



Newsletter 24: Spring Term 2025

A Message from Susannah Connell, CEO, The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust

As Easter approaches, we reflect on what has been a very busy and exciting term here at the Trust. I know many of you will be looking forward to a well-deserved break and will return on Wednesday, 23rd April, ready to kick off the Summer Term with energy and enthusiasm.

This term has been filled with many highlights. We celebrated World Book Day across the Trust, with an engaging book fair and some wonderfully creative costumes. Comic Relief was another standout event and it was heart-warming to see the children and staff come together with such spirit, all looking fantastic and raising funds for an important cause. We've also enjoyed a series of DLPT sports events, including a thrilling netball competition and the Girls' Football Festival, where our pupils showed tremendous sportsmanship and teamwork.

Parents' Evenings have provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with you and share the progress and achievements of your children. I hope these meetings gave you insight into the hard work and dedication your child has shown this term.

In exciting news, we will be transitioning to in-house catering after Easter with **Diamond Diners**. Our new meal program will offer more hearty, homely food, ensuring that our pupils enjoy a warm and satisfying meal each day. I hope that schools have already shared the updated menus with you, and we're excited to see how the new meals enhance the school experience.

Some pupils also had the pleasure of attending the Priory Park Cross Country event, where they demonstrated incredible determination and spirit. It's always inspiring to witness their enthusiasm and perseverance.

As we head into the break, I want to take a moment to thank our pupils. They have worked incredibly hard this term and have been a true credit to their schools. I'd also like to express my sincere gratitude to you, our parents, for raising such wonderful children. Your support makes all the difference. Lastly, my deepest thanks go to our dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to ensure every child receives the education they deserve. Their commitment and passion are truly inspiring.

Wishing you all a joyful and restful Easter break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the Summer Term.

Regards



Braybrook

As we reach the end of another fantastic term at Braybrook Primary Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the incredible events, activities, and learning experiences that have taken place over the past few months.

World Book Day Celebrations This term, we embraced the joy of reading with our exciting World Book Day celebrations. There were many highlights across the week including: a book swap, where children from different year groups paired up to share stories, story-sharing sessions with parents; webinars with authors; and the creation of a whole-school story. On World Book Day itself, we were dazzled by an array of word-inspired costumes, as both pupils and staff fully immersed themselves in the spirit of the day. A special thanks to our PTA for supporting the sale of Wonka bars—our lucky golden and silver ticket winners enjoyed a magical reading-themed afternoon tea!



Trips and Visits Our pupils have had the opportunity to extend their learning beyond the classroom with a range of enriching trips and visits:

Year 5 took part in a fantastic Beatles singing day at the Cresset Theatre, culminating in an amazing on-stage performance for parents. They also visited the National Space Centre in Leicester to deepen their understanding of their science topic on Space.



Year 6 had two particularly memorable experiences: a visit to the O2 Arena in London for Young Voices 2025, and a Science Day at Cambridge University.

Year 3 stepped back in time with a Roman Day, dressing up in traditional Roman costumes, creating their own shields, and bringing their history lessons to life.

Our whole school enjoyed 'Passport to the World' day, where each class explored a different country, learning about diverse cultures and traditions. A highlight was the opportunity to taste foods from various regions—a truly immersive experience!

Sports Sport continues to be a big part of life at Braybrook. Our boys' and girls' football teams represented the school brilliantly in competitive matches, displaying excellent teamwork and determination. We have participated in a number of tournaments, including a YDP dodgeball tournament where our Y4 team came second overall. We are proud of everyone's achievements and look forward to seeing them continue to develop their skills.



PTA Events Our wonderful PTA have been incredibly active this term, organizing several fantastic events for our school community. The Valentine's Disco was a huge hit, with lots of dancing and fun for all. More recently, our Mother's Day Afternoon Teas provided a lovely opportunity for children to spend quality time with their loved ones while enjoying some delicious treats.

Outdoor Learning Enhancement – From Grey to Green Thanks to Mrs Clark's hard work, we obtain a grant from the Royal Horticultural Society's 'From Grey to Green' initiative. This funding has enabled us to enhance our outdoor spaces with new planters, greenhouses and benches for our outdoor spaces, and variety of plants to go within them. These improvements will provide our children with more opportunities for outdoor learning, helping them to engage with nature, develop their understanding of sustainability, and enjoy a more vibrant school environment. We hope to see 'Braybrook in Bloom' very soon!

