



# LIGHTHOUSE

## SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP



## Spring 2021

# Newsletter

For School Leaders, Teachers, Support Staff, Governors and Trustees



### A message from Gary Lewis, Chief Executive

That life in the Trust has gone on at all over recent months might be considered an achievement but, as the newsletter shows, we have been doing far more than keeping going. The work of our staff in schools, and online, over the recent lockdowns was exemplary and I am very proud that this has been recognised by our governors, parents, communities and the Regional Schools Commissioner's office.

More than that, we are providing an excellent and inspiring education to our young people and working tirelessly to develop our schools as safe and happy places both in their physical environments and online. All that rests on the commitment, service and extraordinary talent of our staff.

Thank you for everything that you are doing in your school and I hope that you will be interested in seeing what is going on in other schools across the Trust.

If you have any good ideas for articles for our next newsletter, please let our Editor, Eleanor Capel-Davies, know on [ecapel-davies@lsp.org.uk](mailto:ecapel-davies@lsp.org.uk).

# TRAVEL SMART WITH CYCLE TO WORK

**Remember you have access to our cycle to work benefit to help you travel smarter, save money and start a healthier commute.**



You can get a brand new bike and safety equipment and spread the cost over 12 months. Payments will be deducted from your salary before tax - meaning you can make some great savings too!



## Engaging remote learning during Terms 3 and 4

Teachers across the Trust embraced new ways of working, and technology, to create and deliver engaging learning and activities for our pupils throughout the school closure period.

Many schools managed to keep regular traditions and fixtures of the school calendar in place despite being separated by COVID-19.

### World Book Day 2021

Children and staff at High Down didn't let small details like a global pandemic get in the way of celebrating their love of reading on World Book Day. Both on and offsite teams made the most of the opportunity to share favourite books and stories and to discuss the book characters children had dressed up as. The BFG, the Queen of Hearts, Zog from 'Zog and the Flying Doctors', Burglar Bill and Willy Wonka were all present (amongst many others). Books about real characters were also represented, including one pupil dressing up as Florence Nightingale.



### Online choir at Backwell Secondary School

Choir rehearsals went online throughout Term 3 for students at Backwell School. Music is a big part of Backwell and students and staff alike were delighted to be able to continue with this extra-curricular activity.

A group recording was made at the end of term, to mark what they have been working over the previous few weeks including both vocal and instrumental elements.

[Click here](#) to watch their recording of Hold my Hand originally by Jess Glynn.

## COVID-19 Mass Testing in our Secondary Schools

Our secondary sites: Gordano School, Backwell School and Chew Valley School have been running a comprehensive mass testing programme to allow their students to return to the classroom.

In addition to comprehensive risk assessments across their sites, and the introduction of masks in lessons for students in Year 7 and above, secondary schools have had to offer three lateral flow tests (LFT) to each student as part of schools reopening.

From an admin perspective it was necessary to collect and process thousands of consents from parents and carers, staff were trained on testing procedures and key spaces on the schools sites have been fully re-purposed as a testing facility, thanks to our industrious site colleagues, to enable testing of hundreds of students a day to take place.

A massive recruitment and training drive was undertaken by the HR team and a number of former students have returned to their school to be part of the testing teams!

Tom Inman, Headteacher at Gordano School said “it has been heartening to see so many of our current staff step forward to offer their time and embrace a very different role to their normal day jobs, while also supporting each other, our students and several new recruits. The team have worked well to get the necessary tests done and results delivered, their tremendous efforts are helping to ensure our students a safe return to school.”

Gordano School was featured on BBC Points West in a piece focussing on how secondary schools were welcoming students back and preparing for the remainder of the academic year.

Following the three on-site tests secondary students will move to using LFT at home twice a week; with schools organising the distribution of these tests.

The sheer scale of this programme cannot be underestimated; a massive thank you to all staff who have been involved in this.







# LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

## THE 'GREAT BIG THANK YOU' RAFFLE!

Recognising the hard work and dedication by staff across the Trust over the past year, a number of our contractors donated a selection of brilliant prizes for an employee raffle.

The raffle was drawn on Friday 26 March. Congratulations to the following employees who were the lucky winners:

Prize	Winner
Ipad Mini	Elizabeth Vowles
(Three Cherries)	Gordano School
Chrome Book	Emma Oldfield
(2IT)	Whitchurch
Garden Vouchers	Holly Crichard
(Cornish Garden Ser- vices)	St Peters
Lawn Mower	Talina Rush
(Cornish Garden Ser- vices)	Portishead Primary
Hamper #1	Louise Finch
(Aspens)	Flax Bourton Primary
Hamper #2	Susan Cook
(Aspens)	High Down Infant School
Vacuum Cleaner	Lisa Needham
(Glen)	Backwell School



A massive thank you to our business partners for their generous prize donations:

**Aspens**



**CORNISH  
GARDEN SERVICES  
(BRISTOL) LIMITED**



**2it** SYSTEMS

**glen**  
group

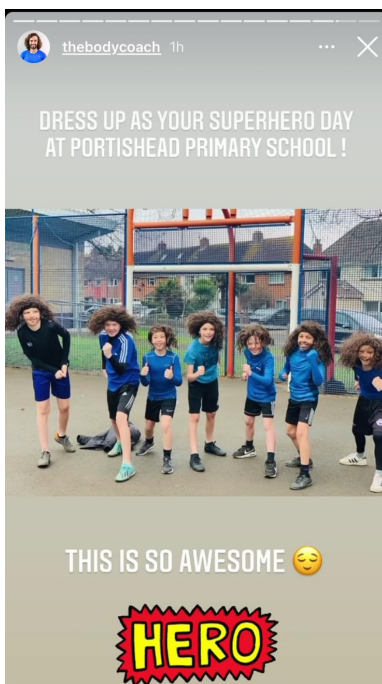
## Staying connected: Portishead Primary Pupils write to their local community

During Children's Mental Health Week Year 5 and 6 children wrote letters to the residents of Waverley Court (a retirement complex in Portishead) to build connections in the community and give back to a generation who have given so much.

