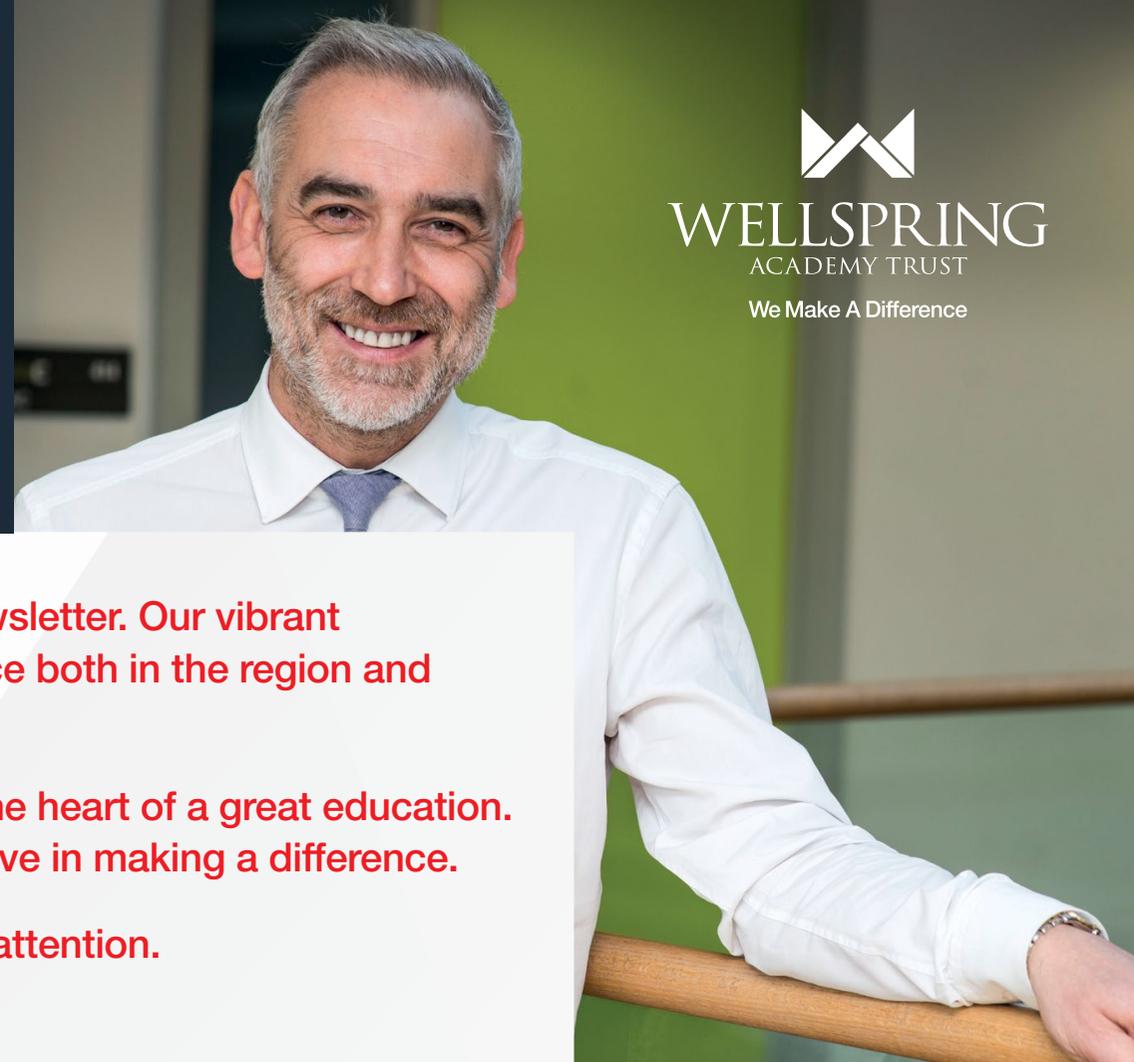


Mark Wilson's May Message

Mark Wilson, CEO

Wellspring Newsletter – May 2019



WELLSPRING
ACADEMY TRUST

We Make A Difference

Welcome to edition twenty-seven of the Wellspring Newsletter. Our vibrant community continues to grow and to spread its influence both in the region and beyond.

We believe in the importance of great relationships at the heart of a great education. We believe in kindness, care and compassion. We believe in making a difference.

These beliefs are reaching a wider audience and wider attention.

Our colleagues at Beacon Academy, Phoenix Park and Sevenhills have enjoyed national media attention in recent weeks on the BBC News and The Guardian Newspaper. Further information is included in this month's newsletter and on the Wellspring website for those of you who missed them. Beacon's "On-rolling" of students was celebrated as an antidote to the scandal of "Off-rolling" that has been a focus of recent national media attention.

