

RAEDWALD TRUST

NEWSLETTER

EASTER 2023



LET'S GET LEARNING!

Sadie's the first to try new hospital school...

CATCHING THE EYE

Exhibition of students' art

GLORIOUS FOOD

Pupils sample new dishes

RAEDWALD TRUST CEO, Angela Ransby

Commitment reaps its reward

AS the CEO of Raedwald Trust my job is to make sure our schools maintain the extremely high standards we set for ourselves.

When I visit sites and see the incredible work and commitment from our staff, I realise how fortunate I am to be working with professionals who share a common ethos, shared values and the commitment to ensure our students benefit from crucial experiences that lie beyond the classroom.

Our staff are, in my view, uniquely committed to the students we serve. Nowhere is that better

showcased than in these pages.

As you will read, this term, once again the pupils of Raedwald Trust have been busy!

They have been trying their hand at filmmaking, learning about other cultures during trips to religious hubs, showcasing their art work at a local library and caring for animals at Deben Care Farm. I am proud to see their achievements

Finally, I say thank you once again for your continued support.

Have a happy and hopefully restful Easter. We will see you next term.



SADIE SETTLES AT SCHOOL

Hospital school delighted to help first student with her learning...

A NEW school for children being treated in a West Suffolk Hospital has welcomed its first student this term.

Sadie, pictured here with Angela Cornwell-Revens (Learning & Progress), is staying on top of her learning thanks to an onsite school being run by the Raedwald Trust.

The skilled teachers provide educational support to youngsters being treated in the Bury St Edmunds Hospital.

The programme is hoping to replicate the success of the well-established Ipswich Hospital School which currently supports around 750 children per year.

There will be 30 beds at both sites with children being given subject-specific lessons at the hospital site from qualified teachers.

They will also have access to telepresence robots which make it possible for students to stay ahead of their learning and socialise with friends while recovering.

The AV1 robot, which cost around £2,500, takes the place of students in their classroom at school, allowing students in hospital to hear and speak to their teachers and classmates through a live feed camera.

The new school is a partnership between the Raedwald Trust, Suffolk County Council and West Suffolk Hospital.

CEO of the Raedwald Trust Angela Ransby said: "We are delighted to support Suffolk County Council with the opening of a second hospital school in the county.

"These children will often have to miss months of school while they are treated.

"Having an onsite school means the students and their families do not have



Sadie enjoys learning new things

Children's ward renovation

THE children's ward at the Ipswich Hospital School is being renovated in a bid to create an improved area for the young people staying there.

The old schoolroom is now a waiting area and treatment room, whilst the new space is being built.

The school has been fundraising through the Tesco coin project for an interactive whiteboard which will

likely be installed in the next year.

Kate Kingsford-Bere added: "We have also been working on our new contingency curriculum for when Home School work is unavailable.

"We have enjoyed resourcing this for all Key Stages and thank our colleagues across the Raedwald Trust for helping us to achieve this for both the Hospital Schools in our Trust."

“This environment can be a bit of a break from the worries of being in hospital. It gives the parents a break too...”

Teacher, Nicola Edwards

the added stress of feeling like they will be falling behind in their education."

Teacher Nicola Edwards added: "We have packs of fun stuff for them to do for the first day or two but if they are going to be in for longer then we contact their school to see what else we can do for the children.

"We have a room that is set up like a classroom. This environment can be a bit of a break from the worries of being in hospital. It gives the parents a break too.

"It's also about helping them with their transition back into school. It helps make their experience in hospital less scary."

EARLY START INITIATIVE HELPS TEACHERS

Supportive programme assists those embarking on their teaching careers...

TRAINEE teachers have benefitted from a programme to help them as they begin their teaching career.

Martin Weston and Gil Walters were both involved in the Early Career Programme which provides a framework of structured training and support for Early Career Teachers (ECT's), allowing them to have dedicated time set aside each week to focus on their development.

