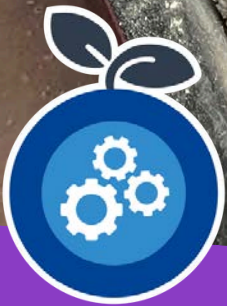


TEAM TALK

MARCH 2025 | 06



TEAM Education Trust
Together Everyone Achieves More

Welcome to Spring! It's been a joy to see the snowdrops, daffodils, and crocuses burst into colour, reminding us of the beauty that comes with new beginnings and growth. As we embrace this season of renewal, I reflect on the busy and fulfilling term we've had here at TEAM Education Trust.

From attending an awards ceremony; celebrating the incredible work we've done with our business partners and communities; hosting a bustling careers fair at Gullivers Valley; our students having had hands-on experiences with plants, buildings, and sports; to starting a tour with our Eastern Hub colleagues where we are privileged to visit a number of small schools across the East Midlands and Humber region to learn from other small Schools and their Trusts to benefit Caunton Dean Hole; and finally to our second National SEND and Inclusion Conference. This event saw inspiring guest speakers, including His Majesty's Chief Inspector Sir Martyn Oliver, Ginny Bootman, and Francis Akinde. The day provided an excellent opportunity to share best practices through workshops and our vibrant marketplace. It was an amazing experience, we'll be doing it all again next year!

Inclusion is something that means so much to me, both personally and professionally, and I shared a poem during my opening address at the conference that I hope resonates with you and supports your reflection around inclusion and what it means to you.

INCLUSION

- In every person, a strength to be found
- Nurturing each mind, so it may astound
- Communities built on respect, so pure
- Lifting voices, diverse and secure
- Understanding the need to belong
- Supporting each journey, proud and strong
- Inspiration from every different view
- Open hearts that make dreams come true
- Never forgetting, we are better as one.

At TEAM, our values are closely aligned with this belief, and we are committed to creating an environment where every individual feels valued, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. If you ever feel that you need support from your TEAM family, please know that we are here for you, ready and listening. It's essential that we all feel able to fulfil our potential and contribute to the inclusive environment we're working hard to nurture, for all our students.



I am incredibly proud of all that you achieve and of how, together, we truly embody the spirit of TEAM - together everyone achieves more.

I am often asked what I do, and honestly, no two weeks are the same. Most weeks involve meetings with Local Authorities, the DfE, our wider stakeholders, other education colleagues and our wider business and community partners. However, the most enjoyable parts of the week are the visits to our schools. This term alone I have visited 19 schools, both within the Trust and the wider education community. These visits usually include other TEAM colleagues, to support school improvement through the sharing of excellent practice. This term's highlights from our TEAM schools include: finding out more about the creation of a gaming suite for esports at Willow Park; meeting parents at Stubbin Wood Mansfield to share the exciting plans for the Secondary site; meeting students over lunchtime with our trust Member Su at Newman's Whiston site; and a visit to Whaley Thorns to see the changes within the butterfly provision.

Thank you for your contributions to TEAM suggestion boxes - we are listening to you. We are reviewing the sensory equipment with the room changes and further developments at Dinnington. We will ensure that we get a new suggestion box to Whaley Thorns as this appears to have got lost whilst your new staff room was being built.

It's important to remember this is only one way to communicate with the Trust, you can also communicate with us by completing the Edurio Survey which goes out twice each year, by participating in working groups where feedback is sought, any of our feedback surveys such as the TA network survey which came out in the last TEAMtalk, and also via the CEO chat. We will be holding our next CEO chat on 14th May so please start sending in your questions.

Please do keep sharing with me anything we could do that you have seen or heard about from your networking or reading and can improve our Trust. I am constantly looking at TEAM and what we do to ensure we are the best we can be. At this time of year, we are starting to prepare for the next, so do reach out.

As we approach the Easter break, I wish you all a wonderful, restful time. Let's hope for some settled, sunny weather to enjoy the outdoors and recharge for the next exciting term ahead!

Happy Easter


Sarah







World Book Day was a fantastic celebration of stories, imagination, and the joy of reading!

