

Welcome to the final term of the academic year. I hope you have been able to enjoy a good half term break particularly given the lovely weather we have had. Some of our students, of course will have been very focussed on revision as we are still in the thick of exam season. It's now four years since I last had an exam student in my house but the memory of supporting my youngest daughter with her A level revision (usually by supplying regular amounts of food and drink) remains in my head. To all you parents out there in the same position, some of you, I know with children at both A Level and GCSE stages, I feel for you! It's a stressful time for all concerned, but in a matter of weeks it will be over and all can relax. Thank you also to those of you with Year 6 children who ensured they were in school and ready for the SATs and supported them through their first experience of external assessment. We will look forward to hearing the results of all those tests and exams in July and August.

As well as the exam season dominating much of our work, many events have happened at our schools and college including some wonderful Coronation celebrations. Another significant event was an Ofsted inspection at Bemerton St John Primary School. We expect the report to come through in the next couple of weeks and look forward to sharing it with you. We have also received a number of Challenge Partner reviews over the last term – at The New Forest, Amesbury and at Wyvern St Edmund's, for example. Headteachers will share much of the content of those reports with you and they have been very useful in the celebration of all that is going well in our academies and identifying the next steps for further success.



This is, of course, my final newsletter contribution. I will be leaving the Trust in August and will be handing over to Ian Tucker who takes on the CEO role in September. I am very proud to have led Magna Learning Partnership over the past six years. It seems extraordinary to think that we began as three 11-16 schools in 2017 with an ambition of becoming a Trust to serve children and young people from 2-19 – and here we are, ten academies contributing to the realisation of that aim. We serve over 4700 children and young people and are now one of the largest employers in the Salisbury and surrounding area. We are celebrated as a strong Trust locally, regionally and nationally and are fortunate to have first class trustees and governors (over 100 of them) who give their time for free to make a difference to our community. I would like to thank everyone who supports us in our mission to make a difference to the lives of children and young people; I have no doubt that Magna Learning Partnership will move from strength to strength over the coming years and I look forward to following progress.

With very good wishes to you all.

Sarah Busby
Chief Executive Officer



Amesbury Primary School



Term 5 was another busy time at Amesbury CE Primary School (ACE), particularly for our pupils in Year 6 and Year 2 who have taken their SATs test this term. The children have been working very hard preparing for them and we are all so proud of the dedication and positive attitude they showed towards them. Our Year 6 pupils were invited to a special breakfast every day to help keep their stamina up – the bacon sandwiches were a particular hit!

April was the 'Month of the Military Child' and we hosted parents for coffee and cake. We also invited our forces pupils to wear purple, to allow us to recognise how brave and special they are!

The whole school took part in our 'Right Royal Knees Up' afternoon to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. It was a slightly rainy affair, so we planned for our celebrations inside. We had nearly 500 people come and celebrate with us, including some visitors from the local area. Everybody enjoyed an 'afternoon tea' and took part in a range of art and craft activities. We even had a visit from the 'Royal' couple.

With the sunnier weather, the children have been enjoying the great outside more frequently. Our Year 6 pupils have been coaching the younger children during their PE slots, the forest school is now up and running and pupils in Year 1 have been learning about different types of plants and trees.



Amesbury Archer Primary School



The recent good weather has given us all the positive boost we have needed after a challenging winter. Visitors have commented on the calm and polite children, friendly staff and wonderful vibrant learning environments. Our forest school area continues to grow, the cookery room is in near-constant use and it is a joy to see children playing on the field again.



This has been an important term for all schools but especially Amesbury Archer. We have celebrated the 21st Anniversary of the discovery of the Amesbury Archer. Celebrating his 'birthday', the whole school completed activities, workshops and learning based on his life, burial and legacy. Year 1 created Tegula roof tiles, Year 3 Beaker pots and the whole school were lucky enough to have experts from Salisbury Museum tell the Archer's story and even bring in some real artefacts found in his grave. A really inspiring day for all.



With the improved weather, there has been a drive to take learning outside. In Year 2, the children became explorers, enhancing their learning of Amy Johnson, Ranulph Fiennes, Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong who all demonstrated great Resilience, one of our key ARCHER Values. Our Year 4 children visited Ufton Court to experience Viking life. The children learnt how to weave fences as the Vikings would have done as well as how to make thread from sheep's wool and the skills needed to light a fire, all before taking a voyage on a Viking longship!



Finally, a huge well done to our Year 2s and 6s who tried their hardest in the SATs. We are all so proud of you and your efforts.



Bemerton St John Primary School



George Herbert Competition

The George Herbert competition is one which is unique to our school. George Herbert was a poet, famous orator and priest of the Church of England and held the position of Rector in our local area. For the competition, children were asked to write a poem or create some artwork based on George Herbert's poem 'Elixir'. Members of the George Herbert in Bemerton Group were blown away by the quality of the work which is currently displayed in the window of Salisbury library.



