

RoundUp

Summit Learning Trust News

Also in this issue:

- Learners attend the Commonwealth Service
- Villa Vision Van
- Quartet of Oxbridge Offers



#ScalingNewHeights

A huge thank you to our parents, carers, families and communities for continuing to support our schools and college to achieve so much with our learners this term. It has been very pleasing to see the ongoing hard work by our children and young people, and notably those who have public assessments next term whether these be A Levels, vocational qualifications, GCSE examinations or SATs.

Summit Learning Trust achieved strongly in 2022, and this can give our learners and their families huge confidence in the high levels of expertise of our teachers and educational support colleagues. Our Summit family are acutely aware of the importance of these results to each of our children and young people in terms of giving them opportunities in later life. Our schools all have provision over the Easter holiday for our examination groups and I encourage our primary and secondary children to fully access the offer to ensure that they enter examinations in May and June with great confidence.

The growth in our Summit Base Camp programme has been ongoing and I thank colleagues and external partners for enabling us to provide a consistent level of support for children and young people across our schools and college to enable them all to make strong levels of academic progress. As part of this, our free breakfast provision is in place at every Summit academy. Another key partnership now in place is with Virgin Media, O2 and the Good Things Foundation who have now accredited Summit Learning Trust as the UK's 1000th Databank Hub, enabling us to provide hundreds of families with free mobile data, so that learning can continue at home for all children and young people.

This term, it was an honour for our Principals, Director of SCITT and I to sign the Armed Forces Covenant on behalf of our Trust. Details of this event are on the next page, and we are proud of our pledge to acknowledge and understand that those who serve or who have served in our armed forces, and their families, should be treated with fairness and respect in the communities, economy and society they serve with their lives. This demonstrates our commitment to one of our Trust's values, Strength through Diversity.

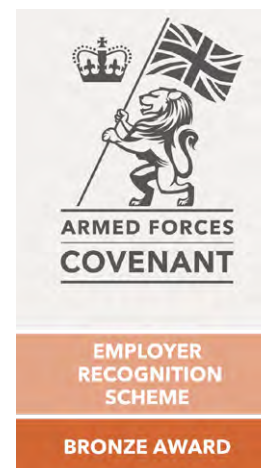
This term we have continued to enhance our school and college sites, to ensure that our children and young people receive their education and care in excellent facilities supported by excellent technology. We have also relaunched four new primary school websites which will enable all families to easily access information about Erdington Hall, Pegasus, The Oaklands and Yarnfield primary schools.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have completed our survey in recent weeks. These results will support us greatly in continuing to further enhance the education of your children so that they thrive and flourish in our care.

Have a happy and healthy Easter.

Vince Green
Chief Executive Officer

Welcome



Armed Forces Covenant

On Tuesday 6th March Summit Learning Trust hosted the collective Armed Forces Covenant signing in the West Midlands. A total of 10 Armed Forces Covenants were signed at the event held at Solihull Sixth Form College. The signatories were Summit Learning Trust and all 10 of their member academies and South Birmingham SCITT. Having this number of signatories at one event is previously unheard of in the West Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets Association (RFCA) region.

The West Midland RFCA's Engagement Team have led on the organisation of this event alongside members of staff at Summit Learning Trust, the 8 Summit academies and South Birmingham SCITT to sign the Armed Forces Covenant, demonstrating our commitment to and advocacy of the Covenant.

It was a significant day for Summit Learning Trust. Our partnership with, and respect for, the spirit and intent of the Armed Forces Covenant is hugely important to our family. Summit Learning Trust is proud to be part of such a vital national initiative. We will continue to advocate for those who serve or who have served in our armed forces, and their families, ensuring they are treated with fairness and respect in the communities, economy and society they serve with their lives.

Deputy Lieutenant Les Ratcliffe MBE said; "I'm really pleased to be representing the Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands at today's ceremony for the signing of the Armed Forces Covenant for the Summit Learning Trust that supports education for children from service families and serving or veterans of the Armed Forces."

The Worshipful, the Lord Mayor of Solihull, Councillor Ken Meeson was also in attendance to witness the Armed Forces Covenant signing with the Mayors' Sea Cadet, Jessica Whitehill who is a learner at Solihull Sixth Form College.

