BRIGANTIA
LEARNING TRUST
Creating Excellence Together, through a culture of care

BRIGANTIA LEARNING TRUST
A 2-19 MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
Newsletter SUMMER 2024

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Creating Excellence Together, through a culture of care

Brigantia Learning Trust Newsletter
SUMMER 2024

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO, MIKE WESTERDALE

What an exceptional year for our pupils, students and staff across our academies. This summer term has proved particularly rich in experiences, trips, visits, exhibitions and outdoor learning. The collaboration and community projects across Brigantia Learning Trust continue to flourish and I am fortunate to be leading an organisation with such talent and potential.

This academic year has also seen an abundance of awards and accolades for individuals and teams within our Trust and academies, and we were delighted to be recognised by Sheffield Early Years Commitment to Quality Award with Hinde House receiving the Outstanding award.

An insight into the compelling stories of individual pupils and students across our academies will give you a heartwarming understanding of their journeys through adversity and challenges. We are so proud of each and everyone of our young people who work so hard to achieve their individual goals and realise their true potential throughout their time with us and later in life as they take on their next academic adventure and important roles in their respective communities.

As this academic year is drawing to a close and a new one dawning it is always essential that we review how we can continue our growth and success both as academies and as a Trust overall. Following a formal recruitment process I am delighted to announce that from September 2024 we have appointed Dan Cross (Vice Principal at Yewlands Academy) as Deputy Director of Academy Improvement and Kelly Howes as Deputy Director of Education, alongside her role as Executive Principal of Concord and Wincobank Academies.

I hope you enjoy our summer edition filled with superb stories and phenomenal achievements. Wishing you and your family a wonderful summer break.

You can keep up to date with our latest news by following us on Twitter: @BrigantiaLearn1.

Mike Westerdale, CEO

BRIGANTIA JOURNEYS TO SUCCESS

Tommy, Hinde House Academy

Meet Tommy a standout Year 7 student whose educational journey has been entirely within Brigantia Learning Trust academies. From Wincobank Nursery & Infant Academy, through Concord Junior Academy, and now at Hinde House Secondary, Tommy has consistently demonstrated his drive and talent.

One of Tommy's earliest school memories is building a model football stadium as part of a project at Wincobank. Indeed, his passion for football ignited from a young age, attending Sheffield Wednesday Football Club games and actively participating in the school football team. At Concord Juniors, Tommy's football skills shone brightly as he led the school team to triumph at Wembley after securing the North of England Championship. His exceptional performance on the pitch earned him a coveted spot at the Sheffield Wednesday Academy, where he continues to excel.

Beyond the pitch, Tommy's dedication to his studies and exemplary behaviour have also been recognised. Recently, he was honoured with the Year Leaders Award for his outstanding behaviour, commitment to learning, and academic achievements.Tommy's story is a testament to his hard work, talent, and the supportive environment at Brigantia academies. We take pride in celebrating his achievements and eagerly anticipate his future successes.

Becca, Yewlands Academy Alumni and Longley Park Sixth Form Academy Student

"My name is Becca, and I started my journey within the Brigantia Learning Trust when I started secondary school at Yewlands Academy where I then progressed on to Longley Park Sixth Form.

During the transition into Sixth Form I changed my mind quite a bit on the subjects I wanted to study, but my teachers were all helpful in getting me on the right course. Their support and experience in matching my ambitions to the right course was incredible. The subjects I studied were my greatest but most enjoyable challenges in my educational journey so far. My plan for the future is to go to university to get a bachelor's degree in Forensics, Policing and Investigations.

My school experience highlight is when I was at Yewlands and all the extra-curricular activities that I participated in including athletics, cheerleading, badminton, trampolining and much more, which saw me compete on a local and national level against other schools.

I would highly recommend Longley Park Sixth Form because it feels like a true community and the teachers are focused on getting you to the places you want to go to and to achieve what you need to help with your future".

Muneerah, Hinde House Academy and Longley Park Sixth Form Academy Alumni

"During my time at the Brigantia Learning Trust and Longley Park Sixth Form specifically, I was immersed in a supportive student culture, new friendships and academic excellence, all of which I still value today.

I came from a political background, having served time as a Youth Councillor, and so I pursued the role of a Member of Youth Parliament and Longley Park supported me throughout, providing me with an educational crossover in both the creative arts and humanities, becoming the perfect place to aid my educational aspirations.