We put the interests of our children, students, young people (whatever we choose to call them) first. Always.

This is not only an important message, it is an important

philosophy. This philosophy is what binds our community together. It's what powers our thinking and decision-making. It's what identifies us as an important voice in the world of education.

I am incredibly proud of being a member of the Wellspring community. I hope that you are too.

Thank you for your hard work daily that contributes to an exceptional education for each and every one of our young people.

You make a difference.

Thank you for your hard work daily that contributes to an exceptional education for each and every one of our young people.

Sheffield Hallam Festival of Education

The Saturday of the Festival is open to all professionals in schools. Wellspring has secured a special discount rate of £20, available to the Academy booking the place. Guest speakers include Dan Jarvis MP, Hywel Roberts and Russell Hobby.

Academies to book, contact Chelsie Oliver on c.oliver@wellspringacademies.org.uk

Discover more at:

www.hallamedfest.org.uk



www.twitter.com/HallamEdFest

At the most recent count, there are eighty-four members of staff from Wellspring Academies attending the Sheffield Hallam Festival of Learning on Saturday 15 June 2019.

The Festival promises to be an exceptional opportunity to bring together colleagues from throughout the region to discuss the important matters of the day in education. The more practitioners from our Academies who attend... the better.

It would be great to see you there. Remember, there are substantially discounted rates available to Wellspring Academies when bookings are made via the school.

**Sheffield
Hallam
University** **HALLAM**
FESTIVAL OF
EDUCATION

Strategy Group Success

Dom Fenner, Organisational Development Lead,
Wellspring Academy Trust



Our four Strategy Groups (Recruit & Retain, Workforce Wellbeing, Professional Learning Community and System Influence) are tasked with developing the thinking and strategy in their areas of focus, resulting in the Trust-wide strategic approaches designed by our Academies' staff themselves.

Each group comprises colleagues from different Academy settings and locations, the Support Centre and the Trust CEO. The Strategy Groups are chaired by:

- ✓ **Carrie Green** – Recruit and Retain
- ✓ **Amy Portier** – Workforce Wellbeing
- ✓ **Verity Watts** – Professional Learning Community
- ✓ **Sarah Wilson** – System Influence

Strategy Group developments have resulted in changes Trust-wide that include:

Staff Induction Portal is **now live!** It will replace the existing Wellspring Induction Checklist and it applies to all new employees starting after the Easter break.

HR Toolbox is now available for HR recruitment documentation (template adverts, job applications, shortlisting forms, interview questions, recruitment resources).

The Wellbeing Charter is **now live** and all Academies have core standards to proactively address staff wellbeing.

Wellbeing Champions Network All Academies have at least one Staff Wellbeing Champion to support the Wellbeing Charter.

Wellspring Digital enables access to Trust-wide networking opportunities, CPD, information, resources and communication.

Positive Regard launched **New Leadership Development Programmes** and **Enquiry Walks**.



If you have any feedback/
questions regarding any of the
Strategy Group's developments
please do not hesitate to contact
Dom Fenner on d.fenner@wellspringacademies.org.uk

Greenpower at Park

Phil Burns, Assistant Principal,
Phoenix Park Academy



Of the 29 competitors we were the only PRU, again our Academy is flying the flag for PRUs and showing we can compete at the same level!



Making a Difference
Phoenix Park Academy

This year students from Park House entered Greenpower's Electric Car Race which was held on a closed track around Hull City Centre on Sunday 28th April.

At the start of the Spring Term, we made links with Phillips66, who are a worldwide energy company based in America with refineries in Grimsby.

Engineers from Phillips66 came into school and spoke to students about careers in the energy sector and also about the opportunity to enter an electric car race with their support and expertise; from the onset students were hooked and extremely excited!

Until our own car came we were lucky enough to loan a car from another school. During lessons students changed the brakes, replaced the bodywork and researched aerodynamics. They worked with engineers from Phillips66 and experimented with different nose cones, they also looked at tyre pressures and how these can affect the car during the race. Our team was called "Phoenix Lightning".

One wet, cold and extremely windy Saturday in March we attended the test event at Blyton Park Race Way, this saw the car be scrutinised before it was allowed on the track, after a lot of hard work the car was eventually allowed out. Each driver completed 30 minutes on the track before they were given their race licence.

