

C.I.T. NEWS

July 2018



"Where Learning Comes First"



Dear All

The academic year 2017/2018 has continued to provide significant change to individual schools and the Community Inclusive Trust as a whole. I would like to thank all staff for their continued support, time and effort in providing the highest levels of education and care for our pupils this year.

I am delighted that all schools have had either a successful Ofsted or a Health Check that recognises staff efforts and grades the schools as at least 'Good'.

During the year, we have made strides in forming an appropriate central resource to support the schools in the Trust and provide a firm platform for growth. We have now completed the process of bringing our Finance support in-house, and have also reviewed our HR support and appointed Croner as our partner to provide this. We will continue to look at how we develop our central resource and will constantly be consulting with schools on what they as the "customer" need. In doing this we have not only delivered significant cost savings to the Trust, but we have also gained the benefit of having a full team employed directly by the Trust to deliver the needs on a full-time, 52-week basis. These additions will provide a high-class service to our current schools to benefit our pupils. Those involved in the teaching and care of our pupils will be able to focus solely on this and will see continued increases in resources and facilities, even during these harsh economic times. As the Trust grows, it will now be strategically placed to meet the needs of new schools, such as The Phoenix, who are due to join the Trust in November.

Finally, some of the highlights for the year: Poplar Farm School will open its doors in September - a new purpose-built primary school in Grantham. Ambergate, Sandon, and Garth have all secured over £3m of funding to improve their facilities available to pupils and staff. The SEND Review continues in a positive direction, and hopefully, in November, significant funding will be secured to refurbish all our special schools. Caythorpe Primary are having a complete redecoration and upgrade of furniture during the summer months ready for pupils in September. The hard work of all staff at Isaac Newton has been recognised by the community as they are oversubscribed for this September's reception intake.

I wish you all a great summer and thank you once again for all your hard work and the life-changing opportunities you offer our pupils.

Peter Bell

Chief Executive Officer

CAYTHORPE LEAGUE WINNERS

Caythorpe Primary School's High Five Netball Team have won the Under 11's Sleaford and District feeder league!

High Five is a game adapted from the rules of netball. The main difference being that there are seven players in a squad but only five players on the court at a time. Players rotate positions after each quarter.

This arrangement is great because it means the children experience what it is like to play in each different position, ready for when they make the change to a seven-a-side game of netball.

Caythorpe's Team members are from Years 5 and 6 and consisted of: Madelaine Stevens, Charlie Cook, Katherine Norton, Hannah Harby, Hope Mussell, Sadie Whitaker, Marith Leake and Liam Whitaker.

Well done to the High Five Team!



Influencing their own Einstein's at Chapel!

Thanks to the Edina Trust, Chapel St Leonards Primary School have been able to purchase much needed new science equipment to increase the pupils' amount of practical hands-on interaction.

The School has a vision to influence and engage pupils enabling lifelong learning.

The stock of science equipment at the school has become depleted over the years due to tightening budgets. With the £600 funding from The Edina Trust, they have refreshed current resources and purchased a variety of new interactive equipment. The goal is to engage the pupils in learning about plants, conductors and insulators, forces, evolution and much more.

With the excitement the new equipment is bringing for pupils, the staff are confident they will engage children across all years and abilities and see this increased level of engagement result in improved SATs scores as we go forward.

Graham Almond, Headteacher, said, "We are delighted to be able to work with the Edina Trust to develop our teaching of science. Thanks to this funding we can now expand on pupil's investigative experiences through the use of these new resources we have now been able to purchase. As we fully launch our exciting new themed curriculum in September, including Science themed weeks, the equipment will be put to excellent use!"

Edina Trust



ISAAC NEWTON DEPUTY RETIRES

Gill Anderson, Deputy Head of Isaac Newton School, has retired after 26 years' dedicated service.

Mrs Anderson received a warm send-off from pupils and staff just before Easter. The celebrations included a special assembly featuring many of Gill's former pupils coming back to the school to bid farewell to the departing deputy, who also taught Year 2.

Mrs Anderson said: "I just feel really privileged to work with such a dedicated and determined staff, strong and supportive parents and children who are eager in every aspect of their learning."

"It makes for a very vibrant school community, and I feel very lucky to have been a big part of it."

Mrs Anderson enjoyed seeing her former pupils and hear them reminisce about the old days. The mum-of-four, who lives in Sedgebrook, has a three-year-old granddaughter, with another granddaughter due in September. Mrs Anderson says she is looking forward to a holiday with husband Bob in France and added: "Finally I will have time to have the garden exactly how I want it. I also hope to start painting again."

Headteacher Paul Hill said his departing deputy had made a huge difference to the school in her 26 years there. He said: "Mrs Anderson's dedication to the school has ensured thousands of children here have been well looked after in terms of their emotional, academic and physical well-being. The children whom she has taught can feel extremely fortunate to have counted her as their class teacher. I have never met any teacher who is as insightful, well researched and most importantly child centred."

He added: "I feel blessed to have worked with Mrs Anderson for the past four years. She has been a real inspiration, and we wish her well in her retirement."

School site manager Julie Haddock also said: "Gill is a lovely lady, who will be sorely missed by all pupils, staff and parents, half of whom she will have taught herself."

Mrs Anderson's replacement as Deputy Head is former Assistant Headteacher Mrs Sara Pask, who will continue to teach in Year 2.

[PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANTHAM JOURNAL—featuring Gill Anderson, Paul Hill and Isaac Newton pupils]



C.I.T Schools supported again by Rotary Swimarathon

The Rotary Swimarathon have this year raised over £36,000 and donated to 49 local causes. Three C.I.T. Schools were awarded funding at this year's Swimarathon presentation evening, held at St Wulfram's Church on Tuesday (19th) evening.

Caythorpe Primary School received £600 for much needed Early Years Foundation role play equipment. Sandon School received £500 and, Ambergate Sports College received £1,000 towards their Archery Booth Project, expanding their sporting facilities for additional needs children.



Ashley Caress, Assistant Head at Ambergate Sports College, Kate White, Assistant Head at Sandon School, and Katie Brockington, Head of School at Caythorpe Primary School, were all present at the event and were handed cheques during a special event at St Wulfram's Church.

[Pictured above right with Roger Graves, Chairman of The Grantham Swimarathon.]

EUREKA MOMENT FOR JOHN FIELDING PUPILS!!!

John Fielding Special School in Boston provides a differentiated curriculum designed to meet the unique needs of all of its pupils. Pupils range in age from 2 -19 Years old and all have severe learning difficulties, some also have Autism, Epilepsy, a physical disability, sensory impairment, medical needs and/or a communication difficulty.

Due to the rurality of Lincolnshire and pupils' disabilities, the school is restricted in providing field trips any further afield than Boston. In the upcoming term, two classes will be focusing their studies on a 'Space and Science Project'. To fully engage the pupils and provide them with an inclusive and interactive science experience, teachers felt strongly about taking the children to Eureka, The National Children's Museum in Halifax.

Thanks to The Institute of Physics, this longed-for trip could finally take place.

John Fielding School were awarded £500 from The Institute of Physics to hire a Jumbulance coach to transport their pupils to the Science Museum. The Jumbulance is a high spec coach which possess large changing facilities, a kitchen and wheelchair access to meet the needs of the pupils on their two and a half hour journey to the museum.

The excitement from the pupils hit fever pitch on Tuesday morning at 7.30am when the special coach arrived. The children had a fantastic day out and fun, trouble-free journey too.

Richard Gamman, Head of School, "We were so grateful to have this support from the Institute of Physics. It has enabled the children to travel to the fabulous Eureka Museum near Halifax. It simply would not have been viable to take our group of children with complex health and care needs so far without the Jumbulance. At the museum itself, the exhibits and activities engaged the children throughout the visit. The trip was a great success."



IOP
Institute of Physics

HOWZAT for Priory School win!!

Teams from the Priory and Garth schools were on form for the third annual Spalding Special Schools Cricket Day.

Alan Porter, who was until recently, the chairman of The Cricket Society Trust, created the day so that youngsters could gain the perfect introduction to the sport.

The honours on the day went to The Priory School Team, who will now face Peterborough in a regional final to be held on July 3rd.

Alan watched the day unfold, keeping an expert eye on the play, and said a highlight was a glorious boundary.

"A girl just clunked it, and it went for six," said Alan, "One boy actually turned up at school the following day still wearing his medal!", he added, "The Priory School won - they won last year too so get to keep the shield."

Alan says the pupils have improved year on year, and they are really getting into the sport.

He said: "It gets them exercising and they use their brain a little bit, and they just enjoy it. They are very appreciative of what you do for them."

Alan has been a life-long devotee of cricket, and although he's stepped down as chairman of The Cricket Society Trust, he remains a trustee of the body.



C.I.T. Funding Snapshot June 2018

Hi All - Here are three new funds that have recently become available. If you have a project on the go that fits into any of the criteria's below, please let us know.

[Johnson and Mukherjee Charitable Trust](#)

Fund: £4,000

The Johnson and Mukherjee Charitable Trust (JMCT) looks to advance education by providing or assisting in the provision of learning and teaching materials and equipment. In the interest of social welfare, to provide or assist in the provision of facilities or recreation for children in nursery and primary schools, with the object of improving conditions for those children.

JMCT are conscious that small primary schools can struggle to give their children a wider social experience, and look favourably on collaborative bids which focus on joint enterprise between schools and external agencies.

Deadline: 19th October 2018

[Royal Society of Chemistry – Outreach Fund Small Grants Scheme](#)

Fund: Up to £2,000

Schools can apply for grants of up to £2,000 to run chemistry-based events and activities. These can be both for one-off events or a larger programme of activities. Priority will be given to projects that raise awareness of the place of chemistry in people's everyday lives, especially those not already interested in chemistry, and/or develop the science communication skills of people who are already highly trained in chemistry.

Previously funded projects include "Cool chemistry at the seaside" where the Society awarded a grant of £2,000. They transformed an empty town-centre shop into a makeshift theatre, delivering free chemistry demonstrations.

Deadline: 9th September 2018

[Greggs Foundation Breakfast Clubs](#)

Fund: Up to £2,000

Primary Schools and Special Schools (who operate the Breakfast Club for Reception to Year 6) where 40% of pupils are eligible to claim free school meals can apply for money to start a breakfast club. The school must demonstrate a commitment to engaging parents and other volunteers. The Breakfast Club must also be free for Pupils to attend.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate improvements in the children's health, attendance and punctuality, following the start of a Breakfast Club.

