enjoying a drumming workshop with legendary drummer Jeff Rich of Status Quo. The day also featured a 'Battle of the Bands' on Times Tables Rock Stars, where classes competed to earn points, boosting their maths fluency and confidence.

We were delighted to welcome our local MP, Luke Charters, into school for a valuable Q&A session with our Year 5 and Year 6 classes. He spoke to the children about his role, what it involves, how he entered politics, his hopes for the future, and how the government functions. The children asked brilliant questions, particularly regarding his work on local issues, and weren't afraid to put him on the spot! We will soon be saying farewell to our fantastic Year 6 children. We are confident that they are well prepared for the next stage of their education. They will always be part of the CwR family!

## Hempland Primary School

The summer term at Hempland is as busy as ever with lots happening across school to enhance our curriculum. Some of our particular highlights have been...

The Early Years held their Ugly Bug Ball which included an 'Ugly Bug Parade' to show off their great dancing and amazing outfits, biscuit making and making their own minibeast peg pal! Space exploration has been the mission in Year 1 with the children finding out all about space and enjoying a space day in which they completed their astronaut training and even completed a parachute launch!

Year 2 are now qualified Mini Medics! They completed their own first aid course and even learnt how to do CPR. Wow! Year 3 performed a summer showcase of their talents which was amazing to watch. Dancing, singing, puppetry and beautiful recorder playing were enjoyed by the audience!

The Jorvik Viking Centre and York Dig were the destinations for the Year 4 children where they learned all about the Vikings and Viking life. Year 5 experienced the wonders of the Wonderome and referred to it as an incredible experience! The Wonderome almost filled the hall and inside they discovered all about the earth and the solar system. The children were enchanted by the plans for NASA in 2026.

Year 6 have had an action packed end to their time at Hempland. They visited the LNER stadium for an all access tour and travelled to Bradford for STEMFEST which is an event for Yorkshire and Humberside schools to enthuse and inspire the next generation about careers in STEM.

# News from our schools

## Heworth
Church of England Primary School

As we come to the end of the summer term, it is the perfect time to look back and celebrate the rich learning experiences collective achievements, and deeply rooted values that have shaped our school year. From small acts of kindness in the classroom to whole-school projects, this term has reflected the very best of our vibrant, values-driven school community.

A significant highlight was our successful SIAMS church school inspection. The report recognised the strength of our Christian vision and how it shapes the life of the school, influencing decisions, relationships, and our culture of care. It affirmed the inclusive, nurturing environment we provide, where every child is supported to flourish academically, spiritually and culturally. We were especially proud that the inspection praised the provision for pupils with special educational needs, celebrating the way we ensure all children feel valued, included, and capable of achieving great things.

Our whole-school courageous advocacy project, Saving Creation, has been a powerful and unifying focus this term. Rooted in the biblical Creation story, it invited pupils of all ages to explore their responsibility as stewards of the planet. Through hands-on learning, critical reflection, and creative responses, children explored environmental justice and responded with passion - from litter picking and reducing classroom energy use, to designing posters, writing prayers, and leading assemblies to raise awareness.

A particular highlight of this unit was our visit to York Minster. There, all our pupils encountered Creation depicted in stained glass, sculpture, and sacred architecture. The experience brought their learning to life and sparked rich discussions about God's role as Creator and our responsibility as caretakers. Moments of awe, stillness, and curiosity marked these visits reminding us all of the beauty of our world and the importance of protecting it through our actions.

## Huntington
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Huntington Primary proudly hosted its Global Gala in June, a celebration of creativity and community. The event brought together children, families, staff, and local organisations for a special afternoon that reflected the school's values.

Every child contributed to a stunning art exhibition, with their work beautifully displayed for all to admire. The artwork explored global themes and celebrated our diverse world, showcasing the incredible creativity of our pupils. The Gala raised funds in support of Refugee Action York (RAY), with volunteers from the organisation joining us to speak about their important work.

In addition to the art and learning, the event featured a Fairtrade Café, run by the wonderful Friends of Huntington Primary, as well as a plant stall supporting our commitment to sustainability. These initiatives supported our application for the Eco-Schools Award and reminded everyone of the importance of looking after both people and the planet.