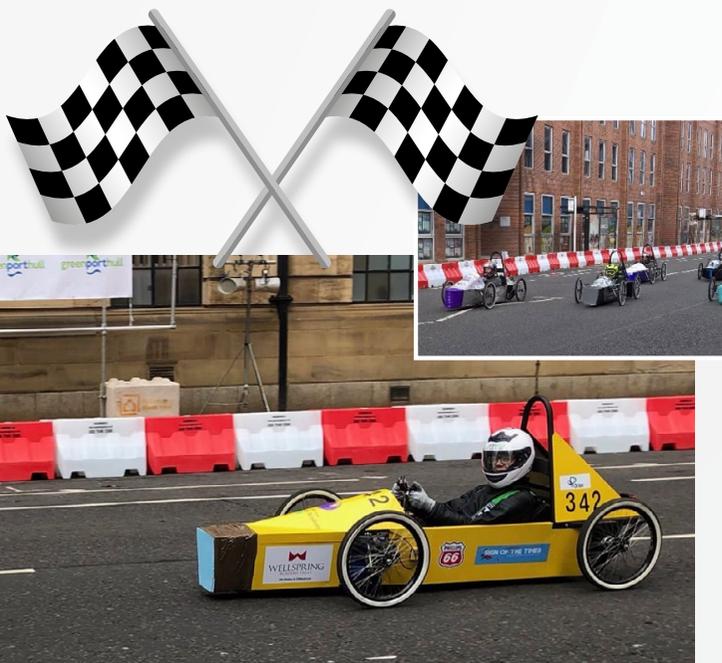
On the day of the race event two of the three drivers, Ben and Xander spent the morning tinkering with the car before practice started. They had an hour and half practice to get used to the track and the car again and to make any adjustments.

The starting grid was decided at random, of the 29 racers we were placed 26th on the grid. The aim of the race was to travel the furthest in 90 minutes, towards the latter stages cars began to slow down as their batteries lost power, ours was still going strong and we finished in an amazing 11th place. We then had two hours to change the batteries and await the second race. Again, for the second race we started in 26th place on the grid and were determined to finish in a higher position. As the race went on our batteries stood strong and we finished in 9th place.

After the race a member of staff from another school came over and thanked Ben for his sportsmanship during the second race; Ben slowed down and informed another driver that he was driving with his brakes on which was slowing him down.

This event was open to schools and colleges from across the region and was the first of its kind in the UK. We were competing against engineering colleges who have a lot more experience in this field and who offer these qualifications. Of the 29 competitors we were the only PRU, again our Academy is flying the flag for PRUs and showing we can compete at the same level!

We have been invited to an awards dinner at the end of May in Hull's Guild Hall.



Inside the Factory!

Sarah Horsbrough, Executive Principal,
Elements Primary School



Elements Primary School
Creative · Unique · Innovative



On Wednesday 1 March I was thrilled to travel with Trust colleagues to Belfast to the factory where the modules forming the structure of the new Elements Primary School were being built.

The factory on the outskirts of the city was accommodating two schools at the time of our visit. Some of our modules were already wrapped and ready to ship but many were still being constructed.

It was an amazing sensation to stand in the rooms we have been looking at on plan for so long. To walk the corridors and classrooms of the new school was surreal, given we were hundreds of miles away from the school site. I could, a little at least, breathe some sighs of relief about the decisions I had made around layout and use of space.

Fast forward six days, I stood at the door welcoming the children into school with a convoy of lorries carrying the same modules we had been looking at the week before rolling down the hill towards the site. Our building had started to arrive.

Fast forward another ten days and our school is here. All modules are on site and in position. To see the same building in two different places in such a short space of time has been amazing. It all suddenly feels very real.



We can now sit back and watch as the building continues to develop towards completion. What a privileged position we are in.

Building a Positive Sense of Self with Thrive

Jess Farnsworth, Co-teacher,
Joseph Norton Academy



What a busy week Group 2a have had. Our favourite time of the week is Thrive.