Deadline: Applications can be submitted at any time

If you have any ideas we can use to tap into the above grants or any other grants, or you would just like some more information, please get in touch.

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Matched Funding for Books for Primary Schools (UK)

BookLife are offering match-funding on book purchases to primary schools.

Schools purchasing books from BookLife can apply for match funding of the same amount - effectively doubling the value of their order. The offer is valid for all products in the

[BookLife Match Funding](#)

[Catalogue](#)

Awards for All

Many of the schools are eligible or soon to be eligible to apply for Awards for All funding again.

Some schools already have applications underway. If you haven't spoken to Kris or Jacki regarding this. Please get in contact, with your ideas.

This is a £10,000 opportunity!

[Wilko's Helping Hands](#)

With the end of the school year approaching and many of you and your PTA's hosting Summer Fayre's and Fete's you may find Wilko's Helping Hands of use.

They are willing to provide products and gift vouchers to be used as raffle prizes.



"Where Learning Comes First"

POPLAR FARM SCHOOL BUILD COMPLETE

The build of Poplar Farm School has been dominating the landscape to the north-west of Grantham for the past 2 years. Completed last week, the official hand over took place between Wates Construction and Lincolnshire County Council, with keys then being passed to C.I.T Academies to run the school for local primary school children in the area.

Justin Ward, Project Manager – LCC, “I am very pleased we have completed such a superb building, it is a credit to the whole team and a great achievement. The school will open its doors in September and will be a fantastic environment for local children from the Poplar Farm area.”

The school has been created with modern learning in mind and comes complete with extensive outdoor sports facilities, break out rooms, a state of the art kitchen, and internally providing as much natural light as possible. The keys were handed to Jenny Wheeldon, Principal Designate of Poplar Farm School.

Peter Bell, CEO of Community Inclusive Trust (C.I.T.) said, “I am delighted and proud to have worked in close partnership with the Local Authority, the DFE, and Wates Construction, to open an outstanding purpose built primary school for the children within the local area. Poplar Farm School will open its doors to reception children on Wednesday 5th September. We are looking forward to welcoming them.”



Isaac Newton bags a grand!

Isaac Newton Primary School has won £1,000 in the Tesco Bags of Help initiative, bagging themselves a cash sum towards their project to boost pupil wellbeing.

Tesco teamed up with Groundwork to launch its community funding scheme, which sees grants of up to £4,000, up to £2,000 and £1,000 raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores awarded to local community projects. Shoppers voted in two Grantham Tesco stores, and Isaac Newton School came in 3rd place.

Their project: "Into the Wild."

Isaac Newton Primary School has a fantastic unused space on site that needs an injection of creative thinking and funding to turn it into an exciting, new and natural outdoor learning area for the children.

They would like to install a nature area, to include bird feeding stations, two bird hides, Buddleja planting to entice Butterfly's, and log piles and bug hotels to entice wildlife. The children can then study the natural wildlife around them, instead of googling it on the internet inside the classroom.

They intend to install wooden sleeper planters creating a 'Sensory Garden' for the children to enjoy, smell, see, and learn about different plants, flowers and herbs.

These new and exciting extracurricular activities will also complement our curriculum, covering subjects such as Science, Maths, Art and History.

Paul Hill, Executive Head, said:

“We were delighted to be awarded £1,000 by Tesco. It will make a considerable difference to the Forest School Project that we are undertaking, and we can't wait to turn our plans into reality.”

Lindsey Crompton, Tesco's Head of Community, said:

“Bags of Help has been a fantastic success. We have been overwhelmed by the response of our customers, and it's been great to give people a say on how the money will be spent in their community. We can't wait to see the projects come to life.”

Since launching in 2015, Bags of Help has awarded more than £25 million across more than 3,000 local projects.



- **£466,976 raised by the Fundraising Department over the past four years!**
- **Funding projects such as sensory rooms, library books, minibuses, playgrounds, sensory gardens, outdoor classrooms, outdoor exercise equipment, and more!**
- **So far during this academic year, 68 bids have been written and submitted on behalf of schools, totalling a potential of £630,604.**
- **31 have so far been successful, resulting in funding of £183,354!**
- **If you have a project idea for your school, please contact the C.I.T. Fundraising Team.**

BREAKING NEWS

Caythorpe pupil nominated for Primary Sports Person of the Year!

Maddie Stevens, a pupil at Caythorpe Primary School, has been nominated for Sports Person of the Year at this year's Golden Apple Education Awards.

11-year-old Maddie has attended Caythorpe since reception, and at just 9 years old she took part in her first equestrian competition competing against 20 other children, most of which were 2 years older than her. During this event, Maddie showed great courage and desire resulting in her being presented with a prize for her determination (biggest smile) and self-belief.

In September, during a PE lesson, Maddie began playing football with her class. During these sessions, Maddie showed incredible attributes needed for a goalkeeper, and so, after just a few lessons, a girl's football team was created to play in a local match. Following the success in this match, the team were then entered into the local SSP competition along with 18 other schools. Despite never playing football before, the team went on to win this competition with Maddie only conceding 1 goal during the whole event.



An invite to the Skegness PLPS tournament then provided Maddie's team with their next challenge. Again they finished in 1st place, winning all their games with Maddie again showing huge determination and courage against strong opposition, not conceding a single goal. Maddie and the team went on to compete at the National finals at Leicester City FC.

