

TrustEd Schools Talk

Greetings from our CEO Sarah Godden

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter 2025. This term has been a busy and productive one with our schools building upon their achievements, championing inclusive practices and fostering a real sense of community spirit. It is a pleasure to reflect on these achievements and experiences which have helped shape our trust and school community. Our trust is deep rooted in its values in ensuring that every child flourishes, promoting strong collaboration with our school communities and partners and upholding stewardship in everything we do.

Whilst all schools have highlighted the importance of community togetherness, I have to mention the wonderful Christmas concert which was held at Oldbury Wells School on 16th December. This brought together schools from across the trust and beyond. Pupils from Castlefields School, Alveley School, St Leonards School, Highley School and Oldbury Wells School came together to perform Christmas songs, with both musical instruments and local pieces. The pupils sang beautifully together as schools to delighted parents in the audience, creating a truly memorable occasion. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the staff for their efforts in organising such a fantastic event.

I hope that you enjoy this newsletter which shares news from our TrustEd Schools on collaborating and working with the community. Thanks to all our schools who have held cross trust events and competitions for pupils in our schools this year. I was thrilled to announce the winning Christmas card design in assembly at Belvidere last week. What talented pupils we have!

I am also delighted to launch our **"TrustEd Schools"** Facebook page which has been set up to showcase the fantastic work that is taking place across the trust and our schools. This is a powerful way of connecting with parents, sharing important information and fostering a sense of community.

As the term draws to a close, we extend our best wishes for a happy holiday and a well-deserved rest. We look forward to welcoming our students back in January 2026.



Sarah Godden pictured with Olivia at Belvidere School, holding her winning Christmas card design.

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Pupils Take to the Hills!

TrustEd Sports Alliance have had another action-packed term. One of the events which was organised by Lyndsey Dillon and Church Stretton Sports Leaders along with the National Trust team and group of volunteers, saw 930 pupils from thirteen primary schools from Year 1 to Year 6 take part in a very exciting day of cross-country competitions over three separate days at Carding Mill Valley.

From the start, pupils were determined and resilient as they tackled the steep, muddy trails of the Long Mynd cheered on by the rest of their teachers and classmates. Teachers felt that this was a good way of introducing pupils into the great outdoors, whilst challenging them both physically and mentally. Dedicated sports leaders from Church Stretton School (pictured below), played a crucial role in helping to run this event by setting up, marshalling and offering encouragement to all involved.

All six pupils pictured below are at the Carding Mill event. They are currently undertaking a Sports Leadership Award run by the Trusted School Alliance which looks to empower students with coaching, communication and organisational skills.



New Partnership Announced

Caterlink, a leading provider of food servicers has partnered with TrustEd Sports Alliance to support sports leadership across Shropshire. TrustEd Sports Alliance work with groups of our Year 9 students to become confident sports leaders, through hands on volunteering at primary school events and community venues. We are therefore delighted by Caterlink's generous sponsorship, enabling TrustEd Sports Alliance to purchase bespoke, high-quality kit for Year 9 students, completing a level 1 sports leadership qualification. This partnership is a fantastic step towards inspiring young leaders and strengthening sport across the county.

Neil Fuller, Managing Director at Caterlink said *"we believe that good nutrition and active lifestyles go hand in hand. Supporting TrustEd Sports Alliance in developing young leaders aligns perfectly with our commitment to education and community wellbeing. We're proud to help equip students with the skills and confidence to inspire others through sport."*



Chris Jew, Head of TrustEd Sports Alliance pictured with Neil Fuller and Y9 sports leaders

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Community at the Heart of Oldbury Wells School

This half term, Oldbury Wells School has truly placed community at the centre of everything that they do. Their School Council played a key role in organising a fantastic **“Go Green for Macmillan”** day, which brought learners together in support of an incredible cause. The day featured themed assemblies, the chance for students to wear an item of green clothing to show solidarity and a hugely popular cake sale.

Thanks to the generosity of the school community, they have raised over £800 – funds that will help Macmillan provide vital emotional, practical, and financial support to people living with cancer and their families.



Macmillan’s work is life-changing. In 2025 alone, the charity supported over 2.3 million people through services such as specialist nurses, welfare advice and community programmes. It’s inspiring to see the impact that comes from uniting as a school to support such a worthy cause.

Pupils pictured above helping raise money for Macmillan with a cake sale.

Another charity close to their hearts is the Bridgnorth Food Bank, part of the Bridgnorth Community Trust. This year, for Christmas jumper day they asked students to bring in essential items for the Food Bank across the last two weeks of term. This initiative provided emergency food and basic necessities to local people in crisis – support that is especially important during this festive season. Students presented goods to Liz Bird, manager of the Bridgnorth Food Bank. The Student Council also hopes to continue supporting the Food Bank by visiting its operation and helping further in the future. They believe these efforts will make meaningful difference to those in our community who need it most. We are so pleased that the Oldbury Wells School council are taking up this important cause.