Having special educational needs, SEND support was crucial, and staff across all departments were more than happy to go the extra mile and create encouraging environments where my academic passions grew. As a result, I reached beyond my potential at the University of Sheffield, studying Politics and Sociology (with Spanish), an achievement I couldn't have accomplished without staff support. Through political education during my A Levels, I worked with Parliament and Local Council Politics, and I am a young leader in a SEND project for Yorkshire and Humber. Many of the values, life skills and knowledge all stem from my time at Longley Park. If you want to become the best version of yourself and academically flourish, here is the place!"

Wincobank
NURSERY & INFANT ACADEMY
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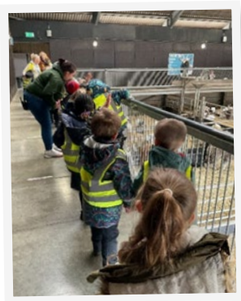
Wincobank Community Art Exhibition

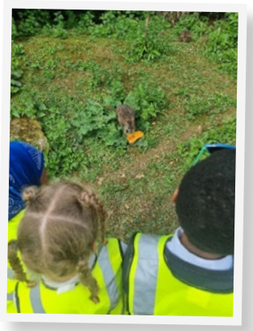
Pupils across Wincobank and Concord academies worked incredibly hard on their artwork that they entered in the Wincobank Community Hall Art Exhibition. The theme was 'Under the Sea' and each class used different art materials and techniques to achieve their creative pieces. Out of all the schools in the local area, Wincobank Nursery & Infant Academy won two prizes for their fantastic work - well done to all for your creative masterpieces.

A Trip to Cannon Hall Farm



This half term, Reception class have been learning about animals and what animals need to grow. As part of this topic, the class visited Cannon Hall Farm to learn more about different animals that live on the farm. Pupils had a fantastic day, watching a ferret race and a sheep race, visiting the Reptile House and seeing lots of different insects, snakes and a tortoise. Before coming home, pupils had the chance to play in the big adventure playground. It was a fantastic day and we had lots of fun.

A Flying Visit to the Butterfly House



Children in Years 1 and 2 visited the Tropical Butterly House Wildlife Conservation Park. All pupils had a fantastic time on the trip, they saw incredible animals, fed wallabies, held minibeasts, caught newts whilst pond dipping and ventured on a tractor. We were thrilled that they had such an exciting day.

A VIP Visit by a Very Special Alumni

In May we were honoured to welcome a very special visitor to our academy.

In 1944 at the age of 5, Michael Smallwood began his education at Wincobank School. Now he is celebrating his 85th birthday and as part of the celebrations, his daughter Karen organised for Michael to have a look around Wincobank Academy, to see how it's changed!

It was lovely to hear Michael say as he walked through the original doors, that it had *'unlocked his childhood memories'*. Throughout this morning visit, Michael enjoyed a school dinner, had a Q&A session with the pupils about school life in the 1940s and was overwhelmed by the beautiful cards the pupils had made for him. The visit finished with a rendition of 'Happy Birthday' sung by the children.

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Concord
JUNIOR ACADEMY
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Partnering with the Ingle Foundation

Year 3 and 4 classes have been lucky enough to work with coaches from the Ingle Gym on a weekly basis, in collaboration with Hinde House Academy. Our pupils have shown a real interest in learning boxing skills and have thoroughly enjoyed using it as their PE lesson, demonstrating the importance of being physically active.

Sheffield Children's University Awards

Congratulations to all Concord Academy pupils across Years 3-6 who gained their gold awards for attending extra-curricular activities. A special mention to Cristina for a whopping 300 hours, gaining her Gold Diploma and to Isabel for a massive 400 hours gaining her Gold Degree! We are incredibly proud of these pupils for seeking out new opportunities and experiences.

Football Crazy

As part of World Book Day activities last term, Year 6 took part in a football and reading quiz organised by Premier League Stars. Famous footballers, including England's European winning captain Leah Williamson, posed several of the questions.

As part of the quiz, all schools participating were entered into a prize draw and out of the hundreds of schools across the country taking part, Concord won! Well done to all of our pupils who participated, we are incredibly proud and look forward to receiving the prize of a box of books shortly, which will stock our library for all to enjoy.

TTRock Stars

At the end of June we celebrated our amazing TTRock Stars' results from last term. During the assembly it was amazing to celebrate everyone's success and rapid recall of their times tables. Out of all the Trust academies, Concord pupils had the most correct answers and lots of children improved their studio speed. It was a pleasure to award numerous children with certificates and trophies. Well done everyone, keep up the great work!