Throughout the year Maddie has gone from strength to strength and embedded herself as a key figure in both the school's and Lincolnshire County teams. This year Maddie has competed for the Lincolnshire County Netball squad, and in a regional competition for the Lincolnshire Sports Hall Athletics Team.

All of the skills and talent that Maddie possesses have been used to help her school into four county finals in sports including Pop Lacrosse & Hockey. It has also led to her being accepted into the local Gifted & Talented Sports Academy delivered by Carre's Grammar School.

Mr Ricky Pledger, Sports Coach at Carre's Grammar School:

"I first met Madeleine almost four years ago when I began delivering PE sessions at Caythorpe Primary School.

During the last four years I have worked closely with Maddie, a girl determined to challenge and push herself to gain success. I have not come across many children that, at a young age, learn from mistakes and failure very quickly yet remain graceful in defeat. Even when Maddie is unsuccessful, she smiles and shows respect by offering congratulations to the winners."

Katie Brockington, Head of School at Caythorpe Primary:

"Maddie is a wonderful student. She excels in sport, but also her contribution in the classroom continues to shine with her recently being awarded the Head Teachers award for outstanding effort and for being an inspiring role model to others. I wish her luck with this nomination."

IN EACH EDITION OF THE NEWLESTER WE INTRODUCE C.I.T. STAFF HERE ARE SOME MORE INTRODUCTIONS...



Michelle Allbones, Head of Finance

I joined the C.I.T. team as Head of Finance in April 2018.

The Trust has been outsourcing finance to an external consultancy (SAAF) for some years now. Following an audit, it was agreed bringing finance back in-house would not only save money but also improve internal processes and communications. Therefore, we are now very busy creating a fully functioning C.I.T Finance Team at the central office.

The purpose of this central finance function is to support and assist the schools to meet our strategic vision of creating a first-class infrastructure that influences education and enables outstanding lifelong learning.

Although centralising will enable the Trust to achieve economies of scale, more streamlined approaches to procurement, budgeting and management of finance; the support of financial administrators within the schools along with the school business managers who support them, are essential to the success of the central finance team. The aim is to take the financial administrative burden away from the teaching staff so that they can concentrate on doing what they do best, teaching.

I come from a varied financial and business background including accountancy practice, industry and other charitable organisations. I have been a qualified Chartered Certified Accountant for over 20 years and have a Master's Degree in Planning and Development. I'm very excited to join the education sector and to be part of the C.I.T. team. I am keen to play my part in helping to develop our Trust as one that achieves excellence in learning.

In my spare time, I love spending time with my family and friends, baking and weightlifting (although not together!)



Darren Wilson, Financial Analyst

I joined the finance team within C.I.T. in March 2018 as a Financial Analyst.

My main areas of responsibilities are to analyse historical data to reduce unnecessary overspend across the Trust, and to implement the centralisation of commercial services, utilities, procurement, and stock management.

My aim is to assist the Trust in fully realising its purpose - "Where Learning Comes First" by helping reduce the burden of school business management that currently sits with heads and school staff. Thus allowing teaching and

support staff more time to focus their energy on the children within their schools and help give the children what they deserve, the best education possible.

My background is in Commercial Business Analysis, Supply Chain Management, Procurement, and Navigation as a Maritime Officer.

I'm married with two children and have interests in Judo, Cricket, Rugby and Campanology.

Until recently I have never even considered running but have agreed, thanks to Jacki, to take part in The Great GANF run, a 115-mile Relay-Run on the 20th July!





Kris Mantle, Bid Writer/Fundraiser

I joined C.I.T. in January 2018 as a Bid Writer/Fundraiser.

Working alongside Jacki Bartram, my primary responsibilities are to source funding opportunities and write persuasive bid applications to secure funding for all schools across the Trust. I am also looking to use other fundraising tools such as Crowdfunding and Amazon Smile which will give us more control of our fundraising activities. We recently had success at The Priory School using Crowdfunding to quickly raise funds to purchase a car for Priory's mechanics pupils. As well as working with the schools, I am also trying to support the school PTA's where I can, to assist their fundraising efforts and help maintain fundraising organisations at each school.

Since January I have secured funding for school trips, science equipment, sensory resources and an archery booth. With the variety of funding available, there is likely money for your project. I am always up for a challenge; recently I was asked to find funding for a full-size 3G pitch, so please get in touch if you have any ideas or projects that need funding.



Funding organisations always want to know the need for a project,



who it will benefit and why. They also love community involvement, so if there is a way of involving parents, a local group or business, whoever, this can help secure the funding. So please keep these points in mind when creating your idea.

Before joining the Trust, I worked as a bid writer for a Social Care tender writing company. I live in Nottingham and am a prominent dog wanter.



Lisa Lound, PA to Peter Bell (CEO) and Adrian Finn (COO)

I joined C.I.T. in December 2017 to support the CEO and COO as their PA.

My principal duties are to act as "gatekeeper", managing their very busy diaries, arranging meetings, taking minutes, making travel arrangements and generally ensuring that they are in the right place at the right time with all the relevant paperwork. I have significant responsibilities in respect of co-ordination, oversight and prioritisation within the Trust on their behalf, particularly in respect of strategic meetings with Head Teachers, School Business Managers and external agencies/partners.

I contribute to the working practices of the Trust by identifying areas for improvement, using creativity, initiative and foresight to find resolutions when responding to issues or problems that arise.