The online programme was provided by Ambition Institute and there were weekly instructional coaching sessions in line with the online module focus.

Mr Weston said: "The ECT programme was a very supportive way to complete a teaching qualification as I had an inhouse mentor to support me through the process.

"It helped me to look at different teaching methods and theories from managing behaviour, lesson planning, lesson sequencing and how students learn.

"This was invaluable as it helped me with my delivery of lessons and I was able to critically analyse my lessons and teaching methods.

"I learnt that being a teacher means to consistently evolve in my own learning, delivery styles and teaching methods whilst evaluating the progress of myself



It helped me to look at different teaching methods and theories from managing behaviour, lesson planning, lesson sequencing and how students learn...

Martin Weston, speaking about the Early Careers Programme

and the students."

Mr Walters added: "The ECT programme was a fantastic way to develop and build on teaching experience.

"The online course system provided weekly tasks and teaching skills for us to learn and implement into our own practice. It also provided us with support with a mentor who we can meet with on a



Martin Weston



Gil Walters

weekly basis.

"It has highlighted many areas where I can improve my teaching practice and develop lesson content.

"I learnt various ways to deliver and communicate information to learners, how to assess learning targets and assess students' work levels plus so much more.

"It is a course in which I have learned a lot and have been upskilled. I have also developed some great working relationships with people from this course."

Mentoring makes a difference

YOUNG people have received mentoring support to help them in their development at school.

PCSO Ellen Whight has spent the last couple of months continuing her mentoring work with pupils across a variety of topics.

These include mental health, helping with pupils' insecurities, building up their confidence, their futures, laws and consequences and One Stop Cop presentations.

PCSO Whight said: "I am continuing to safeguard our children with education and mentoring sessions which will give them the right and lawful tools to make the right decisions.

"This will keep them out of harm's way and any criminal activity.

"I have also created an anti-bullying and hate crime champion position around the Trust for pupils to take part in stopping bullying and hate crime in their schools and communities.

"This will allow students to have their say on how to tackle these issues and create prevention plans we can trial throughout the schools to see if they make a difference."

PCSO Whight also ran a presentation during 'County Lines Intensification Week' to educate the pupils on the laws, consequences and the dangers within their communities.



PCSO Ellen Whight

Students visited Ipswich Mosque recently.



RELIGIOUS INSIGHTS

Tim's here to help

A NEW chaplain has joined Raedwald Trust and will be working across all sites.

Tim Mann (right) will spend time at all centres across the Trust to support students. He has also offered a mentoring programme for young people.

He is working with a range of students to help them with any self esteem issues they may have as well as helping them to plan for their next steps when it comes to Post-16 education.



A visit to Ipswich Mosque and other places of worship proves enlightening for students...

STUDENTS paid a visit to a mosque to learn about different religions.

Children from Alderwood Academy visited Ipswich Mosque as part of their topic based around different places of worship.

The children learned more about Islam and different traditions. They were also given the opportunity to ask questions.

Head Teacher, Tom Baker, said: "We had to take our shoes off when we went in, which the children thought was strange.

"The people were very welcoming. They talked about Ramadan and the children thought that was very interesting as they talked about what it would be like if they were experiencing it.

"We had a cup of tea and some snacks and our hosts answered lots of questions."

Mr Baker said it was a useful experience for our students: "It helps in terms of what they are learning in the classroom if they have had a hands-on experience and have spoken to people of different faiths.

"The children were really well behaved and very respectful.

"They asked some really sensible questions. It was a good life experience as well."

The children have also visited a Christian church and plan to visit a Sikh place of worship called a Gurdwara.

Generosity shines through



THERE was a festive vibe amongst the Raedwald Trust schools when students opened a Christmas shop over the festive period.

People donated items which could then be re-gifted for students to choose presents for their family members or loved ones.

Alice Crozier-Green, Head of Outreach, said: "It was a great event. The staff and students within the Outreach team ran a Christmas shop.