The event was opened by Colonel (Ret'd) Richard Maybery QGM, Chief Executive of West Midland RFCA who spoke about the Associations and what all thirteen do. He was followed by Colonel Rosie Stone VR DL, Deputy Commander Reserves for 11 Signal and West Midlands Brigade who spoke about the Military Academic Partnership.

Graham Whitehouse, Regional Employer Engagement Director at West Midland RFCA added: "We are very excited about this event and delighted that all the member academies of the Summit Learning Trust have pledged their support to the Armed Forces community. The Royal Navy are already doing fantastic work with a number of the schools, and we look forward to working alongside the Trust and recognising their support in the future."

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or who have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly. The Summit Learning Trust and its member Academies have all committed pledges to demonstrate their support to the Armed Forces community, and to the principles of covenant.

All our academies have now been bestowed their Bronze Employer Recognition Award.



Building Relationships



2023 is all about building relationships with our wider stakeholders. In January, we welcomed in our local MP Jess Phillips, who has served as an MP for Birmingham Yardley since 2015. Jess talked to our Year 7 learners about her route to becoming an MP, why she chose a career in politics and the importance of children and young people having a voice in political matters.

Learners at Cockshut Hill also had the opportunity to learn about core British values such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance from Jess – which she emphasised are key components of the UK political system.

Jess was keen to show the young people of Cockshut Hill how they can get involved in politics, promoting UNICEF's summary of Article 12 in the UN's

convention on the rights of the child:

"Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them and to have their views taken seriously."

Developing relationships with all of our feeder primary schools

We have welcomed Mr Clarke-Castello from Lea Forest and Mr Bridges has had the pleasure to visit Oasis Blakenhale and Elms Farm to talk to Year 5 and 6 learners. We are also making further links with Oasis Hobmoor. These relationships support our future learners transition between primary and secondary phases.

We welcomed Key Stage 3 parents and carers into school for our fantastic literacy event to celebrate World Book Day. The event was designed to support parents and carers to instil a love of reading into their children in order to unlock their full academic potential.

The event included a presentation explaining how reading supports learning in the classroom; strategies on how to support phonics; tips for encouraging reading for pleasure; and advice on where to go for further support. Families were able to enjoy a 'reading corner', to listen to a storyteller modelling good reading, and were given a range of free books to take home.



Preparing for the Future

This half term, we also welcomed our Year 9 learners and their parents and carers to our Options Evening, which was well-attended. This event was important for learners to discuss with specialist teachers and decide upon their courses for Years 10 and 11.

The school is thrilled to be awarded the Quality in Careers standard at the start of National Careers week, at a time when our Year 10 learners were busy securing their work experience placements.

Work experience is a really important milestone in a young person's education and pathway to success. It gives them vital insight into the world of work, opportunities to build confidence and is a great way to gain new skills, while also raising their ambition for the future. It is one of the cornerstones of any successful careers education programme and we place huge importance on building good links with local firms across a range of sectors. We are hoping to forge many more links with employers to secure high quality work experience placements for all of our learners.

The end of term also coincides with the start of Ramadan, and the school is anticipating hosting its inaugural Community Ifthar on 31st March which we are really looking forward to.



Visitors and Visits



We have given a warm welcome to a range of visitors over the last few months. A gospel choir brought uplifting voices and jazzy dance moves, whilst History workshops have brought the past back to life. We even had the Royal Navy make an appearance, which leads us onto...

Special Days

Our Wider Curriculum has really taken off this term, quite literally with the rockets created and sent flying across the school for National Science Week. On International Women's Day, a Royal Navy Lieutenant spoke about how her career had developed from teaching, and inspired many of our pupils to delve further into STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths). Our poetry competition on World Book Day showcased some winning poets from

all year groups. For Red Nose Day, we were red-dy to raise money for local causes as well as the dreadful crisis in Syria and Turkey, which was on many of our children's hearts.

Community Involvement

Parents and Carers have jumped into stories and reading rivers with our learners during Reading Workshops. Our families also joined us for our Project Homework Showcase, which had high-quality arts and crafts in abundance, as well as high-level research all produced by our children.

Links have been re-established with a local community group called Urban Devotion who offer children activities outside of school and support families in a variety of ways. This has begun with a monthly 'Friday Cuppa'.