I have many years' experience as a senior PA and bring an independent outlook to C.I.T. that provides a healthy balance and challenge to more established education-based views.

Prior to joining the Trust, I worked for Lincolnshire Police for just over nine years as PA to senior officers and their teams.

Grace Tavener, Company Secretary



I joined the C.I.T. team as Company Secretary in April 2018.

My main responsibilities are to assist the Board of Trustees to ensure they discharge their duties effectively and within best practice. I am also responsible for maintaining the Trust's statutory registers and centralised records, to ensure efficient administration of the Trust. I will make sure C.I.T. business is conducted within the regulatory environment, and ensure compliance with legal obligations.

I will be the primary source of advice on the conduct of business across all areas of the Trust, from risk management and internal control, governance and compliance, conflicts of interest, to the development of strategy and planning.

Prior to joining C.I.T., I worked in the private sector with senior management across all areas of business. In my most recent role, I supported the board of directors as the Assistant Company Secretary for a public limited company on the Alternative

Investment Market.

I am in the final stages of completing The Chartered Secretary Qualifying Scheme, which has equipped me with knowledge of Governance, Risk and Compliance, Company Law, Business Law, Strategic Planning and Financial Reporting and Analysis.

I decided to make the move over to C.I.T. as I wanted to use my skills to work in an environment more aligned to my conscience. I am seeking to expand on my skills within the Charity Sector, which I anticipate will bring new and welcome challenges.

I aim to provide professional advice and support across the Trust ensuring that C.I.T. delivers on its obligations within the business and Charity environment.

I have a BSc (Hons) from the University of Southampton and am currently training to become a Chartered Secretary with the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators. I hope to become fully qualified next year.

Caythorpe girls enjoy a visit of a lifetime!

Caythorpe Primary girls only started playing football together in September last year, following some PE lessons from a local coach. Despite never playing football before, the girls' talent stood out massively, and so a team was put together to compete in local competitions. The girls went on to win both the competitions they entered, and even had their B team finish in second place!

An invite to the Skegness PLPS tournament provided the team with their next challenge. After a fantastic day out the girls' team again finished in 1st place!

Ambition, determination, teamwork, these girls show all of these qualities and have been a huge inspiration to the children within their school!

The Premier League paid for the girls to visit Leicester City Football Club and also stay overnight in the Radisson Blu Hotel. The team got the chance to look around The King Power Stadium and play on the pitch!

Although the Caythorpe Team didn't come away with a trophy this time, they did come away with some fantastic memories! Well done girls!



Isaac Newton School raise record amounts for the 2018 Swimarathon

Pupils and staff from Isaac Newton Primary School were acknowledged at this year's Rotary Swimarathon presentation evening, for raising the most money by an individual school.

The event took place on Tuesday 19th June at St Wulfram's Church in front of a packed audience.

The Swimarathon took place on Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th February with Isaac Newton School entering 8 teams in to the 29th Annual Rotary Swimarathon. The Isaac swimmers clocked up as many lengths as they could in return for sponsorship and the school raised over £1,500 for the Swimarathon Charity!

Pupils, Devan and Lewis, were representing Isaac Newton School on the night. Marcus Meadows of Downtown (an official sponsor of the event), presented their awards.



Also present was Assistant Head Sara Pask:

"Every year we enter as many teams as possible for the Swimarathon. We are delighted and proud of the children for taking part and raising as much money as possible."

Devan and Lewis both added, "We are very proud that we raised so much money."

Across the weekend a total of thousands of lengths were swam by the participants, and over £36,000 was pledged to the Rotary Club of Grantham's Swimarathon.

Well done to all for taking part!

Next year's Swimarathon will mark the 30th Anniversary and is already booked for 1st to 3rd February 2019.

Chicks hatch across the Trust!

Caythorpe Primary and Sandon School pupils have been learning about the life cycle of hens and were thrilled with the arrival of their incubators and eggs earlier this month. Enchanted Forest Class and Neverland Class at Caythorpe Primary School, along with Oak Class at Sandon School, have been watching and waiting for their new arrivals!

The schools took delivery of their batch of eggs from Rand Farm Park in the hope that pupils would see chicks emerging from their shells first-hand.

The excitement grew, and by last Tuesday, two feathered friends had made an appearance at Sandon School, followed soon after by another four. Caythorpe's all arrived on the same day, and the children were lucky enough to witness the chicks cracking out of their shells!

Sandon's Oak Class Teacher Aimee Brummitt said:

"It was a good opportunity for the class to learn about the hatching process and watch the eggs in the incubator. We all had fun counting down the 21 days to their due date.

Their patience paid off. When we returned to school after the bank holiday weekend, we were delighted to discover that two had already hatched and were running around the incubator. The pupils were then able to gather around the incubator and watch as the other four eggs hatched. It was lovely for them to see the chicks pecking out of their shells."

The pupils who are all aged between 12 and 15, took their new responsibilities very seriously by taking it in turns to look after the chicks before the farmer from Rand Farm picked them up on Friday.

But it won't be farewell for long as the class have been invited to see how their chicks have settled in during a class trip to Rand Farm later this month.



John Fielding Special School bags £2,000 from carrier bag charge fund

John Fielding School has won £2,000 in the Tesco Bags of Help initiative, bagging themselves a cash sum towards their project to boost pupil wellbeing.

