

Message from the Executive Headteacher



Nebula
where stars are born

July 2021

THE SCHOOLS IN OUR FEDERATION

Frettenham Primary

Hainford Primary

Horsford Primary

Old Catton Junior School

St. Faiths' Primary

White Woman Lane Junior

The Executive:

Miss Anatola - Executive Deputy for EYFS

Mrs Pellatt - Executive Deputy for School Improvement

Mrs Connolly—Executive Deputy for School Improvement

Mrs Porter - Executive Deputy for SEND

Heads of School:

Mr Paul Cross -

Hainford Primary

Mr Gyles Longhurst -

Frettenham Primary

Mrs Tanya Kirton &

Miss Nicola Owen -

Horsford Primary

Miss Emily Erick-

Old Catton Junior

Miss Kat Wilson-

St. Faiths' Primary

Mr Daniel Richmond -

White Woman Lane Junior

School's out for Summer ...

As this school year draws to a close and we approach the last day of school, I want to thank each and every one of you. Firstly, for choosing one of our schools, secondly for trusting us with your child's education and finally for all the support that you have given us as teachers and staff in all of our schools. I also want to thank every child for all the warmth, memories and the learning that we have shared over the year.

I reflect back with immense pride on yet another incredible year. I remain astounded by how much we achieve together as a result of the strong relationships that exist amongst the schools, staff, parents and children, working together to ensure that we focus on doing everything possible to maintain the highest standards of education possible, both academically and for your child's personal development too.

We have had many trips and events happening in each of our schools this term, and I hope that this newsletter will just give you a flavour, and some examples of the activities that enrich the children's learning and their curriculum in all of our schools. So many happy memories have been made which will be remembered

for a long, long time.

As the schools close their doors on Friday, another door will open for your child in September as they embark on the next stage of their educational journey. Most will move into the next year of their primary education, to learn more and build on the skills and knowledge they have gained this academic year. For some they will be moving onto their high schools and learn to thrive in a new environment with new staff and pupils. To all of these pupils and their families, please remember that although you are leaving, you remain a part of your school's and the Federation's family.

Our pupils will have learnt so many things this year and their end of year annual report to parents will inform you of their progress and attainment. These are very important things of course but our children have also learnt many more equally valuable things, including how to be a good friend, how to resolve conflict, how to work as part of a team, how to persevere, how to find their own solutions and how to always do their best.

We can't always "be the best", but we can always

"do our best" and I believe our children understand this and take it with them to the next stage of their educational journey; kind, inquisitive, independent, curious children who love to learn. We are so proud of each one.

We will also be saying goodbye and thank you to some staff for their hard work and dedication during their time with us at our schools. On your behalf, I wish them all every success in their chosen futures and hope that they will always feel a sense of belonging to our 'Nebula Family'.

I'm sure you will also warmly welcome new members of staff to our schools in September.

Thank You - and have a safe and enjoyable holiday.



Ashley Best-White
Executive Headteacher
The Nebula Federation

25 Years of Young Voices ...

The Young Voices programme is a brilliant way to get children singing. For many years, the Nebula schools have taken part and learnt a great selection of songs, mastered some awesome street dancing and performed with almost 9,000 other young singers at the iconic O2 arena in London!

The 25th anniversary concert in this year was particularly special; after such a difficult couple of years where we've seen cancellations of every sort, the awe-inspiring and unique experience Young Voices gives goes a long way to cement happy and fun-filled memories for our children, as well as one of a kind learning experience.

We arrived in London on 24th May without any delays! After we took in the magnitude and grandeur of the O2 arena, we spent the afternoon rehearsing the show for the performance in the evening with world renowned Young Voices conductor David Lawrence and soaked up the atmosphere.

Every year, Young Voices prepares a sensational programme and recruits internationally known musical talent. In previous years, this has included Tony Hadley, of Spandau Ballet fame, soprano Katherine Jenkins, chart-topping pop star Alexandra Burke and talent show judge/singer/songwriter, Gary Barlow! In 2022, the schools performed with Britain's Got Talent finalist and soprano singer Connie Talbot, the amazing saxophonist Yolanda Brown and the energetic street dance act, Urban Strides - who always manage to get every single audience member, young and old, up on their feet to join in!