Burrowmoor

We have had a wonderful Spring term 2025.

We started our new term with a week focussing on Our World. As a stimulus this year we all spent time reviewing a spectacular piece of art – Tiger in a Tropical storm – Henri Rousseau. We spent time thinking about the issues around global warming and how our tropical forests are struggling. Our art work from that week was amazing and we truly enjoyed being immersed in it. Our younger children made shoe box 3D models of the forests whilst the older children used many different media forms – craypass, pencil crayons, felt tips, charcoal etc to re-create parts and the whole of the picture. Also during this week we hosted a SOLAR panel conference where children from all The DLPT schools attended to learn about Solar Power and how schools could be using it.



Our school has hosted two influential and important people to our school. The mayor of March, Councillor Gary Christy, and Councillor Bryony Goodliffe, Chair of the Children and Young People's Committee for Cambridgeshire County Council, toured the school, led by newly trained visitor ambassadors from Year 6. We were able to show them all around the school including our Library, our Burrow, Forest school and Nursery.

Later in the spring term our Year 1 and 2 children experienced a Tudor day. They arrived in school, all dressed up for work as Tudors. The hall was taken over and they experienced writing with quills, making candles and soap and leather work to name a few of the activities. All children were involved and parents reported lots of chat that evening.



Every class has had an afternoon lesson on Ukraine. They have all discussed the meanings behind the flag, the colours, the geography and bordering countries, the two seas that they have and the other features of the culture. All children can say Hi in Ukrainian – Priveet and have discussed how like Ukraine is to the United Kingdom. The year 3 and 4 children have written pen pal letters which have been sent to a school in Lviv. As a school we will be collecting English story books to send out to our link schools.

Our parents for our Reception, Year 1 and 2 children have attended our SUMS and BUNS sessions where there was joint learning – parents and children – we are excited to see how these courses support the learning in maths of our Key Stage 1 children.



As a school we have been gifted a new stage. This is used at lunchtime for dancing and fun times. The wood was donated and two of our parents spend two days of the half term holiday building it. We are very grateful. We look forward to using it for outdoor performances and shows as well as during our lunchtimes.



Glebelands

What a busy term of learning we have had here! It has been great fun with so much going on. Although it has been relatively short, we have certainly packed in a lot! Year 4 enjoyed their residential to Burwell. For many of the children, this was their first time staying away from home. The activities (and the food) were great! All the children had a brilliant time and behaved impeccably. The children took part in loads of great activities: using the grounds of Burwell House as well as getting out into the village. It was really interesting to hear the history of the local area.

We have also had many other trips this term. Year 5 have been to Leicester to the National Space Centre, EYFS have been to the farm and Year 1 have been out to a literacy festival. Children from lots of year groups have also attended VIAM and had a great time performing in London! Year 6 have also visited Duxford!



This term has also seen World Book Day. We had a poet (Debra Bertulis) visit for the day and every year group completed workshops with her, writing their very own poetry. They were extremely inspired by her, and she was so impressed that she even Tweeted some of their work! Playground Proms visited last week, and the children all enjoyed a very interactive musical performance!

We have invited lots of parents in this term to see their children perform in class assemblies and the term will culminate with the Year 3 and 4 performance of Wind in the Willows.

Some of our Year 6 children also attended the English Maths Challenge. They won their heat and are now looking forward to the final!



We have also had some new arrivals at the school in time for Spring: some beautiful chicks!



These are just some of the highlights! It really has been a tremendous term!



Gorefield

Spring- The world brightens with colour, the air carries a sense of hope, and we're reminded that new beginnings are something that we can choose to create for ourselves.

What a busy start to the spring term we have had here at Gorefield Primary Academy. We said goodbye to January with open phonic sessions in Reception and KS1. Our youngest children's parents joined us so the children could showcase their phonic skills and to wow their adults with their infectious love of learning!

We also held our yearly bedtime story event with children returning to school in pyjamas to enjoy a hot chocolate and biscuit whilst listening to some well-loved bedtime stories with their class. We can certainly confirm, a lot of biscuits were consumed!

After months of preparation, our Year 6 pupils set off to Birmingham NEC Arena to represent our school at 'Young Voices' for the world's largest children's choir get together. Our staff were incredibly proud of the exceptional behaviour and commitment from our pupils and what an unforgettable experience for those involved.