Tesco teamed up with Groundwork to launch its community funding scheme, which sees grants of up to £4,000, up to £2,000 and £1,000 raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores awarded to local community projects. Shoppers voted in the Boston Tesco Superstore, and John Fielding Special School came in 2nd place.

Their project: 'Boosting pupil wellbeing through outdoor learning.'

John Fielding Special School provides a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum designed to meet the unique needs of all of their pupils. The pupils range in age from 2 -19 Years old and all have severe learning difficulties, some also have an autistic spectrum disorder, epilepsy, a physical disability, sensory impairment, medical needs and/or a communication difficulty.

They strive to develop the skills of their young people so that they are prepared for life beyond school. And this is where the "Boosting pupil's wellbeing" idea came from.

The best way to get the most out of the classroom is to leave it and take learning outside. Outdoor learning can make for happier, healthier, well-rounded students, particularly for those with special educational needs.

John Fielding School has an area on school grounds that has been utilised as best it can as a horticulture area for pupils. This project gives the children time to play and explore in the soil, incorporating play and gross motor skills. It also reduces muscle tension and builds endurance and hand dexterity. Staff have found it helps lessen negative feelings, anxieties, aggressive tendencies, and helps to reduce tactile defensiveness.

This funding from Tesco Groundwork means they can now expand on the current horticultural area to create a fully inclusive and working outdoor environment. A wheelchair friendly pathway will be installed to allow access each workstation, three composting beds, five raised planting beds, an outdoor workspace, and then plant sensory flowers throughout the area.

Richard Gamman, Head of School, said:

"The Tesco grant will enable us to provide wheelchair access and new raised beds to our horticulture area, allowing all of our children the chance to access this facility. The children will be able to learn about life cycles of plants, grow food crops, and understand the whole process from seed to table."

Lindsey Crompton, Tesco's Head of Community, said:

"Bags of Help has been a fantastic success. We have been overwhelmed by the response of our customers, and it's been great to give people a say on how the money will be spent in their community. We can't wait to see the projects come to life."

Since launching in 2015, Bags of Help has awarded more than £25 million across more than 3,000 local projects.

Groundwork's National Chief Executive, Graham Duxbury, said:

"It's just the beginning for Bags of Help, and we're really excited about the future. The scheme will be permanently open for applications, and as grants can now be used for not just the development of, but also for the use of local outdoor spaces, we expect even more groups will now have the chance to benefit.

"Its projects like these that really help to capture the public's imagination by illustrating what can be achieved when communities are given the support and the encouragement they need to create better places where they live."

Funding is available to groups who are seeking to use and develop outdoor spaces in ways that will benefit their local community. Anyone can nominate a local project, and community organisations can apply. To find out more visit www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp



Students asked to build 12ft high bike!

We reported last month that Woodlands Academy in Spilsby had been asked by the organisers of Lincolnshire Bike Week, to design and build a 12ft high wooden bike.

Well, the students have cracked on with the design and build, and the bike is now really taking shape!

Steve Everton, Teacher, said, "We have our own Forest School at Woodlands Academy, and the students learn green wood carving among many others skills. We were extremely chuffed to be asked to build the 12ftx20ft bike for the Sutton on Sea Bike Night, and the students were very eager to get started!"



COASTAL EVENTS CIC, supported by the BRITISH MOTORCYCLE FEDERATION & the MOTORCYCLE ACTION GROUP are organising Lincolnshire Bike Week, and expect to see thousands of visitors flock to the Lincolnshire coast this July.

Adrian Marson, Director at Coastal Events:

"This collaboration came about when two of Coastal Events CICs' Directors, Nikki Shaw and Patti Marson, were chatting with Woodlands Academy teacher Steve Everton, about their plans to build a giant bike to burn on the beach for the Grand Finale of Lincolnshire Bike Week 2018. The Directors knew Steve Evertons' creative skills and excellent woodworking abilities, and during the conversation, Steve suggested it may be the kind of exciting project that Woodlands Academy students would like to get involved with. We then established sponsorship of the materials needed from a very generous local company - Thompson Timber."

"We are delighted that Woodlands Academy agreed to take on the project as we are a community focused company and aim to connect and create community cohesion involving as many local people as possible when delivering this awesome event for Lincolnshire."

"We are sure the students engaged in the design & build will be very pleased with the finished result and rightly proud of their considerable achievement when the giant bike is set alight at Sutton on Sea beach during the Grand Finale of Lincolnshire Bike Week 2018."

"Everyone is welcome to attend this FREE spectacular event. A big thank you to Woodlands Academy and its students for getting involved!"

Lincolnshire Bike Week is a jam-packed festival with a main stage and awesome live music line up at the central site in Trusthorpe. The event kicks off with the Mablethorpe Bike Night on 18th July 2018 and finishes the following Wednesday with the Sutton on Sea Bike Night on 25th July 2018. The students giant 'Burning Bike' will be lit between 9 & 10pm.



C.I.T. secures over 5 million to improve schools



Having previously been awarded £2.6 million, the Community Inclusive Trust (C.I.T.) has now received extra funding of £2.5 million to develop and expand three of its Outstanding SEN schools within the Multi-Academy Trust.

Ambergate Sports College (Grantham) The Sandon School (Grantham) and The Garth School (Spalding) will all be expanded to provide additional and necessary teaching accommodation and pupil places within Lincolnshire County.

