

MESSAGE FROM CLAIRE DAVIES, DOWMAT CEO



Dear All,

I hope you all like the new format of our newsletters which we feel will enable us to showcase the amazing work happening in each of our academies. As you will see, everyone has been very busy this term and reading these articles I am astounded by - and very proud of - the wealth of opportunities available for our DoWMAT pupils, in each setting.

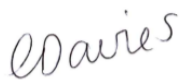
You will see from the articles below, that our DoWMAT family now includes 16 academies, following the arrival of Rushwick CofE Primary School on 1st January 2022. Rushwick is a one-form entry Primary, within walking distance of Worcester city, with expansive views towards the Malvern Hills. Its new Head of School, Mr. Clement, has been working alongside the DoWMAT executive team of Headteachers since the Autumn term and we have been thrilled to offer a warm welcome to both him and his team of dedicated staff. We know we will all benefit from the skills and excitement this new partnership will generate.

We have also been pleased to grow our school improvement offer over the Spring term and we are now able to run Trauma Informed Schools (TIN) Network Meetings, led by Miss Worthington (Powick) and Mrs Garness (Martley). The TIN programme has been set up for schools who wish to adopt approaches to make their school more attuned to the needs of children and young people who have experienced trauma. Several of our DoWMAT academies have signed up to this programme as they look to ensure they are meeting the needs of all pupils. The opportunity afforded by these network meetings, for colleagues to meet and share insights and ideas with those from other settings delivering the same programme will be invaluable.

This term we have also given much consideration to future investment and have started to action our plans to invest in ICT upgrades and premises infrastructure. We are very excited about these developments as they will undoubtedly improve the accessibility of ICT within our schools and give our pupils the best learning environments.

As always, we are now looking forward to the Easter break, a time for us all to recharge. I hope you all get the chance to rest over the holidays and catch up with family. I shall look forward to welcoming you back to the challenges of the summer term on Monday 17th April.

Regards,



Claire Davies
DoWMAT CEO



To Love

We treat everyone with love and respect in the same way that we, ourselves, would like to be treated.
We recognise that everyone is a child of God and has talents which are to be nurtured.
We welcome people who are different from us and treat them with dignity and respect at all times.