Mid-February, we also celebrated the NSPCC's national number day with our own take on 'Rock stars and robots' with the children dressing up as either a times table rock star or a Numbot to challenge their parents and grandparents in times tables and number activities. What a fun morning we had. The children particularly enjoyed beating their grown-ups!





Great Staughton



This spring term has been a whirlwind of excitement at our forest school! With our children going on a journey of discovery, uncovering the signs of spring with Mrs. Tickle leading the way. The fun started with our Mercury class children, teaming up with our amazing year 6 students, who all had a blast during a pond dipping session. They dove into the fascinating topic of 'What lives in our pond?' and made some incredible discoveries, such as spotting newts, emerging toads, dragonflies, nymphs, diving beetles and

water boatman.

It was then Mars classes turn, who had a fantastic time listening to Julia Donaldson's new book, "Oak Tree." Inspired by the story, they ventured outside to explore how trees support wildlife and us. The children felt that each tree had its own unique personality, so they used air-dry clay to create faces for each tree, bringing them to life in a fun and creative way. Our Year 5's are currently showcasing their creativity by designing new outdoor signs for our pond, fire pit, den building, and exploration areas. Their imaginative ideas and artistic skills are bringing a fresh and vibrant look to these spaces. And Jupiter class has embarked on an exciting journey back to the Stone Age! They've been crafting their own tools, whittling bows and arrows, and bravely attempting to hit targets hidden in the hedgerows.

What a wonderful World Book Day we had at GSPA, with everyone dressing as their favourite book character. All of our children were very creative with their costumes. A huge well done to our librarians who led the whole school in an amazing story quiz during the day.



We would like to also say such a huge thank you to parents for helping us to celebrate with all the amazing costumes!



We celebrated Safer Internet Day on the 11th of February 2025. The theme this year was 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. We started our learning with an assembly, led by our digital leaders, all about recognising scams online. We spoke about the importance of Safer Internet Day, how to stay safe and who we can turn to if we need support. We then continued our

learning within our classroom and created some pieces of work to show our understanding.

We invited parents to join us for a magical evening under the stars, where our children, alongside the Kimbolton school children took the lead in learning about constellations, planets, and more with expert guidance from a Cambridge University astronomy enthusiast. It was a wonderful stargazing event, as the children eagerly searched the skies through binoculars and telescopes, while also enjoying some exciting space crafts and activities. Their enthusiasm and curiosity made the night truly special! Thank you all for coming and to Miss Gibson for organising for us!



Our Year 6 students embarked on an unforgettable adventure to the legendary O2 Arena in London, where they united with primary schools from all over the UK to take part in the thrilling Young Voices event. The children had an amazing time singing their hearts out and dancing along to songs, both old and new. Although it was a long day, it was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience for them all.



Kimbolton



It was a busy start to 2025 here at KPA. Year 6 kicked it off with heading over to Great Staughton Primary Academy for their weekly SATS boosters and practising the songs, the moves and grooves for their trip to the O2 in London. They had a wonderful time before returning very late, tired, but exhilarated from this exceptional day.

A few weeks later this was followed by a Stargazing Night full of lots of activities and we were fortunate to have two Cambridge University astronomy enthusiasts come to our school to talk to all our families and friends about our planets, stars and constellations. It was a truly magnificent evening with hot chocolate and biscuits to keep us warm.



Our wonderful PTA put on a glitzy red disco for Valentine's Day, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. The PTA also put on a bauble competition at the end of last term, so here you will see our competition winners enjoying a festive treat with Mrs Whiting in her office!

This term has seen KPA enter several sporting tournaments which have kept our pupils on their toes and have been fun to be involved in which has been good practise and experience for our sports people.

We had a visit from Cambridgeshire County Council who gave us an engaging presentation on the topic of waste minimisation and recycling, helping the children understand the impact of waste on the environment and how they can take simple steps to reduce it.



World Book Day 2025! What a wonderful day we had! A huge well done to our librarians who led the whole school assembly. Huge thanks to all our parents for helping us to celebrate with amazing costumes which resulted in our photo being published in The Hunts Post. However, we particularly enjoyed our whole school game of Where's Wally to finish off the day.

Some of our talented musicians took part in a musical enrichment trip to Ely Cathedral to be involved in an immersive orchestra concert.

