

Summer 2025 newsletter



Hello from David O'Toole, CEO

Reflecting on the past twelve months, our schools have had incredible achievements and continued to develop rich environments in which our children can learn and grow.

To mention just a few highlights this year: our schools celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day with activities and moments of reflection; and Thomas Adams School has been recognised for their pioneering inspection triads and awarded the Boarding School Association's Innovation Award.

Our schools have also collaborated on community art projects; been recognised for maths excellence; and organised a primary dance festival at The Edge Arts Centre in Much Wenlock involving local primary schools. These activities and many more underscore the Trust's dedication to creativity, community engagement and student wellbeing, as much as academic excellence.

This summer, we will bid farewell to Headteacher Sue Lovecy, who has dedicated over 30 years to St Martins 3-16 School. During her time, she has transformed the school into a nurturing environment where children flourish. We extend our best wishes to Sue in her future endeavours and are confident she will remain connected with many members of the school and Trust community.

We are very fortunate to have excellent headteachers, leaders and practitioners in all our schools and I am very proud to work with such dedicated staff, governors, students and parents. We take pride in our accomplishments and look forward to furthering our pursuit of excellence.

In this term's newsletter

- [News from our Trust](#)
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- [Coming up next term](#)

Finally, I would like to wish our staff, students, families and collaborators a pleasant summer.

David O'Toole
CEO

The 3-18 Education Trust

News from our Trust

Belonging Framework to support schools

We know that a child's sense of belonging significantly impacts their educational journey. Our new innovative Belonging Framework equips our teachers with a tool to support students and actively engage with parents/carers and agencies, creating a 'team around the child approach.' We are excited to announce the winners of our belonging student competition in the autumn term.

[Explore Belonging Framework](#)



Aspire Leadership Programme success

In June, we proudly celebrated the final day of our Aspire Leadership Programme bringing together 25 dedicated colleagues from across our Trust. Delegates presented their change management projects, which are already driving improvement and making a significant impact in our schools. With collaboration at the heart of the programme, these projects will be shared more widely to benefit all schools.

[Watch our new Aspire video](#)

New resources on generative AI in education

The Department for Education has published new guidance on using AI in education settings. Produced in partnership with Chiltern Learning Trust and the Chartered College of Teaching, each module includes a workbook, video resources and transcripts. Information is available on the DfE website now and on our Trust AI SharePoint site from September.

[DfE AI guidance](#)



EdTech pilot – call out for schools

As part of our commitment to leading the way in AI in education, all schools are invited to become 'test beds' for evaluating promising EdTech products. This will create an evidence base for technologies that genuinely improve both teaching quality and pupil outcomes. The pilot will last approx. nine months with a 6-12 week testing period. Please contact Tim Goodman, Director of IT, for more information.

[Contact Tim Goodman](#)

News from our Trust

New People Leader Programme begins

This term, we welcomed the first cohort of line managers to join our Trust-wide People Leader Programme. Delivered by an expert trainer, this two-day in-person course will enhance leadership and management skills; support with building high-performing teams; and facilitate peer networking across our schools. Future cohorts will run in July, September and October.



Professional qualifications for your future

Are you considering career or skills development opportunities for next academic year? The Trust offers a range of professional qualifications in digital, admin, site management, TA, SEND, finance, HR and marketing. Alternatively, our flagship qualification allows you to train to become a teacher in just nine months. These qualifications are funded through the apprenticeship levy. More details will be available in the autumn term.

Online gallery showcases Trust creativity

This term, all schools participated in a landscape art project inspired by the stunning Shropshire scenery which surrounds our schools and communities. The Trust-wide project, organised by Louise Rhodes, Head of Creative Arts and PE at Bridgnorth Endowed School, has culminated in a new online art gallery which showcases the breadth of creativity across our schools.

[Visit online gallery.](#)

(Staff access only)



Trust staff conference: 3 November 2025

We are looking forward to welcoming colleagues from across our schools to our annual staff conference at Telford International Centre on Monday 3rd November. As well as an inspiring keynote speaker and your choice of insightful workshops, this year's event will also feature our inaugural staff awards. Registration opens in early September.