As a community, Oldbury Wells School came together on Remembrance Day to mark the bravery and sacrifice of our armed forces. A huge collage was created in the West Hall dedicated to those who have served, continue to serve and who made the ultimate sacrifice. Learners researched family history and the stories of local residents to create the collage and share their unique narratives. At 11am, the school observed a two-minute silence to mark the time the guns on the Western Front fell silent – a poignant and moving moment where we stood together as a community!



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STUDENT
PARLIAMENT

TrustEd Parliament Go Green

Mrs Bell, our TrustEd Parliament Co-ordinator, gave an update, outlining the recent work that our TrustEd Parliament have been up to. Here is her report.

On Friday 17th October, student representatives from across the TrustEd Schools Partnership came together for an inspiring day of collaboration and planning. The TrustEd Parliament met to take part in a series of team-building activities designed to strengthen their leadership and communication skills.

The main focus of the day was planning how each school will work towards achieving their prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag accreditation. Students shared ideas, set goals, and began shaping action plans to guide their schools through the Eco-Schools programme. This is a global initiative that empowers young people to drive sustainable change in their communities.

This is just the beginning. The Student Parliament is calling on everyone, pupils, staff, families, and local residents to get involved and help make our schools and communities greener, cleaner, and more environmentally conscious.

Our students say that together, we can make a lasting impact!



Pictured are members of TrustEd Parliament carrying out team building exercises.



Mr Jew leading collaborative activities

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TrustEd Champions

We run a range of competitions in collaboration with our schools across the Trust. Pupils who win these competitions are recognised as “**TrustEd Champions**”. There are several competitions that run throughout the year, giving pupils opportunities to connect to young people in our other schools and to provide a richer variety of enrichment opportunities.

Festive Creativity and Vintage Cinema Shine in Two Inspiring Trust Competitions

This term, we celebrated imagination and creativity through two exciting Champions events: the Trust Christmas Card Design competition and the inaugural Silent Movie challenge. The Christmas card Design launched the festive celebrations, inviting pupils from all nine Trust schools to create artwork inspired by the magic of Christmas. Entries poured in from every Key Stage, showcasing a dazzling range of styles and techniques.

We were blown away by the incredible skills and talent of our pupils. The winning designs, chosen by the Trust, were professionally printed and featured on official Trust Christmas cards. These cards will appear on both our Trust and individual school websites, spreading holiday cheer far and wide. These designs really demonstrated the Trusts values of collaboration and creativity. Congratulations to our winners:

- EYFS - Maddie from Stokesay
- KS1 – David from Stokesay
- KS2 – Nancie from Alveley
- KS3 – Izzy from Mary Webb
- KS4 – Olivia from Belvidere



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TrustEd Champions Continued...

Continuing the festive celebrations, we introduced the Trusts first-ever Silent Movie Competition, hosted at Mary Webb School on 5th December. Pupils were whisked back to the golden age of cinema, where stories came alive through dramatic expressions, imaginative sets and the magic of live or recorded music. Teams of performers created short films inspired by imaginative themes such as The Storm, The Shop, and The Friends, delivering performances that were as inventive as they were entertaining. Whether pre-recorded or performed live, each entry captured the essence of silent-era drama with remarkable creativity.

Judges commended both competitions for their outstanding talent and originality. "The level of thought and skill in these projects is outstanding," remarked one panel member. "Our pupils have embraced the spirit of these challenges and delivered work that truly deserves celebration." The winners for this competition have been announced on the last day of term. See the **TrustEd Schools** Facebook page and website for details.

Looking ahead, pupils can anticipate more exciting opportunities to showcase their talents in upcoming competitions. Next up are the Art Gallery at St Leonard's School and the Poetry by Heart celebration, hosted at Oldbury Wells School.

Pictured are snippets from the silent movies sent to us from St Leonards School, Alveley School, Meole Brace School and Church Stretton School.



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Castlefields Spread Christmas Cheer

Brignorth is twinned with Shrobenhausen, a town in Bavaria, Germany as part of a triple alliance that also includes Theirs in France. This forms a triangular link established in 1992 after Bridgnorth twinned with Theirs in 1978. Castlefield's School were therefore delighted to participate in a Christmas Card Exchange with school children in our Twin Towns of Theirs (France) and Schrobhausen (Germany). This was organised by Bridgnorth and District Twinning Association.

Pupils from Castlefield's School showcased their creativity with every year group producing a big, bright card for each town and each pupil adding their own artistic touch to the design. The children were excited to create their Christmas designs. Faye, the Twinning Association's Youth Liaison talked to pupils in the assembly about the similarities between Christmas traditions in France, Germany and the UK. They would like to thank the children for their fantastic efforts as well as the staff who led the project.



Pictured are Faye and the Pupils at Castlefields School proudly showcasing their Christmas cards.



Alveley School Coming together

Alveley School have enjoyed seeing pupils, staff and families working together as one community, supporting each other and contributing to a warm, positive school atmosphere. In November, the whole school thoughtfully contributed to a beautiful Remembrance wreath. A group of children represented the school at the village memorial, laying the wreath with great respect.

As Alveley School move into the festive season, the children have been busy preparing for the Christmas nativity performance at the church. They have worked incredibly hard learning songs, lines, and actions, and they are so proud of the way they have supported one another throughout rehearsals.