We held 'The Kings Trust' breakfast event to raise awareness and funds to 'Change a girl's life'.

Finishing the term off with a visit from The Raptor Foundation.



Celebrating World Book Day 2025 at King James

World Book Day 2025 was a fantastic celebration of literature, creativity, and community at King James. Both primary and secondary students engaged in a range of activities designed to foster a love for reading and storytelling.

Secondary

World Book Day was packed with fun and interactive activities. One of the most exciting challenges saw staff members assigned one half of a famous book pair, leaving it up to the students to find their matching counterpart during break and lunchtime. This lively game sparked enthusiasm across the school, with many students rising to the challenge and enjoying the experience.



Adding to the excitement, a Roald Dahl short story was shared as a lesson starter throughout the day. Students eagerly followed the twists and turns—how Mary Maloney managed to get away with it remained the question on everyone's lips!

The school library was a hive of activity with various challenges and events that kept students engaged and inspired. To top off the day, cast members from the upcoming school production of *Moana* volunteered to read a story extract to Year 5 and 6 students, who listened intently while enjoying hot chocolate and biscuits. This event not only captivated the younger students but also served as valuable practice for the older students in performing in front of an audience ahead of their big show in May.

On Wednesday 19 March, bestselling author and former student Alex Prior visited Year 7 and 8 to run workshops on writing dystopian fiction and share his new novel, *Spencer Edwards: Emperor of the Galaxy*. Some lucky Year 8 students have already had a sneak peek, and the early reviews have been overwhelmingly positive. Then, on Monday 31 March, bestselling author Luke Palmer visited Year 9 and 10 to lead writing workshops and discuss his latest novel, *Play*, which has been longlisted for the YOTO Carnegie Medal 2025. Exciting literary events!

Primary

For Year 5 and 6, World Book Day was a thoroughly enjoyable and memorable experience. The day started with students arriving in their comfiest 'cosy' clothes, ready to settle in with their favourite books while sipping hot chocolate and munching on biscuits.

A book sale, organised with donations from pupils, was a major success. The funds raised—an impressive £100—will go directly towards purchasing new books for the school library, fulfilling the wishes of students who contributed to the book wish list.



One of the highlights of the day was a special visit from best-selling author and illustrator Gillian McClure. She captivated the students with a workshop, sharing her expertise and inspiring young minds. The event concluded with a book signing, allowing students to take home a cherished memento from the day.



Leverington

Here at Leverington, we have welcomed 2025 with the same resilience, ambition and teamwork that we always value, throughout another busy term.



Year 4 welcomed 20Twenty Productions into school on Friday mornings for a Stop Motion six-week project. As they studied 'The Great Kapok Tree' in English, they also had an environmental workshop in class with 20Twenty and revelled in the first day of spring with a trip to the Cambridge Botanical gardens.

Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Birmingham's Young Voices concert, showcasing their months of rehearsals and making memories. After their visit to Thomas Clarkson Academy's careers convention, perhaps a few of them are now planning a career on the stage!



The whole school celebrated NSPCC's National Number day with a Rock Stars and Robots theme. We welcomed parents into classes at the start of the day for some maths fun ahead of a day filled with games, challenges and competitions on Times Tables Rock Stars. Some fantastic costumes got us in the mood for the day of fun!

At Leverington, reading for pleasure is something we value every day. We chased away the January blues with a bedtime stories event, coming back to school in the evening for hot chocolate and reading in our PJs! We also made the most of World Book Day to celebrate our favourite books and reading habits. This year, we chose to 'wear a word' and created costumes to share our favourite vocabulary. Our adults from home came into classrooms to share stories

Hosted by the Schools Cambridge Science Centre, Year 5 and 6 visited the Horsefair pop-up centre for a Future Fens workshop. They learned about the history of the Fens and how the land came to be what it is today before working in teams to plan how it should be used in 50 years' time for housing, farming, recreation and conservation.

Reception class brought a taste of Italy to the Fens after a wonderful visit to Pizza Express where they made their own pizzas. They also had visitors in class this term when they received nine eggs and said goodbye to nine chicks!

We are closing an action-packed, fun-filled term a technology themed creative writing day ahead of our Easter service in church.



