

2018—2019 WEST Newsletter



Our Trust Year

Another Successful Year of Collaboration

The West End Schools' Trust (WEST) is a charitable company of eight primary schools and partner organisations located in the inner west of the city of Newcastle upon Tyne. The schools included in the Trust are: Bridgewater Primary School; Broadwood Primary School; Canning Street Primary School; Hawthorn Primary School; Moorside Primary School; St John's Primary School; St Paul's Primary School and Wingrove Primary School.

Our Trust was formed in January 2015. We are responsible for the education of nearly three thousand pupils and employ almost three hundred teachers, teaching assistants and administrative staff.

When pupils leave our schools they are well prepared for the next phase of their educational journey. All of the schools are unique and although they may vary in size and context, Ofsted inspections for the cluster reveal effective schools that work in collaboration for the benefit of the whole of the community.



*Our WEST Invention Shed was kindly provided by Reece Group.
It is located at Broadwood School site and used by all schools.*

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Important Dates

14/11/2019
27/02/2020 (AGM)
25/06/2020

Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Teacher Development Fund

In partnership with Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums (TWAM) we are delighted to have been successful in securing funds from Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

The Teacher Development Fund supports teachers to work with local arts and cultural resources to increase learning opportunities for pupils.

Teachers from WEST schools together with Hadrian Primary in South Shields and Western Primary in Wallsend will be supported by museum staff and artists to draw on inspiration from museum collections in order to support pupils' speech and language development through enquiry based learning approaches.

Network meetings

Our staff across the Trust regularly meet to share ideas and training and run Trust wide projects.

"All the activities were fun and interesting. I had a STEMtastic day!"

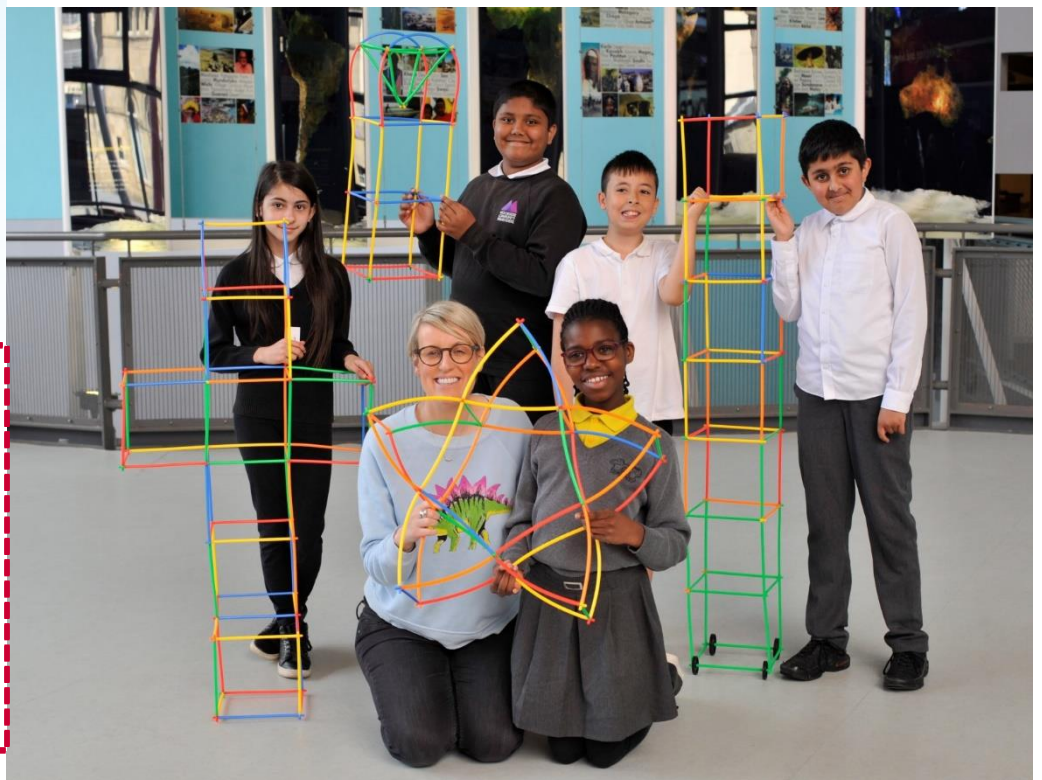


STEMtastic!

We held our annual STEMtastic! Conference at the Centre for Life for our year 6 pupils. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The conference aimed to encourage pupils to explore STEM related concepts.

Steph McGovern from BBC Breakfast hosted the day for our 365 pupils. Her passion for STEM and enthusiasm to support young people helped the pupils really engage with the day. The pupils were eager to ask questions and get involved by standing on stage interviewing speakers and showcasing activities they had taken part in during the day.

Centre for Life and Northern Powergrid kindly sponsored the day and Enviresearch provided transport costs.



Health and Wellbeing Day — Moving On

Following on from the success of our Health and Wellbeing Day last year our Family Support Workers planned another day which was even bigger and better!

We encouraged pupils to learn about themselves as growing and changing individuals and supported them with 'moving on' from Primary School.