All the schools which were awarded funding are OFSTED rated OUTSTANDING, and the new facilities will provide an opportunity for more children to benefit from the excellent teaching and learning environment for children aged 4-19 years of age.

Chief Executive of the Trust Peter Bell, commented:

“I am delighted that the Education Funding Agency (EFA) is supporting the outstanding provision that C.I.T. provides within its schools by investing in the future infrastructure.

The investment will also be used in partnership with the proposed Local Authority SEND review, subject to it being approved. We want to play our part in providing the highest levels of education and care for children across Lincolnshire with all types of special educational needs.”

This is the second year in succession that Community Inclusive Trust has been awarded funding.

The Trust had previously been awarded 2.6 million to provide new boilers and roofs, while, Ambergate Sports College was awarded funding to provide eight additional classrooms, a hall extension, a dining facility and a staff room.

After another year of successfully gaining funding, Ambergate will now be further developed to provide four additional classrooms, new toilets and group rooms to keep up with the high demand for pupil places due to the school's popularity.

The Garth School in Spalding has gained funding to provide two additional classrooms, supplementary accommodation, an administration area and a hall to accommodate the recent growth in pupil places.

This new stand-alone building will provide new Post 16 accommodation which will allow pupils to develop life skills. The new accommodation will consist of classrooms, horticulture, cafe/kitchen and outdoor spaces to grow vegetables. There will also be a new hall and staff room accommodation to assist the school in continuing to provide high-quality education.

The Sandon School gained funding to provide two additional classrooms, supplementary accommodation, an admin area and a hydro-pool. This imperative expansion project will allow the school to meet the pupils' educational needs and accommodate for an increase in pupil places.

Brand new Sensory Room for Sandon School



Sandon School has been fundraising for 12 months to raise money for a Sensory Room for their pupils and earlier on this year they achieved their target of £11,000!

They received generous donations from many including Rotary Swimarathon who donated a whopping £5,000!! Friends of Sandon and Ambergate (FOSA) raised a superb £4,000, and Lincolnshire Provincial Grand Stewards Masonic Lodge donated £750. Other donations to complete the target raised came from parent donations, Grantham Kesteven Rotary Club, Portage and Wings of Love Church.

The sensory room installation is now complete, and the new interactive room provides a space for the pupils to engage and explore the environment, giving them positive effects on their ability to react and interact with the larger world around them. Sensory Learning is an instrumental part of the learning process for special needs pupils, providing another way to learn skills through sensory interaction.

Stela Plamenova, Headteacher at Sandon School, "Pupils and staff are very grateful to all of the organisations that spent time and fundraised towards our new Sensory Room. As an Outstanding school, we keep refining our curriculum offer and having a new, state of the art sensory room, will enrich even further the opportunities available for pupils at Sandon."

An official opening was being held on Tuesday 24th April. Alistair Holmes, President of Rotary Club of Grantham, cut the ribbon, officially opening the new sensory room.

Alistair Holmes, President of the Rotary Club of Grantham, said, "Rotary and the 'RotarySwimarathon' are all about supporting the local community. When members of the Club visited the school last year they were amazed by not only the whole set up of Sandon School but the commitment and sheer dedication of all the staff and helpers, and at the same time so proud of what the pupils achieve. Clearly, the development of the Sensory Room is a further enhancement to help those pupils with the highest level of learning difficulties."

Roger Graves, Chair of RotarySwimarathon added, "The donation of £5,000 came from the 2017 event and was the main Grant awarded. We are delighted it has gone to such a worthwhile project and to see it come to completion today."

Katie Bennington, Chair of FOSA said, "It was wonderful to be invited to the official opening of Sandon's new Sensory Room. As always, there was a fantastic atmosphere in the school, and it was very clear that the money FOSA donated has been put to exceptionally good use. The sensory room is an excellent addition to the school and will benefit both current and future pupils."

Pictured: Alistair Holmes - President of the Rotary Club of Grantham, Roger Graves - Chairman of Rotary Swimarathon, Stephen Short & Andrew Redman from Rotary Club of Grantham, Katie Bennington - Chair of FOSA, Libby Simpson & Pepi Halliday from Grantham Kesteven Rotary Club, Stela Plamenova - Headteacher of Sandon School, Sara Ellis - Assistant Headteacher of Sandon School.

Campaign launched to improve facilities at the C.I.T Forest School

A campaign has been launched to raise £40,000 to refurbish Wyville Village Hall, the indoor facilities used at the C.I.T Forest School.

The hall in Wyville-cum-Hungerton is used by the local community and for local groups such as the scouts. GANF (Ambergate Sports College and Sandon School) and Isaac Newton Primary School, also use the hall during term time when teaching outdoor learning to pupils.

The hall has become outdated, needing new toilets and heating, with better access also needed for the hall's disabled and elderly users.

The target goal for the whole project is £40,000.

£10,000 will buy a wet room so ALL pupils can use the Forest School, £3,000 will fund a pull down changing bed, £14,500 will buy new boilers, £2,200 will fund updated electrics, £13,000 will create a new and better kitchen and £4,600 will fund partition doors.

Ambergate Sports College (GANF) Headteacher James Ellis said refurbishing the village hall will allow more pupils to use the Forest School as the poor toilets only allow short-term use.

