



inspiring the journey for
independence together

No 4 – December 2019



Update from CEO

Thank you on behalf of myself and all our Trust SLTs, Governors/Trustees and employees for the commitment and collaboration from parents/carers. I would personally like to also thank all those that we have partnered with over the last two terms.

As always life at the Rivermead Inclusive Trust has been busy. As a family of schools, we are passionate about making each day special for the journey of both our learners and staff. Recently we have acknowledged excellence with our Bronze 'Well-being' award from Medway Council. Big thanks to our Well-being committee who have worked towards this and achieved it.

Our 'Synthesis' Concert at Priestfield stadium in Gillingham, as always, was a resounding success. We welcomed schools and local talent from Medway, as our community, to showcase fantastic singing and the arts. This truly is a community event and was very well attended by parents/carers and members of the public. We are thankful to have such local talent and this emphasises our support of #WeAreMedway who we totally support with us being a Medway Champion. Massive thanks go to Mona Whitton, the Trust Enrichment Co-ordinator who worked with Debbie Sowter 'Together Talking Music' to make this happen.

The Rivermead Inclusive Trust collaborated with Kings School recently to run a successful Christmas Fair – this saw talent again from across Medway with crafters displaying their goods for sale as well as a visit from Santa and also Rudolf the Reindeer made an appearance. Feedback has been extremely positive and again I would like to thank staff/parents who gave up their own time to support this Trust/community event.

Provisions across our Trust are in a period of growth and I would personally like to thank our committed Senior Leaders who work in harmony with our Trust core team to ensure outstanding practise across our Trust Schools. External and Internal moderations are welcomed and our staff embrace the challenge and support.

Lastly, as we enter the festive period, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. All the very best for the end of 2019 to the beginning of 2020.

Kind regards, as always,

Tina Lovey

CEO



Hoo St Werburgh Primary School

WOW Newsletter 2019-2020

NURSERY

Have taken a trip to the jungle..... the children have loved walking through the Jungle story and Dear Zoo which led on to lots of learning about Jungle animals. We also wrote to the zoo to send us our favourite animals! The children were delighted to receive a parcel which contained different Zoo animals, but we had to send them back because the monkey was too cheeky and the lion was too fierce!!!!

FS

Reception have had visits from a police officer, a firefighter and a paramedic whilst learning about people in the helps.

Unfortunately, we have also had a visit from Evil Pea who has been up to mischief!

Luckily Supertato has been helping us to put things right.



YEAR 1 VISIT GUILDHALL MUSEUM

Year 1 were very lucky to have a history day where the Guildhall Museum came to them!

The children were super excited learning about toys from over 100 years ago such as toy wooden acrobat, the Zoe Trope and a baby washing kit that included carbonic soap, a wooden wash board and a mangle. They were amazed at how most of the toys nowadays rely so much on electricity!

As well as learning about old toys, the children explored life as Shepherd in a Hoo about 200 years ago. The children saw a 200-year-old smock which the Shepherd would wear to work and found out how he would find his sheep in the dark using candles in lantern and a bronze bell round the sheep's neck. The children loved having Jeremy join us for the day!



YEAR 2

Year 2's learning journey this term has been 'What's on the menu?' Within this journey, the children have looked at where food comes from. As part of this, on 19th November Farmer Alex, from Mockbeggar Farm paid us a visit. She talked to us about her farm and how they grow their fruit. It was interesting to learn about the 7 different fruits that she grows, the machinery she uses and how she imports bees to help with pollination!



YEAR 3

A big thank you to the staff and customers at Hoo Co-Op for being so welcoming to the year 3 children whilst they looked for fair trade products in the store.

A big thank you for the wonderful gingerbread men that all the children received as a gift - what a lovely thought.

Also thanks to anyone walking in the village square for answering the children's chocolate survey not only did you help with their maths work but also helped them develop their speaking and listening skills - they made some fabulous graphs this afternoon using their real life data!



YEAR 4

This term, Year 4 were privileged to have Mrs Whitton in to carry out an Art project with them. The overall task was to create a 3D Titanic for display. Every child was given a room to create on the ship, some had first class, whilst others had the task of designing the engine room. Mrs Whitton taught the children about linear perspective and demonstrated her fantastic artistic skills. The pupils loved having another teacher in and have not stopped talking to visitors about the display outside their classroom.



YEAR 5

On Friday 11th October we were able to take year 5 on a fantastic day trip which saw us travel to the Tower of London. During the day the children, and the adults, were treated to an insightful tour which saw the tour guide take us on a verbal and physical tour of the Tower. During the tour the children were immersed in the rich history of the Tower and its many gruesome stories. The children all behaved impeccably and the staff were proud of the outstanding LORIC values that they displayed.

