



A community of schools in which we recognise we are stronger together



Message from the CEO

January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the New Year and wishing you all a happy 2023.

We are excited to share the first edition of our Campfire Education Trust termly newsletter with you. We will use this to keep you updated about how we are working together as a group of schools.

At Campfire Education Trust we currently have six schools: Bourton Meadow Academy, George Grenville Academy, Lace Hill Academy, Lumbertubs Primary School, Moorland Primary School and Spring Lane Primary School.

We recognise there are many benefits to working collaboratively so that pupils attending our schools get the best possible education. Working together enables us to focus on school improvement, leadership development and the sharing of best practice so that we are continually strengthening our schools.

This term, staff will be coming together for professional development sessions, writing moderation, strategic financial planning and fortnightly Headteacher briefings. Our shared culture of continuous learning and collaboration is strengthening.

Please take the time to read the articles below so that you get a flavour of the wonderful learning and events taking place across Campfire Education Trust schools.

Thank you for your continued support.

With best wishes,

Sarah Mitchell
CEO, Campfire Education Trust

Best in Parade

George Grenville Academy were awarded 'Best in Parade' on Saturday 10th December at Buckingham Town Christmas Parade. The theme was films, and the school chose 'The Polar Express'. Staff, parents and children joined together every Wednesday night to make the train and other props. Over 40 children dressed in their pyjamas to walk behind the train, the conductor and, of course, Father Christmas!



Buckingham Art for All

Ten children had their art work displayed in a town BAFA (Buckingham Art for All) art gallery on 19th and 20th November. The theme was 'structure' and the children were able to interpret this in any way they chose. All of Year 5 and 6 took part and 10 finalists were chosen to be exhibited, alongside other schools' finalists and local artists. Over the weekend, the public were able to vote for the Young Artist of the year, and Sienna from George Grenville won, with a beautiful collage. Well done, Sienna!





Speak out. Stay Safe.

Lace Hill have been very lucky to welcome the NSPCC into school to speak to all children about how to speak out and stay safe. They helped everyone understand what to do if they don't feel safe and how to help their friends too. Feeling and staying safe is very important to us.

Lace Hill Celebrate Diwali in Style

Staff and pupils celebrated Diwali in style – embracing the beautiful outfits, colours and culture that comes with such a wonderful festival. Lace Hill feel blessed to have an Indian community that is a fantastic support to the school.



We Remember

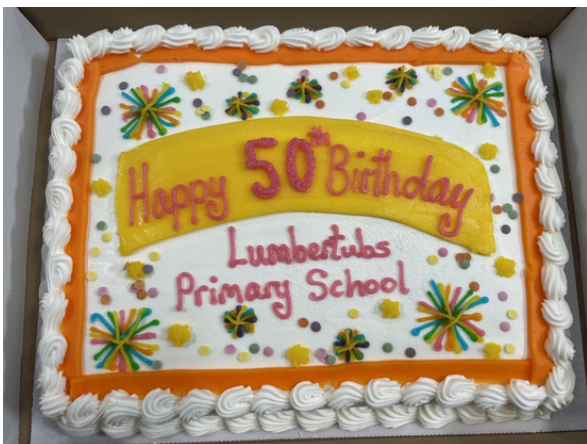
As a whole school, Lace Hill came together to mark Remembrance Day in November. They honoured the day with Y6 pupils presenting a fantastic Remembrance assembly to the children, parents and staff, followed by a 2 minutes silence running throughout the corridor.





Lumbertubs Celebrate Milestone Birthday

Last term, Lumbertubs celebrated their 50th Birthday with a week packed full of activities, starting with a special assembly on the school's history and the year 1972. School was decorated with banners and balloons, and there were 3 giant birthday cakes for all to share. Towards the end of the week, parents and carers were invited for a choral performance from the whole school and to see an exhibition on the school's history. The children and staff sang songs from the 70s, including ABBA and The Wombles. They also dressed in outfits inspired either by the decade, or by the number 50. Headteacher Ceri Cook took on her role 10 years ago after working in other positions at the school, so has seen it transform. Mrs Cook said: 'It is amazing to celebrate our birthday and the children are showing a real sense of excitement. It's the community that has changed the most. We are more diverse now with 18 different languages spoken. The community, particularly parents and carers, know they can turn to the school in their times of need and they will be supported'.