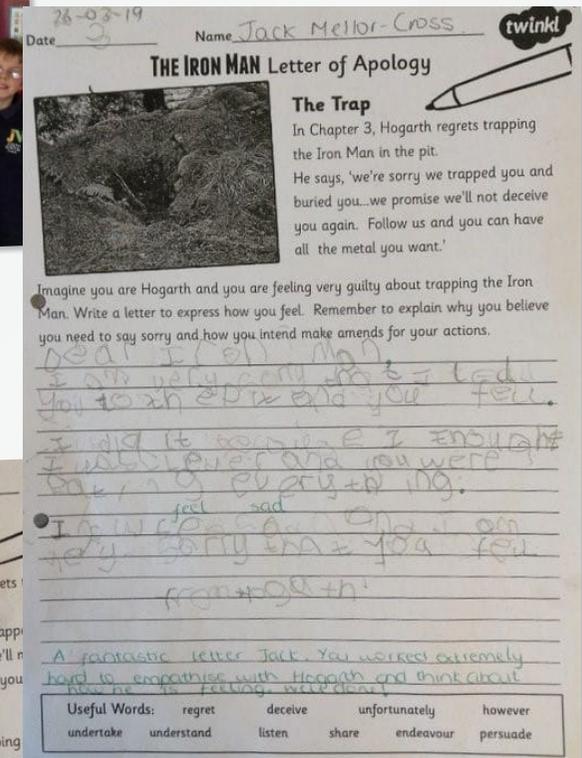
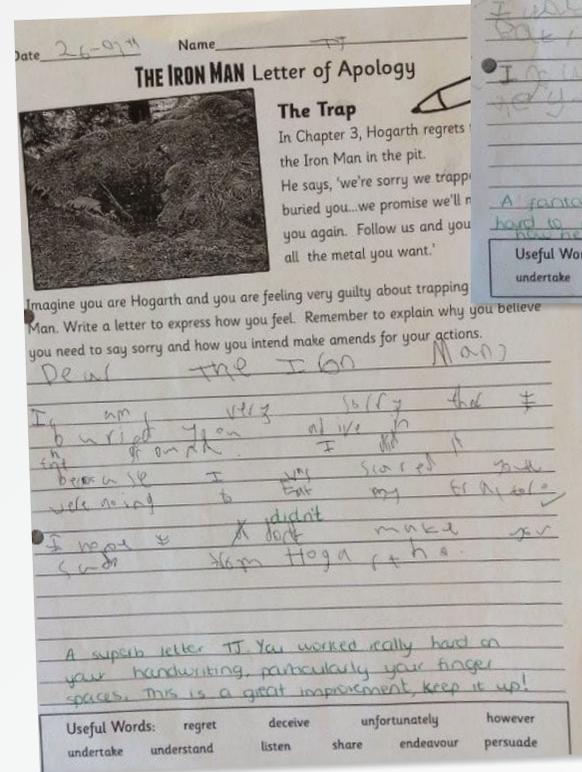
The **Thrive** approach uses neuroscience, attachment theory and child development to create a powerful way of working with children that supports their social and emotional development.

At Joseph Norton in KS2, we spend our afternoons participating in **Thrive** activities that help us build a positive sense of self and build optimal learning capacity.

Some of our favourite **Thrive** activities are mindfulness sessions, arts and crafts and outdoor activities. This week, we used great team work to build a group robot. We decided to use recycled materials, which we brought in from home.

We were all amazed at how many materials can be recycled and were really proud of our efforts to collect so many different materials. We delegated roles and each of us created a different body part. We used our incredible imaginations to design buttons for our robot – all with different functions!

The time we spend in **Thrive** helps us recognise different emotions. We thought about empathy this week and how we can sympathise with others. We then applied this to our English lesson. We have been reading The Iron Man and thought about how the characters may be feeling. We wrote superb letters from Hogarth to The Iron Man, to apologise for trapping him. Our **Thrive** activities help us improve all aspects of our development and learning and we can't wait to continue on our **Thrive** journey.



#BrewEdYorks

Emma Beveridge, Associate Principal,
Wellspring Academy Trust

Saturday 27 April saw the first of what we hope will be many BrewEd events organised and hosted by Wellspring Academy Trust.

These informal CPD events started in 2017 when Ed Finch (@MrEFinch) and Daryn Egan-Simon (@darynsimon) embarked on creating a new way for educators to share their visions, ideas and approaches.

Feedback for #BrewEdYorks (from Twitter)

'Just an inspirational afternoon at #BrewEdYorks. Thank you to all the magnificent speakers. We salute you all. Thank you'

'CPD and gin! Not a combo I was told about on ITT but this was some of the best CPD I have experienced! Thank you to everyone involved #BrewEdYorks.'



'#BrewEdYorks so I started the day with total imposter syndrome, 10% braver yeah. Really had a great time, proper geeked out and looking for next BrewEd events.'

'Already engaged and inspired #BrewEdYorks'

'CPD and beer and it's in a pub! I can't wait to be a part of today here in Hull #BrewEdYorks'

'Such a great day at #BrewEdYorks. Thanks to all those who presented. Great company and thought-provoking presentations #kindness #connection #relationships'

The day, predominantly advertised on twitter, saw colleagues from Barnsley, Leeds, Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Hull come together for an afternoon of pints and pedagogy (other beverages were available). Luke Mitchell kicked off the day with his usual mix of magic, the science of the brain and behaviour. Following Luke, Hannah Albery, Headteacher from Yarborough Primary Academy, spoke with passion about Numicon and Maths approaches. Kate Margaron aka @thenurturelady shared her expertise on early childhood trauma.

