



The STAR
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



We provide the best possible education in a fun and enjoyable learning environment.

THE NEWS LETTER



CEO UPDATE

Summer 2022



As we reach the end of another academic year, it has been an absolute delight to, by and large, see schools, classrooms, drama studios, laboratories and gyms fully back in action and be the places of enjoyment and learning they really should be.

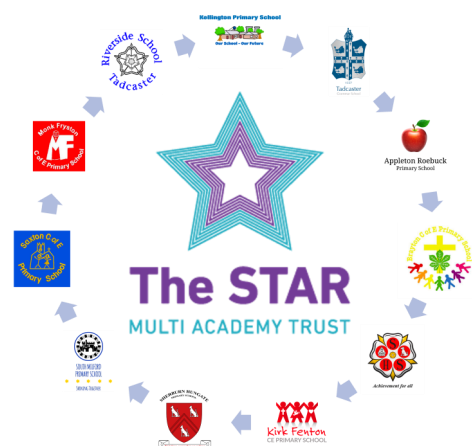
By no means does this underestimate the huge undertaking from families,

students and staff to keep going through times of challenge and uncertainty as we have continued to fight the Covid-19 pandemic. At each individual school and across our Trust, we have once again seen that moral courage to try to do the very best in so many ways..... unknown territory with exams, times of huge staffing shortfall, young people many of whom have shown immense personal resilience.

What also stands out again, as well as loads of curriculum fun and learning, are the countless instances where our young people, of all ages, have shown themselves to be a truly altruistic generation with countless gestures across our local community, towards incoming students and linked to international crises.

Embedded within our Trust values we of course have strong and positive student outcomes as a goal, but also that every young person goes on to be someone who makes a 'positive contribution' within their local and wider community. Our students in fact constantly challenge us with wanting to help change and improve the world they live in. We have seen so many heartfelt and meaningful instances of this across the community that shapes STAR. Have a wonderful summer. For those of you who are leaving the STAR community for new schools, colleges, universities and the world of apprenticeship and employment, or travels far and wide – we wish you all the very best and please like so many before you, stay in touch and come back and visit us; you will be most welcome.

Ian Yapp
CEO



From the Chair of the Trust



Summer term has been eventful as always in the STAR Multi-Academy Trust. Trustees have been involved in the recruitment of new Headteachers for Riverside School, Appleton Roebuck and Kellington, and have recruited a new Trustee following the resignation of Deborah Hastie who has had to step down for personal reasons. We thank

Deb for her service to the Trust and welcome Julie Charge to the board.

It is always a pleasure to be involved with the recruitment of Heads and Senior Trust positions and gives Trustees opportunities to spend some time in our schools as part of recruitment processes.

This term we have also recruited to our exciting new post of Safeguarding, Wellbeing and Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Lead for the Trust and look forward to Cayte Mulhern starting her new role full-time from September.

This role will help us to ensure all our young people and adults are safe within our schools and that everyone is cared for by our organisation no matter their background or personal circumstances. Governors and Trustees have also all received some great safeguarding training this term from the local HMI safeguarding lead.

Trustees have also been concerned to further develop the provision of catering within our schools and have made the decision to bring it "in house" from September. This is a strategic decision which will require some significant operational input from both the Trust team and our school staff teams. This is something that has been consulted on significantly with our school community and they are unanimous in wanting to see if we can work together to provide a better service for our children.

In addition to all of the above we have continued with the usual business of oversight of our schools along with our vitally important governors at school level. School governors perform a crucial role in the life of our schools ensuring that Headteachers and senior leaders are accountable and delivering a top quality experience for our young people. We are always on the look-out for new governors to

support our schools to grow and succeed so please do contact me if you fancy finding out more about what being a school governor entails.

