



14th December 2022

Important Communication from the CEO

Dear Parent/Carer

As we are coming to the end of the term, I would like to provide you with a very quick update about what has been happening within our academies.

Ofsted Visit

I am delighted to inform you that following their recent Ofsted visit in October, Willow Primary School received a 'Good' judgement across all areas. If you would like to read the full report please follow the link <https://www.willowprimaryschool.co.uk/ofsted/>

I would like to congratulate all colleagues, governors, parents and pupils for this wonderful achievement.

Primary Enterprise Challenge

All schools are taking part in the Primary Enterprise Challenge. Pupils within our academies are busy designing their ideal outdoor wooden play areas to present at these events. Good luck everyone.

Social Justice Project

Pupils from each of our academies presented their learning and shared their experiences of the Social Justice Project in which they worked alongside Olivia Jones, local activist for Black Lives Matters in Doncaster. They explored the meaning of social justice and the many different themes that encapsulates. A selection of pupils spoke at the launch event and all work from across our academies was exhibited at the Art Bomb Hub. This was a brilliant opportunity for our pupils and we are hoping to undertake more work on this throughout the year.

Network Groups

We are extremely lucky to have some great leaders, teachers and support staff across the Trust, who come together within our network groups in order to share good practice.

Christmas Events

What a very different time of year it has been compared to last year within our academies; it has been wonderful to be able to welcome you back into the school community to enjoy our Christmas concerts and events. This is such a magical time of year for our pupils.

Congratulations to Olivia from Willow Primary, who has designed our Trust Christmas card this year; it was very difficult judge as we had some very creative designs.

Other Events across our Academies

We have had many events across the Trust, including, pupils from Sheep Dip Lane attending the World Cup Rugby event; Year 6 pupils from Sandringham Primary were very fortunate to be able to perform with the Royal Ballet at Cast in a magnificent performance of Alice in Wonderland.



A selection of pupils from Hill Top and Bentley High Street represented their academies in welcoming King Charles on his recent visit to Doncaster and all academies are competing for a place in the Doncaster Athletics Tournament, well done to Edlington Victoria who have recently qualified. Good luck to all our other academies.

Public Health Doncaster

As you are aware there has been a national increase of scarlet fever and Group A Strep. Please may we remind you of the signs, symptoms and actions to take if your child becomes ill.

Signs and symptoms of scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A *Streptococcus* (GAS). It is not usually serious, but should be treated with antibiotics to reduce the risk of complications (such as pneumonia) and spread to others. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours, the characteristic red rash develops, usually first on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, making the skin have a sand-paper like feel to it. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients usually have flushed red cheeks. They may also have a bright red 'strawberry' tongue.

If you think you, or your child, might have scarlet fever:

- contact your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible
- make sure that you or your child take(s) the full course of any antibiotics prescribed. Although you or your child will feel better soon after starting the course of antibiotics, you must complete the course to ensure that you do not carry the bacteria in your throat after you have recovered
- we would kindly ask that you stay at home, away from school for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection and notify the school office.

You can help stop the spread of infection through frequent hand washing and by not sharing eating utensils, clothes, bedding and towels. All contaminated tissues should be disposed of immediately.

Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)

The same bacteria which cause scarlet fever can also cause a range of other types of infection such as skin infections (impetigo) and sore throat. In very rare cases, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive group A strep (iGAS). Whilst still very uncommon, there has been an increase in iGAS cases this year, particularly in children under 10 years old. It is very rare for children with scarlet fever to develop iGAS infection.

As a parent/carer, you should trust your own judgement.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable



Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child’s skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a very safe and happy Christmas. I look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Yours sincerely

B.A. Nixon

Beryce Nixon
Chief Executive Officer
National Leader of Education



Winning Card Design by: Olivia from Willow Primary School

We've reached the end of another year
Where Christmas time is growing near
Pupils at Exceed who we hold so dear
Will soon be celebrating the Christmas cheer.

Children at Carr Lodge have been singing with pride and glee
Whilst at Hill Top we have seen a balloon Christmas tree.
Bentley pupils have been engrossed in creative writing,
Fantastic ideas, which are so, so exciting!

The rugby world cup inspired Sheep Dip to believe,
They won the tag rugby showing they could achieve.
At Willow the inspectors turned up to review our school
But our pupils showed them, our learning was really cool!

At Rosedale they have presented on animal rights,
Stretching their knowledge and confidence to greater heights.
Sandringham pupils have been engrossed in dance,
With National Ballet performances leaving nothing to chance!

Victoria have been working on future careers
Designing new things to see what appears.
Hill Top pupils have been celebrating their reading books
Testing out new authors to see what hooks!

At Exceed this is a very special time,
For our children to have fun and chime.
Santa's philosophy as another year leaves:
Always believe that New Year's resolutions can be achieved!

Merry Christmas

Wishing you and your family a very safe and happy festive season

Best Wishes, Beryce Nixon CEO

and all at Exceed Learning Partnership