"People donated items that could be re-gifted for Christmas. The students then created a shop and invited fellow students from across the Trust to come along."

The students had to bring special tokens they could use to choose a gift.

Mrs Crozier-Green added: "It gave an opportunity for students to get gifts for their family.

"The children then helped them to wrap them and write messages on the gift tags.

"As a Trust, the kids don't tend to mix that much but we had the Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 students running the shop and we invited younger children from Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 to come along.

"It was a really nice opportunity to bring the children and staff together from different centres."

The work of Parkside Academy students brings a splash of colour to Gainsborough...

CREATIVITY CATCHES THE EYE AT LIBRARY EXHIBITION

PUPILS have had their art work displayed at a local library as part of a special exhibition.

The exhibition is at Gainsborough Library and it is an abstract selection of work from both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 pupils at Parkside Academy.

The pupils selected already created work or created more to display within the exhibition.

Art Teacher Claire Guernari said: "I believe it is so important to display work both in and outside of the class as it provides pupils with the opportunity to celebrate their achievements.

"At the same time, the children are learning from each other and also appreciating the work of others - nurturing empathy, respect and a strong sense of community.

"It is fabulous that pupils and the wider community will be able to celebrate Raedwald Trust pupils' creativity."



Artwork from students has been on display at Gainsborough Library.



Software sessions help set scene



Students have enjoyed matching music and imagery.

CHILDREN have been getting a taste of life as a filmmaker.

The students have been using sound effects to match what action is taking place within the scene to help bring imagery to life.

Music Teacher Gil Walters said it's been hugely beneficial for the children. "They understand how important it is to pay attention to detail and to make sure their sound choices suit the selected sequence within the film scene," he said.

"The children are a lot more confident at communicating their ideas for their projects. It's great for students to do this, as it allows them to be creative and explore various creative areas and formats within music for film."

Meanwhile, students have been challenged to write about what has inspired them in the creative arts as part of their mock arts awards.

They will be assessed on a section of their portfolio. It's based on putting together work around their arts inspiration whether that's a celebrity or someone local to them.

They are then tasked with writing and doing some research on why they have been inspired by them in the creative arts.

Mr Walters said: "It helps students to reflect on their own influences and what may have kick started their interest in a specific creative art."



Robot support

STUDENTS have been making the most of the school robots to keep up to date with their work.

The Next Steps Medical students are given the opportunity to use the AV1 robots to attend live lessons at their Home Schools, either working independently at home; at their Home School sites or at St Christopher's.

Ms Kingsford-Bere added: "This really helps them to still feel part of their Home School community and to feel less isolated from their classes and peers.

"It is still early days using this telepresence technology and we hope to expand its use further as we increase our pupils' offers."

Students broaden horizons by trying out a variety of awesome activities...

EMBRACING NEW EXPERIENCES!

CHILDREN at First Base Bury have had a busy spring term.

Meerkats class began the year exploring printing in art by collecting natural materials and creating different patterns before finishing their unit in the style of artist Andy Warhol (pictured right).

They explored their emotions and feelings as they mirrored each other's facial expressions and used mirrors to create self-portraits.

One of the highlights of the term saw the children enjoy a visit to the zoo where they met all different animals.

They also explored all the different ways in which we are different and made a collage to celebrate it.



Meanwhile, children in Otters class at First Base Ipswich enjoyed reading Jack and the Beanstalk as well as using pictures and objects to help them learn in maths.

They also enjoyed their science lessons where they investigated germs and how important it is to wash your hands and learnt about different body parts. In addition, they enjoyed some yoga to help the children to relax.

And pupils made dens in the outdoor area using soft play blocks and blankets.

Children in raccoon class made their own gingerbread biscuits and enjoyed a bit of role play. They also enjoyed riding pretend horses at Valley Farm.



Students explored their differences through making collages.

Fun at the farm

CHILDREN at St Christopher's have been enjoying their placements at Deben Care Farm, alongside their studies on site and have benefited from regular Thrive sessions to re-engage them with their education.