This term, our Year 5 and 6 pupils had the exciting opportunity to take part in their much-anticipated residential trips, creating lasting memories and developing key life skills. Year 5 travelled to Robin Hood's Bay, where they explored the stunning Yorkshire coastline. Highlights included rock pooling, discovering marine life, and learning about coastal features through hands-on fieldwork. The trip gave pupils a wonderful chance to link classroom learning with real-world experiences, all while enjoying the natural beauty of our local environment.

Meanwhile, our Year 6 pupils embraced adventure and challenge at PGL Doncaster. From ziplines and climbing to canoeing, the activities pushed everyone out of their comfort zones, helping to build resilience, teamwork, and self-confidence. Pupils supported each other throughout, showing true determination and celebrating each other's successes.

# *News from our schools*

## Malton School
### A Specialist Science School

The summer term has provided our students with a huge array of enrichment opportunities outside the regular curriculum, many of them arising from Personal Development Activities run through our extended day every Thursday. Since Easter, our students have:

- Played a number of sets on one of the stages at the local agricultural show. Both the Soul Band and House Band were invited to take part at the show which attracts thousands of families.
- Completed their Bronze and Gold Duke of Edinburgh expeditions - both the practice expedition and the final assessed expedition. Students undertake Bronze in Year 10 and Gold in Year 12. This year we've had 82 students take part in Bronze and 17 in Gold.
- Created a new garden area in the East Wing Quad, following student voice which suggested this as an area for improvement. With support from local businesses and families, students created four huge planters to brighten the area, recycling, reusing and repurposing redundant materials from around school. Students have ensured the gardens are in tip-top condition ready for our Yorkshire in Bloom Young People judging in July.
- Worked hard to create this year's Touring Production in which Year 8 students write, direct and perform a play to local primary schools.

Students also succeeded in Sport:

- In the Town v Country Athletics competition at York University our relay teams did exceptionally well with the Year 9 boys and girls, plus the Year 10 boys claiming victory. One Year 9 student also had a very successful competition, coming first in the 300 metres and breaking the record for their age group.
- The Year 10 six-a-side cricket team were also victorious in the District Tournament, winning all three matches, helped by some expert batting and bowling!

## New Earswick Primary School

We have had a lovely summer term at New Earswick Primary, filled with lots of lovely activities. One of our key highlights has been experiencing our very first Rock Steady concert, which made us all incredibly proud. The children who have been part of this new enrichment have formed bands and grown their musical talents over two terms. They then showcased their performances to a whole school audience and their families. We are hoping that lots more children will now join this club as it enters its second year in September, they were certainly awe inspired by the concert.

Our recent Sports Days were a success as always and we were truly blessed with the weather. Children participated exuberantly in lots of different races with this year's 'clown race' being a new novelty fun experience! It is always a well-attended event and we thank our families for their support.

Transition has been and gone for classes who met their new teachers and visited their new classrooms recently. This was really successful. September will bring with it lots of change for our NEPS staff too, with a new Executive Headteacher, Mrs Coles, starting, as well as a new Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Forman. Our staff team are fantastic and are very positive about the new academic year ahead.

All that left to say is to wish our Year 6s all of our best as they move onto their new secondary school adventures. We hope they continue to follow our NEPS values of being respectful, responsible and kind.

# News from our schools

## Poppleton Road Primary School

What a summer term it has been at Poppleton Road, full of exciting learning and wonderful enrichment opportunities for our children.

Sports Day was absolutely fantastic with sunshine all day. Miss Stables did a wonderful job organising a range of exciting activities, including races for all the adults and pre-school siblings.

The term has been full of visits and visitors including taking our Year 5 children to London. There was a full day of sightseeing with the highlight being the boat trip up the Thames which ended with a very refreshing ice-lolly on a really hot day!

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed our Community Week as we welcomed visitors from a Community Choir and a Hedgehog Rescue Centre to name but two. During this week, Year 6 organised and held their Festival Day and Year 1 held a Community Café.

Our links with Ebor Care Home are very strong and the children continue to write to their pen pals and receive letters back. Some of the children attended Ebor Care's summer fair and were treated to a range of games and delicious refreshments. It was lovely to meet their pen pals and their families. Residents from Ebor Care Home have visited school and we celebrated Gordon's 100th birthday with a delicious cake.

Poppleton Road were very proud to take part in the York Pride Parade in June with our wonderful families underneath our fantastic banner.