Middlefield

The Spring Term at Middlefield saw a long-awaited two day visit from Ofsted, which gave our school community the opportunity to promote our strengths, typified by the teamwork of all of our stakeholders, including our fantastic parents. Our children spoke confidently about how proud they are to attend Middlefield and shared their work from geography and art. In the report, the prominence of reading was highlighted, as well as the behaviour and personal development of the children. EYFS and SEND provision were also recognised as being strong. We are incredibly proud of all our children and staff. Well done, team!

The children's love of reading has shone through so many lenses this term. Not only has it been recognised by Ofsted that "a culture of reading emanates through the school" but many pupils have also had individual ways of displaying their reading enthusiasm! Eight more turquoise Reading Millionaire Reader badges have been given out (two more likely before this letter is published!). World Book Day saw children turning a range of vegetables into their favourite book characters, showing creativity and a wide range of books celebrated. In addition to that, Year 6 readers have participated in 2 reading-based competitions this term, winning their heat in the Cambridgeshire Primary English Challenge and finishing as one of the best primary schools in their online heat in the National Reading Champions Quiz, a competition which saw them competing favourably against mostly secondary schools!



We truly value the ideas of the children and there have been 2 fabulous examples of this during the Spring Term. Firstly, Miss Jarvis, our Outdoor Lead, encouraged the children to consider what they want the allotments and flower beds to contain this year. Thoughtful discussions and a wealth of great ideas resulted in even more flower bed areas being created to accommodate them all!

Secondly, a group of Year 4 children enjoyed their electricity topic in science so much they asked Mrs Besant if they could run a lunchtime electricity club for younger children! One detailed proposal, a number of PowerPoint slides and 12 excited Year 2 children later, and the idea had become a reality! A career in teaching beckons!



Early Years and Key Stage One have both welcomed visitors this term. In Reception, Safari Stu delighted the children with his menagerie, providing opportunities for the children to handle all manner of creatures. The children were very much hands-on! Meanwhile, Year 1 and 2 joined forces to enjoy a toys-from-the-past-focused History Off the Page day. Handling toys from the past in the morning and making a plethora of toys in the afternoon, the children had a fantastic time.



A fantastic time was also had by Year 6 when they embarked on the annual trip to the O2 in London for Young Voices. Always a highlight in the Year 6 calendar, the children sang and danced as part of an 8,000 strong choir, covering songs from musicals to Bob Marley. Despite the lengthy rehearsal in the afternoon, the long journey time and the late arrival back at school, everyone felt the excitement of performing in such an amazing event. Memories are made of this!



Murrow

With Easter on the horizon and Spring in the air, Murrow Primary Academy have been busy in school as well as out and about in the community.

We sent a team of Year 5 and 6 pupils over to Perkins in Peterborough to the Lego League finals. The team had been working together after-school since the beginning of the school year to develop team building and Lego skills. The team did us all proud coming 6th overall. Members of our choir attending the Young Voices concert in Birmingham on the 30th of January. It was a fabulous event where the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. For many of our children, this was their first experience of live music in a concert venue and I am sure they will be quick to return again soon!

A group of Year 5 and 6 pupils attending a training session at Wisbech Grammar School lead by coaches from Northampton Saints Rugby Club. The children had a great time and learned lots from this exclusive session.

During children's mental health week, every child in school planted a sunflower. They have eagerly and attentively watched the sunflowers grow on the window sills of their classrooms over the recent weeks.

Numbots and Times Tables Rockstars day across the school was fantastic fun and children (and parents) really embraced the robot or rock stars dress up options.



Year 6 travelled to a nearby Secondary school for the annual Wisbech Schools Partnership Careers convention. They talked to potential future employers about what aspirations they have and how they can achieve their future hopes. Many of our Year 6 cohort were particularly taken with the College of West Anglia's stall about potential courses available.



Finally, we had a wonderful World Book Day in school where pupils dressed as a word. The children displayed their broad vocabulary and creativity skills to fully embrace the day.



Have a wonderful Easter break everybody!



Roman Way

ArtMaths



Children at Roman Way became artists and mathematicians during our ArtMaths Day. All classes produced beautiful artwork, which was inspired by M C Escher and Piet Mondrian, and was showcased as an art exhibition which parents were invited to view at the end of the week.

Creative Chef Workshop

Our Year 2 children spent a morning experiencing being young chefs. Angie from Creative Chefs shared vital information about taste buds and how children can learn to try new foods. The children created a rainbow pasta which they thoroughly enjoyed.