PUPIL VOICES

Joe—We met at the train station at 9am. The journey was long but fun. It seemed to take forever to get to the Tower of London. My favourite part of the day was when we got to spend our money in the shop. I also enjoyed the talk about Guy Fawkes.

Kimora -When we went to the Tower of London there were Ravens flying freely above the Tower. They were huge and go about looking for food. My favourite part was when we went to a Tower called the Bloody Tower. It was called the Bloody Tower because there were two princes nobody knew what happened to them and it was a mystery that is why I found it interesting.

YEAR 6

In October, many of our Year 6 children went on an exciting excursion to Grosvenor Hall, a Kingswood Activity Centre. They participated in a range of fun activities, from abseiling, to archery and even raft building, where they had to communicate in teams to create a durable raft. Their resilience was put to the test during Nightline, an incredibly muddy activity where children were blindfolded and had to navigate through a series of obstacles and mazes. Trust was also developed with their classmates as they hoisted each other up in the air for the exhilarating 3G swing. One of the children who went on the trip explained, 'It was great fun as there was a wide range of exciting and engaging activities. I didn't think I would be able to do abseiling because I am scared of heights, but my friends and the staff encouraged me and I was able to it. It was an experience of a lifetime!' The children clearly had a fantastic few days away - they've developed many skills and have hopefully made some exciting memories.



The Marlborough Centre

News Piece

This term has been all about fundraising. Thanks to the amazing efforts of our friends, families and the wider community we have managed to raise in excess of £2000 this term.

Sam Lovey, a 3rd year Primary Ed student with CCCU, who joined us at the end of last year for some voluntary work, organised a football fundraiser for our playground development with some fellow students. The Hazelheim FC, the official football club of CCCU, have raised a total of **£1300** so far smashing their target of £400 which is an amazing achievement.

On behalf of all the families and staff at The Marlborough Centre I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the students who took part, but especially to Sam for his generosity in thinking of us in the first instance.

The 'gofundme' page is still live so if you haven't donated already and would like to do so please go to the link below. You will be helping some incredible children.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/cccu-primary-ed-fundraiser-for-a-local-sen-school>

Can I also say a special thank you to *The W & M Morris Charitable Trust* who donated £500 to this cause via their connections to a much loved grandchild at our school. This was immensely generous and again, I offer an enormous thank you for your kindness.



In addition to this, we came first in the ASDA Green Token Giving Programme which has generated another **£500** towards our playground fund. Your support in this has been amazing. As another very famous large supermarket brand would say 'every little helps!'



Along with the other fundraising events we have held across the year the total amount of money raised for this project is currently

£2220

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated!

Wishing you and yours all the very best for the Festive Season.

Debbie Amato
Head of Specialist Provision
Marlborough Centre

Marlborough Outreach Team



The Marlborough Outreach Team continue to support the learners of Medway who have a diagnosis of ASD, Social Interaction and Communication Needs within schools across Medway. We support pupils in a range of settings including Pre-Schools, Nurseries, Primary School and Secondary Schools to enable them to remain within their mainstream settings.

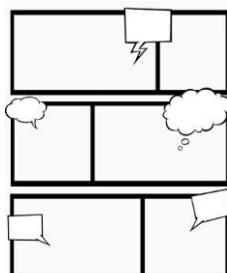
We are a team of three qualified teachers who have vast experience in supporting pupils within both specialist provisions and mainstream schooling. We are able to offer advice and support on a range of strategies, such as social stories and communication methods and work directly with staff and pupils to facilitate appropriate support in the classroom.

Advice and training can be provided to schools to help raise awareness of ASD as a whole school approach and where requested a bespoke programme can be created to respond to a specific difficulty that a pupil or school may be experiencing. Recent training that has been delivered has included 'Support within an Inclusive Classroom', 'Anxiety and ASD' and supporting staff to build their skills when delivering social skills groups.

If you think that any of the above may be of interest to you, or would like further information regarding the Service that we could provide, including how to refer to us, please do not hesitate to contact us either by phone or email, the information is below. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Tel: (01634) 338080 | **E-mail:** outreach@marlboroughcentre.org.uk

5 point scale	Explanation	What can I do?
5	I would like to hit!	Remove self from the situation - accept help from adults
4	I am really angry!	Count to 5 Take deep breaths Finger Tingles
3	I've got a problem	Tell the teacher, ask for help, use break card, think positive thoughts
2	Things are pretty good	Keep saying "I am going to be OK" to myself
1	I am feeling great!	Keep up the good work!





WALDESLADE PRIMARY SCHOOL

DREAM ACHIEVE RESPECT EXCEL

New School Strap Line

Over the last two terms the staff, children, parents and governors have all been working together to update our school strap line. We feel that our new school words

DREAM ACHIEVE RESPECT EXCEL truly reflect the ethos of the school. We are looking forward to sharing these words throughout all we do and ensuring that they are evident across the school.

