



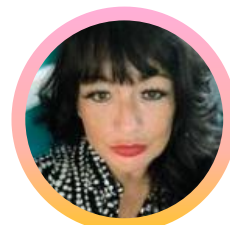
The Island Learning Trust Newsletter



Inside this issue:

CEO MESSAGE

A message from our CEO, Debbie Wheeler



OUR TILT FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

**A look into what has been happening
across our schools**



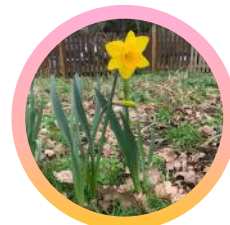
PASTORAL NEWS

**Latest information from our Pastoral
team**



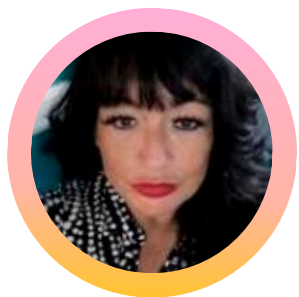
FOREST SCHOOL NEWS

Creative outdoor learning



CEO MESSAGE

Welcome to The Island Learning Trust Spring Newsletter



We are now more than half way through the 2022/23 academic year, which seems incredible. In only a few weeks, we will be back in to the round of National assessments: Y6 SATs, Y4 Multiplication Check, Y2 SATs, Y1 phonic screening, EYFS profile!

As a Trust whilst we perform very well in these assessments that does not represent the total value of our work. We are obliged to prepare our children for these checks and administer these assessments but the quality of education on offer in our schools is about so much more than these narrow summative assessments. Primary school is not just about preparing our children for secondary school, it is about developing each and every child as an individual, supporting and enabling them to grow, flourish and thrive, developing personally, academically, developing a positive sense of self as a learner, friend and a citizen of the local and global community. When you visit all TILT schools, the sense of connection, nurture, care and purpose is evident and the rich curriculum offer is also clear.

It has been a joy to visit all of our schools during T4 and see the wonderful learning opportunities on offer, the strong relationships evident and the engagement of our children in learning and school life in general. Our schools are vibrant learning communities with a strong sense of purpose and I am so proud of our children, parents and staff. As I visit each school, the dual partnership role as we educate and support our young people is so evident. The Science Week projects were spectacular and the Science Fair at Minster Primary inspiring! There are and have been, so many incredible things happening across our schools. It is a privilege to work with highly committed, talented and determined staff and calm, talented Heads of School.



What a busy year to date we have had! Please read on to delight in the wonderful world of our TILT family of schools.

Kind regards

Debbie Wheeler

Mrs. Debbie Wheeler
CEO The Island Learning Trust



The Island Learning Trust



Be the best you can be





Minster in Sheppey News



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023

MINSTER'S MAGICAL BOOK DAY

Minster pupils and staff celebrated World Book Day, with two fun-filled days of activities.

Pupils dressed as their favourite book characters. Within their classes, pupils participated in the Mask Reader Challenge, guessing which school adult was reading the story. A sponsored read also took place. Each year group created activities based on a different story from around the world.

Pupils participated in a Story Day signing up for their favourite book from a selection offered including: The Jungle Book, Mary Poppins, Matilda and Winnie the Witch. The pupils then spent the whole day immersing in their chosen text, activities included decorating cup cakes, a golden snitch hunt, magic tricks and a hammer throw competition!

EASTER EGGS

The PTA would like to say a huge thank you to 'Olivers Personnel Services Ltd' for donating a large donation of easter eggs for our children this Easter !





Curriculum NEWS

MACBETH

To complete our learning of the text Macbeth, year 5 took part in a workshop provided by Skyblue Theatre Company. We had a fantastic day, demonstrating our knowledge of Macbeth and acting out the play.

Minster Primary School

'To be the best we can be'

The best learner, the best friend, the best citizen.





SCIENCE WEEK

Minster Magic pupils immersed themselves in a range of Science activities during this year's Science Week. The theme for 2023 was Connections and we worked on the idea that nearly all innovations are built upon connections between people or the idea that two heads are better than one. All pupils spent time undertaking STEM activities including: Marble Run, Spaghetti Structures and Moon Rocks.



At the end of the week, a Science Fair was held with pupils from all phases of the school presenting their own experiments. A wide range of experiments and Science activities were seen including wind turbines, volcanoes and bacteria.

The following pupils were awarded prizes: Conrad from Foundation, Dexter from Year 2, Dolly from Year 4 and Freddie from Year 5.



SCIENCE ULTIMATE CHAMPION

Following our Science Fair, we were happy to welcome children from Sunny Bank Primary and Meadowfield school! We had a wonderful time celebrating some of the fantastic Science on offer. All the children were already winners but an ultimate champion was chosen across four age brackets and presented with their prize by Mrs Wheeler (CEO) and Mr Driver (DCEO).

Thanks to everyone for making Science Week and the Science Fair so magical!



Visit our website

www.minster-sheppey.kent.sch.uk





Sunny Bank Primary News



MOKI FITNESS STRAPS LAUNCHED



Moki is the first physical activity tracker designed for schools. Moki Bands count pupil steps and use contactless technology to transmit the data to the Moki app with a simple tap.