The Lord Mayor of Sheffield

Concord Juniors' School Council were very fortunate to be invited to meet with the new Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Cllr Jayne Dunn. During their visit they had the opportunity to meet the Lord Mayor in her 'Parlour', ask questions and sit in the Council Chambers. The pupils were intrigued to find out what had been the Lord Mayor's greatest challenge – and most importantly – how heavy the Chain of Office really was! Their next goal is to visit the Houses of Parliament in London.

Hinde House
2 - 16 ACADEMY
Creating Excellence Together, through a culture of care

PRIMARY PHASE

Embracing Outdoor Learning

At Hinde House Primary we embrace outdoor learning as an integral part of our educational ethos, providing a rich tapestry of experiences that cultivate essential skills and a passion for exploration. From mastering bike skills - enhancing balance, safety, and independence - to delving into map reading, where children develop spatial awareness and problem-solving abilities, each outdoor activity offers valuable learning opportunities. Nature walks allow pupils to discover and appreciate local wildlife and ecosystems, nurturing a deep connection with the environment. Additionally, creating stone sculptures fosters creativity and fine motor skills, encouraging artistic expression with natural materials.

These activities represent just a glimpse into the diverse range of outdoor experiences available to our pupils, enriching their education beyond the confines of the classroom and instilling a lifelong appreciation for the natural world. Your support in integrating these hands-on learning opportunities into our curriculum is truly valued.

Outstanding Early Years

We are thrilled to announce that our Early Years Team at Hinde House 2-16 Academy has received the Sheffield Early Years Commitment to Quality Award. This recognition highlights our dedication to providing outstanding early education and enables us to share our best practices with other early years settings across Sheffield.

In October 2024 we will showcase our successful practices at The Quadrant, where we will share videos and photos of our activities to inspire other early years practitioners across the City and those interested in next year's programme. We are honoured to have received congratulations from Pat Butterell, Assistant Director of Early Years and School Effectiveness, who praised our team for being one of the first schools to achieve this year's Commitment to Quality Award.

Cultivating Community

We are thrilled to share the exciting news of our community project aimed at transforming our school garden into a thriving hub for learning and harvesting fresh fruits and vegetables. Thanks to generous support from local garden centres we have received a wonderful assortment of plants and equipment to kick-start this initiative.

Together, we've been planting, watering, and nurturing our garden beds, learning valuable skills about cultivation and sustainability along the way. This project not only enhances our academy's environment but also provides a hands-on learning experience that connects our pupils with nature and promotes healthy living. As our garden grows, so does our sense of community and pride in what we can achieve together.

Brigantia Learning Trust Newsletter SUMMER 2024

Hinde House
2 - 16 ACADEMY
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SECONDARY PHASE

Performance with Global Superstar Ed Sheeran

Students at Hinde House Secondary recently experienced the surprise of a lifetime when they had the extraordinary opportunity to sing and perform alongside global superstar Ed Sheeran. This dream-come-true event was the highlight of our ongoing collaboration with the Sheffield Music Hub, an initiative that aims to enrich students' musical education and performance experiences.

The event is a testament to the strong partnership between Hinde House Academy and the Sheffield Music Hub and this remarkable event is just one example of how we aim to provide extraordinary opportunities that inspire and empower our students. We look forward to many more collaborative efforts that will continue to enrich our students' educational journey.

GREASE is the Word

The stage was set, the lights dimmed, and the excitement was palpable as Hinde House secondary students delivered an electrifying performance of GREASE the Musical. This much-anticipated event, the culmination of months of hard work and dedication, brought together a packed audience of parents, staff, and community members, all eager to see our talented students in action.

Their portrayal of the beloved characters from Rydell High was both authentic and spirited, bringing the story of GREASE to life with flair and passion. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the students, staff, and supporters who made this performance possible. Here's to many more memorable productions and continued success in the performing arts.

Our IR

Hinde House Academy's Integrated Resource (IR) opened in February 2024. The IR was established to provide flexible, targeted and individualised support for learners with Special Educational Needs (SEN), specifically those diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), as well as supporting their families.

Our goal is to enable learners to access the mainstream curriculum alongside their peers by providing targeted interventions and in-class support. We are proud to have a purpose-designed sensory room and **our plans include** immersive learning experiences and emotional regulation activities.

Hinde House Hurricanes National Success

The Hinde House Hurricanes recently showcased their exceptional talent at the UK Cheerleading Association's National Schools Championships in Manchester. Competing in the highest category, the team delivered a stunning performance that highlighted skill, dedication and spirit. Months of rigorous preparation and rehearsals culminated in an outstanding routine that earned them an impressive 2nd place overall. Congratulations to the team for their incredible success!