The term will end with a giant inflatable assault course which will be amazing fun but also a way to raise money for school as a sponsored event. We wonder who can do the most laps of the course.

The children have had a fantastic term and we are as always proud of their enthusiasm, fun and dedication to their learning.

## Rufforth Primary School

· Inspire · Care · Grow ·

What a truly fantastic Sports Week we have had, brimming with energy, teamwork, and new experiences for all the children! Throughout the week, our pupils worked tremendously well in their teams. Their creativity shone as they crafted wonderful country-themed decorations, which then served as a vibrant backdrop for their spirited competition on Sports Day. It was inspiring to see them collaborate and support one another, embodying the true spirit of sportsmanship.

This year, the children had some exciting opportunities to develop new skills. They honed their rugby skills and explored a unique way to keep fit by trying out the trampettes. These sessions proved to be a fantastic blend of fun and physical activity.

Beyond the main Sports Day events, the week offered a variety of engaging activities: Class 2 experienced a range of diverse activities including the precision of boccia, the focus required for archery, and the energetic fun of skipping. Class 4 completed their Bikeability training, gaining valuable skills and confidence for safe cycling. Meanwhile, Class 3 enjoyed a wonderful trip to York St John University for a special day of music-making, showcasing the breadth of our curriculum.

For the first time ever, we ended our fantastic Sports Week with a spectacular event: the PTA's Colour Run! This was truly amazing - the children absolutely loved it, running through clouds of vibrant colours and laughing all the way. Their excitement was infectious and it was a joy to see so many happy, colourful faces crossing the finish line.

Beyond the incredible fun, we're thrilled to announce that the Colour Run has raised funds for school. The money raised will go directly towards funding enrichment opportunities for all our pupils next year, helping us provide even more exciting and educational experiences. We extend a massive thank you to the PTA for organising such a memorable and successful event!

# *News from our schools*

## St Barnabas
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

What a fantastic few weeks we've had at school, learning all about our local community and the wider world of democracy!

We were absolutely thrilled to welcome the Lord Mayor of York to our school! The children were buzzing with excitement as they met the Lord Mayor in their official robes. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn about the important role the Lord Mayor plays in our city and to ask lots of brilliant questions. They discovered more about the history of York and how our local government works - a truly memorable experience for everyone!

Following on from our special visitor, we held a fascinating Houses of Parliament Assembly. During the assembly, we explored how laws are made and how our country is run. We talked about voting, different roles in Parliament, and how everyone's voice is important. The children engaged brilliantly, showing a real interest in how our society is governed. These experiences have been invaluable in helping our pupils understand their place in the community and the importance of active citizenship. We're so proud of their curiosity and engagement!

This half term, we proudly welcomed a team of Ofsted inspectors to our school. We truly enjoyed sharing what makes our school so special, and our pupils were a credit to us all. They were all fantastic ambassadors, demonstrating our core values of compassion, encouragement, and respect throughout the visit. Their positive attitudes, great behaviour, and engagement in their learning filled us with immense pride. We are pleased with how the inspection went and look forward to sharing the final report with you all as soon as it is officially published.

## St Lawrence's
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

This has been a bumper packed term with lots of hard work, trips, sports' days, theatre shows, pizza making, animation and many more activities that have seen St Lawrence's children take part in and shine.

Our Year 6 children, once again, did us proud during their end of Key Stage tests. They showed great determination and resilience and really wanted to show off all that they had learned during the year. They encouraged each other and faced the challenges of each day with such a great attitude that made all the adults in school feel such pride. They were treated at the end of the week with a bowling trip where the team spirit really shone through.

Year 6 were also involved in an animation project along with the Year 5s. They thoroughly enjoyed making their own movies and it inspired some of them to try this at home - and think about this as a future job they would like to do.

At St Lawrence's we love the fact that we have so many children from all around the world. This was beautifully demonstrated during our Day of Culture. The children came into school in traditional outfits or brought in objects that they use in their culture. It was a massive success and just showed how well different cultures and faiths can live and thrive by demonstrating respect and love for each other - our children can certainly show the world a thing or two about how to live side by side in peace!

Not to be outdone, our Owls and Owlet classes had a lot of fun (as did the adults) looking after some gorgeous ducklings. They gently held them, fed them and watched as they learned to swim before they returned to the farm that they lived at. The Early Years class then had a trip to a different farm where they found out about other animals that live there and about how the bees make honey!

