

# 2022—2023 Academic Year



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## Important Dates 23/24

- 16/11/23 Board Meeting
- 15/2/24 Board Meeting (AGM)
- 13/6/24 Board Meeting

## Our Trust Year

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 primary 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 Church of England 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 over four 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.

## WEST SPORT

This year our schools have come together to take part in various festivals. These are often linked to what the schools are teaching in PE and is an opportunity to reward those that have performed well, shown a good understanding, or simply tried their best to improve. Recently St John's hosted a Y1-2 Multi Skills festival, and there are plans in place for Girls Football and Athletics competitions before the end of the summer term.

## Plant a tree for the Jubilee!

We thank John Lewis & Partners for enabling us to be part of The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC). QGC invited everyone across the UK to plant trees to mark Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Following her death in September 2022, the initiative was extended to give more people chance to honour Her Late Majesty, her long service and legacy. We planted trees and marked them with plaques.

## Message from the Chair

'Enter as strangers, leave as friends': this is a quotation from elsewhere in this newsletter, but I could not possibly improve on it to describe one aspect of the school journey that WEST seeks to facilitate. This year, we say goodbye to one of our greatest friends and hello to a whole new school.

Farewell to Judith Sword, who has been associated with St Paul's for longer than gallantry will permit disclosure: deputy and then head for over twenty years, I can do no better than to quote my St Paul's source - Judith "has been greatly loved by the parental community, well respected by the pupils and highly valued by the staff." Who could hope to receive a better tribute?

A prospective welcome to Lemington Riverside, who propose (subject to consultation) to join as the ninth member of the Trust and who we hope to welcome soon as friends.—John Anderson



## Health and Wellbeing Day — Moving On

Supported by Newcastle West End Children’s Community, we have an annual health and wellbeing week for all our year 6 pupils. This is an opportunity for our children to think about growing up and moving on to secondary school.

Activities take place at NUCASTLE community hub with Newcastle United Foundation staff as well as in school grounds with Zone West Link Workers.

Children have the opportunity to mix with children from different WEST schools as well as children from Atkinson Road Primary Academy and Excelsior Primary Academy who we invited to join us this year. The week includes exploring healthy friendships, learning emergency first aid, team building exercises, strategies for keeping a calm state and hearing letters written by year 7 pupils about their experience of moving to secondary school .

*“I liked meeting other children from different schools. I made some new friends who will be going to the same secondary school as me!”*

## Trust Council

The Trust Council decided to tackle the amount of litter in the community after several pupils and parents raised the issue. To coincide with Keep Britain Tidy’s Great British Spring Clean initiative, the Trust Council, with other schools in the West End Trust, arranged for a week of action to tackle the problem. We had support from the Newcastle City Council Waste and Recycling Engagement Team Leader at Newcastle Council. Each class then carried out a litter pick of the local streets. Pupils cleared so much litter from the local streets that a tipper truck had to be sent to collect it!

*“I felt really proud of myself working with my class to help clean up the school environment.” Safiyyah*



## STEMtastic!

Our year 6 pupils took part in a week of activities focussed around Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects.

The week included a variety of activities which included trips to the Life Science Centre and the Discovery Museum in Newcastle where the pupils explored the exhibits and took part in a series of workshops ran by STEM professionals.

All the schools in the trust were visited by the Success4All learning bus. They were set the challenge of creating a structure which would save their egg from a 4 metre fall from the top of the learning bus with a fictional budget of £100 to spend at the Egg Drop Shop which supplied the materials to build this with

To finish off the week, the children visited the Newcastle United Foundation's NUCASTLE where they were challenged to think about technology from the past and what technology we might have in the future.

Children participated in a Trust wide catapult competition where they made a catapult using spoons, lollipop sticks, rubber bands and paper clips to fling pompoms. The winners were Wingrove Primary School who won the annual STEMtastic trophy.



## Debating competition

Congratulations to St Paul's Church of England Primary School who won our annual debating competition. We had a great day at Newcastle Civic Centre Council Chamber. Topics for debate included:

- Is screen time unhealthy for children and making them lazy?
- Should the King have more power?
- Does democracy work?
- Is it the individual's responsibility to keep their neighbourhood clean?

Thank you Excelsior Academy sixth form students for judging the event.



## Newcastle West End Children's Community

The Newcastle West End Children's Community (WECC) is a collaboration of local organisations aiming to work together. The collaboration takes a generational approach to stimulate change from 'cradle to career' across all of the contexts in which children live and learn. Their model of working is one which has:



### **A commitment to every child in the area.**

They aim to improve the opportunities for every child in the area, stimulating changes that may take a generation to emerge.