Head Teacher Ms Kingsford-Bere said: "It is wonderful to see them smiling, progressing and fully engaging with staff and peers once more."



COLOURFUL CHARACTERS



Staff at Parkside Academy KS3 thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Day! A great effort everyone!

STUDENTS at Westbridge Academy have been learning about nutrition in a bid to help them live a healthy lifestyle.

The pupils have been studying breakfast dishes and how a balanced diet begins with breakfast.

They have been learning about slow-release carbohydrates and how it can sustain energy levels throughout the morning, leading to better concentration and mood.

Head of School Emily Duque said: "Students expressed wishes to prepare the meals at home and requested to adapt meals in order to suit the dietary needs of others, including making dishes that are dairy free and gluten free.

"They partake in practical lessons and ensure they adhere to high health and hygiene standards.

"Students focus on presenting the food in appealing ways and make all aspects of the dish from scratch, where possible. There is also a big focus on using fresh and seasonal ingredients."

Pupils have also been learning about the hidden added ingredients found in processed foods as well as the importance of fibre and how it aids digestion.



Students focus on presenting the food in appealing ways and make all aspects of the dish from scratch, where appropriate...



Head of School, Emily Duque

NUTRITION IS

HIGH ON THE

MENU

Students expand their palates by experiencing a range of new foods...

CHILDREN have been learning new skills to help them lead a healthy and nutritious lifestyle.

The pupils at Parkside KS3 have been getting to grips with the food and nutrition programme.

Sian Sherman, Head of School, said: "The programme aims to provide students with savoury practical skills and allows them to develop an understanding of how their food choices affect their physical and mental health.

"One focus is to make links between food and mental health, attention span and emotional wellbeing.

"Students learn how to make healthy versions of their favourite foods and get to experience a range of dishes from around the world."

Students have learnt how to cook dishes such as shakshuka and cook with ingredients like chorizo.

Staff say it has been beneficial for the young people.



Parkside students enjoyed making some tasty dishes.

Ms Sherman added: "Many students go on to cook the dishes at home for their families.

"Our food and nutrition curriculum is important because our students need to learn how to lead happy and healthy lives."

ONLINE SAFETY SUPPORT

WE have some useful links for parents and carers to help children and young people stay safe online. Younger children need different advice and guidance than older children.

Pre-school: internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/

6 to 10- year-olds: internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/

11 to 13-year-olds: internetmatters.org/advice/11-13/

14 plus: internetmatters.org/advice/14plus

Setting up devices

It can be difficult knowing all the different settings that are available on different devices to help protect children. Here are some links to help.

Gaming consoles and devices

internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles

Smartphones

internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices

Broadband and mobile networks

internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile

Entertainment and search engines

internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines

Social media safety and privacy

With many children and young people using social media, it is important to understand what features are available to you to help protect your children. Visit internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media

Useful new features on YouTube and YouTube Kids

YouTube is hugely popular with all age groups but historically parents haven't had a lot of control over what their children can and can't watch.

To find out more about parental restrictions, please visit esafety-adviser.com/youtube-parental-restrictions

Gaming

Finding good games, as well as knowing what is appropriate for the age of the child isn't easy.

This link provides some excellent guidance: taminggaming.com



OUTREACH student Reuben has been busy learning the building trade in a taster session at ERT.



We have been developing our fine motor skills and making crowns just like Max from The Wild Things. We carefully cut across the lines using scissors and then decorated our crowns. Great job everyone!

PICTURE CORNER



In Thrive, Raccoons thought hard about fears and dreams. We learned about the history of dream catchers. The children designed their own before making them to take home to hang in their bedrooms.



OUR Meerkats class have been investigating the suitability of materials in science.



In English, the Raccoons class had a visit from PCSO Ellen Whight. She listened to our instructions on how to make a trap to catch the gingerbread men that escaped last week. She's going to try and catch them to keep them safe from the fox!