Educational Visits

Learners have enjoyed a host of visits; a team of Year 5 mathematicians traveled to King Edward's School to compete against nine other schools and gave an exemplary performance. Other visits have included Year 6's trip to the Black Country Living Museum, Reception to Ash End Farm, Year 2 visited Tamworth Castle and a group of learners also had the amazing opportunity to attend Westminster Abbey in an audience with King Charles!



Our Environment

When you come into Erdington Hall, you will find more and more examples of our learners' excellent work; from writing across the year groups to achievements in physical education. You will also see all members of our school family represented in photograph displays, as well as our board promoting those who help us at lunchtimes. Our Nurture Room is now a haven of calm helping learners to regulate, reflect and rejuvenate. We are looking forward to the arrival of new equipment in our playgrounds too.

ITV's Des Coleman

In early February it was amazing to have the 'inspiring Des Coleman from ITV in school to talk to our learners about careers in Media and talk about his own career journey. All the learners and some of our colleagues were star struck.



UNICEF Rights Respecting

We are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School, and all learners have the right to have access to information (Article 17) and the right to have access to education (Article 28). This half term Year 9 learners have had visitors from different work sectors to talk about careers and raise their aspirations. We were fortunate to have Mental Health Nurses and a Midwife from the NHS come along.

All year groups have had a visit from Kooth (online counselling service).
Article 3 Best Interests of the Child, Article 12 Respect for Children's Views, Article 17 Access to Information.

100% Attendance

Congratulations to Ima'an Malik who was the winner of the 100% attendance for the half term January-February 2023. Ima'an was awarded an iPad by Mrs O'Gorman.



Uniform Bank

Just before February half term Mrs O'Gorman arranged for a uniform bank, food bank and sanitary products display. Many of our families were extremely grateful for this opportunity to help support them during the current economic crisis and a lot of families collected some lost property items also. Please look out for "Lyndon Pantry", which will open shortly to help support parents in need.



Commonwealth Celebration at Westminster Abbey

On Monday 13th March 2023, Lyndon learners joined peers from across Summit Learning Trust at the Commonwealth Day Service of Celebration at Westminster Abbey, which was attended by King Charles and The Queen Consort, The Prince and Princess of Wales, members of the Royal family, and other dignitaries. Also in attendance were faith leaders and athletes who had competed in the highly successful Commonwealth Games hosted in Birmingham last year. The event was broadcast live on BBC One and BBC iPlayer, as well as internationally on the BBC's YouTube channel.

The service, which has been held at the Abbey since 1972, celebrates the diversity of the Commonwealth, which comprises 56 countries and has a combined population of 2.6 billion. A range of performances and readings demonstrated its rich diversity, whilst also acknowledging the tremendous contribution of young people, who now make up a majority of its population. This year, the focus was on youth and peace, with the service highlighting the connections between communities across the Commonwealth and also providing opportunities to reflect. In his speech, King Charles reiterated the importance of the Commonwealth's defining values, "peace and justice; tolerance, respect and solidarity; care for our environment and for the most vulnerable among us".

Malak Atwi, a Year 10 prefect at Lyndon School, commented, "It was a privilege to attend the service at Westminster Abbey and see Members of the Royal Family and others in person. The performances which celebrated diversity were a real highlight as many took place right in front of where we were sitting. It was a fantastic opportunity to see people from so many different countries come together at Westminster Abbey."



Mental Health Event & Young Active Citizen Award

Ninestiles learners, Trinity Mooney (Year 9) and Ellie-Mae Roney (Year 7), are both very active members of their local community youth club at the Fox Hollies Forum, known as Youth Project Acocks Green. The group's mission is to 'make Acocks Green a great place to be a young person'. Trinity and Ellie-Mae regularly volunteer at fund-raising events, and welcome members of the community to events held there. During the summer of 2022, Trinity and Ellie-Mae successfully bid for funding to run a one-day social action event based around Mental Health support in schools. With help from teaching staff and contacts of the Fox Hollies Forum and youth group, the girls organised a Mental Health Support Evening at Ninestiles on 31st January. The girls wanted the event to be very inclusive and open to everyone: those with mental health challenges and their friends and families who support them. It was a wonderful evening. Over 70 people attended from their own school, other local schools, and members of the community, to learn about the importance of protecting your mental health, and ways in which you could do that. Visitors were able to try mindful yoga and boxing, visit information stalls run by mental health charities and take away goodie bags to round off the evening. As a result of the work they do in the local community, the event that they put on at school, and the timing being right (!) we were able to nominate Trinity and Ellie-Mae for a West Midlands Lieutenancy Young Active Citizen Award. Ninestiles is incredibly proud of Trinity and Ellie-Mae so we look forward to hearing if they have won.