**A commitment to the agency of the community.** They are committed to listen to the community in diverse ways, uncovering

different kinds of knowledge and involving local people in taking action.

**A commitment to identifying the assets in the community.** We know that there are physical, practical, and economic assets, knowledge and skills, that can be identified and built on to improve community lives.

**A commitment to a holistic approach to tackling disadvantage.** Many approaches to enhancing outcomes for children focus on single issues.

We are committed to supporting the work of Newcastle WECC, recognising that this charitable organisation can help support our community. If you would like to find out more please visit their website: [www.newcastlewecc.org.uk](http://www.newcastlewecc.org.uk)

## Healthier together

Healthier Together can help you work out what's wrong, what to do and where to go for help. The website and app have been developed by local healthcare professionals for parents and carers. They have all the information and advice you need to help keep your child healthy.



**Local advice and support**  
to help manage and improve the health and wellbeing of babies, children & young people in the North East & North Cumbria

Visit the Healthier Together website  
[www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk](http://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk)



## Ocean Youth Trust

Children from our WEST schools have had a fantastic opportunity to sail on the yacht 'James Cook' along the Tyne from North Shields to the Millennium Bridge and back again. Ocean Youth Trust North is a charity specialising in the personal development of young people and adults through the unique medium of sailing. Partially funded by NorthStandard this was a very special residential opportunity, it's not often you get the chance to sleep on a yacht next to the Millennium Bridge! The children got the opportunity to steer the boat, hoist the main sail, take part in look out and moor up the boat for the night (among many other sailing skills). Team work was essential; trust was essential. We learned a range of skills but trusting each other, helping each other and laughing together in a unique setting was vital. As the sun set and the chill moved in, some of the children got emotional and missed their families. They comforted each other, regardless of which school they came from-this was lovely to see.

There was a plaque on the ship that said 'Enter as strangers, leave as friends'- which



very much rang true for this voyage. Much like being part of a Trust of schools, the children learned that we all go through similar challenges but we are more alike than we are different and being kind and supportive is key to making new friends in any context. We wish all of the children leaving WEST the very best of luck

and hope that those who took part in the sailing trips will remember them fondly.

## WEST music festival

Our schools came together to sing and play instruments in the beautiful Great Hall at the Discovery Museum.

Hawthorn Primary School Symphony Orchestra opened the show with Shostakovich Symphony No. 7 and Ritmos Ciganos. The performance concluded with all children singing our Trust song "Together".

Well done to all who performed in this spectacular event.



## WEST Shining Star

In September 2023 in partnership with Newcastle United Football Club we will be launching the **WEST Shining Star Award**. This award will be presented to the pupil who has demonstrated throughout the academic year all the qualities that are important to us. They will have tried their best, had a great attitude to learning, have good attendance, demonstrated a willingness to learn and support others.

## Oracy 21

We're on a mission to transform the learning and life chances of young people through talk so that all children can use their voice for success in school and in life.

All our schools are working together to implement opportunities in our schools to develop oracy skills.

We want society to be a fairer, more equitable place where all voices are valued and heard.



WE ARE UNITED

## 8 Who are We?

The WEST Board:

Sam Robson—Head Teacher , Bridgewater

Nitin Shukla—Governor , Bridgewater

Wendy Mitcheson—Head Teacher , Broadwood Primary School (Vice Chair)

Meg Fisher—Governor , Broadwood Primary School

Kathryn Herron—Head Teacher , Canning Street Primary School

TBA —Governor , Canning Street Primary School

Jane Dube—Head Teacher, Hawthorn Primary School

David Drewe—Governor , Hawthorn Primary School

Linda Hall—Head Teacher, Moorside Primary School

Pauline Piddington-Governor, Moorside Primary School

Tracey Caffrey—Head Teacher , St John's Primary School

John Anderson—Governor, St John's Primary School (Chair)

Judith Sword—Head Teacher , St Paul's Church of England Primary School

George Curry—Governor , St Paul's Church of England Primary School

Jane Mullarkey—Head Teacher , Wingrove Primary School

Asadul Haque-Ahsan—Governor Wingrove Primary School

Alyson Barrett—Local Authority

Liz Todd—Newcastle University

Lorna Longworth—General Practitioner

David Jones —Life Science Centre

Tom Elwick —Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums



Helen Thomson

Trust Officer

West End Schools' Trust

Bridgewater

Delaval Road

Benwell

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE15 6NL

Telephone: 0191 2745290

Email: [Helen.Thomson@Bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:Helen.Thomson@Bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk)

[www.westendschoolstrust.co.uk](http://www.westendschoolstrust.co.uk)