After lunch, Paul Hopkins spoke all things educational research before Mark Finnis gave us lots of laughs and an insight into restorative practice. Rob Burnett, Assistant Principal at Beacon Academy, shared his inspiring journey from primary teaching to secondary teaching having recently won the Golden Apple Teacher of the Year Award. And, finally, Dave Whittaker expertly rounded off the day with his Star Wars Leadership team approach.

At Wellspring we make a difference and we do things differently. Events like BrewEd are a perfect example of this.

These events are only successful thanks to the professionals that attend and speak at them, who volunteer their time and choose courage over comfort. As Brené Brown so expertly says, 'courage is contagious. Every time we choose courage, we make everyone around us a little better and the world a little braver'.

The speakers were outstanding and they were brave. I am confident that the attendees left a little braver and a little better. I know that I speak for everyone who attended the event when I say how grateful we are for their time and professional generosity. Role on the next #BrewEd event!

#BrewEdYorks

27th April 12pm-4pm

The Sailmakers Arms, Hull, HU1 1NU

Hannah Albery Mark Finnis

The Nurture Lady Rob Burnett Luke Mitchell

e.beveridge@wellspringacademies.org.uk @EmmajBeveridge

Why not organise your own Brew Ed?

The more, the merrier... in more ways than one! Come on, Lincolnshire. Come on, Leeds. Come on, Barnsley. Come on, Kirklees. We are professionally generous and have a great deal to share with one another and with colleagues throughout education. For information on how to organise your own Brew Ed, contact

Emma Beveridge: E.Beveridge@wellspringacademies.org.uk

Beacon Engineering Triumph



Rocket-powered cars have propelled Beacon into a national engineering final.

Polystyrene models, designed and made by two teams from Beacon, travelled at speeds of around 80-miles-per-hour in a regional final held at RAF Waddington. Both will now compete in the Royal Air Force-backed Race for the Line competition's national final at the Imperial War Museum Duxford, near Cambridge.

Beacon's Year 7 had competed in teams for the right to represent the school. The winners came second and third at Waddington with the top three going through to Duxford.

The third-placed team's car reached 77.9mph while the second placed team's model topped 86.1mph down the straight track, splitting in two as it was stopped on the finishing line. It was pipped to first place by just 0.4mph. Team member Gabriel Hayward said it had been a great day at the Lincolnshire RAF base, with the children also being shown some of the RAF's latest technology, including drones, virtual reality and robots.

"I'd done my research and learned how, in Formula One, the car design was all about aerodynamics," Gabriel said.

"We needed to make our car as smooth as possible. My dad's an engineer and I like the subject. "We all felt quite nervous but we hoped we would win."

Assistant head Lizzy Davies praised the children, who were up against 40 other teams from across Lincolnshire. "They did so well in the competition and how they represented the school was exemplary," she said.

Year 7 accelerated programme teacher Poula Hilditch said: "Adults are not allowed near the children when they are making the models but both our teams knew exactly what they had to do and we were thrilled they did so well."

Jason Thurley, Principal at Beacon Academy, was delighted. "Once again, the academy has made it through to the national final of an engineering competition, I am particularly proud that Beacon is the only academy in the country to have two teams qualify for the national final." he said.

"This comes on the back of our performing arts students qualifying as regional winners for the northern open final of Rock Challenge."

"This is another example of how all students at Beacon are known as individuals and given opportunities to excel."

Elements Inspires

Sarah Horsbrough, Executive Principal,
Elements Primary School



Elements Primary School
Creative · Unique · Innovative



The speed with which our new school building is being constructed is truly inspiring and gives me cause to reflect on my own journey in South Leeds.

I was born and grew up in Hunslet, just down the road from where the new Elements is being built.

I stayed at school for an extra year to retake O Level subjects and left school aged 17. I later returned to my old Primary School as a teaching assistant and then studied hard to become a teacher. I taught at St Mary's in Hunslet, South Leeds, for 4 years, furthered my career in other parts of Leeds and then returned as a senior teacher to the school I'd attended as a child.

Having lived and worked in South Leeds most of my life, it saddens me when I hear young people show little regard for where they live. Regardless of location, there appears a disconnect between many young people and where they live. South Leeds is bursting with energy, life, development, opportunities and potential.

I feel privileged to be the founding Principal of a brand new school in the area that has the future at the core of its mission and message.

Whilst working as an Executive Headteacher in Bradford, I developed a learning project called "Proud to be from Bradford" which now forms part of the curriculum in both schools and which neighbouring schools have also adopted. The aim of the project is to help children discover the most interesting and important aspects of the place in which they live. I wanted them to be able to stand tall when asked where they were from and also to share their pride in their home and heritage.