At 7pm, it was showtime! The lights went down, the band started playing and the arena erupted in a cacophony of cheers and screams of delight! Nebula parents were able to spot the children high up in the seats and got themselves in the party spirit, particularly with the hilarious routine from the brilliant Beatbox Collective! Favourite songs to sing were "The Beatles Medley" – a mash-up of some of the iconic songs from the Fab Four as well as Disney hits from "The Lion King" and a medley showcase of "The Muppets." We also sang a world premiere of "Sing from Your Heart"

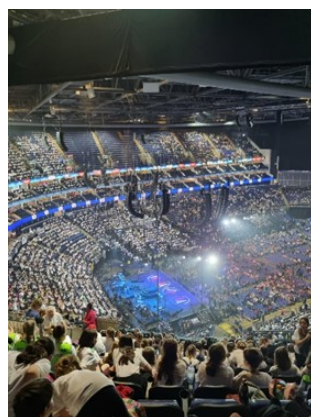
– a beautiful song that really sums up what it means to come back together and sing after two and half years of disrupted musical experience. After our incredibly long but brilliant day, the Nebula bundled into our respective coaches and arrived home without a hitch. There were lots of sleepy-eyed children in our schools on Wednesday, but all had enormous smiles on their faces!

The Nebula staff spend a great deal of dedicated time bringing the Young Voices programme to our schools: learning the songs is a very small part of what we do! An incredible amount of work takes place behind the scenes to make experiences like this possible. It is always a journey that is well worth the effort and we all get to participate in a truly unique and inspiring project. Of course, enormous praise must go to the 2022 Young Voices Nebula choirs – who have worked so hard and performed so well. The teachers are always so impressed with the work and passion put in by the children. We hope to see lots more of you come along for Young Voices 2023 – it is truly an experience you will never forget!

My thanks to K. Richardson, music lead at Old Catton Junior school for this report.



Horsford Primary



Virtual Big Sing

Some of our schools also took part in Norfolk Music Hub's Virtual 'Big Sing!' It was a wonderful opportunity to come together as a school, joining hundreds of others around the county, to sing some well-known and beloved songs from famous films and musicals.

Accompanied by west-end stars including Claire Sweeney and online singing star, Red, the children sang a well loved collection, including "Circle of Life" from The Lion King; "Part of Your World" from The Little Mermaid; "Into the Unknown" from Frozen II and Israel Kamakawiwo'ole's version of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" from The Wizard of Oz.

They finished with a rousing rendition of "A Million Dreams" from the ever-popular film, The Greatest Showman.



Imagine a story ...

In January, some of our children embarked on a huge challenge: to become published authors! They took part in the 'Imagine a Story' writing project which was run by the Southbank Centre.

This project involved classes from across the Nebula schools each writing a chapter of a book which would then be cleverly coordinated to make a short story that would be published. Alex Sheppard, the author overseeing this project, had created the main characters and the basic plot was shared with all the participating teachers.

For example, 3P's challenge (Horsford Primary) was to bring the Greek Gods to life with amazing descriptive vocabulary and the occasional simile. Miss Richardson's group at Old Catton were in charge of Chapter 2 – a really exciting episode where the heroes are accused of a crime they didn't commit and the rest of their class are under threat of being locked in the museum forever due to some wrathful Gods!

Once the pupils (and their teachers) were happy with the chapter they were responsible for, they submitted it to the publisher and then had what seemed like a very long wait until they could read the remainder of the book and see how each chapter from each school fitted together.

The children worked tirelessly on the project, learning about plot and character strategy,

dialogue and being sympathetic to the overarching theme of Ancient Greece.

On 29th June the authors boarded their coach and headed off to St Andrews Hall. All the children were excited, not only to meet the author but also to receive their own copy of the book, with their name printed in it. During the presentation of the book the children also had a masterclass on how to create a drawing of a character.

The children thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to share their writing skills and it is definitely something we as a federation of schools would like to repeat. A massive thank you to all our teachers who took on this challenge with their class.



Horsford Primary



Anna - Frettenham Primary

GOGO Dinosaur ...



Librariansaurus Rex

Frettenham Primary

Created by pupils - supported by Mr Longhurst and Mrs Redgrave

Mammoth Trail

The Frettenham Primary 'Librariansaurus Rex' is part of Break Charity Sculpture trail. For 11 weeks this summer (27 June – 10 September), 55 large T.rex, 24 Steppe Mammoth and 98 smaller Breakasaurus sculptures will be prowling the streets and shores of Norwich and Norfolk for you go GoGoDiscover.



St. Faiths' Primary

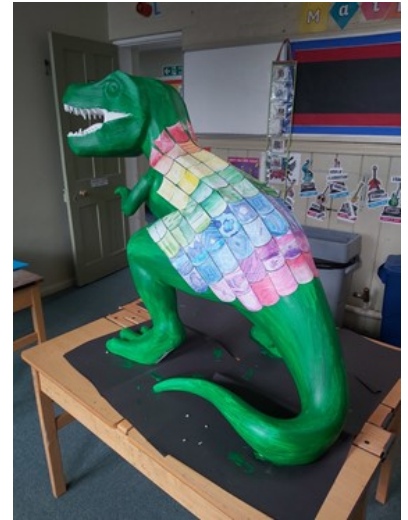
More dinosaurs designs ...