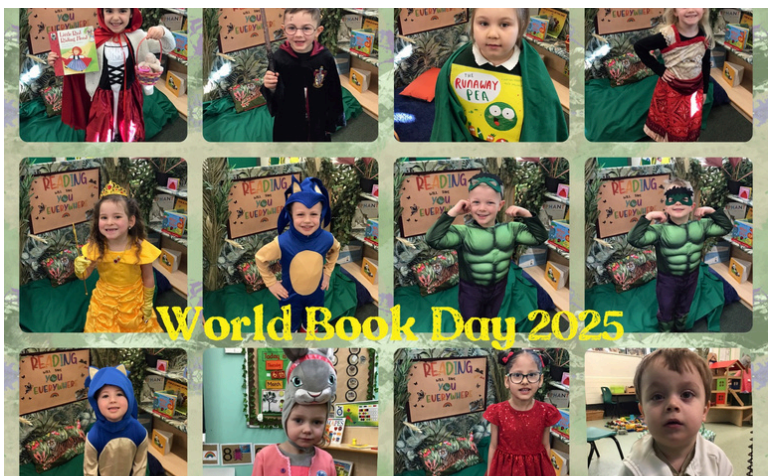
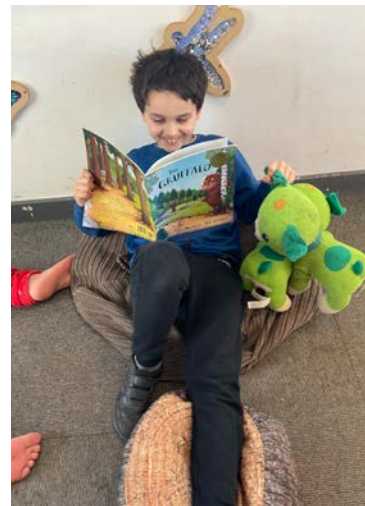
Schools throughout the Trust were buzzing with excitement as students and staff took part in a range of fun activities designed to inspire a love of books. Some highlights from the day included:

 **Creative Costumes:** Our students wowed us with their amazing outfits, dressing up as their favourite book characters. From magical wizards to daring adventurers, the creativity was incredible.

 **Storytelling Sessions:** Teachers brought stories to life with engaging book readings.

 **Book-Themed Activities:** From designing book covers to creating their own mini-stories, our students showed off their imagination and storytelling skills.

World Book Day is such a special reminder of how stories can spark curiosity, creativity and a lifelong love of learning. We're so proud of our students and staff for embracing the day with such enthusiasm.



YOUNG LEADERS

The Inclusive Youth Leadership Conference at Shirebrook Leisure Centre was a day dedicated to empowering young leaders to make PE, sport, and physical activity (PESSPA) more inclusive. A diverse group of KS3 and KS4 students, including those with additional support needs, took part in a series of engaging and interactive workshops aimed at developing their leadership skills and confidence.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the day, and it was wonderful to witness them socialising with peers from different schools. The students represented Stubbin Wood exceptionally well by sharing innovative ideas and adapting sports for a diverse range of abilities.



Upon returning to school, we immediately noticed a positive transformation in our young leader students. They embraced their newfound leadership roles with pride, demonstrating a deeper understanding of the importance of youth leadership in promoting inclusivity and engagement in physical activity.

Every Thursday, they now invite the entire secondary school to take part in a variety of physical activities, including tag rugby, hockey, dance, and basketball. It has been incredible to witness students who would not typically interact come together, fostering teamwork, collaboration, and new friendships. Conversations and connections have extended beyond these sessions, with students of different ages and backgrounds engaging with one another more openly and inclusively in the playground.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to BLAST for their incredible food donation to Whaley Thorns Primary. Your generosity will make a real difference to our families, and we truly appreciate your support in helping our Trust community.



BIKEABILITY

Stubbin Wood Mansfield have recently acquired six balance bikes through the Bikeability scheme. Two of our staff members, have undergone training to implement this initiative, and our students have been making excellent use of the bikes. This program is helping us enhance sharing skills, gross motor skills, and personal, social, and emotional development (PSED) skills.





On Friday 21 March, schools throughout the Trust participated in Red Nose Day to raise funds for Comic Relief, helping to change lives across the UK and beyond.

From wacky costumes and joke telling competitions, to designing our own red noses, our students and staff embraced the spirit of Red Nose Day with enthusiasm. It's incredible to see the joy and generosity across our trust, proving that even small acts of kindness can make a difference.

A huge thank you to our amazing TEAM community for their support and donations. We couldn't have done it without the creativity and dedication of everyone involved.

The funds raised will go a long way in supporting important causes, and we're proud to be part of such a compassionate and proactive community. Let's continue spreading kindness and making a positive impact, not just on Red Nose Day, but every day. Keep up the fantastic work, TEAM!



MINI POLICE



The Mini Police Officers from Model Village Primary School recently visited Shirebrook Police Station.

During their visit, the students toured the facility and posed thoughtful questions about the police's responsibilities and the proper handling of their equipment. The young officers were thrilled to learn about the different roles within the police force. The experience not only educated the children about community safety but also inspired some to consider a future in law enforcement. Such hands-on learning opportunities are invaluable in nurturing curiosity and civic responsibility among young minds.