"The Forest School is a vital resource for pupils at GANF and allows them to learn practical skills that can support them in later life. The more we are able to use this facility the more opportunities we can provide for our students."

Wyville Village Hall Committee Chair Isabel Burford said the hall was once the social hub of the village, but use has dropped over the years. While the building can cope with irregular use from the village, its use by GANF means it needs better facilities.

She said: "The structure itself is stable, but the kitchen is not up to today's legal standards for preparing food. The toilets were not designed for people with disabilities, and for carers, the hall is quite difficult to use. The strip lighting is harsh, and the wall mounted electric heaters are expensive to run and inefficient."

Raising funds and improving the hall will mean more children will use it and encourage village use.

She added: "Whenever I arrive at the Forest School there is such a sense of happiness and engagement. To allow greater access would be a wonderful thing".

To find out more and watch a short film about project, please click on the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/WyvilleVillageHall/>



Crawl or Canter? Let's call it a relay instead!



You may be aware that C.I.T. have been trying to organise a Trust wide run to raise funds for our schools. Even though we initially had 21 runners signed up, unfortunately, as the date grew closer and the summer holidays loomed, our runners dwindled. So a decision was made to put this fundraiser on the back burner, for now.

Some great news though! GANF Schools still had solid runners interested so they have adapted their own big fundraiser to raise money for an outdoor amphitheatre for their pupils.

James Ellis - Headteacher, Ashley Caress - Deputy Head, Toby Ellis - Instructor, Matt Page – Instructor, and

Darren Wilson - Financial Analyst, are attempting 'The Great GANF Run' - relay-run of 115 miles in 24 hours, across Lincolnshire!



They all felt passionately about a project at the Forest School. The pupils have created a make shift stage so they can perform in the outdoors to an audience. This has proved very successful and is helping immensely with pupil self-esteem and well-being, but they need to raise £2,000 to install a safer, sturdier, stage and seating area for the pupils.

THE CHALLENGE

James, Ash, Toby, Matt and Darren will begin their 24hour Relay-Run on Friday 20th July at 4pm from Ambergate Sports College in Grantham, Lincs. The relay will take them 115 miles across Lincolnshire, running from school to school across the Trust, throughout the night. They will begin in Grantham, then on to Caythorpe, Spilsby, Boston, Spalding, and back to Grantham. All within 24 hours!

During these times of austerity we all believe strongly in providing over and above the national curriculum for our pupils, and GANF Schools are hoping 'The Great GANF Run' will result in invaluable funds to install the new mini amphitheatre for the children.

They have a fundraising page set up, if you would like to sponsor them please use this link: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/thegreatganfrun>

Thank you for your support and good luck to the runners!!!



John Fielding School officially open their WOW room!



John Fielding School has been fundraising like crazy for the past 12 months to raise money to refurbish their old and worn down Sensory Room. The room was devised nine years ago, and with the equipment being used on a daily basis, it came in a poor state of repair. Many items had to be removed completely, and the room could eventually only be used as a calming space for pupils. This space required complete refurbishment and the purchase of new bespoke sensory equipment.

The project was led by staff member, Lucy Allen, who with help from other staff, helped to organise a summer fair last year that kicked off their fundraising efforts with a very respectable £5,000! Further donations then came in from local resident, Mrs Dugdale, along with local businesses: Freshtime UK Limited, The Medlock Charitable Trust, Coveris UK, Boston Netball Club, Lord Taverners, The Waynflete Charitable Trust, Headway Lincolnshire, Boston Freemasons, and Boston Lions Club; John Fielding School eventually raised over £30,000 for their project!

The sensory room installation is now complete and has a new name - 'The Wow Room'. The interactive room now provides a space for the pupils to engage and explore the environment, giving them positive effects on their ability to react and interact with the larger world around them. Sensory Learning is an instrumental part of the learning process for special needs pupils, providing another way to learn skills through sensory interaction.

Richard Gamman, Head of School, "It has been fabulous to watch this project come to fruition over the past few months. I am so grateful to all of the sponsors who have supported the project. We are delighted that so many were able to join us today. They were able to see first hand what the impact of the resources they helped to provide is having on the learning and enjoyment of pupils throughout the school."

An official opening was held on Thursday 3rd May. The Mayor of Boston, Cllr Bernard Rush, cut the ribbon, officially opening 'The Wow Room'.

Steve Evans, Managing Director of Freshtime UK, said, "The Freshtime Futures Trust was set up 18 months ago to help support children and teenagers up to the age of 24 in and around the Boston area. The aim of the Trust is to support young adults, whether it be in education, sporting grants or apprenticeships."

"When we received the application for the 'Wow Room' at John Fielding it was a perfect fit with what the Trust is trying to achieve. We were pleased to be able to offer a reasonable donation in order to help such a large group of children."

[Pictured in main Photograph: Mayor of Boston - Cllr Bernard Rush, John Stokes - Head of Procurement at Freshtime UK, Steve Evans - Managing Director of Freshtime UK, Yvonne Wood - Lord's Taverners, Dr Richard Gamman - Head of John Fielding School, Lucy Allen from John Fielding School, Louie Wong & Fred Clarke from Boston Freemasons, Demi-Lee Garwell & Becky Young from Coveris, Loraine Stevens from Boston Bowls Club, Local resident - Mrs Dugdale, Chris Jones - Site Manager of John Fielding School, Demi Weir - Apprentice at John Fielding School]

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