

From the Chief Executive Officer

Our Vision as a Trust is for all young people to be inspired by an excellent education that raises their aspirations and enriches their lives.

Our Mission as a Trust is to create a vibrant inclusive and aspirational family of academies, transforming life chances for pupils through excellent teaching and learning.

As a Trust we believe in:

- promoting high aspirations and success for all;
- ensuring progressive and sustained improvement in standards and progress;
- providing a learning environment which is creative, engaging and relevant;
- supporting and building leadership and management capacity;
- valuing and supporting outstanding teaching and enabling continued professional learning for all staff;
- developing local learning communities where parents and carers are valued, engaged and encouraged to be lifelong learners and
- working together to be the best that we can be.

In doing so, we will earn recognition for the Academy Trust as expert, collaborative and innovative local and national education leaders.

We would encourage you to contribute to the evolution of our Trust. If you have any suggestions for improvement or development contact Sue Samson, s.samson@chi.ac.uk

In this term's Learning Matters we welcome four new schools to our family and look forward to working with you all.

We also congratulate Deamonn Hewett-Dale and all of the Flying Bull staff and pupils who shared their educational experiences with Ofsted this term. The Ofsted Inspector was appropriately impressed and commented on the 'vibrant collaborative culture where pupils want to achieve their best, and know that their teachers will support them in doing this.' What a wonderful accolade for the teachers and pupils at the school and one we all aspire to across our Trust schools.

We also share many exciting learning experiences that have engaged students in our other academies over the last term. It is lovely to see children enjoying such a wide range of creative learning opportunities.

And finally, good luck to all our pupils and of course their teachers as they embark on SAT's and GCSE's.

'Believe in yourselves and you can reach the stars!'



Sue Samson
Chief Executive Officer

Schools joining the Trust in 2017

This term we are delighted to welcome four new schools who will be joining the Trust. Arundel Court Primary will be joining us on the 1st May, Highbury Primary School in the summer and Langstone Junior and Infant Schools during the Autumn term. The schools are all based in the Portsmouth area and will bring with them a wealth of experience. We very much look forward to working with them all.



Arundel Court Primary School

Northam Street, Portsmouth, PO1 1JE

Age Range: 4 – 11 years

Headteacher: Karen Stocks

Chair of Governors: Charlotte Hetherington

Key Contacts: School Office: 02392 824893



Highbury Primary School

Dovercourt Road, Portsmouth PO6 2RZ

Age range: 4 – 11 years

Headteacher: Sarah Sadler

Chair of Governors: Paul Rolfe

Key Contacts: School Office: 02392 375404

admin@highbury-prim.portsmouth.sch.uk



Langstone Infant School

Stride Avenue, Portsmouth, PO3 6HL

Age range: 4 – 7 years

Headteacher: Victoria Page

Chair of Governors: Dan Brentnall

Key Contacts: School Office: 023 92832642

admin@langstone-inf.portsmouth.sch.uk



Langstone Junior School

Lakeside Avenue, Portsmouth, PO3 6

Age Range: 7 – 11 years

Headteacher: Jane Bush

Chair of Governors: Irene Baldry

Key Contacts: School Office: 023 9282 4138

News from Academies

The Flying Bull Academy is still flying high

The Flying Bull Academy has been celebrated by Ofsted for its work to provide high-quality education for pupils following a recent inspection. A report, published on 1st February, said the school continues to be rated as good and that pupils “feel safe and happy” and are “challenged to achieve their very best”.

Headteacher Deamonn Hewett-Dale was recognised as a “strong, inspiring leader” whose “clarity of thought and determination to ensure all pupils are happy, safe, and achieve well” was a real strength of the school. Inspectors commented on the vibrant collaborative culture of the school where pupils want to achieve their best.

The report also noted that the school has a strong staff team and a sense of community, which is valued by pupils and their parents and a rich curriculum, which captures their interest.

The behaviour of pupils was also celebrated in the report stating that they behave well both in class and around the school. Teachers were seen providing interesting lessons, which confidently support pupils’ learning so that pupils make good progress. One pupil told the inspectors that ‘everyone here has a really good bond, it’s all about friendship.’ That is part of the magic of The Flying Bull Academy.

Congratulations to all at Flying Bull

Code Club at The Flying Bull Academy

“During the Autumn Term, The Flying Bull Academy began a partnership with www.codeclub.org.uk and the University of Portsmouth to begin running a Coding Club for Years five and six. Three volunteer students from the University have been leading the running of the club, using projects designed by Code Club for the coding app, Scratch. Our pupils have deepened their knowledge of coding and are now acting as lead learners in our computing lessons! For more information on getting started with your own club, contact Dan Powell at southeast@codeclub.org.uk.”