Tremendous Trips!

In Term 5, many of our children experienced learning beyond the school grounds and enjoyed a variety of trips to enrich our broad and balanced curriculum offer. Year 3 and Year 5 spent a day at Winchester Science museum, where they undertook workshops, conducted experiments and were immersed in a solar system planetarium show. Year 4 visited a synagogue in Bournemouth and explored coastal habitats and Year R continued to grow their love of books and reading on their trip to Salisbury library. All children represented Bemerton beautifully and made the most of their learning opportunities on these excursions.



STEM Week

We are really passionate about giving the children opportunities to encounter and understand many different types of jobs and to be aspirational when it comes to planning for their futures. As part of Science Week at the end of Term 5, the focus was specifically on jobs in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). The children enjoyed visits from a number of individuals in STEM roles, including a dental technician, a physiotherapist, a web designer, an acoustic scientist and even an aerospace engineer in the form of our very own Year 3 teacher! Pupils were captivated and asked many interesting and appropriate questions during the presentations and were inspired to consider whether a STEM career would be a part of their future.



Old Sarum Primary School



During Term 5, Tiger Moths Reception Class were very excited to welcome some new additions, in the form of chicks, to their classroom. The children were really filled with awe and wonder as they watched a chick actually hatching from its egg and that was truly a magical moment for them all.



Year 2 have been learning to tell the time from o'clock to the nearest five minutes. They have been really enjoying this, especially in the comfort of their new classrooms! It has been a real spectacle for the children to watch the buildings arriving, and to enjoy the purpose built space for our infant classes.



As we are all aware we have reached exam season. Our Year 6 children did us proud with their hard work during SATs week. They especially enjoyed coming together for SATs breakfast every morning, enjoying toast, pancakes, cereal, pastries and bacon sandwiches.



We finished the term with a Year 4 and 5 science trip to SWGS, where they followed an investigation through, and were so keen to share their experience with those back at school.



On the last day of the half term we had a visit from Mad 4Animals, where the children had the opportunity to see, touch, and hold a variety of creepy crawlies. A thrill for everyone!



Pembroke Park Primary School



At the start of Term 5, we celebrated Eid as a whole school. Activities included donating to Salisbury Food Bank, dressing up in party clothes, eating a range of foods we may not have tried before and our wonderful pupils and parents led a whole school assembly and a parent workshop to discuss being a Muslim and what it means to them.

The sun has finally made an appearance and so the fields have finally opened for lunchtimes. One thing we have in abundance at Pembroke Park is space. To continue utilising our space well, our outdoor learning classroom installation is also complete! This means we can introduce Forest School next academic year for every Year Group and provide an outdoor space for a whole class for learning.

During the term we saw many of our pupils enjoy a range of trips and visits. Year 5 enjoyed a visit to Winchester Science Museum, Year 3 visited Old Sarum to learn about its history, Reception learned about animals and their habitats at the New Forest Country Park and Year 2 visited Longleat.

Pembroke Park joined the Salisbury Mini Marathon for the first time in a while and we were all so incredibly proud of the children who ran so well with some fantastic placings. All enjoyed a bag of sweets at the end and an ice cream treat at school as a well done!

Finally, a huge well done to Year 6 and Year 2 for completing their SATs tests. Whatever the outcome, you have all taken responsibility for “thinking hard” and continue to be aspirational in your goals. You have all made fantastic progress in your learning this year and all the staff at Team Pembroke are incredibly proud of you. Your behaviour over the week was impeccable and a Local Authority unannounced visit confirmed that the correct processes and procedures were in place for the testing period, which was further external validation of the “great news” that is being shared from Pembroke Park. A huge thank you to our local community who continue to be so supportive of the school. I can’t wait for more excitement and success in Term 6!



Salisbury 6th Form College



In a term that can feel dominated by exams and assessments, we continued to work tirelessly in Term 5 to ensure our students encountered unique, challenging and enjoyable experiences to complement their studies.

History students were privy to the incredible opportunity to debate the success of Edward Heath as Prime Minister with Lord Hunt, Peter Batey, Neil Carmichael, Anthony Teasdale and Michael McManus, all of whom knew and worked with Sir Edward.

A student commented:

"The debate allowed me to understand the struggles which PM Heath had to deal with...the trustees provided me with knowledge that no textbook could provide, and showed a successful side of PM Heath which not many people understand or see."

Year 13 Creative Media students hosted a fabulous Showcase evening with an impressive range of films from a single topic.

Our foyer was host to an exhibition by students who completed a Curation Project with Salisbury Museum. A student said:

"This new experience has improved and diversified my skill set, and overall it was a very enjoyable project that I was glad to be a part of!"

Year 12 Art and Photography students were invited to interview artist Charlotte Verity and produce a 60-minute podcast for the 'Listen in at Roche Court' series - a fantastic opportunity for our young people to engage with contemporary practice and develop a range of communication, research and presentation skills.