Martial Arts Workshop



Our recent martial arts workshop was a resounding success! Led by a skilled instructor, the workshop covered different kicking techniques and the history behind the French Boxing, also known as Savate. The children showed great enthusiasm and perseverance.

Commonwealth Athlete

Children and staff had an unforgettable experience on at the end of February, as we welcomed Steve Frew, an ex-Commonwealth athlete and gold medalist, to Roman Way! He delivered an engaging fitness circuit, which the children enjoyed participating in. The atmosphere was filled with excitement and inspiration as he shared his incredible journey to the Commonwealth. During the visit, Steve spoke about the dedication, hard work and resilience required to compete at the highest level.



The Round House

We have had another very busy term here at The Round House.

The Reception children were lucky enough to have a visit from Wood Green. During their workshop, the children learnt about the different animals Wood Green look after, the different roles of people who work at Wood Green and the five things they need to focus on to keep pets both happy and healthy (a home, diet, companionship, pet care and routine). Three children from each class were then chosen to take on one of the roles from Wood Green and dressed up to reflect that particular role.



Children have also taken part in various exciting activities for Number Day. KS2 took part in a Crystal Maze game where they had to solve different logic problems much like the popular 90's TV show! When they completed the problem, they were able to gather as much money as possible and earn points for their team. There was lots of positive competitiveness and encouragement. In KS1, they took part in a variety of mathematical outdoors and indoors. Across the school, we also had a Times Table Rockstar competition.



For STEM day, the children have investigated the STEM theme of 'Change and Adapt'. They generated posters around this theme and five of the finalists will be submitted to a nationwide competition. In their classes, the children completed various experiments for example: what changes happen when dissolving different types of sugar? All year groups then completed a project in line with the theme of 'Change and Adapt'. Year One made adaptive animals as puppets! Year 3 investigated static electricity and created their own experiment to show how different objects react against each other.



On World Book Day, we opened our fabulous new "Reading Space". Children will be able to borrow from the 2500 non-fiction books, magazines and story books and also enjoy reading time in the stunning woodland setting. Classes visit during the school day, as well as the space being open after school for families to enjoy. Last November the whole school participated in a Fit'n'Fun Readathon which raised the money to refurbish the space and purchase books to complete the room.



The Round House was inundated with book characters on World Book Day, with the whole school putting in a fantastic effort with their costumes. Every class, from pre-school to Year 6, received a copy of Benjamin Zephaniah's *People Need People*, and unpicked its message of community and how much we rely on each other. The children then had a go at a range of tasks based on the book, with some classes imitating the artwork, and others trying to write some of their own verses.

Thomas Eaton

Spring has sprung! It is lovely to see the daffodils around our school site and the sunshine making an appearance. It has been a busy but fabulous term at TEPA with lots of exciting learning taking place as well as school trips and author visits.



Our reception class have embarked on an egg-citing adventure and have welcomed a special delivery – eggs that we will hatch into chicks! One of our kind parents has supplied the eggs and is supporting us on this new journey. This hands-on experience will allow our young learners to observe a chick's life cycle from the moment the eggs arrive to the day they crack open, and the fluffy chicks make their grand debut. Throughout this term, the children have eagerly monitored the eggs, learning about incubation, care, and responsibility. We have been thrilled to share this experience with all our students at Thomas Eaton and can't wait for our adorable chicks to arrive!

Our Year 2 and 3 pupils spent the day visiting Flag Fen undertaking a Stone Age survival day consisting of an exciting synergy of history and outdoor learning. Designed by both Forest School leaders and heritage professionals, the day provided the chance to access a hands on, experimental approach to exploring our rich prehistoric past. The day's activities developed practical skills and confidence as well as knowledge and understanding of how our prehistoric ancestors lived. The children had the most wonderful day and returned to school brimming with knowledge and individual clay pots that they had created during the visit.



Our Year 4,5 and 6 pupils experienced a day taking them back in time, to the Kingdom of Benin. One Day Creative workshops visited the school, and pupils attended a workshop whereby they drama was used to explore the kingdom's timeline and social structure. This interactive session really bought the topic to light, and it left the children with a thirst to return to class to find out more about this fascinating time in history.