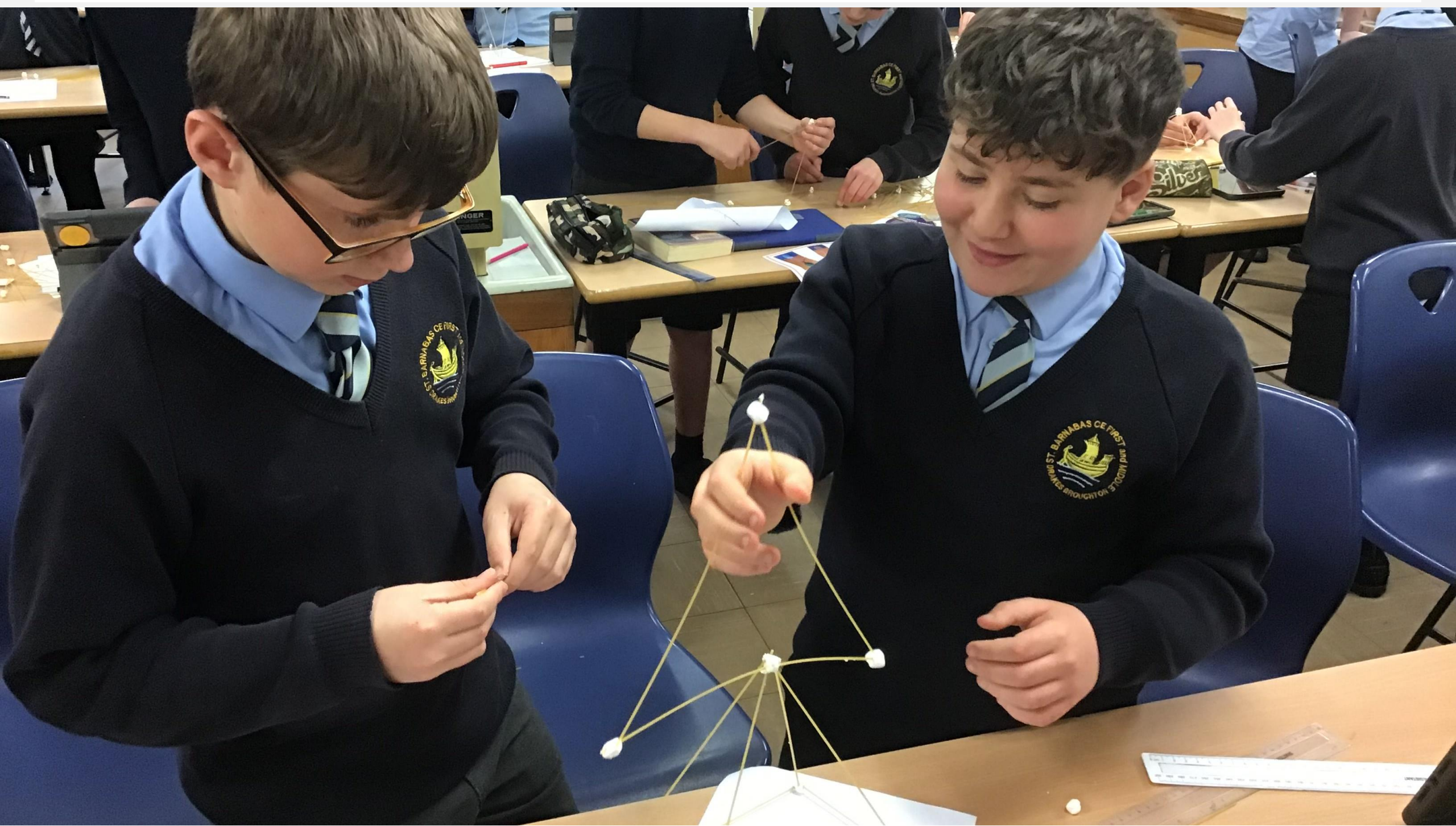
To Learn

We are committed to enabling a lifelong love of learning through growing and celebrating together.
We will ensure that our curriculum, resources and professional development enable all to flourish.
We prioritise spiritual development and growth for all.



To Serve

We consider others at all times rather than always putting 'me' first.
We ensure that everyone is safe and has their needs understood and met.
We live and work in a way that is deeply Christian and which serves the common good.



ACADEMY NEWS

BROADHEATH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Happy Children, Successful Learners'



Enjoying Learning outside!

Owl class had a wonderful time utilising their scientific observational skills by taking part in the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch project. Over the week, they managed to identify quite a few on their chart and are looking forward to analysing the national results. A highlight for many was when we quietly watched a cheeky magpie enter the Eagle cloakroom!



CALLOW END CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Caring Environment, Christian Ethos, Children Excel'



Miss Curtis and our librarians have been working very hard to make our new library an inviting, enjoyable place to read. Thanks to our Friends Association, we have hundreds of super new books and the children are thoroughly enjoying reading for pleasure. Many of the children took part in a sponsored read over half term and raised money to buy some more new non-fiction books. We can't wait to see them in the library.

On Friday 17th March, our Member of Parliament Harriett Baldwin MP, visited our school and opened the new library. She was very impressed with the range of books and how knowledgeable and organised our librarians are. As well as opening the library, Harriett spoke to all the children about the issues that they thought were important in West Worcestershire; asking them how she could help. We have been invited to visit the Houses of Parliament and our pupils are going to write to Harriett about any issues that are important to them. It was a very successful visit and we were proud to show our MP around our wonderful school.



CASTLEMORTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

LOVE- LIGHT- ALL
'Love learning, enjoy life and care for one another'



Reflecting back over this term at Castlemorton has reminded us that so much has happened. There have been many sporting fixtures, including one of our Year 6 girls representing Worcestershire West at the School Games Cross Country finals. The Young Voices concert in Birmingham was also an amazing experience and we had a fantastic World Book Day where some special guests had a mysterious tea party.



Another highlight was the Zoom call Blue Class were lucky enough to have with the record-breaking polar adventurer, Louis Rudd MBE, who was just back from his latest expedition. They learnt some incredible things about expedition food, the range of equipment needed on expeditions, overcoming difficult obstacles such as altitude sickness and the resilience needed to achieve your goals. All this first-hand information helped them to go on to write some brilliant fact files about climbing Mount Everest.

CROWLE CE FIRST SCHOOL

'Caring. Confident. Committed to Learning'



This term, the children at Crowle First School have had the opportunity to go and watch live music performances from the Birmingham CBSO, linking to the work they have been doing in Music. The children enjoyed the opportunity to see (and hear) a live symphony orchestra; thinking about how different music can propel us to imagine we are somewhere else - a jungle, climbing a mountain or breathing a heavy sigh!

At Crowle, we put a huge emphasis on music and how it can support us in so many ways - each morning children walk in to class to a weekly genre of music (country, K Pop, folk, classical etc) and then use their "doodle books" to artistically explore how that piece of music makes them feel.



MADRESFIELD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Caring and Challenging' 'Achieving together in a safe, happy, inspiring and Christian environment'



This term Robin class (reception) have been learning about People Who Help Us. They've had some fantastic and fun visits from a nurse, vets, police officers and the Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service who brought a fire engine. The children have been learning about all the different people and organisations who keep them, their family, friends, pets and everyone in the school safe and well.