Newcastle United Foundation together with a range of other local organisations kindly supported the event which we held at St James' Park.



The children took part in a range of workshops including exploring oral hygiene, personal hygiene, general health including the need for healthy eating and exercise, healthy friendships based on mutual respect, mental wellbeing, travelling safely independently and staying safe online.

We are part of the West End Children's Community bringing together services, organisations and people to support our children and their families. We are grateful for members of that community for providing their support at this event.

"I like the fact that we have the opportunity to get together with other schools so we can learn together, have fun and make new friends"

Our 8 schools took part in a fun run led by Matthew from Vision for Education.

Running between and around the Trust schools they raised around £700 for our Health & Wellbeing Day.



School Council

Pupil representatives from all our schools regularly meet to discuss Trust wide initiatives. This year the main focus was the environment and taking care of where we live. All the Trust Schools were asked to design a logo to represent the school council across the whole Trust. Basiya Ganji from Wingrove Primary designed the logo which was selected as the winner.

Science Club

Children from each year group have been part of the WEST Tuesday science club at the Centre for Life.

This provides an opportunity to make friends with the "Junior Staff" who include Richard the Python, Consuella the Tarantula and Hackworth, Rocky & Loco the naughty Gerbils.

They carry out activities appropriate to their age, so the youngest children discover what weather makes snowmen melt whereas the oldest students will explore the differences between chemical and physical reactions.

The children learn how to use scientific equipment safely which puts them at an advantage when they go to secondary school.

As the children progress through the programme they become more confident about learning from mistakes, recognising that if you do not make mistakes you do not learn.



"The most amazing thing I witnessed this year was a group of year five students working out how the particles behaved in solids liquids and gases from scratch in less than 45 minutes.

It would have been impressive for a GCSE class to achieve that but at the age of ten!

We love having the WESTies with us and think Tuesdays are the best day of the week". Noel Jackson, Head of Education, Life Science Centre



Enterprise Week

Enterprise week took place across our schools. This dedicated week provided an opportunity for pupils of all ages to explore the world of work.



Debating Competition

Our Trust schools took part in the annual debating team competition. This is held in the Council Chamber at Newcastle Civic Centre and is kindly supported by Lord Jeremy Beecham.

The overall winners were Hawthorn Primary School. Well done to all involved!

The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company

Some of our youngest children have enjoyed exploring their feelings through drama, dance, singing and art.

We thank The Twisting Ducks Theatre Company for providing these sessions with funding from Well Newcastle Gateshead, Bluestone Consortium and Fogo fund.



Story Well

We understand that both mental and physical wellbeing are important. Using puppetry some of our Trust children explored their emotions and worked with a specialist nurturing practitioner.