Lottery Funding

We are delighted to have had a bid for National Lottery funding accepted! The school has been given a grant of £9956 to develop the lower grass area. A local nursery will also use the space, which will enable the school to help support the community around us. Work begins at the end of January – we can't wait!



Children in Need 2019



This November our school carried out fundraising activities including competitions, dressing up and

games to raise over £315 for this wonderful cause. Two of our year six children designed the whole day, ran assemblies and even went along to the staff meetings to get the teachers in on the plans!

Later in the day we were one of 8 schools in Kent to take part in the BBC's CiN singing! 24 of our children went to Allington Castle and sang with a large choir and appeared on the main show as well as during the South East News! Two of our children were even interviewed – it was the best experience for the children, even if the minibus did get stuck in the mud on the way home!



Curriculum theme weeks

This year Miss Martin is working hard to keep our curriculum fresh and relevant to our children. Along with the other teachers, Miss Martin has introduced school theme weeks, where all of the children throughout the school take part in activities linked to a school theme. So far this year we have carried out an Outdoor learning week, European Languages week and an Election week. They have all been so much fun and the children have experienced a lot of activities that have broadened their curriculum. We are looking forward to next terms now!





This year has seen many amazing things and again our amazing learners have shown us all how incredible they all are - we thank all our parents and carers for your support during this year.

This year we said good-bye to Mrs Uden, Headteacher and staff, learners and parents wished her well for the future. Mr Sample became Head of our Rivermead Partnership Provision, and our loss is their gain. We have been blessed with our new Headteacher Mrs Akinde who has made many changes and improvements to Rivermead School. Mrs Akinde will continue to make Rivermead a great learning environment.

Let's us tell you about all the things we have done this year, because of the vast number we may have omitted a few, and please feel free to email us with the things that we have forgotten!

December - Our annual Christmas Carol Service held at St Mary Magdalene church, where our learners take part, and this year excelled themselves. Our learners never cease to amaze us, and we hope you enjoyed the service as much as we did. Coming back to school for mince pies and tea was a lovely chance to see all our parents and carers again.

November - Our Children in Need day - all learners and staff wore their Pudsey tops or spotty tops, and we raised £162.74. Our day was run by our school council. Our school council is made up of learners who are formally elected and have many brilliant ideas.

November would not be the same without our Celebration Evening, this is a truly emotional evening whereby we can all commend our learners' achievements great and small. Our 'old' year 11's returned to receive their GCSE Certificates, recognising their achievements.

Year 7's went to the London Planetarium at Greenwich. Staff who accompanied learners said that our learners were so well behaved and had enjoyed the experience.

October - Year 7 have begun their outdoor learning. They have had opportunities to explore the woods and play around in the fairy town. Learners have enjoyed learning how to start a fire with flint and steel and putting up shelters to protect themselves from the elements. Outdoor learning provides learners with an opportunity to put the SUPER system into place in the real world. They are expected to take some responsibility for their own safety by doing a visual risk assessment when we arrive. They must be understanding of the needs and wishes of others while playing and taking turns. Even in the woods, politeness is still encouraged. They must keep their brains and senses engaged to ensure they are listening and responding to instructions. Most importantly they must be resilient. The woods will not change to suit the needs of learners meaning that if a fire will not start or a shelter will not stay up, they must keep trying if they want to succeed. Next term learners will be able to begin suggesting activities they would like to do including woodwork and cooking.

September - Our Macmillan afternoon, was another roaring success, welcoming our parents and carers to come and enjoy the afternoon of cake and tea and games and quizzes all created by our learners, with a little support from the staff. Thank you to everyone who came, donated cakes and prizes, we raised £757.35.

A visit to Rochester Cathedral to visit the Knife Angel Sculpture was a moving day, which the learners embraced and had vocal opinions about the sculpture which was pleasing to hear.

July - Dixon our mentoring dog came to visit our learners. He is an Australian Labradoodle. Dixon comes regularly to school to engage with learners.



Activities Day was held with a wealth of activities for our learners to try their hand at, such as archery to t-shirt printing.

12th July 2019 - our now infamous sports day was once again held at Medway Park, our learners stay in their seal groups for the afternoon, encouraging each other to participate and do the best that they can, also our learners are extremely supportive to the staff taking part, and also running each activity.

19th July 2019 - our Annual beach trip was held again, taking the whole school to the beach. Staff and learners have a great time together, with many staff being splashed by our learners.

June - Food and Nutrition day was held at Barley lands in Essex, allowing our learners to see first hand how food is grown, then packaged and sent to retailers for us as consumers to eat.