Finally, I wanted to mention that I have had the pleasure recently of attending and taking part in a science event at the Education Exchange in

Knottingley with some of the children from our primary schools. It was a fantastic event where each school had to put forward an argument for which animal they felt was the most important of all. The winner was Saxton with their "Bees", but all the schools were absolutely brilliant and persuasive in their presentations to the other children and the adults who were present. It was wonderful event to watch and to see all of our primaries together again in one building was the best part. I hope it will be the first of many such events now that we seem to be back to business as usual.

Clare Thornton-Eckford

STAR EATS

We are delighted to be able to tell you about our new catering service, STAR EATS, which will officially launch in September for our Primary Schools. At the STAR Multi-Academy Trust we are passionate about creating an environment in which every young person can realise their full potential. To achieve that, we think it's important that our children have access to tasty, nutritional meals that can help keep them energised throughout the day.

By bringing our catering in-house, we can better involve parents, young people and staff in developing our menus; we can choose where we source our food supplies; and we can better integrate food education and cooking into our curriculum.

We are excited to welcome Stephen Harper, our newly appointed Executive Chef, who will spearhead this unique initiative which we are confident will significantly improve the quality of school meals across our Trust.



"I am honoured to be joining the team at STAR EATS, as Executive Chef. The transition for the schools and children is my highest priority to ensure all children have a choice of healthy, nutritious and delicious foods. It is my outlook that all children have the ability to be involved to not only allow them to enjoy the meals, but also gain knowledge around balanced eating".

Why we have decided to take the catering in-house

We believe we can provide a better quality service which will allow us to provide a more varied, nutritional menu to our children, as well as to engage them more in what they are eating and how the meals are made.

Our hopes for this service

Over time we want to develop a whole new vision for STAR EATS, consulting with children and families to develop exciting new menus, launching an online brand and image which will be attractive to all. Of course we intend to spend very little on 'glitz' versus quality product and getting our menus right!

How much will each meal cost?

The new meal price will be £2.50 per meal for years 3, 4, 5 and 6 and £1.80 per nursery meal. Children in Reception, years 1 and 2 will continue to have their meals free of charge through the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.

Special dietary need?

We will continue to collect this information in the same way and ensure that all dietary requirements are met. Please continue to talk to your school based staff and we will ensure all special requirements are met.

Compliance and Food Standards

We will be registering as a new business with Environmental Health and our consultancy firm will ensure that all Health & Safety legislation is met.

It will take a little time for us to develop our service and we will be working with you to get it right so please do share your thoughts and ideas along the way at

stareats@starmat.uk

The summer term at Appleton Roebuck has been incredibly successful for all involved with the school. When writing this piece, I found it difficult to know where to start!

Our PTA was formed early on in the term and our very committed group of parents, teachers and friends got to work on supporting the school. Firstly, we held the Big



Appleton Outside Clean Up! The community came together to improve the outside appearance of the school. We cleaned the pond area, took down fences, weeded and cleaned! It was a great day. Following that, our sports day was a huge success. A big thank you to Doylys Tea Rooms in Bolton Percy, for supplying cream teas for the occasion. Finally, for the first time in a long while, the school took part in the Appleton Scarecrow Festival weekend. The children worked in teams to make scarecrows and our PTA provided a range of fun games

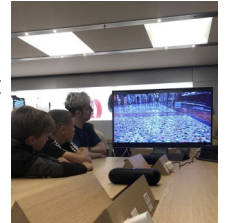


and activities for the community.



Meanwhile in school, we say goodbye to our super sixes! Over this term, we've tried to make their final term in school an exciting one. Firstly, they visited Kingswood for their residential with Y5. It was the first time in a long time that many had spent time

away from home and there were tired eyes on return. They've taken part in all inter-schools sporting activities and, most recently, visited the Apple store in Leeds for a day with Apple's Distinguished Educator programme, working on movie making and animation. All our classes have enjoyed educational visits this term and Year 4



explored the York Minster and Clifford Tower as part of their Learning Journey.



