

Welcome

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends



We've had a very parliamentary feel across our schools this month with many students taking part in activities to encourage speaking, debating skills and a wider understanding of the working of government. Our primary schools sent some of our students to Parliament in Westminster and were welcomed by both our local Members of Parliament, Mark Garnier and Nigel Huddleston, and we thank them for their time with our students. Many students have also experienced events in school to better understand the democratic process and skills involved in constructing a successful debate. Many thanks to all those that have supported these events.

Whilst on the subject of government we were delighted to welcome Mike Ion and Charlotte Gardner, representing the Department for Education, to our Trust this month as part of our annual review. They had a very positive day with us visiting some of our schools, talking to staff and students and learning about our progress as a Trust to date. The collaborative work within our Trust is growing all the time with staff benefiting from sharing practice and resources to enhance even further what they are able to do to support all our learners. We look forward to further growth over time and more schools being able to be part of our formal collaboration.

With the summer term not too far away, staff are as always busy in school supporting many of our young people preparing for tests and examinations. As always we would like to thank you for your support of our teachers and the work they do at this time to make sure that our young people have the very best experience in what are increasingly challenging formal examinations. Many of our students will be working over Easter in preparation for examinations in the summer, an important time to consolidate work done in school, so we wish them the very best with their additional study.

We wish all our students, parents, carers and friends a safe and enjoyable Easter break.

Chris King
Chief Executive and National Leader of Education



Department for Education visit our Trust

We welcomed Mike Ion and Charlotte Gardner, Education Advisors from the Department for Education.



With students from Stourport Primary Academy

Meeting local MPs at Westminster

Students across the Trust met our local MPs Mark Garnier and Nigel Huddleston when they visited the Houses of Parliament earlier this month.



Students from all Trust primaries at Westminster

School in Focus - Stourport Primary Academy



The last few weeks have been busy at Stourport Primary Academy with exciting events taking place and that's not just the lessons! World Book Day on 1st March saw children and staff attending school dressed as their favourite book character. All classes and staff took part in a competition to decorate doors based on a book theme of their choice with lots of creativity taking place. The winning entry was from Rainbow Class which was based on the book "We're Going on a Bear Hunt".

Mother's Day

On Friday 9th March, Stourport Primary Academy celebrated Mother's Day by having Afternoon Tea in the two school halls. This was a chance for children to have some special time with their mum and also an opportunity for the mums to have a chat with each other. It was a fantastic afternoon with lots of positive comments being received from happy mums.



MFL Week

Working together with students and staff from Stourport High School, pupils from across the school experienced a week of Modern Foreign Languages lessons.



The week of events was a great collaboration between the two schools which resulted in a fabulous week of learning, with students inspired to develop their love of languages. Children were split into mixed year groups and activities ranged from learning French and German to exploring different countries. This has proved a very popular event and one that is looked forward to each year.



Student MFL Ambassadors from Stourport High School



Mother's Day Focus

The distinctive Christian ethos of the three Church of England schools within our Trust are expressed in many different ways. Throughout the year different events are celebrated as an expression of this distinctiveness and linked to values that underpin the schools' and the Trust's ethos.

Mother's Day at St Bartholomew's

At St Bartholomew's CE Primary School, Mother's Day is linked back to the custom where people would return on the 4th Sunday of Lent to their Mother Church where they were baptized. The children at St Bart's regard the local church of St Bartholomew's as their Mother Church valuing the support the congregation gives them by opening the church to them for special services. They also benefit from the time members of the congregation give them either as governors or reading buddies as well as the many visits they receive from the vicar, Reverend Mark.

The School's PTA supports all children, providing an opportunity to make personalised gifts for mothers and grandparents and ensuring all mums receive a 'surprise' gift.



Pictured: Yasmin Newton Year 2, Melody Bryant Year 2, Zack Lewis Year 1 and Connor Farley Year 5 proudly showing their carefully made Mother's Day gifts.

Hartlebury hosts Mother's Day

Hartlebury CE Primary School welcomed over 90 mothers into school for a lunch to celebrate Mothering Sunday. All the Mothers sat with their children and were treated to a hot lunch, great chats and some quality time with their children and other mums from their classes. Everyone had a fabulous time! The mums were made to feel very special as their children waited on them and guided them through a 'back to school' experience. Year 6 pupils acted very confidently as the hosts and all the mums commented on how well they were looked after.