Mathematics Success

In February, 47 learners across Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge, a multiple-choice maths exam designed to challenge the best GCSE students in UK. All learners performed amazingly well, resulting in 4 gold awards, 11 silver and 10 bronze, with Dawoud Alam and Mohammed Asharab, both Year 11, also qualifying for the Pink Kangaroo round, a national competition open to only the top 8000 learners across Britain. They have since achieved Merit certificates in that round, which puts them in the top 0.5% of the top 2% of competitors in the country – a seriously impressive achievement!



Matilda the Musical

We were excited to showcase our whole school production of Matilda at the end of February. It was a fantastic showcase of the amazing talent we have here at Ninestiles. We would like to thank all of our hard-working learners and colleagues, who gave so much time and effort to make the show the sell-out spectacular that it was! We would also like to thank parents and carers for their support. As you can see, the images have managed to capture the brilliant set, costumes and performance skills from the production, and we hope that our next production will be just as successful.

Now that the Matilda has finished, our after school clubs are back up and running, ready to provide opportunities for all learners to discover new skills and talents. We will be showcasing these talents at break and lunch times over the next few weeks, and after the holidays, to give learners opportunities to perform in front of a live audience, and provide a great atmosphere for others to see what can be achieved when you work hard, practise and persevere.



Cultural Capital at Pegasus



Children across the school have been engaged in History and Geography projects and have been able to take part in some exciting educational visits to enhance their learning. Year 4 went to FSC Bishopswood where they got to experience some Roman themed activities that supported the learning taking place in the classroom. They came back with a much greater understanding of what the Roman's have done for Britain. Year 1 had the opportunity to visit the Hippodrome where they watched a performance called Starchitects and then, to top it off, the actors came into Pegasus to lead a workshop for the children. Our children were buzzing about the whole experience and they learned so much.

Commonwealth Ceremony London

Pegasus learners were lucky enough to go all the way to London to witness the King's first Royal Commonwealth Ceremony at Westminster Abbey. For most of our learners, this was the first time they had visited London. The highlight of the day was when Pearl, Year 3, met the delegate from Nauru. He stopped to chat to Pearl and gifted her a blue, white and yellow head garland, a pin badge with the Nauru flag and a 50th anniversary commemorative coin to celebrate the recognition that Nauru is the smallest country in the Commonwealth. This was a truly amazing experience that our learners will never forget.



Art at our School

At The Oaklands, we love art! We know the power of art and how children love being creative.

We have enhanced our art curriculum even further by using a new art program called Kapow Art. We have already seen the huge improvement in the quality of artwork being produced across the whole school, from Nursery to Year 6. Pupils are able to talk about the new skills and knowledge they are learning and comment on the techniques and works of artists from across the world.



Our Art curriculum supports pupils in:

- Generating ideas and using sketchbooks, taking inspiration from a range of artists
- Making skills: drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, mixed media, craft techniques and sculpture
- Learning formal elements: for example: colour, form, line, pattern, shape, texture and tone
- Knowledge of artists' work and techniques
- Evaluating: critiquing their own work and that of others

Villa Vision

Year 5 and 6 welcomed staff from the Aston Villa Foundation and Aston University Optometry Department for workshops on how our eyes work and why it is important to keep our eyes healthy. Throughout the workshop, learners enjoyed a range of amazing experiences such as using VR headsets, watching 3D videos and using model eyes to identify all of the parts and how they work.



Learners learnt what life is like for people who are red-green colour-blind and how to support these people. Over the two days, all of our learners also received a free eye health check, which helped to identify any colour-blindness or other risks to our learner's vision. We are really grateful to the staff from Aston Villa Foundation for their great work with us.