Chessington World of Adventures - our year 7's had a wonderful day enjoying this great theme park. Encouraging staff to go on all the rides, scary and non-scary.

Conservation Day was held, and learners brought in tin cans - ask your learner if they can remember what they did with their tin can.

May - Saw the introduction of 'Class charts' an online system to track achievement of learners throughout the school day. Parents/carers/learners have access to the system as well. If you have mislaid your Log on please contact the school office and we will be happy to forward to you. Learners have the opportunity to purchase items for sale using their class chart points.

Also, we had a Race for Life, which was held at Saxon Way Primary School, a truly wonderful afternoon of not only competitiveness, but resilience and team work, many learners are able to support and encourage one another.

Our year 11's started their GCSE examinations, and they handled their anxiety and stress in such a grown-up manner. Having an exam centre at school is a status we work hard at to maintain, as we know that for our learners to have to go to a strange place which is unfamiliar would increase their anxiety to a point which we feel you would agree would not be beneficial to their well-being.

April - a non-school uniform day was held to support Autism Awareness Day. We raised an amazing amount £192.87. Again, our school council help supports this day by arranging a cake sale. Our learners really like 'cake sale' days.

March - Was an opportunity to meet our new Headteacher Mrs Akinde, and was very pleased to meet the parents and carers.

March was also the month that our Year 11's were taken to the careers apprenticeship fair at Strood Academy.

February - our year 9 learners had a trip to the Brook Theatre in Chatham to see 'Chelsea's Story'. The play covered several topics including healthy and unhealthy relationships. It was a hard-hitting play, and staff were available to support learners who needed that extra support.

Our commitment to people who are not as lucky as we are continued, as Mrs Ridley and Mr Dwyer donated many old books from our library and books from staff and learners and parents/carers to Books for Africa.

January - Enrichment Day/Cultural Day was based on Chinese New Year. Learners had the opportunity to learn Chinese dancing, making a Chinese dragon.

Also, in January, our year 8 learners had a Spanish food tasting day.

Our learners were very resilient in January when we had a power cut and our kitchen staff were unable to provide a hot meal.

Message from Food Tech

Although a lot of dishes have been produced in the Food Tech room this year and shared on SZAPP. The Enrichment group would like to wish you all on behalf of Rivermead Chefs "Seasonal Greetings and Best Wishes for 2020".



A Message from our School Council

The school council have had another busy year we raised money with tag days to raise money and arrange the end of year disco and to subsidise the year 11 meal.

We have started a new venture to recycle used ink cartridges to raise money for school and help the environment watch this space!! Letters and information to follow.

We also ran a tag and activity afternoon to raise money for Children in Need we raised an amazing £167 well done to them for running the afternoon.

We attended a Youth Conference to talk about climate change and how they can make a difference.

We made light bottles to sell at the Christmas fair to raise money for equipment for the playground.

I would like to say a massive well done to them all for their enthusiasm and hard work this year.

Well-Being

Our learners had the opportunity to go to an Anti-Bullying conference, which was delivered by the Diana Award, the patron now is Prince William learners volunteered for the event and had an amazing day. All of our learners are now Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and can support any learner who feels that they may be being bullied. They learnt about on-line bullying, face to face bullying and strategies how to deal with bullies. They all feel confident to support other learners with how to handle situations.

For our staff, we have pleasure to announce that we have been awarded the Bronze Well-Being Award from Medway Council.

This award will be placed in Reception.

New Rivermead Vehicles

We have been very lucky to have two new cars, all nice and white with our well known Rivermead Logo on. Our old white bus had to be taken off the road for safety reasons, and after a little while we were able to get a brand-new White Citroen Minibus with a lift for our learners who have wheelchairs. Our learners seem to like our new vehicles. We are able to continue our numerous trips to various places in Medway and Kent and sometimes further afield such as London.

IQM - Inclusion Quality Mark - Mrs Anderson has worked hard to secure our Gold Status, and also the honour of being a flagship school.



After School Activities

Once again, we have a plethora of after school activities, which we know our learners really enjoy and this will continue into 2020.

Our learners are able to attend Rock Climbing, Flip out and Football Club. Rock Climbing is benefiting a learner as part of their PE GCSE.

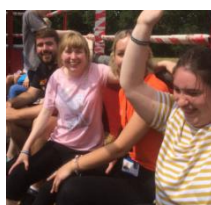
Lunch time Clubs on offer

We also have ICT Club, Magic Gathering Card Club, Art Club, Glee Club to name a few. For some time now, our food tech room needed an upgrade. As you can imagine the cost of such was not within our means, and so we sought the support of Hannah Burke from Rivermead Partnership and our Chair of Rivermead Inclusive Trust, Ian Chappell to seek financial assistance from organisations who could support us financially. Hannah Burke, clearly made a bid which the charity were not able to decline, and we were successful in securing funds which has transformed our old Food Tech Room.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

From All the staff at Rivermead School

Rivermead Outreach Community Challenge and ROCCstars are proudly the only provision of our kind in Medway. We provide high quality respite care and incredible opportunities for young people aged 5-18. We have over 100 Medway families accessing across our two provisions.