As part of a week of World Book Day celebrations, on Wednesday 5th March, we were extremely fortunate to have the celebrated author and poet Debra Bertulis with us in school all day. Debra led a whole school assembly and then worked with each class sharing some of her poems, giving all pupils the opportunity to work alongside her to create their very own poem. The children were very engaged and enthusiastic, creating some thoughtful poems. Debra was very impressed by the children's good manners and impeccable behaviour. As her visit ended, Debra told staff that she had thoroughly enjoyed her day, and the children were a credit to the school and their families.

Our KS2 pupils have had the opportunity to work in partnership with Cambs Music Hub and 20Twenty Productions, welcoming Playground Proms into our school. Playground Proms deliver fun, skilfully devised classical music workshop to school playgrounds including works from the BBC's 'Ten Pieces'. After an initial workshop, including information about the music being performed and warm-up exercises, the whole school were treated to a live music performance on the school playground.



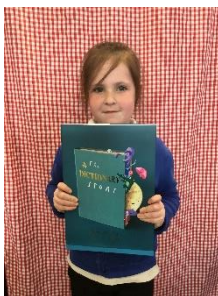
We are also very much looking forward to participating in VIAM at Wembley Arena, our Easter Coffee morning, a trip to Church Farm for our EYFS pupils and our Year 1 pupils are visiting Nene Park but at the time of going to press these events had not yet happened. We wish you all a happy and restful Easter break and look forward to an exciting summer term ahead.

Winhills



What an amazing term we have had at Winhills. The children have continued to work incredibly hard and throw themselves into every aspect of school life. Our Years 5 and 6 children kicked things off with a truly memorable 'Battle of Britain' day, courtesy of 'History Off the Page.' The children embraced the opportunity to immerse themselves in the historical context of World War II, allowing them to experience life as children did during that tumultuous period. They explored various aspects of wartime life, including the schooling and safety precautions that were essential during bombing raids. One of the highlights of the day was the afternoon session focused on rationing where they learned first-hand how to spend ration tokens wisely.

This term we celebrated National Storytelling Week, where the theme was 'Reimagine Your World.' It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to flex their creative muscles and immerse themselves in the world of storytelling. As part of the week's activities, we challenged the children to create setting descriptions based on a book they have read. The level of imagination and detail displayed in their descriptions was truly impressive. The most thrilling aspect of this initiative was the use of AI to generate images based on the winning setting descriptions for each year group. The results were remarkable and have provided our children with a visual representation of their creative writing.



In the lead-up to World Book Day, the children had the delightful opportunity to listen to four recently released picture books. They thoroughly enjoyed immersing themselves in these new stories. As part of our World Book Day celebrations, the children were given the chance to vote for their favourite book from the selection. After compiling the votes from the entire school, our favourite book was 'The Dictionary Story' by Oliver Jeffers! Additionally, the children and staff really got into the spirit of the event by dressing up as their favourite book characters. The creativity and effort that went into these costumes was truly impressive. To further

enhance reading for pleasure, we have also opened the 'Winhills Library' this term. The children have a weekly slot to visit the library and choose a book that captures their interest to share at home with their families. We also have 'Mini Librarians' from each class who help to keep the library tidy and organised.

Thanks to funding from Tesco, we have been able to enhance our outdoor play area in KS1 and provide our children with even more opportunities for fun and active play. The children are absolutely relishing the new additions, which include basketball hoops, skipping ropes, bean bags, colourful chalk for creative drawing, and benches for resting and reading. The enthusiasm and joy the children have shown while using this new equipment have been truly heart-warming. It's fantastic to witness them engage in more physical activities and express their creativity during playtimes.

Some of the children in Year 1 have also been lucky enough to have been given the opportunity to partake in Balanceability. Each week, they use the balance bikes to complete courses that are aimed to improved their balance and skills needed to then ride a pedal bike. The improvements they have made in a short space of time have been brilliant.



The term culminated with the Year 4 trip to Grafham Water. The children threw themselves into all aspects of the residential trip which included water sports, archery, climbing and many other team challenges. They had a great time and

Wintringham



Year 6 and some of the children in Year 5 were lucky enough to visit London by train to see an incredible performance of Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake at the Sadlers Wells Theatre. They were mesmerised by the performance.

Year 6 also visited The O2 for the annual Young Voices concert. Alongside guest stars including MC Grammer and Tommy Blaize, the children sang and danced their way through the evening and all had a wonderful time.



Year 1 took part in a tennis workshop where they practised their coordination by balancing a tennis ball on their rackets and passing the ball to a partner by throwing and rolling. It was great to see everyone having a go! Year 3 are now having lessons with a specialist tennis coach.

