

- Wishing you a wonderful holiday -

Spring Term 2022

# Round Up

Read the latest news & updates from across  
Summit Learning Trust



‘Scaling the heights together’

Our primaries, secondaries & college have been busy!



Strength through Diversity | Ambition through Challenge | Excellence through Curiosity



# SUMMIT

## LEARNING TRUST

 @Summit\_LT

## Welcome

What a relief to have reached some lovely spring weather and lighter evenings, at the end of another busy and successful term at Summit Learning Trust.

It's such a privilege and pleasure to see how well our schools are progressing and making sure that all our children and young people catch up with their learning, and to see how happy and content the vast majority of our pupils and students are, despite very challenging national and world situations.

At the beginning of this term, the Board of Trustees at Summit was delighted to appoint Mr Vince Green to take on the role of CEO from September 2022. I will be leaving at the end of the academic year, after five very happy years here, working with our teams to improve standards across our Trust. Vince will do an excellent job of taking our Trust and our academies from strength to strength. We're now moving into a very positive transition phase, working together to ensure a smooth and well-planned handover.

Finally – some excellent news; Lyndon School was inspected this term and we look forward to seeing their positive report published. The Principal, Mr Abid Butt, and his team have done a fantastic job, supported by our Trust, in transforming the school and making sure that a great education is available to all the Lyndon pupils.

Have a wonderful spring break.



Catherine Anwar  
CEO

#Scalingtheheights





SOUTH BIRMINGHAM SCITT

🐦 @SouthBhamSCITT

## Latest from South Birmingham SCITT

Following on from the tremendous start made to the course in the Autumn Term, the Spring Term began for the South Birmingham SCITT trainees settling into their new schools. Placement B provides the trainees with the opportunity to experience a different educational settings and to continue to develop their journey in becoming teachers. This term the trainees have been focusing on embedding the strands of our "ABISCUIT" model into their everyday teaching, gaining confidence and a greater understanding of key aspects such as assessment, adapted practice and developing positive working relationships within their school settings.

### Friday Professional Studies

In addition to time in placements, we have enjoyed working with the trainees on the Friday Professional Studies sessions where they have engaged in a range of sessions to help build their understanding of both pedagogy and practice. This term the trainees and SCITT staff have had the opportunity to get involved in a number of training sessions to develop awareness of Anti-Discrimination and Diversity in the classroom, including workshops on diversifying the curriculum with Bennie Kara, a session with Dr Elly Barnes to support the trainees in ensuring they can create an inclusive classroom and build their confidence to support LGBTQ+ students, and also involvement in a range of presentations at the International Women's Day event. We are delighted to be welcoming the SCITT trainees to the Summit Learning Trust INSET Conference on Friday 8th April, where they will have the opportunity to attend 3 workshops covering a wide range of ADD topics and promoting allyship and advocacy.

In terms of assessment the SCITT trainees have been incredibly busy working on their PGCE assignments and Spring Term Progress Over Time Presentations. It has been a pleasure to listen to the trainees talk about their classroom based practice and to see them becoming confident and reflective practitioners.

### Mock Interviews

This term our trainees also had the opportunity to prepare for the Teaching Profession by carrying out a Mock Interview with colleagues from across the partnership. The trainees found this to be an invaluable experience and a huge thank you goes out to colleagues and schools from across the Partnership that helped out with this event including The Oaklands, Colmore Infant and Juniors, Cockshut Hill School and Ninestiles, An Academy.



**'A LOVE FOR TEACHING'  
SOUTH BIRMINGHAM SCITT**



Please head to: **[www.southbirminghamscitt.org.uk](http://www.southbirminghamscitt.org.uk)** if you are interested in a career in teaching.  
For any enquiries please contact us at: **[hello@southbirminghamscitt.org.uk](mailto:hello@southbirminghamscitt.org.uk)**





# Welcome

Building on a busy Autumn Term, and with the aim of providing a high-quality provision of professional learning for all staff, we have launched a number of training programmes and platforms across the trust during the Spring Term of 2022.