ROCC provides respite care for young people aged 12-18.

This year we have welcomed a new, fantastic manager from our team, Max Chaplin who has been a support worker with us for many years and has taken the leap to heading the provision.

This year ROCC have been on many incredible trips offering the young people we work with opportunities to visit places they may otherwise not have the opportunity to go to. Visits have included trips to the cinema, swimming, SOAR, Chessington, the Beach, Colchester zoo, Brighton Aquarium, various Country Parks, Drusillas, Dreamland, Wildwood, Rarebreeds, pumpkin picking, Legoland, Cyclopark, Gravity, Bluewater, Wingham and Jump giants. On-sites have included visits from emergency services, Harry Potter themed activity, Disco, ROCC sports day, Onsite beach, Nerf wars, Sign-a-long, Messy Play and a Festive fun day.

100% of parents who completed the survey strongly agree/agree that they were pleased with the service ROCC provides. One ROCC parent wrote in the recent survey (Oct 19) 'The staff make it an amazing place, you can see they enjoy the children's company and the kids can pick up on this. There is a great variety of days out and in to suit all'. It's what we do, Incredible Team!

For more information on ROCC please contact us at rocc@rivermeadinclusivetrust.org

Our new primary provision, **ROCCstars**. ROCCstars provides respite holiday care for young people aged 5-11.

Launched in May 2019 ROCCstars has already offered more than 60 sessions of respite care for young people and their families.

With proactive and passionate, Claire Thorogood and Nicky McHugh heading ROCCstars and an amazing team of support workers we are so excited about the future.

Excellent feedback from parents, on their Christmas event day, a parent commented 'Thank you so much, his smile says it all, please let us know about the next half term'

There is no greater compliment than the smiles of the young people!

For more information on ROCCstars please contact us at roccstars@rivermeadinclusive trust.org



The Future is Bright: ROCC on

Growth and development are supported by the CEO at the trust, we can now share that in **2020 we will launch our 18-25 provision**. The transitional provision hopes to foster independence and confidence in the young people who access, developing life skills including travel training, basic cooking and connecting with the wider community.

Experienced and enthusiastic, Ell Smith, will head our launch.

For more information, please email roccon@rivermeadinclusivetrust.org



WATCH THIS SPACE

ROCC hope that you will join us in fundraisers in 2020, particularly in summer. All funds will be spent on resources, activities and providing more rich experiences.



Triple R Newsletter

Term 1 2019-20

Welcome to Triple R's Term 1 newsletter, full of packed info about our fab learners

Fab start!

It has been a jam packed term for the start of the 2019-20 academic year. Our new learners have joined the school and everyone has been so welcoming and supportive of them, it is great to see!

A big thank you to Ms Negus for creating our community PE plans for the year; this term we have seen all of our learners who are here with us on a Thursday afternoon, engage with the gym sessions. Travelling down to the Medway City Estate, our learners have engaged and worked with Matt and his team at SISU Fit, focussing on fitness and healthy exercise.

For some of our learners, the AQA unit awards have begun with Pinky's Beauty coming in to work with our learners once a week. Brilliant learner engagement and learning in the art of nail care and beauty.



Revised class groups

This year we have revised and restructured the class groups across the school. We now have three classrooms and the change in dynamics across the groups has had a positive impact.

Learners still have the opportunity to meet and socialise with other learners in the common room during breaks. The learners are widening their friendship circles and are moving about the school more.

MacMillan Cake & Coffee session

A massive thank you to everyone who contributed in some way to our Macmillan Coffee morning; from baking cakes to contributing donations, it was much appreciated! We all raised a whopping...

£129.28

Thank you so much for your kindness.



Welcome

A big welcome to Mrs Brand, who has joined us from Rivermead Main School, to Triple R. Also, Mrs Whitton has been teaching art across the school for one day a week and also Mrs Baxter has come up to Triple R from the main school to assist with the teaching of Biology. It has been great to see our learners working with a variety of adults in different contexts.

An example of stencil art work by Jack



Stencil Art projects with Mrs Whitton



Our Food and Nutrition lessons have been well attended; focussing on healthy relationships with food as well as nutrition and lifestyle. How would you plan, prepare and create a nutritional snack for an athlete or Donald Trump? That's a challenge!



Monday Meet-ups

Parents and Carers opportunity to share and support each other.