Robins also spent time celebrating Chinese New Year with Madresfield Early Years Centre and thoroughly enjoyed their first Christingle Service in the school.



Buzzards Class (Years 5 and 6) had a fantastic few days at the Pioneer Centre just before half term and had the opportunity to take part in some amazing activities including fencing, high and low ropes, a challenge course, inflatable assault course, abseiling and zip wires. The activities were specifically designed to encourage inclusive participation, improve team working, confidence and independence.



MALVERN PARISH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Learning together for an exciting future'



The Orchard

As part of our week-long celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee last spring, Malvern Parish held a '70athon' to raise money for the Queen's Green Canopy. The Queen and His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, now His Majesty King Charles III, planted the first tree to launch the initiative at Windsor Castle in March 2021 and in the first 6 months one million trees were planted across the nation, with the aim of reaching 3 million trees by the end of 2022.

With an emphasis on planting sustainably, an important aim of the Queen's Green Canopy was to create a green legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation which would benefit future generations, the climate and wildlife.

Following the death of the Queen in September, The Queen's Green Canopy initiative has been extended by His Majesty King Charles III to the end of the planting season in March 2023, to give people an opportunity to plant trees to honour Her Majesty.

The children were asked to do an activity 70 times and were creative in more ways than one such as by reading, exercising, swimming and lots of baking! A staggering £1300 was raised for 8 new trees in our Forest School and Grass areas. Five fruit trees, including a Jubilee Plum, a beech, a rowan and a birch were planted with the help of Frank P Matthews Landscapes. A former pupil and his family kindly donated a Williams Pear to add to our collection. These trees will help create our new orchard and help to provide shelter and produce. All the trees, which are three years old, were planted with the help of our fundraisers on a cold February morning.



ACADEMY NEWS

MARTLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Compassion, Creativity, Commitment, Courage And Cooperation'



'Come Dine with Me' - Oak Class Style!

As part of their Design Technology project this half term, Oak Class (Y5/6) were set a challenge to produce a starter, main course and dessert for the staff to taste test! The children had to research tried and tested recipes from either a published recipe, or an old family favourite.

The first group worked in pairs to produce a starter with their 'hero' ingredient (peppers). They then discussed which other ingredients they would require with their partners and teaching assistant. The following groups prepared the main course and dessert.



NETHERTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Where dreams are made and futures created'



Dudley Cross Country Championships

What a fantastic day! Our cross country team earned 1855 points and finished 7th out of 28 schools. The competition was held at Summerhill Secondary School and saw the children having to run 2.5 km. There were 186 runners in each heat. A massive well done to all of the runners, but a special mention to Jesse who finished 3rd in the boys race.

Girls 6 a-side team

Last week saw the girls take on their first matches in the Lucy Bronze league, which was held at The Link Academy. They have been training during lunchtimes and after school and have really begun to gel as a team. We played 3 matches against Blowers Green Primary, Dudley Wood Primary and Russells Hall Primary. Our team won every match, scoring 19 goals and only conceding 1. Due to their success and hard work we have now made it through to the Dudley finals which will be held at the Dell Stadium.



OFFENHAM CE FIRST SCHOOL

'Growing deep roots. Producing good fruit'



Inter-generational reading project at Offenham CE School

We are working with our local Residential home, Cavendish Park, to set up a sustainable reading project.

To start the project four of our Year five boys visited the home. On the first occasion they met the residents who would be involved in the project and then went back a second time to visit the Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang room set up at the Home for World Book Day.

Last week, we welcomed three residents – Gerry, Happy and Betty, to our school to listen to some of our readers.

It is such a pleasure to see the way in which our children interact with the residents and the joy that being with one another brings. We are so grateful for the opportunity to welcome our new friends into our school and we look forward to seeing this project develop.



PINVIN CE FIRST SCHOOL

'Be happy, grow and flourish'



We have had lots of exciting events to look forward to at Pinvin CE First School.

The whole of the Early Years had a wonderful visit to the local farm, where children were able to see sheep in their lambing pens.

Year 4 welcomed their mums into school for a Mothering Sunday breakfast where each child made food for their mothers and grandmothers.

Year 2 visited Warwick Castle, linked to their study of castles in the UK, and enjoyed exploring the battlements.



POWICK CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Embracing Learning Together'



Powick CE Primary School had something very special to celebrate at the end of last term. We were visited by the breakfast show team at Magic FM. They had been running a competition to find the country's top 5 kindest and most lovely teachers in honour of 'Miss Honey' the kind teacher in the Roald Dahl book, Matilda. Children from around the country nominated their teachers by writing applications and the top five were selected according to what the children had to say about them.

