



Flourishing

Harbour Learning Trust Newsletter

May 2025

Welcome to our May edition of Flourishing! Yet again we have much to celebrate at Harbour Learning Trust.

A year ago all the trust leaders and the Trustees spent a whole day together setting out our ambitions for the future.

What came out of that day really clearly was our ambition to be inclusive and serve all of the children in our communities.

Fast forward a year and we have been nominated for a national award as Inclusive Trust of the Year. I am incredibly proud of the efforts of our staff that have led to this nomination, particularly Sheryl Crawshaw as our Inclusion Lead. We know that it is possible to have schools that are both academically very successful and are inclusive environments, and these twin goals are being lived out every day at Harbour.

In these pages you will read about the opportunities provided to our pupils such as visits to the National Space Centre and working with the High Performance Foundation. You will read about fantastic fundraising efforts from staff and pupils and how we link closely to our communities.

VE Day celebrations took place in all of our schools and this highlights that we have a moral duty in our schools to combat the ignorance, fear and prejudice that can exist in society, yet in these pages and in our schools we learn that love, kindness and empathy are the key characteristics of our children and how our teachers are supporting our wonderful pupils to mature into caring, tolerant and respectful adults. I am both proud and humble to lead a trust where these values are paramount. Enjoy!

HLT CEO
Mr Richard Briggs



TES Nomination For HLT

Last month, we were delighted to be informed that Harbour Learning Trust has been nominated as the Inclusive Trust of the Year in the 2025 TES School Awards. This is the first time the inclusive Trust category will be awarded, so we are doubly honoured that our work has been noted and up for consideration.

The presentation, dubbed the 'Oscars of education' will be held at the Grosvenor Hotel in London on Friday 20th June, where the very best of education from across the country will be recognised.

Next month, we will let you know if we were successful in securing the trophy of Inclusive trust of the Year 2025.

Accountancy Qualification Achieved

We would like to offer a very hearty congratulations to Jack Coney, who after 6 years of studying, recently completed his level 7 professional accountancy apprenticeship, attained his ACCA qualification and is now fully qualified.

Jack was inspired to enter a career in accountancy after attending work experience at Chartered Accountants, Forrester Boyd based in Louth.



Police Commissioner Visit

This week, we were visited by Jonathan Evison, the Police Commissioner for the Humberside Police Force.

Mr Evison met with Harbour Learning Trust CEO, Mr Briggs and Healing Academy Vice Principal, Mrs Gunn to discuss how to make our communities safer for our children and young people and how they can work with the police to stay safe and enhance positive outcomes. He also highlighted the grants available for community projects and services. Mr Evison then held an assembly for Healing Academy Year 10 pupils to discuss the above topics.

We would like to thank Mr Evison for his time, and appreciate his support.



Head of Data Invited to Data Conference

We are proud to report that Harbour Learning Trust Head of Data, Tom Walch, has been selected to speak at the CST Data and Insights Conference in Birmingham next month.

Tom will be leading a session which will explore how expanding and enhancing data sets can deepen the insights available to trusts, leading to more informed decision making and action, and leveraging AI to unlock new perspectives.





Ermine Academy



Being a Chorister the Day

Each week, Jack Halliday comes into school to do singing sessions with the children in Year 3. Previously he has performed in the West End in various musicals and now works for the music department of Lincoln Cathedral. The aim of the project is to enthuse children about singing; building their confidence and skills. It is also to promote singing in the Cathedral and to become a chorister.

Two of our Year 3 children took that opportunity and joined in with the 'Become a Chorister for the day' event at Lincoln Cathedral. Lily and Esmee had a great time.

The girls did lots of singing and made new friends. As part of the day they learnt 6 new songs with other children, and were then joined by the existing choristers and did a performance to their friends and families. They are now keen to become more involved at the Cathedral.

Baby Chicks!

It is that time of year again- baby chick time.

The nursery children have watched 6 chicks peck their way out of their eggs in an incubator and now have the delight and joy of watching them in their cage as they grow. They are very excited for when the time comes that they can get them out and they can watch them running in a bigger space, stroke them and even hold them.

Even though they are in nursery, they have attracted attention from all over school. Staff and children alike from all the classes like to go and visit.



Persona Dolls

Mrs Hebborn, our Nursery Teacher and RE subject leader is engaging in a year long CPD opportunity with the Farmington Trust. Mrs Hebborn has designed a project to promote good religious education within the early years and key stage 1.

Persona dolls have been introduced into our nursery, each doll has their own unique personalities, stories and religion. The doll gets introduced to the nursery children and becomes part of their class. It is a great way to introduce the youngest children to all the traditions and rituals of different religions. The doll comes to class with a bag full of things that are important to them which includes their important religious book.

So far the nursery children have met Mosope who is a Catholic from Nigeria; Daya who is an Hindu and Grace who is Church of England.