Tea and coffee provided



Bring your favourite biscuits

Every Monday
9.30am-10.30am
at Triple R

All parents, carers and families and friends are welcome to our Monday Meet ups where you can meet the staff, talk together and have a coffee in a relaxed setting. Great to see you there.

Do remember
to follow us
on Twitter!



REMINDER

TERM 2 STARTS:
Monday 4th
November 2019



Triple R Phone Number - 01634 961080
Triple R E-mail - tripler@rivermeadinclusivetrust.org





Triple R Newsletter

Term 2 2019-20

Welcome to Triple R's Term 2 newsletter, full of packed info about our fab learners

Big welcome!

It has been great to see our new learners who have joined us over the past few weeks transitioning so well into Triple R. We are all so proud of you and a big thank you to all of our learners for making them so welcome.

Community PE - Ice Skating

Our community PE has been a great success again this term. Our learners have been seen learning new skills and building their resilience by taking to the ice at Gillingham Ice Bowl. Sessions have included time with an Ice Skating Coach and then free time to put into practise those learnt skills (and have lots of fun and laughter!) Turn over to see some great photos!

St John Ambulance First Aid

This term, our learners spent the day completing a St Johns Ambulance First Aid Certificate. Everyone who took part. Passed with flying colours and received their certificates.

Christmas Shopping

Budgeting for Christmas is always fun! Our learners have been planning, budgeting and spending their allocated cash at Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre, with the support of our team. Buying Christmas gifts for their loved ones and walking to Hempstead Valley, successfully saw our learners utilise road safety, budgeting skills and social skills.



Christmas fair

I would like to say a kind thank you to everyone that turned up to the Christmas fair! It was great to see you all there.



Science

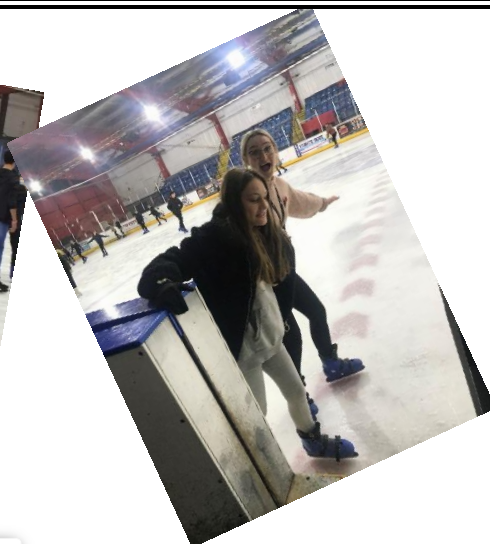
Lots of practical learning and first hand experiences have enabled our learners to explore new areas of science that they have not seen before.

"Science lessons are fun and engaging, and they help me learn more about my science GCSE."

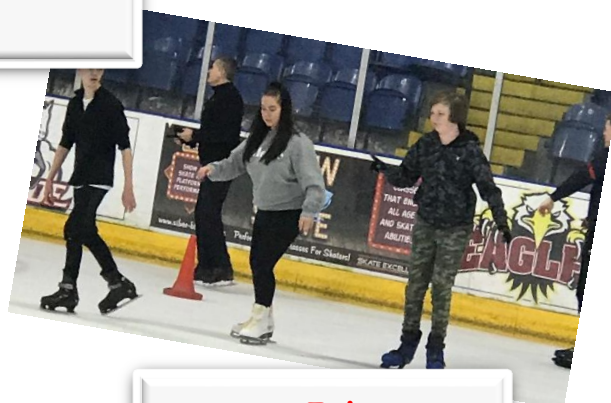
Katie, Year 11



Learning new skills and
having fun in the



Gillingham Ice
Bowl



St Johns
Ambulance First



Monday Meet-ups

Parents and Carers opportunity to share and
support each other.

Tea and coffee provided



Bring your favourite biscuits

Every Monday
9.30am-10.30am
at Triple R

Have a wonderful
Christmas break and let
your holiday be full of joy
and happiness

Rivermead Partnership

Hello and welcome from the Rivermead Partnership family!

This year has been a rollercoaster of work and fun seeing the Post-16 Partnerships grow from 1 base to 3 spanning both the Medway and Maidstone campus of Mid Kent College. Currently supporting 60 learners with various needs we enable learners to transition from school to college and enjoy the adventure that it brings! Staff movement has meant that we have welcomed Agnes, May, Rebecca, Abbi, Penny and Kayleigh to our little family as well as congratulating Jennie, Ell, Faith and Kirstie for promotions into their new roles.

The adventure so far has taken us on twists and turns like a Santa's sleigh ride – learners are accessing 24 different subjects or levels across provisions so staff whizz from Plumbing to Hair & Beauty, Catering to Drama, Art to Animal Care and all those in between! We support Maths and English to further promote progression and increase employability.

