

# Dovestone Learning Partnership

Welcome to our Dovestone Learning Partnership newsletter.

We are aiming to send out a newsletter each term to update you on DLP activities. This is our Autumn Term 2023 edition.

The DLP is a Co-operative Trust which was established in October 2017.

We are a partnership of 9 schools:

- Christ Church Denshaw C.E. Primary School
- Delph Primary School
- Diggle Primary School
- Friezland Primary School
- Knowsley Junior School
- Saddleworth School
- St Agnes C.E. Primary School
- St Mary's Greenfield C.E. Primary School
- St Thomas' Leesfield C.E. Primary School



## General Update

Although it has been a short term there has been plenty happening.

January started with our Art and Literacy Competition. More information is below but suffice to say we have been really impressed with the creativity of the pupils. Please check out the brochure with the Top 3 from each school. A massive well done to everyone who took part.

In February we held our Annual General Meeting. This year we chose to hold it via zoom in the hope it would make it easier for people to come along. We presented our Annual Report looking back over the year - it is actually a good thing to do to see how much has been achieved. We presented our accounts and spoke about our plans for this year. Following the AGM we held a short Trust Board meeting. The reports, accounts and minutes are available on our website.

A number of our networks have met including moderation, science, EYFA, PE, pastoral and our Chairs' of Governors also came together to share expertise and discuss common issues. Staff attended LA networks for SEND and History, Our working parties: Quality of Teaching and Learning, Financial Efficiencies and Well-being have met to continue developing our priorities for this academic year.

We were really proud to launch our Pupil Super Council in January. Please see below for more information. We are excited to see how this progresses and look forward to hearing from our pupils across the DLP.

Our sports programme continued with pupils taking part in archery, athletics and gymnastics this term.

A number of our staff have been involved in English CPD. A session for KS2 was held in March with KS1 following in April. Thank you to Friezland Primary for organising and hosting the events.

Another busy but productive term.

## Super Council

The Spring term saw the first meeting of our newly formed DLP Super Council! Our Super Council includes children from all our DLP schools and we aim to meet termly to discuss important issues that affect our schools and communities.

For the first meeting, the focus was on E-Safety and we were joined by Ellen Weedon who works with the Oldham Safeguarding Team. Pupils talked about the challenges they faced in the ever-changing virtual world and looked at the important messages that needed to be shared back in their individual schools, to help keep everyone safe when working online.

Our Super Council meetings give the opportunity for 'Pupil Voice' to be heard and then shared with school leaders. Future meetings will focus on: Anti-Bullying, transition to new classes and schools, litter in the community and school attendance to name a few.



## Congratulations!



Congratulations to one of our Trustees, Jayne Clarke, who is Executive Principal of the Pinnacle Learning Trust. Jayne was awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honor's List for her service to further education. The honour is well-deserved and acknowledges all of the work Jayne does in Oldham to support our young people with their learning journey.

## Gymnastics



This half term, Friezland hosted a Gymnastics enrichment event for Year 1 and 2 pupils. With the help of some Year 6 Sports Leaders, the children took part in a carousel of activities to work on their jumping, balancing and rolling skills. There were lots of big smiles and it was wonderful to see the children challenging themselves, cheering each other on, and being proud of their achievements.



## Writing and Art Competition: Meet The Winners

During January the DLP is held a Winter Writing and Art Competition. Each school chose one of the following stimuli to inspire the children's writing or artwork: a painting; a sculpture; a photograph or a piece of music related to the theme of winter. Pupils then used this to create either a piece of writing – a story, poem - or some art work. Each school selected their own 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place pieces. These 3 pieces of work were all put together at the final on 6<sup>th</sup> February and the overall Top 3 in both categories was decided. These 6 pupils will receive a trophy and a gift card for £10. All the finalists' work is published in a DLP brochure which is included with this newsletter. Below are some of our winners from our schools.

### Delph Primary School



April Bowes  
Joshua Roberts  
Erin Butler

### Knowsley Junior School



Anna De Boer  
Emily Sekula

### St Agnes CE Primary School



Isabelle Sever  
Sienna Burke  
Layla Jameson

### St Mary's Greenfield CE Primary



Freddie Taylor  
Pixie Swift  
Enzo Bailey

### Friezland Primary School



Martha Gledhill  
Kiera Platt  
Harry Marsden

*Don't forget you can see all the winning entries in the Brochure sent with this newsletter.*

### Diggle Primary School



Eloise Powell  
Elizabeth Bardsley  
Minnie Cadogan

### St Thomas' Leesfield CE Primary



Verity Bate  
Dara Adeola

### Saddleworth School



Kaiden Nguyen  
Holly Wilson  
Cara Hamilton

## Meet the DLPers!

As part of our regular feature of introducing you to people in the DLP. Today is the turn of Suzanne Hall, Headteacher, St Mary's, Greenfield CE Primary School



My name is Suzanne Hall and I am the head of Greenfield St Mary's C.E. (A) Primary School. I have been head at St Mary's for 11 years now but I have had the privilege of educating our community since January 1999.