I was drawn to Wellspring Academy Trust, sponsor of Elements and partner with Leeds City Council, because of its outstanding record of inclusion. I am passionate about all children having equal opportunities... ensuring that they have the very best of access, provision and resources from the outset of their school life.

The pupils at Elements School will be reminded throughout their time with us that we have high expectations of them and will learn to have high expectations of themselves.



We want our children to feel pride in each other, pride in their work, pride in their school and pride in themselves.

It takes a community to educate a child and we will encourage parents to be ever present in the learning process with our children at Elements. We aim to heighten ambition for what is possible for everyone and to galvanise our school community with this message. Elements will be a key element in the building, development and future prospects of a vibrant and ambitious South Leeds.

My overriding goal is to create a step change in outcomes for children in the area... in a brand new, future-facing school that communicates a message of energy, optimism and confidence. I believe that a school environment is key to enabling an ethos of excellence and respect for all. What a brilliant opportunity we have to create a school environment fit for the twenty first century in our new school.

Young Enterprise Awards

Phil Burns, Assistant Principal,
Phoenix Park Academy



Making a Difference

Phoenix Park Academy



Students from Phoenix Park and Sevenhills Academy competed in the Young Enterprise Company Programme Area Showcase against six mainstream schools.

Students from Phoenix Park and Sevenhills Academy competed in the Young Enterprise Company Programme Area Showcase against six mainstream schools. Company Programme enables students to experience what it's like to set up and run their own Business. Their brief was to set up as a business and work as a team planning, designing and creating a product(s) to sell to members of the public. **Ezee Lights** (Phoenix Park Academy) created a desk lamp and **Electric Thizzle** (Sevenhills Academy) created bags made from old clothing and also mobile phone charger holders.

Both companies spent months choosing their Director roles, researching and preparing their products which were then sold at trade fairs in shopping centres across the region on weekends. This culminated in a presentation delivered to approximately 100 people in the Area Showcase. Their presentation included the journey they had been on, the obstacles they had faced and how they overcame them and an over view of their finances. Each team was very nervous, however presented with confidence and belief in their business.

After what seemed like a lifetime the judges returned, Sevenhills Academy were runners up and Phoenix Park Academy were overall winners! Judges' comments included "they knew their data better than anyone", and "they are amazing".

Both teams have now progressed through to the South Humber County Final where they are competing against schools from South Axholme Academy (Epworth) & Frederick Gough School (Scunthorpe). One team out of the four will progress through to the Yorkshire & Humber Regional Final which then leads into the UK National Final in London... fingers crossed it's one of us.

Students have commented about how much they are enjoying learning about enterprise and some of them want to continue this further and are ready to look at apprenticeships and business opportunities for the future. They also spoke about wanting to beat the mainstream schools that had "let them down" and "who didn't want us".

We could not be prouder of our students, they are a credit to our academies and of the hard work that staff have put in to provide these opportunities. **#ThisIsAP #WeMakeaDifference**

Each team was very nervous, however presented with confidence and belief in their business.

Beacon's Golden Apples



Beacon teacher Robert Burnett was crowned 'Inspirational Secondary School Teacher of the Year' at the Golden Apple Regional Teaching Awards held at the Forest Pines Hotel in Scunthorpe.

Rob was recognised for ensuring vulnerable students made the daunting transition from Primary to Secondary school using an immersive project based approach to learning. Rob now leads a team of Primary practitioners at Beacon to support three groups of students in Year 7. The judges commented that "all Secondary Schools need a Mr Burnett".

Beacon Head Boy Bailey Greetham-Clark won the 'Under 16 Student of the Year' Award. Bailey had a troubled start to his Secondary education, attending two Secondary Schools both of whom encouraged him to find an alternative. Bailey then spent 2 years in Elective Home Education before starting Beacon, initially on a part-time basis at the end of Year 9.

Bailey is now the Head Boy at the Academy and also has Team GB boxing ambitions. He is the Northern Area Boxing Champion for his age group at Light Welterweight and fought in the national final. The judges chose Bailey for overcoming barriers and adversity.



Strength Lies Within



Bramley Park Academy is continuing to soar to success. Building the capacity of a team is the nucleus of any school's success.



Happy and confident staff equal happy and successful children. We are building a community of professionals who collaborate and strengthen with spirit and passion.

Meet some of our team:

Kirsty Greenwood, Assistant Principal and SLE

We have created a fun and stimulating environment which provides many opportunities for children to explore, create and address their individual needs. Children are supported and challenged with individual next steps. Morning Provocations are inspiring and used to develop their sense of wonder as well as promoting writing independence.