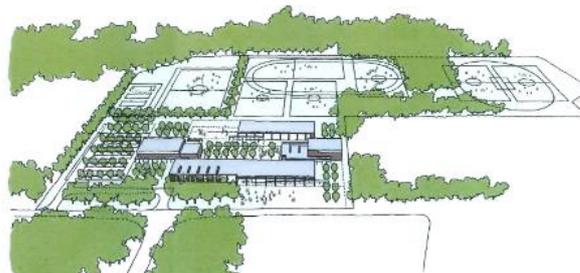
Forest School with Berewood pupils

Children at Berewood have been enjoying their first taste of Forest School this academic year, led by our Forest School trained Deputy Head, Viv Kies. The children have begun to develop their skills in shelter building, knot tying and fire lighting, and enjoy learning outside whatever the weather.



New school building at Mill Chase Academy

A planning application has been submitted to Hampshire County Council for a new school building on a new campus on Budds Lane - adjacent to Bordon Infant and Junior Schools - on land previously owned by the Ministry of Defence. Senior Leaders of Mill Chase Academy and the Trust have worked with Hampshire County Council to design the new school buildings and are determined to secure the best for the pupils and community it serves.



Sue Samson, the Chief Executive Officer, said: "Ofsted recognised the high-quality of teaching and leadership in the school and stated that it has 'an ethos of high expectation and aspiration which is central to the life of the school. It is this ethos which will pervade the new building and the opportunities provided for students at Mill Chase.'"

Headteacher, Paul Hemmings said he was delighted by the progress that had been made. He added: "this is an exciting opportunity to provide state of the art facilities for our students who Ofsted recognised are already making increasingly good progress across a wide range of subjects. The new buildings will enable us to provide them with the high quality learning environment that they deserve." The new school building is due for completion in September 2019.

Football at Court Lane Junior

On Tuesday 28th February, Court Lane Junior U10s participated in the Crookhorn Cup Tournament against 16 schools from around the city. Never having played together before, they lost their first match in the group stage, and then proceeded to win the rest of their matches against some formidable teams to reach the final. It was a nail-biting final, where a lucky goal secured the win! A new trophy is now proudly displayed in the school.



The boys not only played brilliant football but their attitudes on and off the pitch were impeccable. On Thursday 2nd March, seven girls who had never played football together, (six of whom had never even played in a match) participated in the U11 Girls' Football tournament against eleven schools from the city. They won their group stages to reach the final, which unfortunately they lost on a penalty shootout. They played fantastic football and their attitudes throughout were positive and sporting.



Pancake racing at Fernhurst



After two years of bad weather, 2017 welcomed the return of Pancake Racing to Fernhurst Primary School. The sun was shining on Shrove Tuesday as the whole school and the Pre-School arrived on the playground ready to race! Each class lined up with their frying pans and pancakes and on the marshal's shout of "Go!" they sped off towards the finish line, flipping as they went! Prizes were awarded to the winners from each class. The event was organised by the Fernhurst Village Community and is always well supported by parents, carers, and the school. (photo courtesy of the Midhurst and Petworth Observer)

Bedtime stories at Frogmore

'It's very important to always read a bedtime story...how else would your dreams know where to begin'

Children at Frogmore all got into their pyjamas and 'onesies' to celebrate World Read Aloud Day! They had a fabulous evening of listening to exciting (and sometimes scary!) stories, enjoying reading for pleasure and even had time for a cosy mug of hot chocolate!



Court Lane Infant

Tesco Badge design competition – Alek sails away with a prize

Alek Mitev, of Court Lane Infant School was chosen as the winner of a competition after pupils from across the city were asked to draw a picture showing why they loved Portsmouth. His picture will be seen by thousands of customers at Portsmouth's Tesco Extra North Harbour after he won the competition to design a new hessian shopping bag. Mandi Myers, the Community Champion at Tesco Extra North Harbour, Portsmouth, said: "The Spinnaker Tower stands at

170 metres tall - it is a really well known landmark and we loved Alek's picture. Mandi presented Alek with a £25 gift card for him to spend in store as well as a £500 prize for the school at a special assembly.



STEM week at Court Lane Infant

The school recently held a STEM week where they were able to apply our Scientific, Mathematical and design skills to solve an enquiry that they were given. They worked in groups to explore materials before they designed boats. In Reception, they wanted to find out which boat could hold the most treasure. Children in Year 1 were designing a waterproof boat for Captain Buckleboots. The investigation in Year 2 concentrated on designing a sailing boat that had the most effective sail. All the children were reflective, resilient and resourceful. They took risks and related well to each other whilst working on their projects.