Available to all staff, the National College Professional Learning Platform offers hundreds of courses, recorded webinars and resources which is being utilised by staff from across the trust to take ownership of their professional learning. I am delighted to see and hear how valuable the platform is as a resource, and I look forward to seeing more staff utilise the training on offer via the Professional Learning Directory, which will be published in the Summer Term. In addition to the National College, we have also started to roll out training for BlueSky Education, which will be used across the trust for Performance Review/ Professional Learning purposes – more details to follow on this in the Summer Term of 2022.

 @PLI\_SummitLT

## Summit Concierge Training Programme

New for Spring Term 2022, is the Summit Concierge Training Programme, developed to give our 'front of house' staff access to high quality professional learning to support them in the critical role which they play within the academies. The first workshop gave the Summit Concierge Team the opportunity to talk through their day-to-day experiences and to share and develop best practise moving forward. We are delighted that Dr.Olga Kapaxi, an expert in Customer Service and Hospitality, from University College Birmingham, has delivered a session to the team in the Spring Term and will returning in the Summer Term for further professional learning with the team.

## Teaching Assistants' Training Programme

Thanks to Christa Vines and Kiran Kanda our trust Inclusion Leads, this term has also seen the launch of a Teaching Assistants' Training Programme for our Primary Academy colleagues. Blending live workshops with self-guided study using the National College webinars, the aim of the programme is to support the Teaching Assistants in accessing professional learning that will help support pupils in the classroom. The programme will continue into the Summer Term and will culminate in our trust wide Teaching Assistants Meet – where colleagues will swap ideas and strategies based on the professional learning.

## Anti-Discrimination and Diversity

Our work on Anti-Discrimination and Diversity remains a professional learning priority with the offer of half termly webinars and workshops being well underway, alongside the core videos, this term exploring #HeForSheAllyship with Patrick Otley-O'Connor. Tuesday 8 March 2022 also marked International Women's Day. This day was celebrated in style with Year 8 and Year 10 Pupils from Cockshut Hill and Ninestiles, An Academy spending the day at Solihull Sixth Form College exploring the relationship between Gender Inequality and Climate Change. The pupils shared many great ideas and wrote some excellent pieces of persuasive writing. The celebrations continued in the evening with an event for staff to attend and listen to a range of perspectives in #Breakingthebias. A huge thanks to all the speakers at this event – Cathy Anwar, Clare Kelly, Zaffreen Kosin, Amy Dowding, Nathalie Wright, Claire Harris, Laura Larkin, Louise Quinlan and Anisa Lokat-Fanning. If you missed the event, the video will be available via the Summit Showcase.

The Summit Learning Trust Conference on Friday 8th April promises to be a great opportunity for all staff to come together to continue to build on our ADD work and to take an important collective step from awareness towards Allyship and Advocacy. A huge thank you to all those involved in contributing to the Conference as presenters or via the Summit Showcase. A massive thank you to Louise Quinlan for her amazing organisational skills in getting all the invitations out, the IT team for all their support in running the event and Darren Mitchell for the promotional materials, video recordings and Summit Showcase work.



Once again, a massive thank you to all those involved in facilitating and delivering Professional Learning within each of the home academies and across the trust. Particular thanks to the Summit Lead Practitioners for all the work they are carrying out both within and across the home academies, and also to the Professional Learning Leads for co-ordinating such a rich provision of offer within their academies.

## Next Term

Next term sees the launch of the updated PLI Website and Professional Learning Directory, plus opportunities for Research Informed Practice, more guest webinars/INSET and also more news from the National College.

Many Thanks - Becs Lillington







**Cockshut Hill School**  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Twitter @CockshutHillSch

## We Welcome BBC News into School – Reporting on ‘Schools White Paper’



## Cockshut Hill Students mark International Women’s Day

Year 8 students from Cockshut Hill School marked 8th March by attending an event at Solihull Sixth Form College. International Women’s Day was created to help us push for a gender equal world. All across the globe the achievements of women are celebrated, whilst remaining inequalities are highlighted and discussed.

