



Welcome from the CEO

Welcome to the TLET Winter Newsletter, featuring just a few of the recent highlights from across our Trust family.

As we approach the end of 2024, I have also been reflecting on all that we have achieved together as a Trust community during the last twelve months.

I am particularly proud of the way that we have come together to fulfil our core purpose of **transforming tomorrow, today**.

Every day I have seen examples of our strategic ambitions – **nurture potential, inspire community** and **deliver excellence** – in action to deliver the very best for our children and young people.

Our colleagues continue to go above and beyond to do all they can for our pupils and students, and the generosity of spirit and support of our wider community never ceases to amaze me.

So, thank you for everything that you have done for our TLET family throughout this year. I look forward to what 2025 will bring.

James Higham
CEO, Transforming Lives Educational Trust

Strategic Ambitions



Nurture Potential

We flourish in the places we create together.



Inspire Community

We champion each other to make a difference.



Deliver Excellence

We strive to achieve our best.



Houlton's Pupil Fora: A voice for all pupils

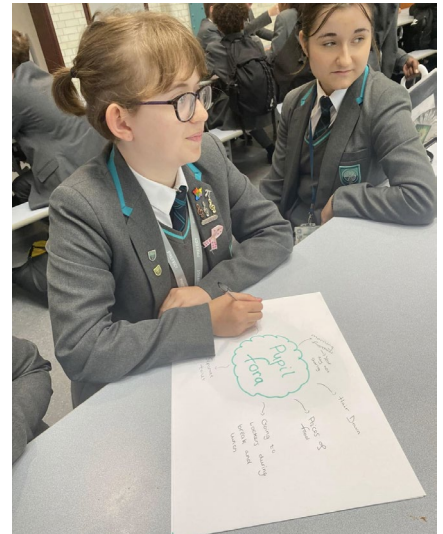
This term, Houlton School hosted their first whole-school Pupil Fora, ably led by the school Prefect Team.

During the session, Houlton Prefects canvassed each college for their opinions on how everyone can work together to continue to make Houlton School the very best it can be.

All the ideas collated will contribute to Houlton's Pupil Leadership Strategic Framework, where all pupils will have the chance to be involved in leadership projects designed to improve the things highlighted in the Fora.

Michael McCulley, Principal at Houlton School, said: "It is incredibly important to empower our pupils to share their voice and have their say on life at Houlton.

"We saw so many thoughtful discussions taking place amongst pupils across each year group and our Prefects did a fantastic job of listening to everyone's views and collating feedback."



Making employee wellbeing a priority

As part of TLET's People Pledge, we are pleased to confirm that we will be launching a brand-new Employee Wellbeing Charter at the start of next term.

The Charter sets out our shared understanding of wellbeing and our commitment to supporting all our colleagues, promoting mental fitness as well as making sure everyone is expertly supported if they are struggling.

With this in mind, we are delighted that the Trust has now trained 28 colleagues from across the academies and central team, who have volunteered to become Wellbeing Champions and/or Mental Health First Aiders in order to support staff in times of need.

James Higham, CEO, said: "Wellbeing is about people and creating the conditions and environment for us all to thrive. We believe our colleagues must feel seen, heard and prioritised at all times - our new Employee Wellbeing Charter formalises this commitment.

"My thanks also go to everyone who has volunteered to take on the roles of Wellbeing Champions and Mental Health First Aiders. This is an important new level of support that will be available for all our employees."



Working in partnership with parents

Across our TLET family, we value working in partnership with parents and carers to provide the very best for our children and young people.

At Henry Hinde School, we recently held a series of Early Stages of Reading Workshops to equip parents with tools to support their child's phonics learning at home and help to further embed key reading skills. These sessions form part of an ongoing drive to inspire parents and children to share the joy of reading together and explore the wonderful world of books.

Meanwhile, at Ashlawn School, the latest round of Community Forums for Teaching and Learning and Behaviour and Culture provided an opportunity for parents and carers to meet with staff and have their say.