We're so looking forward to September. We welcome

Mr Snowden, our new Assistant Headteacher and Mrs Kirkpatrick, our new KS2 teacher. We also welcome our new starters to our Reception class; many of whom have already been to get to know Mrs Watts and the team. The future's very bright!

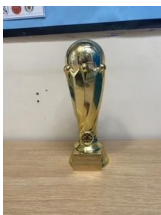
Brayton CE Primary School ~ [Visit us here](#)



HRH Queen Elizabeth II

One of our greatest celebrations this term has been getting back into school sport beyond PE lessons! Thanks to the energy and commitment of the staff,

we have been running clubs in athletics, netball and football as well as starting competitive sport with local football fixtures. No pressure on the team, but they remain unbeaten. Sports coach Mr Pooley organised the first ever Brayton Primary School football tournament with 6 teams competing on one of the hottest Fridays of the year, and we came away with the prized and very shiny trophy.



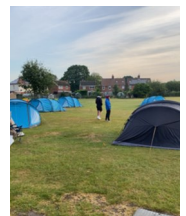
The Y6 children also enjoyed the opportunity to 'tri' something new at the Brownlee Foundation Triathlon event held at York Sport. Alongside groups from other schools the children swam, rode the specialist bikes or scooters, and sprinted to the finish!

They all came away with a medal, T shirt and a goody bag from a very well-organised and supportive event. Many thanks to the Brownlee Foundation <https://www.thebrownleefoundation.org>



Along with the rest of the country, we enjoyed our Platinum Jubilee Celebrations with a picnic and a chance for the children to show their skills in dressing up, cake decoration and portrait painting in our competitions. Some extremely skilled bakers came forward.

The Y6 children have enjoyed a whole assortment of events as part of their leavers' celebrations, including bowling & lazer tag, the Diocese of York service in Selby Abbey and the main highlight, the camping night on the school field. Despite the weather changing from hot to rain to hot again, everyone (eventually) managed to get off to sleep, with an early start (4:30am onwards) for the staff...



Finally, the PTA committee has been up and running again, with their first big event being the Summer fair held on Saturday 25th June. With food and drinks, games, competitions and stalls there was plenty for everyone, and the weather was (mostly) on our side. A total of just under £1400 was raised, which was great for the first real fundraiser in a long time.

As previous terms, the summer term at Kellington Primary School has been extremely busy. Not only have we had many activities to enjoy, the children have undertaken end of year and statutory assessments and what superstars they all were; 'shining' and giving it their best. As part of our Year 6 celebrations, we marked the end of SATs week by a sleepover in school. The children enjoyed a variety of activities, including roasting marshmallows on the campfire, before a movie and bed. Surprisingly they all slept well. They have also enjoyed an activity week later in the term.



On Thursday 26th May we had a Red, White and Blue day to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. Children enjoyed a day of themed activities in relation to the seventy years of Queen Elizabeth's reign. At lunchtime, we had a whole school picnic on the field.



Tulips class (Year 3/4) had an enjoyable visit to Faiburn Ings this term linked to their science learning. They spent the day pond dipping and exploiting the indigenous wildlife of the area. It really brought learning to life and deepened the children's scientific knowledge.



All children enjoyed taking part in our sports day activities on June 17th. Our nursery children had their own event in the morning and the remainder of the school in the afternoon. The children raced in their year groups and we attributed their results to their house. At the end of the afternoon Roall House were the winners. We welcomed parents and relatives to both events to cheer on the children. We have also had the opportunity for children, across school, to take part in many sporting events this term that have included; football, netball, tag rugby, kwik cricket, beanbag rounders, swimming and athletics. We also hosted a cycle day for everyone that was great fun.



As we come to the end of the academic year here at KPS, the children and staff are starting to prepare for what comes next for us all. We have transition plans in place for the children that will support them move to the next stage of their education. We wish everyone well for summer and the academic year ahead. Thank you to all of 'Team Kellington' for your commitment this year. We could not have done it without each one of you; children, staff, parents, governors and the wider community. We look forward to the new adventures and personal achievements that 2022/23 will bring and wish those leaving KPS well in their future life journey.