Hinde House Academy www.hindehouse.net @hindehouseacad 0114 242 6874 enquiries@hindehouse.net Bracken Rd, Sheffield S5 6FH

Yewlands
ACADEMY
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Trip to the National Holocaust Centre and Museum

An important trip took place this year as our Year 9 students visited the National Holocaust Centre and Museum. Students came away with a deeper understanding of the Holocaust, specifically as a survivor shared his testimony with the students, all of whom said this was most memorable and moving. Our students were respectful throughout, and staff came back expressing pride at how our students had conducted themselves throughout the day.

Primary Sports Collaboration

We have loved welcoming pupils from our feeder primary schools into the academy to take part in sports events. It has been especially fantastic to see pupils across the year groups participate in lots of different sports utilising our facilities, including athletics, dodgeball, and cricket. The primary sports collaboration events have also been an opportunity for our sports leaders to help to run an event and practise their own coaching skills, whilst working with incredible and enthusiastic children.

Brigantia 8

Rewards are built into the student experience at Yewlands Academy. Each week, a series of prizes are awarded to students: Top 10 in every Year Group, Top 10 Most Improved and Top 50 in the school, alongside celebrating the best performing departments and form groups. These rewards culminate in a half termly event where Golden Tickets are delivered, offering rewards such as movie afternoons, sports afternoons, inflatable experiences and trips.

Condover Netball

Our U15 netball team attended the Condover Hall Netball Tournament, for a weekend filled with activities, team building and a range of fixtures against schools across the country. Our girls' team demonstrated fantastic resilience, coming up against some really strong opposition in a Year 10 league and competing with excellent sportspersonship and camaraderie, it was a fantastic weekend. Miss Clarke and Miss Sowerby were both really impressed with the way our students conducted themselves and were a credit to Yewlands Academy, we can't wait for next year!

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Longley Park
SIXTH FORM ACADEMY
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BAFTA

For the past few years, we've been supporting students as they enter the BAFTA Young Game Designers Award, where young talent pitch their game ideas to the BAFTAs. Each year, 10 finalists are selected by Britain's top game experts, with the chance to win industry mentorships and careers advice. We are thrilled to announce that two of our students have been chosen as part of the final 10 - congratulations to Candice and Joel. We look forward to the upcoming award ceremony and seeing their work showcased in London and Manchester over the summer. We wish them the best of luck!

The Brilliant Club

Last term marked a momentous occasion as our Brilliant Club cohort attended the University of Sheffield to celebrate their remarkable achievements at a presentation event. Over 10 weeks our dedicated students delved into university-level study alongside a PhD philosophy student, crafting insightful 3000-word essays on the subject. And the results spoke volumes.

With immense pride, we announced that most of our cohort achieved an outstanding 2.1 grade, which showcased their hard work and dedication. We also had two exceptional individuals who soared even higher, earning themselves well-deserved Firsts! Here's to the pursuit of knowledge, the power of education, and the endless possibilities that lie ahead.

Cross Academy Collaboration

Over the last term, our T Level students have been on placement across the Trust academies, gaining valuable hands-on experience. A big thank you to our amazing staff for providing exceptional support and guidance throughout this journey, your dedication makes a huge difference and well done to our students for their hard work and commitment, we're proud of your achievements and excited to see where this experience takes you.

Fragomen Mentor Scheme

Fragomen are an international law firm, specialising in Immigration Law and their mentor scheme aims to partner our students with a legal professional guru. The scheme involves taking part in a number of sessions, both face to face and virtual, where students are given 1:1 support and guidance on legal professional life, professional CV writing, presentation skills and the different career routes into the legal profession. Longley Park Sixth Form has been a pioneering partner in this scheme, and it was set up by two previous alumni of Longley Park, who now have successful careers at Fragomen. Huge thanks to Matt Goult, our teacher of Law, and the Fragomen team for making this a success.

Photography Students @ Uni of Sheffield

Year 1 Photography students embarked on a captivating journey of exploration at the University of Sheffield, diving deep into the realms of Photography and Philosophy. Guided by a talented team including a professional photographer, University archivist, and Community Art Facilitator, our students delved into a rich tapestry of themes and we were blown away by the creativity and insight of our students as they crafted breath-taking artwork, each piece a testament to their unique perspectives and artistic prowess.

Their work is now gracing the walls of the Western Bank Library as part of the archive exhibition, showcasing their talent and contributions for all to admire.