A big thank you also goes to the Fire Station for allowing the children to explore the Fire Engine.



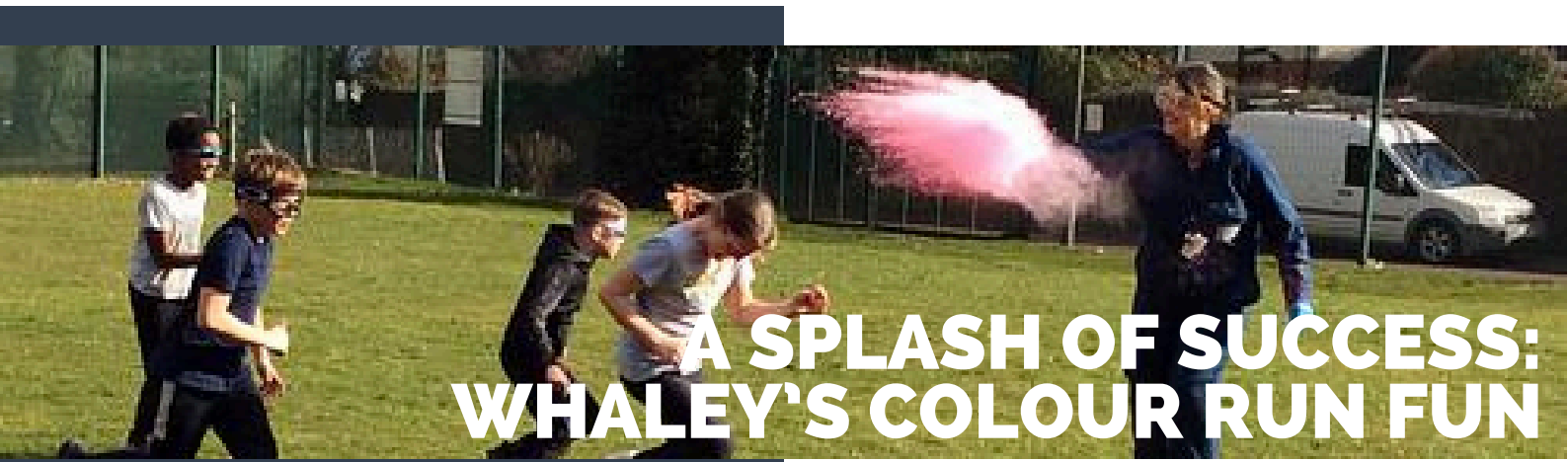
SCIENCE WEEK

British Science Week is a fantastic opportunity for young minds to engage with the wonders of science, technology, engineering and maths. This year, Model Village Primary School enthusiastically took part, offering pupils a variety of interactive and thought-provoking activities designed to spark their curiosity and creativity, including exciting experiments and hands-on experiences that made science come to life.



British Science Week at Model Village Primary School was a huge success, leaving pupils excited about the world of science and eager to keep exploring. By making science fun and accessible, the trust hopes to inspire its students to become the scientists, engineers and inventors of the future.





A SPLASH OF SUCCESS: WHALEY'S COLOUR RUN FUN

What a day to remember! Whaley's recent Colour Run was an absolute triumph, filling our school with vibrant colours, laughter, and a wonderful sense of joy. It was heartwarming to see our students and staff come together, embracing the fun while raising funds for school.

From the very first step to the final dash across the finish line, the energy was electric. Our students ran, skipped, and danced their way through clouds of colour, their faces beaming with joy. The spirit of teamwork and encouragement was truly inspiring, making it a celebration of not just fitness, but friendship and school spirit.

A huge thank you to Bolsover School Games who made this event possible. Your enthusiasm and contributions ensured that the day was a colourful success!



As we wash away the last traces of colour, the memories and impact of this event will stay with us. We look forward to making next year's Colour Run even bigger and brighter!

Through the support of our dedicated families and community, the school raised nearly £1700 which will all be spent on additional resources for the children.

Thank you to everyone involved.



AQUATIC ADVENTURE



On Thursday 20th March, our Year 4 children from Model Village travelled to Hull to visit The Deep. The children took part in a workshop all about classification and adaptation with a particular focus on penguins. This supported the children's learning in their Science topic this term, 'Grouping and classifying 'living things''. The children had a wonderful day, getting up close to sharks, sting rays and penguins, and they were completely mesmerised by the glow in the dark jelly fish.