The students learned about the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set up by the UN in 2015 and about the relationship between gender inequality and climate change – concerning how climate change disproportionately affects women and girls.

Then in pairs, the students wrote letters to the UN Women’s Executive Director detailing their concerns about climate change and its effect on women around the world, as well as suggesting solutions. UN Women is the UN organization delivering programmes, policies and standards that uphold women’s human rights and ensure that every woman and girl lives up to her full potential.



Two of our Year 11 girls wrote a letter, inspired by the work of Jess Phillips about what International Women’s Day meant to them. Their work was published by FE News and shared with Jess Phillips herself who wrote back to the school saying how moved she was by the article.



## Wonderful Workshops

We have welcomed many different employers and groups into CHS this term, including the Royal Navy, who ran a Ready, Steady Cook! masterclass with our Year 11 GCSE Hospitality and Catering Students. We also hosted an excellent speaker, Fraser West, originally from Yardley from the Bank of England who came to talk to Year 9 about the different career pathways available in banking and finance. Most recently, BAE systems, The Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy treated our Year 7 and Year 8 students to a STEM presentation, which was very interactive and engaging. The exciting presentation explained the use of magnets, magnetism and electromagnetism in everyday life.





The Oaklands Primary School  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Twitter @TheOaklandsBham

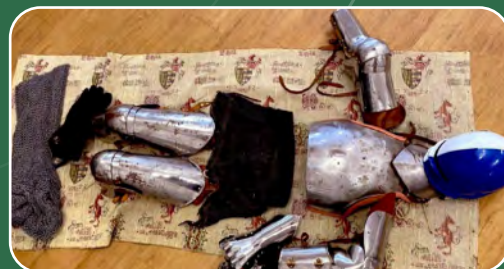
## Environment Development

We know the importance of creating a stimulating environment for our pupils. Staff had a twilight session in February, led by a display specialist team, where we learnt tricks and tips on how to create effective displays. Since then, staff have got creative in producing a learning environment that engages pupils, promotes interest and motivation, showcases our curriculum and shows appreciation of the high quality work and effort of all pupils.



## History Workshops

Once again, history came alive at the The Oaklands! Year 3 and 5 took part in a day of exploring the past, with hands-on activities and challenges. Year 5 delved into the medieval Black Death and year 3 explored the Stone Age. The pupils deepened their knowledge and understanding of the periods and learnt new skills along the way, including how to build a fire, how to spark a flint, how to tie knots and how to make tools.



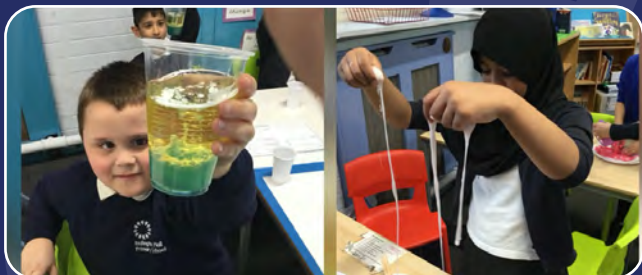
Erdington Hall Primary School  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Twitter @ErdingtonHallPS

## Science Day 2022

Pupils had an enjoyable day conducting a range of investigations including:

- Nursery – Can eggs float?
- Reception looked at the parts of a plant
- Year 1 & 2 making Lava Lamps
- Year 3 Investigating how people grow
- Year 4 making slime
- Year 5 & 6 decided which was the best washing powder



## Year 3 Stone Age Workshop

As part of this fantastic workshop the pupils build a replica of Stonehenge, had lessons on fire lighting and used and made stone age weapons.



## Our Cress Growing Competition

As part of Science Week the pupils took home a tiny bag of seeds and transformed them into a decorated pot of cress- well done to Ismah and Nathan in Year 4.