The last year has been extremely impactful on us all for different reasons and in different ways. It's extremely important for us all to remain connected as a community and as part of Mental Health Week the children decided to reach out.

Care homes and supported living environments have been isolating for many, many months and large numbers of people in our community have been cut-off from loved ones and friends. The school decided to compile some letters and drawings to send to the residents of Waverley Court to brighten their days.

Some warmth has even been received in return as the community at Waverley Court has reached back with some writing in reply to the children.



### Shout out from Fitness Superstar!

Portishead Primary students made the most of more 'modern' communication tools to celebrate their Red Nose Day Fundraising.

To raise money for Comic Relief pupils went to school dressed as their heroes. A group of children dressed up as online fitness superstar The Body Coach. They uploaded an image of themselves to social media and it was picked up and shared by Joe Wicks himself!

### Not all Heroes wear capes.....

The superhero theme continued at Backwell and Westleigh. As a Federation, the two schools, raised a fantastic fundraising total of £1652.00 for Comic Relief.

Have also spent time this term learning about everyday heroes: the people who help. The children have been learning about vets, firefighters, dentists, including an on-site visit from their local PCSOs.





## Inspiring Teaching as pupils return to the classroom

Pupils at Wraxall CofE Primary School celebrated Maths Day, to mark the National Census taking place in March 2021.

The children were busy exploring Maths in different contexts and carried out lots of problem solving and reasoning. The highlight of the day for the children was an outdoor bug problem solving activity predicting the number of minibeasts and insects in the playground.

Headteacher, Amy Townsend, said "It was a fantastic day for all. Our Maths Lead organised some really enriching activities with Maths through stories and some practical outdoor learning activities. It has been lovely to have the school back on site together again and to take part in some enriching learning as a whole school."



## Creative Writing activity at Bishop Sutton Primary

Year 5 at Bishop Sutton Primary School had an unexpected first week back to school in March when they discovered an animal had broken into their classroom overnight; They faced a terrible mess in the corner of the classroom!

This creative lesson starter was a basis for questioning and problem solving skills as the pupils tried to identify what may have happened. Creative writing was used to write warning signs and posters for the rest of the school.

The pupils have recently been looking at King Kong by Anthony Browne in their online English lessons and were left wondering, could it have been Kong?! What a great way to link remote learning to the return to the classroom.







LSP Gateway

Rewards, benefits & employee resources



# MAKE **YOURSELF** A PRIORITY IN 2021



It's easy to worry and look after everyone else before looking after yourself, but there has never been a more important time to put your own wellbeing first.

Our Wellbeing Centre on LSP Gateway  
has tools, tips, videos and articles to help you boost your wellbeing.



Visit [www.lspgateway.org.uk](http://www.lspgateway.org.uk)  
today and make yourself a priority in 2021!





## Improving facilities for our communities

The new building at Backwell School is coming together at tremendous speed.

All external works are now completed and the contractors are now working inside on wiring, plumbing, fixtures and fittings.

The project is due for completion at the start of June 2021.





## Nature Spaces for Learning and Reflection at Highdown



The High Down Junior School site is very fortunate to have some fantastic outside space with spectacular views.

Earlier this academic year so of the Year 6 children wanted to design a nature area for the school to enjoy and really make the most of our environment.

Over the last few month the Site Team have taken their designs to develop a superb space for the whole school to enjoy and appreciate. These areas will also be used as teaching spaces: classes will use this area to connect with the environment around them.

## Anti-Bullying Ambassador training for Northleaze pupils

20 Northleaze Primary pupils are undertaking training to become fully qualified Anti-Bullying Ambassadors as part of the The Diana Award.

Supported by HRH The Duke of Cambridge, this programme engages young people, parents and teachers to change the attitudes, behaviour and culture of bullying by building skills and the confidence to address different situations, both online and offline.

Northleaze staff are passionate that the children leave the school as confident young people with a strong sense of respect, tolerance and compassion for others; young people who are not prepared to be bystanders in their communities.

More details on [The Diana Award](#) can be found here.



## Art Week at The Whiteoak Academies of Hannah More Infants and Grove Juniors

Inspired by the book Conker the Chameleon, the children reflected on their emotions and feelings about returning to life with their friends in school.

The author, Hannah Peckham, created a video for our children and the week was planned to help develop the children's drawing skills and use of colour. The pupils all drew their own chameleons, inspired by Conker, using different shades and tones to reflect their own feelings and emotions resulting in the colourful wall display below.





## E4Education Website Project

Our website redesign project continues at pace with only a handful of schools now awaiting the production and transfer to move across to their newly designed website.

All three secondaries in the Trust are now proudly using their new websites, and the vast majority of our primaries are also live!

The slick, modern designs are clear and user friendly which has been incredibly important as many schools have relied on their websites during the recent remote learning period. As we head into 'recruitment season' an up to date website showcasing the schools values and ethos is incredibly important.



### Get connected: LSP on Social Media

Did you know that the Lighthouse Schools Partnership is on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn?

If you have social media accounts you may like to follow and 'like' the Trust to see latest updates and news articles including advertisements for job vacancies.

Social media, especially LinkedIn and Twitter, is full of great networking opportunities and discussion hubs for the latest ideas and opportunities in education.

Our details are as follows:

#### Twitter



@lighthouse\_MAT

#### Facebook



@lighthouseschoolspartnership

#### LinkedIn



Lighthouse Schools  
Partnership

Best wishes to all for the rest of  
Term 5!