Staff deliver a breadth of workshops as wide a variety as managing anxiety to travelling independently. Our term has been jam packed with events such as football tournaments and visits from international zoo keepers, learning more about the world of budgeting with an accredited finance qualification and the general merriment and life skills that being a member of the Rivermead Partnership brings.

13 of our cohort completed and achieved the NCS programme over the October half term break, giving up their time to engage in social action, learning more about themselves and their community and raising funds and awareness for their chosen good causes.

During their Partnership time our learners have spent time considering their own contribution to society and interacting with current affairs including visits from local Councillors and workshops from METRO sexual health charity. A strong focus remains on employment and preparing our learners for the future and as part of this we support learners into work placements and provide opportunities for volunteering. One such opportunity has been our growing links with a local stables to support learners into a bespoke Horsecare pathway that has them mucking out as well as cantering about! As part of this bespoke programme we have also appointed our first Communication Support Worker who signs for one of the Post-16 learners to be able to access and progress – she also teaches us along the way too!

All in all it has been a busy term for the Post-16 elves but we would like to finish by wishing you all a happy Christmas, thank you all for a fantastic 2019 and send you joy and happiness for all of 2020!

Love and joy

From all in the Partnership family x





Enrichment

The Schools in the Trust have been busy this term with enrichment. As well as running their own enrichment activities and trips they have been enjoying the new, more personalised and curriculum-based, approach to enrichment. Classes with Hoo St Werburgh have enjoyed specialist art sessions based around Portraiture and the Titanic, whilst Year 5 are excitedly awaiting their illustrated and printed books to arrive from the printer.



Rivermead is proud to have had 12 learners complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award this term and have 6 going on to complete silver and a further 4 wanting to complete Bronze this year.



September saw year 10 and 11 learners visiting war graves and the Menin Gate in Ypres for a 3-day residential trip. This was not only a moving trip but also helped support first world war learning. Life skills were also a key focus with learners helping with shopping and ordering in restaurants.



November 8th saw the annual Community concert at Priestfield Stadium. Learners from 4 local schools sang their own song then joined to sing a song written specifically for the event. They were joined by local groups and singers including the community choir "Sea Folk Sing". This was a magical night showing the talent of our young people in Medway.



November 30th saw the RIT Christmas Fair at Kings Rochester Sports Centre. This fundraising event saw local crafters, Santa, Reindeer and the RIT schools selling to parents, learners and the general public. Staff from all the schools were there to help set up, run and take down the event. Thank you!!!

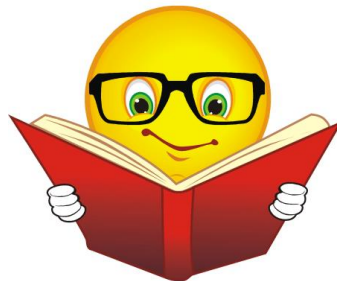


I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who support with enrichment in the RIT. Workloads in teaching are high, and ever increasing and the time you give over to enrichment, to offer our learners more amazing experiences, is very much appreciated. Thank you for your time and dedication!

ENGLISH ACROSS THE RIT

It has been a busy start to the year for all our staff and learners here at Rivermead Inclusive Trust. All staff have been working hard to promote and celebrate reading and writing. Here are a few things that have happened so far. . .

- We have held our first RIT English team meeting. It was great for all English leads to get together, share their expertise, and give examples of good practice across all of our schools. I look forward to our next meeting.
- Accelerated Reader is now live in 4 of our schools. It is amazing to see the impact this has already had on reading engagement with both our learners and their families. The certificates are flying out the door!
- Our year 6 team have started this year's 'Peer Reading Moderation' cycle. It was great to welcome the Marlborough Centre to the process this year. I know the staff found the process useful and the children loved reading to their visitor.
- Sounds-Write is here! The Marlborough Centre have officially launched Sounds-Write. All staff have received CPD sessions and the children are enjoying their daily Phonics sessions.



IT Update:

Walderslade:

The broadband was also upgraded at Walderslade during the October half from 10MB to 100 MB. The new broadband should help with teaching and learning, as it helps make available a wider range of resources. Walderslade should also soon see the installation of new WI-FI and Switches. This will improve the infrastructure for many years to come, and improve:

- Speed
- Security
- Reliability
- Efficiency

HSW + Centre:

New server parts were ordered to help HSW and the Centre to help improve the network. Hoo and Centre should also soon see the installation of new WI-FI and Switches. This will improve the infrastructure for many years to come, and improve:

- Speed
- Security
- Reliability
- Efficiency

After conversations with Medway, there is also a plan in place to install a more reliable and quicker broadband.