Our Beautiful City

The year 2 children enjoyed an open top bus tour of the city. The children had been learning all about Lincoln and the surrounding area so what better way to see it and experience it than on the tour.

The children had a guide on the bus who told them all about all the famous landmarks such as the cathedral and the castle. The tour stopped off at Bomber Command giving the children an opportunity to learn how important Lincoln was to the war effort. They also got an amazing view of the city and were super excited to be on the top deck of the bus!

The year children had an amazing time learning about the wonderful place they live.



Reading Pledge

At Great Coates, we are committed to ensuring all of our pupils have a love of reading. The school has been awarded the Bronze Lincolnshire Reading Pledge. To get the award the school needed to demonstrate a strong commitment to reading for pleasure and provide a supportive environment for developing confident and enthusiastic readers.



Great Coates Academy



Cricket Festival

Some of our Year 3 and 4 pupils took part in a cricket festival at Grimsby cricket club on 6th May.

The children had a fabulous morning learning about the skills involved in cricket. They showed determination and picked up skills very quickly when learning throwing, batting and catching skills. They were a credit to the school and showed exemplary behaviour.



Forest Schools Fun

Year 4 and 5 were treated to a visit from Nurture Nature this month, with all Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils taking part in Forest Schools activities.

The pupils took part in den building, making bug hotels, and made wooden pendants from logs. The children were so curious and absolutely loved getting stuck in and working together.



Charity Fun Run

On Friday 4th May, the whole school took part in a sponsored Fun Run.

We raised money for St Andrew's Hospice and The Millie Wright Charity.

Everyone dressed in Easter themed or hero costumes and ran up to 2km on the school field. We even had a visit from the Easter Bunny.

All children were given a delicious Easter biscuit for their efforts. We had an amazing day and raised over £750 for the two charities.



Reception Trip to Green Futures

On 22nd April, our Reception children visited Green Futures at Bradley.

Green Futures is a small, community run agricultural farm, which teaches the community about growing food and the importance of biodiversity.

The children had a great time, planting seeds, chopping and eating their own salads and building bug hotels.





Hartsholme Academy

Hartsholme VE Day Celebrations

It was great to see so many children wearing red, white and blue on Thursday to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day. The children started the day with an assembly explaining the reasons for celebrating this momentous occasion.

A big thank you to the kitchen staff who created some celebratory cakes to mark the occasion. The children in Year 6 had a visit from one of the residents of Risby Green who was a child during the VE Day celebrations. All the children showed great respect towards the visitor. It was such a pleasure to be able to talk to someone who experienced the very first VE Day.

The children in KS1 enjoyed their VE Day celebrations by having their own street (playground) party where they listened and danced to music from the 1940's. The children learnt about some World War 2 planes and also how people stayed resilient during difficult times. The children thought about how they might show resilience when faced with a problem themselves.



My Happy Mind

We are proud to announce that our school is officially a my Happy mind Bronze Accredited school. The Accreditation recognises schools that are embedding the my Happy mind curriculum into school life and taking real action to improve the mental health and well-being of the school community.

We would like to thank those parents who provided feedback about the programme, which supported the application. As we were successful with our application, we will receive some fantastic resources to help us embed the my Happy mind curriculum next year including a Wheel of Gratitude to help us develop an Attitude of Gratitude.

We Survived Our SATs!

The Year 6s have worked so hard this year and have done a tremendous job completing their End of Key Stage 2 SATs.

On the Friday of SATs week, they were rewarded with a day of fun activities and a 'make your own Subway' lunch.

A huge congratulations to all of those in Year 6 - we can't wait to spend the rest of the year enjoying your time at Hartsholme: going to PGL; taking part in the end of year show; and much much more!





Fundraising Docks Dip

Earlier this month, some of our brilliant staff took a dip in Grimsby Docks to raise funds towards a sensory garden project for Healing school. The aim is to create a nurturing environment that prioritises mental health within our school community. A quiet and reflective place immersed in nature is definitely something that can boost mental health.

We are very proud of our swimmers: Mr Jukes, Mrs Kita, Mr Dent, Mrs Eaglestone, Mr Burrows and Mrs Hallatt. We were freezing just watching from the bank, so massive round of applause to you all!

We are delighted to announce that we have now surpassed our target, and to date, we have raised £515. SENDCo Manager Mrs Hall was over the moon with the outcome and would like everyone who has made a difference to our young people.



High Performance Roadshow

This month, 37 of our Year 9/10 students along with 4 staff members ventured to London for the inaugural High Performance Foundation Game Plan Roadshow.

Hosted by Jake Humphrey, the event provided a platform for our students to engage with remarkable guests, drawing inspiration and gaining valuable insights. The day was a unique opportunity for reflection, inspiration, and empowerment as we embrace our HP journey. Healing Academy, represented the only school from outside London at the event, with our students impressing all with their impeccable behavior and enthusiasm.