**Ninestiles An Academy**  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Twitter @Ninestiles

## Leading Change

Last month, Mrs. Liburd accompanied a group of 6 young ladies from Years 7, 8 and 9, to Solihull 6th Form College for a Girls Leading Change conference with our CEO Mrs Anwar. The girls explored a range of topics, including the key areas of work aligned to Personal, Social and Emotional Development, and our Trust's commitment to Diversity, Equality and Inclusion. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the session and Mrs. Liburd was very proud of how they participated – she is keen to maintain momentum on this project and is excited to see how it develops.

## Careers and Entrepreneurship

Our Careers Department has facilitated some fantastic opportunities for our students this term. In January, we welcomed Abdul-Shakur Investments into school to inspire our Year 10 GCSE Business Studies students, nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs. Abdul Shakur discussed the realities of entrepreneurship with some practical advice on how to build a business, alongside some areas of the curriculum that they're currently working on. The students had a great day and found it very inspiring.

## Support for Ukrainian Refugees

At the end of March, Ninestiles held a bake sale to raise money to support Ukrainian refugees. Staff and students were very generous with their donations, and we raised more than £600! This will be split between the DEC for Ukraine and Unicef. Thank you to Mr. Hussain and Miss Bowie for organising the event and all those who supported it.

## Cooking up a Storm

In February, some very lucky Year 8 students had a wonderful day when they were visited by two members of the Royal Navy's catering crew. The personnel did a presentation on the Royal Navy, career options and their experience of life in the Navy, then they did a Ready, Steady, Cook challenge with a group of nine students. The students were split into two groups and they cooked meatballs in a tomato sauce or a Swiss roll, which they could decorate using any of the ingredients supplied by the Royal Navy. The corridors smelled delicious! The students were really engaged in the whole afternoon and were a real credit to the school.



**Pegasus Primary School**  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Twitter @PegasusPrimary

## A BUSY TERM AT PEGASUS

What a lot we have packed into such a short amount of time. We have been so lucky to have the History company, the Past Presents, working with us to bring the history curriculum to life and really engage our children. Our Year 3 children went back to the Stone Age where they hunted for dinner, used flint to make fire and cave painted. Our Year 4 children were transported back to Ancient Rome where they learned about Roman food and cooking, sports and activities as well as bathing, toilets and sewage systems! Year 5 explored 'The Black Death' – not literally! They learned about how the plague spread, what people did to protect themselves, how it made people unwell and even links with Covid! Year 6 went back to the 1940s and explored what it was like to be an evacuee during World War II, weapons and armoury, women at war and wartime entertainment. Year 1 will have their workshop in the summer term as, unfortunately, the Past Presents were victims of theft and were unable to deliver their session. We have also had our new technology out in action and the children have used Now Press Play augmented reality headsets to totally immerse themselves in their history projects.





**Lyndon School**  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

@LyndonSchool

## Generosity from Two Charities

Two generous charities Arthur's Angels & Sewaday, donated food boxes to support parents through the February half term. The food boxes were greatly received by many of our families. Many thanks to both of them.

## Cake Sale

On the 15th March 2022 staff and students baked and sold cakes in order to raise money for Ukraine. An amazing £382 was raised by everyone, a great effort from everyone in Lyndon.

## Year 7 Students visit to City of Birmingham, Symphony Orchestra

Lyndon Year 7 students recently had the opportunity to see the wonderful City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra perform "Natural World" at the Symphony Hall.

In the hour-long concert for schools, specially devised for students in Key Stage 3, conductor Michael Seal, presenter Tom Redmond and the world-class musicians of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra took students on a journey exploring the Natural World – including performances of works by Sibelius, Stravinsky, Smetana and Boulanger.



All Year 7 students at Lyndon School had just finished learning about instruments of the orchestra in their music lessons so the trip was perfectly timed to allow them to consolidate their knowledge through a live performance.