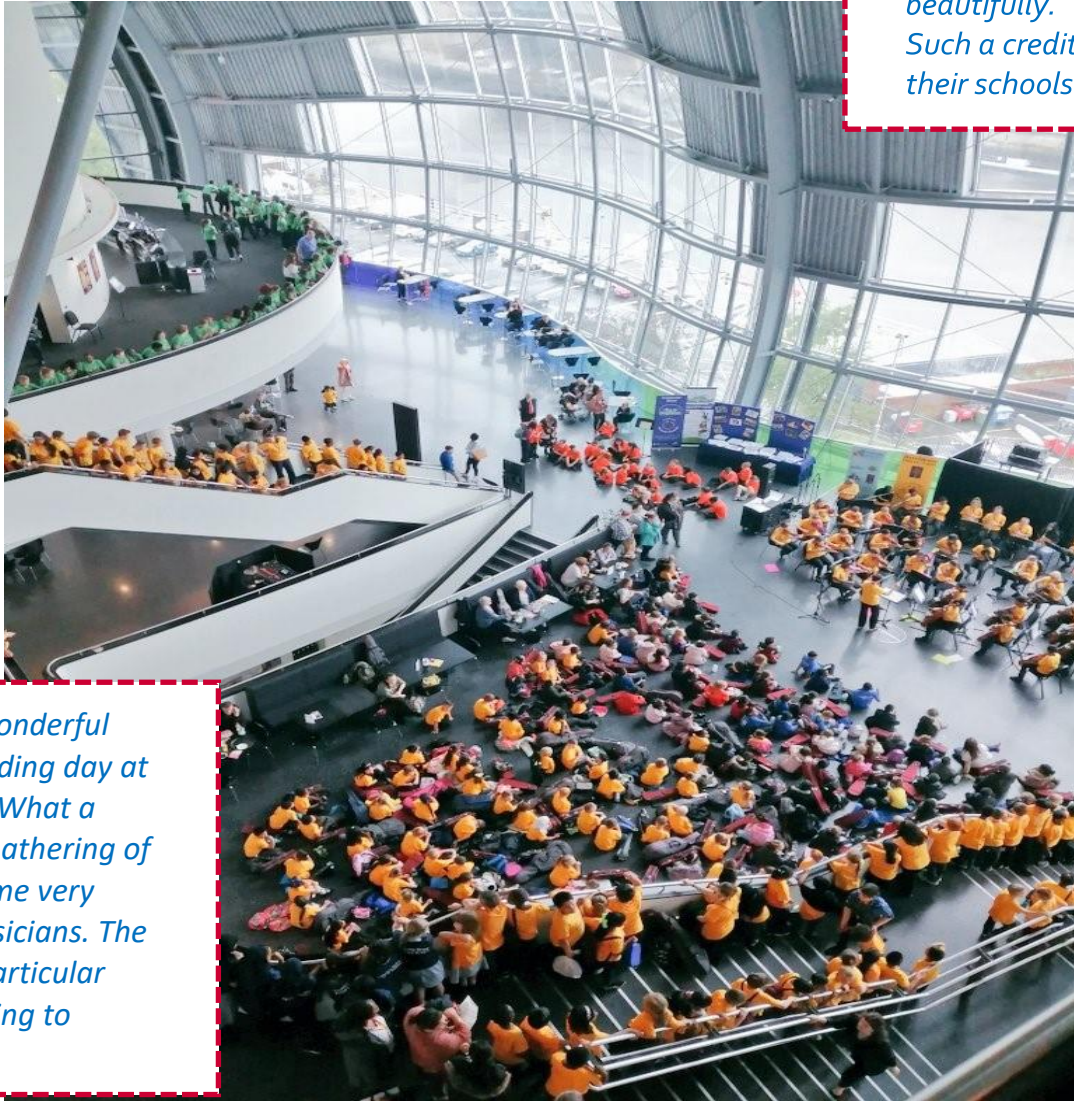
CTRL Pad Workshops

Pupils have been attending The CTRL Pad in The Gate complex. This has provided an opportunity to explore how apps are formed from pen and paper before they are transferred to electronic devices.



Trust Sports Week

Different sporting competitions have taken place across our school venues during June and July 2019.



"They played beautifully. Such a credit to their schools."

"I had a wonderful and rewarding day at The Sage. What a fantastic gathering of young, some very young musicians. The finale in particular was amazing to behold."

Together In Harmony Festival

600 pupils across our Trust came together to perform at the Together In Harmony Festival at the Sage. This was a fantastic opportunity for our orchestral musicians of the future!

As well as the orchestras from In Harmony, there were choirs, ukulele bands, trumpeters, a samba band and African dancers.

The children assembled on the concourse for a massed sing of their song 'Together'.

The song was commissioned in 2014 for the first Together Festival. The schools have embraced the song and took the opportunity to sing with the orchestra playing .

Chris Bostock and Gabriel Waite from Royal Northern Sinfonia compered the concerts throughout the day.

We are very grateful to In Harmony and Sage for supporting this amazing community festival.

Together

Listen, laugh and share to show someone you care
We love our family like we love each other
Jigsaw puzzles collide. A feeling from inside, water and fire, heart desire
Seconds, minutes, hours, days, in modern times we follow our ways
Bees and flowers, time lasts for hours

Like a river that flows into the sea, they are together like you and me
Like the Tyne Bridge towering so high, if we jump together we can touch the sky
We can walk the walk; we can talk the talk, with a smile on our face
Together we can make the world a better place

Planets, shooting stars, Jupiter and Mars, brighten up the sky and lift our spirits
Sentences and words, things that sound absurd
Thunder and lightning, not so frightening
Time is passing by so fast, live for today, make it last
Friends today and friends forever

Like a river that flows into the sea, they are together like you and me
Like the Tyne Bridge towering so high, if we jump together we can touch the sky
We can walk the walk; we can talk the talk, with a smile on our face
Together we can make the world a better place
We can walk the walk; we can talk the talk, with a smile on our face
Together we can make, together we can make, together we can make
Together we can make the world a better place

Written by Phil Caffrey



Who are We?

The WEST Board:

Sam Robson—Head Teacher, Bridgewater

Lynn Stephenson—Governor, Bridgewater (Chair)

Wendy Mitcheson—Head Teacher, Broadwood

Meg Fisher—Governor, Broadwood

Kathryn Herron—Head Teacher, Canning St

Peter Thomson—Governor, Canning St

Jane Dube—Head Teacher, Hawthorn

David Drewe—Governor, Hawthorn

Linda Hall—Head Teacher, Moorside

Pauline Piddington-Governor, Moorside

Tracey Caffrey—Head Teacher, St John's
(Vice Chair)

John Anderson—Governor, St John's

Judith Sword—Head Teacher, St Paul's

George Curry—Governor, St Paul's

Jane Mullarkey—Head Teacher, Wingrove

Alison Priestley—Local Authority

Liz Todd—Newcastle University

Chris Drinkwater—Well Newcastle
Gateshead

David Jones—Centre for Life

Clare Smith—Tyne and Wear Archives and
Museums (TWAM)



Children enjoying the 'Story Well' project now called 'Curious Beasts'. Delivered in conjunction with Well Newcastle Gateshead Arts Fund, Newcastle.

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WEST continues to improve opportunities for the children and young people across our 8 schools to enable every learner to achieve the best they can.

The Trust encourages collaborative work with identified key partners to further improve standards and enhance opportunities for children, parents, staff and the wider community.

We encourage all members of the community to get involved and support us in our quest to build a strong learning community.