



29th March 2023

Communication from the CEO

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the second term, I would like to provide you with a very quick update about what has been happening within our academies over the last term. I appreciate that this term may have caused some disruption due to strike action and I would like to thank you for your patience during this time.

Challenge Partners Reviews

Many of our academies have recently undertaken an external 3-day Quality Assurance Review by Challenge Partners. This is a rigorous peer evaluation of teaching and learning, curriculum and outcomes, and leadership at all levels. The reports that we have received have been very strong and have reflected on excellent leadership and on the design of our curriculum.

Teaching and Learning:

We have an extremely high standard of Teaching and Learning across all primary and secondary academies throughout the Trust.

Connectivity:

All academies have recently received an upgrade in broadband connectivity. Following a successful bid for funding from the DFE for this project. This has improved the speed of the internet within our academies.

Reading for Pleasure

As you are aware we are encouraging reading throughout our academies, and our Primary academies have all purchased new reading materials and also enhancing reading areas to ensure that they are inciting places to promote reading for pleasure.

Creative Classrooms

This term Year 3 pupils have worked with Doncaster Arts on a project called 'Creative Classrooms'. This initiative involves working with drama professions to build confidence and communication skills.

Thrive

We have some colleagues from across the Trust who have recently completed their Thrive Lead Practitioner Training. Thrive promotes positive mental health and emotional wellbeing in children and young people and equips our academies to understand, identify and tackle the root causes of behaviour, so that more time is spent productively on learning.



Trust Games

We will be holding the Trust Games in July. This will take place at the Keepmoat Stadium and once again promises to be an exciting event. All primary academies will compete against each other in the tournament which will be organised by Activ8 with students from Hall Cross Academy supporting this event on the day.

Careers Week

Many of our academies have celebrated Careers Week with a wide range of visits and visitors to inspire the pupils/students as well as challenge stereotypes around job roles and careers. They have had the opportunity to meet with a doctor, journalist, archaeologist, farmer, professional dancers to name but a few. Academies also visited the Careers Enterprise event at the Doncaster Racecourse earlier this term.

Parent Workshops

I would like to thank parents/carers for joining in the parent workshops that academies have arranged; there have been a number of different workshops available, including Maths workshops, Class Stay and Learn Sessions and Easter crafts.

Finally, as always, I would like to thank you all for your continued support. I hope that you have a wonderful Easter break with your families and look forward to the exciting things that we have planned for the next term.

Yours sincerely

Beryce Nixon

CEO

National Leader of Education