### Mr Abid Butt, Principal said:

*"I want to say a big thank you to Stuart Byrnie and Services for Education, the Scops Arts Trust, Deloitte, the CBSO Corporate Supporter of Schools Concerts, all those who have contributed to the CBSO's public appeal and the Clive & Sylvia Richards Charity for helping to give students this fantastic experience as, for some students, this could be the only time in their lives to experience this."*

## Westminster Abbey Visit

A lucky group of students attended the Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey on the 14th of March. The Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey has been held since 1972. It celebrates the people and cultures of the Commonwealth nations. The Commonwealth is an association of 54 member states with a combined population of 2.4 billion citizens, almost a third of the world's people. Commonwealth countries span Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Pacific and are diverse – they are amongst the world's largest, smallest, richest and poorest countries.

Though the Queen was not in attendance this year, the service was attended by HRH The Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Cornwall and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. The Prime Minister Boris Johnson was also in attendance and made a speech. Keir Starmer, the leader of the Labour Party was also there, along with various members of the cabinet.

There were other famous faces for the students to spot, including triathlete Jonny Brownlee, model Naomi Campbell and David Walliams. The students also got to hear some superb musical performances from Mica Paris and Emeli Sande. The service began with a procession of Commonwealth flags and there were representatives from all faith communities who said poignant words of address including,

*"A person is either your brother in faith, or your brother in humanity."*



## Young Writers Book

Some of our students won a place in the latest young writers book.

Mr Butt was very impressed with everyone's engagement with the competition and all their success.

*Elizabeth Bevington, Megan Neal, Lewis Tomlinson, Eloise Atkins, Dylan Sutton, Amrit Bahra, Joseph Mannion, Amaya Jones, Rehanna Akhtar, Mollie McEvoy, Summer Haslam, Courtney Seedman, Tamsin Dalton, Lola Beer, Arjun Uppal, Cole Waters, Keiron Mace, Trin Cooke, Larissa Lobhan, Loveleen Bhagal, Lily Gamble, Yousaf Iqbal, Liam Cartin, Chloe Webb, Joshua Bromley, David Sadler, Erin Michael, Michael Rooker, Kayden King, Catherine Lobato Pires, Komeyl Heydari, Alisha Aaminah, Amy Reynolds, Olivia Cardin, Mohammad Aayan, Jessie Elliott, Emily-Rose Bell, Angel Skinner, Adam Dar, Adam Mughal, Maisie Brand, Megan Neal, Loveleen Bhagal, Catherine Lobato Pires.*





## Culture Week Students Hit the Catwalk

Culture Week was a big hit at Solihull Sixth Form College last week, as staff and students came together to celebrate the diverse cultures that make up the College community. The event even went viral on social media earning praise from students all over Birmingham and Solihull.

The highlight of the week was a day when everyone was invited to wear an outfit to college that represented their culture and heritage. Hundreds of students took part and the campus was ablaze with colour and pattern! There was also a Fashion Show, in which staff and students showed off their cultural outfits as they took to the catwalk in the College's lecture theatre. All continents were represented and a large number of students got involved - in fact that there was not enough room in the theatre for everyone to attend and the event spilled outside, where staff and students showed off their dance moves to the beat of some traditional dhol drums.

Other activities during Culture Week included world cuisine lunch menus for students to try, a fantastic range of music from different cultures playing in the refectory, henna hand painting, screenings of the movie Black Panther and a bake sale.

Organised by Student Council and led by Year 12 Council Vice Chair Daisy Maskell, the week-long event celebrated the wonderful multi-cultural community that exists at the College and both staff and students embraced that diversity with a mood of mutual appreciation and pride. Student Development Officer Moona Butt played a significant role in supporting the students with the planning and delivery of the events.



# TRIO OF OXBRIDGE OFFERS

Three ambitious students at Solihull Sixth Form College are aiming high and hoping to take up Oxbridge places this year, after securing highly sought-after offers to Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

Daisy Holgate and Trinity Weldon have offers to study at the University of Oxford, while Louis Hall has an offer from the University of Cambridge. All had to go through a challenging application process, with interviews and in some cases additional tests to be sat. They all began their applications much earlier than their peers and were supported by staff at the College to give them the best possible chance of success.

