TRANSFORMING LIVES EDUCATIONAL TRUST NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2022



Welcome from the CEO

As we reach the end of another extraordinary year, I have been reflecting on all that we have achieved together as a TLET family.

It has been a year where we have lived out our vision of 'transforming tomorrow, today' in every part of our school communities. Whether it is sharing in inspiring learning, experiencing incredible co-curricular opportunities or doing our bit to support important causes – our pupils and staff exemplify this ethos every single day.

I take great pride in seeing our pupils flourishing in their lessons and through memorable experiences that will enrich their lives, as well as taking every opportunity to show kindness and consideration for others and becoming fantastic role models for our communities.

As always, I am also amazed by the incredible people that give so much to our schools – our staff and members of our wider community who always go above and beyond for our children. My thanks go to every one of you for all that you do.

Looking towards the summer break, I wish you all a happy and restful summer holiday.

In particular, as we say our farewells to pupils who will be leaving us for the next stage in their lives at the end of this term, I would like to wish them all the very best for the future – I know they will shine brightly.

James Higham

CEC

Transforming Lives Educational Trust

Budding historians from Henry Hinde Infant School have gone back in time to explore two fascinating periods of history.

As part of their learning topic, 'Turrets and Tiaras', Year 1 pupils took a trip to Kenilworth Castle, once a vast medieval fortress that later became an Elizabethan Palace. During their visit, the children had an exciting day exploring the castle and learning about its past residents and even made use of their expanded vocabulary – describing the position of the portcullis, battlements and even discussing where the trebuchet may have been used!

Year 2 pupils also experienced a day of immersive learning about 'the lady with the lamp', Florence Nightingale, when they joined their class teachers to dress up and learn about the life and work of the famous nurse. This included learning about the important role that she played in improving hygiene and nursing care in the 1800's.

Fleur Edwards, Principal, said:
"It has been wonderful to see the children so enthused about their history topics, there was so much excitement about what they had learned and I know many pupils have been sharing their knowledge with their families too!"







Talented pupil picks up Scrivens Opticians drawing prize

Ruby, a Year 6 pupil from Henry Hinde Junior School, recently had cause to celebrate after winning a creative competition to design a book cover.

In an initiative organised by Scrivens Opticians & Hearing Care, children across the country were invited to submit book cover designs as part of a nation-wide competition organised to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society.

Ruby discovered the competition with the help of her grandparents, who thought it would be a great idea for Ruby and her sisters to enter. Ruby's proud Mum said: "Ruby is over the moon at winning the competition, she has been given a collection of classic children's books and even a notebook with her design on the front. This is perfect as Ruby loves to draw and read."

Jennie Nurse, Principal, added: "Many congratulations to Ruby for winning such a fantastic competition. This is a great example of how our pupils can celebrate a love of books every day in every part of their lives."



Taking a tour of the Houses of Parliament

Year 12 Government and Politics students from Ashlawn School recently visited the Houses of Parliament to further enrich their learning.

During their visit, students were invited to take part in a government and democracy workshop where they had the opportunity to create their own political manifestos and engage in a debate to discuss the merits and drawbacks of the UK parliamentary system.

Students also had the chance to take a tour of the House of Commons and House of Lords, including Westminster Hall, which is the oldest part of the Parliamentary estate.

Mr Gardiner, Teacher of Government and Politics, said: "The day was incredibly enlightening for the students in attendance. Some challenging topics were covered and I was impressed by the insightful questions and answers that emerged during the workshop.

"There was much for us to consider and discuss further when we returned to Ashlawn too."



Houlton pupils explore their school's impressive history at the Science Museum

This term, pupils and staff from Houlton School took a special trip to the Science Museum to find out more about their school's unique and ground-breaking history.

The focus of the occasion was to visit the iconic Rugby Tuning Coil, which now sits proudly on display in the Science Museum's Information Age Gallery, but was once at the heart of Houlton School's campus during its former life as Rugby Radio Station.

Making the most of their time at the Science Museum, pupils also had the chance to learn more about the impact that technology has had on society and the wide-ranging reach of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), throughout our lives.

Thanks to the kind support of Urban&Civic - who were amongst the key partners involved in the development and opening of Houlton School - every pupil and member of staff from across the school was invited to take part in the visit.

Johanne Thomas, Regional Director for Communities and Partnerships at Urban&Civic and Trustee of TLET, said: "We were delighted to sponsor the visit to the Science Museum and it was a real pleasure to personally accompany the children and staff.

"We know through our close working relationship with the school just how enthusiastic the pupils and team are about the history of their school building.

"The experience of seeing the Tuning Coil and the information dedicated to Rugby Radio Station was a perfect way to celebrate this history, remember the importance of the radio station to our country's communications advances and the sense of pride that comes with that. It was a great day!"

Year 7 pupils at Houlton School have been working in teams to create their own children's books.

They had to plan, write, illustrate, edit and publish their creations as six-page storybooks designed to help young children to learn. The topics of their books varied, including the numbers 1-10, key animal facts, how to identify emotions, making friends, being confident, facing fears and many more. The finished products have now been gladly received by Reception pupils at Henry Hinde Infant School, who were thrilled to take a look.

Meanwile, Reading Ambassadors at Henry Hinde Junior School have been helping to inspire pupils across each year group to find the joy in reading.

Alongside encouraging their peers to pick up a good book, the pupils have also played an integral role in setting up the school's Reading Awards.

This included joining Mrs Evans, the school's literacy lead, for a trip to Hunt's Bookshop to pick out a selection of



books that will be awarded to 'Class Readers of the Week'.