There have been many wonderful moments over the year - too many to name - but watching the Year 6 grow and mature has been super to see. They are completely ready to face the challenges at secondary school and we wish them all the luck in the world as they embark on their next exciting adventure!

# News from our schools

## Tang Hall Primary School

The Year 5 children went on their residential to Kingswood in Dearne Valley this term. This was a great opportunity for our children to show their STARS values in action!

Physical and mental strength were demonstrated as children tackled the activities. Trust, Aspiration, Respect and Social Responsibility were all on display - and the children had a lot of fun too! Our Key Stage 1 Sports Day was celebrated in school. All of our Key Stage 2 children and families also participated in a sports day at Burnholme Sports Centre. Children enjoyed activities from lots of different providers, such as, The Inflatable Beast and Capture the Flag with Total Sports; some parkour with Insight and more fun and games from York Community Church. There was time for a visit to the ice cream van and a picnic lunch before the competitive races. The children were all champions and the rain started just in time to cancel the teacher race!

North Yorkshire Music Service have delivered some free music lessons for our pupils. A significant number of Year 5 and 6 children have taken up the opportunity to be taught brass. Year 3 and 4 children have learnt woodwind and there have been whole class music sessions for Year 2. Every Monday, after school, an accessible music club has taken place. This improvement in our music offer was celebrated with a concert for parents on Thursday 3 July.

## Welburn COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have recently held our second Community Week of the year at school. The events included a Garden Party to showcase all of the hard work our Key Stage 2 children have been doing in our school gardens.

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils baked and sold buns and we also enjoyed a Beetle Drive after school. All these events have been in aid of raising funds for Welburn's Dementia Forward group which our oldest pupils have worked with over the course of this year. In total, the group has raised an impressive £259 from all of our fundraising activities.

We have been working hard to prepare for all of the organisational changes ready for the start of the new academic year. We are also looking forward to 10 new pupils joining the school in September which includes our first Nursery pupil! Exciting times ahead!

## Pathfinder primary sports provision a resounding success

The first year of the Pathfinder sports offer has been a huge success with children of all ages taking part in a wide range of physical activities and competitive events. The after school events would not have been possible without the help of Year 10 students from Archbishop Holgate's who have been working towards achieving a new Sports Leaders Award. Feedback from our schools this year has been extremely positive: "We have loved attending the events this year, it has certainly helped us to offer more sports to the children at our school." "Everything has been really well organised and has greatly reduced all the stress involved in trying to arrange all the fixtures and competitions ourselves."

## York schools Choral Festival

Hundreds of children from 23 schools around the region came together to sing their hearts out as part of the York schools Choral Festival. Taking place at the Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall at the University of York, More than 800 students performed at the event which is now in its 13th year. Molly Newton, Music Lead for Pathfinder who organises the event with fellow music teacher Buffy Breakwell, said: "Those who took part have once again gone beyond all our expectations in terms of their enthusiasm and commitment."

## Pathfinder awarded funding for carbon reduction plans

**Rob Williams, Headteacher of Malton School, and Jill Richards, Headteacher of Rufforth Primary School, who's schools are receiving £1.1 million to support carbon reduction and energy efficiency projects**

As a Trust, we have successfully applied for £1.1 million worth of grants to support carbon reduction and energy efficiency projects at two of our schools. Malton School and Rufforth Primary School are set to benefit from the grants as part of the government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme which aims to reduce emissions from public sector buildings by 75 per cent.

In addition to the grant funding, Pathfinder is contributing a further half a million pounds to support the projects taking the total investment to £1.6 million. As part of the plans, Malton will have the gas and oil heating systems in the school's East Wing, replaced with air source heat pumps. The building's roof will also undergo repair works. Rufforth Primary School will have its oil-based heating system replaced with an air source heat pump, cavity wall insulation installed throughout the building and all external windows and doors replaced.

Work at both schools is set to begin in July and is expected to be completed by September 2026, with the majority of the works taking place during school holidays. Once complete, it is projected that Malton will save approximately £26,000 a year on energy bills, with Rufforth saving around £7,500.

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust
Archbishop Holgate's School
Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA

01904 806000

info@pmat.academy

www.pathfindermat.co.uk

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