Mill Lane

Created a timeline of written communication on their dinosaur that they named **'Wordasaurus'**. Year 3 and 4 pupils had the task of recreating famous book covers and tried their hands at writing Greek alphabets and their names in hieroglyphics. Their designs were chosen at random to decorate the dinosaur and Year 5 and 6 pupils added facts they had researched.

A huge thank you to the pupils involved and to Mr Neave and Miss Blyth who gave up a huge amount of their own time after school and during the holidays to organise these projects.



Cattonasaurus Rex

Old Catton Junior
Nearly finished ...

Thanks to pupils and Miss Cooper



Holt Road

'King Rex the Storysaurus' was a team effort with every child creating their own individual hexagon for the green background, in the style of either Picasso, Kandinski, Van Gough or Eric Carle. The stories on the dinosaur were illustrated by our gifted artists from Holt Road, chosen as an opportunity for their talents to shine. The plan is for King Rex to eventually live in our Holt Road library and to inspire storytelling sessions.



A Teacher's Desk Rex

White Woman Lane
ESPO inspired ...

Thanks to pupils and Miss Coe.



Tree Rex

Hainford Primary

Thanks to pupils and Mrs Grigg



Thesaurus Tyrannosaurus.

St. Faiths' Primary

Clue: This dinosaur can be found upstairs in the Millennium Library

Mammoth Trail ...

This fun, family trail is here thanks to the sponsorship of local businesses and the creativity of artists, schools, and community groups. All of our school sites have taken part and you can see all of their wonderful creations above and overleaf. Now perhaps you could go and find where they have been placed on the trail (if you haven't done so already)?

This year you can get your map straight to your phone via the [GoGoDiscover App](#), or you can pick up a trail map at one of the hubs dotted around the county. Hubs are located at locations including: The Forum, The Royal Arcade, Jarrold (3rd floor by Rex), Langleys in Chantry Place, Maids Head Hotel, Pensthorpe Nature Reserve gift shop, ROARR!

Sports and Competition ...



City Sports

Teams from all of our schools entered this year's City Sports event. This competition event is for children in KS2 and there were some very pleasing performances from all of the schools. The children clearly enjoyed the opportunity to compete with other Norwich schools. In total, 18 schools competed at the Sportspark at UEA (the Harnser team was made up of children from the three schools).

It has been two years since City Sports was held and it was wonderful to see everyone take part again this year. Congratulations to everyone and of course to all the winners. We saw some fantastic performances across all three days - including some new City Sports records. There was a supportive, community atmosphere and the children loved the experience.

Trophy Winners 2022

Team Trophy
 Rob Jackson Memorial Cup
 Girls' Shield
 Boys' Shield
 Field Events
 Relay Cup
 Small Schools' Relay Cup

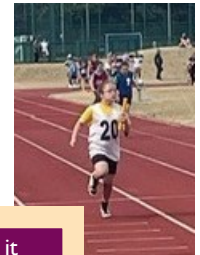
Drayton
 Old Catton
 Drayton
 White Woman Lane
 Sprowston
 Drayton
 Old Catton



Old Catton Junior won the Small Schools' Relay Trophy and the Overall Small Schools' Trophy



Gold Medal Winner



Congratulations to the Harnser City Sports team. For many of the children it was the first time that they had run on a 'proper' track and their attitude and running made everyone proud.

School Sports Day ...



Frettenham Primary Sports Day was a huge success as we welcomed parents and families to support their children.



At Hainford too, the event was a huge success with children competing in a range of semi-competitive events cheered on by a supportive crowd. The school's core values of Compassion, Responsibility and Hope were clearly evident by how all participants were celebrated over the finishing line and how the pupils looked after each other irrespective of their house teams.

School Sports day ...



Horsford Primary held three separate sports events for Reception, KS1 and KS2, each containing a mixture of sporting activities for the children to take part in. The Reception sports children were overjoyed to see their families in school for the first time to watch them take part in races including 'Chuck a Chicken' and hurdles.

KS1 children competed in a carousel of races ranging from relays to the 'float the boat' water race and KS2 pupils competed in individual running races as well as the more traditional fun-style races such as egg and spoon and the sack race. There was great sportsmanship throughout with everyone cheering each other on.



Old Catton's Sports Day consisted of two parts: in the morning, all children took part in Field Events which consisted of: Triple Jump, Egg and Spoon Race, Shot Put, Long Jump, Speed Bounce, Shuttle Run, Javelin and Sack Race ...and in the afternoon, some children took part in the Track Events, Hurdles, Skipping and Running.

At St. Faiths' Sports Day the children were split into house teams for a morning carousel of activities. The Year 6 children stepped up to lead the activities and even designed them themselves! The parents were then invited to see the individual races, before families shared a picnic on the school field.