Paul Brockwell, Principal at Ashlawn School, said: "Over the last 12 months we have developed a programme of events and activities, like our Community Forums, to support us in working closely with parents and carers.

"Not only does this help us to develop the Ashlawn experience for our students, but it provides a place for parents and carers to be actively involved in shaping the future of our school community.

"We're really pleased that this is having a significant impact. In fact, as part of our latest parent survey we found that feedback was more positive against almost every measure in comparison to the previous year."

Careers and aspirations events

There has been a busy calendar of careers and aspirations events taking place at Ashlawn School over recent months, with leading professionals inspiring pupils of all ages.

This included: a 'People Like Me' event highlighting careers for women in science, technology, mathematics and technology (STEM); an employer-led careers fair; and a week-long focus on green careers.

In addition, 11 future engineers had the chance to visit the University of Warwick where they heard talks from engineers at Triumph, JLR and Brompton who had lots of advice on entering the world of work.

A group of Year 12 students were also invited to spend the day at The Guardian offices in London, where they found out more about careers in journalism and learned how to write features articles.

Natasha Booth, Assistant Principal Culture and Climate at Ashlawn School, said: "At Ashlawn, we want every young person to be ambitious, to aim high and believe that they can achieve incredible things throughout their lives.

"As such, our programme of careers and aspirations events aims to showcase the diversity of careers that are available and help our students to make informed choices about their future."



A sense of adventure

Year 6 pupils at Henry Hinde School began their academic year with an enriching three-day residential trip to the Peak District.

With activities ranging from archery and climbing to kayaking, canoeing and aeroball, pupils had to put their communication skills and teamwork to the test and work together to overcome the challenges they faced.

Fleur Edwards, Principal at Henry Hinde School, said: "It would be fair to say that Year 6 is a milestone year for our pupils, as they prepare for moving on to secondary school soon.

"I couldn't think of a better way for them to start their final year with us, pushing themselves beyond their comfort zones and building lasting memories with their classmates."





Marking Remembrance

Across the TLET family, we paid tribute to the brave men and women who have served their country over the years in Remembrance Day ceremonies this November.

At Houlton School, staff and pupils took time to reflect on the impact Houlton's school building had during WWII as a centre of communication and to remember all those who have served in conflicts past and present. Pupils also represented the armed forces and local cadet groups as the school marked the day together with an assembly, tutor time activity and some silent reflection.

Pupils at Henry Hinde School learnt more about the significance of poppies as the symbol of remembrance and joined together to listen out for the sound of the Last Post and observe a two-minute silence.

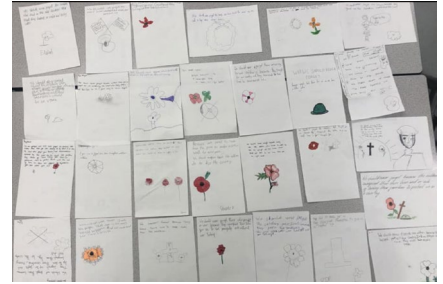
Ashlawn School brought together staff and students for a whole-school

Remembrance Service on the school field. There were poignant speeches to remember the fallen, as well as two readings in Hindi and Arabic, reflecting our diverse community and the sacrifices of those who have given service from around the world.

Sian Hartle, Director of Education at TLET, said: "As the world around us becomes increasingly unsettled, it feels like there has never been a more important time to observe Remembrance Day and learn the lessons of our past.

"It is an honour to remember those who gave their lives in order to give us our future."

We will remember them.



Exploring the Imperial War Museum

History studies were brought to life when Year 9 pupils from Houlton School visited the Imperial War Museum in Duxford - known as one of the largest aviation museums in Europe.

During a tour of the various aeroplane hangars, pupils were amazed to see these engineering marvels up close, especially the Spitfire, which played a pivotal role in World War II. There was also the chance to learn more about the Battle of Britain and the heroic pilots who fought for our country.