Becoming an SLE is a proud moment in my career as knowing my passion for Early Years' is not only recognised but will be impacting and influencing other people in their settings; improving and raising standards children and their families. Our journey to become an Outstanding Early Years unit is well on the way and I look forward to sharing my knowledge with others.

Michelle Ward, Assistant Principal and SLE

I have loved the opportunity to be part of such a thriving school with exciting plans for its future growth. I am extremely proud to have been accredited as an SLE. I am absolutely passionate about engaging children across a broad and balanced curriculum, providing them with as many experiences as possible to hook them in to purposeful learning and engage them in mathematics and English. I am excited to be able to develop a new curriculum for Bramley Park Academy and to share these skills with others.

Amy Spivey, SLE

I often reflect on how my job and classroom practice has changed since converting from Bramley Primary School to Bramley Park Academy. Last week, I was

successful in being designated as a SLE (Specialist Leader of Education) with Positive Regard. I consider this an exceptional opportunity that I wouldn't have had if we were not a school in the Wellspring Academy...

From the offset, I was very nervous but I knew the opportunity was a great one. My absolute passion is teaching English through high quality literature! I love the jaw dropping silence, which falls upon my classroom, when I read a gripping text to my class... They are transported into other worlds and become 'hypnotised'!

As a result of my commitment to engage the kids in engaging and meaningful English lessons, I actually (strangely) enjoyed the interview process. It was an opportunity to discuss the fantastic learning journey of my Year 5 class since we shifted to a 'Power of Reading' approach to Literacy lessons. I am looking forward to what the future holds and hope that this opportunity allows me to work with many different schools.

Kate Lamb, SLE

I am really pleased to have been awarded SLE status. I have a strong passion and interest in the Early Years and am thoroughly looking forward to sharing my knowledge and expertise in this area with other practitioners and settings. With 17 years Early Years experience I am confident I can pass on my love and enthusiasm for Early Years to others and support them in providing a first class, exciting and stimulating environment and activities for their children as well as driving our own schools standards and provision forward.

Everyone Welcome: Inside The Schools That Haven't Expelled A Child

Beacon Academy, Phoenix Park Academy
Sevenhills Academy

Congratulations to all our staff, Governors and stakeholders at Beacon Academy, Phoenix Park and Sevenhills who featured in The Guardian this week.

A very positive news story ably demonstrates our cultural commitment to optimism. We are very proud to be an inclusive Trust, ensuring all our young people receive the education they deserve.

A great testament to our amazing colleagues who ensure this across all of our provisions every day.

[Click here](#) to read the article in The Guardian.



Making a Difference

Phoenix Park Academy



A great testament to
our amazing colleagues
who ensure this across
all of our provisions
every day.

Positive Regard Training



SEND Training.

Positive Regard in partnership with Fusion TSA offered free SEND reviewer training to Wellspring staff. A network of 24 colleagues came together from across the Trust to collaborate and share best practice.

The training helped colleagues to prepare for the next Ofsted inspection under the proposed new framework. Ensuring that our leaders are equipped with the right information on the inclusivity of our Academies.

We are fortunate to have had this training led by Judith Smith, Executive Headteacher at Talbot Special School. Our thanks to Greenacre School for hosting this event.

Debbie Tinker who attended the event said, 'The SEND Reviewer training was really interesting and insightful. It absolutely highlighted and endorsed the need for professionals to work together to share skills, coach and support each other for the benefit of our pupils.'

It created a fantastic opportunity for professionals from across the Trust to take part in a practical activity and share their thoughts and opinions.'



Wellspring Safer Recruitment Training – Friday 7 June 2019

Positive Regard are running Safer Recruitment Training on Friday 7 June 9am-3.30pm.

All schools are required to have a least one member of every interview panel trained in Safer Recruitment.

It is £20pp for a Wellspring Colleague or Governor, please contact Amy Hinchliffe for more information and to book your place.

a.hinchliffe@positiveregardtsa.co.uk



WELLSPRING
ACADEMY TRUST

We Make A Difference

Community Cohesion At Oakwell Rise

Oakwell Rise Primary Academy



OAKWELL RISE
Primary Academy



Oakwell Rise Primary Academy is proud to work alongside a variety of partners to bring more services to our community.

We have a dedicated Family and Community Worker who provides training sessions for our parents and carers, runs a Friday Toddler Stay and Play and holds Information Days (targeting key areas of concern; cancer awareness, medications in school and food poverty).