Events, Visits and Visitors ...

There have been a vast range of visits, residentials and visitors to our school throughout this term. Such opportunities enrich our curriculum and provide our children with so many experiences that they otherwise would not have.

We can also look forward to enjoying end of year shows, Church Services and well-established traditions to give Year 6 leavers the rite of passage they deserve. These are the activities that make lasting memories for the children in our schools and show them the limitless opportunities they have on offer for their futures. It has been wonderful to see this all happening again in our schools.

A huge thank you to all staff who organise these experiences and then give up their time to ensure the children have the best opportunities possible.



WWL Year 6 enjoyed taking part in paddle boarding, sailing, kayaking and canoeing on Whitlingham Lake. The children worked in teams to complete challenges and play games on the water. The week ended with a visit to the ice-cream van to cool off in the 30-degree heat. Memories to last a lifetime!

Events, Visits and Visitors ...



1



2



3



4



10



5

1. St. Faiths' Primary - London
2. WWL - Bewilderwood
3. Frettenham Primary - Whitwell Station; history of railways
4. Hainford - Working Dairy Farm Visit
5. Horsford - UEA Teddy Bears' Hospital
6. Old Catton - Mobile Planetarium comes to school
7. WWL - Gressenhall Victorian Classroom
8. Horsford - Time and Tide Museum
9. Frettenham - Horstead Centre adventure including archery, climbing and paddle boarding
10. Hainford - Queen's Jubilee Celebration
11. St. Faiths' - Amazona Zoo
12. Hainford Primary - Time and Tide Museum



11



6



12



7



8



9



13



Nebula Curriculum ...

The pupils took a journey through time as they welcomed a Stone Age visitor into school or visited a museum to build shelters and hunt deer as people from the Stone Age. Children were immersed in tales of our earliest ancestors, handled genuine artefacts and shared stories of daily life. The children were filled with questions, and it made a fantastic way to supplement the history curriculum and make lasting memories.

Some pupils were visited by 'Peneloa' all the way from Ancient Greece. They were given a brief history of Greece and told of the famous battle between Greece and Persia and competed in their own Olympic games.

Others visited Norwich cathedral to find out more about the Normans.

Reception children went to visit Gressenhall for a fairy tale themed day as part of their Fairytales theme. A visit from PC Matt Hill to speak with the children about road safety and then inspired them by telling them about the role of the police in the community.

Building a Formula Goblin and then racing it at Scottow Enterprise Park.

Congratulations ...

Old Catton C of E Junior School has been awarded the ... **GOLD RE QUALITY MARK** for embedding excellent, creative and innovative RE practice throughout the school and for recognition as outstanding in the wider community.

The assessor also made the following comments: RE is highly valued by both children and school leaders, and has created a culture where teachers are confident in leading discussions on complex questions about spirituality, morality and topical issues. The school clearly deserves the REQM Gold award and is a flagship for innovation and good practice in RE.

Congratulations to Mrs Connelly, Miss Emrick, Mr Semmens and everyone at Old Catton Junior School!



Modeshift Stars: Green Award

Children at Mill Lane are well on their way to collecting their first accreditation award for road safety from Modeshift Stars.

Over the past year, they have been learning how to ride their bikes and scooters safely on the roads. They have learnt that exercise is incredibly important for not only their health, but their well-being also.

Over the next year, they will be adding more points to their Modeshift tally by starting a Junior Travel Ambassador Club! They hope to be awarded with their green award by the end of this term.

Open Events ...

We ended the year by inviting parents to come into the schools to see the work their children had done throughout the year, to marvel at their achievements and to share their children's pride. There were science fairs and fashion shows, celebration assemblies and school performances.



We have said goodbye to those leaving us ... and welcome to those who will join us in September.

We end 2021 - 2022 with a sense of celebration and pride for what has been achieved as this academic year comes to an end and look forward to both the joy and new challenges that 2022 - 2023 will undoubtedly bring.



The following staff will be leaving us at the end of term. We would like to thank them and send our very best wishes for the future:

- WWL:
Miss Kylie Amos
- OCJS:
Miss Gemma Vickery
- Horsford Primary:
Miss Nicola Owen
- Hainford Primary:
Miss Alice Redgrave
- St. Faiths' Primary:
Miss Emily Bean – maternity leave

We welcome the following members of staff:

- Horsford Primary:
Miss Alice Read
- Hainford Primary:
Miss Lauren Gower
- Frettenham Primary:
Mr Adam Avery
- St. Faiths' Primary:
Mr Matthew Taunton

A NEBULA HOODIE

All our Year 6 leavers were presented with a Nebula Hoodie. We know they will have enjoyed all the events their individual schools will have organised for them but wanted to acknowledge the part they have played as pupils of the Nebula Federation too.