For former Ninestiles Academy student (also part of the Summit Learning Trust) Louis Hall, his offer is from Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge and he hopes to take up a place on their Engineering course. He is currently studying A levels in French, Further Maths, Mathematics and Physics and hopes to eventually work in the Aerospace Engineering sector.

Louis commented, *"I applied to Cambridge because the course really attracted me, and it offered the chance to learn from world class experts, in an environment with the best facilities. The application was a long process, first with the personal statement and completing UCAS, then completing the separate Cambridge form and the Engineering Admissions Assessment (ENGAA). I also had to do two interviews before receiving the decision."*

Daisy Holgate, an ex-Swanshurst Girls School pupil, is currently studying Biology, Chemistry and History at A level and hopes to take up a place at Keble College, Oxford to continue her Biology studies.

Daisy commented, *"I decided to apply to Oxford because the course, teaching style and collegiate system all appealed to me, and when I visited Oxford it definitely felt like somewhere I saw myself living. I thought I'd get something out of the whole process whether I got in or not, so I applied. The interviews were the only Oxbridge specific thing I had to do, but preparing for those wasn't too difficult as it's impossible to prepare for the specific questions they'll ask."*

*"In preparation, I got a few people in College to go over my personal statement with me, which was definitely helpful in the early stages. The College ran interview practice sessions with us, which helped me get used to talking about my subject out loud. I got to do a few full mock interviews too, which meant the format of the real ones was quite familiar by the time they happened."*

Trinity Weldon, a former student of John Henry Newman Catholic College, is hoping to join Daisy at Oxford. Her offer is from University College to read Law. Trinity is currently studying English Literature, History and Religious Studies at A level.

Trinity explained, *"I've been told my whole academic life that I should apply to Oxford, but in secondary school started to doubt my abilities. When I started at College, the teachers didn't just tell me to apply, they also helped me. Oxford has always been appealing to me and when I did my interview with University College, I really enjoyed it and felt like it was a perfect fit. I think that you know whether a college is right or not, it's kind of a gut reaction."*

College Principal Dr Martin Sullivan met the students recently to congratulate them on their success. He commented: *"I am delighted for Louis, Daisy and Trinity and I congratulate them on getting their offers from Oxford and Cambridge. They took on a significant challenge and I'm very happy that their hard work has been rewarded. They were up against the very best students in the country and beyond and just getting an offer is a huge achievement. I am confident all three students have very bright futures ahead of them."*







**Yarnfield Primary School**  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

@YarnfieldSch

## World Book Day 2022

Yarnfield pupils and staff loved celebrating World Book Day (Thursday 3rd March 2022) with a range of exciting opportunities. These included author talks for every year group from authors all over the world! Year 3 and 4 had the opportunity to listen to Dame Jacqueline Wilson discussing how she created the stories and characters in her novels. We also heard from Leyland Peree, Paul Morton, Susannah Lloyd and Tina Athaide who all took the time to answer our pupil's questions. We also saw some familiar characters come to life on the day with some amazing costumes from both staff and pupils.



## Out and About

Yarnfield students have been out and about this term with some amazing visits to enrich their learning. Year 1 took a trip to Birmingham city centre to explore their locality, they even sat down for a delicious lunch after all their exploring. Year 4 had two incredible visits – to a mesmerising performance of Beauty and The Beast at Birmingham Hippodrome and a journey back in time as they visited Lunt Roman Forts. Year 5 students took on the role of astronauts for the day as they visited the Space Centre. It was truly out of this world!



## Thank you for the Music

Yarnfield pupils took part in their second whole school concert of the year, complete with musical instruments courtesy of Year 4! Mrs Jandu was blown away by all of the pupil's performances – particularly Year 1's rendition of 'Count on Me'. We can't wait for our next whole school concert!





- Wishing you a wonderful holiday -



*Strength Through Diversity*

**'Happy Easter  
& Ramadan Mubarak  
to all our students,  
parents, carers, staff  
and stakeholders'**



**SUMMIT**  
LEARNING TRUST