World Book day – 2nd March 2017

Kingsham Primary School

Had some fantastic costumes for World Book Day, including some impressive stick men, Alice in Wonderland's and even a character from the book Year 5 and 6 have been reading, 'Running Wild'.

The Flying Bull Academy

The emphasis this year was on encouraging and promoting the importance of regular reading to our pupils. We had many activities in place to celebrate reading. Mr Thomas & Mr McGlone-Atkinson arranged for a whole school poem to be recorded in the radio station, with a representative from each class reading a line each. Year six took the time to evaluate reading within the academy from the perspective of their children, through the use of surveys conducted throughout the day.

Prizes were awarded in Friday's assembly for the best-dressed pupils, as well as a raffle for those children who had parents read with them during ERIC.



Last, but not least, many classes also took part in their very own reading mannequin challenge! Congratulations to 4B for a flawless performance that you can watch on the link: <http://www.fbacademy.co.uk/news/?pid=1&nid=1&storyid=136>

Progress against our Priorities for 2016/17:

- **Building 'hubs'**

As we grow our Trust, we plan to recruit schools in groups or within a 30-minute drive of an existing academy. This will enable our academies to share specialist teaching and professional services and to work together on curriculum and professional development activities. We are currently working with a further four schools in Portsmouth who are joining the Trust in 2017 which will provide us with new opportunities. Our Headteachers and Chairs of Governors meet termly to discuss the growth strategy and hub development.

If you have any suggestions or ideas to contribute to our growth strategy, please let your Headteacher or Chair of Governors know.

- **Developing free schools**

We have not been successful in our bid to establish our first two Free Schools, however have been encouraged by the Department for Education to bid again when the new round opens after the election. Our plan to develop Free Schools providing an integrated and dynamic curriculum with a focus on 'learning from making' is linked to the University Technology Park, a major new University initiative opening in 2018. For further information or if you are interested in contributing to the development of this programme please contact Romy Jones r.jones@chi.ac.uk

- **Student voice – UNLOC**

Following our successful initial day, we are looking forward to welcoming pupils back to our Bognor Regis campus on the 8th June for the follow-up day with UNLOC. We are also agreeing a date for a lead-teacher training day.

For further information please contact James Humphries j.humphries@chi.ac.uk

- **Running School Direct as part of ITT offer**

Libby Isaac from Fernhurst Primary School and Sam Cantini from Court Lane Junior School have been working with Jane Evans to develop our School Direct programme. We are very pleased with the interest we have had and we continue to receive applications via the UCAS website. We currently have vacancies for places on the Primary programme and also Secondary History, Modern Languages and Maths. This term, Bob Griffin will be co-ordinating the development of the Trust Training Programme supported by Libby Isaac, Sally Nelson and Adam Beere. The programme will draw upon the wealth of expertise across our academies. Please do promote our School Direct opportunities within your locality. Electronic flyers were circulated last term but if you need these again or would like hard copies please let us know. For further information about school direct please contact j.evans@chi.ac.uk

- **Increasing School to School Support**

Deamonn Hewett-Dale is currently collecting information about Excellent Practice in our academies from each of our Trust Headteachers. During the Summer Term, the register will be shared with Heads along with the academies' new J2E priorities. We will trial a piece of work during the Summer Term to finalise procedures and practice with a view to a launch of the register in September 2017. This information is also being shared with Bob Griffin, who is co-ordinating our School Direct programme so that excellent practice identified can be used to train our ITT students.

- **Developing leadership**

We are now officially partners with Ambition School Leadership, one of the very best leadership development providers in the country. We have jointly applied for the license to provide the new generation of National Professional Qualifications - NPQ Middle Leadership; NPQ Senior Leadership; NPQ Headteacher and NPQ Executive Leadership. The suite is currently under development and if we are successful in our application, we will be providing the qualifications next academic year. If you are interested in contributing to the development of the programme please get in touch. For further information please contact James Humphries j.humphries@chi.ac.uk

Working with the University

Curriculum Enrichment

The University is providing support for a range of enrichment opportunities in our Academies:

- Forest Schools and Outdoor Education programmes, contact Dick Bryant, Senior Lecturer in Physical Education R.bryant@chi.ac.uk
- Fine Art student placements, contact Rachel Johnston, Senior Lecturer in Fine Art r.johnston@chi.ac.uk
- Libraries, contact Anna O'Neill, Director of Learning and Information Services a.oneill@chi.ac.uk

And Finally

If you have something you would like to share with us for the next newsletter please send your contributions to Heidi Divis at h.divis@chi.ac.uk