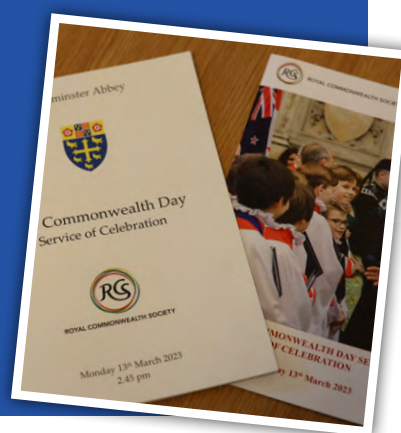
A 'Spot' of Science



British Science Week 2023 has been a fantastic time for learners to continue to develop their scientific skills. This has been made even stronger by a recent visit from 'Spot' – a robotic dog who came to visit us from Balfour Beatty. Ian and Spot came to tell us about the role of science and technology in the workplace. Spot is used to help in sites which could be potentially dangerous for humans to visit. Ian showed us many functions which Spot has, including four cameras for 360-degree vision at work. The learners also enjoyed telling Spot to sit, dance and follow them and are already asking when he will be visiting again.

Commonwealth Celebration 2023

Learners at Yarnfield were blown away by the academy trip to London for this year's Commonwealth celebration. This helped to enrich our learners' knowledge of the monarchy and how it has changed over time. As part of our focus on how history has shaped our world and our knowledge of previous Kings and Queens, the learners who attended the celebration in London have been sharing their own experiences with peers. We are looking forward to celebrating the King's coronation later this year.



A Warm Space

During February half term Yarnfield was proud to open its doors to our learners and our community. Colleagues volunteered their time to provide a warm space with activities and food for everyone in our Yarnfield family. We also had the opportunity to invite our parents and carers into school to share food together. The learners, colleagues, parents and carers have all commented on how valuable this experience was and we are excited for our upcoming Easter school so that we can continue to support learner's in achieving their very best.



SOUTH BIRMINGHAM SCITT

Our Trainees Have Been Busy

Our South Birmingham SCITT trainees hit the ground running in January 2023, with a day of professional learning linked to adaptive practice. During the day the trainees had the chance to take part in various workshops, all exploring the role of different organisations and education support services, in delivering quality first provision to all learners, and in creating inclusive learning environments. Sessions on the day included Sensory Workshops, supporting reluctant writers, Brick therapy, De-escalation training and Speech and Language Therapy. During the day the trainees were also provided with the chance to build awareness of DEI issues linked to Maternity and Paternity Rights with Emma Shepherd, and Gender Identity with Jo Brassington.

The New Year and Spring Term also marked the beginning of new placements for our trainees. The focus of the Spring Term is for the trainees to build on their experiences of Placement A, and to continue to combine their developing pedagogical awareness with their day to day practice in the classroom. Building up to a 50% timetable has allowed the trainees to continue to develop their lesson planning skills and to bring all elements of their training from Subject Specific Days, and Professional Studies sessions, together in the classroom. A huge thank you to all the colleagues at Summit Learning Trust that have hosted and supported our trainees during Placement B, your investment of time and energy into their development is massively appreciated. A special thank you to David Barker, Richard Hammond, Louise Dale-Barren, Martin Sullivan and Jo Bridges (Headteacher, Widney Manor Junior School) for their time and support of the trainees in the mock interview process, and for the feedback provided on their personal statements, which has already helped some of our trainees to secure their first teaching role, and also to Lyndon and Cockshut Hill for hosting school experience days for the potential applicants for 2023.

We have been delighted to welcome a range of visitors to South Birmingham SCITT this term to work with our trainees, sharing their expertise on a wide range of curriculum areas, including Catherine Kirk's workshops on SRE/RSE, Dr Ellie Barnes's session on LGBTQ, Bennie Kara's exploration of DEI and the curriculum, Paul Hart's session on getting recruitment ready, Anne Reeve's Autism Level 1 course and the Holocaust Education Trust's insightful session on delivering Holocaust Education. A big thank to the internal expertise shared by Summit Learning Trust colleagues; Vince Green, Natasha Peachey, and Christa Vines, for delivering excellent sessions on governance, meta-cognition and SEND outcomes. These experiences combine to create a rich curriculum for our trainees, going beyond the Core Content Framework, to support them in becoming profession ready. A huge thank you to Emma Thomas, South Birmingham SCITT's Course Manager, for securing these opportunities for the trainees.