Kirk Fenton CE Primary School ~ [Visit us here](#)

What a busy summer term we have had at Kirk Fenton! We started the term with the highly anticipated Young Voices concert at Sheffield Arena. The original concert had to be cancelled in January, so our KS2 choir had been waiting for the trip for a lot longer than expected; we were not disappointed though! It was fantastic to be singing with thousands of other children again and we are already looking forward to next year's event.



In May, Tigers Class had an amazing trip to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park to study the tigers, as part of a Royal Society STEM project exploring keystone species. They followed this up by doing a presentation championing tigers at the The Great Science Share event.



We were so proud of our team tiger representatives for doing such a great job of explaining why tigers are such important animals. Before we broke up for half term, we had a fabulous week celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee together. Each class had a different decade of the Queen's reign to investigate, and the school was filled with music and songs from the different decades as we all embraced the cultural highlights of our time period and everything in between. Also in May, we celebrated Outdoor Classroom Day.



We took as much of our learning outside as we could, making the most of our lovely school site.

Following this in June, we enjoyed Geography Fieldwork Week and the school grounds were busy with children wielding maps, compasses and clipboards, investigating the geography that is all around us. As part of our learning on the great outdoors, KS2 had an exciting trip to the Yorkshire Showground to find out more about all aspects of the countryside including food, farming and healthy living. June also featured National School Sports Week. The week was filled with



lots of sporting activities, including our Superteams event, ably run by our year 6 children who took mixed groups of children around a variety of sporting activities. The week ended with sports day and we were all so pleased to be able to welcome our parents and carers back to be a part of this event. We are always sad when a school year finishes, as it means we have to say goodbye to our year 6 children. One of their leavers' events was a service at Selby Abbey led by our diocese and attended by other local primaries. It was lovely to be able to reflect on what a fantastic group of children they are and we know they will continue to let their light shine at their new schools.

We have had a real focus upon science in both our schools this term. We have thoroughly enjoyed finding out about living things and finding out which is the most important animal of all. Children at Saxton have been working with an expert from Leeds University to research the Honey Bee. They have learnt phenomenal amounts about this amazing creature and are certainly confident in their knowledge. Children at Monk Fryston have researched the Dung Beetle, and discovered what an important role this creature has in keeping our environment clean. The work that we produced was presented at the great science share event in Knottingley, which was an opportunity to see the work done across all the schools in the Trust. Following an anonymous vote

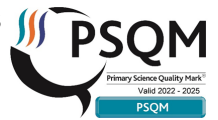


from all those present, we were delighted that the team from Saxton won and the Honey Bee was judged to be the most important animal – a wonderful achievement!

We were very proud of the work they had done, and the way they presented it so articulately.



We were also delighted to be awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark at Saxton this term. This is due to a great deal of hard work by Mrs Blades and the rest of the team, and it correctly recognises the high profile that science has in the school.



Both schools celebrated the occasion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this term. Trees were planted as part of the 'Queen's Green Canopy' initiative, and children did lots of activities about the monarchy and the last 70 years. Monk Fryston had a wonderful pageant organised by the PTA and Parish Council culminating in a picnic on the school field which was a lovely family occasion.



Riverside Primary ~ Visit us here

Jubilee Celebrations: We have enjoyed a week of Jubilee Celebrations across the school including a picnic, home made bunting, flags and hats as well as singing celebration songs as a whole school. Year 5 gave us a



performance of God Save The Queen using the brass musical instruments they have been learning.



Purple Heart Award: On Friday 19th May we held our Purple Heart Award Day. This is our new annual award created by the parents of Sarah Emmott, who sadly passed away last year. We all dressed in purple, her favourite colour, and raised funds for a reflective garden in her memory.