Headteacher, Mrs Unitt, said: "It always is a special occasion for us and other mums from the village. This celebration started our Mothering Sunday weekend; the children took home cards they had made in readiness for Sunday where we gathered together at St James' Church, Hartlebury to lead the morning service".



Parliamentary Debating at SHS

Students from SHS, Baxter College, Stourport Primary Academy, Hartlebury CE Primary and St Bartholomew's joined in with a re-enactment of the official state opening of Parliament. This was followed by interesting debates about whether or not the legal voting age in the UK should be reduced to 16 from 18 years of age and whether there should be a second Brexit referendum.

Students from the age of 9 took it in turns to stand up and confidently deliver their arguments for and against the topics and also took the roles of the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, MPs, the Queen, Speaker, Chancellor, Black Rod and Serjeant at Arms.

Students voted overwhelming to reduce the voting age to 16 however many had reservations that they would not be able to distinguish between real news and fake news via social media and the press!



Year 10 SHS student Luke Bell outlining his views

French Exchange a huge success

15 students from Collège Jean Macé, Villeneuve-le-Roi, near Paris (Stourport's twin town) visited our Trust secondary schools and surrounding area from Wednesday 21st March to Tuesday 27th March. Year 9 and 10 students from Stourport High and Baxter College visited France in October and it was their turn to host their partners.

During the week students spent time in both schools developing their language skills in addition to visiting local attractions including Worcester Cathedral, Severn Valley Railway and West Midlands Safari Park.



Students worked together in the Food Dept at Baxter College to prepare a traditional English afternoon tea. Huge thanks to Food and Nutrition teacher Caroline Hobbs and Food Technician Lisa Devereux-Petch.



Students outside Stourport High School in hoodies kindly purchased by host families.

Thank you to everyone involved in making the French Exchange a massive success, especially parents and staff who hosted our visitors and to the many staff and community members who have supported either financially or with their time. Plans for next year's French Exchange are already underway and current Year 8 students are to speak to their French teacher for more details if they would like to be involved.



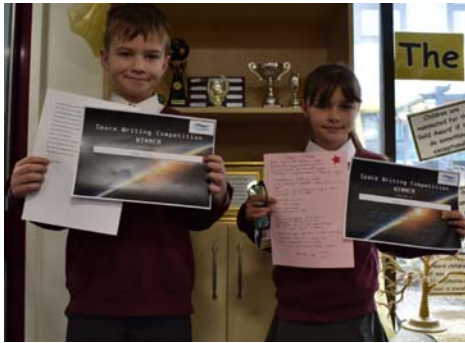
Students across SAET inspired to debate

Over 250 students across our schools have been inspired to debate whilst deepening their understanding of Parliament through a series of events and activities throughout March. Using the Parliament Loan box, complete with despatch box, division bell, Speaker's robes and Clerk's wig, a large number of students have gained an excellent grasp of our democratic processes and created memorable learning experiences.



Space writing competition

Well done to everyone who entered the Space Writing Competition following our visit from astronaut Michael Foale. The number of entries and quality of the work was out of this world!



Winners, clockwise from top left: Callum Hartridge Year 5 and Henry Mason Year 4 at Wolverley Sebright; Sophie Hinton Year 5, Luke Pender Year 3, Amelia Mae Wilkes Year 6 at Stourport Primary; Mille Bird Year 5 and Aimee Link Year 6 at Hartlebury CE Primary; Emilia Harrison Year 5, Jasmine Brooks Year 2, Harry and Thomas Scattergood Year 3 / Year 5 joint entry at Wilden All Saints; Mason Titley Year 6 and Nadine Coyle Year 5 at St Bartholomew's CE Primary.



Year 13 students Kieran Hawkins and Ella Tristram

SHS VIth Formers are the judges

English Literature students at SHS had the difficult task of marking over 200 writing competition entries and making some very difficult decisions. Thank you — you all did a brilliant job!



International student Klara Thein busy marking alongside Year 12 students Livvy O'Loughlin and Ellie Berwick