It was a pleasure to be involved in the signing of the Armed Forces Covenant, on behalf of South Birmingham SCITT, to show our commitment to supporting those that serve or who have served in the armed forces, along with their families. We look forward to developing this work in the future and for building in opportunities for collaboration and support.

We are delighted to welcome Karen Crowston (Chair of Trustees, Summit Learning Trust), and Jo Bridges (Headteacher, Widney Manor Junior School) onto our Management and Development Board at South Birmingham SCITT. We are looking forward to tapping into their expertise, and the support and challenge they will offer in the further development of South Birmingham SCITT. Finally, a massive thank you to Steve Ralph for all the brilliant work on the South Birmingham SCITT Management and Development board, and best wishes in your new role.



Quartet of Oxbridge Offers

Solihull Sixth Form College welcomed representatives from a Four ambitious students at Solihull Sixth Form College are hoping to take up Oxbridge places after they leave College after securing prestigious offers from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

Two former learners from Cockshut Hill School are among those with Oxbridge offers - Omer Eldaw and Estella Hope, are hoping to take up a place at the University of Cambridge. Meanwhile, Amrit Rooprai and Daisy Maskell are aiming to progress to the University of Oxford.

Estella Hope has an offer from St Catherine's College, Cambridge to study Theology. She is aiming for top grades in A level Religious Studies, Psychology and Politics to earn her place there.

She commented

"College guided me to attend summer schools at Cambridge and Oxford universities, which helped convince me to apply. In the end, I opted to apply to Cambridge because I really liked the course they had to offer, as it has such a wide range of different topics that I had never considered before. It also has a great atmosphere and is an excellent place to learn due to the academic expertise they can offer."

Omer Eldaw is hoping to join Estella at Cambridge. His offer is to study Engineering at Peterhouse College with a deferred entry. He is currently studying A level Mathematics, Further Maths, Chemistry and Physics.

He commented,

"I originally intended to study Natural Sciences at Cambridge, but after experiencing a summer school with the Sutton Trust and listening to more talks, I decided to switch to Engineering. However, the reasons why I applied to Cambridge still stand. One reason was because I was able to pick modules that I felt suited my ambitions and satisfied my curiosity. In addition, the amount of support and individualised teaching you get is unbeatable. I think the application process was made a lot easier by the support I gained from the College, with the Stretch and Challenge programme and some external support from the programmes I participated in. The support I had from my Physics teacher was fantastic and definitely contributed to my scores. The interview was also a tough process, but I had three mock interviews with teachers from other schools and received very valuable feedback to work on."

Amrit Rooprai's offer is to study Medicine at Somerville College at the University of Oxford and is aiming for top grades at A level Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics to secure her place. Meanwhile, Daisy Maskell is working hard on her A level Law, History and Psychology courses in the hope of taking up a place at University College, Oxford to study Law. If she achieves this, she will follow in the footsteps of Trinity Weldon, who joined University College last year to do the same course.

College Principal Dr Martin Sullivan commented:

"I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Amrit, Daisy, Estella and Omer. They took on a massive challenge when they decided to make an Oxbridge application, as they were pitting themselves against some of the top students not only in the UK but from around the world too. I'm proud of how well they have done in securing offers and grateful to our fantastic staff for the support they gave to our learners to help them get this far."



Employability Fair

Solihull Sixth Form College welcomed representatives from a wide range of industries onto campus this term for the 2023 Employability Fair.

Learners on our BTEC courses, as well as Year 13 employment seekers, attended the Fair to talk to employers about the range of employment opportunities open to them. The event opened with a careers fair in the Sports Hall, at which students were invited to walk around and visit stalls manned by business representatives. A series of talks followed the fair, with learners booking places in advance to hear about careers they had particular interests in.

Among those businesses present at the event were BDO (Accountancy), Deloitte (Accountancy), Gallagher (Construction), Glenn Howells (Architecture), Hilton (Hospitality), Ikon Gallery (Creative Arts), Metro Bank (Finance), PM Group (Engineering), Mott Macdonald (Engineering), Tarmac (Construction) and WPR (Media/Public Relations). Representatives from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council were also present to talk about apprenticeships and Skills for Life, while the NHS and Armed Forces were also represented.