Healing Academy



VE Day With Our Community

What an absolutely terrific afternoon we had, mingling with Healing residents in celebration of VE day. Pupils were wonderful hosts and tended the tables offering food and drink top-ups.

After everyone had eaten, the pupils gave a song and dance performance, which concluded with a sing-along of the wartime classic, 'We'll Meet Again.' Five of our Year 8 boys then delivered some words they had researched regarding what life was like in Grimsby and surrounding areas during WW11.

Pupil, Jenson, showed a picture of this great grandfather, Wally, and read a moving extract from Wally's own memoirs about how he escaped being rounded up by the SS due to being wounded.

A gentleman also brought in a display box with medals belonging to his father in-law in it and told Mr Logan all about how his father in-law was parachuted into Burma. It is fascinating that these stories are still being handed down and recited today. It makes us very proud to be part of our community.

Women in Manufacturing and Engineering

It has been brilliant to see so many of our pupils achieving their Women in Manufacturing and Engineering certificates at the end of last term.

We hope the experience has enlightened careers and opportunities in our local area, and inspired and emboldened our young people. Thank you to all who enabled the experience.





Healing Primary Academy

Year 5 Residential Trip

At the end of April, the children in Year 5 went on their first residential and stayed at Buckden House in the beautiful surroundings of the Yorkshire Dales.

During their stay, the children took part in many adventurous activities including caving, gorge climbing, high rope climbing and problem solving team games. The children demonstrated great determination in conquering their fears and rose to every challenge offered to them.

It was a fabulous experience and we really hope the children will remember their three days away for the rest of their lives.



We are very grateful to Country Style Foods for the generous donation of breakfast items for our year 6 pupils, SATs breakfast. Mrs Clarkson turned up with another treat of donuts, to mark the end of their SATs today. Thank you very much!



Cooking Skills

As part of their DT project, the Year 4 children from Cedar class had a fabulous afternoon cooking spaghetti bolognese at Healing Academy.

They demonstrated excellent cutting and dicing techniques as well as the ability to work as part of a team.

A huge thank you to the Healing Academy staff for making us feel so welcome.



Nature Grant

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded a Local School Nature Grant, thanks to players of the People's Postcode Lottery.

Our pupils will be benefiting from a grow to cook kit and small spaces planters, which will be used to teach children about growing vegetables. In addition staff will receive training to help children learn outdoors.

Pupils from the Gardening Club have played an important role in applying for the grant and selected equipment that they felt would benefit their peers.



Mr Finn's Epic Challenge

Mr Finn, teacher at St Giles Academy, is undertaking a challenge this year to run at least 5km EVERY DAY throughout 2025 to raise money for Bowel Cancer UK.

Mr Finn has completed 138 days of the challenge so far, covering a staggering 912.4km in the process.

He has run races all over the county and recently, completed the Leeds Marathon in 3 hours 35 minutes alongside fellow St Giles teacher, Mr Newton.

Mr Finn also runs a Cross Country club at St Giles on a Monday lunchtime to hopefully inspire the next generation of Mo Farahs and Keely Hodgkinsons to take up running.

So far, Mr Finn has managed to raise £1335 towards his initial target of £1825.



Pedestrian Training

On Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th May children in Year 2 took part in pedestrian training with Mrs Street.

They learnt all about what it takes to be a safe pedestrian, they then put their skills to the test in the afternoon. For this the children needed to stop, look, listen and think before they crossed the road. They also needed to look out for any dangers that they may face whilst walking on the path, like cars moving out of a driveway.

The children learnt a very catchy song to remember their skills in future:

Stop look and listen before you cross the street.
Stop look and listen before you cross the street.
use your eyes, use your ears, before you use your feet.
Stop look and listen before you cross the street.
(To the tune of Ten Green Bottles)



St Giles Academy



National Space Centre Trip

On Monday 28th April, 58 Year 5 students went on a fascinating visit to the National Space Centre in Leicester.

This was a fantastic experience and linked to the SPACE topic they are currently covering.

Pupils had a special experience in the planetarium where they learnt all about the different planets. The children particularly enjoyed the rocket and seeing it at all different levels.

One of the children said "This day was fantastic, can we go back next week?!".

Year 5 are looking forward to continuing their work in school looking at the different phases of the moon in coming lessons.

St Giles Academy is Recruiting:

Behaviour, Attendance & Wellbeing Lead

We are looking to appoint a Behaviour, Attendance and Wellbeing Lead to support student attendance and behaviour, including tracking and monitoring attendance, ensuring behavioural policies are implemented and tracking and presenting key attendance data to key stakeholders at the Academy.

The successful candidate will work with families to promote parental engagement, organise and support parental and family support and lead on other behaviour, attendance and wellbeing initiatives.