Moki inspires schools to move more by providing an accurate picture of their physical activity. Using a simple wristband that records a student's steps and active minutes, Moki offers educators a unique new way to engage children in their health and wellbeing learning.

Last term we launched the Moki bands at Sunny Bank and the children have instantly engaged with these. Our total steps for the first week was 3,647,713 steps!



SCIENCE FAIR

STEM week included a Science Fair where children showcased their amazing Science projects. Parents attended this event and showed their support.

Well done to all the children who worked hard on their projects at home! The winners were whisked over to Minster-in-Sheppey school to compete in the TILT Science Fair contest the next day!



BOOKISH FUN AND MORE!

For World Book Day this year, we dressed up in costumes and night wear! During the day we all had to stop what we were doing when we heard the Mr Men theme and read for 10 minutes! The library was extremely busy with keen children wishing to quiz and change their books. Forest School had special pirate activities. Prizes were handed out to the most popular dressed in each class and we ended the day with a Bedtime Read, where parents brought their children back to school to read in a cosy hall with hot chocolate and biscuits.



CHILDREN ATTEND CRICKET FESTIVAL

A small group of children attended a mini sports cricket festival this term.

The children were taking part in a variety of cricket based games and represented the school in a very well behaved and sensible manner.

They listened well and really showed how hard they have been working throughout their time at school focusing on cricket.





Curriculum NEWS



NUMBERS DAY



As part of our Numbers Day, Oak class have been investigating maths problems outdoors. How can you estimate the height of a tree? Apparently, by walking away from it until the tip can be seen through your legs and measuring the distance from the base of the tree to where you are standing. This distance will be the height!



MULTI-MILLIONAIRE

Congratulations to Alteja in year 6, who has become our first multi-millionaire reader!

SELF-PORTRAIT BUSTS



Juniper class have worked extremely hard on their self-portrait bust using clay. Our topic in art ended with the class sculpting masterpieces where they initially sketched themselves from a photograph and then transferred this to clay paying particular attention to face, nose, and eye shape.



FOREST SCHOOL

Early years have been busy bug hunting and engaged with helping to make a new flower pot bug hotel, for the mini beasts to enjoy!



Visit our website

www.sunnybank.kent.sch.uk





Halfway Houses News



BOOK WEEK

A fun week of reading and raising money

Our Book Week was so much fun! We have been raising lots of money for new books with our sponsored read and we had a book sale after school each afternoon. The classroom doors were transformed by our fantastic Teaching Assistants and now our corridor looks like a magical walkway of all of our favourite books!!!

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023

WONDERFUL WORLD OF BOOKS

Look at our wonderful world of books created by our fabulously creative Teaching Assistants – they have blown us away and our corridors look absolutely incredible!!!



CIRCUS THEATRE COMPANY

Circo Rum Ba Ba were incredible! They performed to years 1-6 across two days at the start of term 4 and our children loved it! They told an environmental narrative with exquisite shadow puppets and acrobatic plants and the story follows a rural village as it expands into a noisy, smoky city and its magical transformation from grey and treeless, back to verdant green. The plant costumed performers then grow through the screen becoming part of a thriving jungle as they interact with our children and even the teachers!



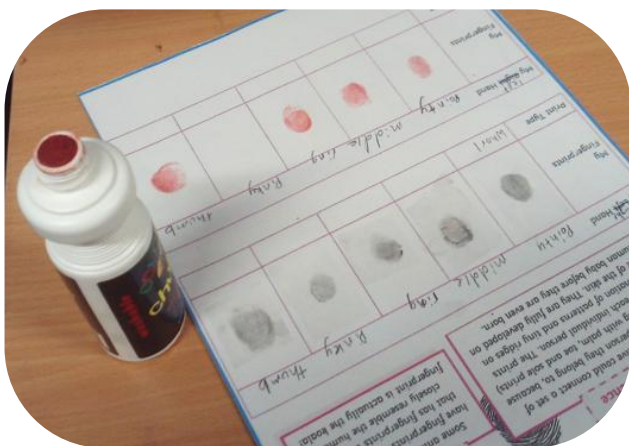


Curriculum NEWS



SCIENCE WEEK

The whole school took part in Science Week and had a great time exploring and investigating. The children explored their fingerprints and tested out dunking biscuits!



SCIENCE FAIR

It was fantastic to see so many amazing projects at the Science Fair. Well done to all involved!

