



Message from the CEO

It has been an exceptionally busy and productive term with so much going on across the Trust.

We have had three inspections this term, two Church SIAMS inspections at Laxfield and Stradbroke and an Ofsted inspection at Great Whelnetham. Thank you to our staff for all their hard work during these, our Governors for their great support and of course our amazing pupils!

The floods brought challenges, especially storm Babet when a warning was issued to avoid non-essential travel. Once again thank you to our school communities for organising such a swift response. We were very pleased and relieved that all our families and staff were safe (although many staff had very late journeys home). The Autumn Term is a very special one and as we approach December all of our schools will have exciting events planned for our pupils. Have a safe and peaceful holiday with your families when Christmas comes and thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Melanie Barrow



All Saints, Laxfield Primary

Huge congratulations to Mrs Minns who won the teacher of the year in the EADT Educational Awards!

Mrs Minns works tirelessly for the pupils in her care and it is wonderful to see her hard work, dedication and efforts rewarded. This is an incredible achievement for Mrs Minns and Laxfield Primary- well done!

Benhall St Mary Primary

We were delighted to welcome Benhall St Mary to the Trust in September. Benhall becomes the twelfth school to join the Trust and has the unique distinction of being the only school with a thatched roof! We are so pleased to welcome Benhall. The school is already working well within the Trust and pupils recently went on a joint visit with Occold Primary to the Royal Opera House (see if you can spot our Exec Head celebrating arriving at the Opera House in the photo!)



Charsfield Primary



We were sorry that many of our families were affected by the floods during Storm Babet. Charsfield Primary was especially affected during the storms and thank you to our families and staff for helping to keep our children safe.

Cockfield Primary

We are very optimistic that Cockfield Primary will be joining the Trust in December. It has been good to get to know the school community and we welcome Mr Gilbert to the school as the new Headteacher and a new leader within our Trust. Congratulations to Cockfield for winning small Village of the Year! (As this photo of the Church shows it is a beautiful place).



Newsletter Autumn Term 2023

Dennington Primary



It was delightful to visit **Dennington Primary**. The new entrance is very smart and secure. Year 5 and 6 have produced brilliant work on Charles Dickens and artwork inspired by the poem "The Highwayman". It was lovely to see.

Fressingfield Primary



It was great to visit Fressingfield Primary. Year 5 and 6 pupils were knowledgeable about their maths. Some fabulous writing on display and every class has an exciting reading area- the golden tickets are a wonderful idea!



Hardwick Primary

At Hardwick Primary a massive thank you was given to families and the Hardwick community for all Harvest donations. The school received a letter detailing the difference the donations have made. A great achievement- well done!



Great Whelnetham Primary

Inspection of Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School
Stanningfield Road, Great Whelnetham, Bury St. Edmunds IP30 0UA

Inspection dates: 11 and 12 October 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Early years provision	Good
Previous inspection grade	Not previously inspected under section of the Education Act 2005

We were delighted that Great Whelnetham has secured Good in every area in the recent Ofsted inspection it had! When the Trust Sponsored the school, it was in Special Measures- and we would like to thank our hard-working staff, Governors and families who have supported the school on the journey to **Good!** We couldn't have done it without such a great team!



Occold Primary



Huge congratulations to Occold Primary who were the winners of not only the EADT **Primary School of the Year Award** but also **Overall Educational Hero of the Year!** This is an astounding and much deserved achievement, and we are all incredibly proud of the Occold Primary team!



St Peter and St Paul, Eye Primary

Year 5 children performed on stage at Snape Maltings as part of the Big Sing! It was a fantastic experience for them performing alongside many other schools and musicians. The event was also livestreamed with thousands of people watching. Well done to all involved!



Stradbroke Primary

Many of our schools raised funds for Children in Need and Stradbroke Primary had some fun competitions running at break time – guess the jelly babies in the jar and how many basketballs can you shoot in 1 minute? Pupils enjoyed some 'Just Dance' at lunch time. Miss Doubleday was looking out for the best moves!

Thorndon Primary

Thorndon held a service of Remembrance at the Lychgate in Thorndon. The Collective Worship Ambassadors reminded everyone of the sacrifices made in both world wars and the service men and women who are caught in conflict in the world today. Pupils left wreaths made by each class.



Wortham Primary

Wortham Primary celebrated STEM Day with two robotic workshops. The children were challenged to build and code robots using Lego Mindstorm sets and a coding program. This enabled boys and girls to become engineers, develop team building, communication and problem-solving skills.

We were really pleased to welcome Teaching Assistants from across the Trust and other schools for the Teaching Assistant training last week delivered by Dr Parslow-Williams. It was a good session with some great discussions. Thank you to Wingfield Barns for hosting us.



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