DANCE FESTIVAL

On Wednesday, March 12th, a group of Year 3 and 4 girls, guided by two Year 6 students, proudly represented Model Village at the cluster Dance Festival. The girls dedicated themselves to rehearsing and refining their routine, which they performed in front of an audience of 800 at the Winding Wheel in Chesterfield. A heartfelt thank you to all the parents for their support. Great job, girls!



NETBALL WINNERS

On Thursday, March 13th, a group of Year 6 students participated in the cluster Netball Competition at Shirebrook Academy. The event took place outdoors, where it was cold and rainy. Despite the challenging weather conditions, the children demonstrated resilience and did not give up. Model Village emerged as the winners of the competition, earning a spot in the Netball County Finals in Alfreton, just before the half-term break. Congratulations to everyone; we are always proud of you at Model Village!





At February half term, Model Village introduced OPAL play during lunchtimes. In just four weeks, they have made significant progress! Model Village is currently developing a variety of zones, including: a stage area, a Lego corner, a quiet games space, a car and track zone, tyre play, a mud kitchen and digging area, along with a section for bikes, trikes, and wheels. The children are now much more engaged and content during lunchtime. This is exactly what we aimed for at TEAM – continuously striving to be the best for our children!

The enthusiasm and creativity of the students have been truly inspiring, as they explore and enjoy the new play zones. Teachers and staff have noticed a positive shift in the children's interactions, with increased cooperation and imaginative play. Parents have also expressed their appreciation for the initiative, noting the excitement their children bring home each day.



MATHS TRAINING



Whaley Thorns has recently welcomed parents to a Maths training session, provided by Busy Bees. The workshop gave parents valuable insights into early maths fundamentals, equipping them with practical strategies to support their children's learning at home. Through engaging activities and discussions, parents gained confidence in making maths fun and accessible in everyday life.

AWE & WONDER

A big thank you to Mrs Kelly for providing such a lovely experience in the Awe and Wonder room for some of the year 2's from Model Village! The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and haven't stopped talking about it since their visit.



CEO CHAT

The next CEO Chat is on the **14 May, 3:30pm**. Please see the link below to join.

These sessions are an opportunity for you to ask any questions and receive an update on current projects and the growth of the Trust.

If you have any questions please submit them to Carolyn Peach (c.peach@teameducation.org) before noon on 7 May.

Your participation is greatly appreciated, and your input is invaluable in fostering a transparent and collaborative environment. We encourage you to take this opportunity to engage with the leadership and gain insights into the strategic direction of our organization.

We look forward to seeing you there and answering any questions you may have.



[Click Here to Join the CEO Chat](#)



TEAM Education Trust
Together Everyone Achieves More

TEAM WELLBEING

WELCOME

We are now over halfway through the year, and with the Easter holidays on the horizon, we hope for pleasant weather to enjoy outdoor activities. Since returning from the February half term, there has been a flurry of activity.

On March 7th, we celebrated Staff Appreciation Day, and we would love to hear how this event was recognized in your school. If you have any ideas for future staff appreciation days, please reach out. Also, remember to nominate colleagues for a postcard to be sent home, as staff appreciation deserves to be celebrated whenever there's a reason to do so!



Kirsty Evans

WELLBEING CPLD

At Whaley Thorns, we had a wonderful time at the Well Being CPLD on March 10th, where we created beautiful spring wreaths. We welcome any suggestions you may have for future Well Being CPLD sessions, so feel free to reach out!



MENOPAUSE SUPPORT

Menopause is a natural phase in a woman's life, yet it often remains under-discussed. It is crucial to promote open conversations about menopause to assist those going through it and educate others. By encouraging dialogue, we can diminish stigma and offer essential resources and understanding. Whether through workshops, support groups, or informative sessions, recognising this stage can significantly improve overall wellbeing. We invite everyone to share their experiences and perspectives, as these insights are vital in creating a supportive community. Remember, no one should feel alone during this time—let's collaborate to ensure that everyone feels heard and embraced.

RESILIENT PEOPLE

This week, a few colleagues and I attended a training course focused on fostering resilience in children, and the techniques we learned are equally beneficial for adults. We explored various breathing techniques and the optimal settings for practicing them. This skill is essential for daily life; dedicating just two minutes to focus on a specific point while breathing can significantly calm both your body and mind. Reducing stress plays a crucial role in enhancing your overall wellbeing and mental health, as stress can profoundly affect your emotional and physical state. If you need any assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out. VivUp is available to guide you in the right direction.



The next well being session is on 22nd April. If anyone would like to join please get in touch by emailing me (k.evans@whaleythorns.teameducation.org) or emailing Olivia Sharp (o.sharp@teameducation.org) and we can send you the Teams link.