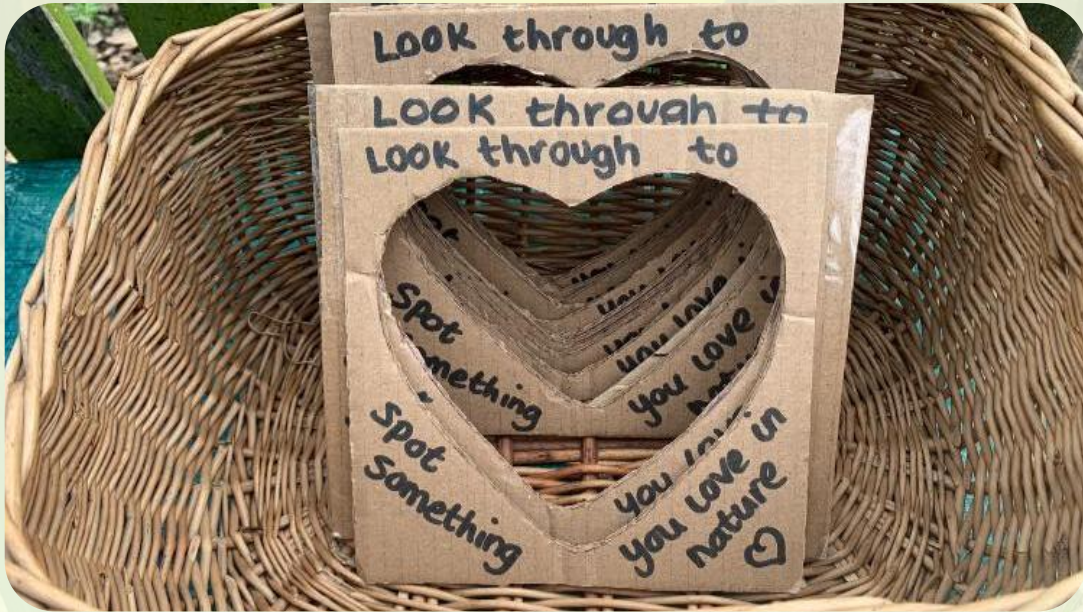


Visit our website
www.halfwayhouses.kent.sch.uk





Forest School News



(EYFS) Acorns class embarked on some exploration of colour and focused on what we love most about nature at Forest school!

As February was the month of Valentine's Day, the children enjoyed creating heart shaped tree bark rubbings on our tree trunk art easels and looked closely at trees, pine cones, leaves, and anything else they love about nature!

They also enjoyed listening to Mrs Loughed read whilst sitting comfortably in our basecamp circle of logs.

Lots of exploring and engagement with the activities on offer!



WORLD BOOK DAY GALLERY



**The Island
Learning Trust**





Julia Donaldson Karen George

Freddie and the Fairy



Freddie is delighted with
fairy who offers to take him
But Bonnie-Belle says
all Freddie's
When the fairy really wants
Freddie's cat
Freddie's cat
Freddie's cat

author of THE GRUFFALO











**The Island
Learning Trust**



FAMILY SUPPORT NEWS



YOUNG MINDS

All Family Liaison Officers across the Trust have completed Anxiety Based School Avoidance Training. School avoidance behaviour presents challenging and often agonising scenarios for parents, students, and teachers. In the main, school avoidance refers to absenteeism initiated by the child usually due to extreme anxiety surrounding school attendance.

The ABSA general awareness training has helped us to understand the push and pull factors that influence children and young people in driving increasing anxiety and becoming more avoidant of school. We also looked at risk factors as how to identify those children and young people at risk of becoming avoidant of school due to other factors.

If you would like more support and information, please contact your child's school Family Liaison Officer.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/anxiety/>

FUEL AND WATER ADVICE

If you need help paying for gas and electricity or find yourself in crisis with fuel bills, please reach out.

Call: **01795 889233**

Email: **fuelvoucher@children-families.org**

NEED SOME HELP?

Are you in emergency credit on your pre-payment gas or electric meter and can't afford to top up?

Are you at risk or disconnected from your energy supply?

email us to see if we can help
fuelvoucher@children-families.org
(subject to criteria)





SUPPORT



MIDAS Parent Workshops

These courses are free, to book please contact Jenna Paternoster, MIDAS Administrative Assistant on 01795 477788 (option 6) or via MIDAS@meadowfield.kent.sch.uk

SLEEP AWARENESS

Tuesday 16 May 2023 18:30 – 20:30

Presented by: Kate Chatfield, Specialist Teacher, Meadowfield Susan Cassingham, Sleep Scotland Sleep Counsellor, Meadowfield

Sleep problems can be a persistent and severe problem for children and young people with learning disabilities. Improved sleep can lead to reduced stress within the family and improved educational outcomes for the young person.

In this half-day workshop will:

- Introduce participants to a range of sleep problems in children and young people with additional support needs
- Identify possible causes of sleep difficulties
- Consider behavioural interventions to improve them
- Provide an opportunity to share ideas with parents and carers facing similar challenges

This workshop is suitable for parents, carers and families of Early Years, primary age and secondary age children (age 3+).

STARTING ON THE SPECTRUM

Five-part course on: Tuesday 13 June 2023, Tuesday 20 June 2023, Tuesday 27 June 2023, Tuesday 4 July 2023 Tuesday 11, July 2023 09.45 – 12.45

Presented by: Jamie Evans, Specialist Teacher, Meadowfield Becky Selfe, Inclusion Support Assistant, Meadowfield

Receiving an autism diagnosis for your young child can be an emotional time. Our 'Starting on the Spectrum' programme is your next step in finding out more. This five-part programme takes place over five morning sessions and is suitable for parents and carers of children in the early years (5 years and under) with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD). During this series of workshops parents will look at the features of ASD, exploring a new topic each week.