A child in Year 6 nominated Mrs Cluley, who everyone at Powick would agree is certainly one of the kindest teachers in the country. Magic FM were also persuaded and she earned the title 'Kindest and Loveliest Teacher in the UK'.

We are all very grateful to Mrs Cluley, who always gives up her time to help children and their families at Powick as well as modelling our school values perfectly with her caring, polite and friendly manner. We all offer her huge congratulations at being recognised as one of the countries kindest teachers and thank you also to our Year 6 pupil, who gave his own time to nominate her. They were both given prizes and won an amazing £2000 for the school.



RUSHWICK CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Learn to live. Live to learn'



The children of Rushwick enjoyed sessions of Godly play from our contacts at our local St Thomas Church. Funded by the Church, Godly Play is a selection of stand-alone workshops exploring the Christian faith in a reflective and creative way.

Each session centres around the telling of a bible story, using questioning to encourage spiritual curiosity and imagination. After listening to the story, our children were given a selection of play and craft activities, through which to explore the different themes and emotions covered.

We all appreciated the time to reflect at our own pace and look forward to welcoming the Godly Play team back to school again soon.



ACADEMY NEWS

ST BARNABAS CE FIRST AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

'Let all that you do be done in love'
1 Corinthians Ch.16 vs.14



Councillor Sinton Spends Time with Pupil Parliament

On Friday 20th January 2023, members of the Pupil Parliament at St Barnabas C of E First and Middle School were excited to welcome Cllr Sinton, Chairman of Wychavon Council, to talk to them about their role within school.

Cllr Sinton spent time with the children talking about his role in the council and he asked the children why they wanted to be members of the Pupil Parliament. They shared that they were proud of their school and wanted to make a positive difference to their community.

The children had the opportunity to discuss how to manage topics that are raised with them. Cllr Sinton provided some really helpful advice by suggesting they talk to their friends about what they would like to see and compile a list of ways that school could be improved. Pupil Parliament could then create a shortlist that classes could vote on.

It is fair to say that the children really benefitted from Cllr Sinton's visit and we are extremely grateful for his time.



SIAMS

On 12 October 2022, St Barnabas welcomed Mr David Dunn into school to complete our Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). We are extremely pleased to report that we were rated as good across the school.



Mr Dunn commented that 'the school's vision and associated values, underpinned by Corinthians 16:14, can be seen throughout school life. Leaders, staff and pupils relate 'let all that you do be done in love' to their life both in and out of school, and this motivates them to be the best that they can be at all times. Consequently, St Barnabas is a school where everyone flourishes, even through times of adversity.'

After spending time with staff, parents and children during his time in school, Mr Dunn shared that "Let all that you do be done in love' greatly impacts the attitudes to learning and behaviour across the school. These are exemplary. Pupils treat each other with respect, offering support and friendship when required.'

Mrs Whetham said 'We are thrilled with the report and extremely proud of all staff, pupils and parents working together to live our values through learning.'

ST NICHOLAS CE MIDDLE SCHOOL

'Be happy, grow and flourish'



The Spring Term has seen a range of visitors in school and trips which have inspired the children in their work.

Year 5 children were able to get out and about and visited The Commandery in Worcester to enhance their learning about the English Civil War.

Our Year 6 children had a World War 2 Experience day which widened their knowledge about the Home Front.



Year 7 started their Shakespeare unit with a Romeo and Juliet workshop. They have been inspired to create some amazing 'showcase' work in their homework challenge to demonstrate their learning.

We are proud of the children's performances in the Cross-Country Championships, with 4 children being selected for the County Finals and one child will represent the school in the National finals.



ST OSWALD'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Inspire Embrace Succeed'



The Positive Post Box Campaign by the Diana Award is an initiative to combat bullying by instilling values of kindness, compassion and respect.

This week, children have enjoyed writing their letters of positivity, spreading kindness and sharing notes of respect. The letters have been collected by the Royal Mail and delivered to our partner school. We look forward to receiving a return package!

Hopefully, this campaign and our actions have helped to shine a light on how bullying can be tackled with positivity!



THE LITTLETONS CE FIRST SCHOOL

'God has given you gifts. Use them well to serve one another'.
Peter 4:10

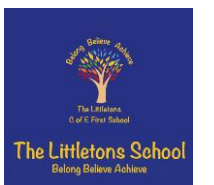


Table Tennis

Table tennis is a major passion for many children at The Littletons and we have close links with the local club. We have had a very successful year as our boys' team reached the Regional Finals and one of our boys has reached the National Finals. They have played with great determination, often against children a year or two older than them, and their sportsmanship has been excellent throughout.

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