Following the launch of the school's Accelerated Reader programme, which we featured last term, pupils have also been challenged to work together to read over a million words!

Jennie Nurse, Principal at Henry Hinde Junior School, said: "Across the school there is such a buzz about books, our Reading Ambassadors are doing a fantastic job of spreading their passion for reading and are always full of ideas for new ways to celebrate the joy of books together."

'Who am I?'

Year 9 pupils at Ashlawn School have taken part in a personal development programme entitled 'Who am I?'

The three-part programme, delivered over several weeks by Humanutopia!, encourages pupils to reflect on their past, consider the attributes that make them the person they are today and to look forward to the future and the pursuit of their ambitions.



Mr O'Flaherty, Head of Year 9 at Ashlawn School, said: "The 'Who am I?' programme has been a great way to challenge our pupils to think about the positive steps they can take to pursue a bright future.

"It was particularly good to see pupils working collaboratively with others



from across the year group that they might not normally have the chance to speak with, and to discuss how our shared values drive us to be the best we can be." Communities up and down the country thoroughly embraced the recent Platinum Jubilee celebrations and our schools were just as enthusiastic. Here are just some of our highlights:

The Drawing Club at Henry Hinde
Infant School used the occasion
to show off their design skills by
drawing their own Jubilee themed
cakes. The children used oil pastels to
draw and decorate their pictures and
there were certainly many extravagant
creations on display!



Pupils at Ashlawn School were tasked with taking on a Volunteering Challenge, to mark 70 years of the Queen's service to our country. As part of the challenge, pupils were encouraged to volunteer in the local community, giving up their time to help others. At school, pupils enjoyed a themed Jubilee lunch and charitable collections were held in aid of the Rugby Food Bank and British Red Cross.

Houlton School held their very own 'Big Jubilee Lunch', which included a very British roast dinner with Jubilee themed treats for dessert and donations also being made to the Rugby Food Bank. Pupils also enjoyed a host of jubilee themed activities as part of a fun-filled week.

Henry Hinde Infant and Junior Schools also joined forces to host an extra-special Jubilee Picnic for pupils and their families. Wearing their best red, white and blue clothing, the children enjoyed some fantastic live music from The Sax Man and also held a tree planting ceremony as part of the Queen's Green Canopy – a national initiative to encourage as



many people as possible to plant trees that will bloom and grow for many years to come.

Did you know that the Queen sent her very first tweet on the day that she visited the Rugby Tuning Coil, at the opening of the Science Museum's Information Age Gallery in 2014? (Pictured)





Henry Hinde Summer Fair

This year the Henry Hinde Summer Fair was bigger and better than ever.

After being unable to host the event in 2020 and 2021, the Friends of Henry Hinde Infant School and the Henry Hinde Junior School PTA were determined to make this year's summer fair a special one.

Fair goers had an abundance of stalls to visit and games to take part in, including Hook-A-Duck, a human fruit machine and even piggy racing. There was something for everyone to enjoy and this year's event even had a fabulous classic car demonstration.

Thanks to the incredible support of 400 people in attendance, the event raised over £3,600 to be shared between the two schools.

Monies raised will contribute to a range of projects across the schools, with recent purchases including classroom visualisers for Henry Hinde Infant School and fundraising towards a dedicated outdoor wellbeing zone and courtyard makeover at Henry Hinde Junior School.

Jennie Nurse, Principal at Henry Hinde Junior School, said: "I would like to express my personal thanks for all of the wonderful work that our Friends and PTAs do for our schools.

"This year's Henry Hinde Summer Fair was an incredible example of this.

"I know I speak on behalf of all our TLET schools when I say thank you for all the work that goes on behind the scenes to run so many wonderful fundraising events and activities for our communities, these make a huge difference for our children." Houlton School has been celebrated, as the team behind the development of the school buildings, led by Urban&Civic, has picked up a host of awards - recognising the transformation of the former Rugby Radio Station into an inspiring place to learn.

This has included the Construction News Awards Project of the Year, Planning Awards Best Use of Heritage in Placemaking and Pineapple Awards for Creative Retrofit.

The unique building has also been shortlisted for a range of other categories that will be announced in the autumn.

We are also pleased to report that

Russell Hill, Subject Leader: Creative at Houlton School has recently been interviewed by BBC News about his journey into teaching following a successful career as a professional artist and sculpter, and his commitment to inspiring pupils to love learning.



Exploring the great outdoors

Year 8 and 9 pupils from Ashlawn School have embarked on a three-day Bushcraft residential.

Combining a range of activities that focus on using the tools and resources that can be found in nature, pupils have been encouraged to problem solve and work together as a team to overcome obstacles and develop survival skills.

Also this term, pupils across a number of year groups have commenced their Duke of Edinburgh Award programmes, taking on challenging expeditions, which form a key part of their accreditation. Pupils will now go on to complete volunteering, physical and skills challenges to gain their final awards.

Siobhan Evans, Principal, said: "Learning through the outdoors provides incredible experiences for our pupils.

"There are so many benefits, from building resilience and self-reliance to learning to communicate and work together in challenging situations, as well as developing valuable employability and leadership skills for the future."







Thank you, Mrs Brown!

We wanted to give a special mention to Mrs Brown, the extraordinary caretaker at Henry Hinde Infant School who is retiring this summer after almost 35 years of service.

Fleur Edwards, Principal, said: "Mrs Brown has been an enormous part of our school for the last three and a half decades and is loved by many generations of staff, pupils and their families. She will be so missed and we wish her the very best in her retirement."