Lest we Forget

The children, staff and governors of Moorland Primary School were proud to join the local Remembrance parade and service, at Coffee Hall, on the 11th November. Before the Service, the children dedicated their time to making poppy wreaths, which they laid at the war memorial. Headteacher, Angela Garner said: 'We were so proud of them and had such lovely feedback from the community.' Mrs Garner also reported that the children were respectful as they joined the parade and were especially touched by the white doves which were released as a symbol of peace, hope, and freedom.

A Magical Christmas at Moorland

A very special visit was enjoyed by all children at Moorland Primary at the end of term. Each class visited the grotto to meet Father Christmas himself, who read them his favourite story 'twas the night before Christmas'. In return, children sang their favourite songs for him. Children and families were truly spoilt this year due to the generosity and kindness of many of Moorland's community partners. Staff were humbled and so grateful to Tesco Kingston, who donated 80 food hampers and toys for every child. The records department at MK hospital made shoe box presents for more than 80 children too. Both staff teams chose to donate to school rather than hold a secret Santa for themselves. Councillor Brian Hepburn donated £250 so every child could enjoy reading a book with their family and Salvation Army prepared toy bags for our families most in need.

Father Christmas was kept very busy delivering this room full of presents!



Ofsted Delight - Spring Lane is a Good School

Spring Lane has just received the report, following an inspection by Ofsted in November. Inspectors have recorded that the school is a 'good school'. Headteacher Pete Hynes said: 'I feel it reflects the hard work and dedication of Spring Lane staff, children, parents, governors and the local community. We work tirelessly to improve the opportunities our children get and provide them a platform to succeed later on in life.'

Mr Hynes was particularly pleased with these points drawn from the inspector's report:-

An older pupil, typically, commented, 'When you join from a young age and then you get to Year 6 you just feel like you are part of a family. You have made friends you will never lose and met teachers you will never forget.'

Leaders, governors and trustees lead with a strong moral purpose. They continually strive to achieve the school's aim, whereby 'Children leave Spring Lane prepared to thrive in an ever-changing world.' Leaders engage purposefully with the local community to support pupils' education. Leaders provide pupils with experiences to develop character and resilience. Older pupils have opportunities to gain leadership responsibilities. Pupils appreciate the range of extra-curricular clubs available, especially those related to sport. Both boys' and girls' football teams are popular. Parents and carers value the school. Typically, a parent commented, 'The school supports the wider community, I feel this is crucial and much needed. My son loves attending and the staff are fantastic.'



Northampton Town FC players at Spring Lane

Spring Lane Primary School were paid a surprise visit from the players of Northampton Town Football Club before Christmas. The players came to help hand out presents and food to families in the local area.





Owl visits Nursery

The Nursery children at Bourton Meadow Academy had a special visit from an Eagle Owl in December. The children enjoyed learning facts about the Owl and were eager and look at his beautiful feathers. He seemed to like them too as he showed them his giant wingspan!

Thank you to Casper's grandma for sharing him.



Remembrance Ceremony

In November, parents and family members joined the staff and children of Bourton Meadow for their annual Remembrance service. The children made wreaths in their house groups which were presented during the ceremony, it was a very moving event. Poignant poems were read by year 6 children and Mr Perry played The Last Post which signalled the two-minute silence. All the children were excellent ambassadors for school, showing respect to remember all the service men and women who have lost their lives during conflict around the world.



Football Tournament at The Royal Latin

Last term, Bourton Meadow took part in the year 5 & 6 football tournament at The Royal Latin School. Tyler, Harry, Jasper, Elan, Billy, George, Gracie, Jack and Evelyn played with professionalism and showed great team work throughout the tournament. It was great to be able to take a mixed team from years 5 & 6 and to see them work so well together. Bourton Meadow won the tournament, after conceding only 1 goal during the whole event.