[Staff conference](#)

News from our schools



Bowbrook Primary School

The children have enjoyed a vibrant mix of learning and laughter this term! A highlight was Bowfest, our annual celebration, where families, staff and local residents came together to enjoy music, games and shared experiences. The atmosphere was electric, and it was heartening to see the whole community united in celebration. We also hosted Witness the Fitness Week, a dedicated programme designed to educate children about the importance of health, movement, and wellbeing.

[News from Bowbrook](#)

Bridgnorth Endowed School

Over the past couple of weeks, two groups of Bridgnorth Endowed Year 9 students successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expeditions in the beautiful Shropshire hills around Church Stretton. Each team spent two days navigating tricky routes, conquering steep climbs, and working together through changing weather. It was a fantastic display of resilience, teamwork, and determination. A huge well done to all involved and thank you to the staff and volunteers who made it possible.



[News from Bridgnorth Endowed](#)

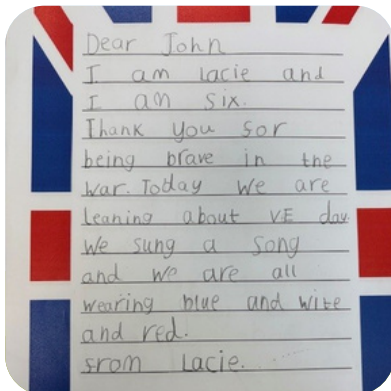


Coleham Primary School

The Belle Vue Arts Festival is always a key part of the Coleham year. This year's theme was 'movement', and all our children had their art displayed in the BVAF Gallery held at the Barnabus Centre. The children thoroughly enjoyed seeing their creativity on show to the public (and someone even offered to buy a piece!). Not only that, but Mrs Caldwell, one of our excellent Teaching Assistants, facilitated some staff art sessions which are currently on display in our school gallery. Creativity rules at Coleham!

[News from Coleham](#)

News from our schools



Hodnet Primary School

Our children proudly took part in the VE Mail project which brings together young people with a living WW2 veteran. We received a letter from Commander Eskdale, aged 101, who shared his memories of the war and VE Day. Each class replied with an individual letter, card or picture. We later discovered one of our Year 5 pupils had a great-uncle on the same ship as Commander Eskdale – what a small world! This is a wonderful project—our children are immensely proud of participating, and we are sure the veterans have delighted in sharing their stories with future generations.

[News from Hodnet](#)

John Wilkinson Primary School and Nursery

John Wilkinson Primary School and Nursery are celebrating a joyful summer term, filled with pupil achievements and memorable experiences. Highlights include Sports Day with local schools, vibrant classroom artwork, and exciting trips—from Telford Library to the seaside. Creativity, teamwork, and enthusiasm have shone throughout. With leavers' celebrations and the school fete on the horizon, we're excited to finish the year on a high note, proud of everything our pupils have accomplished.



[News from John Wilkinson](#)



Much Wenlock Primary School and Nursery

This term has been transformational. Our new EYFS outdoor area is complete, giving children the best possible start. Safeguarding remains our top priority, recognised as 'outstanding' in recent audits. We have strengthened our partnership with William Brookes School through brilliant transition and sporting events. Our children have proudly represented the school in the local community through music, dance and drama. With further improvements planned over summer, we're building something special - together - for the future of Much Wenlock.

[News from Much Wenlock](#)

News from our schools



St Martins School

Our Reception class had a special few weeks looking after newly hatched chicks! As part of learning about lifecycles and growth, the children fed the chicks, kept them warm and clean, and observed how they grew stronger each day. It was a hands-on experience full of wonder, responsibility, excitement — and lots of adorable chirping! Thank you to parent Mr Pearson for providing us with the eggs, incubator and for kindly coming into school so that the children could hold the chicks.

[News from St Martins](#)

The Priory School

Priory School have had another successful enrichment week with the whole school on a revised timetable. Year 8 students ventured to Paris, with Year 9 enjoying the delights of Holland. Closer to home, Year 7 visited Crocky Trail, with other year groups enjoying Drayton Manor, Chester Zoo and a cultural/historical tour of Shrewsbury. This was all while Year 10 were out getting to grips with the world of work for their work experience placements. A fun-packed week for all!

