

HUISH TRUST NEWSLETTER

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RICHARD HUISH

INTRODUCTION

We'd like to welcome you to the first Huish Trust Newsletter. We hope to be able to publish a new edition at least every term. This edition includes news on; some of the great stuff happening in schools across the Trust, the money raised for Children in Need, the competition won by The Taunton Academy and an introduction to some of the Central Trust Team.

Good news from across the Trust



Welcome to Lyngford Park Primary School

We are delighted to be welcoming Lyngford Park Primary School to the Huish Trust. Although officially this is not until 1st January 2021, it is now just a matter of 'dotting Is and crossing Ts'. Sarah Loader (Head Teacher) has already been working alongside the other Head Teachers in the Trust as part of the Huish Head Teacher Forum and we are looking forward to working alongside the rest of the team at Lyngford from January.



Nerrols Primary

Across the School and Nursery there has been a focus on Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing. Children have been taking part in the Joe Wicks 5 minute Morning Moves, Yoga, conversational activities, 'acts of Kindness' and den building.



North Curry Primary

The Little Herons Pre-School (formerly Little Acorns Pre-School, North Curry) opened on the North Curry Primary School site in September this year. Having Little Herons Pre-School on site has been part of the vision for North Curry C of E Primary School for some time. This will enable some of the youngest children in the area to 'Grow, Explore and Discover' in a fantastic setting.



North Town Primary

There were congratulations for Maisie who raised over £100 for Musgrove Park Hospital during lockdown by making and then selling products. Mr Kerton presented Maisie with a certificate to recognise her effort and dedication.



The Taunton Academy

The Taunton Academy have been particularly innovative with a project called 'Progress for Pudsey' which set a challenging target for the number of merits in the week. The School committed to making a donation to Children in Need if that target was achieved. They smashed it, breaking all records!



West Buckland Primary

The school have been working with a local charity to raise funds through various activities such as non-uniform days for food banks and provision of food boxes.

The school is rapidly spending it's stationary budget on 'Golden Books' which are full every week of brilliant children going above and beyond, with children really wanting to work hard at home and share their extra learning with us back in school.

Y3,4,5 & 6 had a famous author visit them via Zoom. Jennifer Killick gave them her top tips for writing suspense stories.

Children in Need across the Trust *Through non-uniform days and various other activities, the schools across the Trust raised over £1,400 for Children in Need.*

The Taunton Academy - Winner of an animation competition

The Taunton Academy has been named winner of an animation competition launched by Avon and Somerset Police to engage young people in the issue of knife crime. It was one of four schools which took part in the initiative and received the most views of their short animation on YouTube. The school is planning to use the prize awarded to fund a new community spirit award for pupils.

The animation was created by two Year 10 pupils, Berte and Dexter, and is called an Eye for and Eye. It explores how we all have a choice about whether or not to carry a knife and the importance of making positive decisions which can determine your future. Instead of picking up a knife to retaliate against bullying, the character in the film chooses to focus on his passion for drumming. It ends with the message 'live to your positive beat'.

Emma Smith, Head of Year 10 at The Taunton Academy, said: "We're absolutely thrilled to have won the competition but most of all we are delighted to have had the chance to be involved in the project.

The film that the winning team created was extremely impressive and I know they enjoyed working with the students from UWE to produce it. We're so proud of the hard work and commitment they've shown throughout the project."

Legendary animation studio Aardman Productions also gave their support to the project, inviting the young people to attend a special day at their Bristol site, where they learned more about how to create a successful animation.

Avon and Somerset Police PCSO Georgia Coles, who works closely with the school and who has been involved with the project from the start, said: "The young people at The Taunton Academy have done an amazing job. They've approached the project with great maturity and as a result have created a brilliant animation with an extremely important message about knife crime

We thought it would be a good idea to introduce you to some of the Trust Team so you know who we are and what we do...



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

JOHN ABBOTT

I was fortunate enough to be Principal of Richard Huish College from January 2013 to August 2020, and have worked at Huish since 2003 having previously been Assistant Principal and Faculty Director at the College. I have worked in education for over 25 years and I am passionate about the impact it can have on everybody's lives, but particularly young people. My work as CEO is focussed on supporting school and college leaders in order that they are able to deliver the very best education for the students in their institutions and working with external organisations to ensure that all students within Huish get the very best educational opportunities



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO)

PAUL LONSDALE

I have been working for Richard Huish College and Trust in the role of Chief Finance Officer for a little over 4 years. Prior to joining Huish I have amassed over 25 years of working in a similar role across a number of Further Education Colleges. In my role as CFO I am responsible for the Financial Strategy for the Trust and the monitoring and reporting on financial performance to Trust Directors and The Education Skills Funding Agency. The Finance Team and I see our roles as supporting our schools to deliver the best education experience they can for their young people. I meet regularly with school Head Teachers to ensure that I understand where the challenges are in their school and what I can do to help find solutions.



CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER (CPO)

STEVE CHATTELL

I've recently joined the Trust having previously worked in both the public and private sector. I work with the schools and Trust colleagues, leading the HR and Payroll function across the group. This includes working with Head Teachers and senior leaders on people strategies, policies and procedures, developing and enhancing the benefits for staff working in the Trust as well as working alongside my Trust colleagues when projects they are working on will have an impact upon the people working in the Trust. I am always keen to ensure that the HR function has a direct impact upon the quality of education our young people experience in schools across the Huish Trust. I have a great HR and Payroll team who will always be happy to help make the Huish Trust a better place for staff to work and for young people to achieve their full potential.



SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

TAMRA MUMBY

I work as part of the Huish Education team providing professional support for Head Teachers, schools and Local Governing Bodies. I provide leadership on school improvement work for the Trust, working with external partners as appropriate. My work with schools includes visits, monitoring performance, data analysis and performance management, reporting to the CEO and the Huish Board. I also facilitate the work of the Academic Performance and Quality Committee which oversees the performance of all schools within the Trust and in doing so, I support the delivery of the Trust's vision to provide 'Exceptional Education'.



ESTATE MANAGER AND GROUP HSE MANAGER

MARTIN ELLIS

As part of the Huish Education Group Central Services, I provide support, management and consultation in all aspects of Estates and Health and Safety to the Group Schools with the aim of providing a safe, secure and comfortable learning environment for students and colleagues.

- Statutory and local testing, checks and inspections
- Planned preventative maintenance
- Reactive maintenance
- Refurbishment/project management
- Health and Safety advice, guidance and consultation
- Arrangement of First Aid and Health and Safety training
- Compilation of Health and Safety reports for school Local Governing Bodies, the Trust committee's and the Trust Board of trustees
- Review of maintenance contracts/pricing
- Line management of site managers, caretaking/ maintenance and cleaning colleagues



DIRECTOR OF I.T. AND FACILITIES

RICHARD ANDERSON

I work as part of the Huish Education central services developing and implementing the shared IT services and support to the schools. I provide guidance and consultation on IT and print solutions, procure equipment and licenses, implement projects such as the central network and infrastructure refreshes, ensure the IT control environment is robust and compliant with statutory requirements and keep abreast of new technologies to wherever possible improve the IT facilities and overall experience of all stakeholders. Members of the IT team visit the schools and deliver on site support where required whilst others provide technical services from our offices. I also line manage Martin Ellis and support him in his role of Estates Manager.

We are always keen to hear about the great things happening in your schools so please encourage your Head Teachers to keep you informed about the fantastic achievements and events happening in your schools.