In memory of her strength, resilience and bravery against the odds, her family wanted to acknowledge children who also demonstrate these characteristics in their own life, not necessarily academically. This year's recipient was Ella Lee, one of Sarah's best friends who has shown immense bravery, strength and resilience through some very tough times.



We say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils and wish them well as they start their new Secondary School in September .

Have a wonderful summer.

Another year has almost come to an end and this final term has certainly been action-packed! We've had much to celebrate, not least the return of our annual Prizegiving Evening 'The Sherbies' and in true Oscars style, students, staff and parents donned their red-carpet outfits in celebration and recognition of students' academic, pastoral and community success. We bade a held back the tears in front of our Year 11 and 13 students as their examinations and for some time at Sherburn High School came to an end. The Year 11 Prom at Hazelwood Castle was the perfect celebration for our students as they dressed in their finery, arrived in style and danced the night away – some of the braver ones even took a turn on the karaoke!



In other news, we enjoyed a visit from Poet, Educator and Activist, Matt Abbott who delivered three sessions in the library. What a wonderful event!

Matt hit the perfect tone for our students and dispelled some of those poet visit clichés perfectly. Sometimes students perceive poets to just be about nature and love and not about 'real life' but Matt helped our students to connect and engage immediately. His down to earth presentation and open honesty helped them to see that poets are indeed just like them. Engaging, funny and warm, he made our students at ease and confident to ask questions - they were hooked! We've already discussed running a Matt Abbott scheme of learning for next year! Rounding off the year nicely is the return of the school trip. Year 8 students went to Lille, France for a few days of language, culture and fun; Sixth Formers experienced the thrill of Alton Towers and Years 7 to 10 had a wonderful day out at Flamingo Land and finally... the highlight of the summer term is the Ardèche experience. Year 10 and 11 visit The Ardèche Gorge in France on an outdoor activity-based trip. They enjoy camping, climbing and games playing plus a two-day descent of the Ardèche river in canoes; it is a wonderful adventure where students connect with nature, gain valuable skills and have an amazing time! All at Sherburn High wish you a safe, happy and glorious summer!

Sherburn Hungate Primary School ~ Visit us here



The summer term at Sherburn Hungate has been an incredibly exciting one. We are extremely proud of all our children who have worked hard to make amazing

progress in their learning, as well as being very successful in the inter-school sports events we have taken part in.

At the beginning of the term, our school was represented in the Sherburn Gata, taking part in the procession. A lovely experience for many younger children.



Our Cricket and Football teams were champions in their respective school tournaments and we even held our own football gala, including 17 teams from 10 different primary schools!



Our sports days were also very successful and it was great to see parents/carers at the event

Our Y6 children leave us in a few weeks, having achieved excellent SATs results and putting on an amazing performance of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. Sherburn High School are receiving some amazing young people who are ready for the next stage of their journey.

It's the first time since we expanded our Reception year group to 60 that we are completely full and have a waiting list of pupils wanting to join us. The staff team have done a wonderful job this year and I'm incredibly proud of our school.

I wish you all the very best for the summer.



This term has been amazing! It has felt just like the good old days, in that we were able to invite parents and the community in to share all that children have been learning, and we were able to get out and about on trips and visits.

In May, we had our first open event, where we welcomed all the parents in to celebrate the Jubilee. The children wore party clothes and enjoyed showing their work to the parents, showing them what we had learned about the Queen and her importance. The next event, that really helped us to feel like normality had returned, was our sports day. The children competed in running races, egg and spoon and the bean bag race. Some parents even joined in with the racing too, with mums and dads running a sprint race. We finished the day with ice lollies - a brilliant afternoon was had by all who attended.

We are so proud of ten of our pupils who have trained to be Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, as part of the Diana Award. They have already started their work as playground mentors and are enjoying campaigning throughout the school to achieve our second badge, respect. Throughout the term, several classes have been on trips to a wide range of places to support their work in the curriculum. Year 1 have visited Pontefract Castle to learn more about local history and why the castle is important to us. Year 2 have been into Fairburn Ings, using the local area to develop their scientific and geographical knowledge.