Rivermead:

There was a new network installed at Rivermead during the October half term. The new network is more:

- Efficient
- Secure
- Quicker
- Up-to-date with current technologies
- Reliable

Rivermead's Broadband was upgraded from 10MB to 100MB. The new broadband should help with teaching and learning, as it helps make available a wider range of resources.



Director of School Improvement & Strategic Lead for Teaching & Learning

As we approach the end of Term 2 which has flown by, our School Development team have been incredibly busy. We continue to be incredibly proud to have been able to support all of our provisions across the Trust on their improvement journeys. As always, our thanks go to our Heads, SLTs and all staff for being receptive and open to any suggestions and support which has been provided. The culmination of the school improvement during this term has been recognised by two very positive review weeks at both Hoo St Werburgh and Walderslade. All teams in our locations took these visits in their stride and were able to showcase the current position of the respective schools. It has been a real pleasure for us to support them with their journeys to these points. Rivermead including Triple R has had a successful Incyte visit which highlighted a number of really positive strides that the school has made forward since the last visit. The Marlborough Centre also had a very successful Incyte visit too outlining the massive strides that the provision has made over the last year. A special well done to the Centre for being identified as 'Outstanding' in all areas.

Other key areas that the Improvement team have been involved in during these first two terms have included:

- Quality assurance of the raising standards meetings, Safeguarding procedures, quality of Teaching and Learning and leadership team meetings amongst others.
- Supporting the successful moderations which have happened across the Trust including building links with other Trusts and schools to ensure robust quality assurance is in place
- Support and challenge to increase the capacity of the leadership within all of our Trust provisions.
- A focus on bringing a coaching to the forefront across the Trust
- Bringing together key personnel from across the Trust to work collaboratively in areas such as School Improvement, Teaching and Learning, Safeguarding, English and Maths, NQTs, GDPR and Well-being.
- Highlighting high quality practice, ideas and CPD opportunities through the Teaching and Learning newsletter.
- Supporting the writing of the School Development Plans and accurate School Self Evaluation.

A special thank you goes to our Trust leads who have supported us both in providing this high quality school improvement offer across the Trust.

We look forward at the end of this term to the presentation of our annual 'WOW' awards for those who have been identified by their peers and also to working collaboratively during Term 3 and beyond with all your Teams. The key to us being successful at our roles is to be able to develop and support people and teams across the Trust. If anyone would like some particular support during Term 3 and beyond then please let us know as we are only too willing to help and support where we can. However, before we get to this point from both of us, we wish you a wonderful Christmas.



Chair of the Rivermead Inclusive Trust

As we head towards Christmas, I can't believe we are coming to the end of term 2. I ask myself constantly, where has this gone?

As with normal years this has been no different, with plenty of things going on across all our schools from within the Trust.

Our new learners across the Trust have settled in well and the transition from school to college has gone smoothly. Results are looking good for some pleasing results at the end of the school year.

So much has taken place this term, I do wonder how sometimes we manage to get all these 'extras' done alongside educating the learners.

We have had book fairs in our schools which were a great success, Macmillan coffee morning where we sat, ate cake and drunk coffee but it was for a great cause and a large amount of money was raised. Children went on residential trips, some of which was the first time away from mum and dad. I am unsure who was more stressed mum and dad for them being away from home or the children missing mum and dad, but they all had a good time. Rivermead also did a residential trip to remember those who lost their lives during the wars to enable us to have what we have today.

We held a Community Concert at Gillingham Football Club which again was a great success and really brought the community together and allowed our children to really shine with their singing. This also allowed our Walderslade choir to practice prior to attending the Children In Need program in Maidstone and singing as part of all the schools choir which went out live on the Friday night. This was fabulous to watch and a credit to our children.

Walderslade has also been able to secure 10K from the lottery grant to readdress its outside space which is great news and we look forward to this taking place.

The Trust has engaged an external company to look at and quality assure the provision within the Marlborough Centre and Rivermead. I am pleased to say that both locations came out well from the process with the Marlborough Centre being outstanding across all key areas.

Whilst our staffing has been stable when we have needed to appoint we continue to appoint quality staff who will continue the great work being done across the Trust, as well as, fit into the Trust ethos and mind set

That said, it's with sadness we are having to say goodbye to Dawn Campbell, our Finance Officer. Dawn has been with us since we created the Trust and has been a key player, enabling us to be where we are now but she has decided to move on and whilst she will be sadly missed we wish her and her family well for the future

As I said previously, this has been a busy term and when I wrote this we still had the Christmas production and parties to take place, which I am sure will be a great success. Can I on behalf of all the staff within the Trust and myself wish you and your families well. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all on the 6th January 2020

Take care and be safe



Mr I Chappell JP