[News from Priory](#)



Thomas Adams School and Sixth Form

This year, Thomas Adams School achieved outstanding success in boys' football, with six teams reaching the Shropshire Schools County Finals - more than any other school in the county. Our Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 teams demonstrated exceptional teamwork, commitment and sporting talent throughout the season. We are incredibly proud of our students and staff for this fantastic accomplishment and look forward to building on this momentum next year.



Thomas Adams School U13 team

[News from Thomas Adams](#)

News from our schools



William Brookes School

This term William Brookes School introduced a major change to our school uniform, moving from traditional attire to a smart, branded PE kit. This change reflects our school vision of 'healthy body, healthy mind' and our core Olympic values of respect, excellence, and friendship. The new uniform is more comfortable, encourages active learning and alternative provision, and supports an enhanced PE offer. Student and parental feedback has been overwhelmingly positive; our story even made BBC News, TikTok, and Instagram!

[News from William Brookes](#)

Salop Teaching Partnership

Over the past year, our Associate Teachers have immersed themselves in placement schools developing their pedagogical knowledge and teaching practice as they learn. They have focused on areas such as lesson planning and sequencing, behaviour management, assessment, and adaptive teaching. We are delighted to support them into the final phase of training where they will reflect and consolidate their learning to evidence how they meet the teachers' standards in preparation for being awarded QTS.



[Explore teacher training](#)

From our Trustees

The Trust Board has returned to nine Trustees and welcomes Sharon Munro, who brings valuable primary education experience. Governance processes are being streamlined using AI, with plans to continue this next year.

The Board thanks all staff, the central team, and local governors for all your hard work this year. An exciting year lies ahead—enjoy the summer holidays!

Cycle to work

We are pleased to confirm that Cycle to Work is now an open scheme with no closing date.

The limit has been uplifted to £3000 to enable staff to purchase electric bikes all year round.

[Visit HR Hub for Vivup](#)

(Staff access only)

Recognising our staff

Congratulations to our colleagues who are retiring at the end of this academic year.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to supporting students, families and colleagues in your schools.

On behalf of all at The 3-18 Education Trust, we wish you all the very best for the future!

- Angie Herbert, Inclusion Manager, St Martins 3-16 School
- Carol Jardine, Head of PE, William Brookes School
- Helen Crighton Poli, Head of Performing Arts, St Martins 3-16 School
- Innes Jameson, Teacher, Much Wenlock Primary School and Nursery
- Jackie Evans, LTS/Wraparound Care Leader, Hodnet Primary School
- John Holmes, Senior Teacher, St Martins 3-16 School
- Judith Edge, Head of Science, William Brookes School
- Lisa Tristham, Assistant Headteacher, Bridgnorth Endowed School
- Sarah Bowers, Head of Design Technology, The Priory School
- Sue Lovecy, Headteacher, St Martins 3-16 School

Coming up next term



September

- **Start of Autumn term** 2nd September
- **People Leader Programme** 9th & 10th September, 23rd & 24th September
- **CPD: Canva's AI Magic** 24th September
- **CPD: Maximising Efficiency with Arbor** 25th September
- **CPD: Job Crafting and Leader Member Exchange Theory** 29th September
- **CPD: A guide for school leaders about Ofsted inspection plans** 29th September



October

- **CPD: Introduction to The Key** 1st October
- **People Leader Programme** 7th & 8th October
- **CPD: Canva** 14th October
- **Trust dance event at The Edge Arts Centre** 15th & 16th October
- **October half term** 20th – 31st October
- **Secondary school application deadline** 31st October



November

- **Staff conference** 3rd November
- **CPD: English: English: A quality English curriculum for all** 13th November
- **CPD: Introduction to Microsoft Copilot for school staff** 20th November
- **Resilience workshop** 20th November
- **CPD: Neurodiversity and support strategies** 25th November



December

- **CPD: Practical Interventions for School staff wellbeing** 11th December

Driven by our mission to ensure
'every individual is in a great school'.



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