They have also been on a trip to Pizza Express to support their work in DT. Year 3 have learnt about the Egyptians by visiting the Bagshaw Museum and Year 4 have visited Drax power station to learn how electricity is made. Year 5 have been studying the Tudors, they've learnt about the Battle of Towton and have visited Temple Newsam to learn about how Tudors lived. We have also had lots of visitors into school.



Reception pupils were very lucky to have a visit from the local fire brigade, who brought their engine and allowed the staff to dress up in their uniform. I think the adults enjoyed it almost as much as the children! At the end of this time we say goodbye to our Year 6s, who have had a difficult few years but have really shone in the last few months. They have worked solidly in the months approaching their SATs and have all been rewarded with super results. They have been a pleasure to have in school and we wish them well on their journey. We look forward to welcoming in our new reception children, and can't wait to get to know them and their families.



Thank you to all the parents and members of our community who have supported us this year. We look forward to working with you in the next academic year.

Tadcaster Grammar School ~ Visit us here

Year 11 and 13 leavers: We have recently said a fond farewell to our superb Year 11 and Year 13 students as they concluded their public examinations. Even after a very irregular school experience over the pandemic, they approached their exams with admirable responsibility and resilience. We celebrated their departure with a Year 13 Prom at the Radisson Hotel in York and, (the next day!), a Year 11 Prom at Hazelwood Castle.

Election of our 2022/23 head students: After a very challenging selection process with interested Year 12 students making formal applications, gaining references and being interviewed by senior staff and the chair of the local governing body, we are delighted to introduce our head students for 2022-23:

Harriet Gibson and Gabriel Owens. They will lead the ever expanding student leadership teams within school and work with senior staff on operational policy to ensure all of our students have the best possible experience in school.



York Pride: Loud and proud! That was the theme of this York Pride this year. It was the first Pride since 2019. The weather was glorious as students and staff from TGS met by at York Minster to join the parade through the streets of the city.

English Schools County Athletics Championships at York: Our talented runners took home Gold and Silver at the County Championships. A fantastic achievement from our girls in extremely windy conditions.



Transition to Tadcaster Grammar School:

We have been delighted to welcome our incoming Year 7 students into school to take part in a transition programme involving PE, team building meeting all the key staff in school. Also, students had the opportunity to explore the 70 acres of our school site.

Amey Engineering Challenge Cup: To celebrate International Women In Engineering Day, Year 9 students were taken to compete in the Amey Challenge Cup. Both of our teams scored equal points of 18/20 with SAS Construction winning the cup on the tie break challenge. An outstanding achievement by both of our teams.



Tennis anyone? Mr Solk, Curriculum Team Leader for PE, once again organised a very successful Year 9 visit to the oldest tennis tournament in the world to watch the first two days of play.



STAR MAT Athletics Event

We were delighted to hold our first 'STAR MAT Sports Cup' event last week. This was the first time pupils from across the STAR MAT have been able to come together for such an occasion for 2 years! The Year 9 Sports Ambassadors from Tadcaster Grammar School organised the event; a range of athletics themed competitions and activities, including the hurdles, standing long jump and 70m sprint, for Year 5 Primary pupils to take part in. Over 100 children attended, competing against other pupils from the STAR MAT primary schools.



It was a fabulous afternoon with the children not only demonstrating excellent sporting ability, but also team support, enthusiasm and respect for each other.

A big well done to all the pupils - many of whom came away with multiple medals. Congratulations to Brayton CE Primary who were the overall winners and presented with the STAR MAT Sports Cup.



Our thanks go to Mr Pennock, Assistant Curriculum Team Leader PE at TGS and the Year 9 Ambassadors who organised an immensely enjoyable and successful afternoon and hopefully the first of many more to come.