Finally, Mental Health Awareness week saw the S6C 'Change Your Mind' Team raise awareness of the services available to us when we need help. Pastoral support continued all term with Life Skills sessions and 1:1s, along with advice on how to manage exam stress.



Sarum Academy



Coronation Celebrations

The afternoon of Friday, 5th May saw the whole Academy community congregate to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

Everybody went to the Sports Hall after lunch time to take part in a Coronation Carousel. Students were given either a red, white or blue card which they had to get stamped after taking part in a variety of activities.

Subject departments invented activities such as pin the crown on the King, an egg and spoon race and an obstacle course that involved wearing a very small crown on your head and not letting it fall off whilst the obstacle course was completed!

The reward for all of this hard work was the choice of an amazing cake that the Food Technology team had freshly made. Over 700 cakes were made for all to enjoy! Students also got to take home a Coronation badge and an MLP Coronation bookmark as a keepsake.

There was a lovely atmosphere in the Hall with everyone enjoying celebrating such an historic occasion. Thank you to all students and staff for making the event so memorable.



The New Forest Primary School



The children and staff really enjoyed celebrating King Charles III's Coronation. We held a street party for them all and they made crowns and sang songs about the King. We held a celebration 'Arts and Crafts' day for the children, and we shared this with the parents at a Coronation Cafe. The children enjoyed hot chocolate and cakes after school with their parents. It was a real joy to be part of the celebrations. We are also creating a mosaic in school as a more permanent memory of this historic event. Mrs Windell will be working with the children on their designs during term 6.

The children enjoyed a wide range of enrichment activities in Term 5. Our Year 5 and 6 children visited the Bournemouth Mosque. This helped the children understand different cultures and faiths alongside their topic 'Islamic Civilisation'. In Year 6, the children enjoyed a post SATs residential at Portland Outdoor Centre. They took part in a wide variety of activities including weaseling, abseiling, coasteering and bush crafts. In Year 1, the children had a wonderful day at Marwell Zoo, which again complements their learning. They were able to classify lots of different animals into their groups as the learning came to life.

The Eco-Council continue to advocate all environmental matters and provide regular updates to the school about saving energy, recycling crisp packets and the introduction of our hot composter. The hot composter is now being used to compost all the food waste at KS2 and we plan to introduce this to KS1 next year. They are planning to lobby the local parish council to reduce the speed limit around the school and promote our 'Walk to School' week next term. Keep up the good work!



The Trafalgar School



The Trafalgar School
at Downton

On Monday 22nd May, we hosted a group of students from France whilst they were on a school trip to the UK.

They spent the morning in school, took part in lessons and had lunch with our students. The group then went to Salisbury Cathedral and toured the City before continuing with their school trip.

It was great to host and build a foundation for future trips. Our students loved the experience and have already asked if we can host again next year.



The Great Big Speech!

A wonderful afternoon was had in the English department listening to and watching the finalists in the Great Big Speech competition.

The students' exuded confidence, used humour and emotion, spoke audibly and with a fitting tone; they were a delight to witness. We are all feeling very proud of them. Well done to all who took part!



Congratulations to the runners up:

Thomas S in Year 7

Fletcher L and Eve L in Year 8

Congratulations to the overall winner

Mia A in Year 9.



Wyvern St Edmund's Academy



Wyvern St Edmund's
Academy

Exceptional effort is rewarded with Gold certificates and badges

This academic year WSE has linked student achievement points to our school values of GRACE – Generosity, Respect, Aspiration, Courage and Empathy. Every week students can achieve these points through their actions and commitment to themselves or others.

Throughout Term 5, a staggering 31,549 Reward Points were given out across all year groups. Our first six students to achieve Gold Certificates with 300 points enjoyed a breakfast celebration with Mrs Henderson. Well done to Anastasia L, Ben W, Issy G, Zoe R, Phoebe U and Sophie M.

By the end of term, 26 students achieved their Gold Certificates. Further certificates and badges will be handed out at the start of Term 6.



Challenge Partners Visit - Monday 22nd May - Wednesday 24th May

Just before the half term break we hosted a team of 4 reviewers to reflect on the effectiveness of our leadership and provision of education in our school. We asked for a particular focus on levels of challenge in the classroom; the impact of the renewed commitment to the school's values; expectations of behaviour; the impact of the enrichment programme.

This visit was affirming that our school development journey is strong. Reviewers stated that the culture of the school could be felt everywhere. With high expectations for students to think hard came a lot of fun and happiness. It was evident throughout, with every interaction seen that there is a kindness and positivity with each other and with students. It was clear that every child matters and in lessons the way that students were supported and challenged exemplified this. Student behaviour was of a high order and very good overall. Students were respectful of each other and their teachers. Strong teaching practice was evident across the school with every teacher showing strong subject knowledge. The enrichment programme is rich and varied, having benefitted from recent investment in the range on offer.