The talks covered a wide range of careers, including Engineering, Law, Business, IT, Media, Teaching and Construction, and enabled students to focus more closely on the employment sectors that they are considering as careers.

Emma Podmore, Careers Leader at the College, commented:

"We are so grateful to all the employers who gave up their time to come in for the benefit of our young people. The aim of this event was to get them thinking about the opportunities available to them after they finish their studies and to develop their employability skills and the presence of so many businesses was a huge aid to that. We even had some former students attending and it was great to see the success they have gone on to achieve since leaving the College."



Providing a Wealth of Provision for Colleagues

It has been a busy Spring Term of Professional Learning, kicking off on Tuesday 3rd January with trust wide INSET days. Primary colleagues started the year by focusing in on Writing Workshops led by the Primary Networks of Excellence. For Secondary colleagues, and pastoral teams from across our Primary and Secondary academies, the focus of the day was Personal Development, with colleagues having the opportunity to take part in a day of workshops and talks led by Haili Hughes, author of Preserving Positivity, and Brook Sexual Health. A massive thank you to Yarnfield and Ninestiles for hosting the events, and also to Natalie Thompson for the additional afternoon event linked to the National Online Safety provision that will launched this year.

Teaching Assistants and HLTAs from both our Primary and Secondary academies, took part in various workshops, all exploring the role of different organisations and education support services, in delivering quality first provision to all learners. Thanks to Christa Vines and Kiran Kanda for organising such a wide variety of sessions on the day, including; Sensory Ladders, Supporting Reluctant Writers, Brick Therapy, De-Escalation Training, and Speech and Language Therapy. As part of the day, we also welcomed John Cloughton, Chair of Governors at Selly Park Trust, who delivered a powerful key note around supporting SEND learners into the workplace and strengthening links within the community.

In January, we also welcomed 4 new Summit Lead Practitioners to the team, with Paul Burrowes (Mathematics) and Matthew Vaughan (MFL) joining at Cockshut Hill School, and Helen Blanchard (History) and Laura Seager (PE, Health and Social Care, and Mathematics) from Lyndon School. The team of Summit Lead Practitioners have been busy delivering Scaling the Heights sessions on Shimamura's MARGE, and Fiorella and Mayer's Generative Learning, as well as offering coaching support and mentoring to colleagues, alongside curriculum development. The team are eager to support colleagues across Summit in any way that they can, so please feel free to make use of the PLI support request form.

Our commitment to professional learning around Diversity, Equity and Inclusion continues, and we have been delighted to welcome Bennie Kara into Pegasus, Lyndon and SSFC this term to look at how we promote DEI within the curriculum, and to support us in the development of the DEI plan for 2022 – 2025. A huge thank you to Laura Larkin, Summit Lead Practitioner, for leading on the development of the programme of visits and to Vanessa Wardle, Dave Kelly and Janice Hamilton for capturing the feedback from the day. This term, colleagues have also been building awareness and allyship around the issue of Maternity and Paternity rights by engaging with the webinar led by Emma Shepherd.

International Women's Day was celebrated across the trust on Wednesday 8th March, with various opportunities to engage in professional learning based on webinars from DiverseEd. Learners at Cockshut Hill and Erdington Hall, also had the opportunity to take part in exciting STEM workshops with the Royal Navy, with Year 4 and Year 5 at Erdington Hall holding a Question and Answer session with Lieutenant Commander Suzanne Lynch about her fascinating career in the Royal Navy. A massive thank you to Mandeep Kaur for organising the workshops, which supported our learners in #EmbracingEquity.

It has been great to work with all our ECTs across Summit Learning Trust this term, visiting lessons from Reception all the way to Year 12, and seeing how all the ECTs are establishing positive learning environments and have high expectations for all their learners. Thank you to all the ECT Mentors and Induction Tutors for all the support you offer on a day to day basis in supporting our ECTs at such a critical stage of their career.



Summit Learning Trust, Hartfield Crescent, Acocks Green, B27 7QG

Phone: 0121 624 9010 Email: enquiry@summitlearningtrust.org.uk

Website: www.summitlearningtrust.org.uk



@Summit_LT