The successful candidate will have experience of working in an educational setting or within a similar/relevant position to provide appropriate advice and support to pupils, families and staff

Permanent | Part-Time/Full-Time

£27,711.00 - £30,060.00 Annually (FTE)

Scale 5 Points 12-17 - Actual Salary £20,909 - £22,681

Apply by Midnight, Saturday 31st May, 2025

Job start: Monday 30th June 2025





Community – World Earth Day

The Eco Warriors have taken part in a litter pick at Grant Thorold Park on World Earth Day, which was supported by Carolyn and Rachel from East Marsh United.

This has been a sponsored event and the children have raised over £100 to buy some nature based items such as wild flower seeds, a hedgehog nesting box and some bird seed.



Ambition – Into University

Year 5 have had a fantastic day at Into University! They have been learning all about what university life is like, learnt all about Zoology and what the subject involves and that at university you study a few subjects in depth.

We then learnt how to debate and what a debate was, and had a practice at debating - linking to Zoology. Our debate question was Should Grimsby have a Zoo?

Children were very respectful and polite listening to each other's for and against arguments and lots of them have been inspired to aim higher and go on to university!



Delight and Joy – VE Day Celebrations

Our school celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day with a fantastic street party right here on the school grounds!

Bunting and flags adorned the playground as we enjoyed party treats whilst listening to wartime songs.

The children spent part of the afternoon learning why we celebrate VE Day in the present day and asked some fantastic questions. It was a wonderful way to learn about this important moment in history, remembering the end of the Second World War in Europe and the joy it brought, all while having a great time together as a school community.



Empower – Year 6 SATS

A huge congratulations to all our amazing Year 6 pupils!

They have worked incredibly hard in the lead-up to and throughout their SATs week and we are so proud of your resilience, effort and positive attitudes.

The pupils tackled each paper with focus and determination. We celebrated in style on the last day by taking some time to cool down in the sunshine after a busy week! Well done, Year 6!



We Are Communication Friendly!

We wanted to share some fantastic news that both Antonia (EYFS Lead) and Jayne (HLTA, Nursery) have been undergoing ELKAN training and are now Level 4 qualified. In doing this, Woodlands has been part of a pilot scheme for improving and promoting communication and language in our setting, and it has been a resounding success.

The report from our assessment proudly confirms that we are now an accredited Communication Friendly Setting!

We are particularly proud of all the 5 star ratings the team received, and the fact that ELKAN now wishes to use us as a flagship model for our work.

Antonia, Jayne and the EYFS team have worked tirelessly on this, and continue to take our EYFS setting from strength to strength. On top of this, they are now developing a 3 year plan to roll this out throughout the school, and I am sure Antonia will use her role on the HIT team to spread her expertise Trust-wide.

EYFS at Woodlands has sometimes been challenging, but under Antonia's fantastic leadership, and with the support and hard work of Jayne and the wonderful team in the unit, we're flying.



Sports Day 2025

This month, Woodlands hosted this years Sports Day.

The day was split into two parts, with key stage 2 taking place in the morning and key stage 1 in the afternoon.

It consisted of a carousel of activities, including old favorites like the egg and spoon, as well as some newer additions like the javelin. Each child also got a chance to show off their speed in a traditional sprint race, too!

Both sections were then brought to a close with a very welcome visit from the ice cream man in the beautiful May sunshine.

Well done to all at Team Woodlands!

Woodlands Academy



Our VE Day Celebrations

On Thursday 8th May, Woodlands Academy came together to mark Victory in Europe (VE) Day, a pivotal moment in world history that signaled the end of World War II in Europe.

The school was a sea of red, white and blue, with children proudly dressed in the colours of the Union Jack to commemorate the day with pride and respect.

As part of the celebration, pupils immersed themselves in a rich day of historical learning. They explored the significance of VE Day, learning about the events that led to the end of the war in Europe and how people across the UK celebrated the long-awaited peace.

One of the most powerful moments of the day came during assembly, when students watched a moving video testimony from a war survivor. The primary source gave our pupils a deeply personal insight into the experiences of those who lived through the war.

A particular highlight was a beautiful poem written and shared by Teddy. His heartfelt words captured the emotions of remembrance, gratitude, and hope, resonating with all who listened.

It was a truly memorable day that not only celebrated peace but also honoured the resilience, courage, and unity of those who fought and lived through the war.

Celebrating Our SATs

Year 6 have smashed SATs this term. Our team were really proud of the children's focus and determination to succeed.

We started every day with a motivational breakfast and finished the day with a sweet treat kindly donated by Country Style foods.

As a reward for their hard work, we spent Friday in Cleethorpes. We spent the morning watching The Minecraft movie at Parkway Cinema, enjoyed lunch at McDonalds and finished the afternoon playing on the beach.

A good time was had by all.