Jamie Abbott, Head of Faculty for Humanities at Houlton School, said: "As the trip came to an end, pupils reflected on the lessons they had learned—not just about planes and history, but about innovation, resilience, and the human stories behind the machines.

"This was more than just an educational outing; it was an inspiring journey into the past that connected history with the present."



Immersive Egyptian Day

Year 5 pupils at Henry Hinde School met the legendary Egyptian Queen Cleopatra as part of their immersive Egyptian Day.

Throughout the day, the children took part in hands-on experiences where they found out more about life in Ancient Egypt, dispelled popular myths about the period and even had a go at creating their own clay artefacts.

Mandeep Mann, Vice Principal at Henry Hinde School, said: "How do you teach children about events that happened thousands of years ago?

"For us, immersive learning days like this allow our pupils to almost step into their learning, providing the opportunity for exploration and discovery and bringing joy and excitement to the topic."



Celebrating UK Parliament Week

To celebrate this year's UK Parliament Week, Ashlawn School welcomed Rugby MP, John Slinger, to speak with pupils from Ashlawn's Leadership Programme and School Council.

As part of the session, Mr Slinger shared his career journey to becoming an MP, discussed his work supporting our town and answered questions on current Parliamentary Bills.

In a letter to staff and pupils following his visit, John Slinger MP, said: "Thank you to all the teachers and staff who support this learning, and to the students eager to understand Parliament, the heart of our democracy... While politics

may seem a bit distant or even uninteresting to some, it impacts all of us – especially young people."

Mr Slinger also encouraged pupils to "dream big, set high aspirations, and work hard towards your goals," reminding them that the future of our country lies in their hands.



Supporting Rugby Foodbank

During the autumn and winter terms, pupils and staff from across the Trust have been making huge efforts to support Rugby Food Bank by collecting food and essential supplies to donate to this important charity.

It is estimated that we donated over 500kg of food as part of Harvest Festival alone. The festive period has also marked a huge drive for donations in time for Christmas.

Fleur Edwards, Principal at Henry Hinde School, said: "We are immensely proud of our wonderful school community for coming together with such kindness and generosity to support Rugby Food Bank.



"It is important to say, however, that we are also here to help you too. Each of our academies can issue Food Bank vouchers to families in need – so please do reach out if you are struggling."



Deliver Excellence

We strive to achieve our best.

Houlton School pupils excel

A group of over 30 Year 10 pupils from Houlton School have achieved their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Not for the faint-hearted, the award takes on average six months to complete and entails a combination of volunteering, physical and skills sections as well as a two-day expedition.

It has also just been confirmed that a team of Year 9 and 10 pupils from Houlton School have successfully advanced to the regional finals of the prestigious Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench competition.

Well done everyone!



Equal Access Award for Girls' Football

Pupils and staff at Henry Hinde are bursting with pride following the announcement that the school's PE Coordinator, Kylie Coulson, has received the Equal Access Award for Girls' Football by Football England and Barclays.

This prestigious award highlights an exceptional ongoing commitment to providing equal opportunities for girls in football, something that has been a priority area at Henry Hinde School for a number of years.

Fleur Edwards, Principal at Henry Hinde School, said: "We are so lucky to have such a talented and passionate lead for PE in Miss Coulson."

"Her work around girls' football is an inspiration, and it's fantastic to see this area of our curriculum thriving. Our pupils are benefiting greatly from these opportunities."



Ashlawn School Rewards Evening

Ashlawn School recently celebrated outstanding pupils from across each year group at a special Rewards Evening.

The event highlighted those who had gone the extra mile to achieve 'our best, always', including pupils who had excelled in lessons and across the school, or had made a significant contribution to school life.

Aaron Phillips, Vice Principal, Quality of Education at Ashlawn School, said: "It was a fabulous evening of excellence and aspiration, and we were delighted that we had over 500 parents in the room to celebrate all that our pupils and students have achieved so far this year."