FareShare

We are proud partners of Food Share, a national scheme for supermarkets to donate their surplus stock for distribution amongst our families and the community. We currently collect from Tesco on Wombwell Lane, Barnsley for sharing on a Friday during Breakfast Club and after school in the Hall. We receive a range of surplus food; fresh bread, fresh fruit and vegetables, tinned goods and seasonal stock.

Family Support

Lindsey Groom is our Family and Community Worker, working alongside parents/carers and families with a range of strategies and support programmes to assist and empower families to reach their full potential.

She helps provide a foundation for all family members to flourish and reach their potential. Her purpose is to provide support to create a strong, stable and loving family network.

Lindsey can support children, young people, parents, carers and the wider family network to ensure the family is able to realise its full potential; working holistically across the extended family with complex needs and challenges – including domestic violence, substance and alcohol misuse and mental health issues.

Support ranges from intensive family support, specialist therapeutic work, advice, sign-posting to numerous well-being services.

Family Learning Days

Each half-term, each phase invites parents/families into school to participate in a lesson. This provides an opportunity for families to see teaching strategies, to share learning skills and to promote a positive learning experience to the child.

Support ranges from intensive family support, specialist therapeutic work, advice, sign-posting to numerous well-being services.

Community Cohesion At Oakwell Rise (continued)

Oakwell Rise Primary Academy

Friday Toddler Group and Drop In

Every Friday morning between 8am and 10am, Lindsey holds a Toddler Group and Drop-In Clinic for anyone from the local community to attend. Children who attend Toddler Groups develop social skills at their own pace, build emotional confidence, encourage physical activity, support a child's imagination and creativity and also allows children to learn through role-play.

During this session, we also offer support for families who require advice or sign-posting to different services. Appointments can be made for Early Help Assessments, food parcel collections, fare share food, school nursing information or other essential services.

Holiday Clubs

During each holiday, Oakwell Rise holds a variety of holiday clubs for our children to attend. The clubs are free to attend and feature a variety of activities for the children to enjoy. Through partnership funding, we are often able to provide a buffet lunch, providing a warm meal. Each club has a different theme; some of our holiday clubs are shown below.

Green Tree Schools Award

Oakwell Rise Primary Academy is proud to have achieved the Bronze Award from the Woodland Trust's Green Tree Schools Awards. Our dedication to improving the community around us, by planting trees, running gardening clubs and educating our children about nature and the world around us, has been rewarded. We will continue to develop our outside nature areas and hold more gardening clubs as the weather gets better. Please speak with the school office if you would like to get involved.

Jamie Oliver's Tesco Cooking School

Tesco and celebrity kitchen boss Jamie Oliver have teamed up to set up the Tesco Community Cookery School – a programme aimed at helping 1,000 people across the UK get creative with cooking to curb food waste. We were fortunate to be allocated two places for Mrs Beckwith and Mrs Groom to attend. Alongside Tesco's development chefs, they were trained how to prepare healthy meals from the surplus food donations we receive from Tesco and Asda. They were trained with recipes designed by Jamie Oliver himself.

As part of the training course, Mrs Beckwith and Mrs Groom were taught professional knife skills, nutrition and recipes for versatile base sauces. Together, they will shortly be developing a programme to deliver to both families and our children. We are looking forward to tasting the recipes!

Adult Family Learning

Our parents/carers who were looking to develop their literacy and numeracy were invited to attend a five-week accredited course to evidence their learning. This course enabled parents/carers to further develop their education at College or provide a certificate for employment.

Our parents were invited to Phonics Workshops to showcase the different phonetic strategies used by KS1 in preparation for SATS. The workshop provides parents with skills to help children practice sounding, blending and with high frequency words. .

Oakwell Rise has delivered the Solihull Parenting course during the 2019/2020 academic year. The course was originally designed in 1996 through a joint venture with health visitors, clinical psychologists and child psychologists. The programme focuses on parent/carer-child relationships:- understanding a child's behaviour, strengths and difficulties and depression/anxiety/stress. Upon completion of the course, attendees are awarded a nationally recognised certification.

Our parents have provided positive feedback on the success of the Solihull Programme:- "Solihull has helped me to change rules, routines and boundaries in my household to make family life easier" and another parent commented:- "Solihull gave me the confidence to change things in my house to help my children achieve".

CPR/First Aid Parent Courses

On Friday 1st March, Yorkshire Ambulance Service worked with Oakwell Rise to deliver a CPR and First Aid accredited course. The course ran through: – choking, CPR, recovery position and identifying/treating heart attacks and cardiac arrest.

We make a difference.

Visit www.oakwellriseacademy.co.uk/page.php?id=10070 for more information.

If you would like any further information or would like to volunteer with any of our community projects, please speak with Lucy Donald or Lindsey on 01226 281943.