There is something very special about St Mary's and it's community. The children are incredibly articulate and passionate young people who care deeply about each other and achieve their very best in all that they do.

At St Mary's we talk about wearing St Mary's SCARF; this underpins our mission statement to enjoy learning and achieving in a Christian environment. St Mary's SCARF principles underpin all that we do. We keep ourselves and others **Safe**, we are **Caring** towards others, we **Achieve** our very best at all times in all places, we are **Respectful** and we are **Friendly** to all.

St Mary's is a school that always captures your heart and soul. I have spent the majority of my teaching career servicing this community and it has been an incredible pleasure and privilege to do so. We have a strong connection with St Mary's Church and a very dedicated Governing Body backed up by the most talented PTFA that raise thousands for the school each year with their fabulous events. Our parents always go above and beyond to ensure their children get the very best of experiences at St Mary's.

Our ethos is always to work in partnership with each other to develop a child centred educational and holistic experience where children's individual gifts and talents are developed and maximized. We aim for all our children to develop a love of learning that lasts a lifetime through questioning and enquiry in an atmosphere which is supportive, exciting and inclusive.

In my personal life, I have a wonderful husband that supports my passion for St Mary's tirelessly and a 9 year old daughter whose spirit, despite her complex special needs shines through and brightens anyone's day. She is a force of nature with a spectacular zest for life that you can't help but be swept along by. We love our holidays and you will often find us somewhere near a beach or sitting out in the sun relaxing in the garden with my camera close to hand.

## Moving on Up!

Our Year 6 pupils have recently received their secondary school allocations for September when they will bid their Primary Schools a fond farewell and get ready for the next step of their learning journey: Secondary School.

Pupils from the DLP Primary Schools will move on to several different schools both in and out of borough.

For those joining Saddleworth School, we're busy planning meetings and events to help support a smooth transition. Saddleworth staff will be visiting Primary settings during the summer term and we'll be writing to families about our induction days and meetings.

We can't wait to meet you!

## Writing CPD

This half-term, staff from our partner schools joined together for more collective CPD. This was the first of two sessions, aimed at improving the quality of writing across our schools. The session was for key stage two teachers and was led by Jane Mellor, a former local authority writing moderator and literacy expert, who currently teaches at Bowling Green Academy, in Halifax. The objectives of the session were to reflect on English curriculums and writing opportunities; explore the five stages of the writing process and to understand the latest guidance, around the teaching of writing, produced by the Education Endowment Fund. There were examples of good practice, explanations of the summary of recommendations and quality resources to provide direct paths of action from the evidence-based guidance to classroom practice. The second session for our key stage one staff, will take place in the Summer Term.

## Keep UpToDate with the DLP

You can keep uptodate with us in the following ways

**Facebook** – search for Dovestone Learning Partnership – follow us – give us a like and receive regular updates.

Please share with your family and friends

**Instagram** – we can be found at [dovestonelearningpartnership](https://www.instagram.com/dovestonelearningpartnership)

**Twitter** – find us at @DovestoneLP

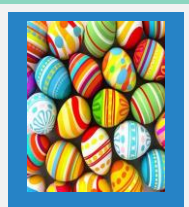
**Website** – Our website has had a make-over. Please check it out. Here you will find more detailed information about the DLP such as events, action plans, board meetings and our trustees.

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

## Would you like to get involved with Dovestone Learning Partnership????

DLP would like to have some community representatives on their Trust Board. The Board meets three times a year and you would become a trustee of the partnership. Your role would be to represent the Saddleworth and Lees community, That would mean asking questions and making comments and suggestions for the work we do. If you are interested please email [juliebowdidge@googlemail.com](mailto:juliebowdidge@googlemail.com) or telephone 07515257389 for more information.

We would love to hear from you.



The Staff, Pupils and Governors would like to wish you all a very happy Easter Break.

Looking forward to lighter nights, Spring flowers and the Summer Term!! .