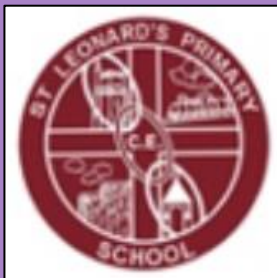
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A term focused on Community at Stokesay Primary School

This term at Stokesay Primary has been shaped by a strong sense of connection, generosity and shared purpose, with pupils, staff and families coming together to demonstrate what community truly means in their school. A real highlight was their whole school Danceathon, where pupils danced throughout the day to raise money for Hope House Children's hospice, significantly surpassing their fundraising target and showing incredible kindness and teamwork.

Later in the term, Councillor Joshua Dickin visited to speak with pupils about local democracy and meet their School, Eco and Trust Councils, giving children a meaningful insight into civic responsibility created a schoolwide display *The Proudest Stokesay*, after pupils wrote short reflections inspired by *The Proudest Blue* about moments that made them feel proud. Together, these moments have shown a community acting with compassion, confidence and curiosity — supporting others, celebrating identity and engaging with the world beyond the school gates. Stokesay continues to be a place where children thrive not only academically, but socially and personally, strengthened by the relationships and values that bind their school together.



Supporting Local Families this Christmas at St Leonards School and Meole Brace

Our schools have been busy providing a vital lifeline to our community this term. St Leonards School and its PTA have been incredibly busy this year collecting donations and wrapping presents with the help of Bridgnorth Town Council for the Bridgnorth Food Bank. Meole Brace have also been busy collecting food donations, showcasing the incredible generosity of our school community.



Thank you to everyone who has donated gifts and food, and for carrying on this lovely tradition at Christmas. The generosity of individuals truly makes a difference and provides much needed support for the people who rely on Food Banks. It ensures that every child has a present to open on Christmas day! Well done to everyone involved for showing fantastic support for our local Food Banks. At Meole Brace a special congratulations goes to class 8ALA for winning the Elaine Emberton Cup for their efforts.

Pupils from Meole Brace are pictured below proudly donating food to support the local food bank.



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The Stretton Spirit – Celebrating Community and Achievement

At Church Stretton School, they say that their strength lies in their community – students, staff, families and friends all working together to support learning, creativity and success. The Stretton Spirit celebrates the achievements, experiences and shared moments that continue to bring their school community together.

Students continue to represent Church Stretton with pride.

- Lucas Bennett (Year 10) represented the School at Westminster in his MYP role demonstrating leadership and confidence on a national stage.
- At the Stretton Choral Society Competition, musical talent shone brightly. Winner Isabelle earned a solo performance in the Christmas Concert and a £100 voucher. Callum and Layla were runners up, each receiving £25 for their impressive performances

These successes reflect not only individual dedication but the encouragement and support of their wider school community.

This term, Year 9 students took their learning beyond the classroom during fieldwork at Carding Mill Valley where they sampled pond and stream ecosystems. By comparing environmental conditions, students deepened their understanding of geography while connecting with their local landscape.

The festive season arrived at Church Stretton thanks to a generous donation of a Christmas tree from their Chair of Governors, Mike Collison. Beautifully decorated by the Student Council, the tree has brought warmth, colour and seasonal cheer to the school – a wonderful example of community spirit in action.



Lucas at Westminster



Pictured are students carrying out practical work

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Mary Webb School &
Science College

Robotics at Mary Webb School

Year 6 transition students from Mary Webb catchment school came together as a wider learning community through their Junior STEAM club. Through excited hands-on activities such as Sparklers, Flying Teabags and Duck in a Cup, students have been exploring science in a fun, supportive and interactive environment.

Their Robot Club has also been strengthening community connections beyond their school. Recently, students attended a Scrimmaging activity, as part of the First Tech Robot Challenge. The event provided a valuable opportunity to connect with other schools, exchange ideas and learn from one another, particularly around fundraising, robot building and competition preparation. Mary Webb School were especially proud to receive a trophy for Best Social Media Ideas, celebrating not only creativity but also social responsibility.

Pictured are pupils from Mary Webb participating in robot club



Celebrating Success at Belvidere School

As the first term of the academic year draws to a close, Belvidere School has much to celebrate. Both half terms have been rich with opportunities beyond the classroom and in the community. Students have benefited from a range of inspiration guest speakers and enrichment activities, while whole school events brought their community together to mark Anti-Bullying Week, White Ribbon Day, Youth Awareness Day and Remembrance Day. Their annual post – 16/18 Information Event was another highlight, supporting students as they considered their next steps and future aspirations.

Belvidere School also launched its newly formed Student Parliament. Representatives from all year groups meet monthly alongside staff leaders to share ideas, raise issues and help shape school life. Discussions have been thoughtful, respectful and highly productive, with several student-led suggestions already being reviewed and actioned.

The term concluded on a high note with their Christmas Concert, which brought together students, staff, families and friends to celebrate a successful term. The evening featured an impressive range of performances, showcasing the exceptional talent across their school.