St Neots Astronomy Association visited Wintringham to deliver a Stargazing Evening for our families. They shared a presentation about our solar system and our families were able to take part in an observation session using telescopes.



Year 3 visited Pizza Express to learn about the ingredients that go into a pizza and were able to make their own pizzas! They also wrote letters to the chef to say thank you for teaching them.

'Vegfest' are visiting us to talk about gardening. Year 5 have been working on the vegetable patches, making sure they are suitable to plant different plants and vegetables such as potato and tomato seeds.



World Book Day started with a whole school assembly where the book of the day, 'Our Tower' by Joseph Coelho, was introduced to them through a 'reading flash mob' by the teachers and TAs who took it in turns to read different parts of the book. The children particularly enjoyed a book quiz and a different teacher visiting their class to read them a story.



Governance Recruitment

LGB Recruitment

The purpose of LGB's is to ensure that all children at our academy schools are receiving a high-quality education and are making rapid progress towards achieving the full extent of their potential, and that the resources available to the academy school are appropriate and deployed effectively.

Our current vacancies are:

Braybrook – Parent LGB Member
Glebelands – Parent LGB Member
Murrow – Parent LGB Member x 2
King James – Parent Member

We are always looking for Community Members to join our LGB's, if you know of anyone who maybe interested please do contact the Clerk to the Trust Board on the below email address.

Trustee Recruitment

The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust (DLPT) is seeking dedicated and experienced individuals to join our Board of Trustees. DLPT is an academy trust of 15 schools located across northern Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, and Peterborough, educating over 3,500 children with the support of an outstanding workforce of 650 teachers and support staff. DLPT operates a mix of primary-phase schools and one all-through school. We education children from age 2 to 18. We have a strong track record of improving schools in challenging circumstances, with all our schools now rated 'Good'.

Why Join Us?

As a trustee, you will play a crucial role in shaping the future of our schools and ensuring the best possible educational outcomes for our students. This is a unique opportunity to:

- Influence Strategic Direction: Help define the vision, ethos, and strategic direction of DLPT.
- Hold Leaders Accountable: Ensure executive leaders are delivering high educational performance and effective staff management.
- Oversee Financial Performance: Ensure funds are used efficiently to achieve the best educational outcomes.

Who We Are Looking For

We are seeking individuals with expertise in:

- Estates Management
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Secondary Education

While prior experience in the education sector is not required, a strong interest in education and the ability to think strategically across a complex, multi-site operation is essential.

If you would like further information and to register an interest in a role please email dlptclerk@diamondlearningtrust.com.



- ◇ Professional Development & Learning
- ◇ Initial Teacher Training
- ◇ School to School Support

Professional Development and continuous learning for all our staff is very important to us in the Trust. We are able to provide a wide range of development in the form of courses, networks, apprenticeships and National Professional Qualifications. We also run Trust Professional Development Meetings every half term, focussing on aspects of the curriculum and teaching relevant to our schools' development plans. In addition, we provide online learning that staff can access according to personal interest and need.

This term, we have provided workshops for teaching staff instead of whole Trust Professional Development Meetings. These have proven to be very popular because staff can choose a workshop relevant to them and have the opportunity to discuss and share good practice with other teachers across our schools.

We continue to have an increasing number of DLPT staff training through apprenticeships, ranging from Early Years Educators and Teaching Assistants to business administrators and accountancy technicians. Recently, more staff members have also expressed interest in joining apprenticeships to enhance their existing qualifications.

This year so far, we have provided 567 individual participants with training on courses and networks in addition to Trust Professional Development Meetings. Thank you to all course facilitators.

Testimonials:

'Most useful was having the opportunity to hear good practice from other subject leads and the guest presentation.'

'It was very engaging and included lots of ideas and strategies I will be able to take away'

'The best part was having the opportunity to discuss with colleagues what is working well and share ideas'

'A Useful opportunity to work alongside colleagues to establish confidence on judgements'

'Great training as always.'

'Great facilitators, lots of opportunities for questions'



We are still recruiting trainee teachers for a September 2025 start. If you know anyone, or are interested yourself, in training to teach please contact us.



Recruiting NOW!

We are a Lead Partner for Initial Teacher Education.

**More information:
www.diamondepl.org**